

Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

Facing Racism Task Force

Come be a part of the Facing Racism Task Force at FirstPres. Our guiding principles are: To educate ourselves as to how racism was created and how it plays out in our society; To take action, where we are able, to do our part in creating a just and equitable community and society. Our next meeting is Monday, Jan. 22, at 7:00pm in the Heritage Gallery.

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed Monday, Jan. 15, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in the Digital Age

Just last week, a pair of investors who say they hold about \$2 billion in Apple stock grabbed the headlines by pushing the company to do more to protect its youngest users from the effects of digital technology.

“This is one of the biggest, unexplored parenting issues of our time.”



In an open letter to Apple, the investors, the activist hedge fund Jana Partners and the California State Teachers’ Retirement System, voiced concerns that such technology might be hurting children and said Apple could help ease the damage even as it generates business.

Physician and filmmaker, Delaney Ruston, would agree. Not too long ago, she found herself constantly struggling with her two kids about screen time. She felt guilty and confused, not sure what limits were best, especially around mobile phones, social media, gaming, and how to monitor online homework. Hearing repeatedly how other parents were equally overwhelmed, she realized

this is one of the biggest, unexplored parenting issues of our time.

Ruston learned that the average kid spends 6.5 hours a day looking at screens. She wondered about the impact of all this time and about the friction occurring in homes and schools around negotiating screen time—friction she knew all too well.

That’s when she decided to make the movie, SCREENAGERS: Growing Up In the Digital Age. In it, Delaney takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics, and internet addiction.

On Sunday, January 28, at 11:30am, FirstPres will be offering a viewing of the movie in the church sanctuary. You’re invited to come watch and join in on the discussion, and share your own questions and observations with the community. ■

FirstPres Soup Kitchen Ministry: A Fully Interactive Experience of Service

When the fourth Saturday of the month is coming up (or even the occasional fifth Saturday), you can rest assured that the Deacons have “put out the pans” that offer you the chance to experience a unique and fully interactive service opportunity.

Every month, FirstPres takes on the responsibility to provide a Saturday meal for the Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen in Orange (OLV). As always, they’ll be counting on everyone from the congregation – along with all your family and friends – to once again support this fine ministry. Here’s how:

First, pick up a pan (a foil steam table pan), which can be found on the shelf below the bulletin board in front of the Church Office. The menu, recipe, and amounts you’ll need are included in the pan. In January, the menu will feature one of the all-time favorite meals at OLV: Chili! The meal will also include sides and desserts like cornbread and garlic bread, hard-boiled eggs, salad, and brownies.

After you have prepared your meal, you have some options, depending on your availability and the depth of interaction you want to experience. You can drop your food pan off in the church’s Fellowship Hall on Friday, or before 9:30 on Saturday – Soup Kitchen Day. Or, if you like, you can choose to have the opportunity to serve the meal in person. Please call Joyce McGrath, (201) 738-6531, to reserve your spot. Youth and young adults are happily encouraged to take part in this ministry. It is a wonderful experience for

our young people and a great to get involved in church activities that make a real difference in the lives of neighbors in need.

FirstPres is a favorite at OLV because of all the support, fine cooking, and diverse menus we provide for this mission. Your participation is greatly needed and appreciated. Without you this ministry could not exist. So grab a pan and come on out and serve in the name of the Lord. ■

A Dialogue about World Religions

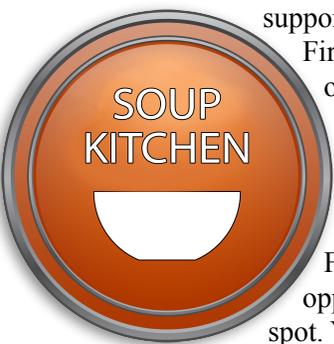
Beginning this week, the Spiritual Engagement Committee invites you to take on the task of becoming more knowledgeable about the faiths of the world and their differences. Loosely guided by the book *God Is Not One* by Stephen Prothero, we will come with our questions and a desire to learn about faith traditions other than our own. Over the four weeks leading up to the season of Lent, you’ll have two opportunities to take advantage of this opportunity: Tuesdays at 11:00am, beginning January 16, and Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm, beginning January 17. Both groups will meet in the church parlor.

