



Clinton Presbyterian Church

August
2018

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

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

As you will see inside this newsletter, a group from CPC recently went to a Somerset Patriots game together. For David and I, it was the first time we had taken all 3 boys to a game. I am not sure how much of the game they were able to follow, but I do know that they were big fans of all the food! Going to a game always feels like a uniquely American experience for me. The Ball Park is a happy place - the atmosphere in the stadium, the cheering crowds, the smell of popcorn, and traditions like the 7th Inning Stretch.

According to my trusted source, Google, some historians trace baseball's 7th Inning Stretch back to April 14, 1910 when President William Howard Taft attended the opening day game against the Washington Senators and Philadelphia Athletics at Griffith Stadium. Writes Michael Aubrecht, "According to reports, as the game continued to drag on, the six-foot-two president grew increasingly uncomfortable in the small wooden chair that was no doubt weaning under the weight of its presidential patron. By the middle of the seventh-inning, Taft was unable to bear the pain any longer and stood up to stretch his aching legs. In those days, the leader of the free world commanded a tremendous amount of reverence and as his fellow spectators noticed him rising, they followed his lead as a sign of respect. A few minutes later, Taft returned to his seat and the game resumed."

Interesting, isn't it? This tradition which we all enjoy started with one man's aching legs and the need to stand and stretch... ever felt that same need to take a break? Well, in Psalm 62:5-7 we hear this invitation, "Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge."

This summer I encourage you to take time for a 7th Inning Stretch – to take a break from what you're doing so you can stand up and stretch your legs. Take a break from work, take a break from stress, take a break from worry, and instead find your rest in God who is your hope, your fortress, your mighty rock, and your refuge. There is more to life than being productive so, start enjoying those moments of rest and renewal... may you know many summer blessings!

See you in church,

Tracey

The church picnic was a wonderful success!

The Dixie Land Band played great music for all to enjoy while fun was had by all. Outdoor games also brought fun to the event and got all of our children involved.

Thank you to everyone who brought a delicious dish to share alongside our yummy hamburgers, hotdogs and ice cream sundae bar!

And as always, thanks be to God for the great weather!



Flat Jesus is once again covering many miles this summer! After celebrating with graduates at Voorhees and North, he jetted to France with the Hymans, flew back to Chicago to receive his Master's Degree at Northwestern (accompanied by Tina Dornbusch!), on to Yellowstone with Tristian and then it was off to LBI with the Annesse and Little families for some R & R!



Happy August, friends! We hope the summer months have been keeping you entertained and rested... and that Jesus ("Flat" and otherwise!) has been with you on your adventures!

Our youth crew & church family have been having fun this summer, aaaand have also had the opportunity to serve our local friends. We love our community and the impact God allows us to have! In June we had the opportunity to serve Family Promise and prepare for our new preschool. We rolled up our sleeves and got to work – helping FP headquarters organize a couple of spaces to better serve their families. Two storage units and a playroom got facelifts from our CHAOS kids! After finishing at Family Promise Headquarters, the crew headed back to CPC to help with a little cleaning for our preschool. Check out some of the windows in the classrooms...do they look cleaner? ☺ Their energy and willingness to help was phenomenal – we are grateful to be able to serve our community!

Don't you just love this church family? We took ourselves out to the ball game with the Somerset Patriots in late June! It was a home run of a time.



Only a handful of our group of 30+ stuck around for the fireworks, but a good time was definitely had by all! Grant Bruno even took home a souvenir ball! We're looking forward to more nights at the ballpark through our new connection to the Patriots organization. Join us next time, it's sure to be a great night!

Looking ahead to the 2018-2019 school year:

Our Kick Off CHAOS Night is set for September 9. Mark your calendars for that Sunday evening and watch for our Fall Youth Calendar, zooming into your inbox in the next couple of weeks.

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

Follow us on INSTAGRAM!! @chaosyouthministry



Meet Our New Officers

On July 8 we ordained and installed our new officers for the upcoming season at CPC. Cathy Edelsberg and Robin Meyh will join the Deacon Board while Gwili Marsh and Linda Schipmann-Pustai will join Session.

Gwili Marsh



Gwili and her husband, Ralph, joined CPC in 1981, shortly after moving to Clinton Township upon separating from the US Air Force. Both graduated from Gettysburg College, where they met. Gwili and Ralph's 3 children were raised in the CPC family. They have 5 grandchildren. Gwili has served as an Elder in the past, taught Sunday School, chaired the CE Committee, served on various other committees and served on one of the Pastoral Search Committees. Gwili and Ralph are in the process of retiring the business they have run together since moving to NJ and Gwili looks forward to free time to garden and travel.

