

First Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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Rev. Wes Allen
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
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

November 3-9, 2024

Way of the Week 4 Always Encourage and Celebrate

(November 3-9, 2024)

Ways Speaker: Lissa Herman

4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELEBRATE. Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

Ideas for Action: Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.

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.



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; Holiday decorations; Baked goods (cookies, brownies, cupcakes, gluten free treats).
- 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.

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. Wednesday Dinner is 5:45-6:45 pm, Commons, \$7.00 per person.



Women's Morning Prayer
Saturday, Nov. 23
8:00 am - Noon
(sign up on our 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.

Have you turned in your Spiritual Gifts survey?



Change your clocks
2:00 am Sunday,
Nov. 3

Go Birds!

The Adult Ed class is having an Eagles Watch Party on **Sunday, Nov. 10** in Miller Commons. Game time is 4:25 pm. Bring your own food and drink and cheer on the Eagles vs. Dallas Cowboys.

PW Holiday Bazaar
November 16th
10:00 am—3:00 pm

Presbyterian Women are collecting gently used jewelry, accessories (scarves, belts, purses, umbrellas, gloves); new and nearly new treasures; baked goods (cookies, brownies, cupcakes, GF treats); holiday decorations. Contact [Edith McFalls](#) at 856-905-8749. 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 available in the Commons Lobby. [Sign up online](#) on our event page.

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

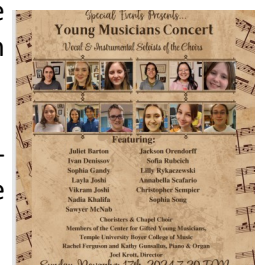
This unique service provides peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety, or depression this holiday season. This event will be held on **Wed. Dec. 4th** in the sanctuary and will also be streamed live. The Longest Night includes elements from a Service of Remembrance, including communion, music, 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 [Alison Mackey](#) in the church office so we may send them an invitation letter.

Young Musicians Concert Scheduled for Sunday, November 17

Our 60th Series of *Special Events* presents our 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 also be featured. In addition, we will have 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.



[Inquirers Class Begins Nov.](#)

Are you interested in learning more about our church and possibly joining the congregation? The Membership Committee invites you 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. We'd love to meet you! Sign up online on the event page.

College Care Packages Saturday, Nov. 9th (9:00 AM)

Please contact [Cheryl Gaskill](#) or fill out a [brief online form](#) to sign up to help assemble care packages for our college students. Children welcome to help. See page 4 for info.

2024 Poinsettia Sales November 3-17

Order forms will be in *Connections* **Nov. 3, 10, 17** 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. [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 events. The First Sunday in Advent is December 1.



Operation Christmas Child

This year we are excited to again serve as a drop off host location for the community. We 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. Volunteers are needed to support the shifts, usually two hours, including (A) Greeter, (B) Runner, (C) Prayer Warrior and (D) Youth/Volunteer. What position speaks to you? [Sign up online.](#)

Youth Nerf Night! Friday, Nov. 8 (7:30-9:30 pm) Grades 7-12

“Ride Trains”

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.

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.

Men's Winter Retreat January 24-25, 2025

[Consecration Sunday](#)

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

On October 13th, Consecration Sunday, we dedicated our 2025 Estimate of Giving cards and enjoyed a delicious Covered Dish Brunch. If you were unable to be with us, 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 are underway. Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee respond.

Family Advent Event Friday, December 6 Watch for details 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.

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.

Advent Begins December 1



Grades 7-12: Youth Nerf Night! ~ Friday, November 8, 7:30-9:30 pm

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](mailto:Cheryl.Gaskill@fpcmoorestown.org) at 856.904-3056 call/text with date(s) that work best for you.

⇒ **[High School Winter Retreat Nov. 15-17!](https://nj23.younglife.events/fall-weekend)**

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 Ascitutto
856-235-1688, x116
hascitutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:
Dave Fauvell
609-980-7885 call/text
dfauvell52@gmail.com

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 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.

[Assemble College Care Packages](#)

On **Saturday, November 9th** at 9:00 am, the Discipling Children and Youth Committee will be assembling care packages to send to our college students. Help us send some cheer to our young people as they study for finals and write research papers! Our students love hearing from their church family. [Sign up to participate in this assembly on our event page.](#) If you can't help out that day, no worries. Donations to defray the cost of the care package items and shipping are welcome! Give electronically via our Venmo account @fpcmoorestown or via check with "College Care Packages" in the memo line or contact [Cheryl Gaskill](mailto:Cheryl.Gaskill@fpcmoorestown.org).

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 for the Thanksgiving holiday.