

Clinton Presbyterian Church

May 2021

91 Center Street Clinton NJ 08809



Dear CPC Family,

Did you catch the amazing double rainbow that appeared over our area last week? David snapped this photo from our back door, as it stretched over our neighbors' home. I cannot recall seeing such large rainbows with such vibrant colors in quite some time.

The rainbow has long been a symbol of God's promise to remember us. This particular storm which we have been weathering has been long and seemingly relentless. How grateful I was for this perfectly timed reminder in the sky last week. God sees us. God remembers us. God loves us.

As we begin to emerge from a long and difficult season, finding safe ways to gather with family, with friends and with each other as spring gives way to summer, may God continue to gift us with these gracious reminders of tender care.

Grace and Peace,

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

UPCOMING

in Worship

May 2 Communion Sunday – online and in-person

If you are worshipping online, gather elements ahead of time so that you can share in the sacrament from home. In person communion will be served in individually sealed cups. *Amey Barnes* will help lead us in song.

Scripture: John 15:1-8

May 9 Mother's Day

Mari Green will join us as a guest musician both online and in-person and *Julia Morrissette* and some of our younger kids will also lead us in song!

Scripture: John 16:9-17

May 16 Ascension Sunday

Dave Rimelis will join us as a guest musician both online and in person this week. If you attended our Fellowship at Five Services last Summer you will remember this talent! Dave will be joined by our Steve Battaglia.

Scripture: Acts 1:1-11

May 23 Pentecost Sunday

A familiar face will return worship this week – *Gary Ross*! Providing music for both services, Gary will help us welcome the Spirit anew as we celebrate Pentecost. We will also welcome New Members at the outdoor service this Sunday.

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

May 30 Trinity Sunday

Join us as we give thanks for the love of God: Father Son and Holy Spirit and as we pause to remember all those servicewomen and men who have given their lives in the service of this nation.

Sunday Worship

We are worshipping both online and outdoors each Sunday!

Online Services will be available by 9:30am each Sunday morning, but you can watch them any time. Ted continues to work with our talented musicians to create inspiring music which helps us to worship God with joy from week to week. If you would like to sing, read scripture, share some good news or lead a children's conversation, please be in touch!

Outdoor Services will be offered each Sunday morning at CPC, weather permitting. You don't need to make a reservation, just show up and praise God together with church friends. Following the children's conversation each week, outdoor childcare is provided for the kids. At this time we are asking that you bring your own chair and wear a mask. If you want to lead us in song, help with tech set up, lead a children's conversation, read scripture or participate in some other way, we would love to hear from you!

Want to help with worship?

Sign up here to read Scripture:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoC4EACAE2FAoFBCE9-liturgists1>

Sign up here to lead a Children's Conversation:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoC4EACAE2FAoFBCE9-lead>

Willing to help with outdoor childcare?

Contact the church office to get on the schedule.

office4cpc@gmail.com

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to serve you all this past year! It has been a blessing getting to know many of you, preparing different recordings for worship, and getting involved with your young people. This was certainly a weird year to do a church internship, but thanks to this wonderful congregation, I was able to make the most of it! I wish I would have been able to meet all of you, but for those I was able to meet in person or online, thank you for welcoming me into your lives.

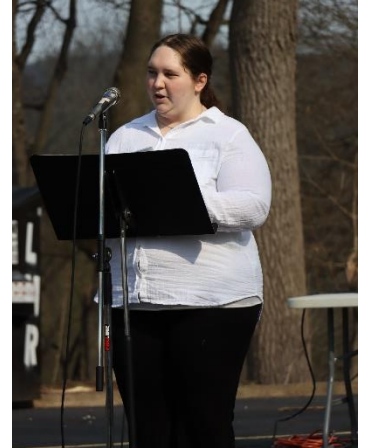
I am grateful for your prayers and love. I pray that you will continue to grow your amazing ministries and continue to serve the wonderful people of Clinton and surrounding communities for years to come! I look forward to visiting once things are back to normal!

Peace,

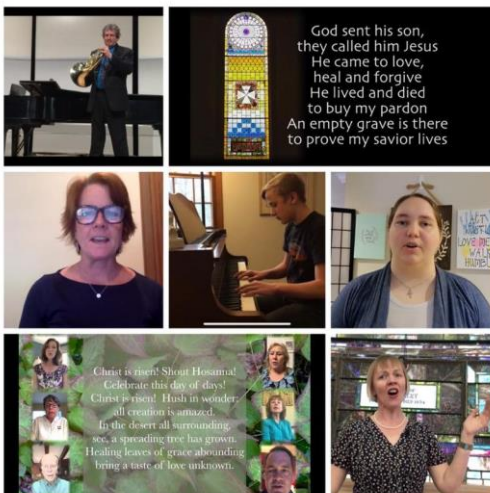
Kristy Woodrow



Outdoor Easter Worship – April 4, 2021



Scenes from Online Worship



Updates on Building Needs

As communicated in early April, we will be worshipping outdoors while we take care of repairing the plaster ceiling in the sanctuary. This is a big undertaking and we want to share more information with you about this project and other building needs which are currently under review. Please keep your eyes peeled for an informational video to arrive in your inbox in early May.

