

CPC review of our Ministries, Events & Activities



Clinton Presbyterian Church

Fall 2023

www.clintonpresbyterian.net

Welcome to our Fall Program Guide

Dear Friends,

Grab a cup of coffee and your calendar. Plan out your Fall with Clinton Presbyterian at the center. Serving others, growing in faith, finding joy as we do it all together in the name of Christ.

Our church is thriving and the Spirit is at work. Use this guide to help you find your way to meaningful engagement here.

In hope,
Pastor Tracey

Sunday Worship

This fall we will continue to offer worship both in-person and online on Sundays at 9:30 am. 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.

Core Values

We are grateful for God's grace which allows us to be:

Welcoming to All

Our doors and our arms are open to all who would join us on this journey of faith.

Growing in Faith

at every age and stage of life we recognize the importance of nurturing faith development.

Serving with Love

we embrace opportunities for mission.



Bring your backpacks to church on Sunday, August 27th for a special Blessing of the Backpacks.



WELCOME BACK SUNDAY!

Sunday September 10
Worship: 9:30am
Breakfast Bash: 1030am

Clinton Presbyterian
91 Center Street

Join us on Sunday, September 10th, as we come together in worship to begin the Fall season together. After worship we'll head outside (weather permitting!) for an all-church breakfast filled with delicious food.



Music at CPC



The **Praise Team** leads us in contemporary music in worship. They rehearse on Saturday mornings at 10 am. **Rehearsals begin on September 16.** Singers and musicians are always invited to join this team and use their gifts to praise God.

The **Chancel Choir** sings approximately twice a month from September through May. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm, **beginning September 20.** The choir engages a variety of styles of music including classical, gospel and modern. Experience reading music is helpful. You do not have to be a member of CPC to join the chancel choir and no audition is necessary. Please join us as we seek to glorify God through music.

The **Bell Choir** will present a musical offering twice this fall, on Sunday, October 15 and on Sunday, December 3. Watch the bulletin for more details on rehearsals. Bell Choir is open to people over the age of 10, as long as they can count! No musical knowledge is needed.

At CPC, our **Children's Chorus** offers songs throughout the year. All kids from Preschool through 6th grade are welcome to join. Rehearsals are scheduled during the Sunday School hour. Children's Chorus offering dates for the upcoming year: Christmas Pageant - December 17, Christmas Eve 5pm service, Children's Sunday - February 11, 2024 and Palm Sunday - March 24.

Singers and instrumentalists of all ages are encouraged to share their musical gifts throughout the year! Please let Ted (ted4cpc@gmail.com) know how and when you would like to participate.

We love children at CPC! Children are always welcome to stay in worship with their families.

You will find "Busy Bags" at the front and the back of the sanctuary filled with quiet activities for little hands. Each week we have a special Children's Conversation during worship.

Children ages 6 and under are welcome to go to the nursery following this time or remain in the sanctuary. Nursery care is provided for infants for the entirety of the worship service should parents desire it.



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

Acolyte Ministry - Our children and youth in grades 3 and up will have the opportunity to serve as an Acolyte in our weekly worship service.

Click on this [link](#) to sign up.

Highlights in Worship this Fall

During the month of October we will welcome staff from City Relief, one of our closest mission partners, to lead us in worship and we look forward to learning more about how we can be more effective in our work together for the kingdom. For more about serving with City Relief, please see page 8.



All God's critters got a place in the choir... and in our hearts! Bring your beloved friends for a short service of blessing (outdoors!) as we give thanks for the gift of Creation and renew our commitment to be stewards of God's creatures. All manner of pets welcome! (Please be mindful of your pet's ability to be in a crowd with other animals.) If your family pet prefers to stay home, we also invite you to bring a photo for blessing. Treats for humans and animals to follow!



This year, CPC members, friends, and visitors are invited to attend Youth Sunday on October 22! CPC middle and high school students will be leading the entire service, including crafting the liturgy and sharing a message! Don't miss it.



All Saints' Sunday November 5

It has been our custom in the last few years to pause on the first Sunday in November to remember with gratitude those who have passed away in the last year.

