



Clinton  
a community sent for others

# Our Joyful Noise

June 2026



## Hope Is Still Holy Work

There is a heaviness many people are carrying right now. You can hear it in conversations at the grocery store and around family tables. You can feel it in the constant stream of headlines, the tension that seems to surround public life, and the exhaustion that comes from trying to make sense of a world that often feels fractured and angry. Many people are weary — not only from personal struggles and losses, but from the collective weight of division, violence, uncertainty, and fear.

And in times like these, it can become tempting to withdraw. To numb ourselves. To believe that kindness no longer matters much, or that compassion is too small a thing to make any real difference.

But the story of Pentecost tells us otherwise. When the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, the world around them was not peaceful or stable. They lived under political oppression. Communities were divided by class, language, ethnicity, and power. Fear shaped much of daily life. And yet, into that fearful and uncertain moment, God breathed Spirit, courage, connection, and hope. Not shallow optimism. Not denial of pain. But real hope — the kind rooted in the belief that love is still stronger than hate, that mercy still matters, and that God is not finished with us yet.

The Spirit empowered ordinary people to become signs of grace in a hurting world. And perhaps that is still our calling today. Every act of compassion matters. Every moment of listening matters. Every effort to choose understanding over cruelty, truth over fear, and community over division matters. These things may not make national headlines, but they are holy work nonetheless.

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## Welcome . . .

to the June 2026 issue of the Clinton United Methodist Church newsletter. We are a community sent for others; our hope is for all people to experience God's love in Jesus Christ.

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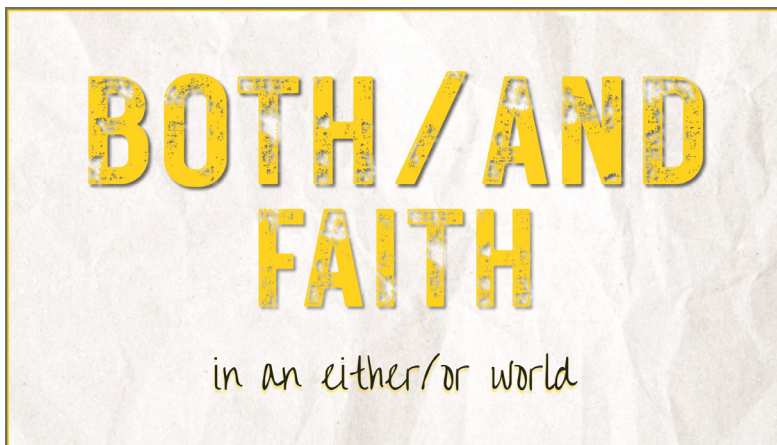
As we move into the summer season, my prayer is not that we ignore the struggles around us, but that we refuse to let them harden our hearts. May we continue to care for one another deeply. May we continue to show up for our neighbors. May we continue to practice generosity, hospitality, and courage in small, everyday ways. Because hope is not passive. Hope is something we live. And perhaps one of the most faithful things we can do right now is simply this: keep becoming people through whom the Spirit of God can bring healing, peace, and love into the world.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Jess*

Rev. Jessica Brendler Naulty  
Senior Pastor  
pastorjess@sentforothers.org  
908-400-2343 (cell)

## Sermon Series



Clearcut categories are helpful. They make life easier to understand. But real people don't fit neatly into boxes. We are full of tensions and paradoxes that – when embraced – can bring immense depth and beauty to life. Join us in worship throughout June as we explore how faith in Christ calls us away from an “either/or” experience of the world and into the wonderful truth of “both/and.”

## UMC Social Principles Spotlight: Economic Justice

“We support efforts to create economic systems that ensure dignity, opportunity, and fairness for all.” Money is deeply personal – and deeply spiritual. How resources are distributed shapes lives in profound ways.

The Social Principles challenge us to consider whether our economic structures reflect God's concern for the poor and vulnerable. Do systems protect workers? Do wages allow families to live with dignity? Do policies widen or narrow inequality?

As Christians, we are called neither to ignore economic realities nor to demonize those with whom we disagree. Instead, we are invited into thoughtful engagement shaped by compassion and justice.

Economic justice begins not only in Congress but also in our daily choices – how we spend, invest, hire, tip, and give.

### Reflection Invitation:

What might faithful stewardship look like in your economic life right now? How can our congregation support practices that reflect fairness and dignity?

