

The Belltower

The Newsletter of the Clover Hill Reformed Church



2023 Consistory members, officers & team coordinators

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Beth Scibienski Pastorbeth.chrc@gmail.com

Elders:

David Gwin—Stewardship cdavidgwin@gmail.com

Amy Frank—Vice President frankfmly@yahoo.com

Nancy Lane—Pastoral Care nlane54@gmail.com

Kirsten Posselt—Health & Safety kirstenposselt3@gmail.com

Deacons:

Michelle Clover—Clerk—Communications miclover@gmail.com

Carolyn Keck – Spiritual Growth carolynkeck64@gmail.com

Barbara Sarzillo—Fellowship & Service barbarasuesarzillo@gmail.com

Staff:

George Farrell—music director deuscaritasest@aol.com

Lynn– Totten—office administrator chrc1834@gmail.com Sunday, June 4, at 10:00 am

Trinity Sunday / Communion Psalm 1

Sunday, June 11, 10:00 am

Second Sunday after Pentecost Baptism Psalm 139

Sunday, June 18, at 10:00 am

Third Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 69 Father's Day

Sunday, June 25, at 10:00 am

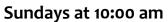
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10, 11-15, 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

Communication and Contact Information

Clover Hill Reformed Church, 890 Amwell Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 908-369-8451 / <u>chrc1834@gmail.com</u> / Website: <u>www.cloverhillchurch.org</u> / Like Us On Facebook

The office of CHRC is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. The office administrator will be working remotely each Wednesday and available by phone (908-369-8451 by leaving a message) and email (<u>chrc1834@gmail.com</u>)

Worship With Us Online





Our live-streamed services will be accessible in real-time through:

YouTube Click Here to check out our YouTube Channel!

Zoom Login for meetings only

By computer:

https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/3847369806 Meeting ID: 384 736 9806 Passcode: 5hhNCv **By phone:** +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 384 736 9806 Passcode: 544042

Clover Hill Reformed Church has lifted all COVID-related restrictions. If you are not feeling well (COVID, flu, or other potentially contagious illness) please stay home and join us via Zoom.

Streaming Worship Services

We have 2 trained volunteers (Amy Frank and Gary Tully) who are qualified to operate our newly revised and very simple streaming system. We are seeking new volunteers to step in and help. Training



takes about one hour (depending on how comfortable you are with operating a computer) and would be an ideal situation for high school aged teens to earn service credits. Currently our YouTube broadcast services some 30-35 families and individuals per week and we would hate to have this service curtailed. Anyone interested please contact the church office at <u>CHRC1834@gmail.com</u> or 908-369-8451 or Bob DiMilia at <u>redimilia@gmail.com</u> or 917-855-5335.

And Check Us Out on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/cloverhillreformedchurch



Remember, to increase the church's presence on Facebook, like, and share.

Even if you are not a Facebook user, you can still see our church's Facebook page.

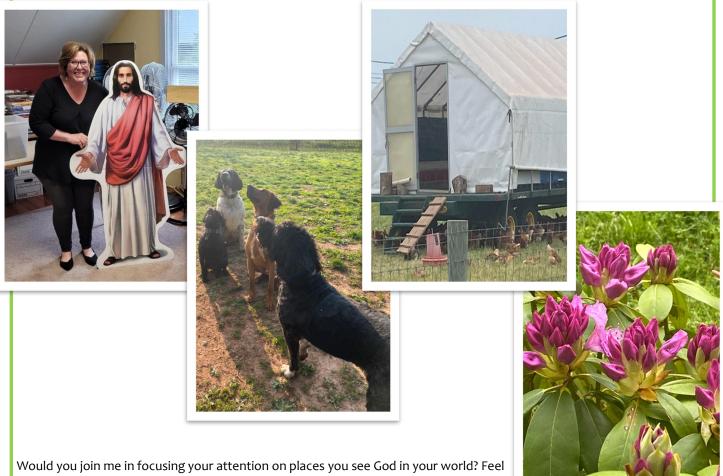
If you have any content that you would like to see up on Facebook, send to the Office Administration chrc1834@gmail.com.

Dear Clover Hill,

I have a colleague, Mary Laymon, the Executive Director of Tikkun Farm in Cincinnati. Tikkun Farm is a 3.5 acre neighborhood farm in Mt. Healthy restoring people, communities and creation. "Tikkun" comes from the Hebrew "Tikkun Olam" which means "to repair the world." The collective life purpose of the people of God is to join God in the ongoing repair of the world. She and her family (and others who lived with them) lost their large farmhouse to fire this last winter. As we know here at Clover Hill, fires are devastating. I followed closely as she shared (on Facebook) the various stages of beginning again.

