



Community Presbyterian Church News

November, 2022

Community Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 148, 220 Main Street
Chester, New Jersey 07930

Holiday EXTRAVAGANZA 2022

Save the Date!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2022

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAIN STREET ~ CHESTER, NEW JERSEY

- ❄ DECORATIONS, JEWELRY & GIFTS ❄
- ❄ CHRISTMAS & NEARLY NEW ITEMS ❄
 - ❄ HANDMADE CRAFTS ❄
 - ❄ BAKED GOODS ❄
- ❄ GOURMET - ON- THE - RUN ❄
 - ❄ 50/50 DRAWING ❄
 - ❄ AND MUCH MORE! ❄

VISA & MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

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Pastor's Page

We are in the midst of my favorite time of the year. Autumn is such a magnificent gateway into my favorite holiday season with Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. Many of you who have been around for awhile will now be rolling your eyes because you are expecting my annual diatribe about the over-commercialization of Christmas and the way that same segment of society completely ignores Thanksgiving precisely because it is not all commercial. You'll expect me to rant on about how even now, on Halloween day, local stores are filled with Christmas items. You might be reminiscing about my discussions about how "Christmas is not YOUR birthday" and how we should spend our money on alternative giving to charities that need our support, or how at the very least we should buy fewer, more thoughtful, fair trade gifts. You might be expecting these and more things that I often talk about during the last quarter of the year, but you are wrong. (At least for now. . .)

I simply want to lift up and articulate, perhaps in simple terms, what many of us have been feeling: How wonderful it is to have so many things on our calendars for the coming holiday season and having little to no worry about whether they will happen or not.

One of the big things that attracted me to the congregation at the Community Presbyterian Church of Chester, NJ 15 years ago as I was searching for a place to serve as pastor and have my family call home, is the level of activity and expressions of life together that we find at CPC. At all times of the year, in all seasons, we are busy folk. There is so much creativity and talent and willingness to use all of that, and more, in the service of the Church.

I have always regarded the Autumn/early Winter holidays as my favorites, and those are done to such a wonderful degree here. As I sit and write this, I can hear Vicki practicing on the organ in the Sanctuary; I can smell the AMAZING smell of the Gourmet-on-the-Run ladies cooking up a big batch of Marie's Chili for the Holiday Extravaganza; Beth is talking with folks about some of the Christmas treasures that she has found to put out, and it is just an amazing place to be.

I was telling someone last week that I feel like the year is over, because of all of the advance scheduling and preparation going on for all of these wonderful events, and then I realized it is only the end of October. That made me smile; simply because I had a change in perspective that all of this will come in its due time and I can savor and enjoy all of it as is intended and right.

We have so much to look forward to in the coming months. I pray that we all would take a deep breath in the midst of our planning and preparations and simply appreciate the time we have ahead of us, but also make an internal commitment to enjoy it all as it unfolds. Too often we get wrapped up in trying to get things done that we miss the chance to enjoy what we are doing.

I'll leave it at that for today and say, "Thank you all for being you, for being the Church, and for helping to make this a wonderful season that we can all enjoy."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FootSteps

*Following Our One Teacher to
Study Teach Experience Pray Salvation*



Believe it or not, Christmas will be here before we know it! Please mark your calendars for our Annual Living Nativity to be held on Sunday, December 11th, at 4:00 p.m. More details to follow soon.

Continue to check the weekly bulletin, emails and the December newsletter for rehearsal times. We will be in need of actors, narrators, stage help, extra hands and of course an audience!

Save-the-Date Vacation Bible School 2023 is scheduled for Monday, August 14th through Friday, August 18th from 9am-12noon.

Adult volunteers are still needed for Sunday School and the Nursery downstairs.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In October, our trip through the Bible began with the book of Genesis and continued through the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy and Joshua. Along the way we have discussed: Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, Moses as a baby, the Burning Bush, the 10 Plagues, parting of the Red Sea, the 10 Commandments, what's a tabernacle and a census?, the trip across the Jordan River to the Promised Land, and the Battle of Jericho. We have made Creation I spy jars, sung some songs, played some games (Simon Says and Bible Bingo), parted the Red Sea, discussed and looked at the differences between leavened and unleavened bread, discussed the 10 Commandments while sitting in a tent, made some projects, played some instruments, built with Legos, sounded the trumpets and made the walls fall down. We are continuing to pray, collect our offerings and discuss what is the reason for all of the rules God's given to His people - Love, Kindness, Respect, Protection and so much more. Please continue to follow our journey in the Sunday bulletins, the newsletter and the bulletin board in Fellowship Center. All children are invited to join us in Sunday School during Worship!

