

Clinton Presbyterian Church

March 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,

It's hard to believe that Holy Week and Easter are just a few short weeks away; it feels as though we have just packed away the Christmas decorations! With the two seasons falling so closely together we are reminded that the One who came to us as a little baby and was laid in a feeding trough, has become for us the Bread of Life, the One on whom our hope depends.

This good news is for us to cherish and this good news is for us to share.

Cherish the journey that will take us from Palm Sunday all the way to Easter. Join us in worship on Palm Sunday to wave palm branches and shout hosanna – we need this time. Come and gather around tables on Maundy Thursday and be reminded of Christ's commandment to love which shapes our lives – we need this time. Enter the darkened sanctuary on Friday night and allow your heart to ache as we recall his sacrifice of love – we need this time. Celebrate with joy on Easter morning the triumph of that love over death, evil, heartache and loneliness – heaven knows, we need this time.

And share this good news by inviting others to join you here at CPC. If this is all real, if this is all true, if it makes a difference in my life and in yours, why would we keep the good news to ourselves? I look forward to our celebrations together.

See you in church –

Tracey

Clinton Presbyterian Church
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908.735.5029 • www.clintonpresbyterian.net

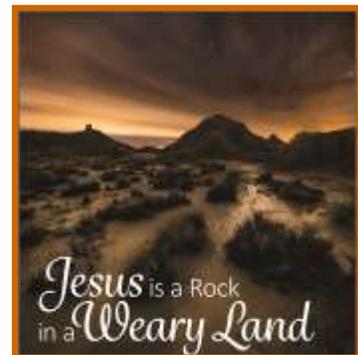
Inspiring Worship

Lenten Sermon Series



Encounter Jesus around the table
in the Gospel of Luke.

Lenten Devotional *40 days of daily nourishment*



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



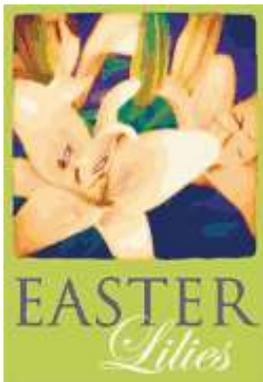
Attention Bell Ringers!

The Bell Choir will again start meeting in April. Stay tuned for exact dates and times and all are welcome as there is no experience necessary. Come out and join us.

Order your Lilies & Tulips for Easter Morning!

Cost - \$15.00 per plant Deadline – March 20

Please include payment with your order form; checks should be made payable to Clinton Presbyterian Church. Orders will not be submitted unless payment accompanies your order form. **Please do not place your order in the offering plate. Orders/checks should be submitted to Diane in the church office.**



_____ Lily _____ Tulip Total payment enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____



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.

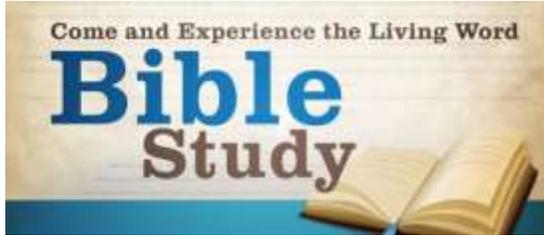
Easter Worship Service – March 27th – 9:30 am in the Sanctuary

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



Many thanks to the Boy Scouts for their leadership in worship on February 7.

Engaged Discipleship



Women's Morning Bible Study

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

Women's Evening Bible Study

Next Meeting – March 2

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 – March 5

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



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

Children learned about baptism and made mobiles with symbols of baptism during Sunday School in February.



Engaged Discipleship

PreK-5th Grade Sunday School Calendar

March 6		Regular Class & Singing with Gary	
March 13	Daylight Savings	Regular Class & Singing with Gary	Wear your Pajamas!
March 20	Palm Sunday	Regular Class & Easter Egg Hunt	Palm Procession and Children's Choir sings during worship
March 27	Easter Sunday	No Class	

Field Trip

On January 31, the PreK-5th grade children learned the story of John baptizing Jesus. We took a little trip down to the sanctuary to hear all about baptism from Pastor Tracey. Most of us don't remember our baptism but God always does!

Kids on a Mission

On February 14 the PreK-5th grade children put a lot of love into making Valentine's Day cards that were delivered to the residents of Country Arch Care Center in Pittstown. The residents were so appreciative of the handmade cards. This service project fit perfectly with the day's lesson aimed at helping the children identify ways God has called them to serve.



Pajama Sunday

Daylight Savings begins on March 13 and Pastor Tracey has invited the children to wear their pajamas to church that day. Don't forget your favorite stuffed animal!