Music & Poetry

Come out tonight, Jan. 14th, and enjoy some great music and some beautiful readings. The theme will be “Everything Old Is New Again!” We’ll meet this evening in the church sanctuary at 6:00pm.

Meaning in Movies

How about a movie? Next Sunday, January 21, at 11:30am, we’ll meet in the chapel after worship to discuss and view scenes from the movie, “Arrival,” starring Amy Adams. That movie title seems appropriate after a season of waiting in anticipation for the one who is to come!



Children's Ministry News

Space for Grace and Kids Kart - We welcome children in worship and understand that it is sometimes hard for them to sit quietly for the entire time. Space for Grace is located in the right hand side of the balcony and is a quiet space for young children and their parents to sit during worship. There you will find quiet books and worship activities as well as space to move around. Older children are invited to check out the Kids Kart located in the back of the sanctuary. The Kids Kart has books and worship activities for elementary aged children.

Rotation Sunday School

Our Sunday School theme for this month's Rotation Sunday School is "The Prodigal Son". We will be doing Art, Music, Cooking and Bible Skills and Games to discover the story of The Prodigal Son.

Free Movie Screening

On Wednesday, January 31, The Congregation Agudath Israel in Caldwell will be offering a free screening of the movie, "An Inconvenient Sequel." The screening will be followed by a discussion on the topic: "Honoring our commitment to sustain the environment. This program is provided free of charge, and refreshments will be served. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 7:45pm, at Congregation Agudath Israel (in the Adult Longe), 20 Academy Rd., Caldwell, NJ, 07006. Please RSVP on the events page of Agudath.org.



Pittsburgh Project Meeting

Our first meeting for those interested in taking part in this year's service trips is set for Sunday, January 21, at 11:30am in the chapel. All interested students, along with their parents, should attend this meeting! A deposit of \$100 and paperwork is required, if you wish to reserve a spot. These spots fill up fast, so please make sure to bring your deposit and paperwork to the meeting. Please let Jaime Staehle know if you have any questions.

All 6th - 12th graders are invited to join us for a fabulous week of serving others this summer, doing minor home repairs for elderly and disabled homeowners in Pittsburgh. The Jr. High trip, for those entering 7th-9th grade, is scheduled for the week of July 8th-13th; the Sr. High Trip, for those entering 10th grade-college, is scheduled for July 21st-28th.

"Nonsense" Coming to Caldwell

From February 22-25, in the Fellowship Hall, Pleasant Valley Productions will present the musical comedy "Nonsense." This hilarious spoof tells of the misadventures of five nuns trying to manage a fundraiser made necessary when, sadly, the rest of the Little Sisters of Hoboken died of botulism after eating vichyssoise prepared by Sister Julia. Most have been buried, but four sisters still remain in the convent freezer until their burial funds can be collected.

Director Camille DiLorenzo, Musical Director David Maglione, and Choreographer Amy Calzone, and an amazing ensemble, including Lorraine Ford DeMan, Julie Galorenzo, Jenn Bedell, Jaclyn Ingoglia and Danielle Meola Valencia, bring Nonsense to life in a production guaranteed to relieve those mid-winter blues!

Performances are Feb. 22, 23, & 24 at 8pm, and Feb. 25 at 2pm. At every show you can enjoy treats from the Sister's bake sale table, take a chance on a 50/50, or participate in a fantastic tricky tray. More information soon!

FPC CALDWELL

EVENT CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK SUNDAY, January 14

- 8:30am - Worship Service with Communion, Pleasantdale Campus
- 9:00am - Confirmation Class, Room 121
- 10:00am - Worship Service/Sunday School
- 1:00pm - Westmin. and Pilgrim Choirs, gym
- 4:00pm - Chapel Bells (Grades 5-8)
- 5:30pm - Jr. High Fellowship (Grades 6-8)
- 6:00pm - Music & Poetry, Sanctuary
- 7:00pm - PVP Musical Rehearsal, Gym
- 7:35pm - First Church Ringers (Grades 9-12)

