

First Presbyterian Church
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fpcmoorestown.org
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
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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

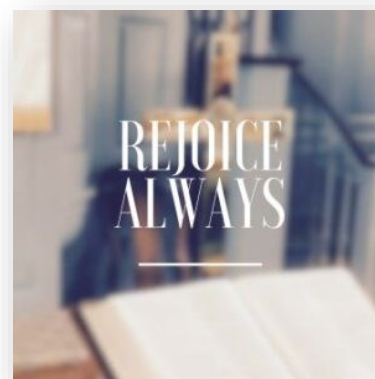
First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

October 6-12, 2024

Way of the Week 25 Rejoice Always (Oct. 6-12, 2024)

25. REJOICE ALWAYS. The Kingdom of God is a party! Let healthy laughter fill our meetings, our meals, and even our worship. Allow the joy of our faith be clearly evident in our speech and on our faces.

Ideas for Action: Throw a party for the coming weekend and invite a couple of individuals or families from the church over to celebrate. Don't forget the cake! What's the occasion? The joy of knowing and serving Jesus and belonging to our church family are reasons enough.



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 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 meaningful day in one's faith journey. LOOK FOR your mailed Estimate of Giving card and bring it with you to church. If you won't be with us October 13, we'll miss you. Please [submit your Estimate of Giving online](#), mail 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 or Cookies



**Consecration Sunday:
9:30 am Worship**

Leading up to Consecration Sunday, we'll hear personal stories from member families. Why did they join this church? What does this practice mean for one's faith story? Recently, households were mailed a packet containing your 2025 Estimate of Giving card. Completing this card is more important than ever and allows church leaders to accurately budget for our ministry in fiscal year 2025.

Please bring the Estimate of Giving card with you on **Sunday, October 13th**. You are encouraged to complete it during worship.

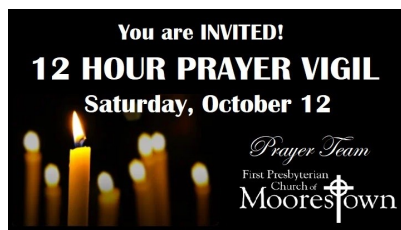
Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee respond. You may return the Esti-

mate of Giving card in a number of ways:

- prayerfully dedicate in person during the **9:30 a.m.** worship on Consecration Sunday
- drop in the offering plate beforehand if you'll be away
- mail to the church office
- drop it by during the week
- [submit your gift online](#)

**Prayer Vigil for
Consecration Sunday**

See the online sign up 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 our hearts for Consecration Sunday (Oct. 13). Choose the 30-minute slot that works best with your schedule.



**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.

**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!

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.



Red Cross Blood Drive
Monday, October 28
11:00-4:00 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.

Thank you for supporting our Dine and Donate on Sept. 23

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 29, 2024
Reports due Thursday 10/17

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/>

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.

Growing Goodness to Give to Others

Our Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden is still producing. Our tomato crop is going strong and it's the first time we've had a fall harvest. We also are growing raspberries, peppers, flowers, fresh herbs, radishes, greens and peas. Our team harvests the produce bounty each week. Would you like to help? Contact Leslie Spencer at spencer@rowan.edu or 215.584.7659.

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

Grounds Spruced Up

Many thanks to Bailey Landscaping from Maple Shade for generously donating the beautiful fall-themed plantings around our church sign on the point. Visit Bailey at www.baileylandscape.com or 609.504.2825.

I Will Serve

See our website for job descriptions for volunteer spots we are looking for: Communion Elements, Family Dinner setup and clean up, Stewardship Committee, Coffee Hospitality, Funeral Receptions and Sunday Welcome Desk Staff. *Newcomers welcome!* Call Jan in the church at 856.235.1688, x133.

New Grace Boutique

Grace Boutique provides 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.

Operation Christmas Child

It's shoe box time. Shoe boxes are available in the Commons Lobby. Take a box and choose a child (age/Male or Female). Read the instructions in the box and fill it with gifts. Return the box by **November 14th**. Please remember to include a check for \$10 in the box to cover the shipping charges. You may also go online and pay for the shipping too. Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org or 267.275.7582 cell/text. We will also be a drop off location in November as well. Watch for sign ups ...





Remember to sign up 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.

⇒ **[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 Ascitutto
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)

Family Dinner began **Wed. October 2** and is open to the entire congregation. Cost is \$7.00 per person, pay at the door, pre-pay online or via Venmo too -- @fpcmoorestown. Family Dinner is in Miller Commons 5:45-6:45 pm.



[CREDO Class Begins October 6](#)

Sunday, Oct. 6 will be the last day to sign your son or daughter up for CREDO Confirmation, and is the first class. CREDO is open to all high school students (grades 9-12). Facilitators: Ann McBride and Cheryl Gaskill

[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 Ascitutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or 856.235.1688, x116 or Jean Marie in the church office.