#### 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

II: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

November 23-29, 2025

## Way of the Week 9: Pray First and Pray Again

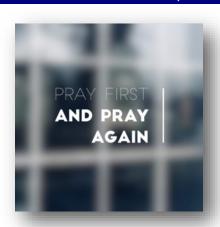
(November 23-29, 2025)

9. **PRAY FIRST AND PRAY AGAIN.** Ask *first* for God's guidance and blessing in everything you do. Through prayer, ask for wisdom and for God's will to be done. Pray for others as well, that God's love and blessing would be revealed to them in good times and in bad.

Ideas for Action: On your next walk, run, or in your quiet time, intentionally pray for neighbors, other churches, schools, EMTs, police and fire personnel, and local officials. If you're stalled in your prayer life, reach out to one of the pastors or a member of the Prayer Team for a suggestion.

Ways Reflection: Jean Kunkel







### Thanksgiving Praise and Pie Sunday, November 23 (3:00 PM)

Join the FPC Moorestown Church Family for a 3:00 p.m. service of thanksgiving, praise and prayer to our faithful, loving God. Gather for an afternoon worship featuring singing, Wow Moments, and prayer. Afterwards, we'll enjoy a slice of pie! Bring your favorite Thanksgiving pie — pumpkin, apple, mincemeat, cranberry etc. It's an afternoon of singing and sharing, and a wonderful way to enter Thanksgiving week. Bring family and

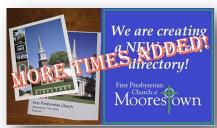
friends! Please let Stuart know if you can help with set up or clean up.

#### **Thanksgiving Postcards**

Included in worship bulletins on **Sunday, Nov. 16** were our traditional Thanksgiving postcards. Members filled in the name and address of someone they were grateful for and wished to tell, and mailed from home, or placed addressed postcards in the offering plate for the church to mail. Postcards given to the church office were mailed **Monday, Nov. 17** so they arrive in time for Thanksgiving.

## Church Directory Make-Up Photo Date

If you missed the directory photo sessions, there's an additional makeup date! Victoria Duffy will return on **Sunday**, **Nov. 23** to do photography of the Contemporary service and to take more single/family portraits. **Portrait hours will be 10-11 am and 12:30-3:00 pm.** Please SIGN UP online on the Event Page or call the church office.



#### **Fall Adult Education**

- Sunday, Nov. 23 church-wide breakfast hosted by adult education classes, bring whatever you can. Fellowship Hall
- Five-week Advent series "Journey to Jerusalem" runs Nov. 30-Dec. 28.
- Wednesday evening Advent Study "Heaven and Earth" led by Jim Cole, Dec. 3, 10, 17; 6:30 PM in Room 3-4

## Return Operation Christmas Child Boxes

Operation Christmas Child delivers the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world. Return your gift-filled shoebox by **Sunday, Nov. 16.** Kindly include a check for \$10 for shipping. Help us make a lasting impact, one box at a time. Questions? Contact Mark Budka at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 104; missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

#### **Advent Candle Lighters**

During Sundays in Advent, members of our church family will light our Advent wreath. The Worship Team is looking for individuals for both 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services for Advent Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, as well as four Christmas Eve services on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm. Contact Worship Chair Kevin Fauvell at kevindfauvell@gmail.com or (609) 220-0177 to take part in this Advent worship experience.

Longest Night Worship and Communion Sunday, December 7 (4 PM)

#### **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. Effective November 1, each vase is \$50 due to increased flower costs. Contact Jan Martin or Rumi Sinunu to order.

#### **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.

## Your support is lifegiving: Fall Blood Drive

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Monday, November 24
11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Miller Commons

Watch for information soon on Advent devotionals

#### **Grace Boutique**

For the month of November, the Grace Boutique is collecting select items to restock its shelves. If you can, please donate any of these items (place them in baskets by Grace Boutique door):

- feminine hygiene (light or heavy pads only)
- laundry detergent liq. (30 oz.)
- paper towel rolls
- socks for men or women

#### **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.

#### **Deacons Holiday Support**

DID YOU KNOW ... Our Deacons purchased 56 turkeys from Wegmans to donate to Your Food Shelf in Camden, and Wegmans donated 20 additional turkeys.