If you would like to have your loved one remembered on this date, please email the church office (office4cpc@gmail.com) and share their name.

A Service of Thanksgiving November 19

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.



Sunday Morning Faith Formation

Sunday School classes for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 17

Sunday School for Preschool and Elementary

Meet your teachers at 10:45 in Fellowship Hall and the fun will begin. Classes meet from 10:50 to 11:30 each week. Children will dive into God's word, exploring the stories of Jesus and learning about faith in a hands-on way. Parents are always welcome in the classroom, to help or to lead!

3 & 4 year olds – Room 1 (Nursery)

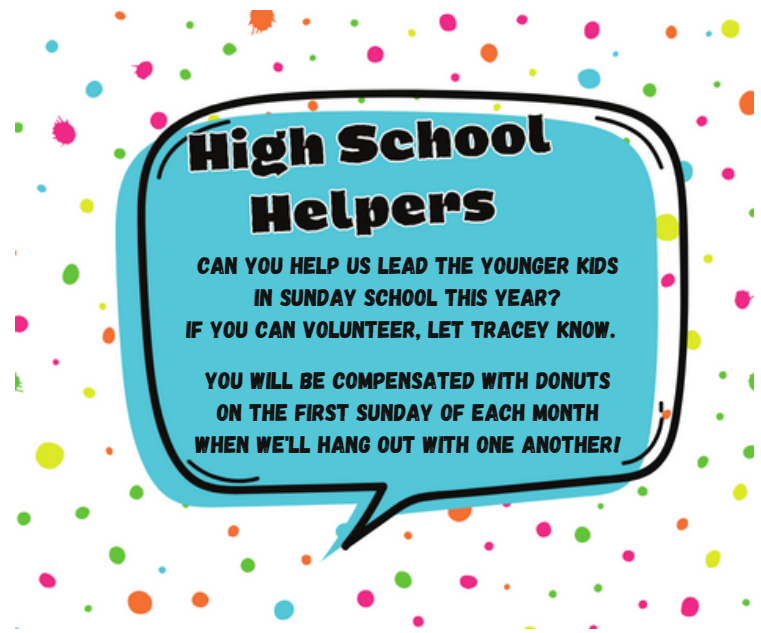
Kindergarten & 1st grade – Room 7 (upstairs)

2nd & 3rd grade – Room 5 (upstairs)

4th & 5th grade – Room 6 (upstairs)

Middle School (6th & 7th Grade)

Meet in Room 4 downstairs (Den) to learn and grow together. Don't forget to bring your Bible! 10:40-11:30 am each Sunday!



No Sunday School - November 26, December 17 and December 31
and

No adult classes on October 15 and November 12

Bible Basics for Adults The Gospel of John

Sunday mornings at 10:40 am [Room 8 \(upstairs\)](#)

This weekly bible study class is for beginners and longtime students of the Bible alike. We are working our way through the Gospel of John as we grow in faith and community with one another. No need to sign up - just jump in and join us.



CPC Kids and Youth



Serving others
with a
joyful heart!

Joy Scouts is a relatively new 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 a month. For more information on participating with Joy Scouts, email the church office at office4cpc@gmail.com.



4TH AND 5TH GRADERS

Sunday Funday Gatherings 4th and 5th graders
Kick back after Sunday School with your friends!
Fall dates: October 1, November 5, December 3
Join us on Sundays in Fellowship Hall from
11:30-12:30 pm.

Ultimate
Youth Night

Ultimate Youth Night

Middle Schoolers-this is just for you! Don't miss this once a month hangout with each other and middle schoolers from other churches in our presbytery. Run by the awesome staff from Camp Johnsonburg, this is sure to be a blast. We'll meet at CPC and travel together to these gatherings. Fall dates to be confirmed by Camp Johnsonburg.

