



June
2022

Updates and Highlights from Clinton Presbyterian Church

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

On Confirmation Sunday, I introduced a new song to our congregation, which we then sang the following Sunday as we welcomed new members.

The chorus is:

*"Draw the circle, draw the circle wide,
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No-one stands alone we'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide."*

On Sunday, June 5, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the gift of the Spirit descending on the church, the Good News being heard and proclaimed in different languages and the circle of God's love expanding beyond the community of the first disciples.

Over the last month our church family has also expanded as we have welcomed confirmands and new members, celebrated two baptisms and the arrival of a new baby. Our days have been filled with joy and celebration. It is important to celebrate these milestones as we return thanks to God for all of God's goodness. On those sorts of days, it is easy to stand with one another, rejoicing.

It's more difficult, of course, to come together in pain, to seek God's presence there. To sit with the grieving and the lonely. It's challenging to know how to live, pray and act together in the wake of national tragedies like those in Buffalo and Uvalde. When it comes to mass shootings, our nation seems to be trapped in a pointless circle of finger-pointing, political stammering, and virtue posting, soon followed by faltering resolve.

Yet if, as the Psalmist reminds us, "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it," we as God's people must find a way to stand with and for those who are suffering and bear witness to the love of God. As I said in church on Sunday, let us be unconsoled this time around. There is an alternate option. I pray that we will find the courage to not only imagine it but to work each and every day for it.

As summer days dawn, let us be restless for God's Spirit to lead us into holy work and witness as we draw the circle of God's love and care wider and wider still.

See you in church,
Tracey

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Worship

Pentecost Sunday - June 5th

Celebrate the birthday of the church as we share in communion with one another and pray the Spirit will continue to be at work in our lives.

Noisy Offering

Check your pockets, your car and your couch for spare change! Share it with our CPC kids to drop in our noisy offering bucket on Sundays! We receive the noisy offering on the first Sunday of the month.

June 5, July 3 and August 7

Outdoor Worship this Summer

Join us on the second Sunday of each month for outdoor worship. Bring a lawn chair and join us in the parking lot as we worship together.

We are lining up some special musical treats!

June 12, July 10, August 14 and September 11



Congregational Meeting on June 5

Session has called a Congregational Meeting during worship on Sunday June 5, for the purpose of electing the Nominating Committee.

This Committee will help us to call new elders and deacons for service at CPC.

The slate for the Nominating Team is:

Jessica Bruno (Elder and Team Chair)

Rick Hyman (Deacon Representative)

Jens Duerr

Laurel Kelly

Liz Scannell

Did you miss worship on May 29?

It seems there was a slight glitch with the worship video for Sunday, May 29. If the link did not work for you, can find it here: [May 29 Worship Service](#)



Summer Fellowship Hour

Come join us after worship for some drinks, snacks and fellowship outdoors this summer! We are looking for families or groups of 2 people to sign up to host in front of the church for the summer months. All you need to do is bring some snacks and drinks and set it out for everyone before church starts. If you have never done fellowship hour before, that's okay too. We will send out directions ahead of time.

Questions? Contact Jessica Bruno.

There will be a sign-up sheet available in worship.



From the Nursery

"Jesus loves the little children..."

and He loves those who care for them.

While we worship on Sunday mornings, our nursery "angels" are busy downstairs with play dough, books, toy cars, and crayons. Thank you to our volunteers who provide a loving, safe space for those 1st grade and younger.

Vicki and Omar Ahmed, Tracey Bardecker
Deirdre and Chris Blaus, Jes and Colin Bruno
Robin Carver, Kim Darcy, Christine Davies
David Henry, Kristen Madriz, Barbara Plundeke
Jill and Rich Prakopcyk, Judi and Fred Sifuentes
Megan and Ross Traphagen
And... thanks to anyone who filled in at the last minute!

Our Church Family is Growing!

On May 8, we had the privilege of confirming 7 students in the Christian faith and on May 15 we welcomed 3 new members. Learn more about these new members and say hi the next time you see them in church.



Marissa is 15 years old and a freshman at North Hunterdon High School. She runs cross country in the fall, does stage crew for the winter play, and just started pole vaulting this past spring. She also likes to swim, bike and read!



Tristan can be found most Sunday mornings sitting behind the A/V desk as Matt's assistant. Tristan enjoys playing his sax with the concert band, Jazz ensemble and other groups, but the Marching Band season is his favorite. He just completed his H.S. tennis season and is working on his Eagle project in scouting and, if that's not enough, Tristan recently became a recruit with the Sea Cadets. He likes to make use of his newly acquired driver's permit, preferably to go down to the Gravity Vault for some bouldering.