Palm Sunday - Children's Chorus & Egg Hunt

The Children's Chorus will be singing and leading a palm procession during worship on Palm Sunday. Any children 5th grade and younger are invited to join. Gary will be teaching all the children the song during Sunday School on March 6 and March 13. For those who would like to sing during worship, we will have a final practice immediately before service on Palm Sunday. We will be sharing the music and lyrics with you in the weeks to come.

(continued)

We hope to see all of you there as we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem! We will end Sunday School with our Easter Egg Hunt outside. In the event of bad weather, we will hold the hunt in the Sanctuary.

Journey to Easter Passports

We hope all the children have received their Journey to Easter Passports which help them mark the days of Lent. We have been stamping their passports and giving them prizes as they participate in the worship services, Sunday School classes, and special events that mark this time of prayer and reflection. Remember to bring your passport every Sunday!

Parent Helpers

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.

Little Monkeys

Our playgroup continues to meet on Fridays from 10-11:30 through March 18th. Please join us! We have around 30 very happy children every week.

Nursery

By shifting the PreK Sunday School class upstairs, we were able to expand the nursery to two rooms. Word on the street is the children love all the extra space to play! Thank you to all the parents and other members who help staff the nursery every week! If you would like to help, contact Jeri Twigg at jeritwigg@gmail.com.

Engaged Discipleship

CHAOS

March comes in like a lion -- we are so ready for Spring to get here! CHAOS had a happening February and we are excited to welcome a new month!

Here's what we have going on in March:

- High School Only Relief Bus - Friday night 3/4:
North Newark (5:30 pm - 10:30 pm)
- March CHAOS Dates: 3/6
- Middle School Retreat -- weekend of March 18th

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!

Future dates to put on the calendar:

- Spring 2016 CHAOS Dates: March 6; April 3, 17;
May 1, 15
- Friday night 5/6, 7/29: North Newark (5:30 pm -
10:30 pm)

**Our NEW Youth Sunday Date is May 1!!

We are so excited to lead the congregation in worship!

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

Have a great March!!

See you 'round the church! ☺

Maggie



Nurturing Relationships

Deacon Update

The month of March, leading to Easter Sunday on March 27, is a most important month. We began this season with a Mardi Gras Pancake Supper. Next comes Lent, the 40-day period leading up to Easter Sunday, which is a time of reflection and penance and represents the 40 days that Jesus spent alone in the wilderness before starting his ministry. The week before Easter is Holy Week, and includes Maundy Thursday (Jesus's last supper), Good Friday (the day of crucifixion), and Easter Sunday, the day of resurrection.

At their February meeting, the Deacons talked about ways they could continue to serve our Lord, by caring for the needs of His congregation, as a church family. If you know of a special need or concern where the deacons can help, please let one of your deacons know.

Currently, the deacons serve the congregation through the following ways:

- Focused group prayers with individual(s)
- Helping to staff Family Promise, an outreach that CPC supports once every other month for homeless families in Hunterdon
- Gathering contributions of gift cards, which are used throughout the year by our pastor for the care and support of our congregation and community. Congregation members are asked to donate gift cards (in denominations from \$5 to \$25) for gas, groceries, or Walmart. Cash donations are also accepted, please write "gift card" in the memo line and the deacons will purchase the cards.
- Providing meals (currently providing meals for the Puzstai family and for Doris Cramer- see website takethemameal.com; type Cramer with password 5998 or Puzstai with password 4351).
- Outreach to college students- we are planning something for finals week
- Providing rides to doctors or to church (contact jeritwigg@gmail.com for details)

Family Promise/IHN Help Wanted

On Sunday, March 13, we will help host our Family Promise/IHN neighbors at Bethlehem Presbyterian Church and we sure could use your help!

Volunteers are needed for the following shifts:

- 12 pm – 2 pm Provide and serve lunch.
- 2 pm – 5 pm Hospitality – hang out with our friends and guests. Engage with the families, help them settle in for the rest of the week.
- 5 – 7 pm Provide and serve dinner
- 7 – 10 pm Hospitality – see description above
- 10 pm Sunday until 7 am Monday - overnight

If you would like to spend a few hours lending a hand, or for further details to find out how little it takes to make a huge difference in someone's life, please contact co-coordinators Mary Joan Barr at mjbarr1@earthlink.net or Ino Sowder at Ino.sowder@gmail.com



Your favorite artists bring the Bible to life through live performances of today's biggest songs paired with epic visuals from the Bible mini-series.

On Friday, April 15, at 7 pm, there will be a praise music concert in Reading, PA. The five featured groups are: Mathew West, Sidewalk Prophets, Love & The Outcome, Aaron Shust and Blanca. The concert is being put on by K-Love. For more information visit the website: <http://thebibletour2016.com/> Tickets are on sale now and range from \$28 - \$49. If you would like to go as a CPC group, Rick and Leslie Hyman will be coordinating with any interested people. Contact Rick and Leslie at church or at 908-713-0331.

