



CLINTON
UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

THE CUP

THE REV. LAURA
E. STRAUSS
MINISTER



Train up a child in the way he should go, and he will not depart from it.

– Proverbs 22:6

Every one of us knows a child who was raised in the way they should go, only to depart that way as soon as they were permitted. We all know children who come from loving, stable, mostly functional households who grew up to become what some might call, ‘a hot mess.’ It’s for this reason that I often look at the book of Proverbs with the question, “Did this author have children?”

Obviously, the above is a question I can’t answer. I can take to heart the imperative to raise children in the way they should go, however, and follow that as closely as possible. One way that we do that is by nurturing our children’s faith. What does nurturing a child’s faith look like?

First, faith begins at home. Every child’s belief system begins with their grownups. Children witness how engaged the adults in the house are in their faith. Are the grownups practicing forgiveness? Are they showing grace? Do they live out the lessons learned in Sunday School, worship, and Scripture? Children learn on their parents laps through reading the Bible together, praying together

outside of “set” prayer times, discussing what both adults and children learned in Sunday School, and talking about faith together regularly. Kids know that God is important when observing the Sabbath and keeping it holy is a part of who their family is, not just an ancient obligation.

Second, faith is something deepened at church. A Barna study showed that all youth need at least five mentors in the faith, outside of their grownups, in order to stay connected with Jesus into adulthood. That’s FIVE MENTORS! What you do with the children and youth is vital, friends, to their future engagement with the Lord. Your chaperoning, your conversations, your encouraging cards in the mail, your willingness to listen, your presence in their lives makes more difference than you may know. (Speaking of, now is a good time to send an encouraging note to those starting kindergarten, middle school, high school, and college!)

We are all capable of nurturing the faith of our children. As I look at Rachel Ludwig, who recently carted four small children on a three-day trip from the United States to Niger, all by her lonesome, in order to serve Jesus Christ in a Muslim land, I am reminded: by the power of the Holy Spirit, beloved in Christ, we are capable. We can keep our children and youth a priority. We, whether parents or church members, can nurture their faith. We can raise them in the way they should go. It is with prayer and dependence on God’s grace that we hope our children will not depart from it.

In Christ’s Service,

Pastor Laura

P.S. Sunday School for ALL ages begins Sunday, September 2 at 9:45 a.m. Yes, you are invited.

Scripture Readings in September

September 2, 2018:

The 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Old Testament Reading:

Song of Songs 1:1-4,2:8-13 ,4:8-15,8:6-7

September 9, 2018:

The 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:31-37

New Testament Reading: James 2:1-10,
14-17

September 16, 2018:

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-38

New Testament Reading: James 3:1-12

September 23, 2018:

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Ashley Ashley,

Candidate Under Care of Pittsburgh

Presbytery

September 30, 2018:

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:38-50

New Testament Reading: James 5:13-20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Group Bake-Off All youth entering grades six - twelve are invited to put on their aprons for a baking competition on Sunday, September 9 from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. Grown-up's are invited to participate! Participants are invited to bring whatever baking supplies will benefit their baking team.

Short Stories By Jesus All adults are invited to join us for Sunday School beginning at 9:45 a.m. starting September 2. We will be studying "Short Stories By Jesus," based on the book by Rabbi Amy-Jill Levine. This study will explore new ways of hearing Jesus's parables from the perspective of their original Jewish listeners.

Save the Date for Soul Shop: The West Allegheny Ministerial Association invites you to save Saturday, September 22 for a day-long event entitled "Soul Shop." This event trains church leaders and members in how to minister to those suffering from the desperation of suicidal depression. The goal is for the churches of West Allegheny to become, "faith communities that companion the desperate into hope and connection." Cost for the day is \$20, which includes curriculum and lunch.

Taize Worship Field Trip You're invited to join Oakdale U.P. Church on an outing to worship Taize style at East Liberty Presbyterian Church on Wed., Sept. 12. Worship is at ELPC at 7:00 p.m. See Pastor Laura for more information.

Are you looking for a way to serve and influence families? Crossroads Mops (Mother's Of Preschoolers) in Oakdale is in need of additional volunteers to play with the 2-3 year old toddlers in the Mops Kids program. You'd be guiding them through activities and forming bonds to create a safe and welcoming atmosphere. You'll also be supporting the moms of these kiddos, who meet to connect, share Jesus and support each other during this rough stage of Motherhood. Volunteers are needed the 2nd and 4th Wed of each month from Sept- May from 8:45am-11:15am. For more information or to join us, contact Kelly Pettit at kellynpettit@gmail.com or 724-833-4239.

Worldwide Communion Sunday The sacrament of communion will be observed next on Sunday, October 7 during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This is Worldwide Communion Sunday. Please prepare your hearts for the Lord's Supper by forgiving one another.

