

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, we marked the first Sunday in Lent, this season of the year, created by the church, to be a sort of "spring time of the soul." If weekly Sunday worship throughout the year is a chance for us to reset every 7 days, then the season of Lent, this 40 day stretch of time, is call to an even deeper reset, a call for spiritual realignment, leaning yet more fully into who God has created us to be in this world.

In *The Return of the Prodigal Son* (the book which our Lent small groups will read together), Henri Nouwen writes this:

"Many of my daily preoccupations suggest that I belong more to the world than to God. A little criticism makes me angry, and a little rejection makes me depressed. A little praise raises my spirits, and a little success excites me. It takes very little to raise me up or thrust me down. Often I am like a small boat on the ocean, completely at the mercy of its waves. All the time and energy I spend in keeping some kind of balance and preventing myself from being tipped over and drowning shows that my life is mostly a struggle for survival: not a holy struggle, but an anxious struggle resulting from the mistaken idea that it is the world that defines me."

This Lent at CPC, I invite us to three practices for this work of realignment: Gather, Grow and Give. In worship, in study and in service, may we set aside our anxious striving and find ourselves enveloped in the Love which never fails.

See you in church,

Tracey

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Sunday Mornings at CPC

Upcoming in Worship

We'll journey with Jesus each Sunday of Lent as he encounters Nicodemus, the Woman at the Well, the Blind Man and Lazarus. Each encounter is one for us to learn from. *Come and See.*

Want to read ahead?

Below are the preaching passages for each week:

Sunday, March 5 John 3:1-17

Sunday, March 12 John 4:5-42

Sunday, March 19 John 9:1-41

Sunday, March 26 John 11:1-45

Each Sunday during worship, we will also hear a report from those who have been serving outside the wall of CPC – from our newly formed Joy Scouts, to those who have been serving in Florida and those who serve locally. Their stories will inspire you and encourage you to find new ways to serve.



Our Lenten journey began with an Ash Wednesday Service. Gratitude to our Ladies' Ensemble and flautist, Abby Dougherty, for their offering of "As the Deer Longs for Streams" from Celtic Psalms.

Presbytery Leader Joins Us at CPC

The Leader for the Presbytery of the Highlands, Rev. Jeanne Radak, will join Tracey to lead us in worship on March 5.

Jeanne was born and raised in Caribou, Maine. She left New England to go to college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania to study music and to embark on her career as a conductor of a great symphony. God had other plans. She graduated with a history degree and answered God's call through studying at Pittsburgh Seminary for a Masters of Divinity. In 1985 she was ordained as an assistant pastor for First Presbyterian Church of Geneva, New York. The following years she served as the interim pastor for congregations in Big Flats, New York; Davison, Michigan; Plymouth, Indiana and Michigan City, Indiana. In 1994 she answered the call to be the pastor of Elmwood Presbyterian Church in Syracuse, New York where she served until 2005 when she took the call to be the Associate Executive for Congregational Ministry for the Presbytery of Philadelphia. In 2013 she began her work as the Presbytery Leader of Newton Presbytery. March 2021, she became the Presbytery Leader of The Presbytery of The Highlands which is a realignment of boundaries of the four presbyteries that covers 7 counties of Northwest New Jersey. In 1989 she made the best decision ever and married her best friend Bronc Radak. She and Bronc are parents to two young adults Joe and Maggie and parents-in-law to Heather and John. Through the years Jeanne has experienced and learned a lot about Conflict Management, Interim ministry, congregational transformation, leading change, urban ministry, discipleship, stewardship, missional church and many more things. She loves photography, genealogy, gardening, quilting and taking her daughter to Irish dance competitions.

We look forward to welcoming Jeanne!

Sunday Mornings at CPC

Want to Help with Worship?

We are always looking for ways to involve people of all ages in worship leadership.

