

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
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fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
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Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
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**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

10:15-11:00 am
Education Hour

Worship streams live from each worship space. Log on from any device to 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
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 22-28, 2024

Way of the Week 23 Worship with your Whole Heart

(Sept. 22-28, 2024)

23. WORSHIP WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART. Your life is meant to be an act of worship. Every breath, action, and thought flows from God and can bring him glory. Praise God everywhere and embrace the opportunities to regularly worship with your church family.

Ideas for Action: Every morning this week, recite the Jesus Creed: *"Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* (Mark 12: 29-31)



Consecration Sunday is Coming! Sunday, October 13, 2024

Generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity.
- Isaiah 32:8

PLEASE PLAN NOW to join with your church family in worship on October 13th for a combined **9:30 a.m.** service in the sanctuary. *This year's theme for Consecration Sunday is Grow the Kingdom - I Will Pray, I Will Invite, I Will Serve, I Will Give.* Our Christian stewardship process is a prayerful time designed to concentrate on the giver's need to give for his or her own spiritual growth. This is between you and the LORD. Now is the time to make that personal commitment as an act of worship. This is a special and meaningful day in one's faith journey.

Look for your mailed Estimate of Giving card and BRING it with you to church that day! Please bring a dish to share for the celebratory Covered Dish Brunch too!



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.

Sunday School and K-12 Fellowship Groups have started, sign up today

PW Holiday Bazaar November 16, 2024

Are you ready to clear out some cupboards and drawers? Presbyterian Women are looking for: Gently used jewelry, accessories (scarves, belts, purses, umbrellas, gloves); New and Nearly New treasures; Baked goods (cookies, brownies, cupcakes, gluten free treats); Holiday decorations; Christmas fabric for making ornaments. Material is needed by **Sunday, Oct. 22**. Please contact [Edith McFalls](#) at 856-905-8749 or [Fran Green](#) at 856-905-3075.

NEW: God's Good News About Politics Wednesdays in October

Wes Allen offers a time of prayer and study on Wednesday evenings in October (2, 9, 16, 23 and 30) from 6:30-8:00 p.m. following Family Dinner in the Commons. Meet in the Lounge. **Sign up online.**

Politics are a part of daily life, influencing decisions about power and resources at all levels of society. How should followers of Jesus engage? This five-session small group series from InterVarsity Press encourages believers to look to Scripture first, shaping our approach to faithful political engagement as we explore how God's people have historically engaged with power, justice, and political organization. See our event page for details.

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.

New Program Guide

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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 is from 10:15-11:00 am (note new end time).** Have a great year!

Red Cross Blood Drive

**Monday, October 28
11:00 am-4:00 pm**

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 and online.

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.

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.

Prayer Vigil for Consecration Sunday

Watch for a sign up sheet from the Prayer and Discipleship Committee for a 12-Hour Prayer Vigil on **Saturday, Oct. 12** in preparation for Consecration Sunday (Oct. 13). Choose the 30-minute slot that works best with your schedule.

Pastor & Program Staff Appreciation Sunday

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in October. As this conflicts with Consecration Sunday, this year we will celebrate on **October 20**. Help us recognize the ministry of Rev. Stuart Spencer, Rev. Wes Allen, and our program staff, by sending them a note of appreciation sharing your gratitude for their ministry with kind words of support and recognition. You may bring a card with you to either worship service, or use a blank thank you cards available in the Commons Lobby that day to write a note. Kids: they'd love to receive artwork or a picture from you too!

**World Communion Sunday
October 6, 2024**

FAMILY MINISTRY

Register online for Sunday School (10:15-11:00 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 entire 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.



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 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

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT WITH YOUNG LIFE November 15-17, 2024

Lake Champion (Glen Spey, NY) ~ Grades 9-12
Don't miss this fun, meaningful experience

K-12 Fellowship Group Start Dates 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)

Kingdom Kids (Grades K-3rd)

Wednesday, Oct. 2 (4:45-5:45 pm)

Wednesday Family Dinner (all)

Wednesday, Oct. 2 (5:45-6:45 pm, \$7.00/person)

Crossing Zone (Grades 4-6)

Wednesday, Oct. 2 (6:30-7:30 pm)

CREDO Class Begins October 6

YES, there's still time to register your high school student for our upcoming [CREDO Confirmation Class](#). **Sunday, Oct. 6** will be the last day to do so. CREDO is open to all high school students (grades 9-12).

Would you like to be an acolyte?

Our acolyte ministry is looking for boys and girls to share in this meaningful Sunday worship experience. We need you. Contact Holly Asciutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or 856.235.1688, x116 or Jean Marie in the church office.

Choir Rehearsals Underway

- ◆ 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