



FIRST PRESS

Sunday, May 30th, 2021

RAIN GARDEN AT FIRST PRESS

A year ago First Pres. was approached by a member of the Environmental Commission for the Borough of Caldwell informing us that we were identified as a potential site to install a “rain garden” with a grant to the Borough of Caldwell through Rutgers University. This idea was presented to the Session and approved to move forward. The cost to the Church was zero. A site was selected along the Bloomfield Avenue side of the church where the garden would thrive fed by roof water draining into the garden.

The plan came to fruition this week in a combined effort between the Rutgers University School of Environmental Studies, the Borough of Caldwell and members of the First Pres. Buildings & Grounds Committee. Following a specific schematic plan designed by Rutgers, workers from the town maintenance dept. dug out the space to be filled with a layered mix of dirt and topped with mulch that would receive 70 plants to beautify both the church grounds and Bloomfield Avenue while benefitting the environment. Have a look for yourself! Stop by and view the project.

JOIN US FOR THE FOLLOWING IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sanctuary Service at 9:30am in the sanctuary

Illuminate Service at 11:00am in the old burial ground

Advance registration, at this time, is not required. All registration will be done onsite, beginning at 9:00am for the Sanctuary service, and 10:30am for the Illuminate service.

Updated indoor and outdoor worship guidelines are available through the below links. Please review these guidelines prior to arriving at either service.

<https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/indoor-sanctuary-worship-guidelines/>

<https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/outdoor-worship-guidelines/>

NEW OFFERINGS FROM ADULT EDUCATION

REGISTER BELOW to have FREE, instant access to ALL STUDYGATEWAY materials

<https://www.studygateway.com/>

ONE OF THE BEST VIDEO ACCESS LIBRARIES FOR BIBLE AND CHRISTIAN BOOK STUDY!

Choose the Videos You Want to Watch

Each member can have access to hundreds of Bible studies and other biblically based video curriculum.

Watch the Videos Anytime, Anywhere

Videos are streamed instantly over the Internet. All you need is a mobile or WiFi connection.

Access from your PC, Mac, Mobile Device or TV

Watch videos from the Study Gateway website, Android app or iOS app (free with your subscription).

REGISTER for free participation in this service

- 1. EMAIL adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org with your name and email address**
- 2. We will have StudyGateway email you an invitation to participate in our FIRSTPRESCALDWELL subscription.**
- 3. You accept the invitation and create your personal Username and Password. (KEEP THEM in order to LogIN)**
- 4. THAT'S IT. You will have FREE immediate access to ALL StudyGateway.com content as an FPC church member.**

NEW OFFERINGS FROM ADULT EDUCATION

NEW ZOOM Weekly Adult STUDY

“The Wired Word”

Starting this June

Wednesday Nights 7:00 – 8:30pm

OPEN REGISTRATION THROUGHOUT

Each week’s study is independent of the others, so come when you can.

- 1) Let Adult Ed know by the Monday night before each session to receive study materials. adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org
- 2) ACCEPT the ZOOM invitation published by First Pres each week – JUST LIKE COFFEE HOUR.
- 3) SAMPLE: <https://www.thewiredword.com/samples>

Bringing adult Bible study lessons and class discussions to life.

The lessons presented each week could spark the most stimulating class discussion you've ever had! When you show students that the Bible is alive today by relating it to news events happening here and now, you can make a real difference in people's lives.

Extract hope from the news.

News is inevitable--whether it be good or bad, but what better way to extract hope from this input, is to juxtapose Scriptures as tools to persevere and navigate our daily walk in Christian faith.

No workbooks or student materials to purchase.

All class materials are provided for the teacher the Thursday before Wed. class. You'll receive a weekly lesson email from the lesson leader(s) when you register for that week.

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 with your requests, or contact the church office.



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



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.](#)

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.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FATHER'S DAY CARDS

The Women's Fellowship is selling Father's Day Cards to benefit the Church World Service. Cwsglobal.org CWS helps families around the world recover from disaster, displacement, and build viable sustainable lives and communities.

The Women's Fellowship is once again offering a special gift idea for Father's Day or any other special occasion. Donate a blanket in honor of that special person in your life! For only \$5.00 you can help provide warmth, protection and comfort to children and adults throughout the world. With every \$5.00 donation you provide a good wool or cotton blend blanket.

When possible, blankets are purchased close to the scene of a disaster, to speed delivery and to spur the local economy. You will receive a lovely note card suitable for mailing to the person who is special to you letting them know about the way you have honored them and helped others in their name. Keep in mind you may also order Special Occasion or Memorial cards!

You can order and purchase via our online link below or call the church office at 973-228-0310 to order and mail a check. If you order online, be sure to choose the drop down tab that says "Father's Day Cards/Special Occasion." The number of cards that you order will be mailed to your home for you to personalize for your loved ones.

[CLICK HERE TO ORDER](#)

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.



WORDS TO PONDER FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

"In memory of many, in honor of all."
Thank you!

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*

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: fpcc@firstprescaldwell.org

website: www.firstprescaldwell.org

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

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

MONDAY, May 31st

Memorial Day

TUESDAY, June 1st

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Room 120

WEDNESDAY, June 2nd

8:30 AM RRC Meeting, Zoom Meeting

SUNDAY, June 6th

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