One of the things that Mary has always done on social media is to share what she calls "God moments." Throughout her days, she notices the big and the small, the significant and the mundane and then she posts pictures of what she has noticed. She never stopped doing this, even in the immediate time after the fire. Her eye is set to see where God is. It is a perspective that she has strengthened over time.

I thought I would try to focus my attention on God moments this past month. Here are some of the things I saw: I found Jesus! (He's in Pastor Chris Heitkamp's temporary office); Sam and his three best buddies: Sassy, Bubba and Obi on his 3rd birthday. This picture is brought to you by the treat that they are all hoping to get at that moment; Chickens roaming free at Lima Farms, our next door neighbors; the rhododendrons bloomed last week at the parsonage.



Would you join me in focusing your attention on places you see God in your world? Feel free to text me or someone who could use encouragement a picture of what you see. (732-735-2112)

Peace be with you, Pastor Beth

www.bethscib.com Cell: 732-735-2112 Use this calendar link to schedule time with me

Message from the Pastoral Search Team

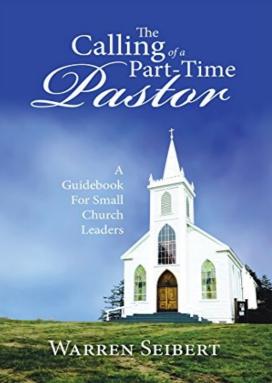
Search Team Update:

As we approach the summer months, we continue to seek candidates for ministry at CHRC. The search team will move in the direction of applicants and interviews in this next step towards placement of a new pastor. We will hone our interviewing skills as we wait and ask for continued prayers for guidance.

Your Search Team:

Patty Agnew paw61961@gmail.com Janet Durborow jdurbor@gmail.com Marilyn Fineman (Search Team Chair) marilyn@fineman.me Matt Furmato tmfurmato@embarqmail.com Gary Keck gkeck6@gmail.com Laurel Suk sukart24@gmail.com Gary Tully crusingg@aol.com Pastor, Rev. Beth Scibienski pastorbeth.chrc@gmail.com

Excerpt: The Calling of a Part-Time Pastor, by Warren Seibert. (pg. 85)



Confidence

There are many churches today that are served by part -time pastors. Tens of thousands of them in the United States alone. Even countless more throughout the world. And very many of them are healthy, thriving, and sharing the good news of salvation with their neighbors. These are good, faithful churches. Biblical churches. Churches we can be sure God is working through, and we would be excited to be a part of, no matter what size they are right now. Church history is filled with these small, vital, and hopeful congregations. God has always done mighty things through them. Some would say that small churches have been the primary way God has been saving people all throughout the years. And, if what we see in small churches today is any indication, I don't believe this is going to change anytime soon. In truth, we can be confident that God can use even the smallest, weakest vessel on earth to do great things in his name, The Bible says he has been doing just that, through us, right from the beginning (1Cor 1:26-31).

Word of grateful thanks:

The family of Duane Babecki would like to thank Pastor Beth and the Clover Hill Church family for the prayers and overwhelming support and love shown to us during the past year. It is a true example of God's work in action in our lives which we felt every day.

Sincerely,

Karen, Denise, Megan and Brian Babecki

Message from the Pastoral Care Team

Coordinator: Nancy Lane (<u>nlane54@gmail.com</u>)

News from the Pastoral Care Team



May is Mental Health Awareness month. Dr. Vivek Murthy, the U.S. Surgeon General, released an 85-page advisory declaring loneliness a new public health epidemic in the United States.

"Our epidemic of loneliness and isolation has been an underappreciated public health crisis that has harmed individual and societal health. Our relationships are a source of healing and well-being hiding in plain sight—one that can help us live healthier, more fulfilled and more productive lives," Murthy states. "Given the significant health consequences of loneliness and isolation, we must prioritize building social connection the same way we have prioritized other critical public health issues such as tobacco, obesity and substance use disorders. Together, we can build a country that's healthier, more resilient, less lonely and more connected."

The new report tracks a decline in social connections—especially among young people—and shows that half of adults are lonely, linking it to billions of dollars in health care costs. The findings show that loneliness is as bad as smoking and has profound effects on mental health, increasing the risks of heart disease, stroke and dementia. He cites the antidote to this crisis as a need to rebuild the social fabric of this country through social connections.

