



FIRST PRESS

Sunday, April 11th, 2021

Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, April 25th, 2021
2pm - 5pm

First Presbyterian Church
at Caldwell
326 Bloomfield Ave
Caldwell, NJ

Lesson and Prayer for the
Earth

Planting of a Perennial Flower
Garden

Collection of Message Rocks
Painted by our youth

Church grounds clean up
(must wear gloves)

Please Pre-Register to join the fun!
Registration will Close Friday, April 23rd @ 2pm.
If you have any questions please email Bonnie at blcfaithlife@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — HELP THE PLANET FOR EARTH DAY 2021

Sponsored by the Caldwell Environmental Commission

1. Saturday April 24th from 10am - 1pm

Participate in the Shredding Event for the JCHS Scholarship Committee behind Caldwell Borough Hall. Participants will receive reusable produce bags.

2. Thursday, April 29th 7pm

Dr. Chris Obrupta, Director, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program will discuss Caldwell's rain gardens. RAIN GARDENS - a way to address water quality and flooding on your property. As an example of Green Infrastructure, they capture storm water in a more environmentally friendly way. They also provide native plants which attract local pollinators. ZOOM WEBINAR— Register in advance for this webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ad7YJbZORKSPFhn8peHyBQ After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information on how to join the webinar.

WHEN GOD'S SPIRIT MOVES

New Spring ZOOM Study from Adult Education
6 Wednesday Evenings – April 14th to May 19th
7:00 to 8:30 PM

QUESTION: If you had to explain the **Holy Spirit** to a 10 year old and what He does, how would you go about it? What words would you use? What examples would you give to describe this 3rd member of the Trinity?

JESUS: “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the **Spirit of truth**. The world cannot accept him because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.” (John 14:16-17)

A Timely Study for Us All

A great many of us probably do not think a lot about the Holy Spirit or know how to best describe him, even though we are familiar with this critical passage of Jesus' announcement of our “advocate”. After his resurrection but before his ascension, Jesus again tells us. “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) And after his final ascension into Heaven, the Spirit came to earth on that day in Pentecost and lives in each soul who accepts Christ Jesus as our Redeemer.

Please join us as we head toward Pentecost, and get reacquainted with our “Advocate”, “Helper”, “Counselor” and “Comforter”. Be encouraged through the testimonies of people whose encounters with the Spirit empowered both their physical and spiritual lives. Let's see what restoration can happen when the Holy Spirit moves powerfully within a church.

REGISTRATION & MATERIALS

Please respond with you NAME & PHONE at adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org

Video participation is **FREE** through First Pres subscription to StudyGateway
Study Guide “When God's Spirit Moves” is available through...
Amazon.com (\$9.99) AND Churchsource.com (\$9.09)

Please let us know if you need assistance in the purchase of your study guide.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received at FPC between Easter and Mother's Day, May 9, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. **In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference in the world.**

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) : Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees : Receives 32% of funds raised

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP) : Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed : Receives 36% of funds raised

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP) : Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues : Receives 32% of funds raised

Our church school students were sent the familiar fish banks in the mail, so families can put aside contributions between now and May 9. You may also donate through the church website at www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate. Be sure to choose the donation tab that says One Great Hour of Sharing. Join Presbyterians around this country in providing resources that touch people's lives around the world and throughout the year.

"TIME TO TALK"

The Reopening and Revitalizing During COVID-19 Session Subcommittee (RRC) is hosting "Time to Talk" (open house / drop-in format) via Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. A few members of the RRC will be present to hear any concerns or questions regarding reopening for in-person worship and/or revitalizing the church during COVID-19, or just simply to chat. **The second Wednesday of the month meeting time is from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. The Zoom link for this Wednesday's (4-14-21) Time to Talk from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81690322284?pwd=UnViVU9KUW8yaTFUMy94MwxxZi8xZz09>**

Meeting ID: 816 9032 2284 Passcode: 724849 or dial+1 646 558 8656 US (New York) Hope to see you there!

*Please note that the time for the 4th Wednesday Zoom event (4-28-21) will be at the later time slot of 6:30-7:30 pm and a different link will be sent out for that event.



Collecting gently used
lightweight jackets, sweaters,
summer shirts and shorts.

Donations will be accepted on
Saturdays, April 17th, April
24th and May 1st from 11:00
a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the
circular driveway.