Want to share your musical talents?
Contact Ted: ted4cpc@gmail.com

Up for leading a Children's Conversation?
Contact Tracey: tracey4cpc@gmail.com

Willing to be a reader?
Contact Judy Beck

Happy to serve as an usher or greeter?
Contact Linda Schipmann-Pustai

Have AV skills to share?
Contact Matt Hodulik

New Opportunity for Kids -
Serve as an Acolyte!

Acolyte Ministry

Beginning on Easter Sunday, our children and youth in grades 3 and up will have the opportunity to serve as an Acolyte in our weekly worship service.

What is an acolyte?

The word "acolyte" comes from the Greek word "akolouthos" which means helper or attendant, someone who takes care of another. Some say the history of acolytes dates back to the Old Testament, when Samuel assisted Eli in the temple. The Acolyte will assist the pastor and other worship leaders.

What will the acolytes do?

Our Acolytes at CPC will serve by lighting and extinguishing the candles in the sanctuary as part of the worship service. The light represents the Light of Christ, reminding all of us that God is with us in worship. At the end of the service, the Acolyte will carry the lit Christ candle to the back of the sanctuary, reminding us that we are called to take the light of Christ into the world.

How can we sign up?

By signing up [here](#) and picking a Sunday which works for your schedule. Pastor Tracey will meet with all those who have expressed interest during the month of March to walk through the details. Instructions will also be sent to parents so that they know what is expected.

For more information, please contact the Children's Ministry Team. We are excited to offer this new opportunity for worship leadership to our younger disciples!



Lent, Holy Week and Easter at CPC

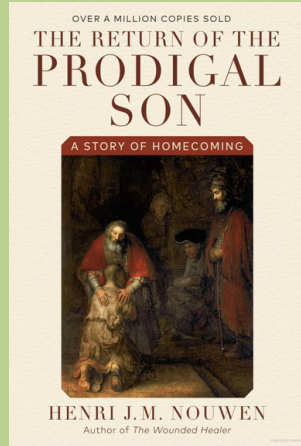


Palm Sunday April 2

As we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, join us as our Children's Chorus leads us in chorus of "Hosanna" while our Bell Choir brings a new offering.

Lenten Small Groups

Small Groups will read through Henri Nouwen's Return of the Prodigal Son. Nouwen's work looks at the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the vantage point of the younger son, the older son and the father. Small groups will meet once a week for four weeks, **starting March 5.**



Maundy Thursday April 6 - Soup Service at 6PM

Family friendly soup supper and worship in Fellowship Hall, recalling Jesus' last supper with his disciples. All are welcome!

The following days and times are being offered.

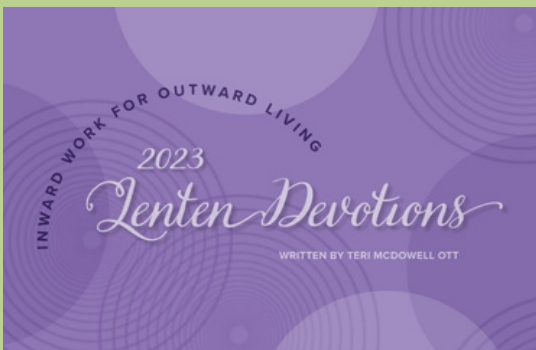
- Sundays at 10:40 am
- Monday nights via Zoom @ 7 pm
- Monday nights in person @ 7 pm
- Tuesday Brown Bag Lunch @ 12:30 pm



It's not too late to sign up!

Lenten Devotionals

If you are looking for a short devotional to read each day of Lent, look no further. There are copies of the devotional provided by the Presbyterian Outlook, "Inward work for outward living" at the back of the church or you can download from our [website](#).



Good Friday April 7

Children's Gathering at 10AM

Join us for crafts, stories and snacks.

Tenebrae Service at 7PM in the Sanctuary

As we remember Jesus' final hours, we'll read scripture, pray and extinguish candles.



Easter April 9 - Worship Service 9:30AM

Come and celebrate the Resurrection as we remember that God's love for us knows no bounds. Invite a friend to share the pew with you as we recall the Good News of our Faith.

