

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, Connections, and upcoming events? If not, contact the [church office](#).



Connections

FPC
Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

January 18-24, 2026

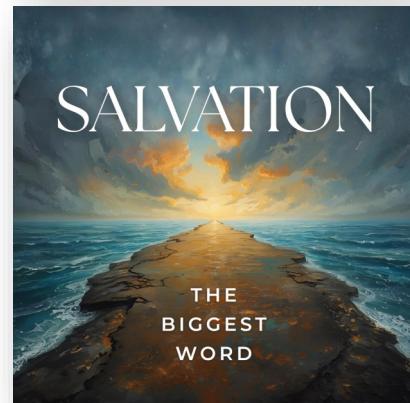
Way of the Week 17: Show Who You Really Are

(January 18-24, 2026)

17. SHOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE. Our church is for "real" people. Bring your true self, including your joys, your sorrows, your fears, your strengths, and your weaknesses. God loves you as you are. Don't hide your struggles, failures or problems.

Ideas for Action: This week, sit down with or talk to another member by phone and share one area of struggle, failure or a fear you have.

Ways Reflection: Barbara Duffy



Looking for Ways to Make a Difference? All Ages Invited to "MLK Afternoon of Service"

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 or [register online](#).

MLK WORSHIP: Second event: Service January 19th (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.

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Staff News

We welcome several new faces to our music 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

NEW: 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)

**Preschool Dine & Donate
January 28th (11 am-close)
Prospectors Grille & Saloon
Line Dancing at 7:00 pm!**

Church Directory

Members of the church staff are currently developing a current Church Directory. It is anticipated to be available in January/February. Please let Jan Martin know any changes to your contact information (removed land line, moved, new email, new phones, adult children relocated). Edit information easily on the Church Center app: (1) go to the "initials" on the upper right taskbar, (2) My Profile and Settings; (3) My Profile and Household.

Discipleship Training

**Saturday, January 24, 2026
8:30 a.m. - Noon (Room 3-4)**

This workshop will be led by two disciple makers, Dan Towner and Ed Murray. Here at FPC Moorestown, we've been learning about discipleship and the making of disciples for about six years. We invite you to attend. Dan and Ed will be using an app called Waha. It's free and downloadable to your phone. Visit <https://waha.app/eng/dm-course>. There's no cost. Bagels and good coffee will be available at 8:15 a.m. RSVP with Stuart Spencer.

Grace Boutique

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)

2026 Pulpit Flowers

Reservations are being taken for 2026 Sunday flower donations. Two pedestal vases are available each Sunday. Commemorate loved ones or special dates in your life. Each vase is \$50. Contact Jan Martin in the church office to order.

Property Team Note

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

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 our church.

Stephen Ministers Can Help

A Stephen Minister provides a 'safe place' to talk, when your world has crashed, when your head is spinning with the demands of life or you struggle to evaluate options before you. Our Stephen Ministers are passionate about caring for, listening to, and praying for you. If you, or someone you know, is experiencing a difficult time such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation, contact Pastor Wes Allen, or Stephen Leaders Doris Kahley (609) 220-8163 or Peg Pierce (609) 330-0623.

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.

[**Help out with a Meal Train**](#)

The Deacons have set up Meal Trains to support **Joe and Arlita Winston** and **Steve & Chelsea Margerum** to help their busy households. In challenging times, friends often ask, "What can I do to help out?" The answer is usually to help with a meal. MealTrain.com is a free meal calendar tool that makes planning meal deliveries easy. Log on to the [Church Center event page](#) to sign up to provide a meal for the Winstons or Margerums. To be included on the [notification list](#) of other Meal Trains needed, contact Alison Mackey or Deacon Bobbi Voglesong.

[**Annual Meeting Potluck**](#)

Thank you to our Deacons, who again will coordinate a potluck for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 1 If you would, kindly bring:

- ⇒ **Last Name A-F:** Side Dish/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

[**Second Saturday**](#)

[**Prayer Breakfast**](#)

February 14 at 9:00-10:30 AM

Happy Valentine's Day

[**2025 Giving Statements**](#)

Need to access your 2025 giving record? 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. Copies of 2025 year-end statements will be e-mailed to members in January for tax purposes.

[**Congregational Meeting**](#)

[**Set for February 1**](#)

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 provide a brief report summarizing their area's highlights, events and activities of 2025 for the Annual Report. Copies of the *2025 Annual Report* will be available Sunday, January 25, 2026 online and in limited hard copies at the church. See [Church Center event page](#) for details and *Official Notice*.

[**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 Draszcz at steve@gotsteve.com or the church office at 856-235-1688. We want to continue providing this ministry.

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

[**Per Capita**](#)

February is Per Capita season. The Stewardship Committee reminds each member on the rolls 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 obligated 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 request every year (can do online). *Note: Not responding is NOT the same as opting out.*



[**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. Open House will be **Wed. January 21, 2026** from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

[**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.

Dinner Mtg. Elders, Deacons, Trustees & Program Staff
February 27 (6:00-8:30 pm)



Invite a friend to church

Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026
Season of Lent begins

FAMILY MINISTRY

Epiphany commemorates the Magi's visit to the Christ Child

We're Back Wednesday, January 28:

- ◆ Family Dinner (5:45 pm)
- ◆ Kingdom Kids (K-3rd, 4:45 pm)
- ◆ Crossing Zone (grades 4-6, 6:30 pm)



Middle School and High School Youth Groups

- ⇒ Middle School Youth Group (grades 7,8) returned **Wed. January 7** (pizza served for dinner January 7th, 14th & 21st until Family Dinner resumes Jan. 28th.)
- ⇒ High School Youth Group (grades 9-12) returned 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

Middle School and High School:
Evan Dempster
215-264-3448 call/text
evan.dempster@gmail.com



MLK Afternoon of Service

Monday, January 19, 2026

1:00-3:00 PM at FPC Moorestown (Register online)

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Ash Wednesday ~ Lent Begins

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday **February 18, 2026**. There will be no Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone or Family Dinner that evening. Primary Choir and Choristers will meet as scheduled. Middle School Youth Group will meet and attend the service together.

The first Sunday in Lent is **February 22**. What will you give up or take on for Lent?

