

Clinton Presbyterian Church



February 2016

Our Mission

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

Vision

**We will live out this
mission through:**

Inspiring Worship,
as we praise and glorify God,

Engaged Discipleship,
as we grow deeper in our faith,

Nurturing Relationships,
as we love and care for
one another,

Transforming Mission,
as we embody God's love in
service to the world,

Faithful Stewardship,
as we express our gratitude
to God.



From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

So many important moments in life happen around tables. Think back on your life. What do you remember with fondness? Maybe it's Friday night family dinners, or wedding feasts, or a celebratory dinner. Maybe you remember specific dishes – a grandmother's soup, a mother's apple pie, pancakes made by little hands (you probably want to forget about the mess that was left in the kitchen!). We share life together around tables; we make memories there; we are filled there.

Of course it's no different at the church, with Holy Communion standing at the center of our life together. So this Lenten season, I invite you to gather here weekly as we reflect on encounters that Jesus had with his followers around tables. We'll be using the Gospel of Luke as our guide as we embark on a new sermon series, "Table Talk". We'll discover that the table is a place of learning, a place of welcome, a place of grace, a place of remembrance.

Pull up a seat. Invite a guest to join you. There is always room at the table.

See you in church,

Tracey

Clinton Presbyterian Church
91 Center Street, Clinton, NJ 08809
908.735.5029 • www.clintonpresbyterian.net



Pancake Dinner
Tuesday, February 9
6:00-7:30 pm
in Fellowship Hall

Enjoy pancakes and plenty of festive music.
There will be crafts for kids and fun for the whole family.



Cost: \$5 per person, \$3 for kids,
\$10 max per family.
FREE for 2015
new members & confirmands.

Inspiring Worship

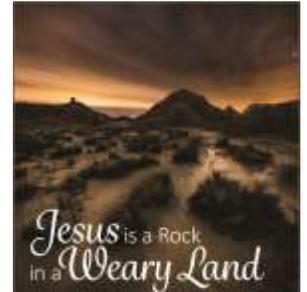


Mark the beginning of Lent with a service of repentance and restoration.
Ashes will be offered and Holy Communion will be served.

Lenten Devotional
40 days of daily nourishment

The first day for the daily devotion is February 8.

Click here to view this on-line devotional
www.luthersem.edu/lent



Lenten Sermon Series



Encounter Jesus around the table in the Gospel of Luke.

Sunday, February 7 is Scout Sunday

Our Boy Scout Troop will be participating in the worship service on February 7.

All scouts are encouraged to wear their uniform.





Palm Sunday – March 20th – 9:30 am in the Sanctuary

Join us for worship as we remember Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Our Children’s Chorus will add to the joy of our celebrations. There will be palms for everyone to take home.

Maundy Thursday – March 24 – 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall

Bring the whole family for a simple dinner, worship service and celebration of communion as we remember Jesus’ last supper with his disciples.

Good Friday Service – March 25 – 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Gather in the darkened sanctuary for a service of worship and prayer. As the Scriptures are read and candles extinguished we will recall together Christ’s Passion.

Easter Sunrise Service – March 27 – 6:30 am – Clinton United Methodist Church

Greet this holy morning with joy! After worship we’ll share breakfast together at Clinton Presbyterian Church.

Easter Worship Service – March 27th – 9:30 am in the Sanctuary

Join us to celebrate with joy Christ’s Resurrection! All are welcome!

Can You Help with Communion Ware?

The Worship Ministry is in the process of having new communion ware made by a local potter in time for the Lenten season. Kissimmee River Pottery is making 5 chalices, 2 plates, and a pitcher so we will have a matching set. If you would like to help fund this project please contact Betty Ann Dhein by email bettydhein@comcast.net or call home: 908-638-6277 or cell: 908-310-8021.

All contributions would be greatly appreciated.



Engaged Discipleship

Women's Morning Bible Study

Tuesday mornings in Fellowship Hall 9:30-11:30 am

Women's Evening Bible Study

Next Meeting – February 10

Meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday evenings in the Wolverton Building at 7 pm.

Get in touch with Tracey if you would like more information- tracey4cpc@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Next meeting – February 7

Meets at 7:30 am in Fellowship Hall on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

Normal Sunday School Classes
every Sunday in February • 10:40 – 11:30 am

Elementary Students

Growing in Grace and Gratitude curriculum

Drop-off & Pick Up:

Preschoolers: God's lighthouse (upstairs)

K-5th graders: God's backyard (upstairs)

Middle School

6th Grade/Old Testament/Meet in the Computer Room

7th & 8th Grade/New Testament/Meet in room under kitchen

High School Conversations

9th – 12th graders/Nooma Series

Meet in Wolverton Building

Adults - "The Book of Acts"

Meet in the downstairs middle classroom

Sunday School students learning about the three kings.