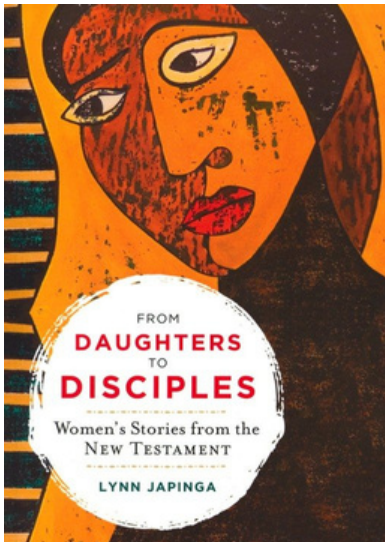


CHAOS

High Schoolers only! There's food, fun and lots and lots of Grog. Your Sunday Night will never be the same. Meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, **starting October 1st from 7-8pm**
Fall dates: Oct 1 & 15, Nov 5 & 19, Dec 3

To register for Youth and Children's Programs - [click here](#)

Adult Groups and Studies



Women's Evening Group **From Daughters to Disciples**

2nd and 4th Mondays at 7pm

From faithful forerunners like Anna and Elizabeth to female disciples like the sisters Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene to first-generation followers like Lydia and Dorcas, we'll get reacquainted with a wealth of foremothers in the faith in all their messy, yet redeemable, humanity.

September 25 - The Birth of Jesus

November 13 - The Grateful

October 9 - The Healed

November 27 - The Sisters

October 23 - The Outcasts

December 11- The Cross and
the Empty Tomb



Hop on to Zoom with Pastor Tracey and chat together about the preaching text for the upcoming week. Warning: your insights may appear in sermon from a pulpit near you! Begins September 20th.

Lectionary Lunch Break
Wednesdays 12-1245pm
via Zoom

RSVP by September 13th to Tracey
at tracey4cpc@gmail.com

So you want to start a small group?

Want to be a part of a group that will encourage you and help you grow in your faith? We're forming new small groups for study, prayer and fellowship and you are invited! Groups can meet weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or on another schedule that works for the group members. Meet in homes, on zoom or at the church. We'll provide study resources for you to choose from, or use materials of your own. We'll learn of interest in the month of September with the goal of launching these groups in October.

CPC Book Club Calendar

August 17	The Magnolia Palace	Fiona Davis
September 21	Someone Else's Shoes	Jojo Moyes
October 19	To Be Decided	
November 16	Defending Jacob	William Landlay
December ??	Christmas Gathering	
January 18	Remarkably Bright Creatures	Shelby Van Pelt
February 15th	Wish You Were Here	Jody Picoult



Our gatherings are usually hosted by different members of the group. We meet at 7pm for great discussions and fun fellowship. All are welcome! Contact the church office at office4cpc@gmail.com for more information.

Mission and Service



City Relief is currently in the process of evaluating their outreach locations. Once opportunities are identified, we will share open dates and times in the bulletin and newsletter. Please contact Dave Kelly if you have any questions.



The Promise Center

Construction is underway at The Promise Center, the first transitional housing for families experiencing homelessness in Hunterdon County and we can help. The Promise Center location: 8 New York Avenue, Flemington, NJ 08822

Volunteer Day: September 9 from 9 am to 3 pm

If you enjoy organizing, painting, or setting up furniture, we invite you to a day of creating a welcoming space for families at The Promise Center!

BYOT: Bring Your Own Tools Food and beverages will be provided. To sign up for Volunteer Day and for all DCA-approved donations to The Promise Center, please contact Pam Briant at (908) 782-2490 or info@familypromisehc.org.

Soft Opening: September 13 from 12 pm to 4 pm

Join Family Promise for a welcoming ceremony & ribbon cutting!

Box City 2023: October 21 (Virtual)

With the opening and dedication of The Promise Center happening, Family Promise decided to change the date for their Box City event to October 21st this year. Family Promise of Hunterdon County exists to prevent homelessness and to provide critical services to our neighbors. They want to give ample attention to the plight of homelessness in Hunterdon through Box City. More information on this event will be shared as it becomes available.



The Flemington Area Food Pantry provides food and personal care items to people in Hunterdon County who are food insecure. Food insecurity is a national problem. In Hunterdon County, of 126,000 residents, an estimated 5,000 have income below the poverty level.

Many of these residents, including children and infants, don't get enough to eat without some form of assistance. The Pantry provides supplemental groceries to approximately 1,600 income qualified Hunterdon County families. mission dollars from CPC help support the work of the Food Pantry. If you would like to learn more about volunteering visit their [website](#).

