

Clinton Presbyterian Church



Our Mission

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

Core Values

We are grateful for God's grace which allows us to be:

Welcoming to All

Our doors and our arms are open to all who would join us on this journey of faith.

Growing in Faith

At every age and stage of life we recognize the importance of nurturing faith development.

Serving with Love

We embrace opportunities for mission.



Clinton Presbyterian Church

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

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

If you were not in worship on Sunday September 16th, you may have missed the introduction of our vision work, "Growing in God's Grace". You can access it online at <http://clintonpresbyterian.net/about/our-vision-and-mission/> and copies are also available in the Sanctuary.

This work is a direct result of conversations with and among church members and friends this spring and summer and it outlines our core values, our strengths and our strategic priorities for the years ahead. As we are growing in God's grace, we also seek to:

- Grow our worshipping community
- Grow our commitment to children and youth ministries
- Grow our opportunities for faith formation and connection
- Grow our service to others
- Grow our digital presence
- Grow our community engagement

The plan addresses each of these areas in more detail. It is my hope that each and everyone one of us will play our part as we move forward. This is not the work of the pastor alone, it is not the work of the deacons and elders alone and it is not work exclusively reserved for those who are serving on ministry teams. There is a role for each of us. There is work for all of us.

Let's embark upon its implementation in the months ahead mindful that this is all a grateful response to the grace we have been given. In the words of Oscar Romero, "We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs." May the God of grace be at the center of all our efforts.

See you in church -
Tracey



Worship

Upcoming in Worship

October 7

Growing in God's Grace – Serving with Love

October 14

Growing in Generosity

October 21

Humility

October 28

Children's Sunday



Growing
in God's grace

Last Call for Hymnal Sponsorships Deadline – October 7

If you would still like to sponsor a hymnal,
follow this link

<http://clintonpresbyterian.net/new-hymnal-sponsorship-form/>



Congregational Meeting

Session has called for a Congregational Meeting at 10:45 on October 14 for the purposes of receiving the budget and voting on Rev. Henry's terms of call. All members are encouraged to attend.

Noisy Offering

Let's make a little noise as we praise God together! Bring your coins and join the kids in contributing to our noisy offering bucket!
October 28, November 25, December 23

Choir, Praise Team and Bells

In order to get more people involved with music at CPC, I would like to try something different. Instead of a yearlong commitment, I would like to have those interested in participating to get involved with for short periods of time. You can join us for a few Sundays and do the previous rehearsals and have no long term time commitment. You can drop in and out when your schedule permits.

If you are interested, please speak to me or current members for more information.

My email is gary4cpc@gmail.com.

Bells: Our first bell choir offering will be on October 21 with our first rehearsal Thursday, October 4 at 5:30.

No prior experience necessary.

Gary Ross, Music Director



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

On October 28th we look forward to being lead in worship by our children.

The Children's Chorus will lead us in song – this is a Sunday you don't want to miss!



All Saints Sunday

It has been our custom in the last few years to pause on the **first Sunday in November** to remember with gratitude the lives of members of our congregation who have passed away.

This year, we would also like to include remembrances of loved ones from your extended families who have died since last November. If you would like to have your loved one remembered on this date, please reach out to Rev. Henry or Cathy Nace, chair of worship (cnace57@yahoo.com) to share their name.



Children and Youth

Sunday School Classes 10:45 – 11:30 am

Preschool and Elementary

Kids and teachers will continue to use the PC(USA) curriculum, Growing in Grace and Gratitude.

Kids: Meet your teachers each week in Fellowship Hall at 10:45 am.

Parents: Pick up your kids at classrooms at 11:30 am.

Pre-K (3 and 4's) downstairs Blue Room
Teachers: Joanne Berson, Megan Bauman

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade upstairs Blue Room
Teachers: Kim Darcy, Judi Sifuentes, Cathy Edelsberg

3rd – 5th Grade upstairs Coral Spice Room
Teachers: Adrienne Hodulik and Barbara Plundeke

Sunday School Schedule PreK through Grade 5

- October 7 Regular classes
- October 14 Pumpkin decorating
Music practice for Children's Sunday
- October 21 Rehearsal for Children's Sunday during Sunday school
- October 28 Regular classes



Our Sunday school year began with a **BANG!** (and a **POWZAP!BAM!**). The September 9 “Kick-Off” introduced us to our Sunday school teachers and to the **incredible** year that lies ahead.