Kids on a Mission

On February 14, the Pre-K - 5th grade children will be making valentines that will be delivered to the residents of a local nursing home. And the children might receive their very own treat too!

Parent Helpers – PreK-5th grade

It is with great joy that we teach your children every Sunday. We want to invite all PreK-5th grade parents to visit our classes as parent helpers so that you can join in the fun. If you would like to stay and help, please do so any Sunday that is convenient for you.

Engaged Discipleship

CHAOS

Happy February!

The question we're all asking is... will the groundhog see his shadow? ☺ Will we have six more weeks of winter or is spring on the horizon?

Either way, **CHAOS** is ready for a great month! But first, let's recap January:

Between bi-weekly **CHAOS** and weekly Wolverton Wednesdays, we had a fun start to 2016 - lots of games, laughs and fellowship!

Due to Blizzard Jonas, we had to postpone our Youth Sunday program. We will reschedule for a later date, so keep an eye out for when that's coming your way!

This past weekend our high schoolers invaded Lake Champion in the cozy village of Glen Spey, NY. WHAT and amazing weekend!! We always love heading up to Young Life camp and this year was one for the books. The friends, the snowball fights, inspirational speakers, uplifting songs – Lake Champion is a special place! We dove in to learning more about the unconditional love Christ has for us and left with full hearts and tired bodies. We can't wait to go back!

Middle School – Keep an eye out for your trip to Lake Champion, coming up March 18-20, 2016!

February may be a short month, but **CHAOS** will make the most of it! See our February dates below and be sure to join us for "Wolverton Wednesdays" every week from 3:30-6:30! Bring your homework and come hang out! We have popcorn, Pandora and cool people!

Have a great month!! See you 'round the church! ☺

Maggie

Spring CHAOS Dates:

Feb. 7, 21; March 6, 20; April 3, 17; May 1, 15

Be sure to follow us on Instagram:
@cpc_chaos !!!! ☺

**Mark your calendars for
Youth ONLY Relief Bus dates
for this school year/Summer:**

Friday, March 4:
North Newark (5:30 pm - 10:30 pm)

Friday, May 6:
North Newark (5:30 pm - 10:30 pm)

Friday, July 29:
North Newark (5:30 pm - 10:30 pm)



Come visit our CPC libraries!

Upstairs on the landing and in the hallway are many children's books and videos. The Youth and Adult selections are downstairs. There is no sign-out, there are no fines, just borrow and enjoy. Check out some of our selections in the traveling library in the Fellowship Hall.

Happy Reading!

Nurturing Relationships

Deacon Update/Deacon of the month for February- Sharon Rosenberg

February 10 is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. Christians have regarded the season of Lent as a time for reflection, evaluation, and repentance. Words such as "sacrifice", "discipline", and "self-denial", are used to suggest that Lent is something to be endured rather than a time of grace and spiritual growth.

Lent asks us: What needs changing?

How will you spend these next 40 days? By fasting? By giving up something of importance? Lent calls us to increased devotion and a recommitted life in Christ.

God does not ask of us anything he has not first given us. ***We love because he first loved us.*** (1 John 4:19) God knows us by name and each of us holds a special place in his heart.

As we journey together through Lent, may our hearts grow closer to the one who loves us so much that he gave his life to save ours.

In the spirit of love and caring for others, the deacons have once again planned Gift Card Sundays for February 14, 21 and 28. Congregation members are asked to donate gift cards (\$5-\$25) for gas, groceries, or Wal-Mart. Cash donations will also be accepted so that gift cards can be purchased as needed. Please make checks payable to Clinton Presbyterian Church and write "gift card" in the memo line. The gift cards will be used at the pastor's discretion for the care and support of our congregation and community.

The Deacons continue to serve you by arranging meals, transportation, visits, and by offering prayer. We are currently providing meals for Doris Cramer. If you are able to make a meal, please sign up by visiting <http://www.takethemameal.com>. Type in Cramer as the recipient and 5998 as the password.

If you are able to help with rides for several members of our congregation, contact jeritwigg@gmail.com. As always, if you have a concern or know a member who does, please let any of the deacons know.

