

May News from CPC

Updates and Highlights from Clinton Presbyterian Church



From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

What a full month we have enjoyed at CPC. After a very long pause we were finally able to share meals together around tables at home gatherings and our Maundy Thursday supper.

Our Palm Sunday and Easter Services were filled with joy, hope and lots of familiar faces. Our fellowship hall has been overflowing week after week.

What we have experienced in these last weeks is *koinonia*. It's a Greek work, used 20 times in the New Testament to describe the unique sense of community and communion that the early church shared with one another. It is this community and this communion which have been hungry for over the last two years, and it is reality you live into very well.

Authentic spiritual community functions like a magnet, drawing others to this place, as we reflect the love of Jesus Christ. It also happens to be how God changes lives and transforms communities. Imagine being at the very center of the activity. What a blessing.

The month of May promises to be just as full and joy-filled as the month of April. As we baptize little ones, welcome new members, celebrate together and serve our community may *koinonia* be known in this place.

See you in church!

Tracey

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Sunday Morning Worship

Upcoming in Worship

May 1

Communion Sunday

Acts 9:1-18

Worship with us as we celebrate the baptism of Camryn Marie Kelly and offer our "**First Fruits**" for our capital campaign.

May 8

Confirmation Sunday

Acts 16:16-34

7 CPC high schoolers will share their fresh commitments of faith with us as they also lead us in worship and share their musical talents.

May 15

Celebration Sunday

Acts 20:7-12

"On Falling Asleep in Church"

It's Celebration Sunday! A "don't miss" day at CPC. A jazz band will lead us in worship as we welcome new members and announce the results of our capital campaign then we'll continue the celebration outdoors with brunch, music, a bounce house and more.

May 22

Brett Hartford from City Relief will join us in worship to share more about the vital work of his ministry and how we can stay involved.

May 29

(Memorial Day Weekend)

On this holiday weekend we will worship God together and celebrate the baptism of Jessica Fernandes.

Want to Help with Worship?

Everyone is invited to join us in worship leadership.

Children's Conversation

contact Tracey: tracey4cpc@gmail.com

Liturgist

contact Judy Beck

Greeter

contact Linda Schipmann-Pustai

Live streaming support

contact Ted Brancato: ted4cpc@gmail.com

From the Director of Music Ministry:

I hope that everyone had a happy Easter! In the weeks to come, we have some other happy events to celebrate. Most notably, on May 8th we will be celebrating the 2022 confirmation class, with special musical offerings from members of the graduating class. The following Sunday we will be celebrating the conclusion of the Capital Campaign with a jazz-oriented service, and, weather permitting, further jazz music in the parking lot with a band and vocals by one of our soon-to-be new members, Julie Baldassare.

The Chancel Choir is working on some pieces that will be performed for the May 1st, May 22nd, and June 5th services. It has been fun getting the choir back together and I'm excited for what the Fall will hold when we get some of our pre-Covid members back in the choir. I will keep saying this until I'm blue in the face: Please think about joining either the Praise Team or Chancel Choir! They are both in need of singers to round out the sound. The only thing needed is a love of singing, a desire for fun fellowship with other vocalists, and for the Chancel Choir, one hour every Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm to practice, or for the Praise Team, one hour every Saturday morning at around 11:00 am depending on peoples' schedules. Practices will be temporarily stopped in early June but will begin again in early September.

I hope that you have enjoyed our musical offerings and find that they add to your worship experience. I'm excited about the addition of Glenn Gray to our percussion section and will continue to feature other talented members of the congregation, guest musicians, and guest singers when I can.

Happy Spring to you all! Ted

Communion Stewards

No need to be an elder or deacon to assist with preparing the elements. (The job of a communion steward is to prepare the elements, not serve communion.) You will be sent information a few days before your assigned Sunday. Click [here](#) to sign up. Thank you for being willing to help with communion preparations!

Palm Sunday Worship & Easter Egg Hunt



Our Palm Sunday was filled with joy from beginning to end. Our Children's Chorus led us in procession, our Bell Choir offered a new anthem, we baptized precious Molly and gladly offered our commitments for the capital campaign. And let's not forget the all-important egg hunt! Thanks be to God!