We know that Jesus is our ultimate superhero. Yet God uses all of us to do great things. God equips us to be superheroes too, so we may help those around us and take care of His world. In Sunday school, we are discovering the **incredible** power and grace of God and meeting some **incredible** superheroes from the Bible. Come to class on Sundays and find out who is hiding behind the mask each week!

If you haven't yet registered your child for Sunday school, it's not too late! Sign up online: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/d16f23>.

Middle School downstairs Den

Teachers – Bob Tombs and Paul Morrissette

Learn more about the bible, ask big questions of faith, spend time with friends. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 am.

Confirmation Class Wolverton Building Students in grades 9 and 10

Teachers: Maggie Bell and Leslie Hyman

Explore more about our journey of faith and consider what it means to be a member of the church. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 am each week.

High school students who are not a part of the confirmation class this year, please contact Maggie Bell to learn of Sunday morning service opportunities.

Children and Youth

Youth Group

Happy Fall, Y'all! It's October, which means it's the best month of the year. Sunday Funday & CHAOS are in full swing and are doing all the things! We kicked off the year with a Game Night Tournament - the rain couldn't stop us from having a great time! The usual fun commenced in the weeks that followed as we welcomed a new season and got to be together each week! New faces to our crew have sparked new friendships and more laughs - never a dull moment on a Sunday night!

It's going to be an exciting year going forward - after sitting down with our youth crew, we found some activities THEY wanted to do this year so we can design our dream program and be excited to bring

Sunday Funday & CHAOS meet EVERY Sunday unless otherwise noted (due to holidays or special events).

Sunday Funday Grades 3-5 5:30pm – 6:30pm

CHAOS Grades 6-12 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

Follow us on INSTAGRAM!! @chaosyouthministry



Keep an eye out for special events and themed nights. Here are some that already made the calendar:

October 6

Main Street Festival!

Come check out our booth on Main Street and join us for Kids Night Out in the evening! See article below for more information.

October 28

Youth Group Zombie Night

October 31

Trunk or Treat @ CPC

November 11

Assemble Thanksgiving baskets (morning activity)

November 11

Movie Night

November 17

Deliver Thanksgiving baskets

December 16

Youth Group Christmas Party



Calling all superheroes!

The town of Clinton is hosting a Half Marathon Expo on Saturday October 6 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. There will be a superhero sprint at 3:00 pm. Sign up your superheroes here: vbspro.events/p/cpckidsniteout

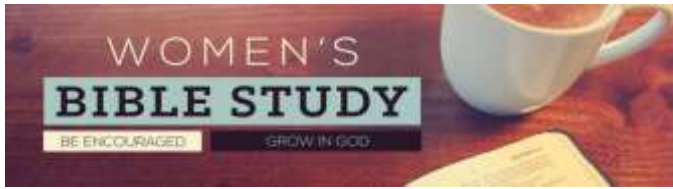
CPC is getting in on the fun – we'll be hosting a Trunk or Treat booth with free candy and a Superhero Selfie Station. Let Maggie or Tracey know if you would like to be a host!

All superheroes are then invited to join us for an "Incredible Kids Night Out" from 4:30-7:30 pm.

We'll have dinner, enjoy some crafts and watch a movie while Superhero parents take some time off. Email Maggie (maggie4cpc@gmail.com) to reserve your spot!

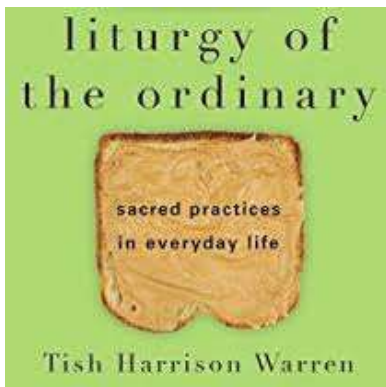


Adult Bible Studies & Sunday School



Tuesday Mornings @ 10:00 am in FH

Tracey is leading us in a study through the chapters of the book of Acts, exploring the dynamic faith of the early church.



