

# SUNDAY

## Worship Service

February 9, 2025

### **THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION:**

***We do not have to love. We choose to love. No matter how much we may think we are loving, if we are in fact not loving, it is because we have chosen not to love and therefore do not love despite our good intentions.”***

- M. Scott Peck, *The Road Less Traveled*

***Where you are is who you are. The further inside you the place moves, the more your identity is intertwined with it.***

- Francis Mayes, *Under the Tuscan Sun*

***Home is wherever I'm with you.***

- Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros

### **GATHERING MUSIC**

Howard Raudenbush

### **WORDS of GREETING and GRACE**

Rev. Linda Pepe

### **\*HYMN of PRAISE**

### ***Love Lifted Me***

Congregation

- 1. I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore,  
Very deeply stained within, sinking to rise no more;  
But the Master of the sea heard my despairing cry,  
From the waters lifted me— now safe am I.***

### **Refrain**

***Love lifted me, Love lifted me,  
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me  
Love lifted me, Love lifted me,  
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me***

- 2. All my heart to You I give, ever to Christ I'll cling  
In Your blessed presence live, ever Your praises sing.  
Love so mighty and so true merits my soul's best songs;  
Faithful, loving service, too, in Christ belongs.***

- 3. Souls in danger, look above, Jesus completely saves;  
He will lift you by His love out of the angry waves.  
He's the Master of the sea, billows His will obey;  
He your Savior wants to be— be saved today.***

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Stacey Williams

**HAPPENINGS & OFFERINGS**

Tom Tamburello

**PRAYERS of the COMMUNITY**

Rev. Jennifer Bradley

**SCRIPTURE**

***Jeremiah 1:4-12***

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC** ***This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made***  
by Mark Hayes

FBC Choir

**SERMON**

***Sensing Spirit: Agency***

Pastor Linda

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

***You Are the Light***

Congregation

***You are the sermon I want to preach  
You are the love song that I want to sing  
You are the freedom that calls me home  
You are the light of the world***

**\*BENEDICTION**

Pastor Linda

**POSTLUDE**

Howard

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

# TODAY and THE COMING WEEK at FBC MOORESTOWN

<b>TODAY, February 9</b>	10:00 am	<b>Morning Worship Service</b> (Sanctuary/Balcony & Facebook Live)
	11:15 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Fellowship Hall)
<b>TUESDAY, February 11</b>	11:30 to 1:30	<b>Food Pantry Hours</b> (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
	5:30 to 7:00 pm	<b>Food Pantry Hours</b> (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
<b>WEDNESDAY, February 12</b>	7:00 pm	<b>Small Group with Pastor Linda</b> (Lounge)
<b>THURSDAY, February 13</b>	11:30 to 1:30	<b>Food Pantry Hours</b> (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
	6:00 pm	<b>Bell Choir Practice</b> (Room 4)
	6:45 pm	<b>Choir Practice</b> (Sanctuary)
<b>FRIDAY, February 14</b>	10:00 am	<b>Bible Basics Study Group</b> (Conference Room)
<b>SATURDAY, February 15</b>	5:30 pm	<b>Faith and Philosophy Study Group</b> (Zoom)

## *PRAYER CONCERNS - February 9, 2025*

*Please pray for:*

***Mike Maccherone, a Food Pantry Volunteer, for health concerns,  
Jerome Whitehead for health concerns, and  
Ruthie Earley for healing.***

**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](mailto:fbcmoorestown@gmail.com).***

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Linda A. Pepe, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Jennifer Bradley, Associate Pastor  
Tammy Werron, Pastor of Visitation  
Howard Raudenbush, Minister of Music  
Stacey Williams, Children's Ministry  
Adam Buck, Leadership Team Co-chair  
Tom Tamburello, Leadership Team Co-chair  
Carol Murray, Church Office Administrator

[Lindapepepastor@gmail.com](mailto:Lindapepepastor@gmail.com)  
[jbradley12@gmail.com](mailto:jbradley12@gmail.com)  
[Twerron@gmail.com](mailto:Twerron@gmail.com)  
[huddan6137@gmail.com](mailto:huddan6137@gmail.com)  
[stacielynn3243@gmail.com](mailto:stacielynn3243@gmail.com)  
[arbuck@comcast.net](mailto:arbuck@comcast.net)  
[tsquared2@att.net](mailto:tsquared2@att.net)  
[fbcmoorestown@gmail.com](mailto:fbcmoorestown@gmail.com)

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

2/9/2025

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 **Debbie and Dan Chen**.

