



# Clayton Pres Press

Clayton Presbyterian Church  
Fred DiMaio, Pastor

October - November 2017

<b>Treasury Report</b>	
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2017	
Receipts	\$65,408
Expenses	\$49,906
Fund Balance	\$84,471

## The Pastor's Pen

I simply cannot believe it! The choir has started practicing Christmas music!!! Where has this year gone?? Certainly the past few weeks have brought events close to home here in Clayton.

We were one of the best places to view the eclipse. People came from hundreds and even thousands of miles away to take in the once in a lifetime solar eclipse. Then we were visited by hurricane Irma...

The first part of this weather event saw people leaving cities from Florida, southern Georgia and coastal Carolina to seek shelter in our county. Then we felt the remnants of the storm. Electric lines went down. Trees covered roads. Many of our friends and neighbors, not to mention congregation members, suffered without electricity and water for days.

Thankfully no one was hurt or injured. Just severe inconvenience. Thank you to all who opened their homes for meals and hot showers!!

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## Welcome David and Helen!

Have you noticed a nice "young" couple that have been faithful church attendees and recently joined our church? If so, you know they are David Baughman and Helen Santana who relocated from Lakeland, FL to Clayton.

Their church home search started by attending the First Methodist Church in downtown Clayton. While that church did not seem to fit they proceeded the following week to the church on the "hill" above the radio station. As they were walking in, the members were walking out of the contemporary

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Clayton Presbyterian Church  
706 782-5418  
PO Box 734  
Clayton, GA 30525  
www.claytonpresbyterian.com

service. Dressed for church they asked about an 11:00 service and were told that was held down town. They left knowing that wasn't where they wanted to attend. So, they decided to try the little church behind the Post Office. David said they immediately knew a new church home had been found! What a blessing for us!



David grew up in Tampa, FL where he attended school and upon graduation, attended UCF earning a Bachelor degree in Engineering Technology. He said that degree was basically a computer/business degree. His first job was working for Davy-McGee a contractor who builds phosphate mines. After four years David took a job at Publix and never looked back, as he retired from Publix after 34 years. Ever wonder who is responsible for new store openings and securing front end equipment? Ask David, he knows!!

Have you noticed a familiar face driving a Suzuki around town? It may have been David or he and Helen enjoying one of their hobbies. In fact, when they first met David had driven his motorcycle to church one Sunday and Helen was curious who rode the bike to service and well, the rest is history!

David joined the choir shortly after attending his first service at Clayton Presbyterian. Music was a strong part of his life as his mom was the church organist and choir director. David began piano lessons in the third grade, went on to accompany his grade school and high school choirs. Singing was also a prime part of his life as he sang in a

barber shop quartet for 20 years. He would like to form such a group at Clayton, any takers??

Helen was born in the Dominican Republic and came to the United States when she was 16 years old. The family arrived in New York City where they lived for about six months then relocated to Rhode Island for four years and during that time mastered her second language English. Helen's son was born in RI but shortly after moved back to the New York city area. The next big step was taking classes to become a naturalized citizen which she accomplished in 2006.

Helen has held numerous jobs throughout her life but always wanted to get into the nursing field. While working as a claims rep for Geico in NY she decided to take a transfer to FL after having gone to the "sunshine state" on vacation. Little did she know the transfer would take her to Lakeland, FL for her next home, work assignment and meeting the love of her life, David at church one Sunday. Work became very stressful, her bosses wouldn't accommodate her challenge of returning to school part time while working, so she began her next career working for Welldyne Rx pharmacy working nights, while going to school to become a Medical Assistant during the day. Helen received her RMA (registered medical assistant) in 2014. Helen currently works for Mission My Care Now (prior name, Urgent Care) in Franklin, NC.

Helen is now finding time to pursue her love for wood burning and is currently trying to locate a teacher/mentor to help her along with this long desired hobby. Along with that hobby she would also like to learn to play the piano. Maybe David will help her on this journey.

Helen and David are currently searching for a different home. Seems with four dogs, (one just passed away this week) and his love for gardening, they need property with some flat land.

Please extend an invitation to lunch or dinner, boat ride or bike ride to get to know this wonderful couple better!

## Silent Communication

I am a simple soul, I like peace and quiet. I like to think things out and I can't do that in the middle of the maddening crowd. In my own spiritual journey I acknowledge that I like to reach into the Word for answers and guidelines. There is one helpful scripture that (I admit) took me a while to fully understand and implement, Matthew 6:6. This relates to a place for prayer, "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father will seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

We don't step into a normal, physical closet; this is referring to the quiet of our minds. We begin by allowing our minds to clear and to go quiet. Our breathing becomes slow and steady with our eyes closed. This action permits our minds to close out the world around us and we can address the Beloved with peace.

It is taken for granted that all disciples of Christ pray. Kind a 'given'. But HOW do you pray? Kneeling is a humble and reverent gesture but for we whose knees are past the kneeling stage, we simply bow our heads and still our minds and hands. We don't come to our Lord, with rapid dry repetition focused on ourself and personal wants. No, we begin with silence allowing our minds to connect with our loving Father.

