

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
MAIL: P. O. Box 868
Moorestown, NJ 08057
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**

**10:15-11:00 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

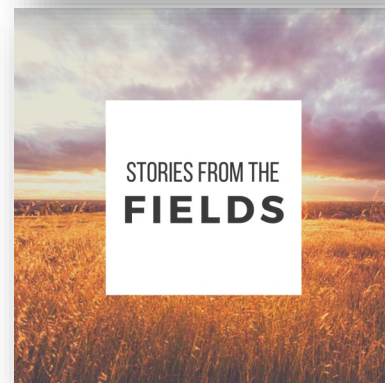
Sept. 29-Oct. 5, 2024

Way of the Week 24 Tell Your Story (Sept. 29-Oct. 5)

24. TELL YOUR STORY. God has done and is doing something unique in your life. Has God answered a prayer, provided help, or blessed you? Share it. Ask God for opportunities to share your faith in Christ by words and deeds.

Ideas for Action: At the start of each morning this week, think about one thing you're grateful to God for from the previous 24 hours. Got it? Now share it with someone else in the course of today.

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



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 stewardship theme 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 and is a personal commitment, 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. If you won't be with us October 13, please [submit your Estimate of Giving online](#), send to the church office ahead of time, or place in the offering plate.

Please bring a dish to share for the Covered Dish Brunch too! **Last Name A-L:** Main Dish; **M-Q:** Side Dish or Salad; **R-T:** Bread or Rolls; **U-Z:** Dessert.

[Howard Gospel Choir](#)

The award-winning 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. Come early, we are expecting to sell out. Overflow seating will be available in Miller Commons. 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 and Sign Up Genius [online link](#) from the Prayer and Discipleship Committee for a 12-Hour Prayer Vigil on **Saturday, Oct. 12** as we prepare for Consecration Sunday (Oct. 13). Choose the 30-minute slot that works best with your schedule.



[Consecration Sunday: Watch Your Mail](#)

Leading up to Consecration Sunday, we'll hear personal stories from two member families. Why did they join FPC Moorestown? What does this mean to them and their faith story? Then, in September, each member household will be mailed a Giving Packet, containing financial information and your 2025 Estimate of Giving card. Completing this card is more important than ever and allows our church leaders to more accurately budget for the church's ministry in fiscal year 2025.

Please BRING the Estimate of Giving card with you when you come to church on October 13th. You are encouraged to complete it during worship.

[PW Holiday Bazaar November 16th](#)

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 **Oct. 22**. Please contact [Edith McFalls](#) at 856-905-8749 or [Fran Green](#) at 856-905-3075. Proceeds support local ministries serving women and children in acute need. Come shop for new finds and bargains galore and support Presbyterian Women. Boxes for donations will be in the Commons Lobby beginning **Sunday, October 13**. [Sign up online](#) on our Church Center event page.

[World Communion Sunday October 6, 2024](#)

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.

[2024-25 Fellowship Groups](#)

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.**

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.

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. Hours by appointment.

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.

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!

Missions Connections

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



Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, October 28
11:00-4:00 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.

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.

Family Dinner Returns

Wednesday, October 2
5:45-6:45 pm
(see page 4)

Our Blessing Box is Bare

Next time you're out grocery shopping, please consider picking up a few things if you can. Our Blessing Box is in desperate need of: cereal, breakfast bars, juice, juice boxes, peanut butter, jelly, soups with meat, canned chicken, and canned tuna. Kindly leave your donations on the table in Commons Lobby.

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 words of support and recognition. You may bring a card with you to either worship service, or use 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!

WJCMS Opens Season

Sunday, October 20

West Jersey Chamber Music Society opens its 2024-25 season with "Autumn Serenade" **Sunday, Oct. 20** with the West Jersey Chamber Symphony, and will perform enchanting string works by F. Schubert, W. Mozart, D. Wren, and others that span the Classical, Romantic, and Modern eras. **Tickets:** \$30 Adults; \$24 Seniors, Children (under 18) - Free. Purchase tickets at wjcms.org or at the door.

October Session Meeting

October 22, 2024

Reports due Thursday, Oct. 17
(note earlier deadline)





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](mailto:Cheryl.Gaskill@fpcmoorestown.org) at 856.904-3056 call/text with date(s) that work best for you.

⇒ **[High School Winter Retreat Nov. 15-17!](#)**

GET READY for one of the best weekends of the year to pull back from everyday life and reconnect with God. If you've never been with us on a winter camp retreat, this is the year! We are again partnering with our friends from Young Life for this amazing weekend. Build memories that will last a lifetime and grow your relationship with our loving God. Grades 9-12; register by **Oct. 17.**

SIGN UP LINK!

<https://nj23.younglife.events/fall-weekend>

- 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

[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 experience. We need you. Contact Holly Asciutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or 856.235.1688, x116 or Jean Marie in the church office.

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT WITH YOUNG LIFE
November 15-17, 2024
 Lake Champion (Glen Spey, NY) ~ Grades 9-12