

Clinton Presbyterian Church



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,

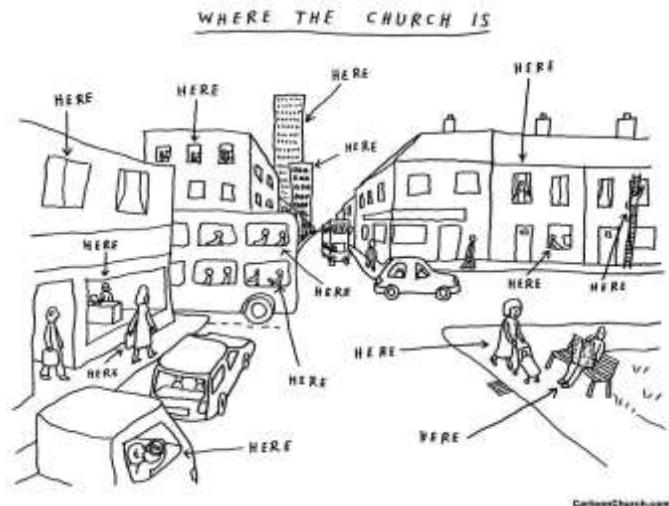
Transforming Mission,
as we embody God's love in
service to the world,

Faithful Stewardship,
as we express our
gratitude to God.



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

From the Pastor



Dear Friends,

This coming Saturday our family will gather in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am, pray together and then head out to serve together with our mission partners in the local area. We call it "Be the Church Day". But of course that is not just something we do twice a year, we are called to "Be the Church" in each and every ordinary day of our lives.

As we (finally!) welcome spring and look forward to summer days, let me invite you to prioritize two things this year:

1. *Weekly worship at CPC* – our in-gathering is so important as we seek to stay connected to the source of our life – Jesus Christ – and to our companions in Christ in the pews around us. This is a busy time of year I know. Come and take a deep breath at the start of each new week. You are missed when you are not here.
2. *Daily living for Christ* in all the places to which God calls you – the playground, the office, the beach, the park, the board room, the sales convention. In each and every one of these places you are living for Christ. It's a big charge and that's why it goes hand in hand with number 1; we cannot do this alone and, thanks be to God, we don't have to.

See you in church,

Tracey

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday was a banner day at CPC! Our little ones lead us with shouts of “Hosanna” and our chancel steps were filled to overflowing as we talked about how we still call out to God for help each day. We were delighted to welcome 9 new members to our church family – we’ve included their info here so you can add them to your directory. We are so very thankful for all the gifts they bring to the table. They will help us follow Jesus more faithfully at CPC.

And after worship we bundled up in our winter gear (yes, there were snow flurries on Palm Sunday!) and headed out for an Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks to our wonderful Sunday school teachers and our Middle and High School Volunteers for all the special treats!



Our New Members:

Megan Baumann
65 East Elizabeth Ave., Apt. 807, Bethlehem PA 18018
mbaumann31@gmail.com

Jens and Colleen Duerr
8 Wyckoff Drive, Pittstown NJ 08867
jensduerr@me.com
cpduerr@mac.com

Matt and Kristy Guest
Skylar Berry
27 Bennington Road, Annandale NJ 08801
matthew.r.guest@gmail.com
kristyskylar@yahoo.com
skylarreyeberry@gmail.com

Alice Korab
5 North Star Drive, Annandale NJ 08801
alicekorab@yahoo.com

Kathy Senkow

Elizabeth Seiffert
PO Box 277, Glen Gardner NJ 08826
seiffertfamily@comcast.net

Mauindy Thursday

As we remembered Jesus last meal with his disciples we gathered around tables, shared a meal, washed hands and feet, shared in communion and remembered Jesus commandment to “love one another as I have loved you.” Grateful thanks to our Fellowship and Member Care Team for the delicious meal, to our kids and youth for leading our service with readings and prayers and to our elders and deacons for serving us in humility.



Good Friday

As the Sanctuary gradually darkened, we recalled once again the story of God’s deep love for us, made known in Jesus. Our musicians helped us enter the story by sharing their musical gifts.



He is Risen!

