

# Clinton Presbyterian Church

March 2017  
LENT  
*Create in me a clean heart, O God.*

## 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.



**Clinton Presbyterian Church**  
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[www.clintonpresbyterian.net](http://www.clintonpresbyterian.net)

## From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I write this note to you on March 1, 2017. Today marks 4 years since we started our journey together as pastor and people, as brothers and sisters in Christ. Time sure does fly when you are having fun - Oh and also when you are digging into the work of the Kingdom! It has been my privilege to be part of this family and I celebrate what God has been doing in our lives.

Today is also Ash Wednesday, the start of another Lenten journey for us, the start of this year's 40 Day Re:Fresh Challenge. Although Lent is a penitential season, I believe it is also a season to celebrate what God is doing in our lives and what God will yet do. Tonight at our Ash Wednesday Service, I'll be sharing a poem by Jan Richardson, entitled "Blessing the Dust." It opens with these lines:

All those days you felt like dust,  
like dirt,  
as if all you had to do was turn your face  
toward the wind and be scattered  
to the four corners  
or swept away by the smallest breath  
as insubstantial -

Did you not know what the Holy One can do with dust?"

It's remarkable what God can do with dust. What God can do with us. We are just beginning.

See you in church,

Tracey

# Looking Back...February

## Souper Bowl of Caring – Thank You!

On Sunday, February 5, CPC collected a special offering in support of the Souper Bowl of Caring. Due to the generosity of our congregation, CPC donated \$335 and many food items to the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton. Thanks again for your outreach to those in need in our community!



***Superbowl is over... March Madness is weeks away... It's a cold rainy Sunday afternoon... And CPC GOES BOWLING! What could be a better way to spend the afternoon than that!!***

Our first annual CPC Bowling Challenge, sponsored by the Youth and Children's Ministry Teams, was fantastic! We had a great time up at Oakwood Lanes, with over 40 people coming up and in many different methods, form, and style threw their bowling ball down the lane in hopes of knocking over those white pins! Top honors for high scores go to Shelley "The Hammer" Brankner and Larry Kursar!! The rest of us were somewhere below them and our laughs filled the 10 lanes we had. Thank you to everyone who came out. It was a great group and we really have to do this again, it was that much fun!!







*Some call it Shrove Tuesday, others call it Mardi Gras. Here at CPC we call it a great reason for a party! We feasted on pancakes, taxed our brains with some Lent trivia and rumor has it there was even a little dancing! We'll spare you the photos of that! Our little ones enjoyed great crafts and everyone delighted in the chaos of a night spent with family. Thanks to our Connections Team for hosting!*

# Inspiring Worship



Ash Wednesday  
Service  
Tonight at 7 PM

## Upcoming in Worship

**March 5**

**40 Day Re:Fresh: Time for Change  
Communion**

**March 12**

**40 Day Re:Fresh: Reset**

**March 19**

**40 Day Re:Fresh: Hydrate**

**March 26**

**40 Day Re:Fresh: Redefine**



## Pajama Sunday

Daylight Savings begins on Sunday, March 12 and Pastor Tracey has invited the children to wear their pajamas to church that day. Don't forget your favorite stuffed animal!

## Attention Bell Ringers!

We will start Bell Choir rehearsals on Thursday, March 16 at 5:30 pm. No experience necessary. All ages welcome!



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Our 40 day Re:Fresh.

Make this a meaningful Lent as together we

## Worship

(Join us each Sunday and for special Holy Week services.)

## Grow

(Over 50 people have committed to small groups – join them

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0A4CA4AD2EA5F49-lent](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0A4CA4AD2EA5F49-lent) )

## Serve

(Save April 8 for our next day of service.)

## Holy Week Services

**Palm Sunday – April 9**

**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.

**Maundy Thursday – April 13**

**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 – April 14**

**7:00 pm in the Sanctuary**

Gather in the darkened sanctuary for a service of worship and prayer.

