



FIRST PRESS

Sunday, April 18th, 2021

SERMON QUESTIONS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH

1. What aspects of daily life can make you have doubts about your faith?
2. When has someone else stirred up doubts or fears in your mind, about your faith or about what was happening in the world.
3. What would provide definite proof about the resurrection for you?
4. Where have you seen evidence of our Lord's redemptive hand at work in the world in which you live?
5. When have you doubted you could do what Jesus is asking of you?
6. "What would Jesus do?" assumes Jesus is gone from the world. "What is Jesus doing?" assumes the risen Lord is still active within this world. Which perspective describes how you have viewed Jesus' role in your life now?

THE 11TH ANNUAL DEACONS'
GOLF OUTING



SAVE THE DATE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

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.

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_ad7YJbZQRKSPFhn8peHyBQ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information on how to join the webinar.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

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

First Presbyterian
Church at Caldwell
326 Bloomfield Ave
Caldwell, NJ

Please Pre-Register to join the fun!
Registration will Close Friday, April 23rd @ 2pm.

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)

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Come join us for our Earth Day Celebration where we will be planting and dedicating a perennial flower garden outside our chapel doors on Sunday, April 25th from 2:00pm to 5:00pm (Rain date Saturday, May 1st). Please bring any gardening tools as we gather outside the chapel doors on Bloomfield Ave. Pre-Registration is required, masks must be worn, and social distancing must be observed. Register: <https://forms.gle/iXxm1DSh8zUX7wpq5>

All children & youth are invited to take part in our kindness/message rock project that will be part of our perennial flowering garden outside the chapel doors. Please stop by the church to pick up your rocks anytime during the week during regular church office hours. The paint will be supplied by you and the rock painting is up to the imagination of your child and should promote kindness, joy, and happiness. Then, please bring the rocks back to church on Sunday, April 25th, 2:00-5:00pm (rain date Saturday, May 1st), during the planting of our perennial flower garden and maybe help with some of the planting.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

The online sign up sheet for the Thursday Soup Kitchens in April is now 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.

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 the next two Saturdays: 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.)

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!

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. Please note the video of the Sunday service is available on livestream.com and the church Facebook page, and the audio for the Sermon is posted on the church's website each week.

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.

WORDS TO PONDER FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

"In a gentle way you can shake the world."
Mahatma Gandhi

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 18th

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Church Lawn/
Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Old Burial Ground/
Facebook Livestream

11:30 AM Confirmation Class, Zoom Meeting

5:00 PM Youth Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

6:15 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn

TUESDAY, April 20th

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Room 120

7:00 PM Session Meeting, Zoom Meeting

WEDNESDAY, April 21st

8:30 AM RRC Meeting, Zoom Meeting

THURSDAY, April 22nd

6:30 PM Chancel Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Zoom Meeting

SATURDAY, April 24th

11:00 AM Deacons' Clothing Drive, Circular Driveway

SUNDAY, April 25th

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Church Lawn/
Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Old Burial Ground/
Facebook Livestream

2:00 PM Earth Day Celebration, Church Lawn

5:00 PM Youth Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

6:15 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn