First Presbyterian Church

101 Bridgeboro Road MAIL: P. O. Box 868 Moorestown, NJ 08057 fpcmoorestown.org 856.235.1688

Grow The Kingdom: I Will Pray, Invite, Serve, Give.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing - Psalm 100:2

> 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

I I:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship

10:15-11:00 a.m. Education Classes

Worship streams live from each worship space. Log on from any device to www.fpcmoorestown.org or YouTube or Facebook. Services are also posted to our website.

"Connections" is published weekly for Sunday worship and every two weeks in the summer. Please submit information by noon Tuesdays to:

Editor Jan Martin jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org 856-235-1688, Ext. 133

Are you receiving our Friday e-blast with announcements, Connections, and upcoming events? If not, contact the church office.



Connections FPC Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

October 19-25, 2025

Way of the Week 4:
Always Encourage
and Celebrate

(October 19-25, 2025)

4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELE-BRATE. Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

Ideas for Action: Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.

Ways Reflection: Nicole Snodgrass





Swing into Action with Consecration Sunday Giving

On Consecration Sunday October 12, we joyfully gathered to dedicate our 2026 Estimate of Giving cards (Annual Budget) and 2026 Capital Campaign pledges. If you were unable to be with us, we missed you! If you haven't yet submitted your Estimates of Giving, please complete your 2026 cards or easily submit online. With recent economic challenges as shared by the Trustees and church leaders, it's critical for us all to step up to the plate. Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee respond by October 30, as Budget Committee meetings are beginning.

You may return the pledge cards in a number of ways:

- 1. drop in the offering plate
- 2. mail to the church office (P.O. Box 868, Moorestown, NJ 08057)
- 3. drop it by the church office during the week
- 4. submit your gifts online (see below)
- 5. call the church office with your verbal pledge(s)

ith your verbal pledge(s)

Submit your giving estimates online at https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/consecration-sunday-2025/

Music Focus Groups

Shape the future of our music ministry by participating in a Music Focus Group. Share your voice, insights, and experiences in a small group setting. The Discernment Team is hosting these gatherings to hear from you as we listen for the Spirit's direction. Groups will meet in Room 2. No sign up needed, just stop by. Choose from the following remaining Focus Groups:

- Sunday, Oct. 19 at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 19 at 12:15 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 26 at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 26 at 12:15 p.m.
- ⇒ See our Church Center event page to complete a brief <u>Con-gregational Survey</u> and suggestions for the future. We need your input!

Thank You Team!

It is with sincere gratitude that I thank all those that made possible the wonderful celebration on Consecration Sunday: Jen Allen, Wes Allen, Holly Asciutto, Dave Barr, Nancy Chumney, Owen Dietz, Audrey Drummonds, Barbara Duffy, Steve Emerson, Susan Horn, Laurie LaMonica, Anthony LaMonica, Rachel Long and her children, Jan Martin, Sue Piper, Kevin Schaeffer, Susan Shaffer, Gail Sorin, Bobbi Vogelsong, Mike Welch, Joyce Wenzke, Jess Zorn, and all of those that cooked and supplied the delicious food. I also wanted to thank those that helped prepare the mailings: Nancy Chumney, Katie Donahue, Sherrell Fitts, Earl Gage, Jeff Legath, Donna Letterman, Alison Mackey, Jan Martin, Sue Piper, Stuart Spencer, Peg Valora. It really takes a village!

Blessings to all and many thanks! Ginny Weber, Stewardship Chair

Membership Directory

If you didn't have an opportunity to attend the three days of photo shoots for the church directory, you can submit a digital photo to web-Barbara Duffy master bduffy@fpcmoorestown.org schedule a makeup to be taken by the staff, if needed. Contact the church office at (856) 235-1688. Individuals may receive the raw digital file of their photo which they may download to their personal device in order to place their own orders for any prints desired. NO PHOTOS WILL BE PRINTED BY THE CHURCH.

Staying Connected

Have you noticed someone who has not been at church or its activities recently? The Membership Committee encourages you to reach out with a call or text and let them know they've been missed.

2026 Pulpit Flowers

Reservations are being taken now for 2026 Sunday flower donations. Two pedestal vases are available each Sunday. What better way to commemorate loved ones or special dates in your life. Contact Jan Martin in the church office.

Family Service Project Nov. 12 during Family Dinner

Fall Adult Study

On Wednesday nights this fall, we will read, discuss and study 12-15 scriptures of the 16 Chapters that make up the *Didache*. These are scriptures that Jesus spoke and used before the Bible to instruct the apostles. <u>Sign up online</u>. Enjoy Family Dinner first at 5:45 p.m. too (\$8.00 per person). Jim Cole leads.

"Conversation Pieces" String Brass-Quintet Sunday, October 19 (7:30 PM)

Sanctuary

West Jersey Chamber Music Society presents a lively evening of Dvořák, Bottesini, and Spanish favorites with Luigi Mazzocchi and fellow West Jersey Chamber Music Society artists. Tickets online at www.wjcms.org/concerts.

New Sermon Series

"Tell Me of Your Strength"
October 19-November 23, 2025

Pastors Spencer, Allen, and Kathy Eagles preach a six-part sermon series on the Apostles' Creed, "Tell Me of Your Strength." Using the text of this ancient creed, preachers explore the biblical underpinnings of this statement of faith.