With pews filled to overflowing and hearts full of joy we celebrated Christ’s Resurrection - He is Risen indeed! Thanks be to God!

A word of thanks to the Worship and Music Team and to all our many talented musicians for offering their gifts through Lent and Easter as we journeyed to the cross and the empty tomb.

Easter Sunday



Inspiring Worship

Upcoming in Worship

May 6

Communion Sunday
“In Joy”

May 13

Mother’s Day
“How Do We Love?”

May 20

Pentecost
“Being the Church”

May 27

Trinity Sunday/Memorial Day
“It’s Complicated”



Session has called for a Congregational Meeting on May 20, immediately following worship for the purpose of receiving the report of the Nominating Team and voting on the new class of deacons and elders. Please plan to attend.

On Sunday, May 20, we'll be joined in worship by a Dixieland Ensemble who will bring special musical offerings and then we'll head on outside for a good old-fashioned church picnic with more music. See more details on page 9.



Dear Clinton Presbyterian Family,

It has been such a pleasure to be with you in ministry this past year. From the start in September it has been a joy learning from you. My first Sunday was a celebration to kick off a new season of Sunday School and on April 29, my last day as your seminary intern, we ended with cake to celebrate our journey together. Like I said in my final sermon, this time of serving the church has revealed many of my growing edges as I head toward ordained ministry. Your encouragement, care, and love have helped me know myself and allowed for me to grow. I am grateful that one of the ministries of CPC is to nurture future church leaders.

I will be using many of the skills that you helped me develop this summer doing another internship. This time it will be at New York-Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan training to be a chaplain. Then I return to Princeton Theological Seminary in the fall. While I will not be seeing you as often as I have this past year, I hope to worship and serve with you as often as I can.

Thank you so much for welcoming me and making me a part of the CPC family. Many thanks to Pastor Tracey and the Session for all of your guidance and support. Each of you has impacted me and I give thanks to God for every one of you. May the peace of Christ be with you all!

In Christ,

Mary Morrow

Noisy Offering

We'll receive the noisy offering for the month of May on Sunday, May 20!



Engaged Discipleship

Pre-K thru Grade 5

Jesus had important lessons for us these past weeks. *Jesus wants us to trust in His promise* – to have faith even without physical proof. Through Doubting Thomas' encounter with Jesus, our **K-5th graders** heard Jesus say, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." *Jesus wants us to trust in His forgiveness* - to forgive as He has forgiven - not just seven times, but seventy times seven. *Jesus wants us to trust in His goodness and in His example* – to appreciate the world that God has created and to care for His creation (on Earth Day, we promised to "Go Green for God!"). *Jesus wants us to trust in His presence* – to find Him in everyday activities just as the disciples shared breakfast on the beach with our Risen Lord. *Jesus wants us to trust in His resurrection* – to know He is alive! Our **Pre-K class** shared in the joy and wonder of Jesus' friends and disciples as they discovered that Jesus has not left them.

May Sunday School Schedule

- May 6** Regular classes
- May 13** No Sunday School – Happy Mother's Day
- May 20** Sunday School's End-of-the-Year Party
- May 27** No Sunday School
Classes will resume in September



Jesus teaches us that we are not to forgive someone only seven times but "seventy times seven." Just as tiny pieces of bird seed are too many to count – so should be the times we forgive!



Students learn about Earth Day and that God wants us to take precious care of the Earth.



GOT MILK?

Would you save your empty gallon milk jugs? VBS needs them this summer. Just leave your milk containers in the back of the sanctuary or in the CE office.

THANKS!

Engaged Discipleship

Sunday School 10:40 – 11:40 am

Preschoolers (3 and 4's) meet in the green room

K-2 meet in the blue room

Grades 3 - 5 meet in the coral spice room

Middle School Class (grades 6-8) meet in the downstairs classroom/Spice Rack curriculum

High School Conversations (Grades 9-12) meet in Wolverton

Adults (begins at 10:50) meet in the computer room upstairs

Adult Bible Studies

Women's Morning Bible Study Tuesday mornings in Fellowship Hall 10:00 am
Contact Judy Moller at 908-735-8148 for more information.

Women's Evening Bible Study

Spring dates –May 2 and May 16 7:00 pm

All ladies are invited to join us for this gentle bible study in the Wolverton building.

