

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
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fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
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 or [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

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
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

September 15-21, 2024

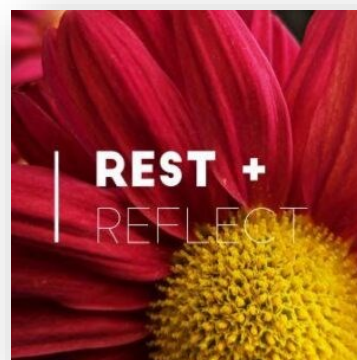
Way of the Week 22

Rest and Reflect

(Sept. 15-21, 2024)

22. REST AND REFLECT. Make time in your week to step back from work, school, and stressful demands. Since Christ has freed us, we no longer have to be obsessively driven. Take a walk, play, nap, meet up with friends, share a meal, or just take some time in solitude.

Ideas for Action: Can you make your Sunday more of a Sabbath day of rest for you and your family? Connect with God using worship music. Unplug from the devices for part or all of the day. Seek the joy of the Lord in Creation. Eat a meal together. Be silent with God and pray. Prioritize wholeness and rejuvenation in Christ.



Fall Kickoff!

Sunday, September 15, 2024

On Fall Kickoff Sunday, we will reconnect with friends and begin in earnest our 2024-2025 program year. There is lots of excitement and activities for all ages:

Sunday, September 15 Fall Kickoff (see page 4)

- ◆ First day of Children's Sunday School classes (10:15-11:15 am), K-12, Meet & Greet in Fellowship Hall this morning
- ◆ Adult Spiritual Formation Preview ~ Meet & Greet in Fellowship Hall (10:15 am)
- ◆ 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 and online
- ◆ [Crud Wars youth group kickoff](#) — (1-3 pm, grades 7-12, outside)
- ◆ See page 4 for fall start dates for K-12 Fellowship Groups



2024-25 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 start dates.**

Happy Birthday Church!

Recently a letter was mailed 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.



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). Location: 124 E. Kings Highway, Maple Shade

New Program Guide!

Please pick up a copy of the new [2024-25 Program Guide](#) at church for a monthly listing of many of the activities, concerts, education offerings and events planned for this coming program year.

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.



Please be sure to wear your nametags on Sundays

PW Fall Gathering Monday, Sept. 16 (6:30 pm)

All women of the Church are invited to kick off of the new year for Presbyterian Women.

Enjoy delicious desserts and hear about this year's plans for Bible Study, missions, fellowship and the 2024-25 study *"Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation."*

There will be a short business meeting, and Barbara Lewis will lead the study's first chapter "Environmental Justice."

Interested in 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 (609-923-4135) or Pam Engle pam@pamengle.com (609-332-7513).

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.

Fall Prayer Retreat

**Holy Cross Monastery (NY)
October 22-25, 2024
(deadline September 29)**

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 to augment local food pantries. Our biggest need now is shampoos and feminine hygiene products. Please consider picking up a few items to help stock our shelves.

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SAVE THE DATE

**Consecration Sunday
Sunday, October 13**

9:30 am Combined Worship



Ways of the Week

On October 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.

Children's Sunday School

Please sign up online for boys and girls who plan to attend Sunday School this year. Sunday School begins **Sept. 15 at 10:15 am**. Meet in Fellowship Hall for our Meet & Greet. Have a great year!

Did you know ...

We have harvested and donated 600 pounds of produce from our garden this year?

Office Volunteer Help

Do you find you have a few free hours on Thursday morning or Thursday afternoons? We have openings for office volunteers on Thursdays to answer the phone or door, help with office tasks, and light computer work. We'd love to have you on our team! Contact Jan Martin if interested: 856-235-1688.

Missions Connections

Read the new Fall 2024 issue of [Missions Connections](#), inserted into the weekly *Connections* Sept. 8 and available at church.

I Will Serve

See our website for job descriptions for volunteer spots we are looking for: Communion Elements, Family Dinner setup/cleanup, Stewardship Committee, Coffee Hospitality, Funeral Receptions and Welcome Desk Staff. *Newcomers welcome!* Call the church at (856) 235-1688.

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 jcwiggans@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.

*To the Congregation,
I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for all that signed the letter of well wishes during my hospital stay. It is great to feel the energy that you thoughts and prayer provided.*

*Sincerely,
Ted Flick*

Howard Gospel Choir

The renowned Howard University Gospel Choir will be in concert on **Friday, October 4th** at 7:00 pm at FPC Moorestown and the community is invited! The first collegiate choir of its kind in the world, HGC has pioneered an international legacy in gospel music ministry. Tickets are not required; a free will offering will be taken. A nonperishable food collection will be taken that evening to support the Moorestown Ministerium food pantry.

Fall Start Dates (page 4)

- **Middle School Youth Group** (Gr. 7-8): Wed. 9/18
- **High School Youth Group** (Gr. 9-12): Sunday, 9/22
- **Kingdom Kids** (K-3rd, Wed. 10/2
- **Crossing Zone** (gr. 4-6): Wed 10/2
- **Family Dinner** (5:45-6:45 pm) Wed. 10/2

FAMILY MINISTRY

Sunday School & Adult Meet and Greet: Sunday, September 15th (10:15 am)

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) 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 is looking for boys and girls to share in this meaningful Sunday worship experience. Contact Holly Asciutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or 856.235.1688, x116.



Sermon Series Memory Verse

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.” (Matthew 13:44 - NLT)

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, x116 (W)

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

Dave Fauvell

609-980-7885 call/text

dfauvell52@gmail.com

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

Choir Rehearsals Begin September 10-12

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. Donation of \$7.00 per person for this catered buffet dinner. Please pay at the door each week, 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. Can you pick a week(s) to help? Please contact Cheryl Gaskill at 856.904-3056 call/text with date(s) that work best for you.

Crud Wars Kickoff (Grades 7-12)

TODAY: Middle school and high school youth groups kick off their year on **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 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](#)).