



NEWS OF THE  
CLINTON UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## THE CUP

REV. LAURA E. STRAUSS  
MINISTER



*Come near to God and he will come near to you.*  
– James 3:8a

Allow me to begin by sharing good news.

The first good news is this: our church is financially healthy. As of our July 21 session meeting, we are well in the black as a congregation. Our own records are reflective of our bank statements, we have consistently brought in more than we have spent in 2016, and our recent investments are already proving their prudence. Because of the Triune's work through our treasurer, Elder Mark Elek, and our financial secretary, Sophie Guzma, and the oversight of our colleague, Kim McCann, we can rejoice in sound and healthy finances to God's glory.

The second good news is this: Vacation Bible School brought in an average of *eighty* children a day. That is a number typically unheard of for a mid-size, rural

congregation. I want you to understand that, and to fully appreciate what a blessing we have experienced. The leadership of Elder Brenda Metz, along with many in our congregation who gave of their time, resources, and prayers, have been blessed by God so that we may share the good news of Christ with countless households in our community.

The third good news is the turnout of our congregation for Ludwig Sunday on July 24. We enjoyed 94 people in worship, well above our summer average. Rev. Michael Ludwig's sermon stirred our hearts, even as Mrs. Rachel Ludwig's answers to our questions stirred our minds. The food for our potluck was as diverse as it was delicious. The children of our congregation ran around amongst the children of these missionary's. And, not to be forgotten, our freewill offering enabled the Ludwig's to leave our church with over \$900 in support – something typically unheard of for a mid-size rural congregation, and a blessing

as we remember that church support, alone, enables the Ludwig's missionary work.

There is much more good news to be shared. From our youth group mission trips, to the already evident support for the Attic Treasure and Bake Sale, we are a congregation with cause to rejoice. God has been good – all the time!

Therefore, I would invite you to continue in response to God's goodness. Rev. Ludwig challenged us to respond to the costly work of Jesus Christ on the cross by the costly giving of ourselves. As we reflect on all of the good news that we have enjoyed these past two months, how can we give in a costly way to the God of that good news?

As I consider costly ways of giving, I am reminded of our brothers and sisters in the faith who memorize Scripture and articles from our Book of Confessions. That's a costly use of time! I am reminded of those who express hospitality (*philoxenia*) to foreigners for the Christmas season. That's a costly use of one's home! I

am reminded of those who give of their tithes in a true tithe, giving until they feel it. That's a costly use of one's resources! Why do people do it? Because of the work of the Holy Spirit, of course! They also do it because of their knowledge of the one who gave all for us. They do it, and we are invited to do it, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

In His Service,

Pastor Laura



## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE LORD'S SUPPER WILL BE OBSERVED NEXT ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 DURING THE 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE. PLEASE BE RECONCILED TO ONE ANOTHER IN PREPARATION FOR THIS HOLY SACRAMENT.

## Rally Day

*Join us for Rally Day on Sunday, August 28 during our 10:00 a.m. worship service. We will celebrate all of our children who are, "crossing the bridge" into a new year and we will bless their backpacks.*



## Time Change

Worship will begin at 11:00 a.m. beginning on *Sunday, September 3*. There will be Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.



## Scripture Readings In August

August 7, 2016:

*The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

Old Testament Reading:

*Exodus 20:8-11*

August 14, 2016:

*The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Old Testament Reading:

*Genesis 2:4-25*

August 21, 2016:

*The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Old Testament Reading:

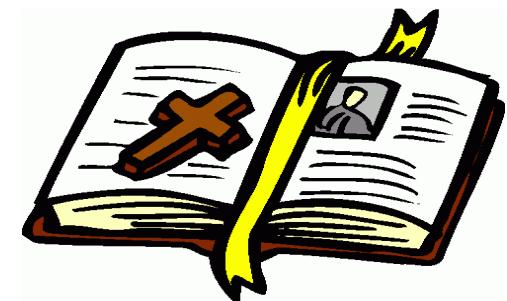
*Job 16:11-17, 40:1-5*

August 28, 2016:

*The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Gospel Reading:

*Numbers 6:22-27*



Exciting News in Our Denomination - Just happens to be from Pastor Laura's father's church!

# Spanish-speaking ministry invigorates Florida Presbyterian church

Worshiping Communities July 11, 2016

**1001 New Worshiping Community says ‘God has thrust a vision upon us’**

by Emily Enders Odom / Presbyterian News Service



Pastor Miguel talking to Children at Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church. (Photo by Jessica Osegueda)

LOUISVILLE – It all began in Pittsburgh over a Primanti Brothers sandwich. When the Rev. Dr. Clinton “Clint” Cottrell, pastor and head of staff at [Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church](#) in Fort Myers, Florida, sat down at the famed sandwich chain during the 220th General Assembly (2012) to break bread with his [Peace River Presbytery](#) colleague, the Rev. Miguel Estrada, their long-held dream took shape.

