

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](#) 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

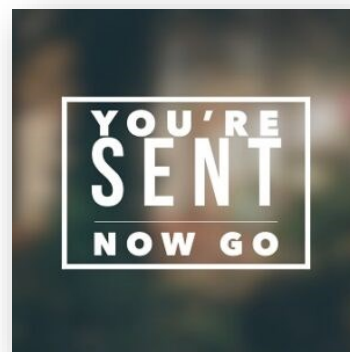
September 8-14, 2024

Way of the Week 21 You're Sent, Now Go

(Sept. 8-14, 2024)

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 Linda Jagiela, Director of Outreach, for additional suggestions. Make plans to go and serve ASAP.



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. Good stuff.

Sunday, September 8—Welcome Back!

- ◆ Adult Spiritual Formation (10:15-11:15 am) - Drop In and Discuss ends
- ◆ Enhanced coffee hour with L & M donuts
- ◆ [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
- ◆ Sunday School & Adult Spiritual Formation Meet and Greet (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
- ◆ [Crud Wars youth group kickoff](#) — (1-3 pm, grades 7-12, outside)



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!

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](mailto:Steve.Drzaszcz@moorestown.org) or Jan Martin in the church office.



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

Please be sure to wear your nametags on Sundays

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.

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.

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).



[CREDO Confirmation](#)

Rev. Wes Allen will hold a Parent Information Meeting on **Sunday, Sept. 8** at 10:15 am in the Hayes Room, for those interested in attending this year's CREDO Confirmation class. 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.

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

[Howard Gospel Choir](#)

Friday, October 4 ~ 7:00 pm
FPC Moorestown Sanctuary
Free will offering, no tickets
Nonperishable food collection

[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.

[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](#)

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

[PW Fall Gathering](#) **Wed. 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."

[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.

[Eagle Scout Project](#)

Avery LaMonica is 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.

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 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 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 Ascitutto

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 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. 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 what date(s) work best for you.

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 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](#)).