

SUNDAY

Worship Service

March 16, 2025

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION:

Love casts out fear, but we have to get over the fear in order to get close enough to love them.

- Dorothy Day

***Baby come as you are with just your heart
And I'll take you in
You're rejected and hurt
To me you're worth what you have within
Now I don't need no superstar . . . I'll accept you as you are
You won't be denied 'cause I'm satisfied
With the love you inspire***

- Billy Davis Jr. and Marilyn McCoo,
"You Don't Have to Be a Star"

GATHERING MUSIC

Howard Raudenbush

WORDS of GREETING and GRACE

Rev. Linda Pepe

***HYMN of PRAISE**

With All Of My Heart

Congregation

REFRAIN

***With all of my heart, with all of my heart
I will praise You, God, with all of my heart (repeat)***

- 1. I will give my love to You. the One who first loved me
Through every moment of my life, with every breath I breathe***

BRIDGE

***For all Your love and mercy You alone are worthy
I will praise You, God, with all my heart***

- 2. I will sing my song to You, You're the reason for each rhyme
Your Spirit's captured all of me, strength and soul and mind***

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stacey Williams

HAPPENINGS & OFFERINGS

Adam Buck

MOMENT FOR MISSION – AMERICA FOR CHRIST

Rev. Nevin Werron

BELL CHOIR

All Things Bright and Beautiful
17th century English melody - arranged by Kristine Johaneck

FBC Bell Choir

PRAYERS of the COMMUNITY

Rev. Jennifer Bradley

SCRIPTURE

Luke 5:12-16

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

How Beautiful
by Twila Paris

FBC Choir

SERMON

Follow Me: The Choice

Pastor Linda

***GOSPEL MEDLEY**

Congregation

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, anytime
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, anytime

I'm gonna walk . . . I'm gonna talk . . . I'm gonna love. . .

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine . . .

Traditional African-American Spirituals - © Words and music Public Domain

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Linda

POSTLUDE

Howard

**Please stand if you are able.*

TODAY and THE COMING WEEK at FBC MOORESTOWN

TODAY, March 16	10:00 am	Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary/Balcony & Facebook Live)
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY, March 18	11:30 to 1:30	Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
	5:30 to 7:00 pm	Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
WEDNESDAY, March 19	2:00 pm	Lenten Nature Walk (Meet at FBC – Boundary Creek)
	6:45 to 8:00 pm	Lenten Study with Pastor Jen (Zoom)
THURSDAY, March 20	11:30 to 1:30	Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice (Rooms 4, 5 & 6)
	6:45 pm	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

PRAYER CONCERNS - March 16, 2025

Please pray for:

***Florence Schaivo, a friend of Joan Scharff, for recovery from brain cancer surgery, and
Christine Benson, Denise Benson's sister, for breast cancer surgery recovery,***

Please pray for these church family members:

Jan Applegate, Lorene Moore, Leila Morgan and Ruth Reigens

****If you have prayer requests or you would like to be removed from this list,
please contact the church office at fbcmoorestown@gmail.com.***

CHURCH STAFF

• Rev. Linda A. Pepe, Senior Pastor	Lindapepepastor@gmail.com
• Rev. Jennifer Bradley, Associate Pastor	jbradley12@gmail.com
• Tammy Werron, Pastor of Visitation	Twerron@gmail.com
• Howard Raudenbush, Minister of Music	huddan6137@gmail.com
• Stacey Williams, Children's Ministry	stacielynn3243@gmail.com
• Adam Buck, Leadership Team Co-chair	arbuck@comcast.net
• Tom Tamburello, Leadership Team Co-chair	tsquared2@att.net
• Carol Murray, Church Office Administrator	fbcmoorestown@gmail.com

**Church Office Hours: MON. to FRI. – 8:00 am to Noon // (856) 235-1180
& <https://www.facebook.com/groups/firstbaptistmoorestown/>**

3/16/2025

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to all who have joined us for worship today. Please visit with us during coffee and refreshments which will be served in Fellowship Hall (basement level) following worship.

Thank You

Today's **Coffee Hour Refreshments** were provided by **Qmunity**.

Today's **Greeters** were **Norma and Bill Wright**.

