

First Presbyterian Church  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
MAIL: P. O. Box 868  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
[fpcmoorestown.org](http://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](http://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](mailto: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



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

January 11-17, 2026

## Way of the Week 16: Give Cheerfully

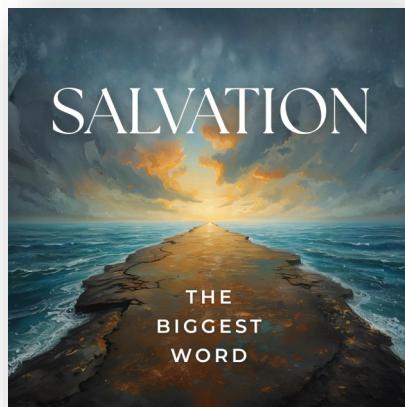
(January 11-17, 2026)

**16. GIVE CHEERFULLY.** Rejoice, you get to give! Think of giving as a privilege rather than an obligation, a joy instead of a burden. As you consider all that's been entrusted to you – time, abilities and money – ask, "How is God calling me to share what I've been given?"



**Ideas for Action:** Consider making a special financial gift this week to the church or one of our mission partners. What else, besides money, can you give this week? How about your time or your forgiveness?

**Ways Reflection:** From a Believer



## **“MLK Afternoon of Service” Provides Service Opportunities for All Ages**

**MLK Afternoon of Service** -- Monday, January 19, 2026 from 1:00-3:00 PM at FPC Moorestown. Choose from five different activity stations for friends and family to support the [Christian Caring Center](#) in Pemberton, New Jersey: (1) decorate place-mats, (2) prepare turkey and cheese sandwiches, (3) put together hygiene kits, (4) assemble cleaning supply kits, and (5) write cheery notes. Contact Mark Budka at (609) 751-3058 call/text or email [missions@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:missions@fpcmoorestown.org) or [register online](#).

**MLK WORSHIP: Second event: Service January 19<sup>th</sup> (5:00 p.m.)** to honor Dr. King at Bethel A.M.E Church, 512 N. Church Street ~ Moorestown, NJ. In 1994, Congress designated the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday as a *National Day of Service*, making it the only federal holiday observed as such.

**SEE PAGE 4**

## **MLK Afternoon of Service**

### **Monday, January 19, 2026**

1:00-3:00 PM

FPC Moorestown

Five multigenerational activity stations to support Christian Caring Center  
[\(Register online\)](#)

## **Winter Break Schedules**

- ◆ Middle School Youth Group returns **Wed. Jan. 7** (pizza served Jan. 7, 14, 21 until Family Dinner resumes Jan. 28)
- ◆ Thursday Prayer Service returns **January 8** (7:00-7:10 pm)
- ◆ High School group returns **Sun. Jan. 11**.
- ◆ Family Dinner, Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone return **January 28, 2026**

## **Staff News**

We welcome several new faces to our choir team. Heather Lockart, Linda Lockart's daughter, will be the new interim choir director for the Chapel Choir. Carol Manion will be the interim director of the Primary Choir, and Kathy Gunsallus leads the Junior Choir and Bell Choir, and serves as interim director of music. Linda Lockart continues as interim director for the Adult Choir and Choristers. Thank you, ladies!

## **Informational Meeting: January 25, 2026 (5:30 pm) July Youth Mission Trip**

## **Winter Adult Education**

COMING: Six-week Sunday morning series on the Book of Psalms; meets from **January 4-February 8** and led by a team of teachers. Sunday morning Lenten Study will begin **Feb. 15**, the week of Ash Wednesday (Feb. 18)

## **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. Each vase is \$50. Contact Jan Martin or [Rumi Sinunu](#) to order.

## **Church Directory**

Members of the church staff are currently preparing and formatting an updated church directory. It is anticipated to have the publication available in January/February.

## **Property Team Note**

Steve Margerum is away on paternity leave January 1-February 1, 2026 following the birth of his son Matthew. For property team issues during this time, please contact the church office or administrator [Earl Gage](#) at (856) 235-1688, x106.

