

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](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 announcements, Connections, and upcoming events? If not, contact the [church office](#).



Connections FPC

Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

November 17-23, 2024

Way of the Week 6:

Forgive ... Again

(November 17-23, 2024)

Ways Speaker: Stuart Spencer

6. FORGIVE ... AGAIN. Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you're struggling to forgive.

Ideas for Action: Work on "dropping" the anger you have. Don't let it come between you and someone else. Stop bringing up the hurt in public or with friends. Stop nursing the memory of how you've been wronged.

During this 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.



Operation Christmas Child

We are excited to again serve as a drop off host location for the community, and will be accepting boxes from the public **Nov. 18-25**. November 25 is delivery day. Drop off will be in the Commons Lobby and there are shifts to fit every schedule. Four volunteers are needed to support each shift, including (A) Greeter, (B) Runner, (C) Prayer Warrior and (D) Youth/Volunteer. What position speaks to you? [Sign up online](#). Contact coordinator Jean Kunkel at 856.373.1102 or jeankunkel215@gmail.com. Friends welcome!

Shifts Needed:

- ◆ Monday, Nov. 18: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- ◆ Tuesday, Nov. 19: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- ◆ Wednesday, Nov. 20: 9 am - Noon
- ◆ Thursday, Nov. 21: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- ◆ Friday, Nov. 22: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- ◆ Saturday, Nov. 23: Noon-2 pm
- ◆ Sunday, Nov. 24: Noon-2 pm
- ◆ Monday, Nov. 25: 9 am-Noon (load the truck)

NEW: Advent Devotional

As we approach Advent, the Prayer and Discipleship Committee hopes you will take time to reflect on the scriptures foretelling and describing the birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. The Committee has assembled an Advent Devotional that will be available to pick up **Sunday, Nov. 17th**.

For last year’s devotional, several youth were invited to submit a reflection and we received many comments from members who appreciated hearing from our young people. This year, the Prayer Committee decided to focus on our children and youth, with 14 days of the 25 days of Advent reflections being written by students. We hope you will take a copy and use it daily during Advent which begins the Sunday following Thanksgiving, **December 1st**.

If you don't have an advent wreath you might want to make your own or purchase one, including candles (3 purple, 1 white).

2024 Poinsettia Orders Due November 17

Order forms will be in *Connections* **Nov. 3, 10, 17** for this year’s poinsettia sales and orders and payment are due **Nov. 17**. Poinsettias will be displayed in both worship spaces on Manger Sunday December 15 and available to take home that day. [Download order forms](#) online as well. Plants are \$16 each.



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 special events. The First Sunday in Advent is **December 1**.

Inquirers Class

The Membership Committee invites those interested in learning more about our church to attend its Inquirers' Class, starting **Nov. 13**. The Inquirers' Class is for those interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown and the Presbyterian Church as a whole. The five-part series is comprised of evening and Sunday morning sessions including one with Session to be received into membership for those who choose. [Sign up online](#) on the event page.

Longest Night Worship

Longest Night Worship will be **Wednesday, Dec. 4** at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This unique service provides peace to those who may be dealing with grief, illness, anxiety, or depression this holiday season. If you have someone to invite, contact [Alison Mackey](#) in the church office to have them mailed an invitation letter.

NEW: Men’s Winter Weekend January 24-26, 2025

Start 2025 with a Band of Brothers in Christ for a weekend away in a gorgeous mountain lake setting. Dr. Stephen Henziel-Nelson, Senior Pastor of the Allentown Presbyterian Church in Allentown, NJ, is our guest speaker. We’ll hear from Stephen and have time to share our lives. Saturday afternoon is open for free time. The younger men in your life are most welcome. Bring your sons, grandsons, sons-in-law (high school age or older). One of the two cabins will be a youth cabin. Led by Stuart Spencer.

