

FAMILY MINISTRY



School's Out! You did it!

VBS Moves to August 10-14

In an effort to provide a safe, in person, Vacation Bible School for our children we have moved VBS a few weeks later to **August 10-14**. We're hoping this will allow us to deliver a modified VBS with the necessary precautions in place at that time. With each day bringing new information and evolving guidelines, we are prayerfully hopeful and working hard towards a spiritually meaningful program.



Our Youth Are Connecting

This spring the middle schoolers and high schoolers have been staying connected through Instagram and Zoom. We have been reading through the scripture together using Instagram to keep up with each other. Over Zoom the middle schoolers have been discussing dating and relationships through the lens of a Christ-focused life. The high schoolers have been using Zoom to talk through things that make faith difficult and how we can stay strong in faith despite the challenges.

- Dave Fauvell, Interim Youth Director

Sermon Series Memory Verse

"For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it."

(1 Thessalonians 1: 8) NRSV

For Families and Children:

Holly Ascianto

856-235-1688, x116

hascianto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth:

Dave Fauvell

609-980-7885 (cell/text)

dfauvell@fpcmoorestown.org

Kingdom Kids: Grades K-3

Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm

Crossing Zone: Grades 4-6

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm

Flock: Grades 7-8

Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm

Wave: Grades 9-12

Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm

"God Cares for Ishmael"

Read: Genesis 21:8-21. And Matthew 10:31

Theme: "You Are Worth More Than Many Sparrows"

Prepare: Printed pictures of different kinds of birds; a pair of binoculars or picture of binoculars. Place the images of the birds around the room. Make sure one of them is a sparrow.

Say: What are some hobbies that people enjoy? (Allow time for children to respond.)

Reading, knitting, and photography are popular hobbies. Some people like to build things like model cars or airplanes. Others may enjoy outdoor activities like fishing or hiking. ... Do you have a hobby? ... What's your hobby? ... (respond)



Do you think God has a hobby? OK, I know the Bible doesn't tell us that God has a hobby, but if He did, do you know what I think one of His hobbies might be? Bird watching! If I use my imagination, I can see God sitting in heaven with a pair of binoculars. (Look through the binoculars.) Perhaps He has a book with pictures of all the beautiful birds that He has created, and He is trying to see how many of them he can find with His binoculars. If I really stretch my imagination, I can even hear Him saying, "There's a Bluebird and a Cardinal. Oh look, there's an Eagle, a Meadowlark, and a Sparrow." A Sparrow? Of course, He would see a Sparrow; there are millions of them. You've seen them -- common, ordinary, brown Sparrows -- but God must have loved them because He made so many of them.

[Read complete activity here ...](#)

First Presbyterian Church

101 Bridgeboro Road

Moorestown, NJ 08057

fpcmoorestown.org

856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Pastor / Head of Staff

sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Kelly LePenske

Director of

Congregational Ministries

klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org

Connect. Devote.

Serve. Worship.

COVID-19 Advisory

The church campus is CLOSED.

Join us from the safety of your home for a live stream worship service Sunday morning at **9:30 a.m.** This blended service streams live from the sanctuary and participants observe strict physical distancing. Log on from computer, phone or tablet to www.fpcmoorestown.org or [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#) (see page 3). The service is 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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF MOORESTOWN

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

June 21 -28, 2020

Way of the Week I

1. BE THIRD. God is first, others are second, and you're third. Don't just think about your own interests, but be interested in others.^b Don't think less of yourself, just think of yourself less and others more.^c

^aAnd all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5: 5)

^bDon't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. (Philippians 2: 4)

^cAnd since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you." (John 13: 14, 15)

Ideas for Action: Ask God, whom can I serve today? Look for an opportunity to be last . . . in line, the last to speak, or to last to be served.

Culture: Knowing Who We Are

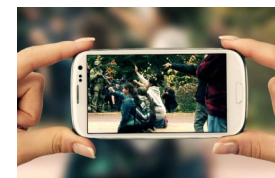
TODAY (June 21) we begin the fourth round of The 25 Ways. These culture statements are based on the Bible, God's Word, and are meant to aid us in becoming people who reflect God's image. We're giving intentional and focused attention to how we can better "be the church." This means we're thinking about the atmosphere or culture of our congregation.



New to the *Study Guide* for this fourth round of the Ways, is a section called "Ideas for Action." Here you will find several suggestions and ideas for HOW one can put these ways into action.

Way of the Week Video

Each week we hope to feature an individual presenting the Way of the Week, and sharing his or her thoughts and a personal illustration about that culture fundamental. Videos should be 2-3 minutes and will be posted to our YouTube channel. If you'd like to provide one, please do! Contact [Jan Martin](#) in the church office and "pick your Way!" This week's video about Way 1: Be Third, is from Stuart Spencer ... [view the video](#) on our YouTube channel too (don't forget to subscribe).



Evening Prayer Service

Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm we offer a weekly 30-minute service of Worship and prayer online. Log onto www.fpcmoorestown.org to view the live stream and for the Worship Guide. Email prayer requests, joys and concerns to Pastor Stuart by **WED 9:00 a.m. at sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org**.

Prayer Team Zoom

The FPC Moorestown Prayer Team invites you to pray with them through Zoom. [Join others at one of the Prayer Times](#) by clicking the REGISTER button on the FPC website (Events) to complete a Meeting ID request. A member of the Prayer Team will email you with a Zoom Meeting ID link and password. Would you like to pray with others at a time/day not listed? TEXT the Prayer Chain Support number, **609-923-4135** or make a note in the comments box on the REGISTER form.

Home Communion Sunday, July 5

Summer Prayer Walks Starting

What? Prayer Walk for our families, neighborhoods, communities, churches, businesses, schools, government.

