



Community Presbyterian Church News

November, 2025

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

Holiday EXTRAVAGANZA 2025



Save the Date!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025

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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Stewardship & Finance

From Stewardship & Finance Council

November is a big month for us as we assess our expected income and our necessary expenses and build our 2026 budget. The budget we propose is taken to Session for approval and published in our annual report.

Through October, we shared personal stories during Worship about why CPC is important, and our hope is that those stories helped you look at your own story. We also included written updates on the dollars and cents details of giving to and running our church. It isn't cheap, but our faith is strong, and our givers are generous.

If you haven't yet made your pledge, please do so. It's important we have numbers as accurate as possible to keep our church fiscally healthy.

If you have any questions about anything we've tried to convey — our budget needs, tax free giving for those over 70, Scrip or special gifts, please reach out to anyone on our committee. We're all committed to getting you answers.

Thank you for your support and please, please do your best to complete your 2025 giving commitment!

S&F Council

Dale Davis (Elder and Management Chair), Harry Hager (lay member), Susan Johnson (lay member), John Pfaff (Elder and CPC Treasurer) Joan Stephens (Deacon), Nancy Thaiss (Elder and S&F Chair)

Christian Education



Here is the sign-up link for Nov. 2nd :

<https://forms.gle/WnRC3jtehFTwZkvc8>



Lay Assistant, Usher, Communion Steward, Coffee Hour Host/Hostess List For November:

November 2:

Lay Assistant: Deacon Michelle Scrivens
 Ushers: Carolyn Bearlepp & Al MacLennan
 Fellowship & Coffee: Jean Haggas, Sophie Meseck, Michelle Scrivens

November 9:

Lay Assistant: Elder John Pfaff
 Ushers:/Stewards: Nancy Case, Mauricette Moffitt
 Communion Setup & Stewards: Joan Stephens, Karen McConnell
 Fellowship & Coffee: Janine Perry, David Rittenhouse

November 16:

Lay Assistant: Harry Hager
 Ushers: Rick Adey, Karen Stewart
 Fellowship & Coffee: Dawn and Matt Siegrist

November 23:

Lay Assistant: Elder Al Kopacka
 Ushers: Jary Jibilian, Terri Kramer
 Fellowship & Coffee: Tina DiTaranto, Peggy Gibbon, Jean Haggas

November 30:

Lay Assistant: Elder Christy Hemmes
 Ushers: Dale and Carol Davis
 Fellowship & Coffee: Barbara Misar, Darcy Taylor

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.

Worship Council and Cantata



There are a couple special events happening in worship during November.

First off, we will observe All Saint's Day on November 2nd by repeating our Remembrance Memorial during the service. As you may recall, a candle will be lit each time a name of a departed loved one is given. Because this has become so popular, we will observe communion the following Sunday, November 9th.

After services on November 9th, we will be making new decorations for the Christmas tree on the stage (just in time for Holiday Extravaganza) during coffee hour. Any help in assembling the tree the day before (November 8) would be appreciated.

The Council is exploring additional hymn supplements. We'll be introducing them in the new year.

Finally, mark your calendars for Sunday, December 14th when our congregation is invited to go Christmas caroling at CASH (Chester Area Senior Housing), which is located across the street behind the Williamson Building.

We have an active season ahead!

Tidings of Joy: A Celtic Christmas Celebration

Sunday, December 21st • 10:00 AM Service

Inspired by Celtic musical traditions and time-honored carols, *Tidings of Joy* overflows with the true spirit of the Christmas season. From prophecy to Epiphany, this cantata tells the entire Christmas story—wrapped in jubilant, expressive, and approachable music that captures the heart of the season.

Instrumentalists:

- **Will Downey** – Violin
- **Kal Barry** – Cello
- **Andy Smith** – Flute / Penny Whistle / Trombone
- **Connor Krieg** – Clarinet
- **George Stritter** – Guitar
- **Stephen O'Toole** – Percussion
- **Vicki Kopacka** – Piano

Christmas brings to the seeker's heart an extravagant joy—one that words alone can scarcely express. Each year, its wonder-filled message decorates our lives with sparkling music and jubilant moments of praise.

Christmas speaks to us in miracles and wonders, sings to us in the voices of angels, and whispers to us in shimmering starlight. It awakens in the soul a deep longing for the sacred, daring us to dream beyond our doubts and to believe in the glorious impossible.

Christmas joy wraps us in beauty, surrounds us with song, and cradles us in the arms of promise. It is a gift of grace that glistens like silver snow—becoming even more radiant when shared with others.