To address any questions or concerns we are also hosting two **Informational Sessions** via Zoom for you to learn more.

May 13 and May 19 at 7pm via Zoom.

Contact the church office at office4cpc@gmail.com for zoom link, etc.



New Members' Class Monday May 17 at 7pm

Interested in finding out more about CPC or ready to join our church family? Join us for this informal class. You'll have an opportunity to ask any questions you might have and you'll also get to hear from some of our leadership about their life at CPC.

Contact Tracey (tracey4cpc@gmail.com) with any questions.

Contact the church office at office4cpc@gmail.com for zoom link, etc.

New members will be received in worship on Sunday, May 23rd.



A **Congregational Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, May 23 at 10:45 am** for the purposes of voting on the loan to be secured from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program. Please plan to join us on Zoom or if you are with us for in-person worship that day, join us in Fellowship Hall.

Contact the church office at office4cpc@gmail.com for zoom link, etc.



Presbytery Transition

In January 2020, a transition working group commenced work to dissolve the seven New Jersey presbyteries (Elizabeth, Monmouth, New Brunswick, Newark, Newton, Palisades and West Jersey) and create four presbyteries identified by region (South, Central, Northwest and Northeast). The names of the new presbyteries would be self-determined. The purpose of this reorganization was to change the structure and function of presbytery by moving away from the model that centers on administrative organization towards a missional community that empowers congregations and ministries to “be the church” with fewer separate entities and greater collaboration.

In October 2020, the Elizabeth Presbytery (of which CPC was a member congregation) voted to accept the invitation to join the Northwest region presbytery. As of March 1, 2021, the Elizabeth Presbytery dissolved and CPC officially became a member of the Northwest region presbytery, which has chosen the name “The Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey”. The Presbytery is located on Route 10 West in Randolph.

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

We are wrapping up one of our most unique Sunday School years to date.

We are grateful for technology that enabled us to stay connected through this uncertain year. Thanks to email and Zoom, we provided Sunday School lessons each week. We learned about "The Fruit of the Spirit," shared Advent and the Christmas story, introduced multiple Bible stories using *Illustrated Ministry's* devotionals, and focused on prayer (how to pray and what to pray about). Our CPC children participated in online worship through the year and last fall presented our first ever virtual Children's Sunday.

We had both virtual and in-person outdoor fun over the months. From our pumpkin decorating bash and November kids' lunch at the Manse to our February Zoom craft event and our Easter egg hunt on CPC's front lawn.... These were special times that brightened our pandemic days. With warmer weather on its way, we're looking forward to some summer fun with our Sunday School family. We'll keep you posted.



To accommodate our children during in-person worship this summer and our hopeful return to Sunday School classrooms this fall, we need your help. We are looking for both **nursery volunteers** and **Sunday School teachers (PreK-5th grade)**. We can't have childcare without adult supervision and we can't offer classes without teachers! Everyone is busy, but these are not weekly commitments. Nursery and Sunday School are set up on a rotating schedule. To assist in the nursery during Sunday worship, contact Judi Sifuentes. To join the teaching team, contact Cathy Edelsberg.

CHAOS Youth Group

We have had a super fun April with our CHAOS Crew! We finished out our Lent discussions in March and were able to gather safely, in person (outdoors) in April at the manse! S'mores were had, volleyball games were won, cornhole was conquered and great fun was had by all!

We are excited to be participating in the Flemington Area Food Pantry Farmers Market on June 19th. We will be collecting donations to make "Kid Kits" to hand out to local families the day of the market. A list of items we are collecting will be shared online – we hope to have your support on this project! Keep an eye out for more details!

Our CHAOS schedule is below. All 6th-12th graders are invited to join in the fun on Sunday nights. On May 2nd, we will be meeting outside at the church. From **6:15 – 7:15, 6th & 7th graders will gather** for some fun socially-distanced outdoor games. Then, from **7:15 – 8:15, the 8th – 12th grades will meet** at the church to venture into town for some treats ☺!

We're seriously having so much fun & we are so grateful to have y'all along for the ride with us!