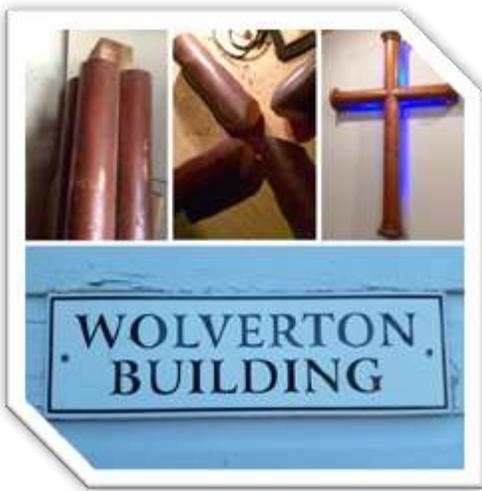
Save the Date

**All-Church Talent Show
February 28th
More details to follow!**

Little Monkeys

January saw the return of Little Monkeys, a playgroup for children and parents that meets every Friday from 10 to 11:30am through March 18. Our new location in the downstairs classrooms has been well received, and even allowed us to expand the nursery play area used during Sunday morning service. We have seen many familiar faces from last year, as well as a host of new families. The children love the many toys and activities we have to share, and the parents appreciate being able to get out of the house during the cold winter months. All in all, a great success! Many thanks to Joanne Berson for leading this program!





New Cross was a Labor of Love

New addition to Wolverton has ties to the very beginnings of Clinton Presbyterian Church

The renovation and updating of Wolverton Building is now complete with the addition of a gorgeous wooden cross handmade by our very own (and talented) Lee Longell. We caught up with Lee recently to find out more about this project which melds the past and present in a beautiful way.

Q. I hear the Wolverton Cross has a connection with the past that can't be bought. True or false?

A. True! This isn't something you can buy online, that's for sure! Most of the wood came from the columns that have been in the church since the mid-1800s! I have parts of the old side columns from the Sanctuary, which had to be replaced in the 1970s because of structural problems. (The current ones are metal) Parts of the old columns were placed in the basement and left to decay. So, I saved the wood and used parts of those columns to make this new cross.

To make it a little more 'current' I had some fun and even back lit it with LED lights to make it cool for the youth who use the building.

Q. Are there any other pieces you've made for CPC?

A. Actually, yes! I did make a lectern for the church from the same wood as well. And, I hope to make more pieces. I want to write something up and place it with the cross so future members know its history.

Q. This isn't your first cross you made for CPC. Can you tell us about the other one?

A. Twelve years ago I was co-chair of the team renovating the chancel. We used to have half walls around choir pews on each side of chancel. They were removed, but we kept the caps that were made of stained oak. We did not care for the Danish modern cross that was hanging. It was from the 1960s. So I made the present cross from that wood and it was hung there end of summer 2003.

5 Things about Lee Longell

- My family has been members of CPC for 24 years! I have been on several teams over the years: pastor search committees, men's bell choir, deacons...more recently I've been part of the Worship Ministry for over 10 years.
- I had a small part in renovating the manse before the Henry's arrived.
- Some may not know this, but I went to school at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square PA. It's a world renowned botanical garden created by Pierre DuPont. (Editor's note: if you haven't gone there...you should!)
- Dorene and I love to go on cruises – it's our favorite way to travel!
- We have owned and operated Bedminster Florist for 36 years.



Transforming Mission

Mission Volunteer Opportunity: The Relief Bus on Saturday, February 20

Over the years, CPC has served with the Relief Bus. The Relief Bus outreach consists of two former school buses that have been converted to mobile resource centers that go out to the poor and homeless in NYC and Newark. Volunteers serve food, pass out clothing and befriend the poor and homeless in these cities. Relief Bus staff also provide social services referrals and spiritual support.

We will be serving with the Relief Bus at Port Authority on Saturday, February 20. We need eight volunteers to join us. We will leave CPC at 4:45 PM and return at approximately 11:30 PM. Please contact Dave Kelly to volunteer or if you have any questions. (908 391-6372 or DLSH27@comcast.net)

Thank you for supporting the Relief Bus!

Don't Walk By 2016

Don't Walk By (DWB) is an annual outreach in New York City where volunteers walk through the streets of Manhattan each winter on a search and rescue mission for the homeless. Volunteers seek to offer every single homeless or hungry person warm clothing, a blanket and the opportunity to get off the streets and enter a shelter and/or a residential program.