#### **Christmas Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 23**Christmas Eve Eve Worship 3:00 PM, 7:00 PM, outside

#### Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Worship (Sanc.) 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM, 7:00 PM, 9:00 PM Candlelight Worship

#### Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship 9:30 AM Dr. Jonathan Miller preaching

#### Sunday, December 28

Combined worship 9:30 AM Dr. Mouris Yousef preaching

#### **Longest Night Worship**

The Longest Night service provides peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety, or depression this holiday season who may not feel the joy or celebration seen in others. This event will be held on Sunday, December 7 at 4:00 p.m. Associate Pastor Wes Allen leads. The Longest Night includes the Lord's Supper, special music, and a time for prayer. All ages and faiths are welcome. If you know someone you would like us to invite to this service, please provide their name and address to Alison Mackey in the church office, so we may send them an invitation. Contact Alison (856) 235-1688, Ext. 113 or amackey@fpcmoorestown.org.



## NEW: "Hot Topics" Wednesday Series 6:30–8:00 p.m. | Room 8

This 9-week Wednesday series discusses some of today's most pressing and polarizing issues — abortion, gender & sexuality, immigration, and gun violence. 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 are distributed ahead of time each week to prepare for thoughtful conversation. Meets Oct. 15-Dec. 17 (off Thanksgiving week). Register online.



(See event page)

#### 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.

## COMING SOON Alternative Gift Catalog Start Changing the World by Changing How You Gift

#### Join the Tech Team

DID YOU KNOW ... we live stream our two worship services into homes every week? We have a critical need for audio and live stream operators and encourage high school students and adults to join our live stream tech team. We provide full training and support for this paid position. Contact Steve Drzaszcz at steve@gotsteve.com or the church office at 856-235-1688. We want to continue providing this ministry.

### **Prayer Breakfast**Saturday, December 13

The Prayer and Discipleship Committee invites you to its December Prayer Breakfast. Please join us and invite friends!

#### It's a Boy

You're invited to support Steve and Chelsea Margerum as they, along with big brother Steven, 11, plan to welcome their new son in early January. Church members who would like to share a love gift or drop off a baby shower gift to the church office for the Margerums, are most certainly encouraged to do so! Steve and Chelsea would be very touched. They are registered at Amazon.com. Gifts may dropped off until **December 14th** in Room 2 or the church office. Please make sure "Margerum Shower" is on the item. A reminder that financial gifts are to be made out directly to Steve and Chelsea Margerum, NOT the church. Thank you for supporting Steve, Chelsea and Steven as they grow their family.

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

#### **November Food Drive**

From November 1-30, we are hosting a <u>food drive</u> for the Moorestown Ministerium. Please bring nonperishable foods that include proteins. The Moorestown Ministerium Food Pantry is in dire need of food for distribution to hungry families in our area. The Ministerium supports 40-50 identified families in need in the Moorestown, Mt. Laurel, Maple Shade, Delran, Medford. <u>See event page</u> for requested items.



First Sunday in Advent

Sunday, November 30



Children's and Adult Sunday School: 10:15-11:00 a.m.

#### Youth Snacks Needed — Can You Help?

The Youth Ministry leadership team is seeking donations of individually packaged NUT FREE snacks. Cookies, chips, rice crispy treats, Tastykake type items, etc. as well as drinks (juice boxes, flavored sparkling water (cans), 8-ounce water bottles). No "small piece snacks" (popcorn, goldfish, fruit snacks) or soda please.

Donations may be left outside the door to the Youth Office (across from the Lounge).

#### Family Fun: Advent Gingerbread Event

See our Church Center event page



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

#### **Gingerbread Bash Family Fun**

Family, friends, grandparents and children of all ages are invited to a sweet celebration! The holidays are upon us, and it's the perfect time to celebrate the birth of Jesus and enjoy meaningful time together. Join us for a fun, hands-on holiday event to build something sweet and festive!

We'll provide all the supplies—just bring your creativity and holiday spirit. **Children, bring your grown-ups!** This is not a drop-off event—grown-ups are needed to help build and create!

Date: Friday, December 12 (6:00-8:00 PM)

• Location: Fellowship Hall

Please register so we have enough supplies for everyone. For questions contact Holly Asciutto at <a href="mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org">hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org</a> or Jean Marie Hanna at <a href="mailto:jmhanna@fpcmoorestown.org">jmhanna@fpcmoorestown.org</a>.





#### **Christmas Parties Schedule**

Wednesday, December 10

Kingdom Kids Christmas Party (4:45 PM) Crossing Zone Christmas Party (6:30 PM)

#### Sunday, December 14

Sunday School Christmas Parties (10:15 AM) High School Christmas Party (6:30 PM)

Wednesday, December 17
Middle School Christmas Party (6:30 PM)