Next week's **Greeters** are **Adam Buck and Patrick O'Brien**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To: Peter Jorgensen, Today, Eileen Calabro on Monday, March 17th, and Charlotte Jones and Max Solomon on Thursday, March 20th. If we do not have your birthday, or you would like to add a family member's birthday, please contact the church office at **856-235-1180** or at fbcmoorestown@gmail.com.

GIVING TO FBC

Please help support the ministries of First Baptist Church. There are several ways you can give:

- There are donation collection boxes at the top of the stairs on both sides of the sanctuary as you exit. Donation envelopes are available for your use in the pews.
(We do not pass a collection plate during the worship service)
- Checks may be mailed to the Church Office.
- You can securely donate to the church online. You can click on the "**Give to FBC**" button at the top of the FBC website homepage (www.fbcmoorestown.org); or you can use your smartphone camera to scan this QR Code.



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Please remember the Food Pantry this week.

Financial donations are always welcome. A check or cash can be put into a giving envelope and then into the offering boxes. Non-perishable food items may be brought to church on Sundays and placed in the Food Pantry Cart or they may be left in the black bin next to the side ramp door or beside the pantry room door on the lower level any day of the week.

This week's total will be shared next week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

TODAY – AMERICA FOR CHRIST - “GRACE UPON GRACE” – TODAY is the last Sunday we will be receiving the America for Christ (AFC) Offering

AMERICA FOR CHRIST 2025 GRACE UPON *Grace*

Bringing Hope and Healing to Our Communities

Your donation to the America for Christ Offering fuels essential ministries that uplift and serve vulnerable communities across the nation. With your support, ABHMS partners with churches like Church of the City in New London, Connecticut, which is transforming lives every Saturday by serving free meals to more than 250 people in need.



ABHMS grants to Church of the City, New London, Connecticut, have funded upgrades to its kitchen to industrial standards to keep pace with demand and helped stock a vital food pantry. However, as New London continues to grapple with high unemployment and other economic challenges, the needs of area residents extend beyond food. Consequently, Church of the City also provides access to clothing, health checkups, and a compassionate community.

Church of the City fully embraces its mission to “be in the city for the city,” which echoes ABHMS’s commitment to empowering local ministries in transforming lives. And as an ABHMS partner, Church of the City has become a beacon of hope and resilience.

America for Christ Offering 2025 11

Please Give Today!

www.abhms.org/afc

Grace upon Grace Closing Litany

Leader: Kindness is a fruit of the Spirit.

People: Holy Spirit, increase kindness within each of us.

Leader: Compassion is the character of Christ.

People: Lord Jesus, teach us how to be compassionate on earth, as You were.

Leader: Unforgiveness is a form of bondage.

People: Liberating Lord, remind us that the work of chain-removal is our duty. You have already given us the keys.

Leader: Grant us Holy Trinity, the desire to walk in your ways.

People: May kindness, compassion and forgiveness become daily commitments in a world plagued by hate, apathy and grudges.

All: We desire to be full of kindness. We desire to be full of compassion. We desire to be full of forgiveness. Fill us, O God, so it may be so. Fill us, O God, so we may overflow. Amen.

TODAY - CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING – A Congregational Business Meeting will follow Church Service TODAY, in the Sanctuary. The Business of the Church will be shared, including new Safety Measures, and there will be time for questions or concerns.

TODAY – LAST RESTORATIVE LIVING PRACTICES GROUP, EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOMED – At this meeting we will share feedback about our discussions and we will share information about our ongoing training. **Please join us for our Last Restorative Communities discussions at 11:30, TODAY in Room 6.**

TODAY – ORDER EASTER FLOWERS – To celebrate Easter in our FBC Sanctuary, we will be **ordering Easter Flowers again this year. SUNDAY, March 23rd is the deadline to order 6-Bloom Tulips and/or 5 Bloom Hydrangeas (Pink or Blue).** Please use the **included order form or simply email Carol Murray at fbcmoorestown@gmail.com.** You can give in memory or in honor of someone. You can also donate your flowers to be planted in the FBC Community Garden. Your order, your cash or check can be placed in a regular tithe envelope and deposited in the giving boxes outside the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

MARCH 19th – LENTEN NATURE WALK - Lent is the perfect time to recharge your spirit by experiencing God's natural world first-hand. **We will meet in the church breezeway at 2pm to carpool to the walk location at Boundary Creek, 515 Creek Rd. in Moorestown.** For more information, email Jill Lee at j.huntington_lee@icloud.com.