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

Spring Dates –May 5 and May 19 Saturday mornings in Fellowship Hall 7:30 am

Join us to be fed body and soul!



Sail away with Jesus for the best week of summer!

July 9-13 • 5:30 – 8:00 pm • Light dinner served

Ages 4 (and potty-trained) through those entering grade 5.

Register online at:

<http://clintonpresbyterian.net/discipleship/vacation-bible-school/>

or stop by the church office (908-735-5029) for a paper registration form.

**Donations are welcomed at camp check-in
(for those wishing to donate, a suggested amount is \$15/child or \$25/family)**



Adults and Teens: Want to Help? VBS needs YOU!

We are looking for station leaders, crew leaders, Opening Program leader, audio/video tech support, kitchen help and more. Students 6th grade and older may volunteer (it's a fun way to earn service hours!). Sign up for the week or even just a night or two ~ whatever you can do. It's a small commitment that makes a BIG difference! To see the list of volunteer opportunities or to sign up to help, visit CPC's website: <http://clintonpresbyterian.net/discipleship/vacation-bible-school/>. It's that easy!

Help us to anchor our kids in the truth that Jesus carries them through life's storms. With Jesus, we will survive and thrive!

Looking for A Sponsor for a Kona Ice Truck for VBS

Vacation Bible Camp is offering an opportunity for an individual or business to sponsor a Kona Ice Treat for our campers and volunteers. The Kona Ice truck gives us a nice discount so \$100 would cover it. We would be happy to acknowledge your generosity by putting a mention in a bulletin insert, the monthly Bell Ringer and an email to campers and volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Kim Darcy (mkfdar@AOL.COM) or Cathy Edelsberg (cathyedels@gmail.com). If you prefer to remain anonymous, simply submit a check to the church, payable to CPC (please note in the memo section: "VBS – Kona") or you may utilize the online donation system on the church website (please note in the comments section: "VBS – Kona").



Items needed for Vacation Bible Camp (donation or loan).

Please contact Kim Darcy (mkfdar@AOL.COM) or Cathy Edelsberg (cathyedels@gmail.com) or drop off items in the upstairs blue Sunday School room. **Please be sure to label items if you need them back.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 black flat bed sheet | 20 ping pong balls |
| Large roll of brightly colored duct tape | 300 quart-size re-sealable bags |
| Plastic wading pool | 1 bubble machine |
| 7 old beach towels | 24 toy cars |
| 60 large green plastic plates | 5lbs white rice |
| 60 large plastic cups | 5 cases of water bottles (long/tall ones for science) |
| 1 extra jumbo beach ball | 100 plastic coins |
| 100 marbles | 2 child size inflatable swim rings |
| 24 empty water or milk gallon jugs | 2 fishing nets |
| 1 tennis ball | 1 large pack of small plates |

Engaged Discipleship

Even though Old Man Winter decided to stick around a little longer this year, we still had an awesome April on the youth group front! On Saturday, April 7, we gathered a group of 20 adults and kids to serve with the Feed our Starving Children organization (formerly called Feed the Need). The volunteers in our time slot boxed 14,472 meals! That's enough food to feed 39 children for 1 year! WOW. God is certainly at work with that organization and in the hearts of our church family. The meals that are sent out provide the proper nutritional value for malnourished children around the world. This is a very fun and special event; we hope you can join us again next year!

Our kids also had time to let loose and jump around on our Spring Youth Retreat to Aquatopia Waterpark at Camelback Resort! What a fun weekend! As we grew in fellowship together with jokes and food and fun water slides, we also learned the importance of staying true to ourselves. During our "cabin time", we got to hear from a youth director in North Carolina about the stories of both Peter and Meshach from the Bible. We explored the differences between the two men and their loyalty to Jesus. The bulk of our time centered around who we are in Christ and how it's important to be authentic and be who God made us to be. What an important lesson for preteens and teenagers to hear. Meshach served as an excellent role model because he himself was just a teen when he stood up to King Nebuchadnezzar and stood by God. A nice time spent in the word with each other.