Ashley is 14 years old and currently an eighth grader at the High Bridge Middle School. She will be going to Voorhees High School in the fall with plans to play both volleyball and basketball. Sports are Ashley's favorite pastime. She's played basketball since she was in kindergarten and has played volleyball all four middle school years. She also loves spending time with her family and her two dogs.



Julia is a sophomore at North Hunterdon High School and she is 16 years old. She participates in choirs at school and performs in community theatre productions with SKIT.



John is completing his sophomore year with Hunterdon County Computer Science & Applied Engineering Academy housed in Voorhees High School. John has a passion for computer science and gaming and this academy allows John to take college level courses to support and further these interests while in high school. John plans to further his computer science studies later in college, specifically in the area of game design.



Cami is currently a freshman at North Hunterdon High School. She plays both lacrosse and field hockey for the school teams. In her free time, Cami enjoys drawing and reading.



Evan is currently in the 8th grade at Clinton Township Middle School. He participates in karate and was a part of the rock band at school. His passion is playing the guitar. He uses any free time to improve his skills on the electric guitar.



Our Confirmands



Julie has been a resident of Califon since she and her husband got married ten years ago. Julie is a mother of three sons and two stepdaughters, works as an Administrator at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services and is a band/studio vocalist.



Courtney is married and has one daughter, Jessica. She works in fraud investigations and enjoy spending time with her family. She is excited to be a part of such an amazing church family!



Douglas was baptized at CPC as an infant. Now at 35, he is excited to renew his faith and join this wonderful church community again. Douglas has two beautiful boys, Grady and Hudson, who both attend church with him. He works in the film and television industry as a lighting designer and director of photography. When not working or spending time with his sons, Doug is usually fishing or doing something outdoors.



BAPTISMS



Camryn was baptized on May 1st. Her parents are Ryan and Dana Kelly.



Jessica was baptized on May 29th. Her parents are Michael and Courtney Fernandes.

Capital Campaign Round-Up



What a morning we had on May 15 celebrating the conclusion of our capital campaign! The goal of our Generation to Generation campaign was \$700,000. To date we have over \$889,000 pledged! 67 individuals or families have made these commitments in faith and with great love and generosity. These gifts will help to renew our building as a homebase for mission and ministry for years to come – Thanks be to God!

If you want to add your pledge to this work, please visit our [website](#).

The projects which are part of our campaign will be completed in phases as funds allow. We will keep you apprised of progress throughout.

Our celebration included a jazz band (thanks Ted!), a delicious meal prepared by our very own Andres Madriz, a bounce house, Kona Ice and a free-affle for Clinton goodies!

Enormous thanks to the Capital Campaign Team for their energy and commitment over these last months.





Summer
Happenings
for Kids!

Flat Jesus is Back!

As you take him on adventures this summer, send us photos to share on our social media! Send your favorite snaps to: office4cpc@gmail.com

Print your own Flat Jesus here.



Would you help? Our kids need you!

Guaranteed giggles and smiles. Will you be a part of our PreK-5th grade Sunday School teaching team this fall? We can't offer classes without teachers. Everyone is busy, but we hope to set up Sunday School on a rotating schedule. To join the teaching team, contact Judi Sifuentes (jeharney@hotmail.com).

JULY 18th-22nd
5:30-8:00pm
Dinner provided

REGISTER NOW
www.clintonpresbyterian.net

VBS

July 18-22 at CPC from 5:30 – 8:00 PM
A light dinner will be served each night.

Registration for Vacation Bible School is now OPEN!
All kids from preschool thru 5th grade are invited to join in the fun.
Sign up today and invite a friend!
Register here or scan the QR Code.



We are looking for volunteers of all ages. Do you like to cook, act, play with kids, teach or just have some fun? Well, this is the spot for you!

If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Jessica Bruno or Jill Prakopcyk and they can plug you into a spot that is just right for you.

Summer Happenings for Adults

Summer Outings

Our Fellowship and Member Care Team is organizing some casual gatherings this summer.

Saturday, July 16

Sunken Silo

Saturday, August 13

Ironbound Hard Cider

Look for more details to come.



We need volunteers to help attend our time slot with Grow-A-Row. All ages are welcomed!

Monday, August 8 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM

We won't know which farm or exactly the task that they will need help with until closer to the date. We need a head count by July 25th. If interested in signing up or if you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Ramos-Dominko.