## Share Messages of Inclusion at Clinton Pride Festival



When LGBTQ+ persons want to go to church, they need to do research in advance. Will the congregation accept them? The answer is not always yes. At Clinton UMC, we've committed to making sure the answer is clear before anyone walks through our doors. Our inclusion covenant says:

We... affirm that all people are created in the image of God and are of sacred worth. We welcome all individuals, including people of any race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ability, nationality, and background. We are committed to the full equality and inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of the church.

Want to help us spread the news that everyone is welcome at Clinton UMC? You're invited to join us:

**Clinton Pride Family Festival**

**June 7, noon-4 pm**

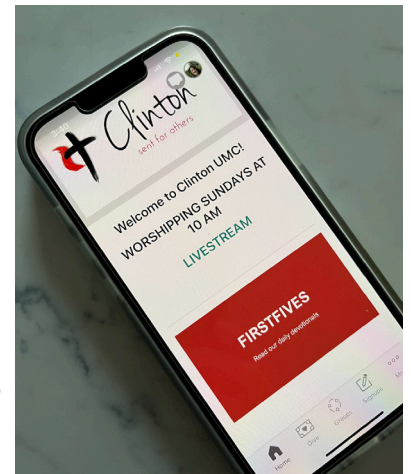
Contact: Kelly Lewis ([klewis22micro@gmail.com](mailto:klewis22micro@gmail.com))

## Take Us with You

Where will this summer take you? Mountains? Beaches? Family? With today's technology, you can keep Clinton UMC close, even if you're far from home:

- Worship with us online via YouTube, Facebook, or our website.
- Read our firstfive devotionals on this group page (you don't need a Facebook account).
- Give online via our app, website, or your online bill pay list. The latter is the most advantageous to Clinton UMC because no fees are deducted. You can even "set it and forget it" by setting up recurring giving.

We're not slowing down this summer. We'll be busy with worship, Kids' Camp, community missions, and much more. So all summer long, keep us with you—wherever life takes you. Enjoy your summer!



## Care Committee

Do you join us for coffee and treats after worship? (Please do!) You can help us keep coffee time going throughout the year, and show your appreciation to the Care Committee, by signing up for an open date. If you have never participated before, don't worry.

Contact Nancy Smith ([nsbestemor41@gmail.com](mailto:nsbestemor41@gmail.com)) or the church office to let us know which Sunday works best for you.



## Shop Rite Cards for Sale

Every Sunday, Shop Rite cards are available for sale in the social hall.

**5% of all sales go toward our church mission.**

Please come prepared with cash or check made out to CUMC.



## Get Creative: Crafting for All Ages



We're excited that our peace flags will be hanging in downtown Clinton soon! Stay tuned for photos of the exhibit.

If you enjoy crafting, especially with others, check out our upcoming crafting ministry projects. All crafts are easy, require no preparation, and are fun for all ages. Questions? Contact Robin Godshalk ([rlgodshalk@yahoo.com](mailto:rlgodshalk@yahoo.com)).

June 13, 10 am: **Beaded succulents** that will last forever—no green thumb needed!

July 25, 10 am: **Crochet project** to be determined. Ideas or requests are welcome.



## Celebrate Peace June 14



The Clinton community will gather to celebrate peace at the Mill to Mill Peace Flag Display Opening Ceremony at noon June 14. Pastor Jess will be among the speakers as the display, including flags by Clinton UMC's crafting group, opens to the public. The Peace Flag Project carries three core values:

- Sharing Intentions: The wind helps carry our hopes for peace to all beings.
- Reflection: Making a flag is a moment to consider what peace means personally and collectively.
- Unity: When hung together, the flags create a visible expression of community harmony—many voices aligned toward peace.

You're invited to join us as we celebrate peace with our community.

## Children's Ministries

### Sunday School

*\*Grades K-5th\**

Happy June! As the school year is winding down and summer is beginning, we invite you to join us for Sunday school as we continue to talk about the Lord's Prayer and celebrate Father's Day. Below is an outline of our schedule:

**6/7:** Forgive us as we forgive

**6/14:** Yours is the kingdom, power, and glory

**6/21:** Father's Day focused

**6/28:** Song of wonder



## Wiggle Room

*\*Children ages 0 - Pre-K\**

*Sunday Mornings during Worship*

Calling all wigglers! Children are always welcome in the sanctuary with us during morning worship, but you are also invited to utilize the Wiggle Room located outside the social hall. Our Wiggle Room offers supervision from staff for your children ages 0 through Pre-K, and is filled with toys and space to do what wigglers do best: wiggle!