Palm Sunday Service Projects

CPC will be dedicating time after worship on Palm Sunday to serve others - all are welcome! We'll have stations set up in and around the church with an opportunity to give back to others. Kids and grown-ups can work together on a variety of projects addressing a number of needs. We'll start after worship and re-gather in Fellowship Hall about 11:30am to share our experience and show our work. You can sign up [here](#) for one of these groups:

- **Hygiene Kits** - for the folks at City Relief
- **Animal Treats and Toys** - for shelter animals at St. Huberts and elsewhere
- **Cooking** - small home-cooked meals for our neighbors who use the Flemington Food Pantry
- **Armed Forces** - coupon sorting, cards, and notes for our active service men and women and also our veterans
- **Crafts** - coloring, making cards, creating signs, and taking photos that show our love to lots of people
- **Treats** - trail mix for community members living in hotels, clients of SAFE in Hunterdon, seniors in low-income housing, and others
- **Prayer Station** - an opportunity to pray for anyone in need. Prayer stations will also be available in the sanctuary for anyone who wants to pray for those in need.
- **Clean-Up** - clean-up efforts in and around the church

As we prepare the stations, we are in need of a few donations. If you would like to contribute, please donate the specific items below and leave in the bin outside the church or in Fellowship Hall **by Sunday, March 26th.**

Here are the items we need:

- Grocery store coupons
- Used (but clean) t-shirts
- Fabric scraps
- Travel size toothpaste
- Disposable razors



Host Families Needed!

The African Children's Choir will be performing at CPC on **Sunday, April 16th at 6pm.** These 19 children and 8 adult chaperones will stay in our area for one night, so we are looking for families willing to host this absolutely wonderful group. Families will house 2 or 3 children of the same gender who will stay in the same room together (and can and want to sleep in the same bed!) as well as one chaperone who will need a separate bedroom. Host families will need to be able to provide the following:

- Two separate bedrooms (one for chaperone, one for 2-3 kids)
- Breakfast on Monday morning
- Transportation to your home from the concert on Sunday and then back to the church on Monday morning by 9:45am
- Internet access for the chaperone
- No screen time for the kiddos
- Animals are ok, but a calm introduction to them as some children have a legitimate fear.

We will need 8 homes total. Host families will have the opportunity to meet the children at a dinner before the concert or at a family meeting just afterwards. Plenty of information is provided ahead of time! The Duerr family has done this about 5-6 times, and it has been an amazing experience each time.

If anyone is interested in hosting or just has questions, please contact Colleen Duerr.

Meet Our New Members



Laura, Jason and Joshua Berman

Jason and Laura Berman are Long Island transplants who wanted to experience the country life of Hunterdon County. Living in Flemington with their four year old son, Joshua, they enjoy spending time with family, friends and love outdoor activities like swimming, hiking and gardening. Laura is a passionate special education teacher. Jason is a logistics manager. They are excited to grow their faith at CPC.



Bethany Grover

Bethany is from the Philadelphia area. She came to CPC in December of 2021. Her boyfriend Matt invited her to church, and she started serving that same Sunday helping with AV. Bethany works as a medical assistant while being a full time student at Liberty University online. She loves this church family and looks forward to getting to know everyone.



Brielle Hansen

Brielle is a proud wife to her husband, Mike and mom to step-son, Connor and daughter, Quinn. She is an employee at St. Peter's University hospital as an outpatient physical therapist where she especially enjoys working with high school and college age athletes. During her free time, she spends her days crawling on the floor with Quinn and spending time with her loving extended family. Brielle is excited and eager to become a member of the CPC family and to see what is in store for her future at the church.



Zachary Morano

Zachary was born in Maine, but was primarily raised in Hampton, New Jersey. He graduated from North Hunterdon High School and has always loved visiting the town of Clinton for a cup of tea from Citispot. Currently, Zachary is a manager at Bourbon Street Wine & Spirits in Clinton. He enjoys exploring local walking trails with his dog, Winston, and is very excited to be marrying his beloved (Emmaline DiPace) at CPC in May of this year.