So let the music of joy sound again! Let the voices of light break through the silence and teach the shadows to dance. Let there be hope in this place and grace in every heart. Let there be singing and glorious celebration—for behold, we bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people:

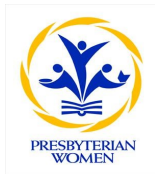
Christ the Lord is born!

Mission Council

Our Market Street Mission coat drive was a great success! We took seven bags to the Mission, and we are looking forward to helping with the distribution at the Morristown Square on Saturday November 1st. Thanks to all who donated! We provided Pizza and Movie at CASH (Chester Area Senior Housing) for about 17 residents who seemed to really appreciate the event. We all had fun and hope to do it again soon!

Our upcoming projects include

- ❖ a vaccine clinic at the church on **November 5th** from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, and
- ❖ a community food drive for the Chester-Mendham Food Pantry on December 7. More details to come on the food drive.
- ❖ In addition, we will be caroling at CASH on December 14th. Anyone who enjoys singing Christmas carols is welcome to join the choir on that day!



Holiday Extravaganza **Saturday,** **November 15th** **10am -3pm**



Save the date--Saturday, November 15th--the annual Holiday Extravaganza! 10-3, Please invite your friends and neighbors. There are plenty of event flyers on the table in the hallway, so please take some for your office, favorite deli or store. Presbyterian Women can use everyone's help! Please join us on

- ✱ Thursday, November 13th 10:15 am to set up our tables. We can use some strong men too! We will need to get all the merchandise out on Thursday if possible.
- ✱ If you have made craft items for us to sell, also drop those off on Thursday.
- ✱ Friday November 14th--please join us at 9 am to fine tune the displays, and drop off your baked goods,
- ✱ Saturday we open the doors at 10 am so workers please plan to come by 9 am. All booths can use help, even if you can give us an hour or two, it is greatly appreciated. Lunch will be provided to all our workers.
- ✱ Baked goods containers are available in the church office so help yourself. Please label your items, especially if you use nuts. Drop off baked goods on Friday so they can be priced by Jeanne Perry and her volunteers-thank you to all our bakers!

The Extravaganza is Presbyterian Women's main fundraiser for the year. Thank you to everyone who makes this event a special experience for the public and also for our CPC members.

A big thank you to the Frickes and R&R Construction for providing our flyers and the mailing.

Presbyterian Women will hold their annual luncheon meeting early December at Redwoods. We will be sending out more information shortly about the meeting. All women are invited to join us!

Church Life

From your Deacons

The Deacons had a wonderful celebration for the Veterans from two VA hospitals, East Orange and Basking Ridge, on October 16th. We hosted almost 50 veterans and their staff, plus approximately 25 veterans from our local American Legion and our own congregation. They enjoyed an evening out with a delicious Italian meal and bingo. The cost was generously covered by the Pfaff's, the Hager's and the American Legion, costing around \$1,800. This was our third dinner and we plan to host another next spring. We would really appreciate any donations towards this worthy project!

Five college students received Halloween packages this month from us. There was candy, decorations and Tom Perry's adorable wooden candy corn in them. We received a couple of videos and photos showing them opening their boxes, which were delightful! We will be sending out custom watercolor cards (by our own Pastor Chris!) and Amazon gift cards the end of this month for Christmas.

Our next big event is collecting and packaging our 75 Thanksgiving baskets for the Chester/ Mendham Food Bank. *Our last collection day is Sunday, November 2nd*, as we will need to order groceries to fill what hasn't been donated. On Saturday, November 8, we will be picking those items up from the ShopRite in Flanders, around 10:00 am. If anyone has a truck, that can help, please let Darcy or Christy Shepard know. Then we will set up the tables on Monday at 5:00 pm so our congregation can assemble at 6:00 pm. Please join us! It is fun for the whole family and a wonderful way to show children the importance of giving!

A big thank you goes to Tom Perry for creating all those wonderful fall decorations, that he sold and gave half of the proceeds to us and the other half to the Missions Council. We will all cherish these adorable handmade treasures!



B(ig) Y(outh) G(roup)

Lasagna + Ziti Fundraiser

Pick-up Order Form

Please complete and hand in forms by December 10th

Make checks payable to BYG Work Camp

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

Pan Size	Meat Lasagna	Meat: Ziti-Round	Non-Meat Lasagna	Non-Meat Ziti Round	Price
8.5 x 4.5 serves 1-2					\$15 each
9 x 9 serves 4-6					\$20 each
13 x 9 serves 9					\$25 each
TOTAL:					

~Location for pick up ~

After church December 15th (roughly between 11 am ~ 12 pm)

Community Presbyterian Church of Chester _____

Lower Valley Presbyterian Church _____



DON'T FORGET! TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR BEFORE RETIRING THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1st. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS.