Today's **Greeters** were **Myrna Rodriguez and Trish Walker**.

Next week's **Greeters** are **Richard Hinchman and Geoff McClain**.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*To: Ryan Dempsey, on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, Jill Lee and Kathleen McCrohan on Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, John Dinsmore on Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, and Patrick O'Brien on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.* 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](mailto: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](http://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 we fed 275 people, including 102 children and 54 seniors.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THIS WEEK

**FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup> – SMALL GROUP STUDY WITH PASTOR LINDA** – Join us as we read and study Paul's letter to the Romans. This study led by Pastor Linda will meet in the church lounge on **Wednesdays at 7pm**. All are welcome, even if you have not attended our Small Group Study before now. To sign up please call the church office at 856-235-1180 or email Carol Murray at [fbcmoorestown@gmail.com](mailto:fbcmoorestown@gmail.com).

**FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup> – NEW “BIBLE BASICS” STUDY GROUP** - A new Bible Basics series continues on **Fridays**. All are welcome and no Bible background is required! We'll be looking at the great epics in the book of Genesis, including creation, the flood, and the Tower of Babel, and comparing them to similar stories from other cultures. **We meet in person on Fridays at 10 am in the Conference room**. Contact Jill Lee at [j.huntington\\_lee@icloud.com](mailto:j.huntington_lee@icloud.com).

**FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup> – SMALL GROUP – FAITH AND PHILOSOPHY** – A Small Group will gather on Zoom to discuss secular philosophy and how we can use our understanding of faith and philosophy to grow in our walk of faith. **Hosted by Matt McNulty, this five-week group will meet on Saturdays (February 1st to March 1st) from 5:30-6:30 pm via zoom**. The group is welcome to anyone 18 years or older, as some days will include mature themes. Reading materials will be provided at no charge through online links. This is open to FBC and beyond. If you are interested, please email Matt at [mmcnulty191@gmail.com](mailto:mmcnulty191@gmail.com).

**FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup>– MEN'S BREAKFAST** – **The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup> and FEBRUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>- RESTORATIVE COMMUNITIES TRAINING - EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOMED** - Do you find it helpful to talk with others about how our Christian beliefs speak to us in our interactions with others? Do you struggle with knowing what to do when relationships are harmed? **Rev. Dr. Donna Jones, Pastor of Cookman Beloved Community Church and Executive Director of Philly's Metropolitan Christian Council and Restorative Cities Initiative, will lead a training on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM, on Restorative Communities: Introduction to Circles**. She will lead a second session on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM, on Restorative Communities: Building a Trauma Responsive Community. Both trainings will be in Fellowship Hall. *For additional information, and how to register, please see the attached flyer*. We hope you can attend!

## SAVE THE DATE - FEBRUARY

**FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup> – QMUNITY GATHERING** - Our next Qmunity meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 11:30-1:00 at Pastor Jen and Sandy's home - 118 Union St in Moorestown. This will be our 2025 organizational meeting as we discuss upcoming events, such as our movie showing of "1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted a Culture". We hope you are able to attend. If you have any questions, please reach out to Sandy at [fbcmqmunity@gmail.com](mailto:fbcmqmunity@gmail.com).