Church Life

Parish Life Upcoming Events

15th Anniversary Celebration

You're invited to a 15th Anniversary Celebration Potluck Luncheon in Honor of Pastor Chris! The celebration will begin immediately following Worship on *Sunday, November 6th*. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Center or RSVP the church office with your name, number of people attending and what type of covered dish you will be bringing. Please bring enough to serve 6-8 people. Parish Life will be providing ham, turkey, rolls, dessert and beverages. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Charcuterie Board Class

Just in time for the holidays! Come join us for a one-hour charcuterie board class on Sunday, *November 20th* from *12noon - 1:00 pm* in the Larison Room. A local charcuterie board artist will demonstrate how to design a beautifully arranged edible display perfect for the holidays. Everyone in attendance will make their own board to take home and enjoy. All supplies are included. *Advance registration and payment is required by Sunday, November 13th. Cost is \$25.00 per person.* Please make checks payable to CPC (please write -charcuterie board course in the memo line). Please contact the church office or see Terri Kramer or Carolyn Bearlepp to register.

Recap of October Events

The *Annual Pumpkin Picking/Hayride Event* was held on Sunday, October 16th. It was a beautiful, fun-filled, well-attended (30 people), late afternoon gathering at Stony Hill Farm. A great time was had by all!

The *Cemetery Tour at Pleasant Hill Cemetery* was held on Sunday, October 23rd. Pastor Chris led a very interesting and informative history tour at the site of where the Old Hill Church once stood and pointed out various individuals who were buried in the graveyard section near the old church. Supplies were available to those wishing to make rubbings of old headstones. Hot cider and donuts were enjoyed in the cemetery chapel. It was another well-attended event with 21 people in attendance!

If you have enjoyed these events, please spread the word to others about how much you have enjoyed attending!

PARISH LIFE BOOK CLUB

The Parish Life sponsored Book Club met on Thursday, October 27th for a discussion of Winter Horses by Philip Kerr. For their next read, they chose The Lost Apothecary by Sarah Penner. We are tentatively scheduled to meet for a discussion of this book on Thursday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m. Additional participants and book suggestions are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Joan Stephens (201-874-1477).

CHURCH LIFE

FROM YOUR WORSHIP COUNCIL

As the holiday season approaches, Worship Council keeps busy with all the preparation that happens between Thanksgiving and Epiphany. Lots to do!!

We are excited to hear our new youth ringers, the Genesis Ringers, make their debut in the Service on November 20th. Advent will be underway the following week, as well as our traditional Advent Vespers services on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm starting November 29th. Music will be provided by Janet Lindstrom on piano and Tom Perry on the ukulele. Don't miss it.

Are you familiar with the initials IPSA which appear in the bulletin each Sunday? Most of us are unaware or uninformed about the Hispanic congregation that has met in our sanctuary on Sunday nights for some time now. Worship Council has arranged for space on a bulletin board in Fellowship Center to be dedicated to information regarding these folks and their presence among us. We are honored to have them here, and hope all of us can learn more about Iglesia Pentecostes Senda Antigua.

One last item ~ the council is looking to add one additional member to our group of six. It requires one meeting a month on a Sunday following Worship. No public ceremony is required, and anyone of any age is welcome! Please speak with Al Kopacka or Pastor Chris if you or someone you know might be interested. We're a small but mighty (fun) group!.

One of the many duties assigned to Worship Council is the selection of ushers (who also serve as greeters), communion stewards and lay assistants. The folks on the committee consider it the duty and privilege for members of the congregation to serve in this small way as an obligation and service to the church. Most do understand this and agree with it. However, it has become increasingly more difficult to rely and depend on volunteers to fulfill this task when asked, and it is beginning to affect our worship experience.

