

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**

**10:15-11:00 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

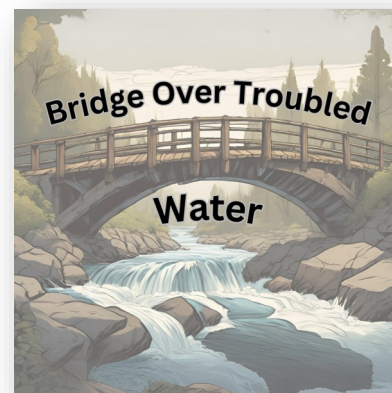
November 24-30, 2024

Way of the Week 7: Celebrate Our Unity, Savor our Diversity (November 24-30, 2024)

Ways Speaker: Ann McBride

7. CELEBRATE OUR UNITY, SAVOR OUR DIVERSITY. Thank God that, like parts of the human body, we're not all the same. Be open to learn from others, regardless of their age, background, experience, or tenure with our church. We make better decisions and grow as people when we consider multiple perspectives. Listen with curiosity to others and consider how to use their ideas.

Ideas for Action: Seek out someone from a different background, culture or race and meet three or four times to get to know their lives and stories. Pray with them for racial and social healing.



Operation Christmas Child

We are a drop off location and collecting boxes from the public Nov. 18-25. Four volunteers are needed per shift, including Greeter, Runner, Prayer Warrior and Youth/Volunteer. A few weekend shifts remain. [Sign up online](#) with coordinator Jean Kunkel at 856.373.1102 or jeankunkel215@gmail.com.

- ◆ Saturday, Nov. 23: Noon-2 pm
- ◆ Sunday, Nov. 24: Noon-2 pm
- ◆ Monday, Nov. 25: 9 am-Noon (load the truck)

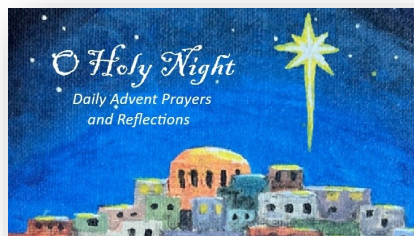
Longest Night Worship

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. The Longest Night includes elements from a Service of Remembrance, including the Lord's Supper, special music, and a time for prayer. All ages and faiths are welcome. Come for Family Dinner at 5:45 pm.

If you have someone to invite, contact [Alison Mackey](#) in the church office to have them mailed an invitation letter.

NEW: Advent Devotional

The Prayer and Discipleship Committee has assembled an Advent Devotional that is now available to pick up at church. As we approach Advent, take time to reflect on the scriptures foretelling and describing the birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. 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 our students. Please take a copy and use it daily during Advent which begins Dec. 1 (Sunday following Thanksgiving). If you don't have an advent wreath you might want to make your own or purchase one, including candles (3 purple, 1 white).



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**

Advent Activity Guide

Copies of the *2024 Advent Activity Guide* are 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**.

Office closed for Thanksgiving November 28th & 29th

Drivers for Poinsettia Deliveries to Members

Poinsettias will be displayed in both worship spaces on Manger Sunday December 15 and available to take home that day if you placed an order (orders concluded Nov. 17). Deacons Gail Sorin and Bobbi Voglesong are coordinating deliveries of donated poinsettias to our less mobile members. Help is needed. Please contact Gail or Bobbi if you can assist.

Advent 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.

Membership Mentors

The Membership Committee is looking for members to become a mentor with one of our new members. Basically, to *be a friend*. Be that friendly face they feel comfortable with asking questions, even just to show them where the bathrooms are, or how to plug in to a small group. Tell anyone on the Membership Committee or call Joyce Wenzke at 609-410-4118.

Children's (Dec. 11) and Youth (Dec. 15) Christmas Parties scheduled

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 is available to assist our ministries. Your gifts help those in need around the globe. Honor loved ones, family members, friends and business associates at Christmas while providing assistance to these ministries.

Stop by the tables in the narthex and Commons Lobby to purchase your alternative gifts. For questions contact project coordinator Donna Leatherman at donnaleatherman@comcast.net or (856) 304-8001. NOTE: Volunteers are needed to staff the tables during worship between and after services; let Donna know if you can help!

Giving Tuesday, Giving Thanks

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.

Manger Sunday

In one of our church's special traditions, members are invited to bring **unwrapped** gifts on Sunday, Dec. 15 for Manger Sunday. The Deacons coordinate this ministry. In both services, members will place the unwrapped gifts in the manger while singing carols and hymns of the season and pastors will bless the gifts. For those NOT attending services, gifts may be dropped off before or after services outside on the steps by the Sanctuary Courtyard (off the Lobby, Blessing Box side) **by 12 noon**. For questions, contact Deacon Susan Shaffer at sasshaffer@comcast.net and Deacon Mike McNeil at mcneil08060@yahoo.com. See [our event page](#) for a Wish List of items.

Do You Know?

A Collection of Random Presbyterian Tidbits from the Worship Team

Do you know that a PARAMENT is the cloth hanging that adorns our pulpit. The cloth is of different colors and symbols that orient us to the different Christian seasons of the year. Watch the colors and symbols change.



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. The event is free but please [REGISTER online to attend](#). (see event page)



"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 Voglesong at 856.206.7190.

Christmas Schedule

(See complete details in the Advent Activity Guide and on our event page)

Monday, December 23rd

Christmas Eve Worship

3:00 pm & 7:00 pm (outdoor)

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Worship

- 4:00 pm Family Service (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 pm Lessons and Carols Service (Miller Commons)
- 8:30 pm Communion Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:45 pm Chapel Choir Concert
11:00 pm Lessons and Carols (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas Day Worship (9:30 am)

Guest preacher Rev. Dr. Jonathan Miller, Communion (no live stream)

Sunday, December 29th

5th Sunday (9:30 am)

Combined service. No children's Sunday School or nursery care. Adult class will meet AFTER the 9:30 am worship.

Emerson Toy Collection in Commons Lobby for Camden children (gifts unwrapped)

'I Will Serve' Opportunity

Is Administration your gift? Are you looking for ways to support your church? Clerk of Session Ann McBride will be concluding her service in June 2025, and we are looking for an individual to work with Ann to learn the position and step in to the vacancy with her help. If you're interested, contact Ann at (609) 304-3415 or Pastor Stuart at (856) 235-1688.

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:

- ♦ 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

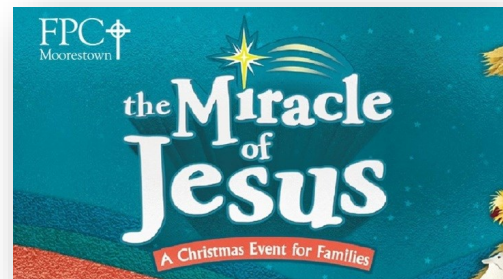
Sunday, December 1st is the First Sunday in Advent. As we prepare ourselves for Christmas, families are encouraged to pick up an Advent Kit. Pick a time to sit down together and follow the box's devotional guide and activities. Everything you need is included for your family to prepare your hearts for 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 & Marketplace

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.

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.