## *SAVE THE DATE - MARCH*

### *MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup> – FRIENDSHIP FORCE WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY*

*OPPORTUNITY* – In observance of **Friendship Force World Friendship Day**, FBC will again be hosting a **Sandwich Making event in partnership with the local chapter of Friendship Force International of SNJ, of which Robbie Thornton-Peek is a member.** The event will be from **2 to 4 pm, on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.** We are inviting our FBCM family to join us again as **we make peanut butter & jelly sandwiches for the Cathedral Kitchen in Camden NJ.** These sandwiches will feed the underfed & homeless people of the surrounding area. Please contact Robbie Thornton-Peek at 609-280-7810 or email at [robbiethornton1@aol.com](mailto:robbiethornton1@aol.com) if you would like to participate this year.

### *MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> - COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICES WITH CHRIST*

*CONGREGATION PRINCETON* - We are excited to again welcome the members and friends of **Christ Congregation Princeton to FBCM for a special combined worship service on March 16<sup>th</sup>.** The members of that congregation will join us for our regular church service, and then we will join them in Princeton at their church services at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner. Their congregation is a progressive, inclusive, justice-seeking community of faith. We hope you will join us for these services, share a meal and get to know one another.

## *NEWS FROM THE CHURCH CLERK*

*FBC MOORESTOWN 2024 FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT* - The final report for the fiscal year 2024 is available in the office for members of the congregation upon request. The financial team lead by Tom Tamburello certifies that the finances of First Baptist Church Moorestown are accounted for and in good order.

## *FINANCIAL NEWS FROM THE TREASURER*

*Giving Statements have now been successfully emailed to all donors FOR WHOM WE HAVE A VALID EMAIL ADDRESS ON FILE. Please note the following:*

- Please check with your spouse/partner/family member, as a separate giving statement was emailed to each member of your household according to who made specific contributions.
- Don't forget to check your spam folder.
- If you still don't have yours and would like a statement, contact either the Church office or Treasurer Steve Eson to obtain one. As you prefer, the statement can be printed and picked up, printed and mailed to you, or emailed to you once we obtain your email address.

### *Donating Online has been changed to a new payment processor*

- If you prefer making online donations, you'll see a new payment window when you click the "Give to FBC" button on the Church Website [www.fbcmoorestown.org](http://www.fbcmoorestown.org).
- Even if you use the online donation option infrequently, we strongly recommend you set up a giving account and password anyway. In addition to simplifying future online donations, this also will automatically register you for our future use of the ChurchConnect.

# Monthly Giving Report

	<u>January</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Donations & Other Revenue	\$ 50,776	\$ 50,776
Less Expenses	\$ 26,803	\$ 26,803
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ 23,973</b>	<b>+ \$ 23,973</b>

- Includes January gifts to the Food Pantry (\$2,628) and Congregational Care (\$256)

## Thank You!

### Restorative Communities Training

Presented by First Baptist Church of Moorestown

February 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

*Discover Restorative Approaches to Building and Restoring Community Bonds*

Led by Reverend Dr. Donna Lawrence Jones, pastor of Cookman Beloved Community Baptist Church, Philadelphia Executive Director of the Metropolitan Christian Council, Restorative Cities Initiative

#### What is a Restorative Community?

A restorative community embraces the principles and practices of restorative justice in seeking to create an environment where individuals work collaboratively to resolve conflicts and foster trust, accountability, and understanding.

#### When:

February 15, 9 am - 4 pm - Restorative Communities:  
Introduction to Circles

February 22, 9 am - 2 pm - Restorative Communities:  
Building a Trauma Responsive Community

**Where:** First Baptist Church of Moorestown, 19 W. Main St., Moorestown, NJ

**Who should Attend:** Educators, community leaders and organizers, advocates for social justice, anyone invested in building stronger, more connected, and equitable communities.

*Attendance at Both Days Recommended but not Necessary*

Light breakfast and healthy lunch provided  
Free will donation requested

#### Three Ways to Register:

1. On-line: <https://forms.gle/jMzTBZxHgapssDf8A>
2. Call: Jane Pipes @ 609-828-1994
3. Call: First Baptist Church Office @ 856-235-1180

Questions? Email Jane at [oferal32@gmail.com](mailto:oferal32@gmail.com)