Linda Schipmann-Pustai

Linda became a member of CPC in 1999. She is married to Jim Pustai and mom to Scott Schipmann. Linda served in various capacities through the years – Pre-K Sunday School teacher from 2003 through June 2017, 2 terms on the Deacon Board, a VBS helper, a member of the Nominating Committee, the ushering schedule coordinator, a nursery volunteer and an usher. Linda currently serves as the Chartered Organization Representative for the Boy Scout Troop sponsored by CPC, Troop 121. In her professional life, she's been a paralegal for a law firm in Green Brook for 13 years. She likes to read and cheer on her favorite sports teams. Linda is honored to serve on the Board of Elders and excited to see God's plan for her unfold.



Cathy Edelsberg

Cathy has lived in Clinton Township for almost 18 years, Emily and Lauren. She grew up in a Christian home in Pennsylvania and 8 years with her husband, Andrew, and two college-age daughter attended a Presbyterian church her entire life. After worshipping at CPC for several years, Cathy officially transferred her membership from her "hometown" church to CPC in October 2006. Besides coordinating CPC's Cooperative Care program years back, Cathy was involved with Sunday School and VBS programs since her girls were little. This year, she was blessed to join again the K-5th Grade Sunday School team. For the last 6 years, she co-directed VBS and is excited to do so again this summer. Several years ago, Cathy served 2 Deacon terms and was a member of both the Nominating Committee (for elders and deacons) and CPC's most recent Pastor Nominating Committee. She is currently part of the Children's Ministry Team. Cathy is honored to serve on the Deacon Board another time and looks forward to serving this wonderful congregation.



Robin Meyh

Robin grew up in Ocean County and attended The College of New Jersey. Currently she is an educator and a field hockey & lacrosse coach at Mendham High School.

Robin loves photography, gardening, biking and kayaking...anything outdoors! She loves to spend time with Donavyn, Margie and Connor and the rest of her extended family. Vacationing in Maine is her favorite thing to do! Her time at CPC has been very rewarding and she very much enjoys being part of the Mission Team.

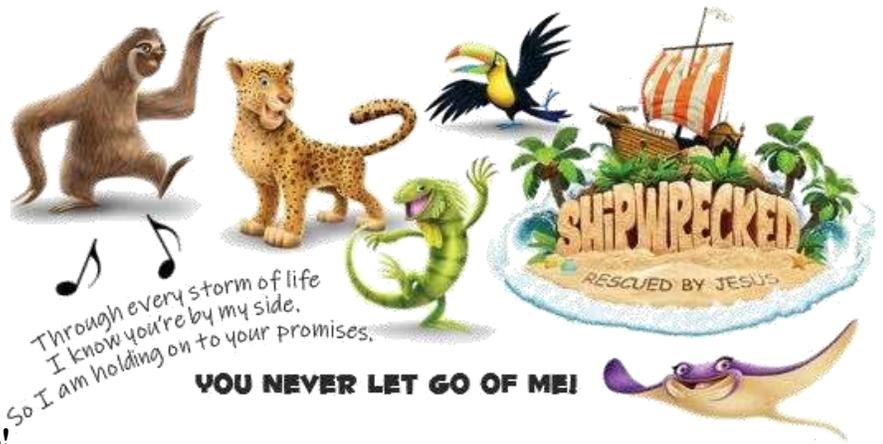


VBS set sail this summer and ended up **SHIPWRECKED!** Through it all, though, we never felt alone. Jesus was waiting each night to rescue us! AND... we were surrounded by 36 little sailors and a crew of 41 volunteers. From July 9 – 13, we discovered real treasure - God's messages of love and hope. **When you're lonely, when you worry, when you struggle, when you do wrong, and when you're powerless... JESUS RESCUES!**

We appreciate our VBS families and are grateful to those parents who brought their children to be with us each evening.

Just as Jesus rescues us, He uses us to rescue others. We were able to help local families in need by collecting nonperishables for the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton. We hoped to overflow our wooden crates with cans and boxes.... and we did! Thank you, VBS families, for 159 items collected!

