

NOVEMBER NEWS FROM CPC



Updates and Highlights from Clinton Presbyterian Church

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

On the first Sunday of November, churches are given the opportunity to mark All Saints' Day. It is a time for us to remember and give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith, from those we have never met – the earliest apostles and those who became martyrs for the Christian faith down through the centuries – to those who have impacted our lives directly – including those who gathered to establish Clinton Presbyterian Church in 1831 and all those who have worshipped here over the years, who have modelled for us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. We are surely “surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses” for these friends have laid a solid foundation for us.

We are called now to be good stewards of the gifts we have received, so that we might pass them along to the next generation. This includes taking good care of our property, teaching our children about Jesus and growing in faith ourselves. It also means being a family which is open and welcoming to new friends who are gathering to worship with us. Over these next couple of months, as we move into the holiday season, I want to encourage you to look around on Sunday mornings and make a point of reaching out to people you don't recognize, to welcome them warmly to this family. After all, they might well be the next saints of this church.

See you in church,

Tracey

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Sunday Worship and More



Children's Sunday

They read, they sang, they played and they led us into God's joy! Thank you to all of our youngest disciples for helping us to worship on Sunday October 23. Our children are one of the great treasures of our church family. Thank you to all the parents who make the effort to get them to church each week.



Music at CPC

Our Praise Team and Chancel Choir are committed to offering excellent music to the glory of God from week to week. And under the direction of Ted Brancato, they are doing just that. Thanks be to God! You may have noticed some new faces joining these groups and the invitation is open to you to be the next new face. And if singing is not your speed, then consider the Bell Choir, which will begin a 4 week span of rehearsals on Wednesday, November 2.

The times for rehearsals are as follows:
Praise Team - Saturday mornings at 10:30 am
Chancel Choir - Wednesday evenings at 7 pm
Bell Choir - Wednesday evenings at 6 pm

November Worship Highlights

November 6 – All Saints' Sunday

We will remember before God all those whom we have loved and lost in the last calendar year even as we lean on Resurrection hope.

November 20– Join us for a joyful service of Thanksgiving. There will be plenty of music and an opportunity to lift up your own words of thanksgiving. On this Sunday we will also baptize Henry Patrick Plimpton – Thanks be to God!



We'll decorate for the Advent season after worship on November 20. Please join in – many hands make light work!



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?

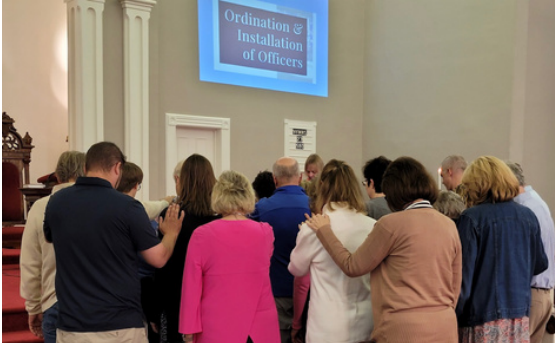
Contact Linda Schipmann-Pustai:

Have AV skills to share?

Contact Matt Hodulick:

Sunday Worship and More

Ordination and Installation of our New Elders and Deacons



On Sunday, October 16, we had the joy of ordaining and installing our new officers for the upcoming season at CPC. Julie Baldassare, Robin Carver, Abby Dougherty and Jim Pustai will serve as Deacons, joining in ministries of compassion and service, while Deirdre Blaus, Dave Kelly and Tina Little will serve as Elders, leading and guiding us as our church family seeks to follow after Jesus Christ. The faithful “yes” of these leaders is a gift for which we are grateful and we look forward to seeing how God will use them in the months ahead.



“Count Me In” 2023 Stewardship Campaign

On October 30th we received a number of Estimate of Giving cards in support of our stewardship campaign for the year ahead. If you were not able to return your Estimate of Giving card at that service, don't worry – there is still time to say, **“Count Me In!”**

There is much to celebrate and much to look forward to. To support our ongoing ministries from Clinton Presbyterian, our pledge goal for this year is \$286,125 which represents an increase of 5% over pledged commitments for 2022.