## Kids' Camp



August 3-7, 2026

9 am – 12 pm

Calling all campers and volunteers! Summer is approaching, which means Kids' Camp is right around the corner. CUMC will be hosting "Snowball Mountain Challenge: Find Your Strength in God!" Kids' Camp will be held August 3 through 7 and will be offered to students entering Kindergarten through entering 5th grade.

### Children's Registration:

To register, use the QR code on the right or find the link on our website.



### Youth and Adult Volunteering:

If you are interested in volunteering for Kids' Camp (prep, set up, or during the week) please scan the volunteer QR code or contact Hailey ([hailey@sentforothers.org](mailto:hailey@sentforothers.org)) for more information.

It's going to be a great summer, and we can't wait!

## Youth Ministries

### Youth Group

*\*Grades 5th through 12th\**

*Sunday Evenings from 5:30pm - 7:30pm*

Happy June! We are so excited to continue our time together of spiritual growth, fun, and service to others. These will be our final weeks of scheduled youth group before summer break begins - be on the lookout for monthly events that will be happening for the youth group.

**6/7:** Share Your Story: Kelly Lewis

**6/14:** YG Summer Olympics

### Parent Communication

If you would like weekly updates on youth group happenings, please join our youth group GroupMe chat via the QR code.



Warmly,  
Hailey Becker

## North Hunterdon Thrift Shop



We've got sizzling sales for June! Come on in to see what's new and chat with our friendly volunteers.

The North Hunterdon Thrift Shop offers new and gently used clothing, home goods, linens, children's toys, books, vintage items and more to people who want to stretch their budget or reduce waste and pollution.

Donations are needed! Our donation shed is open 8:00 am – 8:00 pm daily and is convenient and hassle-free. We love your donations, but please only drop off usable, in-working-condition, clean items. Accepted items can be viewed online at <https://www.sentforothers.org/northhunterdonthrift>.

Make a difference and meet great people—volunteer at the NH thrift shop. If you have a warm smile and a heart for others, this may be the ministry for you! You don't need experience, and you can choose days/times that work for you. For more information, stop in during shop hours or call 908-735-0177, email [office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org) or visit us on Facebook or Instagram.

**Hours:** Monday: 8:30 am–12 pm | Wednesday: 8:30 am–12 pm and 3 pm–6 pm | Saturday: 8:30 am–2 pm

**Location:** 51 County Road 635, Hampton, NJ (corner of Norton Church & Charlestown Roads)

**Phone:** (908) 735-0177

Blessings,  
Volunteer Staff

## Bachelorettes Get Creative with Thrift Stop



The post below ran on North Hunterdon Thrift Shop's social media account on April 26. We applaud this bridal party's ingenuity!

Who says bachelorette parties can't be extraordinary? This stunning bride-to-be and her fabulous friends crafted timeless memories with a thriftette party that perfectly blended fun and fashion! Something old, something cool. Thank you for transforming our humble shop into your vibrant pre-wedding haven. Wishing you a lifetime of love and laughter.

## CUMC Missions

### Event

We will be collecting laundry detergent for Harvest Family Success Center through Sunday June 7. Laundry detergent is one of the most requested items by their clients and it is not covered by SNAP benefits. They will accept any brand or type of detergent (liquid, powder or pods). Smaller containers are preferred over larger ones. If you would like to donate, items can be left on the marked table in the social hall.

### Upcoming Fundraisers

A fun way to support our local missions is to attend one of their fundraisers. The two listed below support Family Promise of Hunterdon County.

**Saturday, June 13:** Polo Classic at Fieldview Farm in Pittstown (rain date June

14). Gate opens at noon and match is 2 pm. Tickets are \$40 and kids under 12 are free. This is a fun event for all ages. For tickets or more information, see Laura Tonzetich or Brenda Jaffe.

**Friday, July 24, 6 pm:** Summer Nights Bingo at the Clinton fire house. Tickets go on sale soon.

### Mission Focus - Evidence Action

The missions committee is in agreement to begin supporting one international mission. We researched and discussed several nonprofit organizations and unanimously chose Evidence Action <https://www.evidenceaction.org/>. In particular, we liked their emphasis on global healthcare initiatives while working with local governments.

Evidence Action is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people living in poverty through evidence-based health programs. Rather than creating short-term solutions, Evidence Action works alongside governments and local communities to scale programs that have been proven effective through rigorous research. Their work focuses on some of the most preventable health care challenges including unsafe drinking water, parasitic infections in children, maternal health, and childhood anemia.