MONDAY, January 15

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - MLK DAY

- 7:00pm - Venture Scouts, Youth Room
- 7:00pm - Yoga and Meditation, Rm 120
- 7:00pm - PVP Musical Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 8:00pm - We Dance, Stage

TUESDAY, January 16

- 9:30am - Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 10:00am - World Religion Dialogue, Parlor

WEDNESDAY, January 17

- 9:30am - Crafting Group, Parlor
- 7:00pm - World Religion Dialogue, Parlor
- 7:30pm - We Dance, Stage

THURSDAY, January 18

- 7:30am - Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Cald. Diner
- 1:00pm - Women's Fellowship Board Meeting
- 7:00pm - Pleasant Valley Productions Community Theatre Rehearsal, Sanctuary

FRIDAY, January 19

- 5:30 PM - AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, January 20

- 8:00am - Dads With a Mission, Inc. (DWAMI), Rockn' Joe Café

SUNDAY, January 21

- 8:30am - Worship Service with Communion, at Pleasantdale Campus
- 9:00am - Confirmation Class, Rm 121
- 10:00am - Worship Service / Sunday School with Ordination and Installation of Officers
- 11:15am - Worship Committee
- 1:00pm - PVP Musical Rehearsal, Room 120
- 1:00pm - Westmin. and Pilgrim Choirs, Gym
- 5:00pm - Parents' Night Out, Room 120

All Youth Snow Tubing Trip

On Friday, January 26th, from 5:30-11pm, all 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for a trip to Campgaw Mountain for a fun night of snow tubing!! The cost is \$30 plus \$\$ for dinner on the way. Sign up by next Sunday, January 21st to participate.

Join the West Essex Neighbor Brigade

Neighbor Brigade is a network of volunteers that can be mobilized to help nearby residents who may be facing a sudden crisis to manage day-to-day tasks such as meal preparation, rides, and basic household chores. There is a growing list of needs in our community. If you'd like to volunteer, visit neighborbrigade.org and enter your zip code.

Informational Meeting Planned

Now that renovations to the Fellowship Hall are complete, we are receiving requests from both within the church and from community groups to utilize the facility. It is incumbent on the church to now manage the scheduling and management of the facility.

If you are interested in starting a church "Recreational Committee" please come to an organizational/information meeting on Monday, January 22, at 7:00pm. We will be meeting in Room 118. Please email Mike Bruchac with any questions, at mikebru52@gmail.com.

Submit Information for First Press

If you have information about church and community events, or personal interest stories that you would like to see printed in First Press, please send the information, along with any pictures or artwork, in an email to todd@firstprescaldwell.org by 12:00 noon on Thursdays. Please use only .jpg, .png, or .pdf files for submitting pictures and artwork.

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."



Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929 -
April 4, 1968

**WORDS TO PONDER
FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY:
"Hugs are the best medicine
...and there's no co-pay."**

To find out more about this caring, listening, confidential ministry, call our confidential line at 973-228-0310, ext 235, to speak to one of our pastors.

**YOUR GREETERS
THIS MORNING:**

**8:30AM
(Pleasantdale)
Jill Colavita**

**10:00AM
Westville Ave -
Paul Califf and
Lynn Legg
Bloomfield Ave -
Jeannine
Archibald and
Barbara Bruchac**

**THE FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
AT CALDWELL**

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OUR STAFF

Dr. Richard N. Sommers, Pastor/Head of Staff • Rev. Don Brown, Associate Pastor • Rev. Barbara Jo Piercy, Minister of Music • Rev. Todd Shumpert, Pastor of Communication & Spiritual Engagement • Jaime Staehle, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries • Karen Pouy, Secretary/Receptionist • Chris White, Building Manager/Head Sexton Noel Piercy, Associate Director of Music • Lauren Restaino, Youth Intern • Brittany Heun, Sunday Morning Receptionist • Kaitlyn Heun, Sunday Morning Sexton • Kathleen Carlson, Director Weekday Nursery School - (973) 226-6674, firstpresnurseryschool.com • David Hicock Superintendent, Prospect Hill Cemetery - (973) 228-4410, prospecthillcemetery@firstprescaldwell.org • Dr. Robert R. McGruther, Pastor Emeritus • Rev. Robert Pryor, Parish Associate