You can pledge in 3 ways:

1. Submit your pledge online
2. Return a pledge card to the church office at 91 Center Street, Clinton, NJ 08809
3. Drop your pledge card in the offering plate during in-person worship.

Will you join with your church family in once again saying **“Count Me In!”** to be a part of God's work here.

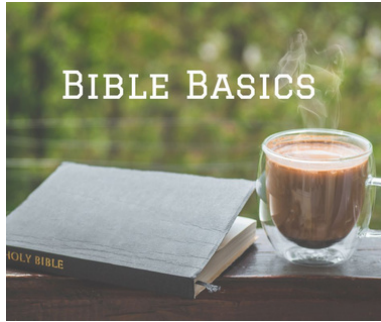
Pastor Appreciation - a note from Tracey

Your kindness and love for me, indeed for my whole family, is a gift which I do not take for granted. Thank you for once again going out of your way and giving so generously to make sure that I know of your care and support.

With love and appreciation, Tracey



Faith Formation for Adults



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Sunday mornings at 10:40 am in the "computer" room. This weekly bible study class is for beginners and longtime students of the Bible alike. We'll work our way through the Gospel of John as we grow in faith and community with one another. Come and go as you are able. Class will meet every week with the exception of the dates for the "Abide" Forum and the Mission Learning Opportunities. Contact Rick Hyman or Barb Pearson for more information.

Women's Weekday Studies



Weekly Women's Morning Study "The Parables"

Meet on Monday mornings at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Judy Moller.

Women's Evening Group "From Widows to Warriors"

2nd & 4th Mondays at 7 pm

From flawed heroes to fierce fighters, encounter our foremothers in the faith in all their messy yet redeemable humanity.

Women of the Promised Land - November 14
Women of Israel and Judah - November 28



November 6 10:40 - 11:30 AM

In the second of our two part series, we'll start to consider the spiritual and emotional needs for end of life planning. This will involve thinking about how you want people to treat you near the end of life, what you want your loved ones to know and considerations for your memorial service. All are welcome to join us as we think about these weighty concerns.

Want to join us via zoom? Let us know and we'll make it happen. RSVP to Tracey at tracey4cpc@gmail.com



Children's Ministry

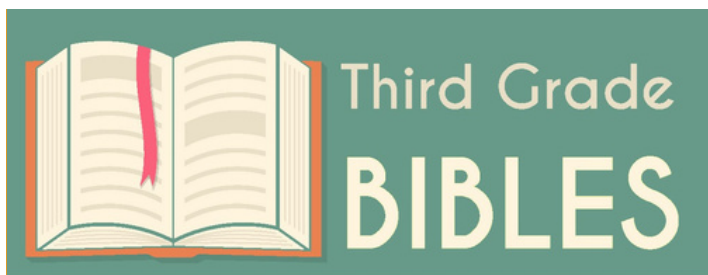
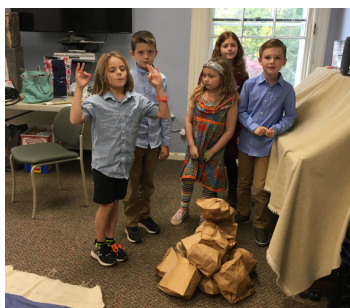


Making a Difference at Church

Thank you to our PreK-7th grade friends, Pastor Tracey, Ted, parents and Sunday school teachers for leading us in worship on Sunday, October 23rd. Children's Sunday has become a special tradition at CPC, and we look forward to this service every year. Thank you, kids, for greeting us and presenting the offering, for reading from the pulpit and leading us with song. Most of all, thank you for reminding all to "Praise, Love and Serve" Jesus all day long. *Your family at CPC loves you.*

Making a Difference in the Community

During the Congregational meeting, our children colored pictures and notes of Thanksgiving for recipients of our Thanksgiving Baskets thru the Mission Ministry team. As our congregation colors the world with kindness through food donations, we pray God uses our little artists to touch the hearts of strangers, sharing Jesus' love through crayons.



We recognize our third graders who received bibles this year on Children's Sunday, October 23.

Jaxon Crespo, Aaron Donchevich, Eli Griggs, Parker Henry, Ava Kvarita and Destiny Ross.

With prayers for God's blessing and guidance each day.



November 6 @ 11:30 am
4th through 6th graders

*Kick back after Sunday School
with your friends.*

Youth Ministry

Confirmation Class 2022-2023

Our confirmation crew is meeting this fall, getting to know one another and learning more what it means to follow Jesus and be a member of the church.

Say hi to them when you see them around!



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:
November 6 and 20**

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

For more information contact Maggie Bell.

**Follow us on Instagram!
@chaosyouthministry**



Mission Ministry



We will be collecting and delivering food to local families in need. We are hoping to help families with more of their everyday lives, not just their Thanksgiving meal.

The collection will run through November 13 and the boxes will be delivered on Saturday, November 19.

We will be collecting the following items:

- Can of Coffee
- Box of Tea Bags
- Ketchup
- Peanut Butter
- Jam / Jelly
- Crackers
- Box of Mac 'n' Cheese
- Box of Dry Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Soup
- Box of Cereal
- Instant Jell-o / Pudding
- Vegetable Oil / Olive Oil (small bottles)
- Jar of Applesauce (no unsweetened)
- Apple Juice (64 oz.)
- Monetary Donations

Note: Ham and/or Turkey donations are welcomed as well.

Please return all items and place them either in the designated areas in the sanctuary or fellowship hall or in the big container on the side porch.

If you are interested in delivering boxes, please keep a look out for sign-ups or reach out to any team member below.

Colleen Duerr

Christina Schlegel

Rick Hyman



Our annual Christmas tree is in the back of the sanctuary until December 4.

Here is our opportunity to help friends and neighbors in need, many of whom we support during the year through our mission outreach. Let's help make this a Merry Christmas for them all!

Tags on the tree are for children of local families, children whose families are homeless and part of Family Promise, single moms and their children at Friendship Center for New Beginnings in Flemington, Family Promise in Hunterdon County, City Relief, children and teens in an impoverished area in Maine, Safe in Hunterdon, Family Success Center and the CPC Preschool Scholarship Fund. Each tag describes an individual need for a gift and you are welcome to take one or several.

In addition to having the Giving Tree in the sanctuary, we also have some tags online for those who are worshipping from home and wish to participate. Click [here](#) for the link for online tags.

Please return all gifts UNWRAPPED and place them under the tree by Sunday, December 4. Tape the tags to your gifts and you can include wrapping paper and tape if you'd like to.

The Mission team will gather in Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, December 6 to pack up and organize all the gifts for local delivery or for mailing.

Thanks everyone for your generous support of those in need this Christmas!

Questions? Contact Cindy Boyer.

Mission Ministry



Service Spotlight - HUNGER



On Sunday, November 13, we will be joined by Jeannine Gorman, Executive Director of the Flemington Area Food Pantry. As we seek to learn more about the needs in our local area, this will be an opportunity to learn from Jeannine and consider how to continue in impactful partnership with the Flemington Area Food Pantry.

Join us in the sanctuary following worship.



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.

On Friday, November 18 we will leave CPC at 4pm, serve food outside Newark Penn Station and return to Clinton by 8pm.

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!



Love



Grow



Serve

Fellowship and Growth



Trunk or Treat 2022 was a great success! We served up 500 hotdogs, gave out thousands of pieces of candy and danced the night away! Thank you to all those who donated candy (we had enough candy for the first time ever!), those who hosted trunks (your creativity never ceases to amaze!) and our fantastic grill masters. We are also grateful to Dr D. for volunteering his time for the best party in Clinton.



Preschool Halloween Fun!



Our preschool classes enjoyed some fun Halloween activities, including pumpkin carving and a Halloween parade around the church when they received some yummy candy!

Advent and Christmas Preview

December can be such a busy time of year. Mark these dates on your calendar now to help you stay connected to your church family as we celebrate the reason for the season – Jesus!

Sunday Worship at CPC

December 4 Our Bell Choir will bring a special offering and we'll share in communion with one another!

December 11 Presentation Brass, led by our own Larry Kursar, will lead us in worship – invite a friend!

December 18 2022 Christmas Pageant – come and hear the greatest story ever told and then come on over to Fellowship Hall for a delicious Breakfast!

Christmas Parade - December 2

The Clinton Christmas Parade is back and we are looking forward to participating! Kids are invited to ride on the float and we would love to wave to congregation members all along the route! Let Jill Prakopcyk know if you would like to ride the float or help with set up.

Live Nativity December 17 from 5-6:30 pm

With pandemic concerns lessened, this year our Live Nativity will be a “walk-thru” event! Pick up your hot chocolate at the start, then walk around the scenes of the Christmas story (including a petting zoo!), ending up in the warmth and beauty of our sanctuary. For a quick dinner afterwards head over to Fellowship Hall where we will be serving up hotdogs!

Advent Midweek Reflections

Following some conversation, the Worship Team has decided to present our midweek offering in a virtual format this year. Each Wednesday, we'll send a recorded reflection right to your inbox, offering you a chance to pause and reflect at any point during your day. You'll see lots of familiar faces in these short offerings. We hope they will be a blessing to you.

Blue Christmas Service - December 18 4PM

The holiday season can be difficult for many reasons. It can be hard to come and worship God joyfully because of the loss of a family member or a friend, the end of a marriage, illness, loss of work or other trying change. This year we will offer a quiet meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, time for sharing our hurting places with God, and time for preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. All are welcome.

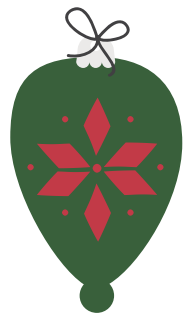
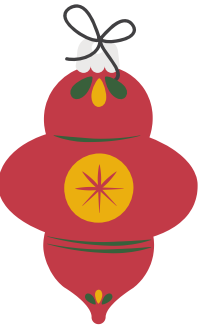
Christmas Eve at CPC

5 pm Family Service

As a congregation we will retell the story of Christ's birth with the angels, the shepherds and the sheep.

11pm Candlelight Communion Service

Come and be lifted in joy through Word and Song as we welcome the Christ child and usher in Christmas Day at this candlelight service.



NOVEMBER

Birthdays

- 2 Amey Barnes, Liam Berson, Andrew Christopher, Reed Heine, Sienna Madriz, Castor Penyak, Rosie Sudol
- 5 Sharon Holmsborg
- 6 Aaron Donchevich, Ashley Krushinski
- 7 Jan Kreutel
- 9 Rebecca Roth
- 12 Kinsco Pusztai
- 16 Bob Tombs
- 17 Dana Kelly
- 18 Julie Baldassare
- 20 Scott Lundeen
- 21 Joe LaSpada
- 25 Scarlett Penyak
- 27 Carol Kotopoulos
- 28 Barbara Lewis
- 29 Cindy Christopher, Olivia Kvarta
- 30 Matthew Hodulik

Anniversaries

- 7 Caleb and Christina Schlegel
- 10 Ben and Abby Dougherty
- 20 Tom and Shelley Brankner



BSA Troop 121 Fundraiser

Clinton Presbyterian Church is the chartered organization for Boy Scout Troop 121. The Troop has initiated an online **Amaryllis Plant Sale** just in time for the quickly approaching holiday season. There are various varieties of Amaryllis available. Each kit arrives in a Burlap Gift Bag and includes: flower bulb, plastic growing pot, soil disc, planting instructions and a gift tag. Online orders placed before Thanksgiving will be delivered before Christmas. Online orders can be placed up until mid-December. [Here is the link to order.](#)

The Scouts BSA program allows Scouts to (1) try new things, (2) provide service to others, (3) build self-confidence, and (4) reinforce ethical standards. At Troop 121, boys start with their best “right now” selves and grow into their very best “future” selves. It’s fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts them in the middle of the action and prepares them for today – and for life. Your purchase benefits the Scouts by helping to pay for camping trips, program costs, and materials for future service projects for his community and the Troop to deliver and maintain an excellent program.