

# Clinton Presbyterian Church

## Narrative Budget 2025

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

Matthew 6:21

# Your generosity of time, talent and energy over the last



## **Our new Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries joined us in July**

Having so many children and youth active in the life of a mainline church is not the norm - it is truly a blessing! Mindful of that richness and wanting to invest more fully in the faith development of these kids and their families, our search for staffing support led us to Vania Stevenson. Her love for Jesus, for kids and teens is clear and her infectious energy and enthusiasm has already been a gift to us.



## **Welcoming Chapa, Christian and Jean Luc**

In partnership with other faith communities in the area we were able to resettle these friends in the USA, after they had spent over 20 years in a refugee camp in Burundi. April 17 marked the beginning of a new chapter in their lives. Your kindness has been instrumental in helping them establish a new home in Hunterdon County. Beyond your generous financial support, you have demonstrated your compassion in tangible ways—providing furniture, meals and rides and more. Our CPC representatives in the Welcome Circle have led the way in showing us what it means for Christians to become as family to one another, accompanying our friends to job interviews, medical appointments ESL lessons.





## **A growing presence in the community**

We've engaged with our community in both familiar and innovative ways. Ali Miller, our Office and Communications Manager, has leveraged her considerable skills to enhance our outreach, making CPC's message clearer and more effective through publications and a strengthened online presence. Our annual Trunk and Treat event once again became the highlight of Halloween in Clinton, delighting countless minions, robots, princesses, and ninjas with thousands of pieces of candy. Over 300 people gathered for our Live Nativity, bringing the Christmas story to life in a vibrant new way while pet lovers flocked to our first annual Blessing of the Animals Service in the Fall. We took the good news about CPC to Main Street during the first Art in Bloom event in the Spring and recently 90 CPCers took to the streets during our Day of Service.

*In 2025 total operating*

*Some of these increases are costs which are beyond our control while other expenses reflect per*

 A growing congregation necessitates increases in programmatic expenses in order to allow our staff to provide new and creative offerings. We have planned for an increase in several areas including children and youth programs, as well as community initiatives. We've also allocated more funding for communications, enabling the production of print and digital materials to spread the word about our church. While addressing these needs, we remain committed to supporting our mission efforts. This is evident in our contributions to mission partners, the fulfillment of our per capita assessment, and designated funds for projects such as Thanksgiving baskets.

 Merit increases of 3% are being awarded to all staff who served CPC for the full 2024 calendar year. This decision was informed by valuable feedback from congregation members during the staff review process, as well as the exceptional quality of work and leadership demonstrated by our dedicated staff throughout the year. Our continued investment in staffing will encourage continued growth and new ministry opportunities for our congregation.

***A detailed line item budget is available upon request.***

*year has made possible so many glimpses of God's kingdom*



### **Our church family is thriving!**

Since last fall our church has grown by over 42 feet as we have welcomed 21 new members (and their 13 children) into the family. How amazing is that! We have also had the privilege of baptizing 6 babies and 4 older children and we have promised to walk with them as they follow after Jesus. Average worship attendance this summer increased 45% over the same time period last year. We are blessed by a growing number of talented musicians of all ages who help us make a joyful noise=.



### **Taking care of our home base**

Over the past year, we've poured love and care into the beautiful building we're blessed to call our church home. Thanks to our capital campaign, we successfully completed renovations of our classrooms and bathrooms, and the newly installed signage throughout the building conveys a warm welcome to both friends and visitors. Additionally, many volunteer hours have been dedicated to essential maintenance projects that come with the challenges of a historic building. With Zach Morano joining us as our Facilities Coordinator, we've been able to tackle several long-delayed projects and have increased our capacity to host events for both members and guests.



### **Serving local families through CPC Preschool**

Established in 2018 our church based preschool continues to provide a high quality, play-based introduction to learning for 3 & 4 year olds in the community and our preschool families can't say enough good things to say about their experience here. Under the expert guidance of Director Adrienne Hodulik, our talented staff provide the perfect environment for little ones to grow and flourish. Even with the introduction of free public school options in the area, our half-day program remains a valuable resource for many families, addressing their unique needs and providing an excellent program for 37 children.

*expenses are expected to rise.  
sonnel and programmatic investments which Session believes are a priority for CPC in this next season.*



A change in the Board of Pensions model— which provides medical and pension benefits for pastors—will create a significant increase in coverage costs for Rev. Henry and her family, effective in 2025. The CPC Session unanimously recommended that we provide coverage for the whole Henry family, as allowed in the new model. Additionally, the Session recommended providing an annual “home equity allowance” to provide a savings opportunity for future housing needs. A merit increase in line with other eligible staff and an additional contribution to her 403(b), was also presented in the 2025 terms of call.



We've seen a continued rise in costs related to insurance and property maintenance, like many of you may have experienced in your own homes. We have budgeted additional funds to address these needs in the coming year. While these expenses can be challenging to manage, investing in a safe and well-maintained environment for the worship, work, and ministry of our members and staff is invaluable.

***Please email [office@clintonpresbyterian.net](mailto:office@clintonpresbyterian.net)***

# Funding our Ministry

Total projected expenses for ministry at CPC in 2025 are \$510,766. CPC income comes from various people and places including non-pledged offerings from visitors and friends, preschool tuition, building use fees and endowment dividends.

However, pledged commitments from our church family are the primary and only predictable way in which we are able to fund all that God has called us to do. Our pledged giving goal for this year is **\$320,00**, which represents a **5% increase over 2024**. We are asking for more because CPC is a growing church. Good things are happening here and we hope that you will feel called to contribute not only your time and talent but also your treasure in support of this work.

To help you determine a level of giving which feels financially significant to you, please refer to the chart below as a guide

Annual Income	2% Annual Pledge	2% Weekly Pledge	5% Annual Pledge	5% Weekly Pledge	10% Annual Pledge	10% Weekly Pledge
\$20,000	\$400	\$8	\$1,000	\$20	\$2,000	\$39
\$30,000	\$600	\$12	\$1,500	\$29	\$3,000	\$58
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$19	\$2,500	\$48	\$5,000	\$96
\$70,000	\$1,400	\$27	\$3,500	\$67	\$7,000	\$135
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$38	\$5,000	\$96	\$10,000	\$192
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$58	\$7,500	\$144	\$15,000	\$228

*When you support our church financially, dollars become ministry and through ministry we know that God changes lives*

If you've pledged before, we invite you to consider increasing your commitment for 2025. If you have not pledged before we encourage you to make your first time pledge to CPC this year. If everyone were to make a commitment we could not only reach our goal, but exceed it and eliminate the projected deficit.

## How to Give

To make a pledge:

- Make your pledge [online here](#).
- [Print a pledge card](#) and mail it to the church office (91 Center Street, Clinton, NJ 08809) or place it in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

**On Sunday, October 27, we will dedicate all of our commitments for the coming year as part of our worship service, giving thanks to God for all the good gifts we have been given.**

CPC welcomes gifts of stock or donations of your Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) If you would like to consider donating in one of these ways please reach out to any member of our Operations Team for more information.