They're Praying for Us! Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church in Ft. Myers, FL prays for a different church each month. They are praying for Clinton United Presbyterian Church for September! It would be a good thing for us to keep them in prayer, as well, in response to such kindness.

BLT Luncheon for Mission Bacon in every bite! It's a DELICIOUS way to raise money for the mission work of Clinton U.P. Church! Mark the calendar for Sunday, Sept. 30 after worship.

Meals include a BLT sandwich, chips, bottled water, pickle, and pastry dessert. All funds raised will go toward the mission work of our congregation, including the Niger and Youth mission trips. Tickets can be purchased following worship on September 9 and 16.

CROP Walk for Hunger The annual CROP Walk raises funds for the West Allegheny Food Pantry and Church World Services' hunger causes around the world. This year's walk will take place on Sunday, October 21. Registration begins at 1:00 p.m. The walk will begin at 1:30 p.m. Hot dogs, water, and chips will be provided. Please bring a water bottle. Registration envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary. If you have questions, please contact Dakota Lamb.

Giving From and For the Heart Pastor Laura will be preaching in the month of October and early November on how we can grow spiritually through our financial giving to God's church. We hope you'll make a point of being present in worship throughout these weeks to hear about how our giving not only helps others.....but helps us, too.



Community Involvement



September 30, Ludwig Mission Sunday

It stated “Africa is a continent brimming with natural resources, a rapidly growing Christian community and some of the most difficult challenges seen anywhere in the world, including war, HIV/AIDS, lack of clean water, famine and illiteracy. But 38 Presbyterian mission co-workers in 11 African countries are working with global partners, helping to build a brighter future through education, peace building and community health evangelism.”

For those who do not know, this church, Clinton UP, supports 2 of those 38 missionaries. They are the Ludwig family. Pastor Michael, his wife Rachel and their 4 children, Adeline, Simeon, and 2 new additional children adopted from an orphanage near their village, Zac and Isaac. Their home is in Maradi, Niger, where they live among the Hausa people.

September 30, is mission Sunday for the Ludwig family. Please place a check mark beside {mission} on your church envelopes to support the Ludwig family. Our mission co-workers cannot do this alone; they need our prayers and monetary support.

Thank you!

Judy and Dale Huemmrich

WAFP The Food Pantry would like to let all of the churches know how much you are all appreciated with all your contributions of money and food items etc. We welcome all your donations. Right now, if your church is planning a food drive, please contact Tim or Linda before doing so. You all will be notified when we are located in our permanent place. The Food Pantry number is 724-695-1305. Thank you all. Judith Bolind, Volunteer

The Deacon’s Giving Campaign If you know someone that needs a visit or a meal taken to them, we can help with that, please contact Pastor Laura or Judy Heck. Our job is to serve our congregation and community in helpful ways. The Deacon giving campaign for September is Peanut butter and Jelly You can bring these items to church and place on the table in the Narthex.

Faith In Action We are still here for our seniors for Dr. appts., etc... we are in need of drivers. If you have a few hours a month, please consider driving for this cause. Contact Judy Heck for more information (724) 899-3159.

Gracie Watters.....	2
Matthew Leonard.....	6
Zach Resio.....	8
Stacey Watters.....	9
Janie Welsh.....	10
Sue Wise.....	10
Andrea Searcy.....	10
Friedrich Strauss.....	11
Gerry Hudak, Jr.	13
Mark Leonard.....	13
Leah Clydesdale.....	14
William M. Marburger.....	17
Dylan Rossman.....	21
LuAnn Carr.....	22
Frank Lapin.....	25
Drew Adams.....	26
Janie Silbour.....	27
Jordan Watters.....	28
Lauren McDowell.....	27
Justin Watters.....	28
Amber Hilpert.....	28



Can you imagine No Attic Treasure & Bake Sale? Well as you may recall from last year, Dale & Judy announced that they would be stepping down as Leaders of the annual Attic Treasure & Bake Sale. Without new leaders, this sale would be cancelled. Can you really imagine that? It would be like cancelling the Fair in the Woodlands; the community would be devastated! Just as the Fair in the Woodland has been going on for decades, so has our Attic Treasure & Bake Sale. This sale has been a Clinton UP traditions for over 25 years and everyone here in Clinton (and neighboring communities) look forward to lining up outside our doors to see what treasures they can take home. Knowing how important this event is to our community, June Miller took action and called a committee meeting. God called Scott & Amber Hilpert to oversee this mission! With a lot of planning, consulting with Dale, and our volunteers, we made this year's mission possible! We were able to raise over \$2,175.25 and, monetary donations are still coming in so that we can continue supporting local missions; truly a blessing! I want to thank the Janoski Family for once again allowing us to utilize their box truck after the sale so that we can take the unsold items to the Goodwill. And of course, Bill Marburger for driving the truck! I also want to thank the Evangelism team for taking me & the community on a Sentimental Journey of Clinton UP Church. A Sentiment Journey was this year's Fair in the Woodland's theme. We

reminisced through our photo albums and picked the top 10 photos of our church to display at our booth. It was pretty neat to see the history of our church and all of it's the member. If you didn't get a chance to visit our booth at the fair, we will hang them around the church for you all to see. Who knows, you may be one of the people in the picture! Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the booth to welcome children & families to play bean bag toss & spin the wheel with us. Everyone left a winner; taking a church magnet, key chain, candy, or toys. Hopefully we will see some new faces within our church! Feel free to take a magnet or key chain as you head out of service.