2021 DEACONS SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE

The Deacons are sponsoring a Spring to Summer clothing drive to benefit our friends at St. John's Soup Kitchen. St. John's is in need of clean, gently used lightweight jackets, sweaters, summer shirts and shorts. They have also requested disposable rain ponchos in order to keep their guests dry during a sometimes rainy spring. We will be collecting the items for three Saturdays: April 17th, April 24th and May 1st from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. To stay safe, donations will be accepted outside in the FPC parking lot/ circle during this drive-by, drop-off event. (We ask that face coverings be worn during drop-off.)

WE ARE LOOKING TO OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR INPUT AS WE WORK TO BUILD A NEW CHURCH WEBSITE!

Please take a few minutes to fill out the following questionnaire:

<https://www.firstpreswebsite.com>

Your input to these questions will help us capture what makes First Pres so special and make it easier for anyone to engage in church activities. Feel free to write as much or as little as you want – or to leave questions blank entirely.

Your responses will be read only by the website team, though you can grant permission to share direct quotes with Session at large (attributed or anonymous).

And if you'd like to discuss any of these ideas directly, drop Andy a line at ao@andyogden.com.

AUDIO CDS OF SUNDAY WORSHIP AVAILABLE

If you or someone you know would like an audio CD of the 9:30 am Sunday service please contact the church office during regular business hours Monday through Friday.

Each week the AV group prepares audio CDs of the entire traditional Sunday service and the church office staff mails those CDs to all those on the request list.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

The online sign up sheet for the Thursday Soup Kitchens in April is available online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4FA5AD29A0F94-april> Don't forget to select your contribution and be a force in helping those less fortunate than ourselves. The Thursday Soup Kitchen has been a success and it's all because of our very generous congregation. Thank you for all you do and all the support for this great ministry.

Pans are out and we are ready to support Our Lady of the Valley Saturday Soup Kitchen, so pick up your pan and make a difference in someone's life. We have supported this ministry for decades and its success is all because of our family and friends on going support and generosity. From the Board of Deacons and the Mission Committee, THANK YOU, and God Bless.

JOHN R. AND INGE P. STAFFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

John Rogers Stafford served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Wyeth Corp. He was an active supporter of many charitable and civic organizations. Along with his wife Inge P. Stafford, they were avid supporters of higher education and that it be available to all those who seek it. Inge started her career as a high school teacher in the Arlington public school system and derived great pleasure in helping young people recognize their abilities and prepare them for the journey ahead. Together, they were members of the First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell for nearly 50 years.

On March 18, 2014 the Session at the First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell established the John R. and Inge P. Stafford Memorial Scholarship. We are excited once again to be able to offer Scholarships for the 2021–2022 academic school year. This scholarship is open to anyone planning to attend or who is already attending a 2 or 4 year accredited college. **Applications can be found at www.firstprescaldwell.org. Application Due Date: 5:00 PM April 15, 2021.**

MASKS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

The church has received a generous donation of disposable surgical masks from Sean and Kristen Glasser through Sean's company Blue Track, Inc. This donation was made to assist members of our congregation individually, as well as being a resource for the church when we are able to safely resume in person worship. If you are in need of masks, please call the office at 973-228-0310 to arrange a pick up time.

JOIN THE A/V TEAM

Interested in PC, Stage, Film, Video Production? First Pres is in need of people like you! Learn the systems as a member of the church A/V Team. Learn about all the aspects via hands-on!

Email (fpc@firstprescaldwell.org) or call the church office (973-228-0310) to learn more!



WORDS TO PONDER FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

“Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people and plants of the field to everyone.”
Zechariah 10:1

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
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
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. 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
website: www.firstprescaldwell.org

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, April 11th

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Livestream
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting
11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Facebook Livestream
6:15 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn

MONDAY, April 12th

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

TUESDAY, April 13th

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Room 120
6:00 PM Finance Committee, Zoom Meeting
7:00 PM Deacons Meeting, Zoom Meeting

WEDNESDAY, April 14th

8:30 AM RRC Meeting, Zoom Meeting
5:00 PM "Time to Talk," Zoom Meeting

THURSDAY, April 15th

6:30 PM Chancel Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Zoom Meeting

SUNDAY, April 18th

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Livestream
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting
11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Facebook Livestream
5:00 PM Youth Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
6:15 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn