First Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Stuart SpencerPastor/Head of Staff
sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

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 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 announce-ments, Connections, and upcoming events? If not, contact the church office.



Connections FPC Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

January 12-18, 2025

Way of the Week 14: Grow Faith

(January 12-18, 2025) Ways Speaker: Rick Dougherty

14. GROW FAITH. Take advantage of every chance you have to form your faith – through small groups, classes, and personal study. Be a disciple and look to learn from those who know more of the Bible and Christian life than you do, then look for opportunities to share what you've gained with someone else.

Ideas for Action: If you're not currently in a small group, contact the church office and ask for assistance in finding one. Ask for some time with someone whose faith you respect and pick their brains on their practices of faith formation.





January 26, 2025 is Blanket Sunday An offering sponsored by our Deacons

Your contributions to Church World Service enable CWS to help families recover from disasters and displacement, while helping to rebuild viable, sustainable lives and communities.

Look for Blanket Sunday envelopes at both services. You may also give securely online at www.fpcmoorestown.org/giving - just choose Blanket Sunday from the drop down list. And thank you!

NOTE: This is not a Sunday when we **collect** blankets. Please do not bring blankets to donate to the church.

Lent Study Introduction

This year our Lenten Study will be reading "Practicing the Way" by John Mark Comer. On Sunday, Jan. 26 Wes Allen hosts an introduction to the course for those who may be interested in leading a group. This will take place in Fellowship Hall at 12:15 pm. We need people to SERVE by leading the course. If you are able please let Wes know and plan to attend on Jan. 26. It is our hope that the majority of our groups will proactively INVITE neighbors, family and friends to participate - including those who are not affiliated with FPCM and those on the fringes. We will also have signups available for people to join groups. Since Lent is only six weeks and the materials span eight weeks, groups will either begin two weeks before Lent (the week of Feb. 23) or continue two weeks beyond Easter (Easter is April 20).

For more details visit www.practicingtheway.org.

Preschool Open House

Registration for 2025-2026 Step by Step preschool is open for 2025-26 classes (existing families and church members register January 6-17). Registration for others will begin January 21. A Preschool Open House will be held January 21st from 6-7 p.m. Applications are available by contacting director Amy Delgado at 856.235.1688, x132 or adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org.

Early Bird Registration for 2025 Couples Retreat

Join us April 11-13, 2025 for our Couples' Retreat in Cape May, NJ. We will be staying once again at The Dormer House bed and breakfast. Cost of \$450 per couple includes breakfast, 2 nights, group sessions with Dr. Paul Booker, and dinner Saturday. See Church Center event page to register and for details. Register by Jan. 31, 2025 to take advantage of Early Bird Special of \$400 per couple!

Bus Trip to Sight and Sound to See "Noah"

Watch the Bible come alive! We have arranged a Sight and Sound Bus Trip on Thursday, March 20, 2025 to see the production of "Noah." We will depart from FPC Moorestown that morning, travel to Lancaster, PA, and enjoy lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord Amish Country Buffet. We will travel to the theatre for the 3:00 pm show, and return that evening to the church parking lot. Only 38 tickets are available. Cost for the trip is \$150 per person and includes bus transportation (the church is absorbing this expense), show ticket, lunch and driver gratuity. Please sign up online. Tickets are limited and are expected to sell out fast.



Adult Spiritual Formation 10:15-11:00 am ~ Fellowship Hall

We begin the new year with two engaging studies for Adult Spiritual Formation. Stop on by!

- ⇒ January 5, 12, and 19: a class member will share their spiritual journey each week: Justin Greenhow, Jeff Erbig, and Bobbi Vogelsong. There is a different theme each week.
- ⇒ Beginning **January 26th**, we will present a fiveweek scripture study on I John.
- ⇒ Thank you to our facilitators Lorenzo Eagles, Paul Gordon, Lissa Herman and Wes Allen

Annual Report; Annual Meeting and Potluck

Work has begun to prepare the Annual Report, summarizing our ministry year for the calendar and fiscal year 2024. Ministry area reports are due to Jan Martin in the office by **Friday**, **January 10**.