Meet Our New Members



Marjorie (Marg) Peterson

Marg was born and grew up in Sioux Falls, SD. She left Sioux Falls to attend school in St. Paul, MN. After teaching at the collegiate level for two years, she started her own audio-visual production company focusing on capital fund raising for nonprofits. Marg ran that business until her husband Pete's military career took him to Germany. She accompanied him there and we had an incredible four years of sightseeing all over Europe. Pete's military career then took him to Washington, DC where they lived for 30 years. While in Washington, DC, they became active at National Presbyterian Church where Pete became the Church Administrator after retiring from the Army. While at National, Marg taught Bible in Sunday School. After leaving National, she continued to teach Bible studies. She also had management positions in two nonprofit organizations in the DC area. Pete's church administration career brought them to NJ over eight years ago. Since settling here, Marg has gotten into gardening and decorative art painting. They look forward to being part of Clinton Presbyterian Church.



David (Pete) Peterson

Born the first of eight kids to a Baptist minister and his wife. his father became a military chaplain and they moved quite a bit. Pete did a career in the Army as a personnel and personnel systems administrator and retired from the Pentagon in 1994. He did a second career in church administration serving three different churches until he retired in 2015. Pete and Marg love northern New Jersey and are looking forward to being members of Clinton Presbyterian Church.



Megan Verderamo

Megan has lived in Clinton Township all her life and it's been a blessing to have her family plant roots here too. Trey is a sophomore at North Hunterdon and Morgan is a third grader at Califon Borough School. Her husband, Rich, is a second grade teacher at Patrick McGaheeran School and Megan is an administrator for the Tewksbury School District. As a wife, mother, and full-time working parent one of her go-to bible verses addresses the topic of worrying. Philippians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Megan is excited to be part of the CPC community and get involved in the Women's Ministry.

Children's Ministry



It's March...

and we're flying high as we drift into Lent and the Easter Season...

Lent began February 22nd. Lenten scratch-off calendars were distributed to Sunday School families in a Family Lent Kit beginning February 26. As the children reveal the daily message or activity, we pray they grow closer to God and find even small ways to live like Jesus.

Plans are in the works for our annual Palm Sunday Children's Chorus and palm procession and our Good Friday Children's Gathering. Due to the on-going construction projects, we will not have the usual Easter egg hunt, instead we are planning an "Hour of Service" during Sunday School for all families with a special Easter treat for the children.

Nursery Reminder: Parents please pick-up your child(ren) directly from the Nursery following worship. If you are unable to pick-up, please ensure you have an adult delegate listed with the Nursery Volunteers.

Please note these important dates for Sunday School:

3/19 & 3/26 Short Sunday School Palm Sunday Children's Choir rehearsal

4/9 Easter Sunday - No Sunday School **4/16** Easter Break - No Sunday School



Joy Scouts

Joy Scouts is a new outreach group connecting CPC families and children to a wide variety of volunteer opportunities in the community. The Joy Scouts have at least one community service outing a month with additional independent opportunities listed on the group facebook page. The first outing took place on February 21st at the Flemington Food Pantry, where 11 of our CPC kids (and their parents) helped to sort and organize food for the pantry clients. Westley Carver described it as "pure fun"! The next outing will be to visit the Hunterdon Care Center on March 19th at 2:30pm. We will play simple games and do crafts with our senior friends. This is a wonderful intergenerational fellowship opportunity! All ages are welcome. The next monthly project will be helping with an Earth Day stream cleanup project on April 15th. Kids, mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information! Contact Abby Dougherty for more information on participating with Joy Scouts.



Youth Ministry

Our confirmation class continues to meet from week to week in preparation for Confirmation Sunday. On March 18th, they will attend a Confirmation Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg.

