



NOVEMBER NEWS FROM CPC

Updates and Highlights from Clinton Presbyterian Church

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From the Pastor's Pen

*“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.”*
Psalm 100:4-5

Dear Friends,

How grateful I am to be in ministry with you. Thank you for all your kind words, thoughtful cards and lovely gifts in recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month. I consider it a great privilege to work alongside you in our Kingdom calling and your steady encouragement is a blessing along the way.

As we regather, we are engaged in some important work together – ministry that I am confident pleases God. This newsletter tells part of the story. We are investing in our kids and young people. We are reaching out to meet community needs. We are making joyful music. We are caring for one another. We are welcoming new friends to our family. We are worshipping God with a new sense of gladness. In this season of giving thanks, we are offering back our gifts, our time and our talents to God with joy.

Thank you for being the church, for me, for my family, for each other, for this community and for the sake of the world which God loves so completely.

Yours in Faith and Hope,

Tracey

Sunday Worship and More

Sunday Worship

This fall we will continue to offer worship both in-person and online.

If you are worshipping with us in person:

We resumed indoor worship. All worshippers are encouraged to mask and while individual pews will no longer be closed off, everyone is invited to space appropriately throughout the sanctuary in friendship/family groups. Please be aware of differing comfort levels as we gather.

If you are joining us online: Sunday Worship Services will go live on our [YouTube Channel](#) at 9:30 am each week. You can tune in live by clicking on the appropriate video link or you can watch at a later time. Many thanks to everyone who has had a hand in making live-streaming possible.

Pathways to Generosity

A note from our Generosity chair, Deirdre Blas

This fall, we have invited everyone to explore "Pathways to Generosity", as we link our giving to our path of discipleship. We hope that the daily devotions and stories you have heard in worship have been meaningful to you. On Sunday, November 14, during our time of worship, we will be invited to return Estimate of Giving Cards for 2022. EOG cards can also be completed online: <https://www.clintonpresbyterian.net/stewardship>. Would you join me in praying over these next couple of weeks, "God, where do you want me to be in my giving?" Please do not hesitate to reach out to Deirdre if you have any questions.

Upcoming In Worship

November 7 – Observance of All Saints' Day and Communion Sunday

1 Kings 19:8-15a God in the Silence

(We will serve pre-packaged elements during worship. If you are tuning in from home, please use elements which you have on hand.)

November 14 - Dedication Sunday

Amos 5:14-15, 21-24 What does God require?

November 21 – A Service of Thanksgiving including the Ordination and Installation of New Officers

"Count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done."

How has God been at work in our lives this year? Join us as we return thanks!

Advent begins on **November 28**. This year, we'll spend "**Advent with the Prophets**" as each Sunday draws us closer to the celebration of Christ's birth. If you or your family would like to help with lighting the Advent candles this season, please email Pastor Tracey: tracey4cpc@gmail.com



We'll decorate for the Advent season after worship on the 21st.

Please join in – many hands make light work!

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

OFFICERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2024 @ CPC

At a Congregational Meeting on October 31st, the following members were elected to serve as officers at Clinton Presbyterian.



Tracey Bardecker

I have been in Hunterdon County for over 25 years and have been at CPC for several years. My 2 grown children are Lucas, a Firefighter in Arlington, VA, Emily who lives in Florida and the youngest of 3 amazing sisters. I have worked full in time in town for Michelle Heide, a Financial Advisor for over 17 years. My free time is spent as a Guardian for a lovely women in Flemington, hiking, biking, running, starting to travel and explore our beautiful country! Sunday is my day to relax, reflect while starting off with a great church service and seeing my church family. I am excited about my new role learning more about CPC, its members, our dedication to our community and helping where I can make a difference. Tracey will serve CPC as a Deacon.



Dick Farrell

I have been coming to the Clinton Presbyterian Church now for over 3 years. My father was a Presbyterian Minister in the Bronx, NY for 38 years. So I am a PK, Preachers Kid. I grew up watching my dad minister to the congregation and saw how grateful he was every day for being able to give back to his congregation. My role was to be seen and not heard as I could be rebellious at times, your typical PK. It's now my time to give. I looked at several churches in my quest to find my church. A church that sees service to others as a main guiding principle. Clinton Presbyterian is that church. I was honored when I was asked to consider becoming a Deacon and after a conversation with Tracey I knew this was the next step on my journey. I now can give back. Dick will serve CPC as a Deacon.



Judi Harney-Sifuentes

I was born in Hunterdon County and have lived in Clinton and next door to Clinton Presbyterian most of my life. My son Freddy introduced our family to CPC when he attended Vacation Bible School (VBS) and loved his teachers, staff and students. When we are not at Church my family enjoys anything Disney, Theatre and building Legos. I'm a member of the Children's Ministry Team and have coordinated the parent's schedule for the Nursery as well as teach Sunday School. Our family enjoys helping the church when we can and think of the congregation as our extended family. It seemed a natural fit to help the church more by accepting the call to be an officer. Judi will serve CPC as an Elder.

Thank you to the members of this year's Nominating Team: Elder Jessica Bruno (chair), Jim Dornbusch, Deacon Rick Hyman, Laurel Kelly and Sharon Rosenberg.

Children's Ministry



Making a Difference at Church

THANK YOU to our PreK – 5th grade friends, Pastor Tracey, Ted, parents, and Sunday school teachers for leading us in worship. 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, for leading us with song motions and virtual singing, for reminding all that "Jesus loves you" and for blessing us as we "Go with God!" Your CPC family loves you!



Sunday School Schedule Pre-K Thru Grade 5

November 7 - Regular Class

November 14 - Regular Class
Mission: Thanksgiving cards

November 21 - Regular Class

November 28
No Sunday School
(Thanksgiving weekend)



Making a Difference in the Community

This month, Sunday School will assist the Mission Ministry team, creating cards for the Thanksgiving Baskets. 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.

Sunday School children were encouraged to paint or carve "Happy Pumpkins" for the Town of Clinton's Pumpkin Fest on October 22. Congratulations on receiving an "Honorable Mention" ribbon. Thank you to our families who participated.

What time is Sunday School? 10:40 – 11:30 a.m.

Where do I drop off my child? Teachers will meet the children in Fellowship Hall at 10:40 and escort them to their classrooms.

Where do I pick up my child?

Preschool 3s/4s: Upstairs, Green Room (Megan & Ross Traphagen)

Kindergarten/1st Grade: Downstairs, Nursery (Jill & Rich Prakopcyk)

2nd – 5th Grade: Upstairs, Coral Spice Room (Jim Dornbusch & Tina Martin)

Sunday Funday/November 14 @ 1130 am

Calling all 4th and 5th graders – join us for a cookie baking extravaganza! All hands on deck as we mix, bake and package cookies to deliver to members of our church family. (And of course, we will have to sample our work!) Meet in Fellowship Hall after Sunday School!

For all Children's Ministry activities which are indoors, masks are required for both children and leaders.

Children's Sunday 2021



Youth Ministry

Confirmation Class 8th - 10th Grade

We started off strong by launching our newest Confirmation class, gathering 8th, 9th and 10th graders to deepen their faith and find their place in our church family as “adult” members. This year we will be navigating important faith questions through the Presbyterian confirmation curriculum, “Big God, Big Questions”.

In October, our Confirmation students embarked on a Saturday retreat adventure at Camp Johnsonburg with other Confirmation students from around New Jersey! Everyone had fun and friendships were made on a cold dreary day. Team building activities were shared with confirmands from Westfield. So much fun was had on the zip line and lower ropes course. We had open discussions on some tough and confusing questions regarding faith, Christianity and the Bible, and whether or not a hot dog is a sandwich? Marissa Anese had this to say, “I enjoyed the time spent with friends that are fun and have the same values as I do. The leaders were awesome and made the overall experience amazing. My favorite part was zip lining in the forest with other members of our church and getting to meet new people.” Cami Plaxe also had a good experience saying, “It was overall a good bonding experience for the group. We got to overcome challenges and work together as a team. The counselors were really awesome and it was overall very fun.” We’re already planning our next event to serve our community and our church family!

6th & 7th Grade Sunday School

If your student is in 6th or 7th grade, they are welcome to join the middle school Sunday school class for to develop their faith and have fun! Thanks to Paul Morrissette and Bob Tombs for leading this class. Blessings and prayers as we journey through these next months together!

CHAOS Youth Group

***Please note a change in the Chaos schedule!
Chaos will now be held for those in 8th grade and up and will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month from 7pm – 8pm at CPC!**

***IF your young person/people are in 6th & 7th grades, we will now be meeting on the 1st Sunday of each month from 5:45 – 6:45 pm at CPC! (New Name TBA)**

All gatherings will be in person, outdoors, socially distanced, and masked (say that ten times fast!) while the weather stays beautiful! 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! Follow us on Instagram! @chaosyouthministry

**8th Grade & Up Chaos Dates:
11/7; 11/21; 12/5 (7pm – 8pm)**

**6th & 7th Grade Gathering Dates:
11/7; 12/5 (5:45pm – 6:45pm)**



Group photo from our day at Johnsonburg!



Mission Ministry



We will be collecting and delivering food and items for local families in need.

Our donation list looks a little different this year because of COVID-19's impact on the holiday season. We are hoping to help families with more of their everyday lives.

We will be collecting the following items until November 14 and the boxes will be delivered on Saturday, November 20.

- 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 in the big container on the side porch or in Fellowship Hall in the designated area. If you are interested in delivering boxes, please keep a look out for sign-ups or reach out to: Colleen Duerr, Christina Schlegel or Rick Hyman.



Our annual Christmas tree will be in the back of the sanctuary from November 14 to December 5. 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 all 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 and children and teens in Maine. Each tag describes an individual need for a gift and you are welcome to take one or several.

Please return all gifts UNWRAPPED and place them under the tree by Sunday, December 5. Tape the tag to your gifts and you can include wrapping paper and tape if you'd like to.

On Tuesday, December 7 the Mission team will gather in Fellowship Hall to pack up all the gifts for mailing or local delivery.

Thank you all for your generous support of those in need this Christmas!

Questions? Contact Cindy Boyer

Fellowship and Growth

Everyone had a great time at Trunk or Treat!



This year we had 14 trunks and fantastic entertainment provided by Dr. D. Hundreds of trick or treaters stopped by for candy and a little dancing! Thanks to everyone who hosted a trunk or donated candy.



NOVEMBER

Birthdays

- 2 Amey Barnes, Liam Berson, Andrew Christopher, Reed Heine, Brielle 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
- 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
- 20 Tom and Shelley Brankner



Poinsettia Order Form

Deadline for ordering is December 16

If you would like to order a Poinsettia Plant in memory or in honor of someone, use the form below. Your plant will be used to decorate the sanctuary during the Christmas Season. Complete the order form below and return it to the church office. Orders will not be filled unless a check is included with the form. Check should be made out to Clinton Presbyterian Church, 91 Center Street, Clinton, NJ 08809 (\$15.00 for each plant). **Please do not place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning.**

I would like to order _____ plant(s) at \$15.00 per plant for a total of \$_____.

_____ pink _____ red _____ white

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____