

**First Presbyterian Church**  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
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[fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org)  
856.235.1688

**Rev. Stuart Spencer**  
Pastor/Head of Staff  
[sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org)

**Rev. Wes Allen**  
Associate Pastor  
[wallen@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:wallen@fpcmoorestown.org)

**I Will Pray, Invite,  
Serve, Give.**

*Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing - Psalm 100:2*

**9:00 am Traditional  
11:00 am Contemporary  
9:30 am 5th Sunday  
Blended Worship**

**10:15-11:15 am  
Education Hour**

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 later in the week 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 FPC Moorestown

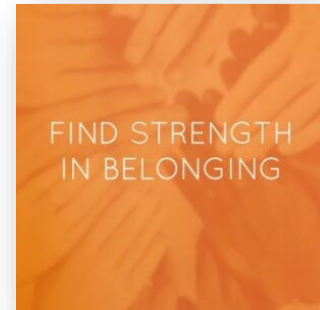
**First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown**

**Aug. 25-Sept. 7, 2024**



## **Way of the Week 19:** **Accept and Don't Cast Stones** (Aug. 25-31, 2024)

**ACCEPT AND DON'T CAST STONES.** God's love opens the doors of our church to all people. Just as Jesus did, welcome people as they are. It's not up to us to judge. Love unconditionally, and as Christ has received you, receive others.



## **Way of the Week 20:** **Find Strength in Belonging** (Sept. 1-7, 2024)

**FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING.** At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued. Claim us as your family. Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging. Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.

## **Welcome Back Sunday ~ September 8, 2024**

On Welcome Back Sunday, we will reconnect with friends after eventful summers and prepare for exciting ventures for the 2024-25 program year. We will have an enhanced coffee hour in between our two regular worship services. It's good stuff.

### **Sunday, September 8—Welcome Back!**

- ◆ Adult Spiritual Formation (10:15-11:15 am) - Drop In and Discuss ends
- ◆ New sermon series: "Stories from the Field"
- ◆ [CREDO Confirmation Parent Meeting](#): 10:15-10:45 am (Hayes Room)
- ◆ "I Will Serve" volunteer opportunities showcase (Commons Lobby)

### **Sunday, September 15 Fall Kickoff (see page 4)**

- ◆ First day of Sunday School classes (10:15-11:15 am), K-12, Meet in Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Adult Spiritual Formation (10:15-11:15 am) begins
- ◆ Bible Sunday for 3rd graders (both services)
- ◆ Commissioning Sunday School teachers & Small Group Leaders (both services)
- ◆ Deacons 3rd Sunday Flower Deliveries
- ◆ Pew envelopes for September 12 Fund available
- ◆ [Crud Wars youth group kickoff](#) — (1-3 pm, grades 7-12, outside)

### September 11 Worship

On **Wednesday, September 11**, at 6:30 p.m. come gather at the cross in the First Presbyterian Church cemetery for a service of remembrance, prayer and resurrection as we commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the deadliest terrorist attack in world history. This will be a solemn time for reflection, prayer, scripture reading, and song as we remember the 2,977 lives tragically taken from this world on September 11, 2001. Participants are encouraged to bring a chair. Look for a prayer guide to find prayers and scripture readings to coincide with the times the planes struck the World Trade Center towers in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and Shanksville, Pennsylvania.



### Happy Birthday Church!

Watch your mail for a letter from Pastor Stuart about our 136th Birthday and our September 12 Endowment Fund which honors our founding in 1888. Financial contributions to the fund are held and invested for the care and protection of our church. A designated portion of the earnings is distributed each year for current church needs.

### Tech Operators Wanted

We are looking for individuals high school or older to learn our live stream system and audio system for Sunday morning worship services and other church events. We will train! Contact [Steve Drzaszcz](#) or Jan Martin in the church office.

### Staff News

We are pleased to welcome **Angel Contreras** to the staff as our new Maintenance Assistant. Angel started with the Property Team August 1. Please welcome this young man if you see him.

**Welcome Back!**  
**Please be sure to wear your nametags on Sundays**

### Eagle Scout Project

Thanks to all who stopped by the Aug. 11 Bake Sale to support Avery LaMonica, who is designing and installing a volleyball court by our garden for his Eagle Scout project. Donations are gratefully accepted to defray expenses. Checks should be payable to **Troop 61** with a note *Avery LaMonica Eagle Project* in the memo line. MAIL checks to Avery LaMonica at 23 Sutton Place N., Moorestown, NJ 08057, or GIVE to Jan Martin in the Church office. Cash or Venmo too: @laurie-lamonica.