Maundy Thursday Good Friday Children's Gathering



We were delighted to be able to gather around tables once again for a simple meal on Maundy Thursday. Our children read for us and together we prayed for the pain in the world before sharing in communion.

Easter Worship



He is Risen



Happy Hallelujahs, packed pews and the gift of celebrating the Good News of Easter in our beautiful sanctuary. Thank you to all of our musicians and the liturgists who made this such a wonderful morning. Did you know that our Easter Worship service has been viewed over 440 times?





Generation to Generation 2022 Capital Campaign

Over 60 pledges were made in support of our capital campaign and we are so thankful for the deep generosity of this church family. By the power of the Spirit, lives have been transformed at CPC for almost 200 years and we are moving boldly into the future trusting that God will be at work here for generations to come.

On **Sunday, May 1**, we will welcome the offering of our **First Fruits** - the first installment of our pledged gifts for the campaign.

Celebration Sunday will take place on May 15.

We'll announce and give thanks for the total commitments received so far for the campaign and we will also pause to celebrate this season of generosity in church life. We're planning on an outdoor meal, some music and plenty of fun for all ages.

To learn more about our plans and how you can support them, pick up a brochure at the rear of the sanctuary or visit our website. If you would like to offer your prayerful or financial support to the campaign, please drop a [commitment card](#) in the offering plate or mail to the church office at 91 Center Street, Clinton NJ 08809.

Here are some snapshots from our Home Gatherings which were held March 27, April 1 and April 2.



Children's Ministry

Pre-K thru 5th Grade

We turn our calendars to May, so grateful for the joy brought by our CPC children during the Easter season. From their palm procession and loud "Hosannas" during Palm Sunday worship to their excitement as they hunted for Easter eggs on the front lawn, to their chatter and smiles at the Good Friday Children's Gathering - they are God's love personified. Eighteen children joined us on Good Friday for story time, Easter crafts, and a snack. Thank you to Jill Prakopcyk and Pastor Tracey for organizing such a fun and special morning.



Ted Brancato, Julie Baldassare and Abby Dougherty prepared and led our Palm Sunday Children's Chorus. Evie Lebron and Abby Jenkin provided 1,000+ filled plastic eggs for our Easter egg hunt and then our 6th / 7th grade class had the job of hiding them all. The Easter Bunny had many helpers this year. Thanks to each of you!

Dates to note:

May 1 Last Day of Sunday School

May 8 Mother's Day: Kids, give your moms extra hugs!

May 15 Churchwide Celebration Sunday - fun for all ages



CPC's Amazing Sunday School Team

We are so grateful for the hours dedicated to planning lessons and to showing up this year with love for our kids. You all are blessings beyond measure.

Preschool

Megan and Ross Traphagen

Kindergarten/1st Grade

Jill and Rich Prakopcyk

2nd - 5th Grade

Jim Dornbusch and Tina Martin

To those who jumped in to substitute when needed:

Thank you! We appreciate you too!



Save the Date

July 18 - 22

5:30 - 8:00 PM

Light dinner will be served each night

Youth Ministry

Spring is HERE! We are praying that your family has stayed healthy and happy during these times. April was a busy month with Easter and Springtime adventures. Our Confirmation class got to dive in to preparation for Confirmation Sunday, coming up on May 8th! Our class never ceases to amaze us with their insightful questions and meaningful thoughts. Journeying through their faith with them this year has helped them grow and we also have learned a lot along the way as teachers. As a class we have taken communion together, we questioned things, we openly discussed hard topics, and we laughed together, of course. The connection these students share with each other is unmatched – they are a joyful part of our church family! Our Chaos Crew has been happy to be back in full swing. Lots of games and lots of laughs – new friends and old - it's been a joy to build a safe, welcoming space for our youth!

CHAOS will meet on Sunday, May 1st. Keep an eye out for a service opportunity for our youth on Sunday, May 22nd! CHAOS and Confirmation students are invited and encouraged to join us! We are keeping a close eye on CDC guidelines to best keep our students and volunteers safe.

We are truly excited to see what God will do with our time together as we go forward. We're seriously having so much fun & we are so grateful to have y'all along for the ride with us!