High school students once again served our friends in Newark with the Relief Bus. It is so wonderful to see the connection and relationships that continue to form when we serve with this group. Please pray for the team that serves our friends on the streets every day; day in and day out. Pray also for our friends as they navigate through life, that they would feel the presence of God in their daily lives.

May will be a fantastic month as we wrap up Sunday school and youth group! Though our regular routine will take a break for Summer fun, keep an eye and ear out for all that is happening over the warm months!

Enjoy the Spring and we'll see you 'round the church!

Follow us on **INSTAGRAM!!**
@chaosyouthministry

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Join us for what's coming up!:

- 5/6 Sunday Funday 5:30-6:30; CHAOS 7:00-8:30
- 5/19-20 Box City Event @ HCRHS (see below)
- 5/20 Our LAST Youth Group (Combined Event) "Survivor Game Night" 5:30-7:00
- 6/10 Senior Recognition during worship
- 6/28 Somerset Patriots Baseball Game

*CHAOS & Sunday Funday meet the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month unless otherwise noted (keep an eye out for "5th Sunday", coming to you select months of the year)!

Sunday Funday {3rd - 5th grades} 5:30pm - 6:30pm
CHAOS {6th - 12th grades} 7:00pm - 8:30pm

We're seriously having so much fun & we are so grateful to have y'all along for the ride with us! Questions? Want to get involved? Email Maggie Bell at maggie4cpc@gmail.com

**Saturday, May 19
(6:30 pm) -
Sunday May 20
(8:00 am)**



****rain or shine - no rain date!****

**Hunterdon Central High School
Practice Field**

Spend the night sleeping outside in a cardboard box (that you bring with you) to raise funds to support Family Promise of Hunterdon County's homeless families, and to increase awareness about homelessness in our own community. Everyone is welcome to participate by sleeping out, coming for the evening's festivities until 11pm, or supporting those that do.

Funds raised will help prevent homelessness and provide critically important services and housing for homeless families in Hunterdon.

Contact our Youth Leader, Maggie Bell, for more details: maggie4cpc@gmail.com

Nurturing Relationships



Saturday, May 5 • 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Many volunteers still needed.

We will be serving at many different locations including: Flemington Food Pantry, Market Street Mission, Friendship Center for New Beginnings, Anderson House and Hunterdon Care Center.

We will meet at CPC at 9:30 am and all projects will be concluded by 2:00 pm. If you have questions or want to reserve your service opportunity - please contact Sandie Lundeen @ 908-730-6958 or

slundeen@comcast.net or any member of the Mission Ministry Team (Cindy Boyer, Rick Hyman, Dave Kelly, Robin Meyh, Stephanie Ramos-Dominko or Christina Schlegel).

Thank you for serving! We are looking forward to doing God's work in the community.



Our church family will celebrate the unofficial start of Summer with fun,

Americana Church Picnic on May 20!

Join friends right after worship in the parking area and enjoy yummy food, fun lawn games, and good old-fashioned conversation. Musical talents will be provided by a Dixieland Ensemble to keep with the feeling of the good old days!

Come on out and join in the fun!

Please bring either chips or a side dish to share. Burgers, dogs and dessert will be provided by the Children, Fellowship, and Youth Ministry Teams!

**See you
at the picnic!**



From the Deacons – Martha Roth

In the midst of what seemed like an endless winter, I found myself longingly dreaming about my garden, a sanctuary of peace. I began to think more about my garden during Reverend Jeremy Campbell's sermon titled "Peace Be With You". But this time, I thought about the metaphor "sowing the seeds of peace" as it relates to nurturing relationships.

While we "sow the seeds of peace", we support our church members in need of such things as: meals, transportation and visits. We are appreciative of anyone who can volunteer to provide a meal or car ride. If you have any care needs or would like to help out, please see a deacon. I hope you can enjoy some gardening and growing relationships with others!

Ian Clark's Ordination Service

Ian Clark, our Seminary Intern from 2016-2017 will be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA) on Sunday, May 20. The Service will take place at The Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township (240 Southern Boulevard, Chatham Township, NJ 07928) at 3:00 pm.

Please consider attending this service as we congratulate Ian on this wonderful next step in his ministry.

New College Address?

Has your college student (son or daughter) changed addresses from last semester to the present semester?

