

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](https://www.youtube.com) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com). 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

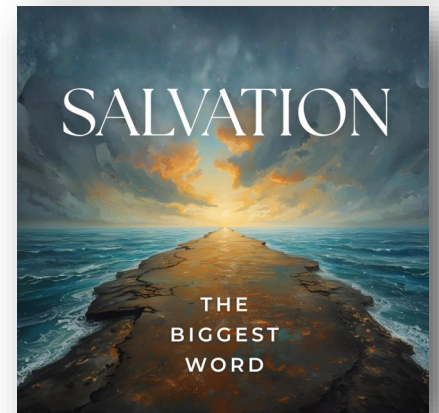
February 15-21, 2026

Way of the Week 21: You're Sent, Now Go (February 15-21, 2026)

21. YOU'RE SENT, NOW GO. We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families and our community and in the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

Ideas for Action: Check out the Missions tab on our website. Look at our local mission partners' websites for information and ideas for service. Contact Mark Budka, Director of Outreach, for additional suggestions. Make plans to go and serve ASAP.

Ways Reflection: Jim Cole



Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, February 18

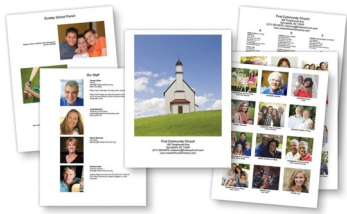
7:00 PM ~ Sanctuary

Holy Communion, imposition of ashes

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. Stuart Spencer leads.

Prayer Beads: Repentance & the Seven Deadly Sins

Pick up a set of Prayer Beads as a resource for prayer during Lent that refer to the Seven Deadly Sins: pride, envy, lust, anger, gluttony, greed, sloth. Lent is a time of penitence and almsgiving as we prepare for Easter. Instructions are included with each bead set.



Church Directory

Members of the church staff are currently finalizing layout and production of an updated pictorial Church Directory. Thanks to all who came in to have their portraits taken. We anticipate the directory to be printed and available for pick up at the church in February.

NEW: Adult Spiritual Formation Series

Beginning **Sunday, February 15** we will feature a study of the Scriptures behind Handel's 'Messiah' led by our adult teaching team. Meets 10:15-11:00 AM Sundays, Fellowship Hall

Summer Youth Mission Trip

This is an exciting opportunity for our youth (14+) this summer: a mission trip to Logan County, WV with YouthWorks July 5-10, 2026. This trip is more than just travel — it is a chance for young people to grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and make a real difference in the lives of others. Registration required, see Church Center event page. Trip total: \$449, Deposit: \$150 due by **Thursday, March 5**. Contact Mark Budka for info at misions@fpcmoorestown.org.



Women's Morning Prayer Event Feb. 21

The Prayer and Discipleship Committee invites women high school and older to a Morning Prayer Event on **Saturday, February 21** from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Participants will gather in the Lounge for a morning of reflection, renewal, and connection with God. This special event offers women the opportunity to step away from daily demands and experience the joy and wonder of spending focused time alone with God — an inspiring way to enter the Lent and Easter season with gratitude and spiritual intention. Sign up online at our Church Center Event page. Coffee, tea and bottled water will be provided.

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 please); Men's Deodorant; Dishwashing Liquid 30 oz.; Laundry Detergent 42 oz.; Toothbrush (adult).

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.

Sight and Sound Bus Trip to see "Joshua" in May

Watch the Bible come alive! Join us for a Sight & Sound Bus Trip on **Thursday, May 7** to see "Joshua." Journey alongside the people of Israel as they navigate their new-found freedom in an unforgiving wilderness. Cost is \$150 per person, and includes bus transportation, lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasboard, show ticket and driver gratuity. *No refunds or exchanges*. See our Church Center event page for details and online registration. Payment is due **by Friday, March 27**. Only 48 tickets are available!

Celebrate Black History Month Through Music

*"African-American Spirituals:
A Musical Celebration of
African American History"*

Sunday, February 22 ~ 7:30 pm

Singers from the West Jersey Chamber Chorale with featured soloist Frank Mitchell will perform timeless spirituals that honor the legacy of African-American ancestors and celebrate the resilience, faith, and artistry of this uniquely American tradition. Tickets available at the door or online at wjcms.org. Children under 18 FREE. Event will be held at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 42 W. Main Street, Moorestown.

2026 Pulpit Flowers

Reservations are being taken 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 in the church office to reserve your dates.

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

The study will culminate in a **Mini Retreat** to be **March 13-14** at our church. [See our event page.](#)



What will you give up or take on for Lent?



**April
18-19,
2026**

Sweet Treats for a Good Cause

SUPPORT the Youth Mission trip to Logan, West Virginia, by purchasing delicious Hope Chocolates. Place your order from **March 1-19** on a Sunday at the table in Miller Commons Lobby (use order form). Pickup for all Hope Chocolate orders will be **Sunday, March 29**. See our Church Center event page for details.

NEW: Youth Mission Day at UrbanPromise

March 7, 2026, 8:30 am - 1 pm

Join a group of youth (7th grade +) and adults from FPC. Meet in the church parking lot at **7:45 am** to carpool. This half-day experience gives youth the opportunity to practice their faith by serving alongside friends, other youth groups, and caring adults. Hear an inspiring message from Dr. Bruce Main, founder and president of UrbanPromise, learn about UrbanPromise's impact in Camden and around the world, participate in a hands-on work project and enjoy lunch and fellowship. Bring \$15 to cover lunch and support UrbanPromise's ministry. [Sign up on our event page.](#) Friends welcome!

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 February for tax purposes.

Per Capita

February is Per Capita season. The Stewardship Committee reminds **every member** to please cover his or her annual share of \$40.00. Information was recently mailed to all members. 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 for every member on the rolls. 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.*



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.



**Easter Flowers Orders
(assorted spring varieties)
March 1, 8, 15**

FAMILY MINISTRY

Lent (40 days) is a period of penitential preparation for Easter

Family Activity: Lenten Kits

The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross is a 15-day interactive Easter countdown for families, featuring a short daily Bible study, prayer, and discussion. Families are encouraged to choose one day each week to gather together for Scripture, prayer, and conversation. Pick up your kit starting **February 22**, in the Commons Lobby by the Children's Ministry bulletin board. *One kit per family, please.*



Youth Mission Day at UrbanPromise

SEE PAGE 3 for information on an upcoming hands-on Youth Mission Day event on **Saturday, March 7** at Urban-Promise in Camden. Practice your faith by serving alongside friends, other youth groups, and caring adults. [Sign up online](#) on our Church Center event page.

Ash Wednesday Worship

The Journey of Lent prepares us for Easter, and begins with Ash Wednesday **February 18**. Middle School Youth Group will meet and attend worship together that night.

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 Ascitutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

Ash Wednesday February 18

The Season of Lent begins with a meaningful Ash Wednesday worship service **February 18**.

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** (full communion, no communion March 1).

Vacation Bible School 2026

Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God

June 29 to July 3, 2026
9:00 am - 12:00 noon



Save The Date for our 2026 VBS presentation: Get ready for an amazing week of games, crafts, music, and faith-filled fun! Kids of all ages will laugh, learn, and make unforgettable memories.

One Great Hour of Sharing & Fish Banks

One Great Hour of Sharing's fish-shaped coin banks will be distributed in children's Sunday School during Lent and collected on **Palm Sunday March 29**. Typically received during Lent each year, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Give online using the drop down for One Great Hour of Sharing.

