



# FIRST PRESS

**Sunday, November 29, 2020**

## TURKEY DRIVE RESULTS



**300 turkeys**



**284 bags of groceries**



**\$560 in cash**

*thank you for your donations!*

## Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone who donated and supported our Annual Turkey Drive this year! We collected 300 turkeys, 284 bags of groceries and \$560 in cash donations. This was a very difficult year and we are so happy with the outcome of this important collection which supported many New Jersey families this holiday. A special thank you to Stephen Cornman for organizing and the whole team of volunteers who helped organize and staff the event.

## ADVENT WORSHIP

Connect with us in worship this Advent, as we lift up the Advent weekly themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

On **Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM**, FPC will offer short devotional services prior to the 7:15 PM Advent Conspiracy study. The service will be available via Facebook Live.

**During the 9:30 AM service**, we will light the Advent wreath candles symbolizing those themes.

**At both the 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM services**, the sermons on the first three Sundays will be reflections from people who lived in the times of Jesus birth.

\* **11/29** a shepherd will talk about hope both fulfilled and hope deferred.

\* **12/6** John the Baptist will talk about the peace that comes with repentance.

\* **12/13** the innkeeper (actually never mentioned in the Bible) will share about how busy-ness can keep us from seeing reasons for joy.

\* **12/20** love shines forth through the Children's program at the 9:30 service and in the music of the Illuminate service.



## SHARE THE WARMTH!

As Winter approaches, the Deacons are sponsoring a cold weather accessory drive to benefit our mission partners at Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen in Orange. **Now through Monday, November 30**, a drop off bin will be by the church office. For safety reasons, we are looking for **NEW** cold weather accessories for men, women and children, including hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and warm socks. As we provide warm meals, please help us "share the warmth" by providing additional support to our neighbors in need.



## CHRISTMAS COVID CONCERT

A special Christmas COVID Concert will be released on Sunday, December 6th—so be on the lookout for the video on Facebook and your email inbox!

## THE MITTEN TREE PROJECT

Our First Pres Nursery School is proud to partner with a local chapter of the Salvation Army to provide hats and mittens for children in need. We have set up a Christmas tree at the top of the stairs at the Nursery School entrance. If you would like to participate, please purchase a new hat or pair of mittens for your child to hang on the tree. Each classroom teacher will explain what the Mitten Tree is all about and we invite you to do the same at home. The Mitten Tree Project will run until **Friday, December 11th**. Thank you for joining us in our efforts to teach children to be kind and caring and to help others.



## THE FACING RACISM TASK FORCE

First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell's Facing Racism Task Force is holding a series of monthly Zoom discussions on issues related to structural racism, as our denomination has a strong commitment to addressing this issue. Our last conversation in this series will take place from 7:30 pm-8:45 pm on Monday, Dec. 14, 2020. The topic of discussion will be the first fifty minutes of the PC(USA) Week of Action: Anti-Racism Town Hall (August 25, 2020), To join the conversation, please RSVP by Sunday Dec. 13, 2020 to [facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com](mailto:facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com). Hope to "see" you there! (For security reasons, please do not share this Zoom meeting announcement on social media. Thank you!)



## **CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE PROJECT FOR OASIS, A HAVEN FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN**

**DEADLINE EXTENDED: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH**

Our giving tree project is to provide Christmas gifts & warm clothing for the children of Oasis, A Haven for Women and Children in Paterson. Please be an angel this holiday season and bring some joy and Christmas spirit into the lives of those less fortunate by participating in this very worthy cause.

This year, due to CoVid-19 we have set up a gift registry at **Target.com** where you can see a list of over 500 items including toys, winter coats, & pajamas along with other "wish list" items for you to select from in a variety of prices. The easiest & most direct way is by entering the link directly at **[tgt.gifts/Oasisahavenforwomenandchildren](https://tgt.gifts/Oasisahavenforwomenandchildren)**.

You can also access the gift registry by using the following steps:

1. Go to Target.com
2. Click on the Registry button.
3. Under "search for Organization" enter OASIS.
4. This will bring you to the Oasis gift registry with over 500 items.

Once you select your gift and put it in the cart, you will see that the registry is set up to **send all items directly to Oasis at 59 Mill St. Paterson** so be sure not to change that feature when checking out. Please **DO NOT** wrap your gifts purchased at the Target Registry. The gift registry link will also be made available at the church website too.