VBS planning begins in the spring and, we admit, at times we worry. Will we have enough children? Enough volunteers? Well, when you worry, Jesus rescues and He blessed us with an abundance of helpers who enthusiastically gave up their week to assist us. The various talents and skills of our crew were as great in number as the grains of sand on our shipwrecked island. Each volunteer found his/her niche and served God well that week. Thank you to all! We cannot express enough appreciation for sharing your week with us and



for giving such love to our children. And for those who couldn't be with us but really wanted to be... we missed you! Jump on board next year!

Dinner was served to our group each evening (thank you, kitchen crew!). What a joy to just watch and listen to the chatter in Fellowship Hall. Colalillo ShopRite partnered with us again, giving a generous donation. And Kona Ice, as usual, kindly offered us a great discount so the kids could cool off with frozen treats on our last day.

Thanks to all – families and volunteers – for another fun VBS week. Remember the promise that **Jesus rescues!** No matter what life throws our way, He will help us to *survive and thrive!* As the VBS song reminds us - “You never let go of me!”

And now that we have you on our list, we won't let go of you either. See you next summer!





VBS



2018



Undies on Sundays Thank You!

The Undies on Sundays mission project was a success! As a congregation, we were able to supply The Friendship Center for New Beginnings with over 50 packs of undies, which will last them about a year. They were very grateful for our donation and appreciate all that we do for them. The Mission Team would like to thank everyone who donated to help this local organization.

Please check out the Missions bulletin board and future newsletters for more ways we can help them and other local organizations!

CPC Congregational Conversations

Through the month of June, 106 members and friends participated in our Congregational Conversations. It was such a joy to listen to glad remembrances from the past at CPC and also to learn about hopes and dreams that we each hold for the future of God's church in this place. An Ad Hoc Visioning Team, commissioned by Session, is now meeting on a regular basis and is charged with the work of crafting a future path from the content of our conversations.



The members of the team are: Chris Blaus, Cathy Edelsberg, Laurel Kelly, Larry Kursar, Gwili Marsh, Zan Struebing and Ross Traphagen. Please keep this team in your prayers as they go about this important work.



Baptism

On July 15, we had the honor of welcoming Charlotte Jane Blaus to the family of God. We surround Charlotte and her family with our love and prayers.

PRESCHOOL

It is with a joyful heart that we are able to announce that Clinton Presbyterian Church Preschool is officially licensed!

Thank you to all who have supported this ministry. With many helpful hands, visionary minds and continuous prayer, our classrooms and playground have been approved for fun and creative learning. A HUGE thank to Glenn Allen and Tracey and David Henry for the days (and nights) spent preparing the way.

We have a few more openings for both three and four year olds. Spread the word!

On August 26, immediately following worship, the congregation is invited to join us in the preschool classrooms as we dedicate this space and pray God's blessings over the little ones who will fill our classrooms.



To complete our staffing roster, we are seeking to hire a part time Teaching Assistant to help with classroom duties. If you or someone you know is interested in such a position please contact our Director, Adrienne Hodulik for details at hodulik@comcast.net.

Stay tuned... new excitement is happening every day!

Session Round-Up (June Meeting)

Children's

Planning continues for Vacation Bible School in July. Volunteers are still needed for a few positions. Please prayerfully consider how you can be a part of this fun week. See Kim Darcy, Cathy Edelsberg, Jenny Kunzman or any member of the Children's Ministry Team with questions or to sign up.

Fellowship and Member Care

The new coffee carafes have arrived. Lemonade on the Lawn will take place each Sunday at 9:00 and after worship. Second Sunday Dine Around will start on July 8.

Mission

"Undies on Sundays" continues! Please consider donating. Donations can be placed in the baskets in the Sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall. The Mission Team is starting to plan for the October 13th, Be the Church Day.

Nominating

We welcomed new Elders and Deacons, who joined our boards at this month's meetings. Ordination and Installation will take place on Sunday, July 8.

Operations

Personnel: The final version of the Employee Manual has been completed. The team will begin initiating the new performance review process.

Finance: The financial report continues to be positive. Work has begun to complete repairs on the Fairview Property. The team has been looking into remodeling the office with new carpeting and paint being a priority.

Property: The team has been keeping a running task list for property items needing attention. The lighting upgrade in the church building is moving forward. Renovations to the church office including painting and carpet replacement will take place this summer. The team is looking to replace the freezer in the church kitchen.

Preschool

Preparations to the classrooms and playground continue. Parents are inquiring about the program via email and Facebook and are visiting the classrooms. We await information from the State and should be hearing from them soon. Don't forget to share us on Facebook!