<u>Bryan Robinson, Ph.D.</u> For Forbes Magazine – May 6, 2023

> Do you need someone to talk to? Would you like to take a walk with someone? Do you need a home cooked meal occasionally? Do you need a referral for a support group or social service? Are you suffering from the effects of loneliness?

The Clover Hill Church Pastoral Care Team is a great resource to help with these needs. If you or someone you know in our church family needs assistance, please contact the church office (<u>chrc1834@gmail.com</u>), Pastor Beth (<u>pastorbeth.chrc@gmail.com</u>), or Nancy Lane (<u>nlane54@gmail.com</u>).

Confidentiality will always be practiced by the Pastoral Care Team members.

News from the Spiritual Growth Team

Coordinator: Carolyn Keck (carolynkeck64@gmail.com)

Summer Season Sunday School (SSSS) program June 4 through August 27, 2023

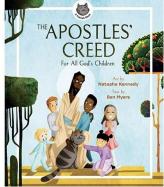


Our 2023 Summer Season Sunday School (SSSS) will begin June 4 and runs through August 27. As with past summers, this year's SSSS will be a 'grab and go' format. That is, all materials will be provided so all the 'teacher' has to do is familiarize themselves with it beforehand and teach. Children will learn about The Apostle's Creed.

In honor of our Sunday School teachers, you can find this book in the Kris Kanach Library to share with your children and family.

If you are interested in teaching a week this summer please contact Marilyn Fineman at chrc1834@gmail.com / 908-369-8451.

Check the Narthex bulletin board for a game challenge on The Apostle's Creed for families.



"For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart." – Matthew 12:34b



The last day of Sunday School was May 21. We celebrated the children and teachers of our Sunday School by recognizing them during our worship service and dedicating books, in their names, to the Kris Kanach Library. The books are Children's Bibles. One is the Children's Bible that Pastor Beth has shared with the Sunday Schoolers during the Children's Sermons on Sunday. Another is a Children's Bible that also has great illustrations. (Psst- We are thankful Pastor Beth is remembering to share the pictures with the Congregation!)

Families can borrow the new Children's Bibles from the church library in addition to other valuable family books and media.

Pastor Beth and the children presented Riley Walsh a gift of a favorite children's Bible on the day of her Confirmation.

We are so grateful to our Sunday School teachers who give their time, dedication and share God's love with the children of Clover Hill. Grateful thanks to Patty Williams Agnew, Lesley Amnott, Tara Dai, Marilyn Fineman, Amy Frank, and Nancy Lane.

We are grateful for the leadership of Marilyn Fineman for her work on the Sunday School curriculum and children's church bulletins.

Confirmation Sunday, May 7 -

We celebrated the Confirmation of Riley Walsh.

As Pastor Beth explained, the congregation promised to care for Riley at her baptism. At her confirmation, Riley promised that she will care for the Church and God's work.

As Elder Amy Frank shared with the congregation on Riley's Confirmation Day in May, an outstanding feature of Riley is her eyes. They are expressive and pensive and looking to the future. And that wide-eyed impression, and Riley, should make us all hopeful for that future.

Our thanks to Tyler Suk for supporting Riley in this special service by serving communion with her.



"I KNOW THAT THE LORD IS ALWAYS ON THE SIDE OF THE RIGHT; BUT IT IS MY CONSTANT ANXIETY AND PRAYER THAT I AND THIS NATION MAY BE ON THE LORD'S SIDE." - Abraham Lincoln



We invite you to take a moment or so, as you can, between the hours of 8 and 11 Wednesday mornings, and pray for all of those who are called by God to be connected to Clover Hill. He will guide our Church, our country, and our world on a path of faith and benevolence to all.



Baptism of Adalynn Laura and Aubrey Jean, daughters of Casey and Elizabeth (Frank) Smith -Following worship, the family will be hosting a reception in the Nevius Fellowship Hall. Please join us for refreshments in celebration of this joyous occasion.

Devotions and Prayer Time



Come and be in community with others while we seek God's guidance for the new day. Come join in each Wednesday at 6:30 am on Zoom for a 10-15 minute time of devotion, scripture, sharing of concerns and joys, prayer, and lifting those on the CHRC prayer list to God.

Wear your pajamas and robe. Now we know why you can unmute sound but hide video for early birds on Zoom. Please use the Zoom information provided on page 2 of this Belltower or in your Friday's "Coming Up" email.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Come - Be - Reflect -

Share an hour of enjoying a meal, touching base with God and each other.