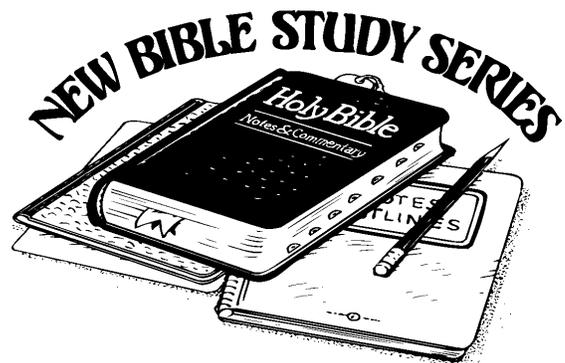
Yes, sometimes our prayers are in panic due to fear or helplessness, but hopefully, we petition His attention with gratitude for (first of all) hearing our prayers, then we can continue with our silent conversation.

Throughout the day we pray without ceasing, quietly in our minds that have now been prepared to communicate, knowing He hears our whispers just as well as our cries. Step into your mental closet and refresh yourself with His love and assurance.

Suzanne Holcomb

*CPC choir is pleased to announce that our green robes and matching stoles have been donated to Central Presbyterian Church Athens. They are looking forward to this new start for their congregation and choir as their members and friends continue their journey.*

*Choir Director Brenda Poss, thanks Clayton Presbyterian Church for their generosity.*



Have you been thinking about attending Sunday School? If Revelation was a scary subject, you will be pleased to know we have started a new book in September. The book of James was written to give practical advice to believing Christians that want to apply gospel principles to everyday life. Each Sunday will be on a different topic that will involve more discussions. We hope that you join us for one or more Sundays.

Date	Lesson
Sept. 17	The Integrity of Faith – James (Introduction)
Sept. 24	Stand Fast in Trials and Temptations – James 1:1-18
Oct. 1	Hear and Do the Word – James 1:19-27
Oct. 8	Beware of Partiality – James 2:1-13
Oct. 15	Live the Faith – James 2:14-26
Oct. 22	Control Your Tongue – James 3:1-12
Oct. 29	Be Friends with God – James 3:13-4:12
Nov. 5	Avoid the Arrogance of Wealth – James 4:13-5:6
Nov. 12	Be Patient, Prayerful, Loving – James 5:7-20

## **Pastor** continued

I hope you shared a thank you also to those crews from other states who came into our area to work on electric lines and cleared trees. The Lord was surely watching over us.

I appreciate your understanding as I recover from this bout of bronchitis. Losing my voice is not a good thing in this line of work. Thank you to Rev. Ferguson for filling in for me.

Now we can enjoy the coming beauty as the leaves turn and those folks visit us from places that do not have nature's changes as we do. Say hello to them on the street and in the stores; be a good neighbor.

Blessings  
Fred

**Presbyterian Women** will meet for a study on *Leading a Life of Balance* on Tuesday, October 3, 10 am

**Game Night – Food, Fun and Fellowship**  
Wednesday, October 4, 5 – 8 pm

**Congregational Meeting** to elect new Session members will be after the service on Sunday, October 8.

**Gaither Vocal Band** in concert at Free Chapel - Gainesville at 7 pm. Let TC know if you want to attend.

**Flu Shots** – CVS will be giving flu shots at the Church on Sunday, October 15 beginning at 12:15 pm. Please let TC know if you are interested.

**Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner**  
After the worship service on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 19, we will gather in the fellowship hall to share a feast in celebration of God's bounty.



Karen Talford and Carol DiMaio

## **Birthdays**

### **October**

- 12 – David Baughman
- 15 – Nancy Bickley
- 17 – Elizabeth Chestnut
- 22 – Ron Spearman
- 24 – Judith Holden
- 25 – Peggy Ritter

### **November**

- 1 – Susan Smart
- 1 – Ken Bonnette
- 16 – Anne Spearman
- 27 – Phil Kempin

## **Anniversaries**

### **November**

- 7 – Dan and Bobbi Miller
- 10 – Phil and Gwen Kempin
- 19 – Henry and Lindi Newman
- 25 – Richard and Shirley Boyle
- 30 – Gene and Helen Roberts

# Clayton Presbyterian Church October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11:00  Hymn Sing at Toccoa PC 6 PM	2	3  Presbyterian Women 10 AM	4  <b>GAME                      NIGHT                      5 – 8 PM</b>	5  Choir 5:00 NA group 7:00	6  Open for Personal Prayer	7
8 Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11:00 Congregational Meeting	9 <b>Columbus Day</b>  Session - 10:00 AM	10	11	12  Choir 5:00 NA group 7:00	13  Open for Personal Prayer  Gaither Concert Gainesville 7 PM	14
15 Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11:00  <b>FLU SHOTS</b> 12:15 PM	16  RCFM Food Delivery 8:30 AM	17	18	19  Choir 5:00 NA group 7:00	20  Open for Personal Prayer	21
22 Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11:00	23	24	25	26  Choir 5:00 NA group 7:00	27  Open for Personal Prayer	28  Presbytery Meeting
29 <b>Reformation                      Sunday</b> Bible Study – 9:30 Worship – 11:00 Fellowship Dinner	30	31	<b>Elder of the month – Sharon Spivey</b>			