8th Grade & Up Chaos Dates: May 1 (7pm – 8pm)

Follow us on Instagram! [@chaosyouthministry](https://www.instagram.com/chaosyouthministry)



Fellowship and Member Care

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. We will not be continuing with our standing bagel order, but if you feel like bringing bagels, feel free, if not, not a problem, any snacks are great! If you have never done fellowship hour before, that's okay too. We will send out directions ahead of time. Questions? Contact Jessica Bruno [Sign up here.](#)

Fellowship Hour Details:

Interested in helping out with Fellowship Hour but not quite sure what to do? Here is a quick rundown of what it all entails. And don't worry, if you have any questions, anyone on the Fellowship and Member Care Team is here to help.

- 1.) Buy snacks (ex: bagels, muffins, chips, pretzels, cookies, baked good, etc.)
- 2.) Buy juice (usually 2 half gallon juices are enough)
- 3.) Set up at about 9:00am on the day of - inside: put out two tables, tablecloths, snacks and make coffee, outside: set up one table in front, snacks and juice, water or lemonade
- 4.) The week before your assigned date you will receive a letter from a team member with all of the details
- 5.) All dates will have 2 people on so you would not be alone.
- 6.) If you end up not being able to do the date you signed up for, no problem! Just contact Jes Bruno at 908-328-6943
- 7.) A team member is always available to help

If you have any questions at all about what to do, please feel free to reach out to Jes Bruno.

Summer Outing Series

In June, July and August we will host outings for anyone who would like to get together outside of church. Save the dates below and be sure to sign up ahead of time. Reservations are required, so we will need to know how many. Keep an eye out for more details and sign ups.

- Sunday, June 12th at 1pm - Beneduce's
- Saturday, July 16th - time TBD - Sunken Silo
- Saturday, August 13th - time TBD
Ironbound Hard Cider



Mission Ministry

Spring Cleaning Baskets Collection - Items due by May 29

We are collecting items that will help women who are graduating from the program, which will serve two different needs: one for women moving from "half-way house to three-quarter house" and women moving from either "half-way or three-quarter housing to independent living". When a woman is graduating, she will receive a basket full of items that fit the need of either moving into "three-quarter housing" or "independent living".

NOTE: When shopping for the items below, please make sure that the items contain little to no alcohol. A good rule of thumb is making sure that if any alcohol is listed within the ingredients, that it is not within the first 5 listed ingredients. For some of the items, there are brands listed below that are deemed "safe" to purchased.

If you would like to support us in this mission project, please drop off any of the collection items listed below. We also have an [online](#) sign up.

Items Wanted

- Laundry Detergent, Dryer Sheets
- Toilet Paper (Individually Wrapped Packs)
- Cleaning Wipes (Alcohol-Free or Lysol or Clorox)
- Disinfectant Spray (Alcohol-Free or Lysol or Clorox)
- Sponges / Scouring Pads
- Laundry Basket
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner (Alcohol-Free or Lysol or Clorox)
- All-Purpose Cleaner (Alcohol-Free or Lysol or Clorox)
- Paper Towels (Individually Wrapped Packs)
- Broom & Dustpan, Mop
- Dish Soap
- Dish Towels, Potholders

Thank you all for your generous support of this Mission project!



About Anderson House

Anderson House (part of the Turning Point organization) is a well-respected halfway house program serving women recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction and their co-occurring mental health disorders. Anderson House serves women from all New Jersey counties.

Their mission is to provide quality treatment to women and help them develop the life skills and goal-building techniques they need to return to the community as responsible, sober, and productive individuals.

To learn more about Anderson House, please check out their website:
<https://www.turningpointnj.org/about-us/anderson-house/>

Item Drop Off Information

Please drop off all items in either the laundry baskets located in the back of the sanctuary or in Fellowship Hall or place the items in the big container on the side porch. All items are due by Sunday, May 29th.

Questions/Help

Questions? Please reach out to either Christina Schlegel or Colleen Duerr. For online sign-up help, please reach out to Christina Schlegel.