About America's Grow-a-Row

Their mission is to positively impact as many lives as possible through a volunteer effort of planting, picking, rescuing, and delivering free fresh produce. America's Grow-a-Row provides fresh, healthy produce to those in need, educates people of all generations about hunger and ways to help, introduces our youth to farming and healthy eating, cultivates in tomorrow's leaders the habit of giving back and contributes to the sustainability of agriculture.

To learn more about Grow-A-Row, please visit their [website](#).

Save the Date

Celtic Psalms in Concert at Clinton Presbyterian

Wednesday July 13 at 7pm

Rev. Kiran Young Wimberly, a PC(USA) minister living and working in Northern Ireland (and a familiar face at CPC) and the McGraths, a Northern Irish family, have come together to create a stunning collection of new music, the words of the Psalms set to traditional Irish melodies. This summer they will launch their fourth album, *May We Rise*. This hour-long concert at CPC is suitable for all ages and will be followed by a time of refreshments.

Suggested donations: \$10 adults, \$5 for kids (Ages 5 and under free)

To hear songs from their previous albums please visit:

www.celticpsalms.com

This concert is sponsored by the Worship and Music Ministry Team.



Pedals for Progress and Sewing Peace Collection Event

On Saturday, June 18th CPC will host a used bicycle and sewing machine collection event from 9am-12pm. This is a great opportunity to help clean out your garage and or basement and put those unused bicycles and sewing machines to good use. Pedals for Progress (P4P) rescues bicycles that are destined for overburdened U.S. landfills and ships them to developing countries where they are sorely needed and highly valued. P4P bikes are put to work not only as basic transportation, but are used as a supplement to school and community programs. The bikes are adapted for use as trash haulers, produce trucks, taxis, and farm machinery. Soon after P4P was founded, they realized that sewing machines fit their mission as well: They provide a relatively simple way to improve economic circumstances and they often sit unused in the US. Since 1991 they have collected a total of 163,785 bikes and 5,523 sewing machines.

Please visit their [website](#) to learn more.

If you would like to help out (we could use 2-4 volunteers), please contact Jens Duerr.



Summer Supper at the Manse

Wednesday, August 3 at 7PM

Come and enjoy dinner with your CPC family. No need to bring anything and no dishes to do! All ages are invited!

Mission Ministry

City Relief Visit to be rescheduled

Brett Hartford from City Relief will join us in the early fall to share about this organizations mission and ministry. If you are interested in serving with City Relief, please contact Dave Kelly.

Upcoming dates: **June 17, July 15 and August 19.**



Volunteer Survey

We recently introduced a volunteer survey and we wanted to be sure that everyone had an opportunity to complete it. It is our desire to find out how our congregation serves the community outside of our walls. (For that reason, we are not including the many ways that you serve within Clinton Presbyterian Church.)

Would you take a few moments to complete this short survey for us? In addition to listing the ways you currently serve; this survey also gives an opportunity for you to express what types of service you might be interested in learning more about. It will take less than 5 minutes of your time. [Follow this link.](#) Or scan the QR Code below.



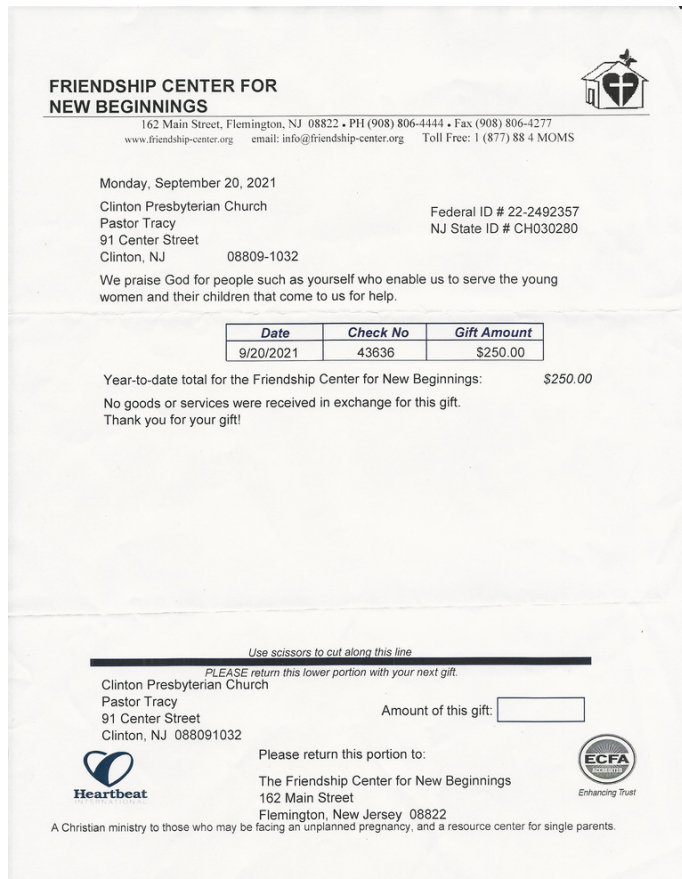
Thank you for your time -
we look forward to sharing the results with you!