- The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025 in Fellowship Hall. We'll gather for a potluck luncheon, and the meeting will begin about 12:30 p.m. The Meeting will also be available via Zoom. See our Church Center event page for what covered dish to bring!
- The 2024 Annual Report will be available Sunday, Jan. 26.

Year-End 2024 Statements

Need a year-end update on your 2024 giving? It's available 24/7 in the Church Center app. Touch "Give" and "My Giving" for a full history and statements. Year-end statements for 2024 will be emailed in January.

PW Winter Gathering

All women of the Church are encouraged to come to the Presbyterian Women's Winter Gathering Monday, Jan. 13 at 10:00 a.m. Enjoy delicious pastries and hot beverages as we begin a new year. Speaker will be Linda Jagiela, who will share about Baker Industries, a nonprofit workforce development program serving hard-toemploy adults since 1980. Please register online.

Please also bring white cotton socks for the Christian Caring Center. A collection box is in the Commons Lobby.

Women's Prayer Event Saturday, February 22

8:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Experience the wonder of spending special time alone with God as we seek His intent for our lives. Please come for a special time of prayer. Bring your Bible, journal and a snack if you'd like. Coffee, hot tea, and water will be provided. If praying is a new or unfamiliar spiritual practice, just do what makes you comfortable. Join other women on their prayer journey. Women of high school age or older and friends are welcome. Sign up online. Event will start in the Lounge then women will find quiet spaces throughout the building to pray.

American Red Cross Blood Drive January 24

There continues to be a critical need for blood products to ensure patient care. First Presbyterian Church and the American Red Cross are joining forces to host an upcoming blood drive on **Friday**, **January 24**. Please see Deborah Heller at the Welcome Desk to reserve a time for this life-giving donation.

Site: FPC MoorestownRoom: Miller Commons

Date: Friday, January 24, 2025
 Time: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Contact: Debbie Heller

• Who: You!

To sign up see our event page, contact Debbie Heller at 856-273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net, or visit redcrossblood.org/give and enter "First Presbyterian Moorestown."



Monday, Jan. 20 Office closed

'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 McBride or Pastor Stuart.

Per Capita Giving February 1-28 \$38.75 per member

2025 Offering Envelopes

Boxed offering envelopes for 2025 are being prepared and will be mailed in January.



Moores own Sunday, January 26 th

Calling Photographers

Do you have any pictures from Christmas Eve worship services? Please email them to Jan Martin at jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org or webmaster Barbara Duffy at bduffy@fpcmoorestown.org.

To volunteer to help with Sunday morning coffee Hospitality (thank you), please contact Carol Wiggins

Database Updates

Have your adult children moved from the Moorestown area? Please make sure the church office has their correct contact information, email, cell phone and birthdate.

Practicing the Way

Be with Jesus Become like him Do as he did



Thank you choirs for a beautiful Epiphany Concert last week



Youth Groups Return in February

Fellowship groups are off for Winter Break through January, and will return in February. Happy New Year to our amazing teens. We will see you soon!

- High School: returns on Sunday, Feb. 2
- Middle School: returns on Wednesday, Feb. 5

For information contact Youth Director Dave Fauvell at call/text 609-980-7885.

Happy New Year!

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

"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." (Exodus 20: 8)

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, ×116

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

Dave Fauvell

609-980-7885 call/text

dfauvell52@gmail.com



Children's Sunday School meets Sunday morning from 10:15-11:00 a.m. Please sign up online.

Wednesday Groups Winter Break

Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossisng Zone (grades 4-6) and Family Dinner are off for Winter Break through the month of January and will return **Wednesday**, **February 5**, **2025**.

Ash Wednesday

The Season of Lent begins with Ash **Wednesday March 5**, **2025.** There will be no Kingdom Kids or Crossing Zone.

Looking for Acolytes

As light bearers, acolytes symbolically bring the light of Christ into the worship service at the beginning of worship and take Christ's light out into the world at the end of worship. This act frames all we do in our worship services, and is a beautiful way to engage children in church life. If your young person is interested in serving, please sign up online. We'd love to have you!

