First Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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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 I I: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

Oct. 27-Nov. 2, 2024

Way of the Week 3 Listen Generously

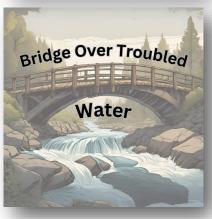
(October 27-November 2, 2024) Ways Speaker: Carol Wiggans

3. LISTEN GENEROUSLY. Be quick to listen and do so with your undivided attention. Minimize the distractions and let go of the need to agree or disagree. Suspend your judgment and be curious to know more rather than jumping to conclusions. Above all, listen to understand.

Ideas for Action: Put aside phones and laptops. Turn off the TV or computer and face someone you love. Focus on what the other is saying; not on what you want to say. Be careful that you're not interrupting because you're not listening to them.

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.





Presbyterian Women (PW) Holiday Bazaar Saturday, November 16th ~ 10 am-3 pm

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.
- Proceeds support local ministries serving women and children in acute need. Come shop for new finds and bargains galore and support Presbyterian Women.
- Boxes to drop off donations are available in the Commons Lobby. Thank you!
- Sign up online on our event page to help out whenever you can
- Please contact Edith McFalls at 856-905-8749.

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.

Have you turned in your Spiritual Gifts survey?



Women's Morning Prayer

Saturday, Nov. 23 8:00 am - Noon (sign up on our event page)

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. 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. Budget meetings begin in November. Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee respond.

Missionary Presentation

On Wednesday, Nov. 13th after Family Dinner, Missionary Rev. Cliff Jones will speak about making disciples in India. Rev. Jones, recently retired pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Laurel Springs, NJ, and his wife Lucy live in Moorestown. They are supported by New Life Fellowship Foundation, which began in India in 2010 with one house-church and two people. both Hindu background Indian Christians. This team had started 11,000 house-churches by the time Rev. Cliff and Lucy visited on a trip to India in 2017. They have just reached 50,000 house-churches this year with a goal to establish a healthy house-church in every village of northern India -240,000 by 2034. See events.

The event will be held in Room 3-4 at 7:00 PM. Family Dinner is 5:45-6:45 pm, Commons, \$7.00 per person.

Longest Night Service Wednesday, December 4th (7:00 pm)

This unique service provides peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety, or depression this holiday season. This event will be held on **Wed. Dec. 4th** in the sanctuary and will also be streamed live. The Longest Night includes elements from a Service of Remembrance, including communion, music, and a time for prayer. All ages and faiths are welcome. Please share this with those you know who might need an authentic respite in the midst of busy holiday activities, or who have experienced a loss. If you know someone you would like us to invite to this service, please provide their name and address to <u>Alison Mackey</u> in the church office so we may send them an invitation letter.

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).

AMERICAN RED CROSS



Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, October 28 I 1:00-4:00 pm Miller 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.

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.

Hurricane Helene Relief

Several people have asked where to donate to Hurricane Relief and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Do *not* send checks to the church. You may donate to PDA online at

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

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 that Way.

How Can I Help?

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.

Fall Inquirers Class

Begins Wednesday, Nov. 13
Sign up on our event page to
learn more about us!

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 **December 15** and available to take home that day.

October Session Meeting October 29, 2024

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.

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.

Family Advent Event Friday, December 6 Watch for details soon





Bible stories come to life in 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.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: We need helpers to set up and clean up each week for Family Dinner. Can you please pick a week(s) to help? Contact <u>Cheryl Gaskill</u> 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; money is nonrefundable after **November 8.** REGISTER on the link below:

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

Memory Verse: "See, God has come to save me. I will trust in him and not be afraid. The Lord God is my strength and my song: he has given me victory." (Isaiah 12: 2, NLT)

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, ×116 (W)

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

Dave Fauvell

609-980-7885 call/text

dfauvell52@gmail.com

K-I2 Fellowship Groups

- ♦ Kingdom Kids (Grades K-3rd); Wed. 4:45-5:45 pm
- ◆ Crossing Zone (Grades 4-6); Wed. 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.

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).

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.