

# Clinton Presbyterian Church

91 Center Street, Clinton NJ 08809

March 2021



Dear Friends,

On March 1, 2013, I began my call as Pastor of Clinton Presbyterian Church; 8 years ago today. They say time flies when you are having fun and I have found much joy in sharing in life and ministry with you – thank you!

Yet there is no doubt that this last year has been challenging for each of us in ways we could never have imagined. As I have said time and time again, I miss seeing your faces and worshipping together with you and am grateful that we are moving towards offering the option for in-person worship in the weeks ahead. As we prepare for that however I am well aware that our re-gathering will be a gradual one and not the great reunion we long for and imagine in our mind's eye. It will likely be quite some time before our pews are filled and every person we love is in one place. Please make whatever decisions seem right for you and your loved ones at this time and know that we are committed to providing worship options that are inclusive of every member of our church family.

Will be it perfect? Certainly not. Things will go sideways and have to be righted. There will be glitches with technology, frustrations with limitations and lots of opportunities for us to practice patience and kindness with one another. These will all be reminders that we are an imperfect church, made up of imperfect people, trying to love Jesus and love each other and love this community in which we have been planted. Let's keep doing those things, as imperfect as they may be, and as we do so may we commit our lives and the life of our beloved church to the care of the One who loves us each perfectly well.

And may there be great joy on the journey.

Grace and Peace to you,

Tracey

## Our Mission

Clinton Presbyterian Church is a welcoming congregation called to share Christ's love.



Welcoming to All

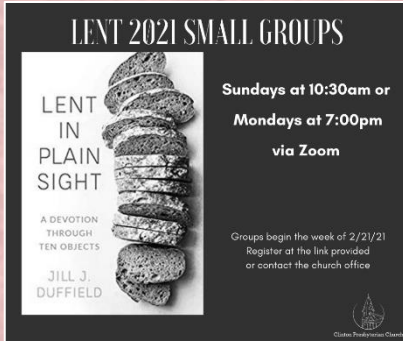


Growing in Faith



Serving with Love

[www.clintonpresbyterian.net](http://www.clintonpresbyterian.net)



## Lent 2021 Small Groups

### “Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion Through Ten Objects”

Small groups began meeting on February 21. If you have not yet registered, you can jump in with either meeting, Sunday mornings at 10:30am or Monday nights at 7:00pm. Join us via Zoom (see Sunday morning emails for login information).

Purchase the book here:

[Lent in Plain Sight: Duffield, Jill J.:](#)  
[9780664265465: Amazon.com: Books](#)

## Lent Devotionals

The Presbyterian Outlook has once again developed a Lenten Devotional which we are making available to you. Throughout the season of Lent, you will be invited to pray with one passage from Scripture each day and prompted to reflect on what it discloses to you about *movement toward God and movement away from God* in your life. These devotionals written by Roger Gench, Presbyterian pastor and author, will guide you in this daily practice of praying with Scripture. You can download the complete set here:

[Lenten Devotionals](#)

## Men's Lenten Study Group

Using *Lent in Plain Sight* as a guide (see above for book info), this group will meet on Saturday mornings from February 28 to March 28 in Fellowship Hall at 8:00am. Contact David Henry if you would like to be a part of the group, or just show up. Don't forget your mask!



Looking for a year-round devotional on the go? Visit [www.d365.org](http://www.d365.org) to download an app which will provide daily prompts for reading, listening and prayer!

## Holy Week Bags

To help our church family observe Holy Week while we are physically apart, Holy Week Bags will be available for distribution. Our hope is that these bags will be a blessing for your family. The bags are for everyone - not just for families with children! In the bag you will find a prayer square, Scripture readings, palm branches and other objects and daily activities to remember Jesus' entering Jerusalem, His Last Supper, His crucifixion, and our anticipation of new life at Easter through His Resurrection.