Women's Evening Bible Study

Join us on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm as we read through Tish Warren's *Liturgy of the Ordinary* together and explore the habits of our everyday, ordinary lives, noticing how God is at work in the midst of them.

Chapters are short and accessible so this is a perfect study to slot into busy schedules. We'll pair Warren's reflections with scripture as we meet together.

We'll gather on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday nights.

Fall Meeting dates: October 9 and 23
November 13 and 27
December 11



2nd and 4th Saturdays of the Month @ 7:30 am in Fellowship Hall

Get a jump start on your weekend and on Sunday's scriptures by joining us to feed your body and soul. No preparation necessary. Bring yourself and a bible, we'll take turns providing the breakfast goods. Contact David Henry with questions – dhenry169@gmail.com

Fall Meeting Dates:

October 13 and 27, November 10
December 8 and 22



Meets upstairs Sunday mornings at 10:45

We are working our way through Theoacademy's series ***Being Presbyterian: Foundations of Presbyterian Discipleship***

To be Presbyterian is to join a way of life informed by a particular rhythm:

*God calls us in grace and love;
we respond in gratitude.*

With a turn to scripture and theology we'll learn about this basic rhythm of our life together. Whether you have been a Presbyterian your whole life long or if you are new to the denomination, our time together will be enriching.



Relationships



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.takethemeal.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!

The Fellowship and Member Care Team will once again be hosting a **Second Sunday Dine Around** on every second Sunday of the month beginning October 14. On those Sundays, we will meet in Fellowship Hall after church or Sunday School (depending on the month) and pick a few different restaurants to go to. This is a great opportunity for fellowship and to meet/get to know new people. No need to sign up, just show up when you can and we'll decide on the spot how we will split up. Questions? Contact Jessica Bruno at jessicabruno@gmail.com



How to have an awesome time at Trunk or Treat October 31 in CPC's Parking Lot

Step 1 – Bring your decorated car to CPC
Step 2 – Open your trunk & hand out candy!
We are inviting the local community to come by between 4 & 7 pm.
Dr. D will be providing the entertainment and we'll have free hot dogs & drinks too!
Questions/sign up: Contact Jill Prakopcyk jrcelibr8@embarqmail.com or Maggie Bell maggie4cpc@gmail.com

Don't miss it!



Serving Others

Family Promise Thank you!

Thank you to everyone that helped welcome our Family Promise guests in September. We really appreciate all that you do to help make the week run smoothly and to welcome our guests with love and hospitality. We look forward to our host weeks in 2019!

Mission Volunteer Opportunity: Relief Bus October 5

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 in Newark on Friday evening, October 5. Please contact Sandie Lundeen or Dave Kelly to volunteer or if you have any questions - sllundeen@comcast.net or dlsh27@comcast.net.



The Empty Bowl is a fundraiser to help support the Flemington Food Pantry. This year it will be held on October 19, from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm. St. Magdalen's is located at 105 Mine Street, Flemington, NJ.

Join them for a tasty lunch consisting of your choice of a bowl of soup prepared by a local restaurant, a fresh salad, bread, and a homemade dessert. And the handmade soup bowl is yours to take home. Tickets are \$25 each.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: <http://flemingtonfoodpantry.org/empty-bowl/>

BE THE CHURCH.

Please join us as we go out into the local community to serve others. All ages are welcome. We will meet at the church Saturday, October 13th at 9 am. One group will be staying at the church to pack up Emergency Clean Up Buckets for Hurricane Florence victims, other groups will be going to The Flemington Food Pantry, The Friendship Center For New Beginnings or to Grow-a-Row. This is a great opportunity for us to put our faith into action. To sign-up, either add your name to the Sunday clipboard or email Sandie Lundeen at sllundeen@comcast.net. Any questions, please call Sandie at 908-730-6958.

Annual Thanksgiving Basket Drive

We will be collecting and delivering food for local families in need. Collection will be from 10/7 – 11/4. The boxes will be packed up on Sunday, 11/11 and delivered on Saturday, 11/17.

