

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**

**11:00 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, Con-
nections, and upcoming events? If
not, contact the [church office](#).



Connections **FPC** Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

December 14-20, 2025

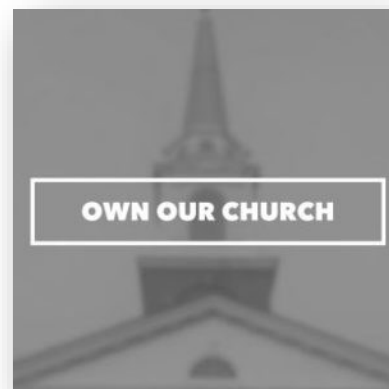
Way of the Week 12: **Own Our Church** (Dec. 14-20, 2025)



12. OWN OUR CHURCH. The work of the church isn't defined by pastors and staff alone; it comes from each member actively participating in the life of Jesus Christ. Claim ownership of FPC Moorestown's mission, programs, and property. Each is an expression of how God is working among us! Support others. Be informed. Volunteer for a new role. Live like you're the church – because you are

Ideas for Action: Spend a few minutes on our website to learn about some aspect of our ministry or mission that's new or unknown to you. Fuel your curiosity and consider getting involved in an area of ministry that brings you joy!

Ways Reflection: Anonymous



Preparing for the Season of Advent **Third Sunday in Advent: December 14 (Manger Sunday)**

- ♦ **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 Manger Sunday. 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 gratefully received by the team at [Oaks Integrated Care](#) for the Oaks clients to use as gifts for their own families.
- ♦ **Yes, you still have time!** [The Alternative Gift Market](#) will still be available in person between services on **Dec. 14 and Dec. 21**. Visit the table in Miller Commons Lobby and our [online event page](#). You may donate to the mission partner(s) of your choice through **Dec. 24**. For questions contact Mark Budka at misions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Holiday Schedules

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

- ♦ Family Dinner, Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone end Dec. 10 (Christmas parties), and return January 28, 2026.
- ♦ There is no Sunday School or nursery care on Sunday, Dec. 21 or Dec. 28th.
- ♦ Sunday School ends Dec. 14 and returns January 4, 2026.

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.

Advent Candle Lighters

The Worship Team is seeking individuals to light the Advent wreath for both 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services in Advent, 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.

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.

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

Fall Adult Education

- ♦ Five-week Sunday Advent series "On the Way to Bethlehem" runs **Nov. 30-Dec. 28** (meets AFTER worship 12/28).
- ♦ Wednesday evening Advent Study "Heaven and Earth" led by Jim Cole, **Dec. 3, 10, 17;** 6:30 PM in Room 3-4

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](mailto:RumiSinunu) 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.

Mitten Tree Decorated

On **Sunday, December 7th**, 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 received will be added to the funds received from the Nov. 15 Holiday Bazaar and will support Good Counsel Home and Dawn's Place, two Presbyterian Women missions.

2026 Offering envelope boxes will be in Lobby soon.

Look for yours.

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 (men or women); Facial Tissue boxes; Feminine Hygiene (light or heavy pads only); Paper Towel rolls

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.

MLK Afternoon of Service

Monday, January 19, 2026

1:00-3:00 PM

FPC Moorestown

Five multigenerational activity stations to support Christian

Caring Center

[\(Register online\)](#)

Emerson Toy Drive

NEW! The Emerson Christmas Toy drive is collecting **unwrapped** gifts for Camden children again this year. Look for the table in the Commons Lobby.

Join the Tech Team

DID YOU KNOW ... we live stream both 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 Drzascz at steve@gotsteve.com or the church office at 856-235-1688. We want to continue providing this ministry.

"An English Christmas"

December 14, 2025

Our Lady of Good Counsel

42 W. Main Street - Moorestown

The West Jersey Chamber Music Society continues its 2025–26 season with *An English Christmas* on Sunday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Moorestown. This concert brings classic English seasonal music performed by the West Jersey Chamber Chorale and the Timberdale Brass. Tickets: At the door: \$30 (\$24 for seniors or students over 18); Children 18 and under: Free. Visit: <https://wjcms.org/concerts/>

Note: The Church is grateful to partner with the Police Department of the Township of Moorestown with its initiative to provide people of faith throughout the community the ability to worship without fear or intimidation. Officers will be visiting houses of worship of all faiths this holiday season and through Easter/Passover. We welcome our officers and appreciate their support to make God's house a sanctuary.

Did 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.

Margerum Baby Shower

You're invited to support [Steve and Chelsea Margerum](#) as they welcome their new son in January. If you wish to share a love gift or shower gift, drop them by the church office by **Dec. 14th**. They are registered at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Please note "Margerum Shower" on the item. Financial gifts are to be made out directly to Steve and Chelsea Margerum, NOT the church.

Remember to complete your 2025 Financial Pledge by December 31. Thank you!

Calling Young Artists

This year we will again showcase the artistic talents of our youth on our four Christmas Eve worship guides. 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**.

**Church office is closed
Dec. 25 and Dec. 26
(1:00 pm Christmas Eve)**



2025 Giving Statements

Need to access your 2025 giving record to see where you are with your 2025 pledge? Giving history, pledge and statements may be viewed 24/7 from "Give" on the Church Center app. Statements are also available by contacting the church office at 856-235.1688. Copies of 2025 year-end statements will be mailed to members in January for tax purposes.

Year-End Giving Deadlines

THANK YOU for remembering the church in your year-end giving. Each and every gift makes a difference and allows our ministries to continue. Gifts over and above one's pledge may include stocks, Christmas Offering for the church, and General Budget Help donations. Checks may be received in the *offering plate* up to **Sunday, December 28, 2025**. Checks must be postmarked by December 31 and online donations must be received by midnight December 31. Checks dated **December 31** can also be hand delivered to the church office until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 31. For questions contact Norman Vandergrift (x112).

Stocking the Blessing Box

Drop any donations for the [Blessing Box](#) on the shelves in the Commons Lobby. The box is being used by visitors in need every week by those facing food insecurity.



FAMILY MINISTRY

Sunday, December 14: Sunday School Christmas Party 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Holiday Schedule: Middle School Youth Group and High School Youth Group

(last meetings of the 2025 year; see you in 2026)

Sunday, December 14

High School Christmas Party (6:30 PM)

Wednesday, December 17

Middle School Christmas Party (6:30 PM)

Please bring a gift for the gift exchange costing under \$10.

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, x116

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

Evan Dempster

215-264-3448 call/text

mybaseballboys@yahoo.com



Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone Schedule

(last meetings of the 2025 year; see you in 2026)

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)

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**Save The Date, Sign Up Online:
MLK Afternoon of Service
Monday, January 19, 2026**