We certainly understand when schedules, health issues and time constraints prevent someone from performing on a given day. We do ask that you try to switch dates with someone on the list, or at least attempt to contact the office in a timely fashion when conflicts arise. We will promise to communicate the list more readily by publishing it in the monthly newsletter and on a weekly basis in the bulletin. We simply ask that everyone try to be more responsible for responding to us in the future.

Your Worship Council and the office staff thank you for your help and understanding!

We are looking for Ushers for the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Please get in touch with the office or let Al Kopacka know if you are able to lend a hand. Thank you.

Church Life

Lay Assistant, Usher, Communion Steward List

For November:

November 6:

Lay Assistant: Elder John Pfaff
Ushers: Mauricette Moffitt,
Sue LeLoup
Communion Stewards: Matt McConnell,
Martha Smith

November 13:

Lay Assistant: Jay Johnston
Ushers: John and Kim Biango

November 20:

Lay Assistant: Tom Ash
Ushers: Dan Harris, Hope Hollenbeck

November 27:

Lay Assistant: Deacon Al Lindstrom
Ushers: Hope LeFrancis, Jary Jibilian

Please, if you find that you have a conflict, switch with someone, or ask someone to take your place and let Al Kopacka and / or the office know so bulletin is correct. Thank you.



From Newsletter Editor to you
and your families



Presbyterian Women met on Sunday, Oct. 23rd to discuss the upcoming Holiday Extravaganza. The annual bazaar will be held **Saturday, November 12th from 10 am to 3 pm.**

We would love to have as many helpers as possible--- set up on Thursday the 10th at 10:30 am, more set up on Friday 11th at 9 am. Lunch will be provided to workers on the 12th in the kitchen. We will need volunteers to help in all the sections -- jewelry, baked goods, knitwear, gifts and other items in the main room and also in the Larison Room where the Christmas Corner will be set up. If you can give even one hour, that would be very appreciated.



Masks will be provided for the event -- for our workers and also for shoppers.

Baking pans will be in the church office November 1st. Please take what you need for your baking. We welcome all bakers--men and women! Drop off your baked goodies on Friday, November 11th by 3 pm if possible and label the items. *Please note what kind of nuts, if any used, are in your recipe on the label.* If you need food labels made, please contact Ann Marie asap, she will be unavailable to print them on that Thursday and Friday.

Thanking everyone in advance for all their hard work, donations, and commitment to making this a successful fundraiser for Presbyterian Women!



Church Life ~ Mission

SCRIP NEWS

For October, we had 14 families purchase scrip with a net rebate of \$199.92 for CPC; our year-to-date total net total is \$2,487.28. As always, we thank you for your support! This month's big winner of the donated gift card is..... Terri Kramer. Congratulations, Terri! Orders are placed on the second Sunday of the month, but individual orders/ payments can be dropped off in the office prior to that if it is more convenient. If you have any questions regarding the scrip program or would like to place an order, please contact Nancy Case (201-317-4437 or nbcase48@yahoo.com) and she will be happy to help you. The next scrip order will be placed on **Sunday, November 13, 2022.**

Just a reminder: Christmas is coming and with all the shortages as well as mail delivery issues, you might want to consider purchasing Gift Cards now, especially if mailing away to family and friends.

*Remember holidays are coming,
start your scrip shopping early.*



WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us this Saturday, November 5th for our monthly Breakfast out at the Chester Diner. We meet at 8am and have fellowship and food to start our day. Can't join us this time? Our next breakfast will be held Saturday, *December 3rd* at the Chester Diner at 8am. Come join us for Breakfast and bring a friend! The more the merrier.

Community Presbyterian Church

Food Collection

The Community Presbyterian Deacons are gathering specific non-perishable food items for the Chester Food Pantry. The collected food will be used for Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Please leave donated food item(s) in the labeled container located in the Lobby. Below is the list of requested items from the food pantry. Thank you for your support! CPC Deacons

Questions? Reach out to Jerilynn Harris at #908-797-8121

- Flour
- Sugar
- Oil
- Coffee
- Fruit Pie Filling
- Pie Shell
- Stuffing
- Canned Gravy
- Bisquick
- Jelly
- Chili/Stew
- Hot Cereal- oatmeal, granola bars
- Children's Snacks
- Hot Chocolate



Your Deacons will also be collecting gift items for Christmas for the Chester Men-dham Food Pantry patrons ~ see some of the suggested items on the next page . . .