**Easter Sunrise Service April 16 – 6:30 am**

**Clinton United Methodist Church**

After worship we'll share breakfast together at Clinton Presbyterian Church.

**Easter Worship Service – April 16**

**9:30 am in the Sanctuary**

Join us to celebrate with joy Christ's Resurrection!



# Engaged Discipleship

## Sunday School Schedule

### Pre-K thru Grade 5

This month in Sunday School, students will continue learning all about God and Jesus through the book of Matthew. In the coming weeks, students will learn about forgiveness, how to be a great leader by helping others, Jesus healing 2 blind men and that we should love God with our whole heart and love our neighbors as much as you love yourself.

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School

March 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School

### Kids on a Mission

Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade children shared God's love by making 50 valentines for Country Arch Care residents. Sunday school families also helped with fellowship hour! Thanks to all families who helped with set-up or serving and baked yummy treats or picked out their favorite snacks/juice to share with their CPC family.

### Maker Fun Factory Evening Vacation Bible Camp - Save the date July 10<sup>th</sup> – July 14<sup>th</sup>

Kids and Volunteers please, save the date! This summer our church will be buzzing with excitement. Imagine a world where curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they're lovingly crafted by God and built for a purpose! If your purpose includes teaching about God and Jesus and having a ton of fun, consider volunteering to lead a station (opening and skits, Bible stories, Imagination Station, Games, Singing) or join our planning committee, please contact Kim Darcy ([mkfdar@aol.com](mailto:mkfdar@aol.com)) or Cathy Edelsberg ([cathyedels@gmail.com](mailto:cathyedels@gmail.com)).



Students learn that when they are having a hard time; when worries are making our lives hard; it's ok to ask for help. Let others help you so you can hear God's message of love again.

*Based on Matthew 13:1-9,18-23)*



Students made 50 valentines for residents of a nursing home.



# Engaged Discipleship

## Sunday School 10:40 – 11:40 am

**Elementary Students** Growing in Grace and Gratitude curriculum

**Drop-off & Pick Up:** Preschoolers: God's lighthouse (upstairs – green room)  
K-5<sup>th</sup> graders: God's backyard (upstairs – blue room)

**Middle School** 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders Meet in room under kitchen

**Confirmation** Meet in the Wolverton Building

**Edge (Every Day God Encounters)/High School Conversations**

All students grades 10 - 12 and any 9<sup>th</sup> graders who are not part of the Confirmation class.  
Meet in Fellowship Hall.

**Adults** Small groups begin on March 5. Follow this link if you want to join a group.

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0A4CA4AD2EA5F49-lent](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0A4CA4AD2EA5F49-lent)

## Adult Bible Studies

**Women's Morning Bible Study** Tuesday mornings in Fellowship Hall 9:30 – 11:30 am

**Next Meeting – March 14/A new study will begin : *Christianity, Cults and Religions*** . For more information, please contact Dorothy Battaglia at 238-9648 or Judy Moller at 735-8148.

This Christianity, Cults & Religions Bible study has three main goals:

- To help Christians know what they believe and why: The Essential Doctrines of Christianity
- To explain differences between Christianity and other religious groups
- To understand the beliefs of Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Buddhists (and other Eastern religions) and Muslims helping Christians understand the beliefs of their co-workers and neighbors

**Women's Evening Bible Study and Men's Breakfast & Bible Study** participants are joining Re:Fresh small groups for the season of Lent. See link above.

# Engaged Discipleship

## chaos

We've had a taste of Spring these past couple of weeks, so let's keep it going into March!! CHAOS had an awesome February – it was a busy month to say the least!

Our Confirmation Lock In – what a blast! Don't sign our crew up for any bowling leagues anytime soon.... Just sayin'! ;) Our 2017 class really bonded that night – thanks to Ian and Leslie & Rick Hyman for joining in the fun! After Shake Shack dinners, we headed to Bowlmor before heading back to CPC for Watch Ya Mouth & Bible Trivia. What a great night!