If so, please let us know:

Martha Roth:
hjohnroth@aol.com

or
Wendy Morrisette:
wmorrisette@gmail.com



We will soon be sending a treat during finals!

Transforming Mission

Mission Volunteer Opportunities Relief Bus on Friday, May 4

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, May 4 at Penn Station/Newark.

Please contact Dave Kelly if you have any questions or you'd like to volunteer.
(908) 391-6372 or DLSH27@comcast.net



Mission Opportunity at Anderson House May 21 and June 18

Anderson House is a halfway house for women with alcohol and drug addictions in Whitehouse. We at CPC have been supporting them in numerous ways. For about 15 years, a group of women visited there once a month (usually the third Monday evening of each month). We usually offer two activities for the women. Some of the activities have been painting frames or boxes, jewelry making, making greeting cards, knitting and crocheting. In February, to celebrate Valentine's Day, we dipped strawberries in chocolate.

The ladies have a very structured schedule to support them in their sobriety. This is one of the few fun things they get to participate in. They really appreciate our efforts.

We are looking for a few women to join our group so that we can continue this mission. You don't have to be a gifted artist. If there is a craft you enjoy or would like to learn and teach at the same time, please call Carol Kotopoulos at 908-963-2221 (evenings are best).

CPC Serving as Family Promise "Host Site" in September - Volunteers Needed

Family Promise will be back at our church from Sunday, September 2 through Sunday, September 9. Once again, we want to thank the congregation for all the hard work and caring when we had our guests in February. Both the guests and the Family Promise Center thought it was a big success.

We will have the same type of schedule that we had in February except for condensing the slots on Saturday. If you have a slot that you liked and want it again, please let us know. Or if you want to go to another time slot or pick up another slot we would like to know that also. We will be passing a sign-up sheet this month.

Finally, if you have any thoughts that would help the program, we would appreciate you letting us know by contacting:

Robin Meyh rmeyh@aol.com

Stephanie Ramos-Dominko sramosdominko@gmail.com

Rick Hyman rhyman@embarqmail.com

To learn more about Family Promise, please visit their website at <http://familypromisehc.org/>

As the only homeless shelter for children and their families in Hunterdon County, Family Promise responds to the emergent need in our community. Family Promise of Hunterdon and the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Hunterdon County program is a non-profit 501(c)3 agency, established in 1990. They work together to end the homelessness in Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

Faithful Stewardship

Session Round-Up/March

Children's

The children have been participating in worship, singing, reading and taking “worship notes” during the service each Sunday. Palm Sunday's Egg Hunt began with 33 children on our church steps who then raced off to find those special eggs.

Fellowship and Member Care

The team is considering having a fellowship time a half hour before the 9:30 am service. They are going to try this when we begin “Lemonade on the Lawn”. More opportunities for gathering and integrating people in groups and activities are being discussed.

Mission

Mission at CPC has been embraced. *Be the Church Day* is May 5 with many opportunities for all ages. Everyone is encouraged to sign up.

Nominating

The team is in place and they are beginning to prayerfully discern a list of possible nominations for three Elder positions and two Deacon positions.

Operations

CPC celebrated two anniversaries this month. With prayers and thanks we marked Pastor Tracey's fifth year and our Administrative Assistant Diane O'Connor her tenth year at Clinton Presbyterian Church. The team has met to discuss corporation status along with church and Mini Manse property clean up.

Session

The Session approved the following:

The use for the Red Mill to include CPC as a “selfie-stop” for their Vintage Bicycle Themed Fundraiser on Saturday, May 19.

The use of the Women's Club of Clinton to use the parking lot to set up a few tables for the Clinton Town Yard Sale on Saturday, June 2.

Welcome and Growth

CPC is making our presence known in the community and joining the Clinton Guild. Many events take place in our area and CPC will now be at the table and involved in the planning. A new Clinton Presbyterian Church logo has been created. Look for it on our website.

Youth

Registrations are coming in for the youth adventure to Aquatopia. The trip is scheduled for April 14-15 for middle and high schoolers.

Faithful Stewardship

Session Round-Up/April

Children's

Planning for Vacation Bible School in July has begun along with plans for the 2018 - 2019 Sunday School year. The Children's, Youth and Fellowship and Member Care Ministry Teams are busy planning for the All Church Picnic on May 20.