Nurturing Relationships



Over 100 people attended the 2nd Annual Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on February 9th!



April 15 and 16

As you start your Spring Cleaning, please aside your gently worn clothing, toys and small household items for the CPC Spring Rummage Sale.

We'll start accepting donations on Tuesday, April 12 through Thursday, April 14.

We accept: Clothing, Toys, Bath and Kitchen linens and SMALL Household items

Sorry we cannot accept: Electronics, Large Sporting Goods, Artificial Christmas Trees or ANYTHING with an electrical plug.



Chair Lift Update

At long last, the chair lift is very close to being approved for use! That is, all the changed parts were delivered and installed, the town approved their permit, the state approved their permit and now we just need a final inspection from the state.

We hope that very soon we will be able to share with you more news that will surely **elevate our spirits** even further!

Pastoral Coverage in April

Rev. Henry will be on maternity leave for the month of April. During this time, Rev. Kiran Young Wimberly will be preaching each Sunday and also moderating the monthly session meeting. Should you have any pastoral care needs, please reach out to one of our Deacon Co-Moderators, Steve Battaglia at (908) 500-8013/ stevebattag@gmail.com or Bill Harclerode at (908) 894-8300/ billharclerode@gmail.com.

They can connect you with local Presbyterian pastors as needed. Tracey will return to the pulpit in May, working part time hours throughout the month while using the remainder of her parental leave.

Please keep the Henry family in your prayers as they prepare to welcome a new little one to their family. We'll update you as soon as there is any news to share!

Transforming Mission



Look how much was collected on February 7th during our Souper Bowl of Caring Event! These canned goods and \$300 were donated to the Open Cupboard Food Pantry.

Mission Volunteer Opportunity: The Relief Bus on Saturday, March 19

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, March 19. 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!

SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Sunday, March 20

Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Your generous gift to this special offering provides relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry and assist in helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

Please look for offering envelopes in the pews if you would like to participate. Thank you.

Palm Sunday Community Service Opportunity

On Palm Sunday, March 20, we will be gathering in Fellowship Hall immediately after worship, to prepare and cook meals for SHIP, a local organization that serves the homeless. We will also assemble bag lunches and hygiene kits for SHIP and the Relief Bus. The packing process will work just like the Thanksgiving Baskets – everyone will gather in Fellowship Hall and pack the lunches together. We are asking for your help with packing the food into the brown bags, cooking meals and donating the food and other necessary items for this project. Some grocery items that we are requesting include:

- Ziploc sandwich bags
- Plastic utensils (forks, spoons, knives)
- Individually wrapped snack size cookies
- Individually wrapped snack size chips
- Juice boxes
- Individually packaged wet wipes
- Travel-sized hygiene items (socks, shampoo, soap, tooth brushes, tooth paste, wash clothes, etc.)

Please leave all donated items in the kitchen in Fellowship Hall no later than Sunday, March 13.

We are also asking for monetary donations. Please make checks payable to Clinton Presbyterian Church and include "Palm Sunday Mission Project" in the memo section.

Any questions, please contact Sandie Lundeen at 908.730.6958 or sllundeen@comcast.net or Dave Kelly at 908.391.6372 or dlsh27@comcast.net.



Faithful Stewardship



The Nominating Ministry is presently considering CPC members for the position of Deacon and Elder and we are looking for your input. If you are interested or know someone that might be interested please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve.

Deacons represent the heart of Christian service to those in need. They offer their services to others by establishing contact and building relationships with the members of the church. They are resourceful people who cohesively hold a bank of talents as they meet the changing needs of the congregation.

Elders include a variety of people that reflect the diversity of the congregation who govern the church through active participation in spiritual, educational and practical activities of CPC. Elders chair or co-chair one of CPC's ministries, and by thoughtful payer, open discussions and focused study, discern the plans that God has for our church.

The current nominating ministry team members are Jenny Kunzman, Dave Boyer, Cathy Edelsberg, Lisa Miller and Linda Pustai.

If you would like more information or have any questions regarding these positions, please contact Jenny Kunzman @ jennykunzman@gmail.com or 908-625-5091, or any of the members listed above. Thank you.

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.

Let's strive to make this apportionment by 100% !!



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.

SAVE THE DATE



Take Out BBQ Dinner at CPC

Friday, April 29
4:30 – 7:30 pm

Faithful Stewardship

Session Round-Up - February 2016

Finance

We received the annual disbursement from the Mary Louise Thornton fund. Due to the large snow storm, plowing expenses are high. Finance is carefully tracking the budget here.