“We had been talking about a Spanish-speaking ministry for a long time, but this was the pivotal moment,” said Cottrell.

“We were discussing the fact that we have a very substantial Spanish-speaking population living within a couple of miles of the church and not a single mainline church within the community was offering anything in Spanish. So here’s a need right in the community that is going unmet.” Returning to Florida after the assembly, Cottrell and Estrada—an ordained Presbyterian teaching elder and regular worshiper at Cypress Lake, who was called in 2007 to serve the presbytery’s mission to the farmworkers at Immokalee—immediately scheduled a meeting to present their proposal.

“The church was willing to take a risk and try it, but from day one we said that if we do this, this cannot be a separate church,” Cottrell said. “If we do this, we are one church.”

Meanwhile Cottrell was learning more about the Presbyterian Mission Agency’s [1001 New Worshiping Communities](#) initiative, which had just been approved by the Pittsburgh General Assembly.

“We were maybe the second group to file our paperwork and be approved by 1001,” said Cottrell. “We applied for a grant and we got it.”

Less than one year later in February of 2013, the church’s Spanish-speaking ministry, [Iglesia Presbiteriana Cypress Lake](#), was born.

“On our first Sunday, we had three wonderful Spanish-speaking worshipers, Miguel, Marifrans, and their son, but that did not deter us,” recalled Cottrell, “and, as they say, the rest is history.”

Today the Iglesia Presbiteriana Cypress Lake averages some 40 worshipers and could count as many as 100 people in attendance—enough to charter as a church—should that be God’s vision. “We don’t have a vision, rather God has thrust a vision upon us,” said Cottrell. “We were just willing to hear it. Every time where we have set a vision, we have failed. Every time where I’ve kept my mouth shut, it’s been a miracle.”

Additionally, just as the Spanish-speaking ministry was being launched at Cypress Lake, the [Beth-El Farmworker Ministry](#), under whose auspices Estrada previously served as mission pastor, discontinued its work at Immokalee. Because the presbytery then found that it could not afford to pay Estrada full time, Cypress Lake acted to hire him as a 1/4-time stated supply while Peace River agreed to pay him the balance to serve at Immokalee through the presbytery’s [Mision Peniel](#). “It was a way to permit the mission in Immokalee to continue unabated with the same leadership, which is extraordinary,” Cottrell said.

At Cypress Lake, worship is held both in English and Spanish, with some services conducted using both languages. The English and Spanish-speaking communities also sponsor such joint

programs as Vacation Bible School, an after-school program targeting primarily Spanish speakers, and a host of fellowship events.

“We have people on both sides that have complained a little; let them complain,” said Cottrell, citing Galatians 3:28, “There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”

The church has also held two Hispanic food festivals.

“The meals that we share provide the kind of space where we can interact to help break down the fears that people have against people,” said Estrada. “When you can sit and eat together, it makes a huge difference. We also use music as a way to connect people.”

Cottrell said that in telling Cypress Lake’s story, there are two things that he can’t stress enough.

“First, there’s prayer,” he said. “You don’t run into this quickly. Second, we were going to do this whether the Presbyterian Mission Agency or the presbytery or anyone funded it or not. The only difference was that if we were to have done it ourselves, the mission would have been substantially more limited than it would have been with resources from the outside.”

That is not to minimize the impact of the [New Worshiping Communities Seed Grant](#) and other funding support offered through the initiative.

“The grants made a huge difference as we have been able to grow so much faster and more effectively,” said Cottrell, “but we were committed to the mission, and trusted God would support us. I personally think that was a key element. Just how committed are people to the mission?”

## What is the 1,001 New Worshiping Communities?

1001 new worshiping communities is a movement happening in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Across the PC(USA), God is raising up leaders in churches and presbyteries who are creating new worshiping communities. They are taking on new and varied forms of church for our changing culture. Primarily they are seeking to make and form new disciples of Jesus Christ, to change and transform the world.