If you would like to order a Holy Week Bag for your household, please email the church office at [office4cpc@gmail.com](mailto:office4cpc@gmail.com) to reserve your bag no later than March 13. Bags will be available for pickup at the church on March 25, 26 and 27. If you are unable to pick up a bag at the church, please let Diane in the office know and we will try to arrange a delivery to you.

## Holy Week Services

Services for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be offered online. If you would like to participate in any way with these services, please contact Tracey and let her know ([tracey4cpc@gmail.com](mailto:tracey4cpc@gmail.com)).

## Easter Sunday at CPC

It is our prayerful hope to offer an *Outdoor Worship Service on Easter Sunday at 9:30am*. More details to follow in the days to come.

In addition, we will offer a **fully pre-recorded Easter Worship service on our YouTube Channel** on Easter Sunday which we hope will be a blessing to many.







## Session Update

A note about in-person worship at CPC:

As Session met on Tuesday, February 16, we were encouraged by the convergence of decreasing COVID-19 numbers in our county and an increase in the availability of vaccines. While we know there are still many miles to travel as we move towards a new normal, we name the hope of these days.

At this time, we plan to continue to offer *online worship only through the season of Lent and Holy Week* and, should the numbers in our area continue to trend in the right direction, it is our prayerful hope that we will be able to offer *an outdoor worship service on Easter Sunday morning*. We will also make a *fully pre-recorded Easter worship service* available on our YouTube channel.

On the Sundays after Easter, we will offer an abbreviated in-person worship service each Sunday, following the same guidelines we established in the fall. For a period of time, we will continue to also offer a pre-recorded worship service, with the goal of moving to a fully live-streamed service from the sanctuary by late spring.

As we have learned time and time again in the last 11 months, the road we are walking is not always a straight one; there may be twists and turns along the way and we once again ask for your grace and flexibility as we do our best to guide our church family faithfully in this season. Though our plans may change, in this Lenten season and beyond, God's promise of peace and presence through these uncharted waters remains, so then *"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful."*

Hebrews 10:23



## Online Cheese Tasting Sunday, March 21 @ 4PM

Are you planning ahead for your Easter Sunday menu?

If so, don't miss this opportunity.

Our friends at Fourchette of Clinton will provide tasting trays and join us on Zoom.

For zoom meeting information, see our weekly Sunday email.

**Join us to sample some delicious cheeses!**

Cost: \$20 for 1 person/\$30 for a tray that serves 2.

RVSP to the church office [office4cpc@gmail.com](mailto:office4cpc@gmail.com) by March 13.

## Winter Walk

Thanks to the deacons for organizing a winter walk! It was great to catch up with friends.

Keep an eye on Facebook for more opportunities as Spring melts the snow!



## Children's Ministry Pre-K thru 5th Grade Sunday School

We miss our Sunday School kids. Connecting virtually, though, doesn't mean we're not having fun! Even on Zoom, we can paint and glue and decorate. On Valentine's Day, Ms. Sharon hosted a virtual craft, helping us create candy photo frames. Ms. Judi shared a valentine prayer and a story (*God is Love* by Amy Parker). When we are with our kids, in person or on screen, there is no shortage of smiles. Children's Ministry sends a big "thank you" to Jes Bruno, Sharon Holmsborg, Pastor Tracey, Judi Sifuentes and Adrienne Hodulik for organizing our time together.



### Are you getting "egg-cited"?

We are hoping to gather in-person for an outdoor PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade family Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 27. We requested RSVPs by March 1 so we may best prepare in accordance with safety guidelines. For those who RSVP'd, details will be sent to you once they are finalized. Plans are subject to change but we're crossing our bunny ears for a bit of Easter fun!

We continue with our weekly Sunday School emails to keep connected until we are able to open our classrooms once again.