Hospitality

There were over 100 people that attended the Mardi Gras Pancake Supper. Plans are underway for summer movie nights and should be announced shortly.

Mission

Dave Kelly announced that the Souper Bowl of Caring brought in over \$270 and a large amount of food. Both will be distributed to the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton. The Relief Bus will be February 20 and has several volunteers at this time. The first "Don't Walk By" volunteer outreach session was on February 6. Dave Kelly, and Rick and Leslie Hyman attended.

Nominating

Jenny Kunzman stated that Nominating has been meeting and is requesting nominations for potential leaders. She urged everyone to think of names for the open elders and deacons positions to be filled in June.

Pastor

Tracey announced an NA group is interested in using a room at the church on Monday nights. She is checking with the other groups who meet then to see if there are any conflicts. Tracey announced that Pastor Kiran Young Wimberly will be in the pulpit for four Sundays while she is on maternity leave. Pastor Wimberly will also be moderator of session for April.

Personnel

A rough draft of "Keeping Our Children Safe" policy was distributed to session. There was a lot of discussion. Tracey asked each elder to carefully look over this policy; there will be an open discussion at the next session meeting. Personnel will be looking for a lawyer to review the policy before it is implemented.

Property

The egress lights are being installed by Tom Brankner. Property is exploring the possibility of having a storage shed built on the property as part of an Eagle Project. Plans for minor renovations to Fellowship Hall are being worked on. Property asked session to consider an increase in the capital budget to facilitate work on the stained glass windows. Session did not approve and the capital budget for 2016 will remain at \$58,000. Property will seek to arrange work priorities to allow for greatest impact.

Session

- Approved Women's Club of Clinton to use part of the CPC Parking lot to set up tables for Clinton town-wide yard sale
- Approved use of Fellowship Hall for Al-Anon Fundraiser luncheon on Saturday, April 9 from 1-3 pm
- Approved use of Sanctuary by Raritan River Music Festival on Saturday, May 14 from 1-11 pm.
- Approval of baptism of Amelia Brown, daughter of Mike and Renee Brown. Baptism will be February 28.
- Approved the contract for Pastor Wimberly to be pulpit supply while Tracey is on maternity leave.

Youth

Bill Berson announced that there may be enough interest to have a middle school retreat at Lake Champion.

March Birthdays

- 1 Shannon O'Reilly
- 2 Patty Heffner
- 3 Courtney Morrissette
- 4 Gnanna Thambidurai
- 5 Caroline Sergison
- 6 Christina Schlegel
- 7 Tom Hodulik
- 8 Galen Marsh, Colin Twigg
- 9 Abigail Thompson
- 10 Kara LaSpada, Jeri Twigg
- 11 Alexa McCarthy, Sharon Rosenberg
- 12 Michele Pelose
- 15 Dorothy Battaglia, Johan Terblanche
- 16 Lauren Edelsberg
- 17 Jeremy Barnes
- 18 Laura Herman, Elijah Sudol
- 21 Bryan Bittenmaster, Karen Heine
- 23 Kyle Lundeen
- 24 Abigail 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



Our Boy Scout Troop 121 February Theme: Winter Fun

Our Scout Troop participated in CPC's Boy Scout Sunday Service. The Troop held their Winter Court of Honor in addition to an Eagle Court of Honor.

Our Scouting District held a District Wide Food Drive benefiting the Open Cupboard Pantry in Clinton. Our Troop and Pack participated in the collection at Walmart and Clinton ShopRite.

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

March 6 Joe LaSpada, Adrienne Hodulik,
Rick Hyman, Rich Prakopcyk

March 13 Pusztai Family

March 20 Mark & Sharon Holmsborg,
Ginny Brooks, Dennis Kotopoulis

March 27 Bill & Tammy Warner,
Cathy Nace, Liz Scannell

Fellowship Time – Worship Ministry

Deacon of the Month – Jan Kreutel

Counting Schedule

March 6 Karen Kursar, Liz Scannell

March 13 Dave Boyer, Cathy Nace

March 20 Jack Sherrerd, Lisa Miller

March 27 Mike Penyak, Jeff Hazelette

Liturgists

March 6 Bill Harclerode

March 13 Ino Sowder

March 20 TBD

March 27 Paul Morrissette

Nursery Schedule

March 6 Cindy Boyer, Sharon Holmsborg

March 13 Linda Pustai, Evie Lebron

March 20 Jeri Twigg, Heather Kelly

March 27 Jill Prakopcyk, Mike Penyak

Sanctuary Flowers

March 6, 13, 20 - Flowers given in honor of the staff, volunteers and stewards of CPC.

Baptism

February 28 - Amelia Brown