In June 2012, the 220th General Assembly declared a commitment to a churchwide movement that results in the creation of 1,001 worshiping communities over the next 10 years. At a grassroots level, hundreds of diverse new worshiping communities have already formed across the nation. The Presbyterian Mission Agency is coming alongside to fan the flames of this movement, to inspire and equip the wider church to participate in the creation of 1,001 new worshiping communities in the next 10 years. (Source: [presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org))

# Upcoming EVENTS

## THE CROP WALK IS COMING!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 FOR THE CROP WALK. CROP HUNGER WALKS ARE COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENTS SPONSORED BY CHURCH WORLD SERVICE AND ORGANIZED BY LOCAL CONGREGATIONS AND GROUPS TO END HUNGER AROUND THE WORLD AND AT HOME. OUR CROP WALK IS SPONSORED BY WAMA (THE WEST ALLEGHENY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION), AND BENEFITS NOT ONLY GLOBAL HUNGER, BUT THE WEST ALLEGHENY FOOD PANTRY.

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## *It's Almost World Communion Sunday!*

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on Sunday, October 2 during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This event, which many different Christian denominations participate in, celebrates Christian unity. The tradition was begun in 1933 by Shadyside Presbyterian

Church and is now a worldwide, multi-denominational phenomenon.



**Vacation Bible School was a FIESTA to Remember! During the week of July 11, our church welcomed almost 80+ children through our doors every day to learn about Jesus. While here, the children learned songs of praise, played games, laughed at funny videos, made colorful crafts, and learned about Jesus at their daily Bible story. The children studied the stories of the healed paralytic, the raising of Lazarus, the calling of James and John, the death and resurrection of Jesus, and the conversion of Saul/Paul. On Thursday night, families gathered together in our church for a hot dog picnic and presentation by the children. The children also raised over \$300 for the local mission organization, Heroes Supporting Heroes.**

***Thank you to our director, Elder Brenda Metz, for her steadfast leadership of Vacation Bible School! And thank you to our volunteers - you made this a FIESTA to remember!***



Yum Groom	7
Emma Ayers	7
Bill Marburger	10
Mark McConnell	11
Brayden McCullough	13
Billy Thomas	14
James Osborne	16
Irma Groom	20
Rev. Dr. Cindy McClung	23
Joan Downs	24
Skip Clydesdale	25
Joshua Wilson	27
Emily Metz	28
Linda Wade	28
Jennifer Resio	31





## MISSIONARY NEWS



Dear Clinton United Presbyterian Church,

As we have been able to visit some churches this summer, Michael has been preaching a sermon about our need to not be an independent worker from God. Rather we are called to invest in costly community. We see this in practice through your gift to us. We appreciate what you do to be in community with us and the people we work with. Thank you for the way you are living out your call to be active in God's mission.

In our family news, Zach's adoption was finalized!

Thank you,

Michael, Rachel, Adeline, Simeon and Zach Ludwig



*Siblings*



*The Rickshaw Community getting into the community!*



*Family reunion game - Zach holding the adults in his hand*

### A BIG Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who welcomed the Ludwig family last Sunday. They have been so blessed by your generosity, and by the delicious meal that you prepared. Thank you to the deacons for preparing a beautiful luncheon! Thank you to Judy Huemmrich for corresponding with the Ludwig's, for organizing this beautiful event, and for keeping us informed about their mission work!

**YOU CAN CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THEIR JOURNEY THROUGH THEIR BLOG:**

[HTTP://OUTOFTHEDUSTANDUS.BLOGSPOT.COM/](http://outofthedustandus.blogspot.com/)

MISSIONS





## The Youth Group Amazing Race is BACK!

Youth group begins on **Sunday, September 18** with the return of the popular Youth Group theme....The Amazing Race! All youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join us on September 18 following worship for an amazing race that will take us into a Pittsburgh neighborhood. Look for more information in your mail later this month!

Note: Grown-up's are invited to join the youth on their race on the fourth Sunday of the month!

**Youth Group will be held on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, beginning September 18. It'll be from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month. A special race will be held on the fourth Sunday of the month, with details mailed out a month in advance.**

*Please note: The Gettysburg youth group trip has been postponed to the spring.*

### The Deacon's Giving Campaign

If you know someone that needs a visit or a meal taken to them, we can help with that. Our job is to serve our congregation and community in helpful ways. The Deacon giving campaign for August is Kid Stuff – Mac n Cheese, Spaghetti Os, fruit cups, applesauce cups. You can bring these items to church and place on the table in the Narthex. **Note: the Food Pantry is in need of Canned Soups.**

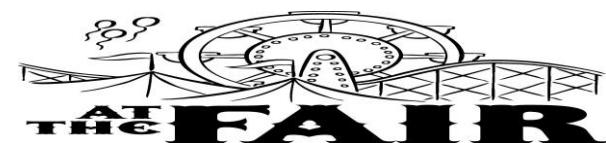


*At this time we are getting ready for another busy season. Remember the Women's group will be meeting on **September 1st at 6:30 and we will be studying Half Truths.** There are sheets on the table in the narthex with the dates of next year's meetings, please feel free to take one and mark your calendars now so that you won't miss any of our meetings. And mark your calendars for November 3rd when John Haigh will join us for a pot luck dinner and discussion about his work on the Airforce One airplane.*