### Register for 2024-25 Kids Groups!

We're back! Our Kids Groups and Youth Groups are ready for another year of fellowship and growing as God's people. These age-based groups are for children and youth in Kindergarten through 12th grade, and are open to the community. Young people from our church and community share opportunities to learn about God, play games, and find connection among their peers. It's fun with a purpose. We learn and grow and laugh and share together as we point the way toward Jesus.

**PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE** for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (gr. 4-6), Middle School Youth Group (gr. 7-8) and High School Youth Group (gr. 9-12). **SEE PAGE 4 for each group's start dates.**

### Check out Discovery Bible Study

Would you like to discover for yourself what God is like and how God wants you to live? Would you like to be taught by God? DBS groups will be forming. These small groups begin by asking God to be the teacher as a series of passages from Scripture begin with creation and build to the Gospels. The study offers a fresh look at what we learn about God and what we learn about people from God's point of view – what He says. A sense of what needs to be done in response follows. No prior study experience is needed, yet even the well known passages come alive in a new way for those well versed. Discover for yourself! Contact Joyce Peacock [jkpeac@comcast.net](mailto:jkpeac@comcast.net); Pam Engle [pam@pamengle.com](mailto:pam@pamengle.com) or the Church office at 856.235.1688.

### [CREDO Confirmation](#)

Rev. Wes Allen will hold a Parents' Information Meeting for those interested in attending the next CREDO Confirmation classes. It is scheduled for Sunday, **September 8 at 10:15 a.m.** in the Hayes Room. Confirmation is open to all high school students. The cost of CREDO is \$150 and covers the curriculum, the retreat at Camp Johnsonburg (NJ), and food for our weekly meetings. You can pay online at the time you register.

### [Our Blessing Box is Bare](#)

Help fill the Blessing Box. Next time you're out grocery shopping, please consider picking up a few things if you can. We desperately need: Cereal, breakfast bars, juice, juice boxes, peanut butter, jelly, soups with meat, canned chicken, and canned tuna. Please leave your donations on the table in Commons Lobby.

### [Grace Boutique](#)

The new Grace Boutique will provide items not available on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, toiletries, cleaning supplies and paper products. We're working with agencies that supply these goods for free to nonprofits but also need to supplement these with donations. Our goal is to match Grace Boutique hours with that of the local food pantries. Our biggest need now is shampoos and feminine hygiene products. Please consider making a donation to help stock our shelves.

[Fall Prayer Retreat](#)  
**Holy Cross Monastery (NY)**  
**October 22-25, 2024**  
**(deadline Sept. 29)**

### [Let's Do Lunch](#)

Save the date for a **Monday, Sept. 23** Dine and Donate event at Iron Hill Brewery to raise funds for mission programs (hours 11 am —10 pm, take out and delivery too).



### [Coffee Hospitality](#)

There's nothing like grabbing a hot cup of coffee or tea Sunday before heading into Drop In and Discuss or between worship services. Contact Carol Wiggans at (267) 496-0450 or [icwiggans@gmail.com](mailto:icwiggans@gmail.com) to offer to periodically help out with the teams supporting this ministry. Coffee hosts swing by Manhattan Bagel that morning and pick up our order of bagels and cream cheese.

**Howard Gospel Choir**  
**Friday, October 4 ~ 7:00 pm**  
**FPC Moorestown Sanctuary**  
**Free will offering**

### [Sunday Morning Check Ins](#)

**Please check in to register your attendance each time you attend in person or watch on your device.** This records critical data for the staff & Membership Team. [Download the Church Center app](#) to check in quickly on your cell. Share Friendship Pads in the pews and Miller Commons to greet those who are seated near you. Remember to **date** the page. New to our live stream? Please sign in on the **Get Connected** form on the live stream page on the website.

### [Children's Sunday School](#)

Please sign up online for boys and girls who plan to attend Sunday School this year. Visit: [fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2468318](https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2468318). Sunday School begins **Sept. 15 at 10:15 am**. Meet in Fellowship Hall to be led to your classrooms and meet your teachers. Have a great year!

