

# ClaytonPres Press

Clayton Presbyterian Church  
Fred DiMaio, Pastor

February - March 2018

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## The Pastor's Pen

In Isaiah 43:19, we read, "I am about to do a new thing." For some of us that statement would create anxiety and trepidation. But when our Lord God makes a statement like that it should cause us to look forward with anticipation. In 1953, a group of Christians did just that. They stepped forward to create a new church in Rabun County. On February 25, 2018 we will recognize the 65th anniversary of that commitment. Later in the Spring, on April 29, we will have a "Celebration Worship Service and Fellowship Dinner". That will allow our traveling members and friends to return for the larger gathering.

We hope that all who have worshipped here at Clayton Presbyterian Church over the years will return and join us. This church has been blessed with dedicated members, as well as faithful friends who visit regularly. Please mark your schedule for those dates, especially April 29th. If not for the brave people here in 1953, who agreed to "do a new thing", we may not have the honor of this celebration.

Please be in prayer for those who have lost loved ones in recent months. As well for those confined at home or nursing facilities. Your loving concern and visits do wonders for their attitude. Also be in prayer for the Session. They have some important decisions to consider in upcoming months.

Thanks to all who participated in our worship services as liturgist, candle lighting, offering collectors, and communion servers. With your assistance, our worship time together is indeed enhanced.

Blessings  
Fred

## Treasury Report

Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2017

Receipts	\$86,589
Expenses	\$69,669
Fund Balance	\$85,889



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Dear Clayton Presbyterian Church,

I want to thank you for the amazing support you have given to Cumberland University and the Joseph School in the past. We are blessed to be able to, for the first time, combine the Cumberland University Spring Break Haiti Trip with our connections to the Joseph School. We will be doing leadership conferences in both Pignon, with Many Hands for Haiti, and in Cabaret, with the Joseph School, to help Haitian leaders build up their communities through personal leadership skills. We need your help to get down there to do this conference and bring these leadership skills to Haitians who eagerly seek that knowledge.

During this year's Spring Break, Cumberland University is sending twenty students and six of our faculty, staff, and alumni to Pignon, Haiti and Cabaret, Haiti to serve for nine days. They'll leave on March 2 and return March 11.

This trip, which is now in its fourth year, grew out of a student desire for a transformational learning experience and an opportunity to make a difference in a country still recovering from the 2010 devastating earthquake and last year's Hurricane Matthew. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, but is rich in the resilience and spirit of her people. We have as much to gain from them as they have from us.

Students returning from previous trips have said it was the most memorable and enriching educational experience they had during their college careers.

These students need your help. The cost of the trip is \$1,875 per traveler for a total of almost \$45,000. This is a lot of money for students on very tight budgets. For many of the students, this is their first time out of the United States. Any gift will be greatly appreciated. Please partner with us in making possible a truly profound educational experience.

I also thank you for the support you have given in

donations. The jewelry making supplies and fabric donated by members of this church are giving new skills and income to the parents of the Joseph School and helping to provide income for the school as well. Parents spend five community service hours each month instead of paying tuition. This helps to bond the parents' interest to the school and helps them to provide for their families.

Thank you soooo much for all you have done for the people of Haiti. May we continue to do God's work there together.

Sincerely,  
Natalie Inman



## Birthdays

### February

1 – Bella Murphy                      19 – Noretta Sheffield  
2 – Betty Anne Griffin              23 – Nancy Ferguson  
13 – Joye Stonestreet

### March

10 – Judy Williams

## Anniversaries

### February

4 – Ken and Jo Bonnette

### March

23 – Sam and Mary Chalton

# Clayton Presbyterian Church February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>65th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY</b></p> <p>We will recognize this anniversary on February 25, 2018. There will be an "Anniversary Service" and special fellowship dinner to celebrate on Sunday, April 29th. Please mark your schedules and plan to join us both Sundays.</p>				1 Choir 5 PM NA group 7 PM	2 Open for Personal Prayer	3
4 Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11 AM <b>Souper-Bowl Dinner</b>	5	6 Presbyterian Women 10 AM  NA group 7 PM	7	8 Choir 5 PM NA group 7 PM	9 Open for Personal Prayer	10
11 <b>Transfiguration</b> Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11 AM  Alan Peterson Inurnment Service	12 Session – 10 AM	13  NA group 7 PM	14 <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	15 Choir 5 PM NA group 7 PM	16 Open for Personal Prayer	17
18 <b>1st Sunday in Lent</b> Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11 AM	19 RCFM Food Delivery 8:30 AM	20  NA group 7 PM	21	22 Choir 5 PM NA group 7 PM	23 Open for Personal Prayer	24 Presbytery meeting in Milledgeville
25 <b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b> Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11 AM <b>65th Anniversary</b>	26	27  NA group 7 PM	28	<b>Elder of the month – Richard Boyle</b>		