Clinton Presbyterian Church

“Let’s approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush.”

—Anonymous

Advent & Christmas 2026

Dear Friends,

December can easily become a blur of errands and obligations, yet Advent invites us to trade that hurry for stillness—to slow down, breathe deeply, and make room in our hearts for Christ.

As you flip through these pages, I invite you to find ways to step out of the noise and into the peace of this season. Whether you come seeking quiet reflection, joyful worship, or the warmth of community, there is space for you here.

May these weeks bring you rest, wonder, and a renewed sense of God's presence as we wait together for Christmas.

In hope,
Tracey

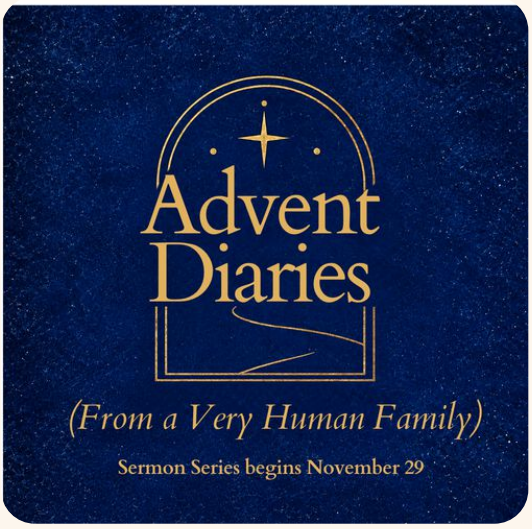
Tracey



ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

Make space for a little reflection this Advent. Take a few moments each day to pause, reflect, and prepare your heart for Christmas, using this guide from Pittsburgh Seminary Access the full devotional here or visit their website for daily devotionals including an audio version.





DECEMBER SERMON SERIES: ADVENT DIARIES - FROM A VERY HUMAN FAMILY

Before the shepherds heard the angels sing, one ordinary household was already caught up in the middle of God's surprising plans. Join us each Sunday of Advent as we hear from Zechariah, Elizabeth, and their son John as they wrestle with unexpected interruptions, sudden guests, and the urgent work of getting ready.

ADVENT PAUSE

This Advent, we're trying something new at CPC! Advent Pause is a weekly podcast designed to help us slow down, pay attention, and make a little room for the season in the middle of everything else going on. Each week will bring something a little different, so find a quiet moment, tune in, and take a pause during this busy season. Podcast episodes will be delivered to your inbox and available on FB each Wednesday, beginning December 2. Email office@clintonpresbyterian.net if you need to be added to our email ist!





NOV 29 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT WORSHIP AT 9:30AM
ZECHARIAH: THE SOUND OF SILENCE
LUKE 1:5-23

An aging priest. A routine shift at the temple. An interruption that leaves him speechless for nine months. Today we open Zechariah's diary.

DECEMBER 1 – WATCH AND WONDER

RSVP

Bring your lunch and join us to eat, watch, and think together. During this Advent gathering, we'll watch an episode of The Chosen that explores the story surrounding Jesus' birth and the people who were part of it. Afterward, we'll talk about what stood out, what surprised us, and what it might mean for our own lives and faith today. No preparation needed—just bring your lunch and yourself!"





DECEMBER 4 – CLINTON CHRISTMAS PARADE

RSVP

Calling all kids who want to ride on the CPC float!
Come be part of the fun as we celebrate the season in the Clinton Christmas Parade. Kids who would like to ride on the church float should meet at CPC at 5:15 - We'll be serving hot pizza! RSVP here!

DECEMBER 5 – LUMOS CANDLELIGHT CONCERT



Lumos Experiences are bringing their candlelight concert series to CPC with performances at 4pm, 6pm and 8pm. Tickets are available online, but many performances are already sold out, so don't wait to get yours.



DECEMBER 6 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, WORSHIP AT 9:30AM ELIZABETH: OPENING THE DOOR LUKE 1:39-45

Inside a quiet Judean home, Elizabeth is still adjusting to a surprise of her own when an unexpected knock interrupts the afternoon. Today we step into her side of the story.

DECEMBER 9 – LADIES' CHRISTMAS GATHERING

RSVP

Favorite Things Gift Exchange – 7 PM at the Manse

Ladies, let's celebrate the season with a favorite-things gift exchange! Bring one favorite item—perhaps a gadget, lotion, or an everyday treat—costing less than $20. You'll head home with a new favorite to enjoy! Come ready for a fun evening of fellowship, conversation, and a little Christmas cheer.



DECEMBER 12 – MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST AT THE MANSE

RSVP

Join us for breakfast, conversation, and fellowship. All men are welcome! Come hungry and enjoy a relaxed morning together.





