



The First Presbyterian  
Church at Caldwell

# FIRST PRESS

Sunday, September 25th, 2022

## **WELCOME VISITORS!**

*We are glad you have chosen to worship here today! Please come again!*

*For more information about our church, please visit our website:*  
[www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org).

**9:30am Sanctuary Service**  
**11:00am Contemporary Service**  
*Sunday School and activities are available at both services except the first Sunday of each month.*

*Advance registration for in-person attendance is not required at this time. All registration will be done on-site beginning at 9:00am for the Sanctuary Service, and 10:30am for the Contemporary Service.*

*Updated indoor worship guidelines are available at the following link:*  
<https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/worship-guidelines/>

*Worship online any time via livestream by clicking the links below.*

[Livestream on Facebook](#)

[Livestream on Livestream Website](#)

## **DEACONS FALL/WINTER DRIVE**

The Deacons are sponsoring a fall/winter drive to benefit our friends at St. John's Soup Kitchen. **We are collecting gently used winter coats, sweaters, hoodies and sweatshirts. In addition, St. John's has requested used backpacks and overnight canvas bags.**



Beginning **Sunday, October 2nd through Sunday, October 16th** a drop off bin for donations will be accessible outside by the church circle.

Additionally, we will be in person collecting donations by the church staff parking lot on Westville Avenue on:

**Saturday, October 8th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Should you have questions, please contact  
[FPC326deacons@gmail.com](mailto:FPC326deacons@gmail.com)

As always, the Deacons and St. John's thank you for your support!

## **TWO SERVICES TO BEGIN AGAIN 10/02/2022**

We will begin to have two Sunday worship services again on **Sunday, October 2nd**, which is also World Communion Sunday. The traditional service will begin at 9:30am in the church sanctuary and the contemporary service will begin at 11:00am in Fellowship Hall. We invite all to join us in-person, and also on livestream.

## **OASIS - A HAVEN FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Oasis- A Haven for Women and Children is actively seeking volunteers to help in their childcare rooms, food pantry, and to coordinate food pick-ups from BJ's, Costco, Starbucks, etc. Please contact Andrea Johnston, Volunteer Coordinator, (973)881-8307 x121 for more information.

## **WELCOME VALERIE SHONDEL!**

We are pleased to welcome Valerie Shondel as our Interim Music Director. Read on to appreciate her introduction of herself:

*"I am so pleased to be joining the staff at First Presbyterian of Caldwell as the Interim Director of Music. First Presbyterian has been blessed with an amazing Music Ministry. One that inspires congregations weekly and reaches out into the community and beyond. I am excited to continue this tradition and realize new heights in the coming months.*

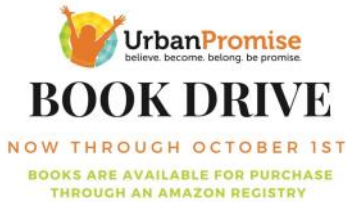
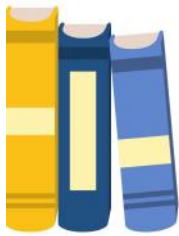
*I am passionate about building choirs that inspire congregations to come closer to their faith through music. I will work with Pastor Bill to prepare music weekly that will reflect and enhance the themes for our services. My focus in the coming months will be to re-establish the Chancel and Westminster Choirs as we look forward to Christmas. Rehearsals will begin in October on Wednesday nights. I will also be looking to recruit our younger singers for participation at Christmas time.*

*One of the wonderful blessings at FPC is the Bell Choir. They have been actively rehearsing and will be continuing to rehearse each Thursday evening. I look forward to working with them. They will be playing once a month in Sunday Worship; and of course, will be participating on Christmas Eve. In addition to their solo pieces, I look forward to having them participate in hymns on the Sundays they are playing for us.*

*I have had the honor to lead some outstanding music ministries in New York City and New Jersey. As Director of Music my focus was to build and direct the choirs of the church and fill the role of primary organist and pianist. Additionally, I felt it was important to create programs that impacted our community and beyond. This became a driving force for the Music Ministry and the Church as a whole. These initiatives included partnerships with local arts organizations, developing concert series and educational outreach programs, creating a Friends of Music Program to provide financial support to the Ministry. As I settle in at FPC, it is my hope to lead a Music Ministry that has far reaching impact into our community and beyond.*