There will be a Finance and Stewardship Meeting on **Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

**Attention all choir members:** 

Our first choir practice will be September 6th at 7:00. I am inviting anyone who is interested in singing with us to join us for this wonderful, joyful, fellowship of singing. For more information, contact Cindy Macek 724-899-3755



**FINDLAY TOWNSHIP'S**  
**"FAIR IN THE WOODLAND'S"**  
**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
**AUGUST 19TH AND 20TH**  
**REG. THURS AUG 18<sup>TH</sup> 1-7 PM**  
**REG. BAKED GOODS FRI. 2-5:30 PM**  
**PARADE SATURDAY AUG 20<sup>TH</sup> –**  
**LOOK FOR OUR FLOAT!!**  
**AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR**  
**BOOTH AT THE FAIR!**

## 3 M's Class News

It is here! Our annual Attic Treasure & Bake Sale is scheduled for Thursday August 18th 6-9 P.M., Friday August 19th 6-9 P.M. and Saturday August 20th Noon- 4 P.M. But we need your help to get ready. We need saleable items, no clothes, no older large TV or computer screens to be brought to the church no later than Wednesday August 17th. Please hold the items at your home until the week of the sale, because of our limited storage space. If you must bring items before then, there is space available in the Jr. Sr. High class room in the Christian Ed building.

Your bake sale items should be brought to the church by Wednesday evening August 17th. I hope we have some new receipts to try out! We will try to have baked goods for all 3 days of the sale.

Jennifer Rossman is handling the scheduling duties for cashiers and helpers. Please see her for a scheduled hour or two when you can serve!

Tom McCullough and the "Guys" will be setting up the tables on Monday August 15th at 9 A.M. Please see Tom if you are able to help!

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evening from 6 P.M.-9 P.M. we will be sorting, pricing, and setting up the sale items. We need YOU!

Saturday starting at around 4 P.M. we will start to clean up and pack any leftover items for transport to Oakdale. The "Rock Youth and Family Center" will accept our items for their Flea Market scheduled for August 27th and 28th.

If you have items to be picked up or have any questions please contact Dale Huemrich at 724-457-7194. Thanks in advance for your continued support of this mission project!



### Request:

**The family of James Osborne are asking for cards to cheer up and encourage Ossy... He's not doing well and they thought this might help.**

**You can send your cards to his daughter, Jane Silbor, who will take them to his Rehab facility.**

**Jim Osborne  
c/o Janie Silbor  
468 Calvert Cr.  
Bunker Hill, WV 25413**



### Check In on Social Media!

Don't forget to check-in to Clinton U.P. Church on Facebook on your smartphone before worship starts. This is a great witness to let folks know about the Little Church with a Big Heart. You can also tweet from today's service. The church can be found on Twitter @ClintonCh1797. If you don't have social media, you can talk face-to-face with the person sitting next to you!



# Puzzles

## NEVER FEAR!

The Psalms are full of inspiring prayers to God,  
who always looks after you.

*Directions: Use the clues to fill in each missing letter. Then use those letters to complete Psalm 13:5, NIV.*

What plants grow in ..... DIR 1

The opposite of play ..... WO 2 K

One-of-a-kind ..... 3 NIQUE

A hug and a ..... KI 4 S

Sour ..... TAR 5

To speak very loudly ..... YE 6 L

Immediately ..... N 7 W

Bees live in a ..... HI 8 E

A dandelion is this ..... W 9 ED

I 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 in your unfailing 6 — 7 — 8 — 9;

my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm 13:5, NIV

13:5, NIV  
I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm  
Answers: dirt, work, unique, kiss, tart, yell, now, hive, weed;

## Kids Corner

# TRUST POSTER

No matter what you face, God is with you. Make this poster as a reminder to always trust God.



### What you need:

- Cardstock
- Glue
- Twigs (a 3"-high piece and a 2"-high piece)
- Pebbles
- Black paint
- Paintbrush
- Sand or glitter
- Broken crayons (2 or 3)

### What you do:

1. On the left side of the cardstock, trace a 3"-high letter T with glue. Place twigs on the glue lines.
2. Trace an R of the same size. Place pebbles on that glue.
3. Use black paint to make a U.
4. Trace an S in glue. Pour sand (or glitter) on top.
5. Make another T with glue. Place the crayons on top.
6. After the poster dries, shake off the excess sand (or glitter) into a trash can.