

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

January 19-25, 2025

Way of the Week 15: Welcome Change

(January 19-25, 2025)

Ways Speaker: Curtis Miyamoto

15. WELCOME CHANGE. Be curious about new ideas, perspectives, and approaches. Get excited by the possibilities that change can bring. What worked in the past won't always work in the future, for God is doing new things.

Ideas for Action: This is a simple one to try. Sit in a different pew in the sanctuary or seat in Miller Commons next Sunday. See what happens.



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.practictheway.org.

2025 Offering Envelopes

Boxed offering envelopes for 2025 are available on a table in Miller Commons. Please pick yours up to save \$6.00 per box postage cost.

Year-End 2024 Statements

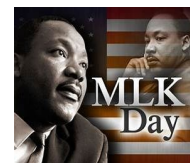
Need a year-end update on your 2024 giving? It’s available 24/7 in the Church Center app. Touch “Give” and “My Giving” for a full history and statements. Year-end statements for 2024 will be e-mailed in January.

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., adults only please. Applications are available by contacting director Amy Delgado at 856.235.1688, x132 or adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org.

American Red Cross Blood Drive January 24

There continues to be a critical need for blood products to ensure patient care. FPC Moorestown and the American Red Cross are joining forces to host a blood drive on **Friday, January 24** from 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Please see Deborah Heller at the Welcome Desk to reserve a time for this life-giving donation, [see our event page](#), contact Debbie at 856-273-6838, dheller374@comcast.net, or visit redcrossblood.org/give and enter the church name.



Monday,
January 20
Office closed

Sock It To Me

Presbyterian Women are collecting **white cotton socks** for the Christian Caring Center. Drop socks in the collection box in the Lobby through January.

Adult Spiritual Formation

10:15-11:00 am ~ Fellowship Hall

We begin the new year with two engaging studies for Adult Spiritual Formation. Stop in. Building a strong Christian community takes a commitment, as we learn to love one another as Christ has loved us. Enjoy as we share our stories!

- ⇒ **January 19: Bobbi Voglesong** will be on the Hot Seat. Our table talk will center on our individual **faith** walk.
- ⇒ Beginning **January 26th**, we will present a five-week scripture study on I John. Ends Feb. 23.

Annual Report; Annual Meeting and Potluck

- ◆ 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 event page for link).
- ◆ The 2024 Annual Report will be available Sunday, Jan. 26.
- ◆ Based on the first letter of your last name, please bring the following covered dish: (A-L): Main Dish or Entrée; (M-Q): Side Dish or Salad; (P-R): 8 oz. pony bottles of water; (S-T): Rolls or Bread; (U-Z): Desserts.

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. 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. High school age or older and friends are welcome. [Sign up online](#). Event will start in the Lounge then move to quiet spaces in the building to pray.

Database Updates

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

Newcomers: Inquirers Class

Are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown? Come to our Inquirers Class series which begins **February 26**. [See our Church Center event page](#) to sign up.

A Random Collection of Presbyterian Tidbits from the Worship Committee

Do you know that SOLA SCRIPTURA is symbolized in our worship on Sunday morning? The term Sola Scriptura is a Latin phrase meaning "by Scripture alone." The doctrine was a rallying cry during the 16th century Protestant Reformation. It proclaimed the sufficiency of Scripture as our supreme authority and the Bible as the sole source of our Christian faith and practice. When the Beadle carries the Bible into our church at the opening of our service, we are proclaiming that the inspired word of God is present and we acknowledge that the Bible is our foremost authority in worship.

Per Capita 2024

The Stewardship Committee reminds you that February is Per Capita time and asks you to please cover your share of **\$38.75** per member. Details have been mailed to members regarding this annual gift. As Presbyterians, we are a *connectional church*. This "per member" contribution of \$38.75 above one's pledge supports the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery and our church is required to pay this. If you do NOT wish the church to pay your Per Capita, you must [submit an opt-out form](#) online or call the church office. Last year, our church paid \$15,858 from operating funds for non-responding members. **Please note not responding is NOT the same as opting out.** See [Church Center event page](#) to send online.

2025 Per Capita campaign supports the larger church; Due by February 28

Bus Trip to See "Noah"

Watch the Bible come alive! We have arranged a bus trip on **Thursday, March 20, 2025** to see the production of "Noah" at Sight and Sound Theatre. We will depart from FPC Moorestown that morning, travel to Lancaster, PA, and enjoy lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord Amish Country Buffet. We will attend the 3:00 pm production, 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 expected to sell out fast.

'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.

Disaster Relief Help for CA

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is on the ground helping with the California wildfires. To give, visit <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/disaster-assistance>.

**Ash Wednesday March 5
Lent begins March 9**

Sunday Morning Check Ins

Please check in to register your attendance **each time** you attend in person or watch on your device. This records critical data for the staff & Membership Team. [Download the Church Center app](#) to check in. Friendship Pads are in the pews and in Miller Commons. Sign in and date the page. New live stream viewers are encouraged to sign in on the **Get Connected** form on the live stream page on the site.

**Practicing
the Way**

Be with Jesus
Become like him
Do as he did



Children and youth ministries are enjoying Winter Break—see you soon!



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, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

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), Crossing 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 so that children may worship with their families.

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!**

