



News from CPC May 2023

Updates and Highlights
from
Clinton Presbyterian Church

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

If you were in church this past Sunday, perhaps the childhood rhyme (and accompanying hand motions!) are still running through your mind:

*"Here is the church, here is the steeple,
Open the doors and see all the people!"*

We have been working hard over this last year to renovate and renew our church building and this summer we will embark on the next phase of our capital campaign work, focusing on the classrooms, bathrooms and signage. This ongoing work is made possible only through your continued generosity -thank you! Join us in worship on Sunday, May 21 to hear more details about the journey so far and what lies ahead.

We are committed to the restoration and upkeep of our church building as a homebase for the mission and ministry of the church - the people of God. In the pages of this newsletter, I invite you to "open the doors and see all the people." The people of God serving, giving, loving, sharing and reflecting Christ to one another and to all those around.

The church of Jesus Christ on Center Street is growing and blessed. I thank God for each and every one of you.

Grace and Peace to you,

Tracey

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Clinton Presbyterian Church
www.clintonpresbyterian.net

Sunday Morning Worship

Upcoming in Worship

May 7

Communion Sunday

May 14

Confirmation Sunday

5 CPC high schoolers will share their commitments of faith with us.

May 21

Reception of New Members
and
All Church Picnic

May 28

Pentecost Sunday



Quinn Amelia Hansen, daughter of Michael and Brielle Hansen was baptized on April 23. Welcome to the Family of God, Quinn!

Our Church Family is Growing!

Our next new members class will be on Thursday, May 18 at 730pm via Zoom. Interested in joining us? Email Tracey at tracey4cpc@gmail.com. New Members will be received during worship on Sunday, May 21.

Want to Help with Worship?

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 Hodulik



New Opportunity for Kids - Serve as an Acolyte!
We still have a few slots to fill. [Sign up here.](#)



Summer Nursery

Volunteer Opportunity

If you enjoy children, playdoh, toys and fun, please consider volunteering in the Nursery this summer (now through Sept). Each week, a pair of volunteers supervise and play with our CPC youngsters during the church service. Volunteers usually serve 1-2 Sundays per season.

Please contact Kim Darcy to join our amazing nursery team of volunteers.

If you already volunteer - Thanks!!

Palm Sunday and Holy Week

Palm Sunday was filled with joy from beginning to end. From the shouts of Hosanna from our Children's Chorus, to the joyful peels of our talented Bell Choir to the chatter of friends serving together in Fellowship Hall, it was a wonderful morning. If you missed it you can watch the service [here](#). For a full recap of our Palm Sunday Service projects, please see page 11.



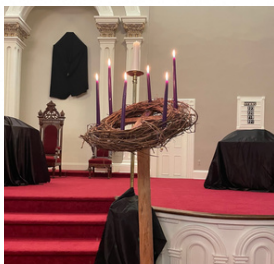
Maundy Thursday

Around tables, we shared in a simple soup supper and then remembered Christ's command to serve one another as we joined in hand and feet washing. We ended our time together with communion. Thanks to our Elders and Deacons for serving us and to our Fellowship and Member Care Team for providing such a lovely supper.



Good Friday

In the morning, our children colored, sang, prayed and listened as we recalled the sadness of Good Friday, but remembered that God's love is stronger than all. In the evening, during a somber Tenebrae service our Chancel Choir and musicians invited us to pause and remember Christ's sacrifice.