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 Time: noon- about 1:00 pm

Location: we will meet at the Clover Hill Park unless inclement weather the Nevius Fellowship Hall—directions to Clover Hill Park http://tricountynj.com/directions/cloverhill.html

Bring: your own chair, something to drink, your lunch or snack, and yourself

An opening prayer, 15 minute discussion on Bible/religious topic, fellowship, closing prayer will be provided to deepen our experience together.

No need to RSVP, you do not need to attend each one, just show up! If you need further information please contact the church office (908-369-8451 or <u>CHRC1834@gmail.com</u>)

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42



Recognition of Memorial Gifts -

It has been our tradition to recognize annually those in whose names memorial gifts have been given to the work of the church. In most years, this has been done during worship on the first Sunday in June. This year, we will be holding our memorial gift recognition on Sunday, November 5, as we prayerfully remember all those saints who from their labors rest.

Registration ends June 15

VBS Child Registration Form

VBS Volunteer Registration Form



890 Amwell Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 / 908-369-8451 / chrc1834@gmail.com

Discover God's Light and Love at Camp Light, with Bible Stories, Music, Crafts, Games, Service and Science.

- Campers will learn about light, colors, and God's promises and love for them.
- Campers will discover God's light in all of us and what we need to do with that light.
- They'll explore Old and New Testament stories and how the Bible's lessons connect to their lives.
- They will celebrate how God's Love works in the lives of familiar Bible characters and explore how that light works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

Serving age 3 through grade 5- FREE- Volunteers, age 11 and up, welcome. (Parents with children younger than age 3 may register as a volunteer with their children).



Questions: Contact the church office at 908-369-8451 or chrc1834@gmail.com Family VBS Resources: www.cloverhillchurch.org





DEAR CONGREGATION,

PLEASE LEND US A HAND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MONTH OF JUNE (BEGINNING JUNE 11) BY TRACING YOUR HANDS ON COLORED PAPER, CUTTING THEM OUT, WRITING US A MESSAGE, AND HELPING US MAKE A RAINBOW. WHAT COLOR WILL YOU PICK? WHERE WILL YOU PLACE IT ON THE RAINBOW? SUPPLIES WILL BE PROVIDED ON A TABLE IN THE NARTHEX AND YOU CAN 'T MISS WHERE YOU WILL PLACE YOUR HAND IN THE CREATION.

JUST AS THE RAINBOW WAS GOD'S PROMISE TO NOAH THAT HE WOULD NEVER FLOOD THE LAND AGAIN, WE KIDS THANK YOU, OUR CONGREGATION, FOR YOUR PROMISE OF TEACHING US ABOUT GOD'S WORD AND SHOWING US HOW GOD WANTS US TO LIVE AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

THANKS, VBS KIDS

VBS Riddle Corner (For ALL God's Children)

1. How many animals did Moses take on the ark?

2. There is a mixture of purple, orange, and yellow crayons in a crayon box. The total number of crayons is 60, there are four times as many orange crayons as yellow crayons. There are also 6 more purple crayons than orange crayons. How many crayons of each color are there?



Vacation Bible School "Camp Light" July 10-14, 2023



Challenge:

Make a list of all the words you can find and how many times you can find each word.

Look at your word list. What do the words have to do with the Bible?

How are the words connected? Create a story using 5 of the words; 10 of the words.

Check out the Family Resource page in the Education section of the church website. <u>www.cloverhillchurch.org</u>

Families will find songs, videos and art projects for Camp Light.

Riddle Answers

- 1. Moses didn't take any animals on the ark, Noah did.
- 2. There are 30 purple crayons, 24 orange crayons and 6 yellow crayons.



"He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers." **Malachi 4:6**

We celebrate all fathers and grandfathers, uncles and brothers and all other role models to God's children.

CHRC Choir

George Farrell, organist/choir director / (<u>deuscaritasest@aol.com</u>) or cell number (732) 599-4077

Why sing? There are many answers to that question and of course many differing opinions. I can speak for me.

Music can help change my mood. Have you ever had the experience of being in a bad mood and then you start listening to music that you like and all of a sudden you find yourself humming along or singing along and before you know it, you're happy? I've done that on more than one occasion.

Perhaps you're watching America's Got Talent or some other show like that and someone comes along and sings a rather ordinary song in an extraordinary way and all of a sudden you feel excited because the music has brought you to another place.