### Outdoor Family Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 27 (time TBD) Ages 3 through 5th grade with their parents

Details and exact time frames are still being finalized. COVID precautions will be in place - please wear a mask. If your family would like to join in the fun, please register by March 1 by emailing the church office at [office4cpc@gmail.com](mailto:office4cpc@gmail.com). Please include number of children attending, any allergy information and your preference for either an actual egg hunt or a drive-through option (your family would pick up a bag of Easter treats). We continue with our weekly Sunday School emails to keep connected until we are able to open our classrooms once again.



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### Looks like everyone had fun participating in the Craft Event!







## CHAOS Youth Group

We are a year into staying-at-home and are continually blown away by the loyalty, community, and fun we are able to foster together on Zoom with our CHAOS Crew! Our virtual Sunday night youth group time has been so amazing! See Sunday morning emails for Zoom login information. Come hang out with us on the first and third Sundays of each month, depending on holidays – we're continuing with fun, games, fellowship – we are diving into Lent together, talking about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit and how our lives can be impacted by them.

All 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join in the fun on Sunday nights.

We have a new time frame to gather:

6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grades will be together 7:00 pm-7:30 pm

8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades will gather 7:30 pm-8:00 pm.

We're seriously having so much fun & we are so grateful to have y'all along for the ride with us! Though we cannot be together in person now, we are having fun gathering virtually and look forward to the days we can be together again!

Follow us on Instagram! @chaosyouthministry

### CHAOS Schedule:

March 7 – CHAOS

March 21 – CHAOS

April 4 – No CHAOS –  
Happy Easter!

April 18 - CHAOS

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# Preschool

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We have been having *snow* much fun at preschool! With so much cold and snow we have taken the opportunity to use what the weather has provided to learn something new each day. We have been snow painting, examining icicles, pinecones, and evergreen branches with a magnifying glass, reading snow stories, taking nature walks and of course playing with and getting to know our new friends.

Registration is open for the 2021-2022 school year.

Classes for three year olds are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-12:00pm. Monthly tuition is \$220

Classes for four year olds are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00- 12:00pm. Monthly tuition is \$260

Our registration form can be found on our website - <https://www.clintonpresbyterian.net/admissions>.

Completed forms can be mailed or dropped off at the preschool office.

For more information, please contact Adrienne Hodulik at [preschool4cpc@gmail.com](mailto:preschool4cpc@gmail.com)





# FEBRUARY 2021



# WORSHIP AT CPC



## March Birthdays

- 2 Tristen Dornbusch, Patty Heffner,  
Micahel Penyak, Fred Sifuentes
- 3 Courtney Morrisette
- 6 Christina Schlegel
- 7 Tom Hodulik
- 8 Colin Twigg
- 9 Abigail Thompson
- 10 Kara Wehrenberg, Jeri Twigg
- 11 Sharon Rosenberg
- 13 Brielle Madriz
- 15 Dorothy Battaglia
- 16 Lauren Edelsberg
- 17 Jeremy Barnes
- 18 Elijah Sudol
- 21 Karen Heine
- 23 Kyle Lundeen
- 24 Abby Jenkin
- 26 Alex Westlin
- 27 Kelby Heffner, 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



## Per Capita for 2021

The 2021 Per Capita apportionment for each member of CPC is \$41. This is the amount that we remit to the Presbytery of Elizabeth each year.

You may satisfy your family's per capita contribution by:

Writing a check and mailing it to the Church office (Note "Per Capita" in the memo line),

OR

Giving through our online donation site and writing "Per Capita" in the notes box at the bottom of the page. The link to give online can be found on our website

[www.clintonpresbyterian.net](http://www.clintonpresbyterian.net). Just click on the "Giving" tab at the top right and then click on "Give Now".

Thanks for helping us reach our goal in 2021!

## Treasurer's Report Summary for January 2021

	January	YTD Actual	Budget YTD
Income	\$21,149	\$21,149	\$29,746
Expense	<u>\$35,722</u>	<u>\$35,722</u>	<u>\$33,884</u>
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$14,573)	(\$14,573)	(\$4,138)