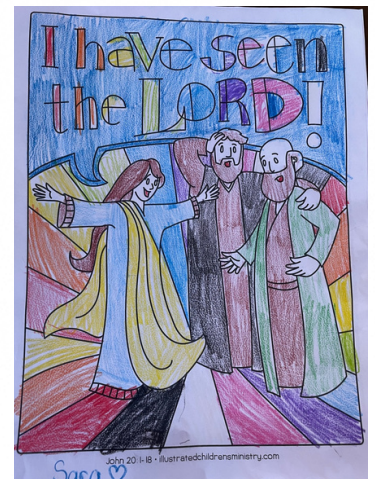
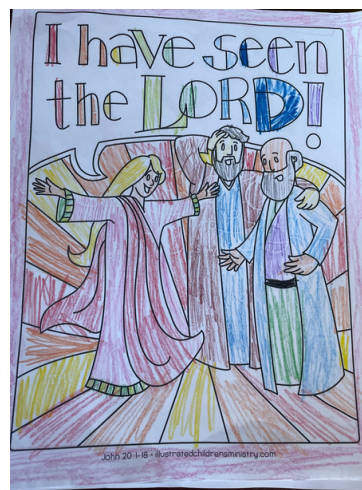
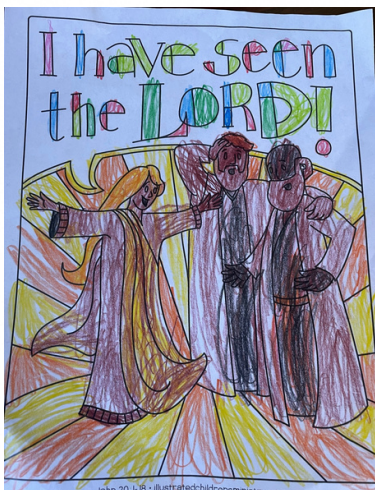
Easter Sunday

We praised the Risen Christ with shouts of Hallelujah on Easter Morning and remembered the shortest Easter sermon ever – “I have seen the Lord!” Where have you seen the Lord? Tell others about it!

Deepest gratitude to our musicians, AV technicians, Worship team, Elders and Deacons for their joyful service through the Lent and Easter season.



During Easter Sunday Worship our children were busy with some artwork to help us remember to tell others "I have seen the Lord" - over 25 little artists took part!



Music Ministry

There have been several exciting developments in the CPC Music Ministry recently:

Paul Morrissette and Matt Hodulik offered to turn a vision of mine into reality. I envisioned a level platform for the Praise Team to sing from that would clean up the mess of mic wires that we all were tripping on for many years. Tom Brankner installed electrical outlets on the platform sides and Paul and Matt threaded a "snake" with 12 channels of audio from the platform, through the basement (the "dungeon") back to the AV desk. I can't thank these men enough! They spent much of March and early April taking measurements, constructing the multi-sectioned platform, installing wiring and electronics, and installing carpeting and painting the uncarpeted portions so that we'd have a finished product by Easter.

They succeeded! If you get a chance, mosey over to the left front corner of the sanctuary and take a look at their excellent handiwork!

Another upgrade has been the addition of several new chancel choir members. Larry and Janet Boyd, Mary Morgan, Stan Christman (a former member who has had health challenges but is back with us), Rick Klippstein, and Laurel Kelly are all new to the chancel choir and have added volume and heft to our sound, as I hope you've noticed! There are a few prospective members, Pete and Marg Peterson, who, after meeting the friendly and fun group that is the Chancel Choir, might grace us with their talent.



Chancel Choir continues to rehearse weekly until mid-June then we will sing once a month during the summer.

If you've been toying with the idea of singing in either the Chancel Choir or Praise Team, this might be a perfect time for you to try it out. Praise Team will continue to rehearse through the summer on an as-needed basis, usually on Saturday mornings. There will be monthly outdoor services in June, July and August if the weather cooperates.

I'll have more information on those services once Tracey and I plan the music for them.

Ted Brancato
Music Director

Stay tuned for other exciting musical projects on the not-too-distant horizon!

Children's Ministry

Pre-K thru 7th Grade Sunday School

We turn our calendars to May, so grateful for the joy brought by our CPC children during the Easter season. **They sang.** After their palm procession and loud "Hosannas," they opened Palm Sunday worship with All Things Bright and Beautiful. **They served.** They joined adults for a Palm Sunday morning of community service projects in Fellowship Hall. **They gathered.** Eighteen children joined us on Good Friday for story time, an Easter craft, and a snack.

They continue to serve. You will see our children participating in worship, tending to the lighting and extinguishing of our sanctuary candles. We recently reinstated our Acolyte ministry, open to children third grade and up. To sign up to serve,



Sunday School Schedule for Pre-K through Grade 7

May 7

Last day of Sunday School

May 14

Mother's Day:

Kids, give your moms extra hugs!