CHAOS Schedule:

May 2 – CHAOS (see specific times above)

May 16 – CHAOS (all gathering together for our last "traditional" CHAOS meet up)

June 19 – Flemington Area Food Pantry Farmers Market

Follow us on Instagram! @chaosyouthministry



Our Graduates



In a few weeks, we will be recognizing our graduates – middle school, high school and college. Is your son or daughter graduating this year? Please let us know!

Middle school graduates – name, which school

High school graduates – name, which high school graduating from, attending college? if so, where?

College graduates – name, which college?

Information can be emailed to Diane in the church office at

office4cpc@gmail.com. Please respond by May 12th. Thank you.

MISSION

Help Wanted!

Looking for a person or small team to lead an effort to help our community members who are living in hotels

We have a volunteer opportunity for an individual, family, or small group to help our community members living in hotels. For all those newly housed in hotels for any reason, we would like to provide them with a small starter kit of supplies to make them more comfortable. Supplies include things like: plates, bowls, utensils, can opener, and paper towels.

In partnership with the Flemington Area Food Pantry we've come up with an established list of items that should be placed in a reusable bag. We estimate that we'll need about 3-4 bags on hand at all times and as of now, a bag is needed about once every two - three weeks. The bags can be delivered either to the individual at the hotel or to the Flemington Area Food Pantry.

More information on what should be included, how items can be delivered, and ideas for how to collect and organize the items is available if you're interested. If you'd like to take this on or even if you just have some questions, please contact Colleen Duerr.

Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you to all who donated and helped out at the April 26 blood drive for the American Red Cross. We had 34 individuals participate, 6 deferrals, 2 double red cell procedures (1 was a single), and we collected 29 productive units which will provide for 87 hospital patients.

We will be hosting another blood drive for the American Red Cross on Wednesday, June 2 from 11 am – 4 pm. To encourage donations during this critical timeframe, all donors from May 28 through June 13 will receive a Red Cross T-shirt.

Red Cross will routinely screen for Covid-19 antibodies. Red Cross donors can expect to receive the results of their antibody test within 7 to 10 days through the Red Cross Blood Donor App or on our donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org – [Red Cross Covid-19 Antibody Testing](#).

To register go to www.redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code ClintonPres

Please bring a photo id and remember to eat a healthy breakfast and drink plenty of fluids before donating!

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Red Cross at 800.733.2767.



Mission Team Looking for New Members!

Thank you for your generous support over the years, without you, we wouldn't be able to serve the organizations and communities that we do.

If you are interested in continuing our efforts to support those in need by being part of the Mission team, please reach out to Colleen Duerr.

Local Volunteer Opportunity!

We are planning to gather a small group of volunteers to help with some landscaping at the Anderson House (Whitehouse Station).

This will be a COVID safe volunteer opportunity, as we will be outdoors and can easily socially distance and wear masks.

Once we have a small group of volunteers, we will set up a specific date and time. We are planning to help out on a Sunday over the next few weeks.

If you are interested in helping out, please reach out to Christina Schlegel.



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 David Henry, Joey Perez, Rob Plimpton
- 11 Steve Battaglia
- 13 Horace Buchanan, Meredith Nuzzo, Jayden Rosario
- 14 Lucas Bardecker
- 15 Carey Bell, Chris Blaus
- 17 Westley Carver
- 18 Katherine Spencer
- 19 Raymond Paul
- 21 Norman LaValette, Caleb Schlegel
- 22 Mary Joan Barr
- 23 Jenny Kunzman
- 24 Norma Eichlin
- 25 Maggie Bell, Andrew Kvarata
- 26 Lauren Kreutel
- 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

Deacon Update

We are continuing to regularly check in with our flocks to make sure everyone is doing all right.

Here is a list of your Deacons, for your reference:

David Henry – Letters A, N, O

Barb Pearson – Letters Ba - Bi

Andrew Kvarata – Letters Bl – Bu

Betty Ann Dhein – Letter C & H

Laurel Kelly – Letters D & E

Stephanie Ramos-Dominko – Letters F, G, V, & W

Robin Meyh – Letters I, J & K

Wendy Morrissette – Letter L

Rick Hyman – Letter M

Colin Bruno – Letter P

Barb Plundeke – Letters Q, R & T

Jim Pustai - Letter S

Thank you all for those who so willingly provided meals to Sharon Rosenberg. Also, thank you to everyone who has volunteered to bring meals to Ino Sowder. We are blessed to have such a wonderful caring church community!

Treasurer's Report Summary

	March	YTD Actual	Budget YTD
Income	\$37,936	\$77,239	\$89,238
Expense	\$30,046	\$93,153	\$101,650
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$7,890	(\$15,914)	(\$12,412)