We celebrated Youth Sunday on February 12 – our middle & high school students lead our congregation in worship, focusing on applying our faith to our everyday lives. Who do you follow? Do you follow Christ? We declared our faith to social media with our #IWillFollow hashtag. It's not too late to do that if you didn't join in the fun that morning! Post the hashtag on social media to be part of the fun.

Later that day we had nearly 50 friends come together for Family Bowling Night. W O W!!!! WHAT a great afternoon we had! Prizes for most gutterballs (ahem, Kira Kluthe...), highest score, most team spirit, & more! Truly an absolute blast!



Looking ahead to the last few months of the school year, we have some exciting things coming up! See the calendar below for important dates – we can't wait to see you out & about this Spring!

See you 'round the church! ☺

*Maggie Bell*

### Important Dates to remember:

- 3/12 & 3/26 – CHAOS Night
- 3/10-11 – Middle School Lock In @ CPC
- 4/9 & 4/23 – CHAOS Night
- 5/7 & 5/21 – CHAOS Night





# Engaged Discipleship

## Here We Glow Again!

### **Second Annual Glow Sunday Funday A Huge Success**

If you drove by CPC on the evening of January 22 you might have been wondering what was happening since a blue glow was coming out of the windows in Fellowship Hall. There weren't any problems, it was just another Sunday Funday! For this particular meeting, our Sunday Funday crew combined with CHAOS for our second annual GLOW Sunday Funday. It was one of the biggest turnouts this year - with many of our 'regulars' bringing new friends with them - and a lot of fun! What exactly do we do at GLOW Sunday Funday? Aside from the glow sticks and black lights, we play games like glow Pac Man, Capture the Glow Sticks, Sardines, and Hide-n-go-Seek and we even had a glow scavenger hunt! This is such a fun event, we are already planning on new games for our THIRD annual Glow Night!

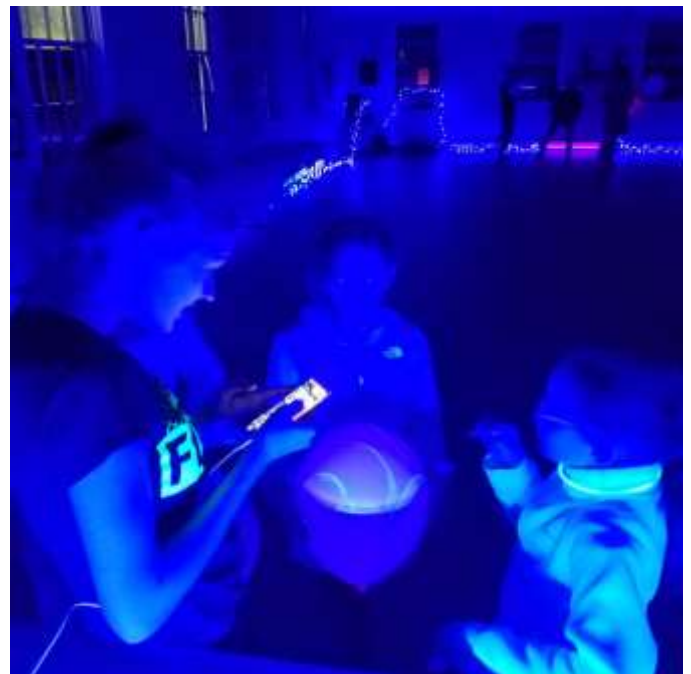


Looking ahead, we're planning for our upcoming meetings and are hoping to have a tag-a-thon and a Minute-to-Win-It night! Stay tuned for details!