Benefit Concert for Opioid Crisis Action Network

On **Sunday, Nov. 2** at 1:00 p.m. in Miller Commons, OCAN-RF will hold a fundraising concert, featuring recording artist George Kilby Jr. Proceeds support the Opioid Crisis Action Network Recovery Fund. There will be no tickets sold for the concert — a free will offering will be requested. Donations can also be made on the website: https://www.opioidcrisisactionnetwork.co m/donate. That morning, George Kilby will share his musical gifts in both worship services.

Sunday Morning Check Ins

Each time you attend in person or watch on your device, **please check in** to register your attendance using the Church Center app or pew pads.

NEW: "Hot Topics" Series Starts October 15th

6:30-8:00 p.m. | Room 8

This fall we invite you to join us for a 9-week Wednesday evening series engaging some of today's most pressing and polarizing issues abortion, gender & sexuality, immigration, and gun violence. Each topic will receive two weeks of focus, allowing us to explore both varied perspectives. Class is led by Wes Allen. Our aim is not to force agreement but to practice civil dialogue, faithful biblical engagement, and Reformed theological reflection. Short readings will be distributed ahead of time each week to prepare us for thoughtful conversation. Meets Oct. 15-Dec. 17 (off Thanksgiving week). Register online.

Join the Tech Team

Join our live stream tech team—paid positions available. We are looking for high school students and adults to join our live stream tech team. No experience? No problem. We provide full training. Contact Steve Drzaszcz at <a href="mailto:steve-expectation-steve-ex



Remember to complete your 2025 Financial Pledge by year end. Thank you!



Beginning October 15, the financial office will prepare church checks **Wednesday** each week (previously Thursday) unless previous arrangements have been made.

Pastor and Program Staff Appreciation October 26

Help celebrate the work of Rev. Stuart Spencer, Rev. Wes Allen, and our program staff, by sending them a note of appreciation sharing your gratitude for their ministry and sharing kind words of support and recognition.

Tuesday, November 4
Election Day
(Miller Commons)

PW Holiday Bazaar Saturday, November 15th

Donate your gently loved holiday décor, household goods, jewelry, accessories, kitchen items, gift items, sports gear and more for this Presbyterian Women fundraiser. Clean out those cupboards and drawers. Proceeds will support local ministries serving women and children in acute need. Drop off items in red boxes in Commons Lobby.

Prayer Breakfast Saturday, November 8th

The Prayer and Discipleship Committee invites you to a prayer breakfast on the second Saturday of the month. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and interesting guest speakers and teachers. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Breakfasts are in Room 3-4 at 9:00 AM. Free will offering gratefully accepted to support this ministry. Contact: Pam Engle at 609.332.7513.

Operation Christmas Child Boxes Available Oct. 26

Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes.

Starting **Sunday, October 26**, shoe boxes will be available in the Commons Lobby. You are invited to:

- Take a box
- Choose a child (age & Male or Female)
- Fill the shoe box with school supplies, personal care items or toys.
- Pray for the child who will receive your box that they may be uplifted by the love and hope of Jesus Christ.

Be sure to read the instructions included in each box! Return your box by **Sunday, November 16** Kindly include a check for \$10 for shipping (you may also pay for shipping online, see instructions). Let's make a lasting impact, one box at a time.

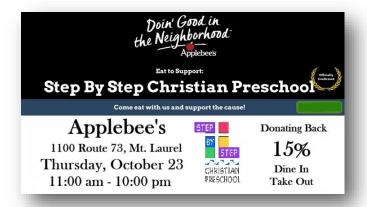
For questions or information, please contact Mark Budka at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.



Blood Drive Monday, November 24 I I:00 AM—4:00 PM



Openings for acolytes to bring the Light of Christ into worship



Register for 2025-26 Fellowship Groups Kindergarten - 12th Grade

- Kingdom Kids (K-3rd, Wednesday 4:45-5:45 PM)
- Crossing Zone (4th-6th, Wednesday 6:30-7:30 PM)
- Middle School Youth Group (7-8th, Wed. 6:30-8 PM)
- High School Youth Grp. (9-12th, Sunday 6:30-8:30 PM
- Family Dinner (Wednesdays 5:45-6:45 PM)

Sign up on the Church Center event page, website, and right through the Church Center app

Kingdom Kids: Grades K-3 Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm Crossing Zone: Grades 4-6 Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm Middle School: Grades 7-8 Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm High School: Grades 9-12 Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm

Sermon Series Memory Verse

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. (Romans 3: 22, NLT)

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, ×116

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

Evan Dempster
215-264-3448 call/text
mybaseballboys@yahoo.com



⇒ **Date:** Wednesday, November 12

⇒ **Time:** 5:45 to 7:00 pm (during Family Dinner)

⇒ **Location:** Fellowship Hall

Please register by Monday, November 10th so we know we can count on you and determine amount of supplies needed for this project.

NEW: Family Service Project 'Tis the Season of Helping Others

JOIN US as we spend time together to practice kindness and giving by assembling sandwiches (nut-free) for donation to Cathedral Kitchen. Working together on this project brings families closer together and reminds us how even the smallest acts of kindness can deeply touch the lives of others during this heartfelt time of year.

For information on Cathedral Kitchen visit: https://cathedralkitchen.org/

Donations accepted to help cover cost of supplies

For questions contact Holly Asciutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or Jean Marie Hanna at jmhanna@fpcmoorestown.org.