Among their best-known initiatives are Safe Water Now which provides access to treated drinking water in vulnerable communities and Deworm the World which has helped deliver billions of low-cost deworming treatments to children, improving both health and school attendance. Through practical, compassionate, and cost-effective programs, Evidence Action has brought healthier futures to millions of families around the world.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Missions Team

## Save Lives: Give Blood



Blood Drive at CUMC  
Friday June 5, 1–7 pm  
Appointments available [here](#)  
Walk-ins welcome

## Coming Together—Musically

Did you know we help host the Town of Clinton's "Come Together Friday Night Street Festival"? "Come Together" showcases musical acts throughout Clinton on Friday nights. As the "Friday Nights" became more popular, Clinton needed an additional space for hosting music. Clinton UMC readily agreed. We're able to show love to our community by sharing our space, and we can gain visibility for our church.

If you'd like to help us plan how to extend a warm welcome, please contact [beth@sentforothers.org](mailto:beth@sentforothers.org). And if you're in the community on a Friday night this summer, stop by and support the performers!

## Celebrating June Birthdays

Diego Vega – June 1  
Beth Crawford – June 3  
Hailey Becker – June 5  
Arthur Femenella – June 6  
Warren Dietel – June 12  
Willow Dietel – June 12  
Heather Schweitzer – June 21  
Vicki Stoble – June 21  
Rachel Melick – June 24  
Rebecca Bleck – June 24  
Roy Pedersen – June 26  
Lily Tonzetich – June 26  
Alyssa Naulty – June 27  
Kristie Naulty – June 27



## Prayer Chain



We would love to add you to our prayer chain to receive the prayers of our people each week. We appreciate every prayer that is lifted for healing and comfort for those who are in a time of need.

Call or email your request to the church office: [office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org) or 908-735-7025. Prayer is a treasure that is never exhausted.

## Altar Flowers

Help us beautify our Sunday altar! Sign up for altar flower dedications. Sign-up is located in the hallway, between the sanctuary and social hall. Write your dedication in the spaces provided for the week of your choice. The cost of the flowers is \$40, which you can place in the offering plate with a note designating altar flowers.



## Church Season

### Ordinary Time

The second period of Ordinary Time, the Season after Pentecost, follows the Easter cycle. It began the day after Pentecost (May 25, 2026) and continues to Advent. The purpose of this season is to support new disciples and the whole congregation in living out the gifts and callings discerned during the Easter Season and commissioned on the Day of Pentecost.

Every year, Christians experience the contrast between the central seasons of Christmas and Easter, where we see God in the events around the coming of Christ, and the in-between times, where we see, speak about and join God's ongoing work in the world.

The color for this season is **green**.

# Photo Gallery



The church does not receive mail at 12 Halstead Street (the church) or  
10 Halstead Street (the church office).

**Ensure your mail is not lost: Send mail** to the church's Post Office Box in Clinton:  
P.O. Box 5331, Clinton, NJ 08809  
**Send packages** to 10 Halstead Street, Clinton, NJ 08809.

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# CUMC Staff

**Rev. Jessica Brendler Naulty**

Senior Pastor

908-735-7025

Cell 908-400-2343

[pastorjess@sentforothers.org](mailto:pastorjess@sentforothers.org)

**Sandi Graham**

Administrative Assistant

908-735-7025

[office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org)

**Hailey Becker**

Director of Children's and Youth Ministries

[hailey@sentforothers.org](mailto:hailey@sentforothers.org)

**Karl Dietel**

Accompanist

908-735-7025

[office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org)

**Eric & Erica Rasmussen**

Directors of Digital Ministry

[erica@sentforothers.org](mailto:erica@sentforothers.org)

**Amanda Santiago**

Childcare Staff

[office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org)

**Beth Crawford**

Communications Director

908-442-3934

[beth@sentforothers.org](mailto:beth@sentforothers.org)

**Rose Leonard**

Accountant/Bookkeeper

908-735-7025

[rose@sentforothers.org](mailto:rose@sentforothers.org)

**Brian Repsher**

Sexton

[office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org)

**Jennifer Gursky**

Choir Director

[jen@sentforothers.org](mailto:jen@sentforothers.org)

**Jessica Buntine**

Childcare Staff

[office@sentforothers.org](mailto:office@sentforothers.org)