Fellowship and Member Care

The Maundy Thursday dinner was a success. The next event is the all church picnic on Sunday, May 20. The team will be organizing a fellowship time half an hour before the 9:30 service and will begin this when weather is warmer and we start "Lemonade on the Lawn". Second Sunday Dine Around will start on June 10.

Mission

Be the Church Day is May 5 with many opportunities for all ages. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

Nominating

The team has been working to fill all the slots for elders and deacons. The entire process has been a very positive experience. A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20, to receive the report of the Nominating Team and vote on the proposed slate of new elders and deacons.

Operations

Plans for church repair and renovations include, lighting and motion detectors, boiler issues, locks on outside doors, exterior painting of the church. The Boy Scouts will participate in the *Be the Church Day* working in the flower beds and the dungeon. The Manse has had some repair work done inside and renovations to the bathroom and other major projects are being targeted for 2019. Planning for the church office renovations is underway with the possibility of start up after VBS and completion by the start of Preschool.

Preschool

We have five, four year olds registered for the September 2018 opening of the Clinton Presbyterian Preschool. Preparations to the classrooms continue. We are planning a furniture building, classroom clean up and set up day on *Be the Church Day*, May 5. Share us on Facebook!

Session

The Session approved the following:

The use of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall by Patrick Barno on Saturday, May 12 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm for an Eagle Scout Ceremony and luncheon.

The use of the Fellowship Hall for the 2018-2019 calendar year by the Brushing Violets.

Welcome and Growth

CPC logo is finalized and the team is hoping to make T-shirts and sweatshirts available for purchase in the near future. They are busy revamping the church website. We continue to make connections with the Clinton Guild and are increasing our involvement in activities.

Youth

The overnight trip to Aquatopia went well. Plans are to make it an annual event with some fund raising. There will be a 2018 fall Confirmation Class. An all church Movie Night is planned for April 29 with the showing of *The Greatest Showman* outside, or in the event of rain, in the Fellowship Hall.

May Birthdays

- 1 Larry Kursar
- 3 Hannah Bittenmaster, Chad Lundeen
- 5 Deirdre Blaus, Ava Kvarata, Koppany Pusztai, Elizabeth Seiffert, Christian Wirth
- 6 Scott Schipmann
- 7 Mark Holmsborg
- 9 Kerry Maslanka
- 10 David Henry, Joey Perez
- 11 Steve Battaglia
- 13 Horace Buchanan, Meredith Nuzzo
- 15 Carey Bell, Christopher Blaus
- 18 Katherine Spencer
- 19 Raymond Paul, Phil Sayre
- 21 Norman LaValette, Caleb Schlegel
- 22 Mary Joan Barr
- 23 Jenny Kunzman
- 25 Maggie Bell, Andrew Kvarata
- 26 Lauren Kreutel
- 29 Emily Cuthill

May Anniversaries

- 1 Mitch and Jenny Kunzman
- 7 David and Elizabeth Seiffert
- 8 Eusilio and Rebecca DiPace
- 12 Bill and Mary Joan Barr



Our Boy Scout Troop 121 April Theme: Astronomy

The weekly Troop meetings are planned around the monthly theme.

This month's meetings included rocket building, making a model solar system and star gazing. Many scouts are also working on earning the Astronomy Merit Badge.

The troop participated in a Hobo Campout and wilderness hike April 13-15 at Camp Glen Gray near Mahwah.

The troop also invited the Webelos to participate in a day hike and an outdoor activity.

If you have any questions about our Troop, please contact Linda Schipmann-Pustai @ lindaschipmann@hotmail.com or (908) 285-1190 or Rick Hyman @ RHyman@embarqmail.com or (908) 713-0031.



Sanctuary Flowers - \$40

Remember or honor someone, or mark a special occasion, by placing flowers in the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning. Orders forms are on the bulletin board across from the church office.



Please let us know if you have a new address, phone or cell number, or email address so that we have your records up to date.

Thank you.

Phone: 908.735.5029

Email: office4cpc@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter (combined June/July issue) is Monday, May 21.