May 21

All-Church Picnic -Fun for all ages!

May 28

No Sunday School

Classes will resume in September.

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 – 4th Grade

Kim Darcy, Adrienne Hodulik, Judi Sifuentes,
Cathy Edelsberg

5th- 7th Grade

Jim Dornbusch and Ben Dougherty

To those who jumped in to substitute when needed:

Thank you! We appreciate you too!



THANK YOU TO OUR
SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS



See Page 8
to register for VBS!

Children's Ministry

Share
the Love

with our CPC kids!

We are looking for Sunday School teachers for the fall.

Don't consider yourself a teacher?

How about a **COACH?**

How about a **GUIDE?**

How about a **MENTOR?**

How about simply someone with a little of God's love to share?

Have you seen our ever-growing number of kids on the pulpit steps during the Children's Conversation? Did you catch a glimpse of all the children streaming down our aisles for the Palm Sunday palm procession? They are God's children. They are **our** children, and we are charged with caring for them. Please consider being a part of our Sunday School team. No special skills required - just the love of Jesus and our church kids.

To join the teaching team, contact Judi Sifuentes

To assist in the nursery during worship, contact Kim Darcy



Serving others
with a
joyful heart!

Joy Scouts is an outreach group connecting CPC families and children to a wide variety of volunteer opportunities in the community. The Joy Scouts have at least one community service project a month. Check out our group facebook page for all the latest!

Mark your calendars for springtime flower planting at the Anderson House on **Sunday, May 7th, at 2:00pm**. On **June 3rd**, we will be assisting Creature Comforts with therapy dog certification assessments from 9-11:00 in Morristown, ages 6+. It is a must for dog lovers!

Email Abby Dougherty for more information.



Joy Scouts cleaning up
the Columbia Trail
in High Bridge.



Youth Ministry

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 date: May 7

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

For more information contact
Maggie Bell



These 5 students will be confirmed on Sunday, May 14:
Derek, Justin and Trevor Annese, Maggie and Tommy Sauers.
Plan to join us as we celebrate their commitments of faith.



Summer Camp at Camp Johnsonburg

If you are looking for sleepaway camps for your kids and teen this summer, check out Camp Johnsonburg. At Camp Jburg, kids will live in a diverse community with people gathered from all over the world, and be loved for who they are. They will spend time outside, in the fresh air, detached from computers, cell phones and other devices, and enjoy making new friends. They will have real conversations about life, nature, faith, and God in small groups as they learn from positive young adult role models who are fun, enthusiastic and love kids.



Camps are available for elementary kids and middle and high school students. Learn more about camp options at www.campjburg.org.



Fellowship and Summer Fun



We are excited to let you know that **Food Truck Party** is coming to you this **July 17th-21st!!**

We will be holding it in the evenings again this year from 5:30-8:00pm and will end the week with a fun Family Night on Friday evening! Dinner will be served each night, so no need to worry about making dinner all week. Registration is now **OPEN** and we would love to see you there!

[Register here!](#)



or



Save The Date - CPC All Church Picnic

Join us for a fun filled church picnic following worship on **Sunday, May 21st.**