PS - If you are exploring Summer Camp options for your kids or teens, check out the wide range of programming Johnsonburg has to offer: <https://www.campjburg.org/>

CHAOS Youth Group (9th - 12th graders)

CHAOS meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays from 7-8pm.

There are games, snacks, service opportunities and more - *join us!*

Next meeting dates: March 5 and 19

Meet in Fellowship Hall - there'll be plenty of snacks and fun games!

For more information contact Maggie Bell



CPC Book Club

Come join us for reading, discussion and fun conversation.

This month we are reading, *The Reliable Wife* by Robert Goolrick.

Copies of this novel are available for sign out in the office.

Our next gathering is March 23rd at 7pm at Judy Moller's home.

Interested in finding out more? Please contact Adrienne Hodulik.



Fellowship at CPC

Game Night Recap

What a fun night of games and fellowship!! Thanks to everyone who brought delicious food and fun energy. We had close to 100 people of all ages who showed off their singing, acting and concentration skills.

We can't wait for next year's event!



Join us for a fun filled night of games, songs, stories and more! Your children can be dropped off on **Friday, March 24th from 5:30-7:30pm**. Dinner will be included and they will get a taste of how much fun VBS will be this summer!

To sign up, scan the below QR code or go to this link: vbspro.events/p/efb2e9.

Fee is \$10 per child with a max of \$30 per family. Questions/want to volunteer? Contact Jessica Bruno.



Guys' Day Out @ Top Golf

Sunday, March 26th at 12pm

The guys will be headed out to Top Golf in Edison for an afternoon of food and fun! Golf experience is not required. We will leave from the church and head to Edison where we will have 2 hours in as many golf bays as we need. Questions - Contact Jes Bruno



Mission Ministry

The results of our Souper Bowl of Caring were announced on Sunday, February 19th - a win for the GREEN team! See page 8 to read about our Joy Scouts visit to the Flemington Area Food Pantry to deliver the food.



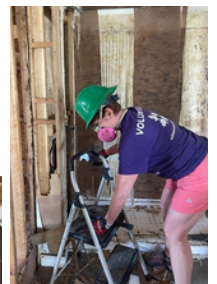
Recap: Mission Trip to Florida

Wonder Women NJ is back from Florida and grateful for comfortable beds, long showers, and a day off from mucking and gutting projects. We were working on a double-wide trailer that was home for 96-year old Julia, who is now housed in a hotel. All Hands and Hearts (AHAH) is working as quickly as possible to get her back home. In our 4 work days, our team was able to take down all interior walls, gut two bathrooms, remove all ceiling staples and insulation, grind down most of the studs to prep the walls, and started on removing flooring and cleaning up what was underneath (basically, heavy piles of yuck). A team before us had mucked out the contents of the home, saving as much for Julia as was humanly possible. With a 11 feet of water in these homes, that was tough to do. This was just one of 5-6 projects running in that area at this time, with a waitlist of other homes. The devastation is unbelievable.

We cannot thank you enough for your donations to support our team and this work. After 5 days with All Hearts and Hands we can assure you that this is an outstanding investment. We are in awe of how well organized this experience was, the level of commitment from the staff and other volunteers, and the maturity and capability of the young leadership team that manages this Fort Myers effort. If anyone has doubts about 20-somethings and the future of our country, head down to AHAH and see what we're talking about. These people are second to none.

If you are interested in volunteering with AHAH in Florida or any of their other locations all over the world, please ask any one of us. We're happy to answer any questions and hopefully inspire you to go!