Our Community Impact


The Mission team would like to share the wonderful thank you messages we have received from our 2021 disbursements to organizations.

The disbursements served both local organizations (79%) and national / international organizations (21%).

We will continue to share these messages throughout the year within the newsletter so that everyone can see the impact we are making in both local and greater communities.



thank you
for your ongoing support!



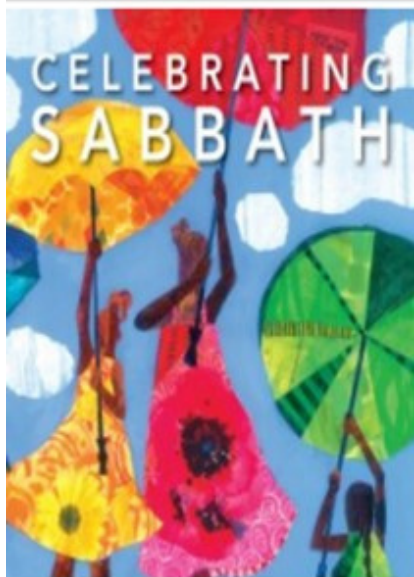
June Birthdays

- 1 Colin Bruno
- 3 Brian Martin
- 6 Kyle Longell
- 7 Megan Kvarita, Ava Sudol, Kathryn Treese
- 9 Emmett Dougherty
- 10 Derek, Justin & Trevor Annese, Cindy Boyer
- 11 Fernando Perez
- 12 Judy Beck, Cathy Edelsberg
- 14 Scott Jackle
- 16 Michael Penyak
- 18 Rhys Donchevich
- 20 Colleen Duerr
- 23 Judy Ader, Emily Edelsberg, Paul Morrissette
- 24 Greta Eichlin-Bell
- 25 Valerie Boyer, Lauren Morrissette
- 28 Jessica Crespo, Betty Ann Dhein
- 30 Wendy Morrissette

June Anniversaries

- 5 John & Martha Roth
- 12 David & Tracey Henry
- 16 Norman & Martha LaValette
- 18 Rick & Leslie Hyman,
Rich & Jill Prakopcyk
- 21 Andres & Kristen Madriz
- 26 Fernando & Kim Perez
- 29 Bill & Mary Ellen Anthony

The 2022-2023 PW/Horizons Bible Study
Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight
Stony Point Center June 16-18, 2022
Led by the Author, Rev. Dr. Carol Bechtel



In this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—we'll consider Sabbath:

- ♦ as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- ♦ as God's intent for all of creation that includes busy women too
- ♦ as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- ♦ as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide
- ♦ as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- ♦ as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care.

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives.

The Reverend Dr. Carol Bechtel is professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI. She grew up on a farm in Illinois, attended Hope College, Western Theological Seminary and Yale University. She has published a commentary on Esther, and many will remember her PW Bible Study *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*. Carol lives in Holland, Michigan. She and her husband have four children and eight grandchildren. Her hobbies include singing, cooking and gardening, and playing the Celtic harp.



The full program begins at 4pm on THURSDAY and ends after lunch on SATURDAY. Registration and check-in will start on Thursday at 3:00 PM. Cost covers 6 meals, a single or double room in either Gilmor Sloane House or a Lodge (your choice), and a program fee of \$40, which includes a copy of the study.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
Registration Form
Horizon Bible Study June 16-18, 2022 (Thurs-Sat)

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Special Dietary or Other Needs: _____

Gilmor Sloane House Single \$530
 Lodge Single \$448
 Commuter \$240
 Gilmor Sloane House Double \$410
 Lodge Double \$328
 Add'L Overnight Stay \$144

Roommate for Double _____ Dates: Early Arrival _____ Late Departure _____

Check enclosed (payable to PW- Synod of the Northeast). Please mail registration and check to:

Nancy Lack, 15 Lincoln Ave, Florham Park, NJ 07932 ????? e-mail: donnarahmann@comcast.net

Unable to come? Check here _____ to be included in a 2 hour ZOOM on Friday, June 17th from 10am-Noon.

Sponsored by Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast