2027 Narrative Budget...



91 Center Street ● Clinton, NJ 08809





"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations"
Psalm 90:1









CPC is celebrating 195 years - and that's a lot of Sundays, and so much more.

It's also a lot of people. A lot of worship services. A lot of baptisms, weddings, funerals, Sunday school classes, meals, meetings, mission projects, conversations, laughter, questions, and cups of coffee.

For 195 years, people have given something of themselves to make this church what it is. They have given their time, their talents, their ideas, their care - and yes, their financial support, too.

That's stewardship over the long haul: people bringing what they have and doing their part to help a community of faith thrive.

So this year, our narrative budget takes a look at 195 years and counting—the story behind us, the life we share today, and the chapter we're beginning together.

195 years of faith, life, and community—and we're still counting.

Tracy

195 Years & Counting

There is a lot to remember when you have been around for 195 years! Here are just a few of the people, moments, and milestones that have helped make CPC the church it is today.

1831

Clinton Presbyterian Church was formally organised by the Presbytery of Newtown with ten communicants and 3 ruling elders. The first pastor was installed in 1833 and two years later the church had grown to 76 members, with 16 infants being baptised in 1834!



1845

The original church building was destroyed by fire. The congregation rallied and with support from friends and neighboring congregations, a new house of worship was built and dedicated in November of 1846.



1865

This building was remodeled in 1865 and included a balcony, a central steeple and the bell which still rings to this day.

1884

Dr. Samuel Rowland served CPC for 43 years from 1884-1927. During these early years, Sunday school was held in the church basement!



195 Years & Counting



1885

In 1885 a Chapel/Sunday school addition was built and Sunday school was held here until 1964.



1888

The Blizzard of 1888 toppled the church's tall central steeple onto the roof of the Milligan home across the street. Amazingly, the structure holding the church bell remained in place!
The church took this opportunity to remodel once more, creating the worship space we know today.

1932

Records show that the very first Daily Vacation Bible School took place in the church, in conjunction with the Methodist congregation



1964

In 1964, the current fellowship Hall and kitchen were added and in 1986, the sole remaining horse carriage house was turned into a classroom which we now know as the Wolverton building

Counting Our Blessings

195 years is a remarkable history, and the story is still unfolding today. Take a look at CPC in 2026. There is a lot happening—from worship and ministry to new beginnings, growing connections, and opportunities to serve. Here are just a few of the ways our life together is taking shape this year



314 Members

In 2021, CPC had 235 active members. Today that number has grown to 314. Add to that the many children and oyunger teens who are a part of our life and we have plenty of reasons to look ahead with hope.

14 New members

People who walked through our doors, found something here that mattered, and decided to become part of CPC. Each one brings a new story, new gifts, and another voice to our congregation.





12 Baptisms

We have celebrated 12 baptisms, welcoming babies, children and adults into the life of faith, each one surrounded by a congregation that promises to support and encourage them along the way.

8 Years of Preschool

8 years of a thriving preschool program
Founded in 2018, CPC Preschool grows from strength to strength. It is a place where children play, learn, and grow—and where families come to know CPC as a welcoming part of their community.



Counting Our Blessings

7 Confirmands

In May, we confirmed these teens who are asking questions, exploring what they believe, and discovering that they have a voice and a place in the life of CPC.





11 Preachers from The Pew

During Rev. Henry's sabbatical, eleven people stepped out of the pew and into the pulpit. Together with others who helped plan and lead worship, they made sure Sunday mornings continued—and gave the congregation the gift of hearing faith reflected through different voices.

22 Organizations Supported

We shared our financial resources and our time with organizations serving our neighbors. From writing a check to showing up and getting to work, our members found ways to put faith into action.



Beyond these numbers which we can measure, CPC has been sharing love and faith in countless other ways: showing up at community events, supporting our neighbors, lending a hand when help is needed, and simply being a church that people know is here.

Most of these things will never show up in a report or a statistic.