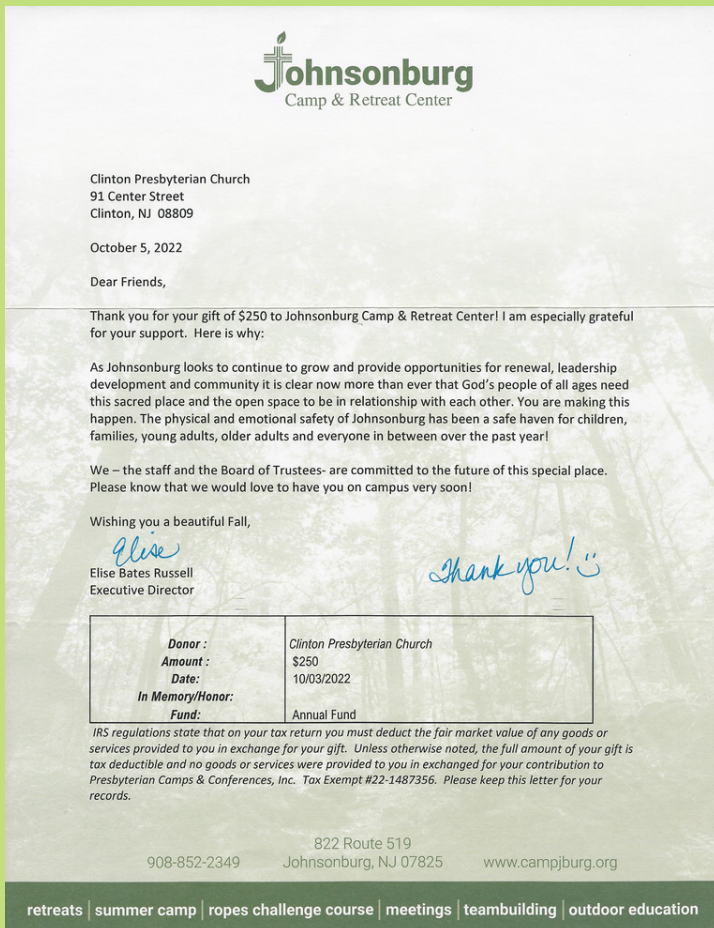
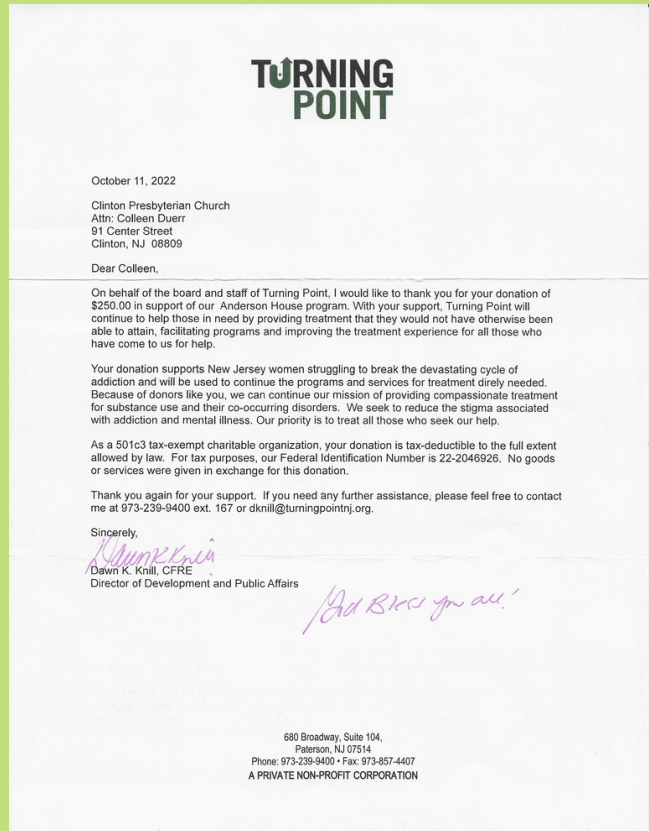
Games, food, fellowship and fun will be had by all!

A sign up will go out to the congregation in early May, so keep an eye out.



Our Community Impact

The Mission team would like to share the wonderful thank you messages we have received from our 2022 disbursements to organizations. The disbursements served both local organizations (74%) and national / international organizations (26%). 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!



Mission



Thank you to all who served on Palm Sunday!
Service projects: we made 60 meals for Flemington Food Pantry, 100 hygiene kits for City Relief, 30 lunch sacks for Meals on Wheels, 80 dog toys for St. Hubert's, 25 snack bags for SAFE in Hunterdon and collected 300+ coupons for use by Service women and men!



Family Promise Golf Outing



Family Promise
of Hunterdon County

GOLF CLASSIC

JUNE 5, 2023
HERON GLEN GOLF COURSE
HERON GLEN DR, RINGOES, 08551

Registration Opens at 8:00am
Scramble Shot Gun Start Begins at 9:00am

Registration fee includes:	Awards for:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 holes of golf• Range balls• Cart• Refreshments• Barbecue lunch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hole-In-One Contest• 1st Place Team• 2nd Place Team• 3rd Place Team• Longest Drives• Closest to the Pin

Please visit our website for golf registration and sponsorship opportunities:
<https://www.heronglen.com/familypromise/>



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT FAMILY PROMISE OF HUNTERDON COUNTY. A RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT CENTER THAT CARES FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.