One last thing our church family participated in was the annual Clinton Parade. This year we thought it would be super fun to dress up in our Halloween Costumes and toss out candy to the parade-goers. Thanks again to the Janoski Family for allowing us to use the tractor & wagon and for Bill Marburger driving us in the parade. This was a great opportunity for us to get the community ready for our annual Trunk Treat. This is a newer, growing tradition here at Clinton UP. The best feeling is hearing the community clap for you! You know you're doing things right & making an impression in the community when you hear the applause. This year's Trunk or Treat is Monday, October 29th at 6p in the church parking lot. We typically see over 100 kids! Come join us.

Because of YOU, all of what we do here at Clinton UP is a success. Your prayers, your time, your giving, your baking, your talents, and your love for Jesus Christ made this mission possible. I ask that you continue to do your part here at Clinton UP. The Attic Treasure & Bake Sale and other events are just a small part of what we do here. Each of us has a special God-given talent. And we need people of

all walks of life, experiences, & talents to keep our church growing.

As we approach the fall and soon to be New Year, we are looking for members to take on a new role within our church family; becoming a deacon or an elder. Deacons have a special role in the church. Some of their roles are: visiting the sick with Pastor Laura, making dinners for those in need, helping out with church dinners, and collecting food for the food pantry. Elders also have a very important role in the church. They serve on session & are the decision makers of the church. Session meet once a month for 2 hours. Additionally, elders serve on 2 of the following committees which are the foundation for our church growth: Worship, Christian Ed, Evangelism, Missions, Finance & Stewardship, Personnel & Safety, Nominating, & Audit teams. What is your next calling, deacon/elder? Let your voice be heard this upcoming year. Reach out to a deacon or an elder; their names are listed in the bulletin. As always, it is a joy & blessing for me to be a member of Clinton UP church and serve the Lord with you all. After all, Sharing Jesus' Love & Scripture with All People is what Clinton UP does best.

Let's continue to be the Little Church with the Big heart!

With love, Jen Rossman





The women's group will start meeting the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 from September till next May.

September 6th

October 4th

November 1st

No meeting in December

January 3rd

February 7th

March 1st WORLD DAY OF PRAYER UNION CHURCH

March 7th

April 4th

May 2nd

We will be studying a book titled "Anxious For Nothing" Please mark your calendars and plan on joining this wonderful group.

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*The choir will once again enter the choir loft on September 2nd to start a new season on songs. We encourage anyone who likes to sing to come and join us on Tuesday evenings at 7 for an hour of singing. A special THANK YOU to all those that sang this summer, Joe Miller, Judy Huemrich, Leah Clydesdale, Sandy Cogis, Rusty Petit, and Sophie Guzma, and especially Erma Wilson who plays our organ so faithfully each Sunday. Thank you thank you from the bottom of my heart for sharing your talents with our church family.*

### Down the Bowling Alley



Once again summer is coming to a close and bowling season is here again. This is such a wonderful family winter activity that gets you out of the house and among other folks for a wonderful fun evening of game. We gather at Center Lanes in Hopewell, on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. Come and join us for this friendly fellowship evening.

### Church Wide 2019 Mission Trip!

**All youth in grades six and up, as well as all grown-up's, are invited to mark their calendars for next summer's mission trip to Pike County, KY. The dates are August 4-9, 2019. More information to come.**

**THANK YOU, FAIR VOLUNTEERS!** A giant thank you to ALL of our fair and parade volunteers for their ministry this year! Under the leadership of Elder Jennifer Rossman, the fair booth and parade float were both a spectacular hit. Our Halloween-themed float not only brought our name (and a lot of candy) to the community, but promoted our upcoming Trunk or Treat event on Monday, October 29. The Sentimental Journey-themed fair booth reminded our community of Clinton U.P. Church's presence in Findlay Township since 1798. The historical pictures were simply amazing! Thank you to everyone who helped

at the booth, worked on the float, and made this year a success!

