

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 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 Classes

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

March 9-15 2025

Way of the Week 22:

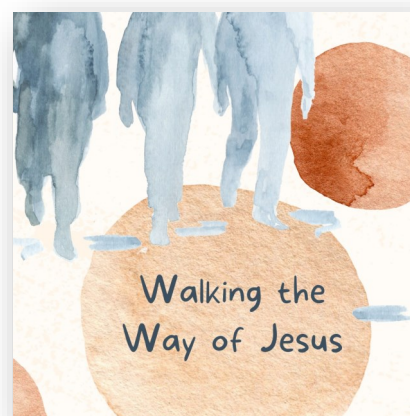
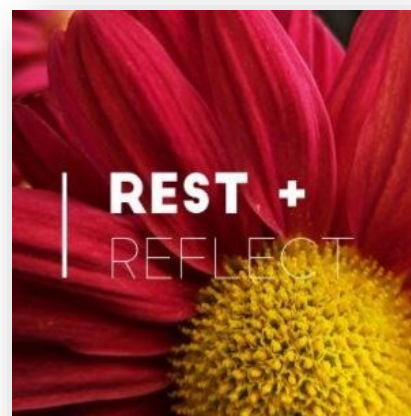
Rest and Reflect

(March 9-16, 2025)

Ways Speaker: Leonard Fitts

22. REST AND REFLECT. Make time in your week to step back from work, school, and stressful demands. Since Christ has freed us, we no longer have to be obsessively driven. Take a walk, play, nap, meet up with friends, share a meal, or just take some time in solitude.

Ideas for Action: Can you make your Sunday more of a Sabbath day of rest for you and your family? Connect with God using worship music. Unplug from the devices for part or all of the day. Seek the joy of the Lord in Creation. Eat a meal together. Be silent with God and pray. Prioritize wholeness and rejuvenation in Christ.



Church Has Left The Building ~ Fifth Sunday

(I Will Serve, I Will Give, I Will Pray, I Will Invite)

Mark your calendars! On **March 30**, we will "join hands" for a church-wide service initiative Church Has Left The Building, coordinated by our Deacons. That morning's schedule will include:

- **9:30-10:00 am:** Combined Worship (Miller Commons)
- **10:00-12:00 noon:** CHLTB Service Projects, all ages
- **12:00 noon:** [Deacons Chili Cookoff](#) (see page 2 and Church Center event page)

There will be no nursery care or education classes that morning to allow children to join their families for service projects.

Order Easter Flowers

ORDERS FOR EASTER FLOWERS will be taken **March 9, 16 & 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?

Two Lent Guides

See the [Lent and Easter event page](#) and [download the Journey of Lent Brochure](#) for updates of Lenten event and activities. The *Journey of Lent* guide is also in worship guides this morning.



Calling all Chili Cooks!



The challenge is ON! Join the Deacons in Fellowship Hall for a festive and fun **5th Sunday Chili Cook-off!**

- We will be awarding prizes and bragging rights!
- Please bring all the fixin's that go with your specific recipe.
- We'll provide bowls, spoons, and a great time of fellowship.
- Please feel free to decorate your chili area and anything else you may need. We had some serious chili entrants last time. :)
- TICKETS to vote are \$5 for 10 tickets
- INFO: contact Laurie LaMonica

CHLTB is coming fast!

Do You Know?

A Collection of Presbyterian Tidbits

Do you know what liturgical color is associated with Lent? The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and leads up to Easter. Jesus, as part of his spiritual preparation, went into the wilderness for 40 days and nights. Purple is the color symbolic of the Lenten season. It is a color associated with nobility and royalty. The Roman soldiers mocked Jesus with a purple robe (Mark 15:17,20 & John 19: 2,5) decorating him as Jesus King of the Jews. The color purple has been associated with the violet flower that bows its head as a symbol of humility.



Register for CHLTB here

Church Has Left The Building ([sign up online](#) or in Commons Lobby)

Saturday, March 29

- ⇒ College student care packages for finals
- ⇒ Feeding 5,000 meal/kit assembly
- ⇒ Provide casseroles for Christian Caring Center
- ⇒ MSCG preparation: treating the wood

Sunday, March 30

- ⇒ Assemble 1,000 hygiene kits and holdover bags
- ⇒ MSCG preparation: clean garden beds
- ⇒ Leaf collection, yard work at Mission House
- ⇒ Provide casseroles for Christian Caring Center

Sign up to participate in 1 (or more) of the 7 projects provided.

If you won't be available that weekend, don't worry! **Donations are needed** to support this effort and you can donate towards the cost of the materials needed for the College Care Packages that will be assembled. Please mark your donations "CHLTB" and also give via Venmo (@fpcmoorestown).

[Prayer Vigil Saturday, March 29](#)

The Prayer and Discipleship Committee will be coordinating a 12-hour Prayer Vigil with 30-minute time slots starting at 5:00 AM and ending at 5:00 PM. Watch for a Sign Up Genius to select your preferred slot.

Note from Nominations

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

2025 Per Capita supports the larger church; due for every member on the rolls



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

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**.

Opening: Clerk of Session

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 (male or female) 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.



Internship Available

See our Church Center event page for a [spring/summer internship](#) with the Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden.

Bus Trip Sold Out

The **Thursday, March 20** trip to see "Noah" is currently **SOLD OUT**. If you have not yet paid, please submit your payment **by March 12**. Cost is \$150 and includes motor coach, show ticket, lunch and driver gratuity. **NO refunds or exchanges.**

Welcome Michael

The Technology Committee is pleased to welcome **Michael Boone** to our live stream operator team. Michael joins **Jonathan Nawrocki, Dalton Ryan** and **Jacob Allen** as our live stream video operators. Michael is the son of Sarah and Mike Boone and is a high school senior.

Lent Small Groups "Practicing The Way"

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.

Capital Sunday

Trustees have prioritized 23 projects totaling **\$173,800** that will require action in the near future. Contributions to the Capital Fund are being accepted [online](#), through Capital Fund pew envelopes, Capital Pledge Cards or by contacting the church office. Gifts may be made throughout the year as well.

Grace Boutique Opening

Beginning in March public hours for the Grace Boutique will be starting:

- ◆ **2nd Tuesday: 11:30 am-2:00 pm**
- ◆ **3rd Wednesday: Noon-2:30 pm**

Members of the Mission Committee and other volunteers are being scheduled to staff the room. The committee is networking with local food pantries to make them aware of this ministry and its hours of operation. Grace Boutique will have items not available through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): diapers, feminine hygiene products, incontinence products, toiletries, cleaning products and personal paper products. For questions or to volunteer, email missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

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.

**Alleluia!
April 20 Easter Sunday**



Fish Banks for One Great Hour of Sharing and Lent Kits available

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.*

Youth Group Easter Break Schedule

Wednesday, April 16: No Middle School Youth Group
Sunday, April 20 (Easter): No High School Youth Group
Wednesday, April 23: No Middle School Youth Group
Sunday, April 27: No High School Youth Group

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
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks

One Great Hour of Sharing's fish-shaped coin banks will be distributed in children's Sunday School during Lent and collected on Palm **Sunday April 13**. Typically received during Lent each year, 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.

Easter Break Schedule

Wednesday, April 16: No Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Family Dinner or Middle School Youth Group
Thursday, April 17 (Maundy Thursday): No Thursday Prayer Service (online)
Sunday, April 20 (Easter): No High School Youth Group
Wednesday, April 23: No Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Family Dinner, or Middle School Youth Group
Sunday, April 27: No High School Youth Group



\$7.00 per person
Pay via Venmo or at the door
(Note: No Family Dinner on April 16, 23)

Sunday School Classes / Acolytes

Children's Sunday School meets Sunday morning from 10:15-11:00 a.m. Please [sign up online](#). YES, we are still looking for acolytes for the Traditional Worship (9:00 AM).

Save The Date
Vacation Bible School 2025
June 23-27, 2025