

First Presbyterian Church
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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 glad-
ness; 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](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 announce-
ments, Connections, and
upcoming events? If not,
contact the [church office](#).**



Connections FPC Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

October 20-26, 2024

Way of the Week 2 Speak the Truth with Love

(October 20-26, 2024)

Ways Speaker: Audrey Drummond

SPEAK THE TRUTH WITH LOVE. Speak honestly and directly in a way that clearly reflects love and support for one another. Be courageous enough to say what needs to be said, even when it's difficult. Address issues directly with those who are involved or affected; speak to, not about, others.

Ideas for Action: Is there a difficult conversation you've been delaying? Is there someone you've been talking about instead of being direct? Pray for courage and grace to have the conversation, in person, if possible.

As we begin our 13th round of the Ways, weekly speakers briefly share what they are thankful for about this Way and/or how they try to live the concept in their lives.



Pastor & Program Staff Appreciation Sunday Sunday, October 20th

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in October. As this conflicted 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!



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 available in the Commons Lobby beginning **Sunday, Oct. 13**. [Sign up online](#) on our event page.

Have you turned in your Spiritual Gifts survey?

Consecration Sunday:

Grow the Kingdom - I Will Pray, I Will Invite, I Will Serve, I Will Give.

On October 13th, we gathered as a church family to dedicate our 2025 Estimate of Giving cards and enjoy a Covered Dish Brunch after church. If you were unable to be with us, we missed you! Please complete your 2025 Estimate of Giving [online](#), mail to the office or drop in the offering plate. These estimates allow church leaders to accurately budget for fiscal year 2025. Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee respond.



Women's Morning Prayer

Saturday, Nov. 23
8:00 am - Noon

(sign up on our event page)

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, November 2, 2024
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

The men of FPC Moorestown are invited to a wonderful morning with amazing food and a special time of learning and fellowship at the Men's Prayer Breakfast. The morning begins with a delicious and heart-unhealthy breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The coffee will be excellent and the conversation and friendship around the tables even better.

After breakfast, Dr. Dick Herman, former Associate Pastor at FPC Moorestown, speaks on this timely topic in the days before our national election: *"Ways to Pray for Our Country During An Election."* In addition to Dick's presentation, there will be time enough for prayer for our nation and ourselves. Sons of high school age or older and friends welcome.

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

Wes Allen offers a time of prayer and study on Wednesday evenings in October 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 He 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).

Ways of the Week

On October 13 we began 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 that Way.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, October 28

11:00-4:00 pm ~ Commons

Please see Deborah Heller at the Welcome Desk to reserve your time. Your donation is imperative at this time of hurricane disasters in North Carolina and the south.

Fall Inquirers Class

Begins Wed. November 13

Sign up on our event page

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 online at wjcms.org or at the door.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

**Missionary Cliff Jones shares
about making disciples
in India**

Hurricane Helene Relief

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-helene/>

(Do *not* send checks to the church)

New: Looking for Assistance

The Deacons are coordinating a "Meal Train" to assist Betty Schurmann with rides to doctor's appointments and various errands. If you would like to participate, log on to <https://mealtrain.com/ld1lv4> to see specific assistance that is needed or contact Deacon Bobbi Voglesong at 856.206.7190.

They are also coordinating a "Ride Train" for Liz Greene. Liz broke a bone in her foot and is unable to drive to appointments. If you'd like to participate, log on to: <https://mealtrain.com/oy96qn> or contact Deacon Bobbi Voglesong.

Poinsettia Sales

November 3, 10, 17

Watch for order forms online and in *Connections* for this year's poinsettia sales. Poinsettias will be displayed in both worship spaces on Manger Sunday **Dec. 15** and available to take home that day.

Thanksgiving Postcards

Included in worship bulletins on **Sunday, Nov. 17** will be our traditional Thanksgiving postcards. Fill in the name and address of someone you are grateful for and wish to tell, and mail from your home, or place addressed postcards in the offering plate for the church to mail. Postcards given to the church office will be mailed **Monday, Nov. 18** so they arrive in time for Thanksgiving.

Operation Christmas Child

It's shoe box time. Pick up yours from the Commons Lobby. Choose a child (age/Male or Female), read the instructions and fill the box with gifts. Return by **Nov. 14th**. Please remember to include a check for \$10 in the box to cover shipping charges. You may also go online and pay for the shipping too. Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org or 267.275.7582 call/text. **PLUS:** We will again be a community drop off location in November. Watch for sign ups soon ...



Alternative Gift Fair

Our Alternative Gift Fair will be open **Nov. 24-Dec. 24**. Alternate Gifts allow donations to worthy causes in the name of the gift recipient. Gifts begin at \$5.00 and a broad range of gifts is available to assist our ministries. Visit the tables in the narthex and Commons Lobby to purchase your alternative gifts.

**Longest Night Worship
Wednesday, December 4th**

Advent Guide

Watch for copies of the *2024 Advent Activity Guide*, available at church and online on our website and Church Center event page. The Advent Guide details important programming information and special dates for this busy season's many events.



FAMILY MINISTRY

Remember to sign up online for Sunday School (10:15-11:00 am)

Family Dinner

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 online.

IMPORTANT: We need helpers to set up and clean up each week for Family Dinner. Can you please pick a week(s) to help? Contact [Cheryl Gaskill](#) 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 Groups](#)

Kingdom Kids (Grades K-3rd)
Wednesdays, 4:45-5:45 pm

Crossing Zone (Grades 4-6)
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 7-8)
Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm

High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)
Sundays, 6:30-8:00 pm

[Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule](#)

Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Middle School Youth Group and Family Dinner will NOT MEET **Wednesday, Nov. 27** for the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be no High School Youth Group on **Sunday, Dec. 1**. The church office is CLOSED Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29.

[Would you like to be an acolyte?](#)

Our acolyte ministry is looking for boys and girls to share in this meaningful experience at the 9:00 am traditional service. We need you. Contact Holly Asciutto or Jean Marie Hanna in the church office at 856.235.1688, x124.

[Sign Up: Advent Candle Lighters](#)

YES, we are looking for families for Advent wreath lighters each Sunday in Advent (**Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22**) at both services. Spots are also available to participate in Christmas Eve services **Dec. 24** (4:00, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 pm). Sign up with Kevin Fauvell at kevindfauvell@gmail.com or (609) 220-0177.

[NEW: Advent Kit](#)

Sunday, December 1st is the First Sunday in Advent. As we prepare ourselves for Christmas, families are encouraged to pick up an Advent Kit. Pick a time to sit down together and follow the box's devotional guide and activities. Everything you need is included for your family to prepare your hearts for Baby Jesus. Available for pick up in the Commons Lobby Sunday, Dec. 1 (*ONE box per family please*).