DECEMBER 13 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, WORSHIP AT 9:30AM JOHN CLEANING UP LUKE 3:2-6

Join us for worship as we join Zechariah and Elizabeth's grown son by the Jordan River as crowds gather, questions fly, and Christmas draws near.

Presentation Brass returns to CPC to help us celebrate the season with festive music and beloved Christmas favorites.

DECEMBER 13 – SUNDAY FUNDAY: ELF WORKSHOP - NOON - 1PM

It's time to report for elf duty! We're opening the workshop for one day only to create, build, and get into the holiday spirit. Come ready to make something and have some fun!





DECEMBER 13 – YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS BASH - 5-630PM

Hot chocolate bar, cheesy Christmas music, and a legendary gift exchange! It's time for some holiday chaos. All students in grades 6–12 are welcome. Bring a friend!

RSVP

Sunday school classes will continue through the month of December.
No classes on December 20, 27 and January 3.

DECEMBER 19 – LIVE NATIVITY 5:00-630PM

Step into the story of Christ's birth at CPC's Live Nativity! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to meet the characters (and the animals!), experience the scene, and take a moment to remember the story at the heart of Christmas. Everyone is welcome!





DECEMBER 20 – CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & BRUNCH

Our youngest disciples are taking the stage to share the story of Jesus' birth! Come encourage them as they bring the Christmas story to life with their own special energy and creativity. And don't rush off after worship—everyone is invited to join us in Fellowship Hall for a Christmas brunch afterward!

POINSETTIAS

As we prepare our Sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas seasons, we invite you to honor or remember a loved one with a gift of a poinsettia. Your plant will adorn our worship space for our Christmas services. Please use the link below to submit your dedication and reserve yours. Each plant is $18 and the deadline to irder is December 20th.

ORDER *Here*



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
5 PM & 9 PM

Make Christmas Eve part of your celebration at CPC. Join us as we gather to hear the familiar story, sing our favorite carols, and celebrate the birth of Christ. Whether you join us at 5 or 9 PM, there's a place for you here. Come share in the wonder, hope, and joy of Christmas!



5PM FAMILY SERVICE

Join us for a lively Family Service—an interactive retelling of the Nativity that invites children and adults alike into the story of Jesus' birth.

9PM CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

At 9 p.m., our Candlelight Communion Service offers quiet joy, timeless carols, and the beauty of candlelight as we welcome the Light of the World.

DECEMBER 27
WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30AM

In the quiet days between Christmas and New Year's, we'll gather to worship and reflect on the light, love, and hope that Christmas brings into our lives.



Opportunities to Give

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern."
- Mother Teresa

GIVING TREE

The 2026 Giving Tree is up and loaded with tags! Help local friends and neighbors in need this holiday season. Our church family is supporting the following groups this year:

- Local Families in need
- Families suffering housing insecurity through Family Promise
- Single moms and their children through The Friendship Center of New Beginnings
- Children and teens in an impoverished area of rural Maine
- Victims of domestic violence through Safe in Hunterdon
- Families needing support through the Family Success Center
- Kids enrolled in Flemington Head Start (undies program!)
- ·Scholarships for the Clinton Presbyterian Preschool

Want to participate? It's easy:

1. Pick a tag (or more than one!)
2. Return UNWRAPPED gifts WITH TAGS TAPED ON TOP by Sunday, November 29th (including wrapping paper and tape is always welcome!)

Worshipping from home and can't get a physical tag? We've got you covered. Click the button below to give online!

Thank you all for your generous support of this fun and meaningful mission project.
If you have any questions, please contact Leanne Treese: 267-981-8502

GIVING TREE ONLINE



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
DECEMBER 14TH
1-6PM

Holiday blood drives are vital because donations historically drop by about one-third during the winter holiday season, even as hospital needs remain constant. Let's show them how it's done here at CPC and raise that number from 12 to 37! Click here to sign up at Clinton Presbyterian Church.



CHRISTMAS EVE DIAPER DRIVE



We're excited to host a Diaper Drive again during our Christmas Eve services to support families in our community. For parents who are struggling something as simple as a package of diapers can be a true blessing. Your gift will help care for the little ones in our community and reflect the love and compassion of Jesus who came among as a little one himself. Diapers of all sizes are welcomed. These will be distributed by the Flemington Area Food Pantry.

CPC SERVES WITH CITY RELIEF

We welcome the opportunity to serve together to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need. Join us on the following dates as we serve our friend in Newark experiencing homelessness.

Saturday, December 12

2027 Dates:
1/9, 2/6, 3/20, 4/10, 5/8, 6/5, 7/3, 8/7, 9/11, 10/2, 11/6, 12/4

Please contact Dave Kelly to RSVP or with questions (908 391-6372 DLSH27@comcast.net).