Mission Ministry



Mission Opportunity: City Relief

CPC continues to support City Relief (the Relief Bus). This organization serves the homeless and others in Newark and New York City. During the pandemic they adjusted their outreach hours. On the third Friday of each month we will leave CPC at 4pm, serve food outside Newark Penn Station and return to Clinton by 8pm. Upcoming dates: May 20, June 17, July 15.

If you would like to join this outreach please contact Dave Kelly for more information. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve those in need!

Once again, we are looking for dorm-sized fridges to give to clients of the Flemington Food Pantry who are staying at hotels without any refrigeration.

The fridges we collected most recently have all been distributed and received with gratitude. Please contact Courtney Morrissette to coordinate pickup.

Thank you!

Mini-Fridge Ministry

Help us partner with the Flemington Area Food Pantry to provide mini-fridges to those who are housed in motels and hotels.



WANT TO HELP...

1. *Donate a Fridge*
(we can arrange pick-up/drop off time)
2. *Deliver a Fridge*
(we'll add you to our list of drivers and call you as needed)

Email the church office
(office4cpc@gmail.com)
for more info



Clinton Presbyterian Church

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!



September 28, 2021

Clinton Presbyterian Church
Colleen Duerr
91 Center St
Clinton, NJ 08809-1413

Thanks so much!

Dear Colleen,

On behalf of the Flemington Area Food Pantry's 333 volunteers and over 4,000 clients, we would like to take a moment to thank you and Clinton Presbyterian Church for your generous donation of \$250.00 on 09/12/2021.

Our clients and their families will have healthy meals to share because of people and organizations like you! So far in 2021, families have come to our doors 5,630 times, where we have been able to provide them with food and personal products to help make their lives just a little easier.

As we continue to navigate this pandemic, we particularly appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness. We have seen the impact on families in our community and without your support, we could not have met their increasing needs.

Again, we thank you sincerely and express great gratitude for your donation to our organization. We look forward to your continued support. Take care and be well.

Kind Regards,

Jeannine Gorman
Executive Director

Kristin Stockwell
Office Manager

Your donation may be tax-deductible and no goods or services were provided in return for the donation. For your records, our tax ID is 22-3061060.

PO Box 783 Flemington, NJ 08822
info@flemingtonfoodpantry.org
908-788-5568



1001 OF TWENTYNINTH JACOBARY BLVD

Franklin Graham, President

International Headquarters • P.O. Box 3000 • Boone, NC 28607 U.S.A. • (828) 262-1980

September 20, 2021

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

Your gifts and prayers are equipping Samaritan's Purse to care for people in crisis situations, while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Victims of the earthquake that recently struck Haiti are receiving practical help during their time of need. War-weary families in Iraq are finding new hope for the future. And U.S. homeowners who have been battered by natural disaster are offered a helping hand by our volunteer teams.

Your support is an important part of this work, and I am deeply grateful. **"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works"** (Ephesians 2:10). Thank you for your prayerful partnership in this ministry. May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham

May Birthdays

- 1 Larry Kursar
- 3 Chad Lundeen
- 5 Deirdre Blaus, Ava Kvarata,
Koppany Pusztai, Margaret and Thomas Sauers,
Elizabeth Seiffert,
Christian Wirth
- 6 Scott Schipmann
- 7 Mark Holmsborg
- 9 Juliet Warren
- 10 Joseph Darocha, David Henry,
Joey Perez, Rob Plimpton
- 11 Steve Battaglia
- 12 Molly Darocha
- 13 Meredith Nuzzo, Jayden Rosario
- 15 Carey Bell, Chris Blaus
- 17 Westley Carver
- 18 Katherine Spencer
- 19 Abby Dougherty, Raymond Paul
- 20 Lauren Farese
- 21 Norman LaValette, Caleb Schlegel
- 22 Mary Joan Barr
- 23 Lori Houseal, Jenny Kunzman
- 24 Norma Eichlin
- 25 Maggie Bell, Andrew Kvarata
- 26 Lauren Kreutel, Charles Kvarata
- 29 Sylvia Smith
- 31 Jake Treese

May Anniversaries

- 1 Mitch and Jenny Kunzman
- 7 David and Elizabeth Seiffert
- 8 Eusilio and Rebecca DiPace
- 12 Bill and Mary Joan Barr
- 28 Glenn and Patricia Gray