Church Life-Mission

The CPC Deacons are collecting personal care items, e.g. (nice hand/body creams, lip balm, powder, shampoo conditioner gift sets, manicure kits, men's grooming kits, etc) and \$10.00 gift cards, e.g. (Panera Bread, Jersey Mikes, Starbuck, Dunkin Donuts) for the Christmas baskets for our Chester-Mendham Food Pantry. Please consider the scrip list for possible gift card purchases.

Items may be left in the labeled bin located in the lobby.

Thank you for your support. CPC Deacons

Questions? Please reach out to Jerilynn Harris at 908-797-8121



DON'T FORGET! TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR BEFORE RETIRING THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5th. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS.

The following is a list of November Anniversaries and Birthdays according to our records. If there are any additions or corrections, please let the office know so that we may update our files.

Happy Anniversary wishes to . . .

Nicholas & Dawn Clessuras	11/01/09
Michael & Jennifer Paccione	11/04/95
Scott & Cindi Ernst	11/09/02
Tom & Melissa Ash	11/11/08
Norman & Nancy M. Thaiss	11/19/16
Jeff & Dar- cy Taylor	



Happy birthday wishes to...

Jennifer Bordonaro	11/03
Christopher De Rienzo	11/04
Christopher Scrivens	11/04
Nancy Thaiss	11/06
Pat Fricke	11/09
Paige Davis, IV	11/10
Jessica McConnell	11/10
Lucy Chomiak	11/11
Dale Davis, III	11/12
Steve Misar	11/14
Katie Rundzieher	11/15
Betsy Regber	11/16
Samantha Wilson	11/17
Ron McConnell	11/18
John Pfaff	11/20
Dawn Babcock	11/21
Meghan LaClair	11/22
Vince Kramer	11/23
Melissa Menagh	11/23
Karl Schuetz	11/28
Esther Guerin	11/29
Erin Torgersen	11/30

November 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 Aerobics 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters-	2 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Choir 8:15 Cantata Reh.	3 9:00 Aerobics 6:30 Cub Scts & Parents Fellow. Ctr. 7:00 A.C.A.	4 9:00 Gourmet on the Run 10:00 Al-Anon	5 8:00 Women's Breakfast Turns Clocks BACK one hour before retiring DST ends
6 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 15th Anniversary Celebration 6:00 IPSA	7 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:30 Boy Scouts	8 9:00 Aerobics 10:15 Fifty Plus Club 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters	9 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir 8:15 Cantata Reh.	10 9:00 Aerobics 10:30 Holiday Extravaganza set up 7:00 A.C.A. Sanctuary	11 9:30 Beginners Mtg 10:00 Al-Anon- Holiday Extravaganza set up continues	12 10 - 3pm Holiday Extravaganza
13 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship - 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Scrip orders Taken COUNCILS 6:00 IPSA	14 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:30 Boy Scouts	15 9:00 Aerobics 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters An. 7:30 Session	16 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Choir 7:30 B.Sct Com. Mtg 8:15 Cantata Reh.	17 9:00 Aerobics 4:00 Girl Scouts : Larison Room? 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 7:00 A.C.A.	18 10:00 Al-Anon-	19 10 am - 12 noon Cantata Rehearsal
20 Christ the King 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Angels 6:00 IPSA	21 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 5:00 DEACONS ~ Thanksgiving Baskets 7:30 Boy Scouts	22 9:00 Aerobics 10:15 Fifty Plus Club 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters An.	23 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir 8:15 Cantata Reh.	24 Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving 	25 Office Closed 9:30 Beginners Mtg. 10:00 Al-Anon	26
27 1st Sunday of Advent  9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Angels if still any available 6:00 IPSA	28 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:30 Boy Scouts	29 9:00 Aerobics 7:00 Advent Vespers 7:00 Overeaters Anon.	30 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 LifeLong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir 8:15 Cantata Reh.			

Community Presbyterian Church
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Address Service Requested



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NOVEMBER, 2022

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Carolyn Bearlepp, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

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