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

Nov. 30-Dec. 6, 2025

Way of the Week 10: Join Hands

(Nov. 30-Dec. 6, 2025)

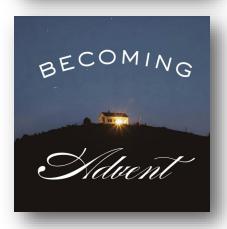
JOIN HANDS. Work as a team. Collaborate with each other, our professional staff, our lay leaders, and our congregants to find the best solutions. Collaboration lightens the load, generates better ideas than individuals working alone, and unleashes the gifts God has given us all.

Ideas for Action: Is there some task you're doing at church that you could invite someone to share with you? Think of someone from our church who can help you sort out a challenge or problem you're facing.

Ways Reflection: Mancer & Sara Cyr







Preparing for the Season of Advent First Sunday in Advent: November 30

- NEW: The Alternative Gift Market will be available in person after services on Nov. 23, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 14. Visit the table in Miller Commons Lobby on Sunday mornings and our online event page. You may donate to the mission partner(s) of your choice until Dec. 24. For questions contact Mark Budka at missions@fpcmoorestown.org or cell (609) 751-3058.
- NEW: Manger Sunday is December 14 In one of our church's special holiday traditions, members are invited to bring unwrapped gifts to worship on Sunday, December 14 for our Manger Sunday presentation. The Deacons coordinate this ministry. In both services, members will place the unwrapped gifts in the manger while singing carols and hymns of the season. The Pastors will bless the gifts, which later that day, will be given to the team at Oaks Integrated Care for the Oaks clients to use as gifts for their own families.

Fall Adult Education

- Five-week Sunday Advent series "On the Way to Bethlehem" 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

Holiday Schedules

Please see Connections and the church calendar for special holiday schedules for kids groups, youth groups, Family Dinner and choirs.



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 (609) 220-0177 to take part in this Advent worship experience.

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.

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

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.

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.



Property Team Note

Steve Margerum will be on paternity leave January 1-February 1, 2026. For property team issues during this time, please contact administrator Earl Gage at (856) 235-1688, x106.

Delivering Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be displayed in both worship spaces on Manger Sunday **Dec. 14** and available to take home that day if you placed an order. Deacons Gail Sorin and Bobbi Voglesong are coordinating deliveries of donated poinsettias to our less mobile members. Help is needed. Please contact Gail or Bobbi if you can assist.

Mitten Tree Decorated

On **Sunday, December 6th,** our Mitten Tree "blooms" in the Commons Lobby presented by the Knitting Network. It will be decorated with handmade mittens, hats and scarves. You are welcome to add your handmade objects to the tree. Donations will be added to the funds received from the Holiday Bazaar and will support Good Counsel Home and Dawn's Place, two Presbyterian Women missions.

Grace Boutique

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

- Dove Soap bars original
- Deodorant (for men or women)
- Facial Tissue boxes
- Feminine Hygiene (light or heavy pads only)
- Paper Towel (rolls)



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.

Do You Know ... that the white ornaments displayed on the Christmas trees in the church are called *Chrismons*. These ornaments are Christian symbols and are white, reflective of the liturgical color for Christmas. The term Chrismon is a combination of the words Christ and monogram. Ornaments have been handmade by our children and are displayed on the tree outside of Miller Commons in addition to the tree in the sanctuary. Come look up close.

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 a delicious Swedish breakfast Dec. 13. Join us and invite friends. See event page to RSVP—children welcome!

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 encouraged to do so! Steve and Chel-

sea are registered at Amazon.com. Gifts may be dropped off until **Dec. 14th** in 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 December 31. Thank you!

Calling Young Artists

We would again like to showcase the artistic talents of our youth on our four Christmas Eve worship guides. This year, we are asking for artwork that pictures Mary riding a donkey and Joseph. Make the colors bold, and when pictures are colored in, please make sure no white paper shows through. Be creative! Digital submissions are due to Holly Asciutto by Dec. 15.

2025 Giving Statements

Need to access your current 2025 giving record to see where you are with your 2025 pledge? Your giving history, pledge and statement may be viewed at any time during the year from "Give" on the Church Center app. Statements are also available by contacting the church office and Norman Vandergrift at (856) 235.1688 or nvandergrift@fpcmoorestown.org.

Copies of 2025 year-end statements will be mailed to members in January for tax purposes.

2026 Offering envelope boxes will be in Lobby soon



December 14: Sunday School Christmas Party 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).

Advent Family Activity Kit: "Draw Close to the Light"

To help us prepare for Christmas families are invited to pick up our interactive family devotional. Join your family once a week for 4 weeks to reflect on specific members of the Holy Family



and what they can teach us during Advent. Pick up yours in the Commons Lobby.

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

"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. (Matthew 5: 14, 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 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or Jean Marie Hanna at jmhanna@fpcmoorestown.org.



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)