Save the Date for the Pantry's yearly Fundraiser – **The Empty Bowl on September 29**. Why not get some friends together to enjoy lunch at your home that day, all while supporting a great cause.

Mission and Service



We'll continue the CPC tradition of providing baskets of food to neighbors and ensure that no one goes hungry this Thanksgiving. A grocery list will be available in early November. We'll deliver baskets on **Saturday, November 18.**



Can you buy some groceries?



Can you help out as a driver?

We need you!



Our annual tree will be in the back of the Sanctuary **from mid-November until December 1.** This is your opportunity to help our friends and neighbors in need, many of whom we support during the year through our mission outreach. Each ornament will describe an individual need for a gift.

Please take one or take several and purchase the items needed.

Questions? Contact the church office at office4cpc@gmail.com

Community



October 21 at 2 pm

On Main Street in Clinton

Speeding Superheroes will be hitting the streets and we'll be there to cheer them on! Join your friends from CPC near the finish line at Citispot to cheer on our CPC littles & their friends!

The first 200 Heroes registered get a free cape!

REGISTER NOW >



Arrive early and enjoy the live music, street vendors, local shops, and food as part of the Main Street Half Marathon weekend kickoff! We hope to have a CPC booth set up to spread the good word about CPC to our whole community!



November 4 at 6pm

Spend the evening with friends enjoying delicious food and delightful conversation! We'll meet in one home for appetizers, travel to various homes for dinner then come back together again for dessert. Don't miss it. (Childcare available upon request.)



Trunk or Treat

CPC Parking Lot on Tuesday, October 31 from 5 to 7 pm

Step 1 – Bring your decorated car to CPC

Step 2 – Open your trunk & hand out candy!

Doctor D Entertainment will be leading the festivities and 91 Center Street is the place to be!

If you need help with trunk decorating ideas, we have lots of fun, easy ideas to share!

Please reach out to the church office (office4cpc@gmail.com) with any questions.

We'll be handing out hotdogs and water - let us know if you would like to be our grill master!



CPC in the Clinton Christmas Parade December 1st

Did you know that with God all things are "popsicle?? "

That's right!

This year's CPC float will remind us of warmer summer days and God's faithful promises! Don't miss the fun on Main Street starting at 7pm. Cheer on our CPC kids when you see them.

Advent and Christmas at CPC



Hanging of the Greens

On Sunday, November 26 we'll share in a special worship service as we decorate the sanctuary together for the Advent and Christmas Season.

Come and hear about the meaning behind the ornaments, greens, paraments and more which adorn our sanctuary.

Bonus: We'll have cookies and cocoa to share!

Lectionary Lunch: Advent Edition

Wednesdays 12-1245 Nov 29, Dec 6, Dec 13

Help shape our Advent season (and sermons!) as we reflect on scriptures for the upcoming Sunday together. We'll meet via zoom - bring your own hot cocoa.

Want to join in but can't make lunchtime work?

Let us know and if there is enough interest we can form another group at a different time either online or in person.



Here we go a-Caroling!

CPC Singers are in demand! After making a splash last year, the staff at Country Arch would love to have us back to share in the joy of the season with residents. Join us on **Sunday, December 10 at 4pm** to spread some Christmas cheer!

(Note: This date and time is subject to change.)



Each Wednesday of Advent a Midweek Reflection video will be delivered right to your inbox. These short videos will include, music, prayers and a short reflection from members of the congregation. We invite you to take some time each week to pause and reflect.

Advent and Christmas at CPC



All church members, friends and members of the community are invited to come by CPC on **December 15 (rain date: December 16) from 5-7 pm** for this special event.

Live animals included! And be sure to tell all your friends and family in the area to join us too!



Christmas Pageant & Advent Breakfast December 17

In worship we will hear once again, the story of the first Christmas told by eager shepherds and tiny angels. Come and share the wonder. We'll enjoy breakfast together afterwards in Fellowship Hall.



Christmas Eve Services

5 pm Family Service

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

9pm Candlelight Communion Service

Come and be lifted in joy through Word and Song as we celebrate the Christ child at this candlelight service.