

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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[fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org)  
856.235.1688

**Rev. Stuart Spencer**  
Pastor/Head of Staff  
[sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org)

**Rev. Wes Allen**  
Associate Pastor  
[wallen@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:wallen@fpcmoorestown.org)

**I Will Pray, Invite,  
Serve, Give.**

*Worship the Lord with glad-  
ness; 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](http://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](mailto: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

February 23-March 1, 2025

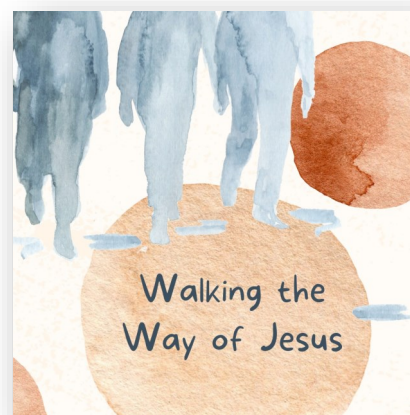
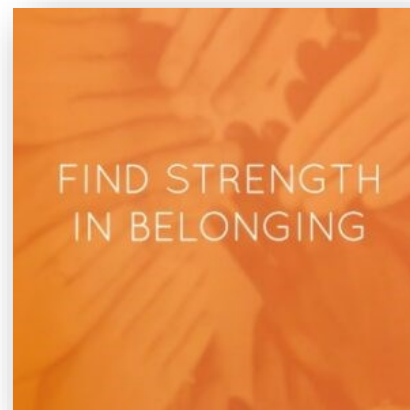
## Way of the Week 20: Find Strength in Belonging

(February 23-March 1, 2025)

Ways Speaker: Kevin Schaeffer

**20. FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING.** At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued. Claim us as your family. Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging. Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.

**Ideas for Action:** Is there a disappointment you've been carrying about the church? In prayer, offer it to the Lord and ask for His help in releasing it. If you've been sitting on the sidelines at home, get back in the game by returning to worship and joining a small group, a class or a committee. We need you, and you need us.



## “Practicing The Way” Lent Event

(I Will Invite)

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP to attend or host a small group? This year our Lenten Study will be reading “Practicing the Way” by John Mark Comer. We are also looking for people to HOST a group for this 8-week course. Please see Wes Allen -- everything is provided for you! **Sign up for groups in the Commons Lobby or online through the [Church Center event page](#).** We hope groups will INVITE neighbors, family and friends to participate - including those who are not affiliated with FPC Moorestown.

*NOTE: 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). Purchase the resource guide in the Commons Lobby.*

### **Capital Sunday Feb. 23**

Capital projects are essential for continued maintenance, safety and preservation of our Church and 23 acres of grounds. In the 2025 Annual Report, Trustees prioritized 23 capital improvements that will require action in upcoming years. Because of budgetary restraints there was no capital money budgeted for 2025. Instead, leadership offers the congregation the chance to give to these projects during a Capital Campaign. In 2024, through the great generosity of our congregation, we raised \$154,000.

This year we ask that you consider a gift on Capital Sunday February 23, 2025. You may choose to give as a family or individual to a specific project or give to the overall campaign. Trustees also remind you that this is above and beyond your normal giving commitment to the Church. Watch your mail for information and a [2025 Pledge Card](#) for convenience. Contribu-

tions to the Capital Fund can be made throughout the year through the [online church giving portal](#) or by utilizing special Capital Fund pew envelopes. Your participation in this campaign will make a significant impact on the preservation, safety and enhancement of our church facilities.

### **Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden Painting Party Fundraiser!**

**Sunday, Feb. 23 (2:00-4:30 pm)**

\$50 donation per person

See Leslie Spencer or our Church Center [Event Page](#)

**Contact (215) 584-7659**

*Spaces still available!*



### **Do You Know?**

*A Collection of Presbyterian Tidbits*

Do you know why a rooster is at the top of our steeple? The rooster is a Christian symbol that God used as it crowed after Peter denied knowing Christ three times. The rooster symbolizes weakness and the triumph of Jesus in the resurrection. As we look up to the top of our steeple we are reminded of our need for repentance, however like a rooster we wait for the dawn.

### **Order Easter Flowers**

ORDERS FOR EASTER FLOWERS will be taken **March 9-23** to decorate our two worship spaces with the symbol of renewal. [Order forms](#) will be available via e-blast, in *Connections*, at church and on the church website. **Orders and payment are due by Sunday, March 23.**

***What will you give up or take on for Lent?***

### **Per Capita 2024 (I Will Give)**

February is Per Capita time and the Stewardship Committee reminds you to cover your share of **\$38.75** per member. Details have been mailed to members regarding this annual support. 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 (856.235.1688) 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.