Session

The Session approved the following:

The use of the Coral Spice Room by Court Appointed Special Advocates for two volunteer information sessions on Thursday, August 9 from 12:00-2:00pm and Tuesday, August 21 from 5:30-7:30 pm.

The use of the Coral Spice Room for Women's AA meetings Monday afternoons from 1:00-2:00 pm, September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019.

The use of the Coral Spice Room and Blue Room (upstairs) and the Wolverton Building on Monday evenings at 8:00 pm for Al-Anon, Alateen and Open AA Meetings from September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019.

The use of the Sanctuary for the celebration of the life of Cliff Platt on Saturday, June 23 at 10:00 am.

Welcome and Growth

The team continues to work on advertising for our church and the preschool. They are looking into designing and purchasing church T-Shirts and magnets. There is a need for signage, both in and outside of the church, directing people where rooms and offices are located.

Youth

Maggie and Tracey attended the North and Voorhees graduations on June 12. The Middle School Youth Group, Maggie and Tracey will be participating in a "Youth Mission Day" at Family Promise in Flemington cleaning, organizing and repairing items in the storage trailer. A family evening at the ballpark is planned for Thursday, June 28 at Patriots Park in Bridgewater.

Glory to God Hymnals

A word of thanks to all those who sponsored a hymnal in honor or in memory of a loved one. If you would still like to sponsor a hymnal, click here <http://clintonpresbyterian.net/new-hymnal-sponsorship-form/>

Our original hope was to begin using these hymnals in early September. However, we learned that there will be a sale on bulk orders in the early fall, so we are delaying placing an order until that time. Watch this space – purple hymnals are coming soon.

Family Promise

Family Promise is back at CPC from September 2 through September 9. Our guests will arrive Labor Day Weekend and leave on September 9, which is also the Sunday School Kickoff Breakfast. There will be a BBQ dinner for our guests on Labor Day, September 3. We will have more information regarding the BBQ once we get closer.

Over the last couple of months, we have had a great response from the congregation in signing up for time slots, food shopping, and setup / clean up. We already have most of the slots full, with just a few opportunities on Saturday, September 8th. The schedule and list of slots will be posted on the Mission bulletin board, outside of the sanctuary. The schedule will also be sent to those who have already signed up, as we get closer to the week.

If you are interested in signing up for a time slot or to help in another way, please contact one of our coordinators:

Robin Meyh rmeyh@aol.com

Stephanie Ramos sramosdominko@gmail.com

Rick Hyman rhyman@embarqmail.com

The Family Promise week we had back in February was a wonderful eye-opening experience. We are all looking forward to the next week in September!

Mission Volunteer Opportunities: The Relief Bus

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 the following Friday evenings at Penn Station/Newark:

August 3

September 7

October 5

November 2

December 7

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



Save the Dates



August 26 during worship

It's almost time for a new school year! Bring your backpacks (and work bags!) to church on Sunday, August 26 for a special **Blessing of the Backpacks**. Old and young are invited to participate!

Kick-Off Breakfast September 9 @ 10:30

Join us in Fellowship Hall for an **All Church Breakfast** to kick-off the new school year! We'll reminisce about summer and look forward to plans for the fall - don't miss it!

Sunday School for all ages resumes on September 16!



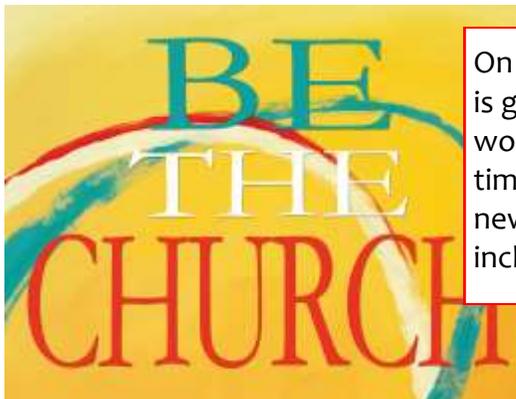
Women's Bible Studies

Beginning September 11, Tracey will continue to guide us in a study of the book of Acts. Don't worry if you missed the first chapters - we'll have a review session!



**Tuesday mornings
at 10 am**

in Fellowship Hall



On **Saturday, October 13**, Clinton Presbyterian Church is going to leave the building and go serve in Jesus' name in the world. Plan to be a part of it. Dip your toe into mission for the first time or if you have been involved with mission for a long time, try a new venture this day. We'll have 5 or 6 options to choose from, including family friendly service opportunities.