Emelia Maslanka

#cpcsundayfunday

#whatshappeningatCPC





# Nurturing Relationships



## A Note from the Deacons –

Luke 6:38 *“Give, and you will receive. You will be given much. Pressed down, shaken together, and running over, it will spill into your lap. The way you give to others is the way God will give to you.”*

February wrapped up our annual “Gift Card Sunday” drive where we raise money to support those in need within our community throughout the year. We collected over \$800 in cash and cards! The congregation went above and beyond to help us continue this important community support and for that I want to offer some heartfelt thanks from the Deacons.

Don't forget to visit the Table of Well Wishes located in Fellowship Hall each Sunday after the service. Our CPC members appreciate receiving cards of encouragement, support, congratulations, or sympathy. You are touching the lives of those around you with your caring thoughts and prayers. Additionally, don't forget that at any time you can visit the following link on CPC's website to view opportunities to provide a meal or a ride to those in need. If you have time to make a meal but are concerned you may not be in a position to deliver it, please reach out to a Deacon to see if we can close that gap for you. <http://clintonpresbyterian.net/relationships/meals-and-rides/>

As your Deacons, we are always looking for ways to come along side and help those around us. If you have a need or learn of a need please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the Deacons!



**Save the Date**  
**Saturday, April 8**  
**Join us!**  
**“Be the Church” Day**

# Transforming Mission

## Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser –Bag Sale

We have kicked off our first fundraiser – the sale of bags provided by Mixed Bags Designs. Please stop by the table in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour to check out a sampling of available items.

A link is provided for those who can't make it to Coffee Hour

([http://myfundraiser.mixedbagdesigns.com/catalogs?\\_ga=1.251566479.82345326.1488164135](http://myfundraiser.mixedbagdesigns.com/catalogs?_ga=1.251566479.82345326.1488164135)).

Please order from the Mixed Bags Designs catalog only, as we are not selling products from the Kitchen & Home catalog. This opportunity can also be shared with your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. These bags make great Easter and Mother's Day gifts.

To order, please provide:

- 1) Name
- 2) Phone
- 3) Email
- 4) Items #s
- 5) Item Descriptions
- 6) Prices
- 7) Quantity
- 8) Total Price (including NJ sales tax of 6.875%)



Please email this information to Dave Kelly ([DLSH27@comcast.net](mailto:DLSH27@comcast.net)) or to Robin Meyh ([rmeyh@aol.com](mailto:rmeyh@aol.com)). Orders and payment are due by **Sunday, March 12** since we need to order early to assure that items will be available before Easter. Payments can be given to Dave or Robin or mailed to the church office at 91 Center Street, Clinton, NJ 08809. **All proceeds will support the mission work done by our students in Philadelphia in June. Thank you for your participation!**



## LuLaRoe Fundraiser March 19

Please come to the LuLaRoe Fundraiser for CPC youth mission trip. It will be held **Sunday, March 19 in Fellowship Hall right after worship.**

Sara Twigg is a consultant for LuLaRoe clothing and will donate a portion of the proceeds of the sale to the Youth Mission Trip to Philadelphia. She has enjoyed being a part of various CPC trips and is happy to contribute to this year's trip.

*Stop by to check out this line of comfortable, colorful clothing!*

# Transforming Mission

## **Mission Volunteer Opportunities - The Relief Bus on Friday, March 24**

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 on Friday evening, March 24 at North Newark. Please contact Dave Kelly if you have any questions or you'd like to volunteer. (908) 391-6372 or DLSH27@comcast.net)

Thank you for supporting the Relief Bus!

# Faithful Stewardship

## **Session Round-Up**

### **Children's**

Things are going well in Sunday School. A group of approximately 50 adults, youth and children enjoyed a night of bowling at Oakwood Lanes.

### **Connections**

The team is ready for the Mardi Gras event on February 28. An April gathering at Benaducci's Vineyard is next on the planning calendar.

### **Finance**

Stewardship and Generosity will be evolving throughout the year. The team is continuing to discuss the sharing of our gifts through planned giving or generosity.

### **Mission**

Be the Church Day scheduled for April 8, replacing the Palm Sunday service at the church.