MARCH 19th - LENTEN STUDY CONTINUES - **We are reading and discussing, "Practice of the Presence - A Revolutionary Translation".** Jen Bradley is leading the study. **We meet on Wednesdays via Zoom from 6:45pm to 8:00pm.** We share prayer requests, pray for one another, and discuss our weekly reading and its application in our day to day lives. **The Zoom room is open at 6:30 to chat about life before we jump into the book study and discussion. Similarly, the Zoom room stays open from 8-8:30 following our study.**

MARCH 21st – QMUNITY MOVIE NIGHT - SAVE THE DATE! **Please join Qmunity for a MOVIE NIGHT as we watch the award-winning documentary "1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted a Culture" on Friday, Mar. 21st, in Fellowship Hall.** What if the word "homosexual" was never meant to be in the Bible? "1946" is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. **Show time is at 7:00 PM with pre-show pizza, popcorn, and drinks at 6:30 PM.** Please sign up so that we know how much food to order. Sign-up sheets are located in the lounge and in Fellowship Hall, or you may email FBCMqcommunity@gmail.com. EVERYONE IS WELCOME, and we hope to see you there!

MARCH 22nd – MEN'S BREAKFAST – **The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd at 9:30 am.** This energetic group meets on the third Saturday of every month in the FBC Lounge. They share a breakfast together and have a lively discussion on a variety of subjects that connect God to everyday life. The group has grown in numbers, and we look forward to welcoming even more new members. Come join us.

SAVE THE DATE - APRIL

APRIL 13th - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EASTER FUN – The Annual **FBC Family Easter Party** will be held directly following Palm Sunday worship service, **on Sunday, April 13th from 11:30am - 2pm in Fellowship Hall**. There will be an Easter Egg hunt and other activities for our FBC kids of all ages. As this will include a potluck lunch, please sign up so we can get a head count, and also let us know what you can bring. There will be a sign-up sheet in the lounge and in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to sharing this fun time of fellowship with you.

FINANCIAL NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

Monthly Giving Report

	<u>February</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Donations & Other Revenue	\$ 23,606	\$ 74,382
Less Expenses	\$ 31,663	\$ 58,466
 Net	 \$ -8,057	 \$ +15,916

Includes February gifts to the Food Pantry (\$1,025) and Congregational Care (\$512)

Thank You!

PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITY

BLINKNOW FUNDRAISER – **“Margaret and Lauren’s furnishing fund for the new children’s home”** – If you don’t know, BlinkNow is a foundation (created by Margaret Smith’s cousin, Maggie Doyne) that is changing the world by empowering the children of Nepal. They do it through quality education, a safe environment, and inspiring others. Their new children’s home is in need of furnishing, especially mattresses. Margaret Smith and Lauren Gibeau have created a fundraiser to help with this effort. If you are able, please donate to BlinkNow to help us show support in raising funds to furnish the new children’s home. You may make a gift at this link <https://blinknow.donorsupport.co/-/NYMLBCHY?member=SLKBMKFG>. We thank you for any gift, and we so appreciate the continued support from the members the First Baptist Church of Moorestown.



Easter Flowers Order
2025

Name of Donor _____

() In memory of _____

() In honor of _____

Number of 6 Bulb Tulips @ \$10.00 each _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Number of 5 Bloom Hydrangea Plants @ 26.00 each ___ x \$26.00 = \$ _____

Blue _____

Pink _____

Donate my flowers: Community Garden _____ Other _____

Make check payable to: First Baptist Church
(Please write "Flowers" on the memo line.)

*Put Cash or Check into a Regular Tithe Envelope and drop in the box at the top of the stairs outside of the Sanctuary, or in the church office.

Phone orders available: Office phone: (856) 235-1180

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd
(Please place your order as soon as possible. You can order now and pay later.)