### **Church Has Left The Building (I Will Serve)**

**Sunday, March 30 — Fifth Sunday**

**9:30 AM** Worship (Miller Commons) followed by CHLTB service projects

Plans are underway for our Church Has Left The Building church-wide service initiative on **Sunday, March 30**. The Deacons coordinate this event. Watch for more information on special events that day and projects available for a variety of ages.



## Welcome 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](#) for info and to sign up.



**2025 Per Capita Campaign  
supports the larger church;  
Due February 28 (see page 2)**

### [Bus Trip to See "Noah"](#)

As of Feb. 21, 10 tickets remain for the bus trip on **Thursday, March 20** to see the Sight and Sound production of "Noah." Cost is \$150 and includes motor coach, show ticket, lunch and driver gratuity. [Please sign up online](#). Tickets are selling briskly. **No refunds or exchanges.**

**Have you remembered the  
church in your will?**

### [Spring Prayer Retreat](#)

Registration is open for the Spring Prayer Retreat **April 1-4, 2025** at Holy Cross Monastery. Please see our event page or brochure. Registration due **March 9**.

### [West Jersey Chamber Concert March 2 \(7:30 PM\)](#)

German Romantic Lieder features soprano Sophia Santiago and pianist Benjamin D'Annibale performing works by Schubert and Wolf. TICKETS: [www.wjcms.org](http://www.wjcms.org) or Joann Nawrocki at 609.417.2873.



**Ashes, Communion and Worship  
March 5, 2025 (7:00 PM)**

### **Opportunity: 'I Will Serve'**

Are you looking for ways to support your church? Is Administration your gift? 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.

**Have you thought about  
learning our audio or video  
live stream? We'll train you.**

### **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.



**Sunday,  
March 9  
(2:00 am)**

## [Adult Prayer Breakfast with Sister Marcy](#)

**Saturday, March 8, 2025  
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

This year during Lent, the Men's Prayer Group cordially invites men and women of the congregation to a morning with amazing food and a special time of learning and fellowship. Sister Marcy from the Francis House of Prayer Retreat Center, serves as keynote speaker and will share about contemplative prayer. High school age or older are most welcome. Please register online by **March 3**. Donations accepted.



### **Database Updates**

Have you or your adult children moved from the area? Please make sure the [church office](#) has the correct address, email, cell phone and birthdates. *Teens and/or adult children who have been confirmed (even if not living locally) are considered members of FPC Moorestown unless removed from the rolls by Session.* Please E-mail Jan Martin at [jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org).

### **Note from Nominations**

Your Nominating Committee is hard at work finding nominees for Elders, Deacons and Trustees to serve our church. Are you looking for new ways to become involved? We can help. Please pray about where you or someone you know may best fit and help Grow God's Kingdom. Look for online signups soon or contact [Matt Livingston](#) or any member of the Nominations Team.



**Lent is a time of discipline, charitable giving and connection to Jesus**

All Are Welcome At Our Table!

**WEDNESDAY  
FAMILY  
DINNER**

October - April 5:45 pm  
fpcmoorestown.org/family-dinner

**\$7.00 per person; pay via Venmo or at the door**

**“Remember that you are dust” ...**

Middle School youth group (gr. 7-8) will meet 6:30-8:00 pm on **Wednesday, March 5** and attend Ash Wednesday Worship together. Friends of all faith journeys are welcome as we begin our Lenten Journey.



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

- 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**

**Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you want to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. (Luke 9: 23, 24)**

For Families and Children:  
**Holly Ascitutto**  
856-235-1688, x116  
[hascitutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hascitutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

Middle School and High School:  
**Dave Fauvell**  
609-980-7885 call/text  
[dfauvell52@gmail.com](mailto:dfauvell52@gmail.com)

**Ash Wednesday ~ Lent Begins**

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday **March 5, 2025**. There will be no Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone or Family Dinner that evening. Choirs and Middle School Youth Group will be held as scheduled. The first Sunday in Lent is **March 9**.

**Sunday School Classes**

Children’s Sunday School meets Sunday morning from 10:15-11:00 a.m. Please [sign up online](#).

**Save The Date**

Vacation Bible School 2025  
**June 23-27, 2025**

**Would you like to be an acolyte for the 9:00 am Traditional Service? Give it a try. Love to have you!**

**Family Activity: Lenten Kits**

Lenten Kits are a take-home activity for FPC Moorestown families. Each kit contains everything you need. Pick one day each week to gather as a family for prayer, Scripture, and discussion using one object and its devotional. Take turns following along with the self-contained lesson. Pick up your kit in the Commons Lobby beginning **Sunday, March 9**. *ONE kit per family please.*

**One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks**

COMING: One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks will be distributed in children’s Sunday School during Lent and collected on Palm **Sunday April 13**. Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need.