*Lastly, I invite you to share your musical talents with our church. Please let me know if you sing, play an instrument, or would like to join our bell choir. I would love to hear from you!*  
[valerie@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:valerie@firstprescaldwell.org)  
[www.valerieshondel.com](http://www.valerieshondel.com)

**Everyone interested in ways to be part of our music program are encouraged to meet with Valerie in the Chapel after service, this Sunday, September 25th.**



## URBAN PROMISE BOOK DRIVE

The Mission Committee is sponsoring a Book Drive to support the children at Urban Promise **now through October 1<sup>st</sup>**. First Pres Caldwell has had a long relationship with Urban Promise and actively supports their mission: "to equip Camden's children and young adults with

the skills and knowledge necessary for academic achievement, life management, spiritual growth, and Christian leadership."

We are collaborating with the Urban Promise Librarian, and the Girls Empowerment Leader. They have given us a list of specific needs for the library along with Bible Study Guides needed for the Girls Empowerment Group. The prices for the books range from \$4.00 to \$15.00. Purchases can be made directly through a registry at Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/1M0PUDQL9H4Y/guest-view>.

The registry can be found at the Amazon home page by clicking the REGISTRY page which will bring you to the next page and ask for "Registrants Name" - type in Urban Promise and next tab select CUSTOM REGISTRY. We are listed as URBAN PROMISE BOOK DRIVE. Note there is no reference to First Pres Caldwell.

We will have books available for purchase after the **September 25<sup>th</sup>** Service. You can also support the project with a financial donation by going to the DONATE section at the church website and clicking the drop-down menu for the Urban Promise Book Drive.

## THE CALDWELL STREET FAIR

FPC is excited to be participating once again in the Caldwell Street Fair, scheduled **for Sunday, October 2nd from 12PM to 5PM**. In past years there have been as many as 30,000 visitors at the fair and it is a great opportunity to open our doors for the community to see our beautiful sanctuary, hear about our church history and partake of the planned activities and music. We invite your help to support the event as well as have fun and fellowship in the process!



We are in need of many volunteers and ask if you can donate an hour of your time to support the event (but with all the fun you'll have you just may want to sign up for even more time!).

We need help prior to the fair start time, to set up tents, tables, chairs, banners, etc. etc. During the event we need you to be the personal face of the church to greet people as they enter the church as well as to monitor the inside use of bathroom facilities. Afterwards we need help breaking down and storing all the equipment.

Please take a minute to consider signing up to help with the event using the following link. Your support is much needed and much appreciated.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f4fa5ad29a0f94-street>

Let's give the children at African Dream Academy a Dream Christmas.  
There are now 1500 students attending in Nursery through 12th grade.



## DREAM CHRISTMAS



Help  
a boy or girl  
from African Dream  
Academy, Monrovia, Liberia  
([www.africandreamacademy.org](http://www.africandreamacademy.org))  
receive his or her only Christmas gift.

Liberia is one of the five poorest countries in  
the world. Pick up a red bag with a child's name and  
age on it. Fill it with goodies and return to Church by October 23  
at the latest. Then we will pack barrels and ship them to Liberia.

Please include a composition book, pens and pencils. Other Suggestions: a  
toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, Band aids, pair of socks, hard candy, paper, markers,  
crayons, glue, tape, other art supplies, sunglasses, a ball, an age-appropriate paperback  
book, a flashlight, toys for younger children (little cars, little dolls, etc.), toiletries for older girls,  
headbands, barrettes, jewelry, lip gloss. Enclose a note or Christmas card if you like! If you would like  
to contribute towards shipping, write a check to African Dream Academy Foundation for \$10.00. Please  
do not put it in the bag.

Return to  
Church.



## **OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO GRATITUDE, GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP**

We invite you to read this passage from scripture and to reflect upon God's call to each of us to be grateful and generous stewards.

### **Genesis 1:1-5 (The Creation Story)**

Start at the very beginning! This verse reminds us that God created everything, so all that we have is ultimately from God. It is also a reminder that God brings light into our world, and as children of the light, we are called to live lives of gratitude and generosity, giving back to the work of God out of the abundance that God has shared with us from the very beginning.

### **SOUP KITCHEN NEWS**

We are off to a great start with our Thursday and Saturday soup kitchens! We will follow the same procedures as before for Thursday soup kitchens. We ask that all meal preparers sign up online and drop off the Wednesday before soup kitchen. If you need to drop off earlier, you may drop it in the church office and the items will be placed in the kitchen for pick-up. Saturdays will now be online for sign up (same as Thursday). You may bring your items early and they will be placed in the kitchen for pick-up. If you need pans, they will be on the Christian Ed Desk for your convenience. Sign up links are available at <https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news/>

### **ADULT EDUCATION—NEWSLETTER**

WELCOME to our new venture in Adult Education ministry. We believe a newsletter with diverse resources has the power to serve you better. As a seasonal publication, we will provide updates on our traditional group Bible studies and more resources for growing personally and as a community of faith while honoring the diversity of life rhythms and life experiences of our members.

We realize that making time for our spiritual life often competes with a lot of distractions. Yet Christ tells us that He is our living water (John 4:13,14). Who can live without water? In this world we can easily become spiritually dehydrated as distractions make us forget to drink. Adult Ed is aiming to find ways to rehydrate you by meeting you where you are on any given day; helping you to grab a quick refreshing sip or drink deeply from the well. Our digital world offers quick access to many resources focused on our rehydration: Apps that include easy access to devotionals and bible study tools, Podcasts that give daily messages we can listen to while we walk, drive, or do daily tasks, and more. We will also offer books for different groups and timeless treasures for everyone. We want to inspire you to discover proven tools for dipping into this deep well of "living water" so we can all remain refreshed and ready for our mission "Shining God's Light by KNOWing Christ, GROWing in His in love, and GOing where He leads."

Let us know how we are doing at [adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org).

DOWNLOAD NEWSLETTER: <https://bit.ly/3dXvkiL>



## **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL & CRADLE ROOM**

We have officially launched another amazing Sunday School program for the 2022-2023 year and we need your help! Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays to volunteer as a Sunday School Assistant. Learn more here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0b4ea4af28a1ff2-sunday>

We are excited to once again provide nursery care for babies up to the age of 4 years old in our Cradle Room and we need your help. We are looking for adults to provide nursery care to our very youngest in our church family! Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays. We won't be able to provide this service to our church families without valuable volunteers. Thanks in advance! Learn more here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0b4ea4af28a1ff2-fpcnursery>



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF**



## **NEIGHBOR BRIGADE**

If you are in need of some assistance during a temporary time of crisis in your life, Neighbor Brigade is here to help you. We provide meals, rides to doctor appointments, dog walking, food shopping, etc. If you need this type of assistance or would like to be a volunteer, please call (973) 321-7353 or contact one of our chapter leaders: Barbara Bruchac, Carol DeFrance, or Sarah Solie.

## **OPEN GYM**

### **VOLLEYBALL**

Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

### **PICKLEBALL**

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

**\*\*\*NEW REGISTRANTS\*\*\*** Contact Barb Bruchac  
to confirm availability at 973-454-5583

## **MIDWEEK VINYASA YOGA AT FPC**

Relax, recharge, and renew for the rest of the week by moving through a sequence of poses to increase strength, flexibility, and focus led by Sue Tannler.

Who: You and an open-mind

Where: FPC Fellowship hall

**When: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**

What: Bring a mat and a water bottle. If you have blocks and a strap, scarf, or belt, bring them as well. (Extras will be on hand as well).

Any questions reach out to Sue Tannler [btannler@gmail.com](mailto:btannler@gmail.com) or 862-684-3673.

### **Calling EMTs, First Aid responders and Medical professionals**

The Worship Committee is looking to put together a list of individuals that are willing to be called upon to step in if a medical situation presents itself in order to offer care until EMTs arrive.

