



# FIRST PRESS

**Sunday, May 23rd, 2021**

## **SERMON QUESTIONS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 23RD**

1. What kind of proclamation are you waiting for today?
2. What have you been holding onto so tightly that you have become numb to other considerations?
3. What are you trying to find meaning about?
4. What faith/scriptural resources could help you grow in understanding?
5. How might you communicate your growing understanding about what the Lord is doing in your life and in the world around you?
6. Do you believe that led by the Spirit, we can be a Christian community where young and old dream dreams, have visions and then determine to carry out those visions?

## **SAVE THE DATE**



## **HERE COMES THE SUN**

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021  
7:00 PM**

**TO BENEFIT OUR MISSION  
PARTNERS: CALDWELL FOOD  
PANTRY, COMMUNITY FOODBANK,**

**OASIS, OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY SOUP KITCHEN, ST. JOHN'S SOUP  
KITCHEN, URBAN PROMISE, AND AFRICAN DREAM ACADEMY**

We decided to move the auction to the fall in the hopes of having it both in person as well as online. If you would like to volunteer with donations, tricky tray baskets, decorating and display, staffing, or food and beverages, please email Lydia

Spinelli, [lspinelli.summersteps@brickchurch.org](mailto:lspinelli.summersteps@brickchurch.org)

## **VIRTUAL BLOOD DRIVE**

We are all so excited about the plans to reopen the sanctuary for in-person worship! Spring is upon us with the promise of renewal, such a fitting time for reopening. It is also a time to give the gift of life by donating blood to those who desperately need it.

During the month of May, the Board of Deacons at First Pres are hosting its first-ever Virtual Blood Drive in partnership with Vitalant.

**What's a Virtual Blood Drive?** It provides you with the ability to make your blood donation appointment online at a time that is convenient for you. You can choose from one of four nearby locations: Parsippany, Paramus, Montvale or Lincoln Park. Then, on the appointed day, travel to the selected location and give your blood donation. Vitalant is very diligent in its adherence to all COVID-19 protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of all donors.

First Pres has a long history as a host of successful blood drives and with your participation, we can continue this success despite the challenges we face because of COVID-19. Please take a few minutes to follow the simple steps below to sign up for an appointment to donate blood during May. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of others!

**[CLICK HERE FOR THE VIRTUAL BLOOD DRIVE LINK](#)**

### **STEPS TO SIGN UP FOR VIRTUAL BLOOD DRIVE**

1. After clicking on link, you will be taken to the Pledge page of the Vitalant website. Here, you are asked to state your intention to donate a life-saving blood product.
2. Click submit on lower right of page. You will now proceed to the Vitalant home page. Click 'Donate Now'.
3. Select the donor center that is convenient for you.
4. Select the type of donation: Whole blood, Double Red, Platelets, or Plasma.
5. Select your appointment date and time. Follow the instructions to schedule your appointment.

**"You Asked For It" will be the theme of sermons in July and August and Pastor Bill needs your help. Between now and the end of June, please turn in topics, or scripture passages you would want explored in a sermon. Email Bill at [bill@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:bill@firstprescaldwell.org) with your requests, or contact the church office.**

## **THURSDAY SOUP KITCHEN**

Menus are out for Thursday's Soup Kitchen. [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for an entree or other dishes for Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen. We are very grateful for all the participation and enthusiasm that has been generated by the online sign ups. Thank you all in advance for your donations.

## **SATURDAY SOUP KITCHEN**

May 29th pans are on the Christian Ed Desk and they are gold in color. Pick up your pan and help make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate. Thank you in advance for your participation in this ministry.

## **WALK-IN VACCINATION APPOINTMENTS NOW AVAILABLE AT TWO ESSEX COUNTY SITES**

Two Essex County Vaccination Centers, including Kmart at 235 Prospect Avenue in West Orange and Essex County College at 177 West Market Street in Newark, are now open for walk-in appointments from 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Saturday to anyone who resides, works or attends school in Essex County. [Click here for more information.](#)

## **LAST CHANCE FOR "TIME TO TALK"**

The Reopening and Revitalizing During COVID-19 Session Subcommittee (RRC) is hosting one final "Time to Talk" (open house / drop-in format) via Zoom this Wednesday. 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. This Wednesday's meeting time is from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. The Zoom link for this Wednesday's (5-26-21) Time to Talk from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82965137916?pwd=REhiSXpBTWtZWVhJmIk2d0EvTmsyZz09>

Meeting ID: 829 6513 7916 Passcode: 627474

Hope to see you there!



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.



### WORDS TO PONDER FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

*"A single sunbeam is enough to drive away  
many shadows."*  
Francis of Assisi

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](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

#### **SUNDAY, May 23rd**

##### **Confirmation Sunday**

##### **Pentecost Sunday**

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary/Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Facebook Livestream,  
Outdoor Worship

5:00 PM Youth Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

6:15 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn

#### **MONDAY, May 24th**

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

#### **TUESDAY, May 25th**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Room 120

7:00 PM Session, Zoom Meeting

#### **WEDNESDAY, May 26th**

8:30 AM RRC Meeting, Zoom Meeting

6:30 PM "Time to Talk," Zoom Meeting

#### **THURSDAY, May 27th**

6:30 PM Chancel Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Zoom Meeting

#### **SUNDAY, May 30th**

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary/Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Facebook Livestream,  
Outdoor Worship

5:00 PM Youth Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

6:15 PM Youth Choir, Church Lawn