### [Welcome Center Teams](#)

On Sunday mornings, members of our hospitality team and deacons are strategically placed at our Welcome Centers in the Narthex and in the Miller Commons Lobby, to welcome everyone and direct new visitors. Our deacons are helping to fortify this ministry with rotating responsibilities, however we are in need of other friends to help as well. If you feel the Spirit leading you to join this team, please reach out to Wes Allen, Ann McBride or Tamara Trzeciak.

**Officers please check your mailboxes when at church**

### [Ways of the Week](#)

On Oct. 13 we begin our 13th round of the Ways. Throughout this round, we will hear 2-minute messages from church members during both services about the Way that means the most to them and how they live out the way.

**The church campus is**  
**CLOSED Monday, Sept. 2**  
**for Labor Day**

*A perfectly good, low mileage walker is looking for its rightful owner. It is in my car for pick-up at church or delivery when is convenient for you. Thank you! — Debbie Heller*



# FAMILY MINISTRY

## Sunday School for children and youth returns September 15th

### Third Grade Bible Sunday

Third graders will receive their Bibles on **Sunday, Sept. 15** for Bible Sunday. Please contact Jean Marie Hanna ([childrensministries@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:childrensministries@fpcmoorestown.org)) in the church office to sign up and indicate the full name of the child and which service on Sunday, Sept. 15 you will be attending.

### Would you like to be an acolyte?

Our acolyte ministry will resume in September after a summer break and we're looking for boys and girls to share in the worship experience. Contact Holly Ascitutto at [hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org) or 856.235.1688, x116.



## Sermon Series Memory Verse

**Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.**

(Colossians 2: 7, NLT)

**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

For Families and Children:  
**Holly Ascitutto**  
856-235-1688, x116 (W)  
[hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

Middle School and High School:  
**Dave Fauvell**  
609-980-7885 call/text  
[dfauvell52@gmail.com](mailto:dfauvell52@gmail.com)

### Choir Rehearsals Begin in September

Opportunities are available for all ages and skill levels in our music programs, and are open to local community members as well. Give one a try this year!

- ◆ Primary Choir (K-1st) — Wednesdays 4:00-4:45 pm
- ◆ Junior Choir (Gr. 2-4) — Tuesdays 4:00-5:00 pm
- ◆ Choristers (Gr. 5-8) — Wednesdays 5:00-6:10 pm
- ◆ Chapel Choir (Gr. 9-12) — Tuesdays 7:00-8:15 pm
- ◆ Adult Choir (adults) — Thursdays 7:00-9:00 pm
- ◆ Handbell Choir (any) — Tuesdays 6:00-7:00 pm
- ◆ Praise Band (any) — Sundays 9:30-10:45 am

### Family Dinner Returns October 2

On Wednesdays, Family Dinner is from 5:45-6:45 p.m. in Miller Commons and is open to the congregation. This year we're opening it to the community too! Donation of \$7.00 per person for this catered buffet dinner. Please pay at the door, by Venmo (@fpcmoorestown) or pre-pay for \$150 per family. **IMPORTANT:** We need helpers to set up and clean up each week for Family Dinner. Pick a week to help. Please contact [Cheryl Gaskill](mailto:Cheryl.Gaskill) at 856.904-3056 call/text.

### Crud Wars Kickoff (Grades 7-12)

Middle school and high school youth groups kick off their year on **Sunday, Sept. 15** with the wonderfully gloppy Crud Wars. We can't wait to see you! Remember to bring towels for the car ride home. Weekly youth groups will begin the next week, so mark your calendars, guys, and [sign up online](#). Bring a friend and meet new ones too.

**Middle School Youth Group (Grades 7-8)**  
Wednesday, Sept. 18 (6:30-8:00 pm, 3rd Floor)

**High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)**  
Sunday, Sept. 22 (6:30-8:00 pm, 3rd Floor)

Questions? Call/text Youth Director Dave Fauvell at 609.980.7885, [dfauvell52@gmail.com](mailto:dfauvell52@gmail.com) or on Instagram.

### Younger Groups Start Dates

Kingdom Kids (K-3rd, 4:45-5:45 pm), Crossing Zone (gr. 4-6, 6:30-7:30 pm) and Family Dinner (5:45-6:45 pm) will start **Wednesday, October 2** ([sign up online](#)).