Church Life

SCRIP NEWS

SCRIP NEWS ~ This month we had 14 families purchase scrip with a net rebate of \$262.81 for CPC with a year-to-date total of \$2,512.34. Thank you, thank you!! Sue D'Angelo was the winner of this month's donated gift card. Orders are placed on the second Sunday of the month, but individual orders/ payments may be dropped off in the office prior to that if it's 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 9, 2025.**

The holidays are just around the corner - scrip cards make wonderful gifts, and there are hundreds of stores/companies available including Amazon, Home Depot, Lowes, Walmart, Ulta, Target .

...

start your scrip shopping early.



WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us Saturday, November 1st 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 6th. Start your day with fellowship, friends and food* and bring a friend! The more the merrier.



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
Tom & Melissa Ash	11/11/08
Norman & Nancy M. Thaiss	11/19/16
Jeff & Darcy Taylor	11/26/94



Happy birthday wishes to...

Christopher Scrivens	11/04
Nancy Thaiss	11/06
Pat Fricke	11/09
Jessica McConnell	11/10
Lucy Chomiak	11/11
Dale Davis, III	11/12
Steve Misar	11/14
Betsy Regber	11/16
Emily Moorhead	11/17
Samantha Wilson	11/17
Ron McConnell	11/18
John Pfaff	11/20
Dave Rittenhouse	11/20
Meghan LaClair	11/22
Vince Kramer	11/23
Melissa Menagh	11/23
Neil Perry	11/28
Karl Schuetz	11/28
Esther Guerin	11/29
Erin Torgersen	11/30

NOVEMBER, 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					REMINDER TO Turn Clocks <i>BACK</i> one hour before retiring on SATURDAY, NOV. 1st DST ends	1 8:00 Women's Breakfast 9-4 PDA Safety & Security Workshop 7:30 AA Meeting FALL BACK ONE HOUR TONIGHT ~ DST ENDS
2 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments Youth Choirs 3-5 Stony Hill Hayride Interger. 6:00 IPSA	3 9:00 Gourmet-on-the-Run 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:30 Boy Scouts	4 9:00 Aerobics 1:00 'Cultured Purls' 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters Anonymous	5 9:30 Healthy Bones 11-2 Flu/Covid Clinic at CPC 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir	6 9:00 Aerobics	7 9:00 Gourmet-on-the-Run 9:30 Beginners Mtg 10:00 Al-Anon-	8 Decorate Tree on Stage for Holiday Ext. and Advent season 7:30 AA Meeting
9 Communion Sun. 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship - 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments Scrip orders Taken Youth Choirs 11:15 Sanctuary Sun. Darcy Taylor	10 10:00 Al-Anon 5:00 Set-Up for Food Assembly 6:00 Fill Thanksgiving Food Bags 7:30 Boy Scouts	11 9:00 Aerobics 10:30 Fifty Plus Club 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters Anonymous	12 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir	13 9:00 Aerobics 10:30 Holiday Extravaganza set up	14 9:30 Beginners Mtg 10:00 Al-Anon Holiday Extravaganza set up continues Drop Your baked goods off	15 10 - 3pm Holiday Extravaganza 7:30 AA Meeting
16 Stewardship Sun 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments Youth Choirs COUNCILS Day After Sales -HE 6:00 IPSA	17 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 6:30 Stew. & Finance 7:30 Boy Scouts	18 9:00 Aerobics 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 Overeaters Anon	19 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir 7:30 Boy Scout Com.	20 9:00 Aerobics 6:30 Book Club	21 10:00 Al-Anon 6-8 Cub Pack Meeting	22 10-12 Cantata Rehearsal 7:30 AA Meeting
23 Christ the King 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship & Refreshments Genesis Bells 11:15 Sanctuary Sun- Tricia Hayes 6:00 IPSA	24 10:00 Al-Anon 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 7:30 Boy Scouts	25 9:00 Aerobics 3:00 Bible Study 7:00 SESSION 7:00 Overeaters Anon.	26 9:30 Healthy Bones 4:30 Lifelong Fitness 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 7:30 Choir	27 <i>Office Closed</i> Happy Thanksgiving 	28 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30 Beginners Mtg 10:00 Al-Anon	29 7:30 AA Meeting
29 1st Sunday of Advent 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship & Ref.			-9-			

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

Address Service Requested



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NOVEMBER, 2025



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The Rev. Christopher W. Scrivens, *Pastor*
Christy Hemmes, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

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Website: www.cpcchester.org