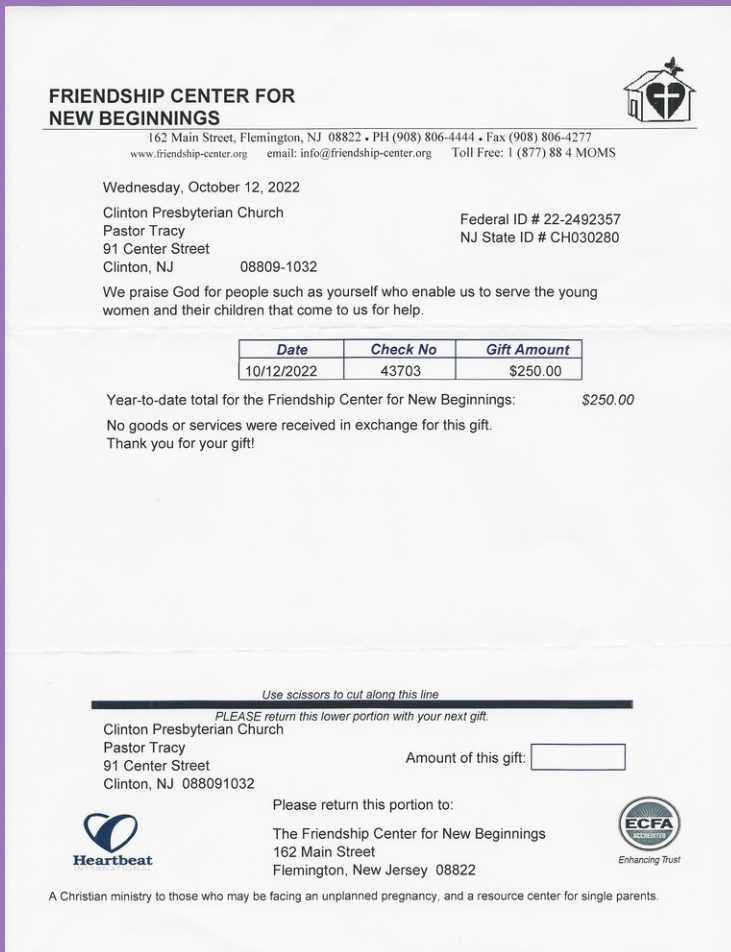
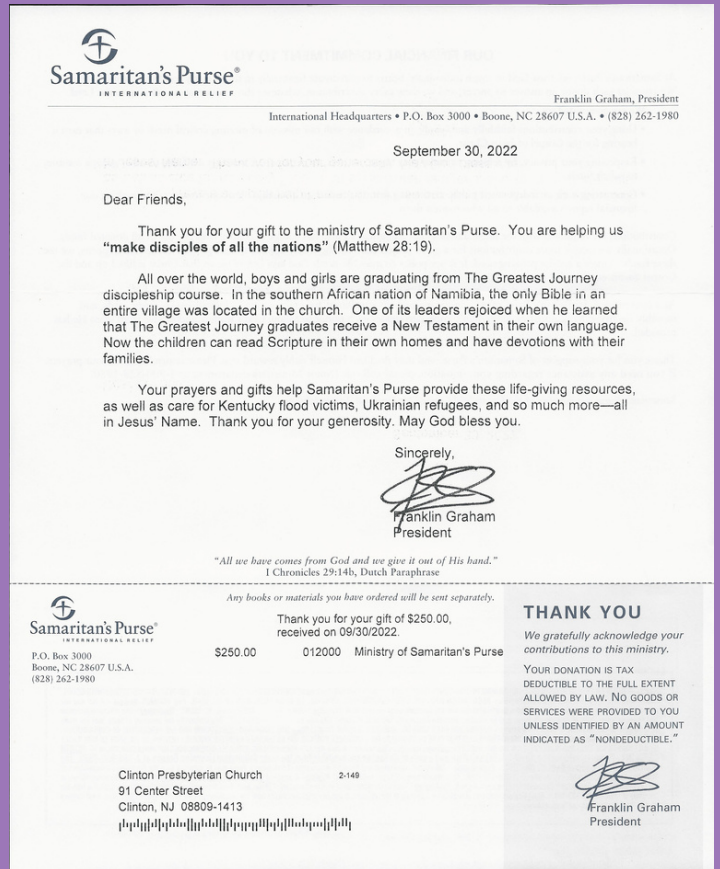
With so much gratitude,
Wonder Women NJ - Colleen, Tracey, Robin, and Paige
(or more commonly referred to at AHAH base as "The Jersey Girls")



Our Community Impact

The Mission team would like to share the wonderful thank you messages we have received from our 2022 disbursements to organizations. The disbursements served both local organizations (74%) and national / international organizations (26%). 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!