Why? Praying for relationships, equity, prosperity, salvation, God’s help and peace ... and revival -- turning to Him in our needs, with praise/gratitude

When? 4th Saturday of the month June, July, and August – 9 am gathering time; then walk or drive

Where? Each person/pair/family chooses their own route: their neighborhood, shopping/business district, the schools, the government buildings, churches. Meet at our Prayer Labyrinth at 9 am

How? On foot or if preferred via car/bike/other

[See more information on our website](#)

Book Club

Our next book is *The Promise of a Pencil* by Adam Braun. The book chronicles how Braun left a prestigious position in the financial world to find his calling, and has since built 250 schools. A riveting best seller. Watch for the Zoom Meeting ID and Password.

Videos: Round 4 Ways

Today we are beginning our fourth round of The Ways (see front). We are looking for individuals to record brief (2-3 min.) videos for this round reading the Way, and providing a personal illustration of this way at work. *All ages welcome.* Please contact [Jan Martin](mailto:Jan.Martin@fpcmoorestown.org) with which Way you’d like.

“Hosting” IHN Guests

We are scheduled to host IHN guests **June 21-28** and, due to current conditions, will provide safe hotel accommodations. Food donations would be welcomed. Please label “IHN” and drop off peanut butter and jelly, individual-

ly wrapped snacks, bottled water, Wawa or Shop Rite gift cards, or size 3 or 4 diapers to Chris Catannella’s front porch (6 Cambridge Court, Moorestown).

Submit Calendar Dates

Staff is currently compiling the church calendar for 2020-21 while addressing new logistics and safety. If you have not already, please email dates for 2020-21 committees, events, concerts, outside groups, small groups or building requests to Alison Mackey (amackey@fpcmoorestown.org).

It is understood that dates are tentative. Please also note which meetings may be held via Zoom so that can be indicated.

E-Letters of Well Wishing

If you would like to send an Electronic Letter of Well Wishing e-signed by our pastoral staff, please email Alison Mackey at amackey@fpcmoorestown.org with the recipient’s situation and email.

Spring Gathering via Zoom

All are invited to the Spring Gathering at First Presbyterian Church, hosted by Presbyterian Women. Men and women of ALL AGES are welcome!

- ◆ **When:** Monday, June 22 at 7:00 pm ET
- ◆ **Where:** Online
- ◆ **How:** ZOOM (video conferencing)
- ◆ **Who:** You and a friend (or two, or three ...)
- ◆ **Zoom Meeting ID: 860 8924 6412**
Password: 6d3jCG

Family First: Keeping the Family in the Family Business. Keynote Speaker: Mindy Holman, CEO of Holman Enterprises. [Read Mindy's BIO here...](#)

RSVP PLEASE on our website event page at www.fpcmoorestown.org



Incoming Elders, Deacons and Trustees

At the Congregational Meeting held via Zoom on Sunday, June 7, the congregation confirmed the election of incoming officers for the Session, Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees. The members on the videoconference, which numbered over 100, accepted the slate of officers placed into nomination by Gil Warren, chair of the Nominations Committee. The officers’ term will be 2020-2023 and they will take office July 1. Current officers will be staying on until July 1 during this transition (thank you). Please pray for these new leaders and congratulate them when you see them:

Elders (Session)

Gary Bender, Nancy Chumney, Pam Engle, Kevin Fauvell, Gayle Payne, Dave Rebuck

Deacons

Mike Hock, Karen Hynoski, Caroline Joyce, Jeff Mason, Mike McNeil, Susan Shaffer, Vicki Terry, Bobbi Voglesong

Trustees

Jeff Legath, Frank Manion (2-year term), Patrick McIlroy, Bill Mueller, Mike Ramage



On the Zoom call, there were over 100 members (4 screens!) who were joyous to all “be together”



Photo Contest!

THANK YOU to everyone who submitted photos for the Deacons photo and door decorating contest. There were some outstanding submissions showing ways to spread joy and encourage others to Rejoice Always.

Listen during worship Sunday, June 21 for the winners!

Task Forces Address Reopening Questions

In consultation with Pastor Spencer and Session, the Long Range Planning team has developed six separate task forces to gather information and study recommendations regarding the effects of gradual reopening. Areas of emphasis include safety, logistics, Sunday events, small groups, staff and building usage. Administration is adhering to directives from New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy.

Connections publishes every two weeks in the summer beginning June 28

Moorestown Prayer Vigil for Racial Reconciliation

Saturday, June 20
10:00 a.m.
Memorial Field
9:00 a.m. Prayer Walk from our FPC Prayer Labyrinth

Officer Orientation

At the June 23, 2020 Session meeting, incoming Elders, Deacons and Trustees will be examined by Session and share their faith story and particular call to ministry. Recently, incoming officers participated in two Orientation Meetings on June 10 and June 17 via Zoom led by Stuart Spencer. Plans are underway for a gathering to celebrate the installation and ordination. For questions contact Pastor [Stuart Spencer](mailto:Stuart.Spencer@fpcmoorestown.org) or Nominations chair [Gil Warren](mailto:Gil.Warren@fpcmoorestown.org).

Focus: Discipleship

The Prayer Committee, led by chair [Joyce Peacock](mailto:Joyce.Peacock@fpcmoorestown.org), is developing a plan to address elements of the Discovery Bible Study program into our discipleship strategy. The team is creating Prayer Points and reaching out to DBS leaders. You may view the discipleship trainings on our website Events page.



Worship Live Stream

- ◆ 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning
- ◆ 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening Prayer Service

Log on from your computer, smartphone or tablet:

1. www.fpcmoorestown.org
2. www.youtube.com
3. [Our Facebook page](#)