Mark this date on your calendar now and be on the lookout for more details.

DEACON UPDATE by Laurel Kelly

Your Deacon Board is here to help you!
Did you know that every member of the congregation has his/her very own Deacon? If you are ever in need of assistance (examples: meals, rides, etc.) or prayers, you can let your Deacon (or any one of us) know. We love good news too, so feel free to share that with us as well. The congregation is divided up by the first letter of the last name as follows:

David Henry – Letters A, N, O
Rick Hyman – Letter M
Jason Krushinski – Letters Ba - Bi
Nancy Paul Letter S
Wendy Morrissette – Letter L
Robin Meyh – Letters I, J & K
Laurel Kelly – Letters D & E
Judy Beck – Letter P
Sharon Rosenberg – Letter C & H
Barbara Allen – Letters Q, R & T
Martha Roth – Letters F, G, V, & W
Cathy Edelsberg – Letters Bl - Bu

Be on the lookout for a letter from your Deacon in September (or earlier)!

Meal Donations:

Please consider volunteering to provide a meal for those in our church community who are in need of an extra helping hand. Specifically at this time, we are looking for people to bring meals to Doris Cramer.

To sign up please follow the link below.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

<http://www.takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=OUPHo645>

Food Pantry Donations:

We continue to collect toiletries and non-perishable food for the Open Cupboard Food Pantry here in Clinton. You can bring your donations to church and put them in the baskets by the door in front of the sanctuary. If you would like to provide cash, instead of actual items, there is an envelope in the baskets for that as well. We thank you for your support. The food pantry is always very appreciative of our donations.

Well Wishes Cards:

Please remember to sign the well wishes cards that are on the table during Fellowship Time after church. It only takes a moment to write a note to someone to let them know that you will pray for them and are thinking about them during a happy or sad time. The Deacons have heard from recipients who are very appreciative, so please take the time. It could make someone's day!



Our Boy Scout Troop 121

June Theme: Philmont

This month's activities included backpacking skills, a trail hike, fire starting, map and compass, and map reading.

The Troop attended the Mid-Atlantic Air Museum's WWII Weekend at the Reading Regional Airport in Pennsylvania on June 1-3.

This event featured an Air Show, re-enactments and re-enactors with historically accurate "encampments" that the scouts were able to visit, battles they were able to watch (and hear) and lectures and presentations by WW II veterans and historians.

On June 8, the Troop marched in the Clinton Flag Day parade and participated in the flag retirement ceremony.

The Troop also participated in their biggest community service project of the year – Scouting for Food.

July Theme: Summer Fun/Troop Olympics

This month's activities included boating, swimming, bike ride, outdoor games, and tubing.

The Troop participated in the Lebanon Independence Day parade.

An Eagle Court of Honor was held on July 7 for Nathan and Connor Duda.

Members of the Troop attended summer camp at Resica Falls Scout Reservation the week of July 22.

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.

August Birthdays

- 2 Colleen Guest, Heather Kelly, Emelia Maslanka
- 3 Kay Daughters-Musnuff, Caroline Paul, Evelyn Voget
- 5 Eileen Mansfield, William Spencer
- 6 Kristine Guest
- 7 Amelia Brown
- 11 Lee Longell, Judi Sifuentes
- 13 Jessica Bruno
- 15 Evan Christopher, Linda Wilton-McCaffrey
- 16 Sarah Kelly
- 17 Doug Martin, David Scannell
- 18 Ralph Marsh
- 19 Joanne Berson
- 20 Nancy Paul
- 22 Madelyn Ahmed
- 25 Grayson Guest
- 26 Cathy Nace
- 29 Michelle Annese,
- 30 Sharon Green
- 31 Levente Pusztai



August Anniversaries

- 1 Larry and Karen Kursar
- 4 Daniel and Tara Nuzzo
- 7 Jim and Linda Pustai
- 8 Brian and Michelle Annese
- 14 Bill and Ino Sowder
- 17 Brian and Amey Barnes, Andrew and Megan Kvarata
- 22 Bill and Tammy Warner
- 24 Tom and Adrienne Hodulik
- 25 Omar and Victoria Ahmed, Roger and Jeri Twigg
- 26 Dave and Cindy Boyer
- 27 Greg and Alice Korab