They are simply part of how we live our faith together and share the love of Christ with the people around us

You can't put a number on all of it. But added together, these countless acts of faith and care have helped make CPC the church it is today—for 195 years and counting.

Counting On

Our next chapter begins with 2027. It will require the same things that every chapter before it has required: people who show up, people who share their gifts, people who give generously.

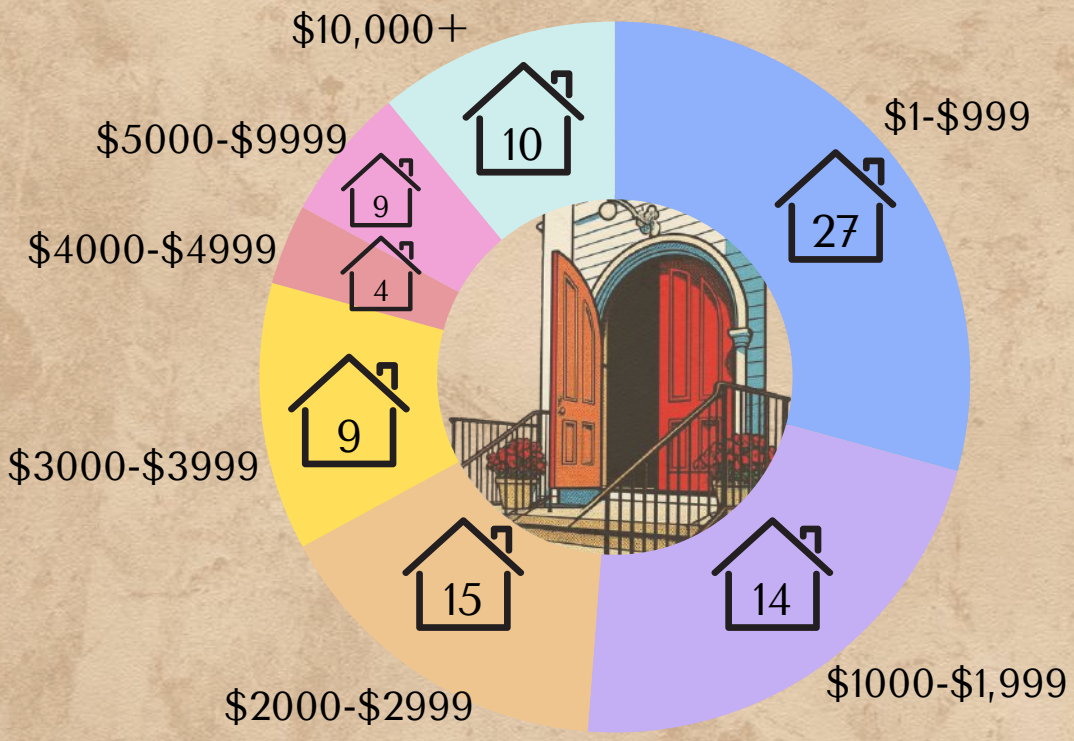
We have plans for the coming year, and your generosity will help make them possible. We will continue investing in children and youth as we search for a new staff person to lead and support these ministries. We also plan to strengthen the work of our deacons, expanding care throughout our congregation, and to continue serving our neighbors as guided by our Mission Team. Your gifts will support our staff as they lead and nurture the life of our church and they will help us maintain our building as a safe, welcoming, and useful space for CPC and the wider community.

OUR PLEDGED GIVING GOAL FOR 2027 IS $348,000.
THIS IS $17,000 MORE THAN WHAT WAS
PLEDGED FOR THIS YEAR.

88 households made a commitment to support CPC with a financial pledge in 2026. This is approximately 58% of our active membership.
As we look ahead to 2027, we need more households to join them, and we invite everyone who already gives to prayerfully consider increasing their support.

Giving Chart

Every gift makes a difference. This chart shows how different giving levels help sustain the ministries and mission of Clinton Presbyterian Church.