- Medical/Nursing Training
- EMT Training
- First Aid Training
- AED use Training

Please email Kris George via [kristiane.george@gmail.com](mailto:kristiane.george@gmail.com) should you have any of the above training and are willing to help.

## **SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS**

If one of your gifts is hospitality, there is a job in this church with your name on it! The Deacons would love your help being a greeter on Sunday Mornings in either service. Your job would start 15 minutes before the service and you would welcome folks to our church. If it was communion Sunday, you would invite them to take a communion cup as well as leave their envelope in the collection plate. You would remain at the door 15 min after the service started to receive any stragglers and then grab the offerings from the communion plate and go inside to count all the happy people you see in attending the service (including anyone running the service and those that sit in the balcony). Next, you may sit with your family for the remainder of the service. Once the service has ended please take the offerings and your count of people to the office for them to record. That's all there is to it!! If you feel called to this ministry, please contact Donna McGinley ([donnalmcginley@aol.com](mailto:donnalmcginley@aol.com)) so we can get you started greeting folks as soon as possible!

## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE IS SEARCHING FOR LAY READERS**

**WANTED:** Lay Readers

**WHAT:** To read scripture or other printed parts of the worship service.

**WHY:** to remind us that worship is a act of all the people.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Being able to read in front of the congregation

**WHEN:** Readers needed at the 10:00 am services.

**WHERE:** At some services. Your availability will help determine how often.

If interested contact: [fpc@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:fpc@firstprescaldwell.org). Come on - this is an easy way to help out and it gets you in front of a microphone!! Looking forward to getting swamped with volunteers!

## **AMAZON SMILE—SUPPORT FPC**

What's an easy way to support First Pres all year long? Sign into Amazon using the link below before you start shopping. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to First Pres. [Click here to get started.](#)

## **OFFERINGS**

Offerings will continue online at [www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate). Mailed-in donations continue to also be gladly accepted.

## **DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH PROGRAM OR EVENT THAT NEEDS TO BE ADVERTISED?**

The deadline for the next First Press is Monday at 3:00pm. We cannot guarantee inclusion of material submitted after that. Please email Lauren Restaino at [lauren@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:lauren@firstprescaldwell.org).

---

## **OUR STAFF**

**Rev. Bill Schram**, *Interim Pastor/Head of Staff*

**Valerie Shondel**, *Interim Music Director*

**Kaitlyn Heun**, *Interim Director of Youth Ministries*

**Scott Westenberger**, *Worship Leader*

**Lauren Restaino**, *Youth Ministry & Communications Coordinator*

**Christine Brunner**, *Office Manager*

**Chris White**, *Building Manager/Head Sexton*

**Irma Clare**, *Administrative Assistant*

**Brittany Heun**, *Sunday Receptionist*

**Kathleen Carlson**, *Director*

*Weekday Nursery School - 973-226-6674*

*<http://www.firstpresnurseryschool.com>*

**David Hicock**, *Superintendent*

*Prospect Hill Cemetery - 973-228-4410*

*[prospecthillcemetery@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:prospecthillcemetery@firstprescaldwell.org)*

**Dr. Robert R. McGruther**, *Pastor Emeritus*

## **THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CALDWELL**

326 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Office Hours: M-Th 8AM - 4PM, F 8AM - 3PM

Office Phone: 973-228-0310

e-mail address: [fpc@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:fpc@firstprescaldwell.org)

website: [www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org)

## **CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

***ALL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE VIA LIVESTREAM***

### ***SUNDAY, September 25th***

10:00 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

### ***MONDAY, September 26th***

7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

### ***TUESDAY, September 27th***

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Parlor

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Worship Committee, Zoom Meeting

### ***WEDNESDAY, September 28th***

7:00 PM Yoga, Fellowship Hall

### ***THURSDAY, September 29th***

7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room

### ***SATURDAY, October 1st***

***Urban Promise Book Drive Ends***

### ***SUNDAY, October 2nd***

***Deacons Fall/Winter Drive Begins***

9:30 AM Traditional Service, Sanctuary

10:30 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

11:00 AM Contemporary Service, Fellowship Hall

12:00 PM Caldwell Street Fair, Bloomfield Avenue