CPC Deacons

Your Deacons have been hard at work this past month. Part of the deacons have been working on what devotionals to use and teaching Adult Ed: The Gospel of John. Other Deacons have joined up with the Fellowship Ministry Team.

Your Deacons are here to provide support. Some of the efforts recently have been providing meals, visitations to hospitals and to healthcare homes, prayer support, helping working on and

coordinating the Palm Sunday projects and helping to support our efforts with Family Promise.

Please reach out to your Deacon if you need any type of support. Your Deacons are listed every Sunday in the bulletin. Please reach out to the church office (office4cpc@gmail.com) if you need to know the name and contact information of your Deacon.

Deacon of the Month (February)

We are starting a new series in this month's newsletter: We will be featuring the Deacon of the Month.

The Deacon of the Month's responsibilities include opening the monthly deacon meeting with a prayer and devotion. They provide a monthly write up on the Deacon's activities for the newsletter. Once a month they are to replenish the pews with supplies. They are to set up a table in Fellowship Hall during Fellowship hour with cards/well wishes on the table and encourage people to sign the cards. This is all in addition to their normal Deacon duties.

The first Deacon of the Month (February) is Rick Hyman. Rick has been a member of CPC since 1976. He has been married to Leslie Hyman since 2005. They live in Annandale. Rick is retired and had a career with AT&T, Lucent Technologies and Avaya.

Rick has been an elder twice and is in his last year serving as a Deacon. He has been on various committees but his heart belongs to Mission, of which he has been a member since 1999.



He led a CPC mission team to middle Maine for 18 years. He served in post hurricane relief in New Orleans and Houston. Rick is involved with the Relief Bus and has served for the last 15 years. He is the CPC contact for Family Promise of Hunterdon.

He has a daughter in San Diego, who recently got engaged and a stepdaughter in Deerfield Beach, Florida who has a 1 ½ year old daughter and a stepson in Denver. Rick loves to travel and has been an avid wine collector since 1982.

CPC Preschool

February was filled with so much love.
The love of learning and playing.
The love for our teachers and our friends.
The love for reading and Miss Judy.
We love our CPPreschoolers!



Interested in joining
our preschool program?
Find our
registration form
and more about our
program by visiting
our website.



March Birthdays

- 2 Tristen Dornbusch, Michael Penyak,
Fred Sifuentes
3 Courtney Morrissette
6 Christina Schlegel
7 Tom Hodulik
9 Abigail Thompson
10 Kara Wehrenberg, Jeri Twigg
11 Sharon Rosenberg
13 Brielle Madriz
16 Lauren Edelsberg
18 Elijah Sudol
21 Karen Heine
23 Kyle Lundeen
24 Casey Hipsher, Abby Jenkin
26 Alex Westlin
27 Tina Little
28 Leslie Hyman
29 Janet Traphagen
31 Oliver Sudol

March Anniversaries

- 11 Evelyn Lebron and James Jenkin
23 Rich and Debra Jackle
Bob and Lisa Miller
Anthony and Lora Pelose
25 Mike and Jackie Bruno



*Dear CPC Family,
Thank you so much
for our cookies on Sunday.
Our family was visiting
and we all enjoyed them.*

Steve & Dorothy Battaglia



*Benjamin Rivera Morales
7/24/48 - 1/19/23
visit legacy.com*

*Tracey and CPC Friends.
Thank you so much for
rallying behind our family
during this difficult time.
Navigating new territory -
the loss of a parent - will be
that much easier. CPC truly is
a special place. We will continue
to honor my dad's wild
and perfectly imperfect life!*

Tina Honthy-Little