### **THANK YOU, ATTIC TREASURE SALE VOLUNTEERS!**

Praise the Lord for another wonderful year for the annual Attic Treasure Sale! We give a BIG thank you to our new sale coordinators and leaders, Elder Scott and Amber Hilpert. Their direction led us into a successful year. Thank you to everyone who organized, priced, baked, carried loads, delivered loads, worked the cash register, cleaned and so on. The jobs were too numerous to count and you all stepped up to the plate. Thank you!

### **Thank You to Our August 23 Volunteers**

A special thank you to those who served at the church on Thursday, August 23 for the funeral services in honor and memory of Cody Stickley. Our deacons and their families were present for days prior to the service to clean our church building. They, along with many other volunteers, spent Thursday creating a hospitable and inviting space for the estimated 480 funeral service attendees. From directing parking to handing out bulletins to creating technological magic that enabled individuals to watch the service live from our Fellowship Hall, we were so blessed by everyone's willingness to serve. Thank you.



## Rally Day 2018!

The kids crossed the bridge into the new Sunday School year. The youth gave a wonderful reflection on their summer mission trip. And, naturally, ice cream was enjoyed by all! Thank you to everyone who put this special day together.

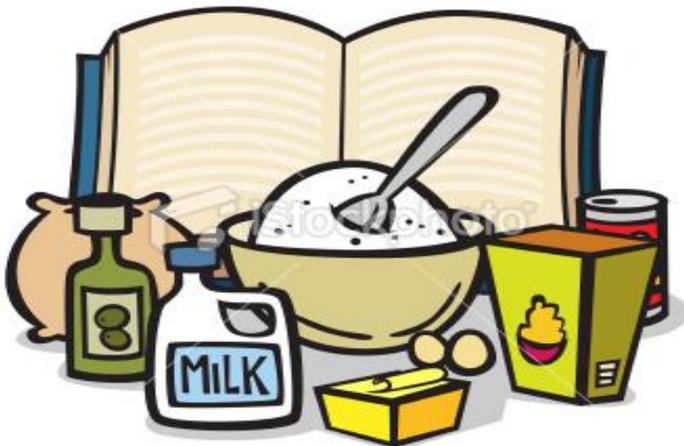
### Youth Group Bake-Off!

*Sunday, September 9*

**12:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Clinton U.P. Church**

*Bring your aprons and any baking supplies you think may help your team!*





# SOUL SHOP

Ministering to Suicidal Desperation

*Soul Shop is a 1 day training for church leaders aimed at helping people find their best minds in times of personal crisis by addressing suicidal thinking as a regular aspect of ministry.*

**Our nation is experiencing an astronomical increase in those experiencing suicidal desperation. The church is learning how to care for these individuals.**

**You're invited to join us at the ROCK in Oakdale, PA on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for a daylong program on how we can better serve those who are suffering. Cost is \$20, which includes curriculum and lunch. Contact Pastor Laura at [revlaurastrauss@gmail.com](mailto:revlaurastrauss@gmail.com) to register.**

## **Church Directory**

The Reverend Laura E. Strauss

25 Wilson Road, Clinton, PA 15026

Church Phone: 724-695-7993 Church Fax: 724-695-7097

Church e-mail: [clintupch@gmail.com](mailto:clintupch@gmail.com) Facebook: Clinton U.P. Church

Website: [clintonupchurch.weebly.com](http://clintonupchurch.weebly.com) Twitter: @ClintonCh1797

Administrative & Financial Asst.—Sophie Guzman

Choir Director—Cindy Macek

Organist—Erma Wilson Treasurer— Elder Mark Elek

Church Sexton—Leah Clydesdale

## **Session**

Mark McConnell, Clerk of Session

Mark McConnell, Jennifer Rossman, Joe Miller---2018

Amanda Wade, Christina Nicaastro- 2019

Mark Elek, Amanda Collins, Scott Hilpert--2020

## **Deacons**

Marsha Beck, Barb Cook---2018

June Miller, Megan Kopko—2019

Beverly Hilpert, Bill Marburger--2020

## **Trustees**

Dennis Macek---2018 Walter (Yum) Groom---2019

Dale Huemmrich---2020 Rich McConnell – 2021

Dan Heck --2022

## **Auditors**

Lorrie Leonard---2018 Dakota Lamb- 2019

Heather Campbell 2020

## **Sunday School**

Superintendent—Carol Elek

Asst. Superintendent—June Miller

Secretary/Treasurer—Maxine Wilson,

Cradle Roll—Amber Hilpert

## **Cemetery Board**

Lawrence Wilson, Jr.---2018 Devin Messner---2019

Bill Marburger---2020 Dennis Macek-2021 Rick Lamb--2022

## **Nominating Team**

Rachel Ayers, Judy Heck, Leah Clydesdale

## **Finance Team**

Ethan Strauss, Thomas McCullough, Elder Linda Wade,

Lynne Hamil, Elder Mark Elek, Elder Scott Hilpert