This is accomplished by walking a designated zone in Manhattan and engaging the homeless with the goal of having them accept an invitation to come back to an anchor church. At the anchor church, a meal will be available along with prayer, clothing, medical assessment and counseling regarding the availability of resources and social services programs. The guest is also given the opportunity to enter a private shelter for the night. The following day each shelter guest is provided with breakfast by a follow up team and given the opportunity to enter a life transforming program.

DWB is organized and run by a coalition of organizations that assist the homeless, including the Relief Bus. Teams from CPC will be serving as street outreach volunteers on Saturday, February 6 (Uptown zone outreach) and Saturday, February 27 (Westside zone outreach). We would like to have a CPC team participate on each date. NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED. Training will be provided on the day of each outreach session. Volunteers are also needed to serve meals and provide hospitality at the anchor church. For more details, please visit www.dontwalkby.org.

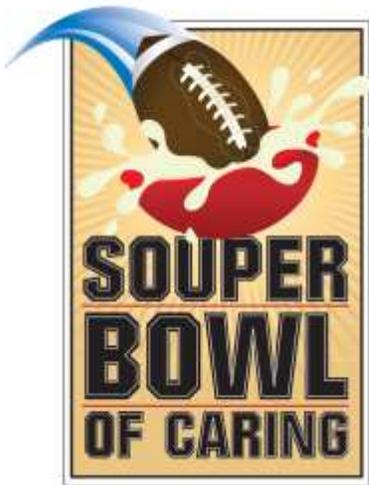
If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Dave Kelly (908 391-6372 or DLSH27@comcast.net). Thank you!

Planning Meetings for June Student Mission Trip to

PHILADELPHIA

The June 19 departure date for the Philadelphia Mission Trip will be here before we know it. Kick Off meetings are scheduled for Sunday, February 7 after worship in Fellowship Hall and Thursday, February 11 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. We are asking parents and students to attend one of these meetings. The purpose of each session is to discuss our week in Philly, review fundraising options and answer questions. Questions prior to the meetings? Please contact Jill Prakopcyk (908 310-4765; jrcelibr8@embarqmail.com) or Dave Kelly (908 391-6372; DLSH@comcast.net).

Transforming Mission



This program, which focuses on providing food to local food banks, was started in 1990 in Columbia, SC when a seminary intern urged a Presbyterian congregation to, "be mindful, while watching the Super Bowl, of those among us who don't even have a bowl of soup to eat".

On **Super Bowl Sunday (February 7)** we'll be collecting money and cans of soup, which will be donated to the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton.

If you would like to participate, please put your donation into any of the soup pots that will be placed at the Sanctuary exits. Thank you.

Please wear your favorite team's jersey!

Gift Card Sundays February 14, 21 & 28

Deacons are continuing to provide a resource for emergency needs as they arise for our congregation and members of our community. Last year \$675 in gift cards were donated which helped folks in emergency situations to help with food, clothing and prescriptions costs. This was a true blessing. Please bring \$5.00 - \$25.00 gift cards for ShopRite, Walmart or gas if you would like to support this ministry. Monetary donations made out to Clinton Presbyterian Church, with "gift card" written in the memo, will be used to purchase additional gift cards. These cards are distributed at the pastor's discretion, in conversation with the Deacons and the Mission Ministry.

If all of us can help in this small way, we can have a great impact. There will be special baskets in the Sanctuary on these days – drop off your gift cards there. Thank you!



No one has ever
become poor by giving.

Anne Frank

Faithful Stewardship



Throughout last fall's stewardship campaign we tried very hard to convey that each of us - regardless of age, number of years at the church, or role - is an important 'piece' of CPC. And through the generosity of members past and present we've been able to do some amazing things! From our children, youth and mission ministries to our music ministry and outreach God is definitely at work here at CPC!

We would like to thank everyone who prayerfully considered giving to CPC during our recent Stewardship Campaign. Pledges came in at \$222,547. While this is less than our target goal of \$230,000, we are pleased that the number of giving units (families or individuals) increased 10% over last year - a trend we hope continues.

If you would still like to make a pledge for 2016, please, visit the Stewardship tab on our web site – <http://clintonpresbyterian.net>.

One final note: Envelopes are in! They're located in baskets at the back of the Sanctuary.

Blessings – Jessica Bruno, Carol Kotopoulos, Bill Kreutel, Jenny Kunzman and Kerry Maslanka



Thank you all for your deep generosity on Christmas Eve. We collected a total of \$2,145 to be directed toward our denomination's Christmas Joy Offering. This offering is used to provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families as well as to enable deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related colleges and schools.



Please Help Us Reach Our Per Capita Goal

Per Capita is the amount we contribute to the Presbytery of Elizabeth based on our membership.