If you prefer to provide a financial support rather than purchase a gift, you may do so by going to the church website and clicking on the drop-down tab labeled DONATE in the top right corner and from there you will see another drop down which will show you the OASIS Giving Tree Project. You can also send in a check to the church office and checks should be made payable to 1<sup>st</sup> Pres Caldwell and be sure to put in the memo section Oasis Giving Tree. All monetary donations must be received no later than DEC 1 to allow us to shop on your behalf.

**Last day to order from the Registry will be Thursday, Dec 4th** to provide enough time to process & ship your gifts to Oasis. Please **do not bring any gifts to the church** office as there will be no delivery service offered due to Covid-19.

Thank you for your continued support & generosity of the Oasis Giving Tree Project! Please feel free to contact Ellen Johnson at [johnsonellend@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonellend@gmail.com) or phone 973-229-2453 if you have questions or need assistance.



**Virtual  
Christmas  
Social**

**Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4pm**  
Bring your Hot Chocolate or Egg Nog  
Wear your Ugly Christmas Sweater  
&  
Share your favorite Christmas memories or decorations.

Invite to Join by Zoom or teleconference coming via email. To join by phone, call the church office (973)228-0310.

Come join in some Christmas Cheer!  
*Hosted by the Church Life Committee*



You are invited to join us at  
A Service of Peace and Hope  
**Sunday, December 13**  
**7:00 PM**

In a year marked by anxiety, tensions,  
losses, and limitations

Let's share in a time of quiet and calmness  
prayer, soft music, candle lighting  
Watch for more information on how to  
participate.

# On Sale Now!

## The Cookie Walk Book

A Collection of your Favorite Sweet Treats.



Sponsored by  
The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
Board of Deacons

Preorders begin Sunday,  
November 22nd, 2020!

Available for Pick Up or  
Shipping\*  
around December 5th!

For ordering information go to  
[www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org)

**Cost: \$ 20 per book**

*\*Plus shipping if you choose this option*

If you have questions please email:  
[1stpres.cookiewalk@gmail.com](mailto:1stpres.cookiewalk@gmail.com)

### **A SWEET SURPRISE!**

The December Cookie Walk at The First Presbyterian Church of Caldwell is a beloved and anticipated tradition in the West Essex Community. It also is a vital fundraiser for a variety of ministries during the following program year. Since 2020 presents many challenges with regard to safe gathering, the Board of Deacons has prepared a collection of recipes in the form of a "Cookie Walk Book" in hopes of spreading cheer, while still providing support to FPC. Orders may be placed on the church website at [www.firstprescaldwell.org/cookie-walk-book](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/cookie-walk-book), at a cost of \$20 per book. Currently, on the website, you will find an order form that you may print and return to First Pres. An online ordering option will be available shortly and a link will be sent out via email and social media. Please consider purchasing a cookbook for yourself, family members, neighbors, or friends near or far. It will be the perfect stocking stuffer or holiday treat as they will be available for pick up, or shipping, around December 5th. Wishing you a sweet and blessed holiday season!

## WORDS TO PONDER FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

*“God loves each of us as if there were only  
one of us.”*

Saint Augustine

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

*My command is this: Love each other as I  
have loved you.*



## OUR STAFF

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

**Rev. Barbara Jo Piercy**, Minister of Music

**Noel Piercy**, Associate Director of Music

**Kaitlyn Heun**, Interim Director Youth Ministries

**Susan Jones**, Interim Director Children's Ministry

**Scott Westenberger**, Worship Leader

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

**Christine Brunner**, Office Manager

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

**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

One of the implications of  
suspending public worship  
is that our regular offering  
isn't being collected. As it  
is essential to pay our staff and meet our current  
obligations, we ask if you are able, please mail your  
offering to the church or submit online at  
[www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate). Knowing that our  
income could be impacted, we invite those with  
extra resources to consider making a special gift.



## 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

### SUNDAY, November 29th

9:30 AM Worship Service, Facebook Livestream  
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting  
11:00 AM Illuminate Service, Facebook Livestream  
6:00 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn/Zoom

### MONDAY, November 30th

*Last Day for Share The Warmth Drive Donations*

10:00 AM Advent Study, Zoom Meeting

### TUESDAY, December 1st

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Room 120

### WEDNESDAY, December 2nd

8:30 AM RRC Meeting, Zoom Meeting  
6:30 PM Advent Devotional, Facebook Live  
7:15 PM Advent Study, Zoom Meeting

### FRIDAY, December 4th

*Last Day for Oasis Giving Tree Donations*

### SUNDAY, December 6th

**COVID CHRISTMAS CONCERT AVAILABLE**

9:30 AM Worship Service, Facebook Livestream  
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting  
11:00 AM Illuminate Service, Facebook Livestream  
6:00 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn/Zoom