I feel as though music in church has the ability to do that for us. It can bring us into another realm. And truthfully, we don't always know why, but we know we feel something. Sometimes it's an ordinary Sunday and other times it's a wedding or funeral. For me, that's the Holy Spirit working in me. Something is happening that causes my connection to God to be just a bit better at that moment. I hope that the same is true for you. I know that not everyone likes to sing but even those who don't sing much in church will perk up and sing their hearts out when a particular song is sung. Or if you're like my Dad, who was not a singer, he would hum the songs in church. However, if one came that he really liked, he hummed louder!!!

When working with families to prepare a loved one's funeral, it seemed to me that most people had a few ideas of what music they wanted sung because it had some connection to the deceased person. They might not have the ability to sing while they're mourning but hearing the song is still transformative. It may bring memories or just a good feeling. Whatever it is, it makes a difference to that person.

Music is important to my prayer life. I use it in my personal prayer. Sometimes it's singing a song and at other times it's listening to others singing on Spotify or YouTube or even a CD in my car as that's the only place I have a CD player (and yes, I may join in singing with them).

Music connects with us on a level nothing else does, and for that reason, people have always recognized a divine power and spirituality to music. Does music help you connect to God? I hope so. Those of us in the choir believe that. In fact, we believe it enough to work on singing as a group, to assist the entire congregation in connecting with God. Maybe you would like to join a group that tries to do that. Keep an eye out for info on the new choir season, which will begin in September.

George Farrell



A Triad of Churches

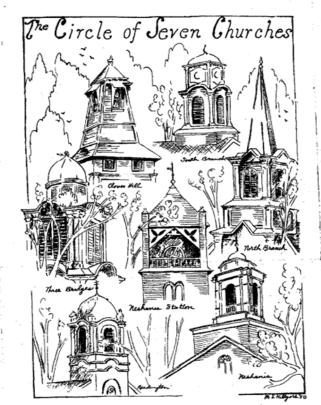
The congregations of Clover Hill Reformed Church, Three Bridges Reformed Church and Neshanic Reformed Church, all located within a five mile radius, have joined forces to learn from one another and create a force to better serve the churches and their community.

The churches' Pastors meet weekly to support one another while sharing ideas, resources and assist one another in planning and prayer.

The congregations combine to provide joint Confirmation classes, Vacation Bible School, The Church Has Left the Building (a Sunday mission outreach), a Youth Ministry Retreat, Pulpit Exchanges, Combined Choirs, and Easter Season Services.

This triad of churches was formalized in the beginning of 2022 and continues to be explored as we pray for God's guidance in this endeavor.

But wait, as Peter Allen and Carole Bayer Sager tell us, "... everything old is new again" Historically . . .



In Unity There is Strength

The Circle of Seven Churches was organized on the 6th of December, 1939 under another name, and a constitution was adopted in which the purposes of the union were expressed in the follow--ing words:-

"To unite in common endeavor the Churches of our countryside in order to provide a wider fellowship for those interested in the Christian Way of Life, and to unite upon such activities as can be done more effectively together toward the accomplishment of the whole Church Task".

The Circle has done its utmost to hold true to these purposes thruout the years.

THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Clover Hill Neshanic Methodist Neshanic North Branch South Branch Three Bridges Readington

Rev. A. Van Lummel Rev. Joseph A. Sharer Rev. George B. Scholten Rev. G. Van Peursem D. D. Rev. J. H. Heinrichs Rev. P. Boelhouwer Rev. T. H. Johnson

News from the Fellowship Team

Coordinator: Barbara Sarzillo (barbarasuesarzillo@gmail.com)

Fellowship and Service Teams meeting will be on Tuesday, June 6, at 2:30 pm on Zoom



Skeins of Hope

Skeins Zoom meetings will be on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at 8:00 pm. Diana Reinhardt (908-369-4362 or <u>greinhardt9@gmail.com</u>)

News from the Service Team

Coordinator: Barbara Sarzillo (barbarasuesarzillo@gmail.com)



In honor of the men and fathers of CHRC,

a donation will be made to

Fisherman's Mark Lambertville.

We invite others to send contributions along with CHRC to help those struggling to feed their families.

Donations must be received by June 30th and may be sent to CHRC, 890 Amwell Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 – in the Memo, write "Fisherman's Mark

Please remember our local food pantries during the summer months.

The Hillsborough Community Assistance Network (CAN) -Food Distribution Center AND

Flemington Area Food Pantry



Coffee-Tea Deodorant Pancake mix Shampoo Canned Vegetables Soap Jelly Dish Soap Tuna fish Plastic wrap Ketchup Paper Towels Cereal Laundry Detergent Canned fruit Toothpaste Peanut Butter Toilet paper Pasta and Sauce Band-aids Canned Chicken Foil wrap Mustard Pet food

A bin is available in the narthex for all donations.

News from the Service Team, continued...



Clover Hill REFORMED Neshanic CHURCHES

The service team would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of The Church has left the Building in April. While some of the projects were halted due to rain, the others were cheerfully accomplished. The collaboration Clover Hill, Three Bridges, and Neshanic Reformed Church gave us not only an opportunity to serve our community but to make new friends along the way.

We participated in flower delivery to neighbors, hygiene kits for SHIP, packing food for Women's Space, and barn clean-up at Good News Home for Woman. Thanks also to Pastor Beth, Pastor Ryan Nace, and Pastor Chris Kile for being part of this multi church effort.



News from the Service Team, continued...

















This information will be based on the organization's activities and is intended to create awareness in our communities. If you have an interest in donating or volunteering, please follow the link supplied for more information.



Pastor Beth had passed this letter to the service team recently. It is an excerpt from a letter written by Kyle Vandenburg, he, his wife Megan and two children join us for worship on Sunday. The letter addressed the tragedy of tornados that ravaged the Mississippi delta recently and the long-standing service his family has given to the area for many years, The service team would like to help in the way of donations through Amazon. Please read Kyle's letter and if possible, follow the donation link below. Please pray for the people of this area as they continue to pick up the pieces of their lives and mourn the loss of loved ones.

The story of Cary Christian Center began in 1971 with Dr. Peter Boelens, a pediatric dentist with a heart of missions and burden for serving the poor. He had become aware of the significant needs in the southern Mississippi Delta and was led to open a practice in the poorest area of the United States- serving Sharkey and Issaquena counties and areas of the surrounding counties. He knew that the infant mortality rate was the highest in the nation. He felt drawn to begin his work in rural Cary, Mississippi.

Over the years, ministries were added, each based on real needs in the community. The first of these programs were related to medical needs. Eventually, they addressed the needs of the whole person and family. What had started as a clinic eventually became Cary Christian Center, a multi-faceted ministry with services directed to the needs of the Mississippi Delta. These include classes and resources for young mothers to address infant mortality, construction projects to address issues of homelessness, and thrift stores to help address access to basic needs.

In the 1980s, my grandfather learned about the Cary Christian Center through his involvement with the Luke Society, the first full-time funder of Dr. Boelens and the center. Using what resources he had, he organized the donation of new and gently used clothing, furniture items, and household supplies from local churches in North Jersey and drove them down in a large trailer to Cary to assist in setting up the first thrift store. What began as one trailer in 1989 became a yearly effort combining several NJ churches each sending several trailers a year, as well as more churches from Michigan and Iowa sending their own trailers. By the end of the trucking ministry, Toys-R-Us was also contributing two trailers a year at Christmas time for kids in the Delta. Today, three fully functioning thrift stores serve the Sharkey County area.

After the tornado which struck last month, the call for support and donations has been desperate. Dozens of people died in the storm, but even more have lost their homes and have been relocated--including those we call friends and family. The Cary Christian Center is perfectly positioned to be able to help those in the most need and is calling for a number of items for donation. Those can be found at this Amazon Wishlist (https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/TNDIX799B4CM? ref_=wl_share) and can be sent directly to the center doorstep. Use the address 154 Cottonwood Street, Cary, MS 39054, and any of the following names as Amazon allows: Cary Christian Center; Carl Watley; Kyle Vandenberg

Alternatively, people may donate financially on the center's website and select "Sharkey County Disaster Relief": <u>https://</u>forms.ministryforms.net/embed.aspx?formId=9e51d809-7528-4966-9dbe-b406795b604f

News from the Communication & A/V Teams

Consistory Facilitator: Communication – Michelle Clover (miclover@gmail.com)

If you take pictures at any church event please share with the church office admin (chrc1834@gmail.com) so we may include them in our social media and Belltower. Not all pictures will be used but it is good to have them on file.



Please be aware we have a Family Photo Release form on file in the church office that limits the publication of the minors in our church family. Please check with the office admin before posting any photos on social media platforms.

Office Hours Information

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. The office administrator works remotely each Wednesday and is available by phone (908-369-8451 by leaving a message) and email (<u>CHRC1834@gmail.com</u>).

Belltower Deadline

Please submit all write ups to be included in the July/August issue, to the church office (chrc1834@gmail.com), by Thursday, June 15, 2023.

Whether we are social distancing or gathering at church, you can always stay on top of what is going on through:

- Belltower and bulletin announcements/inserts
- Facebook
- Instagram
- church website: www.cloverhillchurch.org
- emails from MailChimp
- Zoom worship/meetings/activities

If you would like to join our 'team' and help us spread the word about what is going on at our church, contact Michelle Clover (miclover@gmail.com).

<u>Communications Team Members</u>: Bob DiMilia, Janet Durborow, Marilyn Fineman, Lynn– Totten,

All social media items must go through the church office before they can be posted. Please send all write ups to Lynn– Totten at <u>CHRC1834@gmail.com</u> Thank you!



Consistory Facilitator: David Gwin (<u>CDavidGwin@gmail.com</u>)

Updates from The Stewardship Team:

Finance-

- Giving so far this year is running about on target. We have some givers who have taken advantage of the opportunity to make a donation to the church directly from their IRA accounts. By donating their entire year pledge in one donation sent directly from their IRA, they were able to avoid paying income tax on that gift. So our total gifts to date are a little higher than they ordinarily would be, but our monthly gifts for the next few months will likely be a little lower than in years past. As always, we are grateful for all of the support and thank you for maintaining your pledges!
- On the Financial Snapshot page, you may notice that some of the money has shifted between accounts. We will be keeping approximately six months of operating costs in TD Bank, and the rest of our savings has been transferred to our Vanguard account in order to earn more interest. We have set up a CD ladder and have purchased CDs earning between 4.5% and 5.15%. These CDs are FDIC insured and there is no risk to principal if we keep the CDs until their maturity date. Some of this money is set aside for capital improvements (like the upcoming steeple repairs and future septic system). And we would like to develop plans to support more mission work with some of our savings or income.

Property-

- Carpet: As previously mentioned, we are working to come up with a solution to the ripples in the carpet in the Narthex and Sanctuary. We have received three bids, two of them in the \$10,000 to \$11,000 area. And we will investigate the possibility of stretching one final time before we make the decision.
- **Steeple:** If you look closely at the picture of the church steeple (and the little spire), you can see that it is in need of some attention. Some of it just needs power washing and paint, but there are other parts that have rotten wood and there are some leaks during rainfall (most likely coming in near where the arrow indicates). We have begun the process of looking for those who can do the work and getting bids. Any donations toward this project would be greatly appreciated!



News from the Stewardship Team, continued...

Is there someone special in your life?

Historically, on the first Sunday of June, we recognized all of the gifts given to the church over the course of the past 12 months that were given in honor of someone or in memory of someone. This year, we will begin honoring those gifts on All Saints Day! If you would like to give an extra gift in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special, just mark your donation for the Fund you would like the gift applied to and let us know who it is honoring. We will celebrate and recognize those gifts in November of this year.

Here is a list of the special funds available for gifting:

- Accessibility Fund a fund collecting money to make a new handicapped ramp and more handicapped accessibility throughout the building.
- **Benevolence Fund** a fund where we collect money for individuals with a serious financial need. Individuals must follow an application process to receive Benevolence Funds.
- Building Fund this money is used for small and large projects in and around the church building and the parsonage. New gifts to the Building Fund would be very helpful for the upcoming steeple project and carpet replacement!
- **Castellano Scholarship Fund** this money is used to award scholarships to college students who have participated in one of the music programs at church.
- Kris Kanach Library Fund supports the lending library located in the church basement.
- Mary Nevius Music Fund used for choir, bell, and other special music for services.
- **Special Gifts** gifts given as "Special Gifts" in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special will go directly toward the day to day operating expenses of the church or into savings to be used later for special projects or operating expenses.

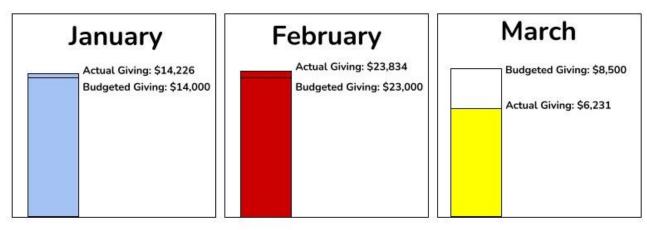
Next Stewardship Team Meeting:

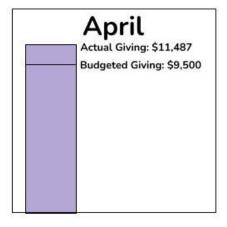
June 29, 2022

7 pm on Zoom

News from the Stewardship Team, continued...