For 2016, that amount is \$36.92 per member. You can either mail your check to the church office (please note "Per Capita" on the memo line), donate online, or place your contribution in the offering plate on Sundays.

To date we've received 8.18% of our goal. Let's strive to make this apportionment by 100% this year.

Meals on Wheels in Hunterdon, Inc. Needs Your Help



Meals on Wheels needs volunteer drivers in your neighborhood. They traditionally have a shortage during the winter as many of their drivers are retired and head south for warmer weather. Please consider helping homebound seniors enjoy a hot noontime meal. The commitment to drive is only once per month during a weekday and will take only an hour or two. All new drivers are given an orientation and will be provided printed directions and maps. For more information call their office at 908-284-0735 or visit their website at mowih.org.

Side Entrance

The Property Ministry requests that when possible, congregation members avoid using the outside steps by Fellowship Hall steps (near the lift) until they can be repaired in spring/ early summer 2016. Cold weather prevents us from executing the awarded contract during below 32°F days. When using these steps, please proceed with care and do not enter the cordoned off areas.

Faithful Stewardship

Session Round-Up - January 2016

Children

The first Little Monkeys Playground was very well attended. There were 39 children there.

Finance

The Finance Ministry team is studying our deficit and will do a presentation on it in our next session meeting.

Mission

Dave Kelly stated that the next date for the Relief Bus was Friday, January 29th and they would be going to North Newark. There are still some openings. He also reviewed the program for New York City called Don't Walk By. There were some openings in that activity also. Also, Mission is forming an alliance with Market Street Mission to serve at that facility.

New Business

Tom Brankner (Property Ministry) and Bill Kreutel (Finance Ministry) did a joint presentation on our 2016 Capital Budget. They handed out a one page report that contained five projects. They were discussed and session voted and passed a motion for this to be our 2016 Capital Budget with a \$60,000 cap.

Nominating

Jenny Kunzman said the group has started meeting to discuss candidates for leader's positions to start in June.

Pastor

Tracey thanked everyone for making the congregational meeting a big success. She reminded everyone that Youth Sunday was next Sunday with a leader's luncheon following Sunday school. She also covered plans for the Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner and Holy Week.

Session

The Session approved the removal of Keith and Ashley Kennedy from the rolls.

Youth

Bill Berson covered plans for Youth Sunday and for the upcoming youth retreat at Lake Champion.



February Birthdays

- 2 Nancy Hovey
- 4 Jill Prakopcyk
- 5 Barbara Allen
- 6 Owen Maslanka
- 7 Kurt Jacobsen
- 8 Brady Krushinski
- 10 Daniel Prakopcyk
- 11 Jordan Tombs
- 12 Diane Wirth
- 13 Carolyn Giordano, Bill Harclerode
- 14 Mark Warner
- 16 Christopher LaSpada
- 18 Ellery Spencer
- 19 Janet Vitanza
- 21 Martha LaValette
- 22 Bob Miller
- 24 Roger Twigg
- 25 Audrey Dadouris
- 26 Lisa Lomauro
- 27 Madeleine Terblanche
- 28 John Perez

February Anniversary

- 14 Reed and Karen Heine



Our Boy Scout Troop 121 *January Theme:* ***Magic & Munchkins: Card Games***

Some Scouts took a 10 mile hike on the Columbia Trail, helping them get ready for their summer at Philmont or for earning a requirement for their next rank.

The Troop took their Annual Winter Camping/ Ski Trip to Hunter Mountain. Scouts assisted with Clinton's Annual Bonfire.

If you have any questions about our Scout groups, contact the Charter Origination Rep., Lisa Miller at RLMiller13@comcast.net or 908-730-8004.

Ushering Schedule

- February 7 Boy Scouts
- February 14 John & Martha Roth, Jim & Linda Pustai
- February 21 Lonnie and Molly Little, Bob Tombs, Jennifer Thompson
- February 28 Krushinski Family

Fellowship Time - Nominating Ministry

Deacon of the Month - Lonnie Little

Counting Schedule

- February 7 Karen Kursar, Liz Scannell
- February 14 Dave Boyer, Cathy Nace
- February 21 Jack Sherrerd, Lisa Miller
- February 28 Mike Penyak, Jeff Hazelette

Sanctuary Flowers

- February 7 Rick & Leslie Hyman
- February 14
In honor of staff, volunteers & stewards of CPC
- February 21 Pusztai Family



January 10
Madelyn Ann Ahmed