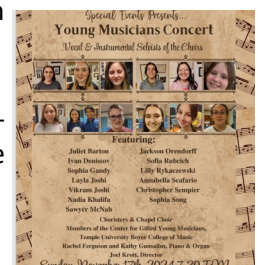
Online registration is now available! Registration deadline: **December 1**

Young Musicians Concert Scheduled for Sunday, November 17th

Our 60th Series of *Special Events* presents young, gifted musicians performing solo songs and instrumental works all to the glory of God.

The Choristers (grades 5-8) and Chapel Choirs (grades 9-12) will be featured, in addition to guests from Temple University Center for Gifted Young Musicians. The event will begin at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

A free will offering will be received. This Concert will be live streamed. See event page.



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.

Dine and Donate for our Preschool

Thursday, Nov. 21 (5-8 pm)

It's a busy time with fall activities and school events, so take a night off and head over to P.J. Whelihan's Pub and Restaurant in Maple Shade (396 S. Lenola Road) to support our Step by Step Christian Preschool. **Be sure to mention to your server that you are supporting Step by Step Preschool.**



Women's Morning Prayer Saturday, Nov. 23 (8:00 am)

Please come for a special time of prayer. Bring your Bible, journal and a snack if you'd like. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided. If praying is a new or unfamiliar spiritual practice, not a problem. Just do what makes you comfortable. Join other women on their prayer journey. Women of high school age or older and friends are welcome.

November Session reports due Friday, Nov. 22



Giving Tuesday

On **Tuesday, December 3**, we are joining thousands of individuals and organizations on #Giving Tuesday, the Global Day of Giving. Please consider the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown on this day to help close the 2024 budget deficit and do even more with your donation so we may start 2025 fresh. You can take part by visiting www.fpcmoorestown/giving.

**Office closed for Thanksgiving
November 28th & 29th**

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. Watch for tables in the narthex and Commons Lobby to purchase your alternative gifts. For questions contact project coordinator Donna Leatherman at donna.leatherman@comcast.net or (856) 304-8001.



Consecration Sunday

Budget planning is underway for our 2025 fiscal year. If you have not yet submitted your 2025 Estimate of Giving form, please submit it [online](#), mail to the office or drop in the offering plate.

Family Advent Event & Marketplace

Friday, Dec. 6 (6:00-7:30 pm)

Have you ever wondered what it was like when Jesus was born? Visit the Miracle of Jesus and be transported back in time to the town of Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The citizens of Bethlehem can't stop talking about Jesus and his incredible life on earth. Families can stroll through the exciting shoppes and sites in Bethlehem in any order, meeting friends of Jesus along the way who share amazing details about his birth and life. All ages will be amazed at the authentic, multisensory experiences they'll find in this village. The event is free but please [REGISTER online to attend](#).

"Ride Train"

The Deacons are coordinating a "Ride 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 Vogle-song at 856.206.7190.

Sunday Coffee & Bagels

12. Own Our Church. Can you help the hospitality team with the Sunday coffee and bagels periodically? Contact Carol Wiggans at (267) 496-0450 or icwiggans@gmail.com.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Families: Sign up to light the Advent wreath on Sundays, Christmas Eve



Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Middle School Youth Group and Family Dinner will NOT MEET **Wednesday, Nov. 27** for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The church office is CLOSED Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Youth Group Fall Schedule

There will be no Youth Group on:

- ◆ Sunday, Nov. 17 (High School)
- ◆ Wednesday, Nov. 27 (Middle School)
- ◆ Sunday, Dec. 1 (High School)



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 Ascitutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org
Middle School and High School:
Dave Fauvell
609-980-7885 call/text
dfauvell52@gmail.com

NEW: Advent Kit for Families

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).

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.

Would you like to be an acolyte?

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



Advent Family Event

FPC Moorestown families are invited to take part in a special evening Family Advent Event "Miracle of Jesus" on **Friday, Dec. 6**. See page 3 and our event page for more info.

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.