2023 MONTHLY GIVING RECAP





Year to Date (thru April)

attributable & non-attributable gifts - excludes Memorial Gifts

Actual Giving: Budgeted Giving:	\$55,879 \$55,000	
Difference:	\$879	2

GARDENING ANGELS

On June 21st at 8 am the Gardening Angels will meet at the Church Parking Lot Garden

All are welcome! Contact Diana Reinhardt 908-369-4362



New members always welcome!

Next Clean Team Meeting: June 6th at 8 am

Contact Yvette du Fosse' 908-246-1966

News from the Stewardship Team, continued...

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Cash Financial Snapshot (as of 5/26/2023)		
Income Year to Date (excluding special gifts)	\$81,473.51	
Expense Year to Date	\$59,065.73	
Balance to Date	\$22,407.78	
TD Checking Balance (Operating Cash):		\$18,064.56
TD Money Market Account (Savings)	\$46,411.63	
TD Money Market Account (Restricted Funds)	\$38,613.51	
Accessibility Fund	\$5,089.63	
Benevolence Fund	\$423.03	
Building Fund	\$5,330.95	
Castellano Scholarships Fund \$1,099.6		
Kris Kanach Library Fund \$556.5		
Mary Nevius Music Fund	\$5,118.08	
Memorial Fund	\$18,319.71	
Paving Seal Fund	\$2,676.00	
Total of all Operating and Funds Cash:	\$103,089.70	





LEARN MORE HERE

Men's Health Spotlight: Cancer Prevention & Fitness for Life

Register here: https://www.rwjbh.org/events/register/?Event=32595

During this panel discussion, understand the common cancers (i.e. prostate, colorectal and lung) that affect men, prevention strategies and services available to treat those conditions. Participants will enjoy free health screenings and interactive table exhibits with health information on various topics including but not limited to heart, sleep, diabetes and physical fitness. A healthy lunch will be offered. Eshan Patel, MD, oncologist Kaidlan Ricardo, CMA, BS-HA, lung cancer screening program manager **RWJUH Somerset Departments Event Dates** Select an event date to start registration. Jun 20, 2023_11:00am - 1:30pm **Event Location** Somerville Elks, 375 Union Ave, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 **Get Directions Event Registration** Price: Free Sponsoring Facility: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset **Registration Type:** Online Registration

	JUNE 2023 Communion / Baptism / Father's Day					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	-	t ory I meet on Zoom 3, at 7:00 pm.		1 8:30 am The Church Has Left the Building Zoom 11:30am sanctuary use by organist	2	3 8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous In-person meeting NFHall
4 10:00 am Worship & SSSSchool Communion	5	6 8:00 am Clean Team 11am-2pm meeting NFHall 2:30 pm Canceled Fellowship & Service Teams meeting Zoom	7 6:30 am Early Bird Devotion & Prayer Time Zoom 8:00-11:00 am Prayers 11am-2pm meeting NFHall	8 11:30am sanctuary use by organist 6:30 pm Communications Team meeting NFHall	9	10 8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous In-person meeting NFHall
11 10:00 am Worship & SSSSchool / Baptism 11:00 am Baptism Reception NFHall	12	13 11am-2pm meeting NFHall 7:00 pm Consistory meeting Zoom	14 6:30 am Early Bird Devotion & Prayer Time Zoom 8:00-11:00 am Prayers 11am-2pm meeting NFHall	15 Belltower deadline 11:30am sanctuary use by organist 12noon Lunch Bunch Clover Hill Park VBS Registration ends	16	17 8:oo pm Alcoholics Anonymous In-person meeting NFHall
18 Father's Day 10:00 am Worship & SSSSchool	19	20 11am-2pm meeting NFHall	21 6:30 am Early Bird Devotion & Prayer Time Zoom 8:00 am Garden Angels meet 8:00-11:00 am Prayers 11am-2pm meeting NFHall	22 11:30am sanctuary use by organist 8:00 pm Skeins of Hope meeting Zoom	23	24 8:oo pm Alcoholics Anonymous In-person meeting NFHall
25 10:00 am Worship & SSSSchool	26	27 Prayer "Refresh" 11am-2pm meeting NFHall 7:00 pm Classis meeting off-site	28 6:30 am Early Bird Devotion & Prayer Time Zoom 8:00-11:00 am Prayers 11am-2pm meeting NFHall	29 11:30am sanctuary use by organist 7:00pm Stewardship Team meeting Zoom	30	