Calling all golfers!
Grab your clubs
and hit the greens
in support of
our mission partners,
Family Promise.
To register,
visit their website.



CPC Deacons

Need a Helping Hand? Reach out to your Deacons

Need help with a project around the house or in the yard that is just too big for you? Give us a call and we'll jump in to help! Going through a busy or transitional time in your life and feeling overwhelmed? We'd love to provide you with some meals to make the days easier. Need a ride to an appointment but can't find an Uber in all of Hunterdon County? You know who to call! Our deacons are here to serve you in any way we can. We are always praying for you as we gather together. If you have a specific need that we can hold in prayer, please let us know.



March Deacon of the month - Tracey Bardecker

Earth Day, April 22 from the Deacon of the Month

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. Genesis 2:15

We all need to be most concerned for our environment. God created the world and entrusted humanity to protect it.

Every day should be Earth Day! We all should work together to learn about and remember the importance of protecting health and the environment we all share!

On April 15, I had the fabulous opportunity of working along side my favorite people in church...The Joy Scouts. Myself, along with parent chaperones descended upon the Columbia Trail in High Bridge. Our goal was to make a beautiful place even more beautiful by picking up whatever garbage we could find. With gloves on bags in hand, we all walked a couple miles and found as much as we could.

It was a wonderful experience with the kids, and I learned quickly they are much better at climbing and bending than I am. I look forward to joining them again on another adventure, helping our community. I know they would welcome your help anytime!

About me

I have been a Deacon for a little over two years and enjoy my responsibilities! I enjoy volunteering in church whenever I can. The church book club is a favorite-it's a great and AWESOME group of ladies. I have also been a chaperone when the kids come from Philadelphia to attend the 4H fair-it's always the hottest day of the year and I wouldn't miss it. The Relief Bus is another enjoyment and a blessing.

I have worked full-time in town for the past 20 years. I am a Guardian with Volunteer Guardianship of Hunterdon for the past 2 years. You will always find me outside when it's nice -hiking, running, biking, snow-shoeing and time at the gym.

My son Lucas is a full-time fire fighter in Arlington, VA and my daughter Emily is working in FL. Life is good. My children are happy and healthy, I enjoy my free time, as well as giving back in any way I can.

Preschool



April days at Clinton Presbyterian Preschool were filled with Easter and springtime activities! At Stay and Play, our three-year-olds painted beautiful watercolor Easter eggs. The Easter Bunny hid eggs in our playground and surprised the children with many colorful eggs. Ms Judy read bunny stories to our threes and fours and shared with us her favorite bunnies from home. We learned the song, "Jesus' Love is Very Wonderful" and heard the Easter story from Pastor Tracey who told it to us using an Easter Story Egg. Fireman Paul (Madelyn's daddy) came in to visit with our 4s and told us about what being a firefighter was like. We continue to use our letter, number and shape skills as we sow seeds, grow plants and observe the life cycle of painted lady butterflies in our classroom. (More on that next month!).



Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 school year.

For more details [CLICK HERE](#)

Help us spread the word!

May Birthdays

- 1 Larry Kursar
- 4 Pete Peterson
- 5 Deirdre Blaus, Ava Kvarata, Koppany Pusztai,
Margaret and Thomas Sauers, Elizabeth Seiffert
- 6 Scott Schipmann
- 7 Mark Holmsborg
- 9 Juliet Warren
- 10 Joseph Darocha, David Henry, Joey Perez, Rob Plimpton
- 12 Molly Darocha
- 13 Meredith Nuzzo, Jayden Rosario
- 15 Carey Bell, Chris Blaus
- 17 Westley Carver
- 19 Abby Dougherty, Raymond Paul
- 20 Lauren Farese
- 21 Norman LaValette, Caleb Schlegel
- 23 Beth Grover, Lori Houseal, Jenny Kunzman
- 24 Norma Eichlin
- 25 Maggie Bell, Andrew Kvarata
- 26 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