## **Grace Boutique Items Needed**

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

- ◆ Baby Diapers (size 4 or 5 only)
- ◆ Deodorant (men)
- ◆ Dishwashing Liquid 30 oz.
- ◆ Laundry Detergent 42 oz.
- ◆ Toothbrush (adult)

## **Disciple-Making Training Saturday, January 24 8:30 am—Noon (see event page)**

## **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.

## **Second Saturday Prayer Breakfast**

### **January 10 at 9:00-10:30 AM**

Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast and message from guest speaker and Clerk of Session Rev. Kathy Eagles, who will share about Centering Prayer. RSVP online so we can accurately plan. **Next:** February 14 (Happy Valentine's Day)

## **Ash Wednesday February 18, 2026 Season of Lent begins**

## **Lenten Study**

**NEW: Lenten Church-Wide Study, Sermon Series and Mini Retreat: The J-Curve by Paul Miller.**

Inconveniences, disappointments, and trials often leave us confused, cynical, even bitter. The apostle Paul traces a pattern of dying and rising with Jesus which, like the letter "J", goes down into death and then up into resurrection. Continually reenacting Jesus' life—the J-Curve®—drains the energy from our cynicism as it resets our expectations for the normal Christian life. The J-Curve is so encouraging, so liberating, that once you see it, you can't unsee it! You'll find yourself joyfully dying and rising with Jesus in everyday life. Learn more! Contact [Wes Allen](#) for small group sign up opportunities. Mini Retreat will be **March 13-14** at FPC Moorestown.

## 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 e-mailed to members in January for tax purposes.

## 2026 Offering Envelopes

Boxed offering envelopes for 2026 are available in the Commons Lobby. Please pick up yours to save postage costs. Envelopes not picked up will be mailed in January. Questions? Contact Norman Vandergrift in the office (x112).

## Annual Meeting Potluck

Thank you to our deacons, who again are coordinating a potluck for the Annual Meeting. Kindly bring:

- ⇒ **Last Name A-F:** Side Dish or Salad
- ⇒ **Last Name G:** Rolls or Bread
- ⇒ **Last Name H-M:** Desserts
- ⇒ **Last Name N-T:** Main Dish or Entrée
- ⇒ Last Name U-Z: 8 oz. pony bottles of water

## 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 Drzaszcza at [steve@gotsteve.com](mailto:steve@gotsteve.com) or the church office at 856-235-1688. We want to continue providing this ministry.

## Annual Meeting Set for February 1; Reports Due by

**Wed. January 14**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held **Sunday, February 1, 2026** in Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship.

Ministry area leaders are asked to please provide a report summarizing their area's highlights, events and activities of 2025 for the Annual Report. *Kindly keep reports to one page where possible.* Please email reports to Jan Martin at [jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org) by **Wednesday, January 14.**

Per our Bylaws, copies of the *2025 Annual Report* will be available Sunday, January 25, 2026 online and in limited hard copies at the church.



Epiphany January 6, 2026

## Preschool Registration

Registration opens in January for Step by Step Preschool, a ministry of FPC Moorestown. We currently have space in all classes for the 2026-27 school year. Early registration for church members and current enrollees is January 5-15, 2026. Open registration for all others begins on January 20, 2026. Open House will be **Wed. January 21, 2026** from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

## Is your contact information still correct?

As the church office works to prepare the new Church Directory, please let staff know if there has been a change to your contact information (discontinuing land line, moved, new email, new phones, adult children relocated). We appreciate your help. You can edit your information easily on the Church Center app: (1) go to the "initials" on the right top taskbar, (2) My Profile and Settings and (3) My Profile and Household.

## Per Capita

February is Per Capita season. The Stewardship Committee reminds each member to please cover his or her annual share of \$40.00. Watch your mail for information. As Presbyterians, we are a *connectional church*. Literally meaning "per member," this contribution above one's pledge supports the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery. Our church is required to pay this. If you do NOT wish the church to pay your Per Capita from its operating budget, you must submit an opt-out form online every year. *Note: Not responding is not the same as opting out.*

**Church office is closed Monday, January 19 for MLK Jr. Holiday**

## 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

## Epiphany commemorates the Magi's visit to the Christ Child



### Middle School and High School Youth Groups

⇒ Middle School Youth Group (grades 7,8) returns **Wed. January 7** (pizza served for dinner January 7th, 14th & 21st until Family Dinner resumes Jan. 28th.)

⇒ High School Youth Group (grades 9-12) will return on **Sunday, January 11, 2026**.

For information contact Youth coordinator  
Evan Dempster at (215) 264-3448.

**Happy New Year!**

**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

**“The Lord is my strength and my song; He has given me victory.” (Exodus 15: 2)**

For Families and Children:

**Holly Asciutto**

856-235-1688, x116

[hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

Middle School and High School:

**Evan Dempster**

215-264-3448 call/text

[evan.dempster@gmail.com](mailto:evan.dempster@gmail.com)



### MLK Afternoon of Service

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### **Sunday School Returns**

Children's Sunday School returned on **Sunday, January 4th** from 10:15-11:00 a.m.

### **Kingdom Kids & Crossing Zone Break**

Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (grades 4-6) and Family Dinner (all ages) are off for Winter Break this month. Groups will return on **Wednesday, January 28, 2026**.