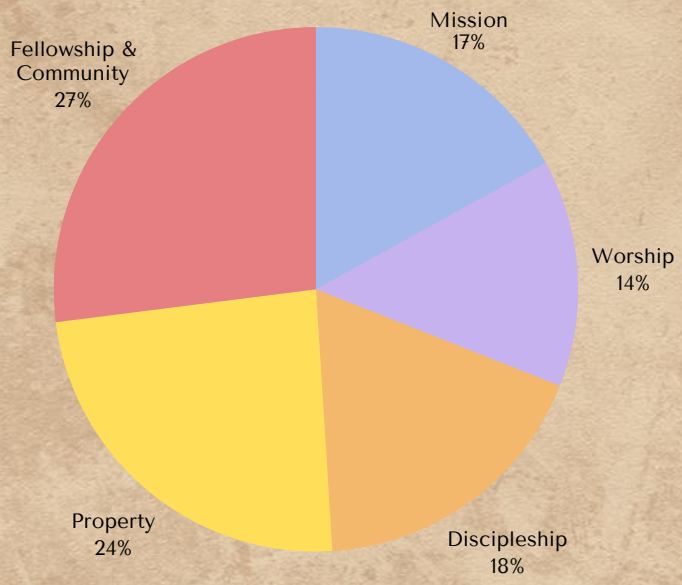


Counting On

Our goal for the coming year is simple: to support the ministry we have planned with a balanced budget. To achieve this goal, we need to increase the amount we receive through regular congregational giving.

These pledged commitments help us plan responsibly, build an accurate budget, and make thoughtful decisions about the ministry and mission of CPC in the year ahead.

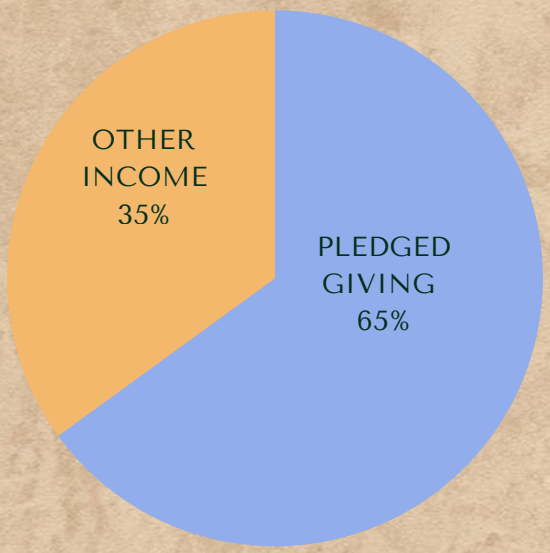
Where does our money come from, and where does it go? These charts offer a closer look at CPC's finances.



Operating Expenses

In 2026, we expect our total operating expenses to be $549,958

This is an increase of 2.9%, with the increase primarily being driven by property expenses such as utility costs, fuel, snow removal, rising insurance costs and staff merit increases.



Income

Approximately 35% of our yearly operating budget is funded through building use, preschool tuition and non-pledged gifts.

The remaining 65% comes from pledges made by members and friends. Any deficit is met through a draw on current savings.

*The full line item budget is available upon request from the office

Counting On You

As we look ahead to another year of being the church together, we invite every household to make a financial pledge which will have a direct impact on our mission and ministries. There is no single right amount to give. What matters is that each household takes time to consider what is meaningful and possible for them.

EVERY PLEDGE MATTERS, AND TOGETHER, OUR GIVING ALLOWS CPC TO CONTINUE THE MINISTRY AND MISSION THAT HAVE CARRIED US THROUGH 195 YEARS - AND INTO WHAT COMES NEXT.

When you are ready, you can:

- Return your pledge card to the church office.
- Drop your pledge card in the offering plate during worship
- Make your pledge online here.

We will dedicate our pledges together during worship on Sunday, November 15.
As we celebrate 195 years of ministry, we look forward to all that we will continue to do together.