We will be collecting the following items:

- Can of Coffee
- Box of Tea Bags
- Ketchup
- Peanut Butter
- Jam / Jelly
- Crackers
- Box of Mac 'n' Cheese
- Box of Dry Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Soup
- Box of Cereal
- Instant Jello / Pudding
- Canned Sweet Whole Kernel Corn
- Canned French Style Green Beans
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Jellied Cranberry Sauce
- Jar of Applesauce (no unsweetened)
- Herb Seasoned Stuffing (bag)
- Can / Jar of Turkey Gravy
- Apple Juice (64 oz.)

If you are interested in delivering boxes, please keep a look out for sign-ups. Questions? Contact Sandie Lundeen (sllundeen@comcast.net), Rick Hyman (rhyman@embarqmail.com), or Christina Schlegel (cecmschlegel@gmail.com).



Session Recap

Month of August

Children's

VBS was once again a fun and faithful week. The team is reviewing and evaluating the week along with looking for people who may be interested in taking a turn at running VBS or making decorations for the 2019 VBS. Planning for the 2018/2019 Sunday School year has begun.

Fellowship and Member Care

CPC Night Out will be held at Beneduce Vineyards on Saturday, September 29 from 6:00-9:00 pm. Second Sunday Dine Around will begin again in October. The Kick-Off Breakfast will be Sunday, September 9 after worship.

Mission

CPC is hosting Family Promise the week of Sept. 2. People are needed for a few more time slots. Planning continues for *Be the Church Day* on October 13.

Operations

Personnel: Performance reviews have taken place. The process proved valuable. The staff was very appreciative of the comments and suggestions given by the leaders of the church.
Finance: The budget process has started. Changes will be made in the budget line items and will be discussed at the next meeting.
Property: Office renovations will take place in October. The renovations at the manse will take place next summer. The boiler issues continue. Continued discussions with the manufacturer and installer are taking place in hopes of a resolution soon.

Preschool

Enrollment is presently at 12 three and four year olds. The dedication of the classroom space and program held on Sunday, August 26th. Classrooms are being readied for the September 10th start. A *Meet and Greet* will be held on Friday, August 31.

Session

The Session approved the following:
The Strategic Plan with amendments.
Linda Schipmann-Pustai as Clerk.
The use of Fellowship Hall from 12:00 - 3:00 pm for the Women's Club of Clinton meetings on the first Monday of each month commencing October 2018 and ending June 2019.

The use of our church by the Boy Scouts for the following nights:

Weekly Monday Night Troop Meetings - Monday evenings 7:30 - 9:30 pm in FH

Troop Committee Meetings- 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:30-9:00pm in Coral Spice Room

Board of Review Meetings - 3rd Monday of each month from 7:30-9:00pm in the small classroom upstairs

Boy Scout Band to use Fellowship Hall for practice from 7:00-9:00pm for one Wednesday a month

Youth

The new Confirmation Class has five students enrolled. Youth Groups will meet every Sunday evening for 3rd-5th graders and 6th-12th graders.

Boy Scout Troop 121 September Theme: Caveman Skills

As the weekly Troop meetings are planned around the monthly theme, you might wonder what Caveman Skills are. Well, apparently these skills include making spears, camp fire cooking and shelter building. The Troop performed a Spruce Run Cleanup Project on September 8, clearing the beach and picnic area of trash left behind by visitors. The activities this month included a canoe weekend September 14-16 and a Webelos Campout September 28-30. The Troop band marched in the John Basilone Parade on September 23.

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.

October Birthdays

- 5 Adrienne Hodulik
- 9 Robin Meyh
- 10 Kimberly Westlin
- 15 Cole Salemo
- 17 Chenge Pusztai
- 19 Renee Brown
- 21 Kimberly Bieksha, Wyatt Kunzman
- 23 Liz Scannell, Nicholas Warner
- 24 Judy Moller, Griffin Westlin
- 26 Mary Ellen Anthony, Griffin Honthy
- 28 Nathan Henry, Dave Kelly, Dorene Longell
- 30 Sandie Lundeen



October Anniversaries

- 1 Jeff and Lynn Hazelette
- 3 Michael and Kimberly Darcy
- 7 Michael and Angela Penyak
- 13 Roy and Cindy Christopher
- 15 Dennis and Carol Kotopoulis
- 17 Clifford and Cathie Sayre
- 22 Kevin and Jennifer Thompson
- 25 Jim Dornbusch and Zan Struebing
- 29 Michael and Renee Brown