### **Nominating**

Two meetings have been productive with a preliminary list of prospective Elders and Deacons.

### **Property**

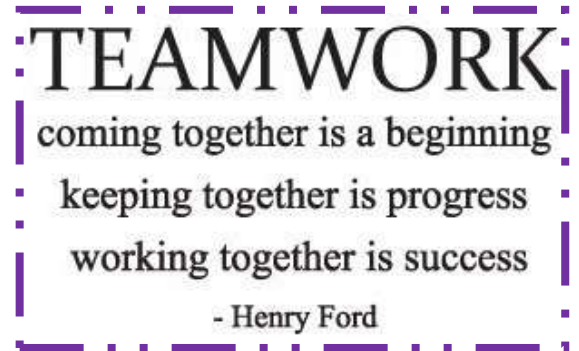
An analysis of the Fairview property, along with costs and income, was presented. Questions as to what is the purpose of this property and what is the financial benefit led to a discussion as to whether we continue to rent this property or sell it.



## Session Round-Up *continued*

### Session

- Approved the use of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for the Raritan River Music Festival on Saturday, May 20 from 4:00-11:00 pm for a concert and reception
- Approved the use of spaces in the parking lot by the Women's Club of Clinton on Saturday, June 3 for the Town-wide Yard Sale
- Approved two new members to the Mission Team and Connections Team-Christina and Caleb Schlegel



### Worship

Lenten and Easter plans organized. Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, March 1.

### Youth

The Middle School Lake Champion Retreat has been cancelled due to low sign ups. Sunday Fundays will continue and CPC Edge has many exciting events planned throughout the next four months. Planning for a Food Truck Fundraiser on June 9th is taking place. Grades 6-7-8 Sunday School classes will combine for the rest of the year.



### Treasurer's Report as of January 2017

- Income - \$21,085
- YTD Expenses - \$32,211
- Operating Deficit - (11,126)

### March Birthdays

- 1 Shannon O'Reilly
- 2 Tristen Dornbusch, Patty Heffner, Fred Sifuentes
- 3 Courtney Morrisette
- 6 Christina Schlegel
- 7 Tom Hodulik
- 8 Colin Twigg
- 9 Abigail Thompson
- 10 Kara LaSpada, Jeri Twigg
- 11 Alexa McCarthy, Sharon Rosenberg
- 15 Dorothy Battaglia, Johan Terblanche
- 16 Lauren Edelsberg
- 17 Jeremy Barnes
- 18 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:* The Criminal Mind

The Troop again participated in the worship service for Scout Sunday .  
They were a part of the annual Hunterdon Arrowhead District Food Drive.  
A group of Scouts represented The Troop at the Bridging Ceremony for Cub Scout Pack 190.

Questions - contact Lisa Miller,  
Charter Representative  
[RLMiller13@comcast.net](mailto:RLMiller13@comcast.net) or 730-8004

### Ushering Schedule

- March 5 Bob Tombs, Lonnie Little  
March 12 Pusztai Family  
March 19 Jim & Linda Pustai,  
Joe LaSpada, Jennifer Thompson  
March 26 Krushinski Family

### Fellowship Time – Worship Ministry

**Deacon of the Month** – Sandie Lundeen

### Counting Schedule

- March 5 Mike Penyak, Liz Scannell  
March 12 Bill Kreutel, Cathy Nace  
March 19 Jack Sherrerd, Dave Boyer  
March 26 Dave Boyer, Karen Kursar

### Nursery Rotation

- March 5 Dan and Tara Nuzzo  
March 12 Joanne Berson and Heather Kelly  
March 19 Kim Perez and Sharon Holmsborg  
March 26 Sharon Rosenberg and Jeri Twigg

### Sanctuary Flowers

- March 5 Thanks for the grace of God and CPC's dedicated staff & volunteers  
March 12 Gabriella Pusztai, in honor of her mother  
March 26 Thanks for the grace of God and CPC's dedicated staff & volunteers