



# FIRST PRESS

**Sunday, June 13, 2021**

## **RECENT COVID POLICY CHANGES AT FPC**

Not all that long ago, people would use the phrase “The more things change, the more they remain the same.” Recently, when it comes to pandemic guidance, it seems better to say, “The more things change, the more they will keep changing.”

That’s certainly been true of the requirements and guidance from the state and the CDC. Your leadership is putting effort into keeping up with all of this and keeping you informed. Please feel free to use your energy in asking for information if our efforts lag behind your curiosity. Also practice some patience as each public announced change by the state or CDC requires discussion at the church and changes in practice here need to get discussed and then get Session concurrence.

As of this writing, here’s a summary of recent revisions in our church COVID practices that have been made:

- Congregational singing, spoken responses and prayers can be done indoors with people masked.
- Outdoor worship no longer requires masks even for congregational singing.
- Social distancing must be maintained between unvaccinated people at all times. If you do not know the vaccination status of an individual, maintain social distance.
- Vaccinated people can sit with other vaccinated people, not just with people from the same household.
- Activities other than worship or worship preparation can be planned, both indoor and outdoor. The size of the activity will determine if the parlor, chapel or sanctuary will be the suitable site. While the Nursery School is in session, rooms in their wing are not available during the week. While the Nursery School is in session there can be no use of the bathrooms.
- Guidelines for off-site indoor and outdoor activities are in process.
- Currently the Session has not voted to require proof of vaccination or to restrict participation to those who have been vaccinated.

We intend to fulfill our Christian calling to love our neighbor and to care for, as Jesus said, “the least/most vulnerable of these.” That is why we encourage and welcome all ready to re-gather in a setting we worked to make safe. That is why we continue to require masks indoors. That is why worship will continue both on site and on-line so that not vaccination status, or personal comfort levels, or travel will keep anyone from a worship opportunity.



### **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/>

<https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/indoor-fellowship-hall-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](mailto: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”

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 before each session to receive study materials. [adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org)
- 2) ACCEPT the ZOOM invitation via email 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.



## 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)



### **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.](#)

## **SOUP KITCHEN NEWS**

We have come to the end of another successful Soup Kitchen on both Thursdays and Saturdays. We have assured our patrons that we will be back in full force in September. Mission, Deacons and the Soup Kitchen/Sandwich Night Committees wish to once again thank you for your on going support of these ministries. To our family, friends and congregants, we could not come close to fulfilling our service without you to provide the donations. To our committee, Susy Vivano, Susan Dusingberre, Kaitlyn Heun, Teresa Akersten, Lisa Stein, Laura Schalles and Joyce McGrath. Thank for your on going service to Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen. See you all in September. Stay safe, stay healthy, and God Bless.

## **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FATHER'S DAY CARDS**

The Women's Fellowship is selling Father's Day Cards to benefit the Church World Service. Cswglobal.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. Specifically for Father's Day, donations benefit tool purchases for such things as carpentry and farming. Other special occasion donations will benefit blanket purchases. For only \$5.00 you can help provide tools that empower families and strengthen communities, or provide a good wool or cotton blend blanket to provide warmth and protection to both children and adults.

You will receive a lovely note card suitable for mailing to the person who is special to you letting them know about the way your have honored them and helped others in their name. Keep in mind you may also order Special Occasion or Memorial cards any time of the year!

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](#)

## **DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH PROGRAM OR EVENT THAT NEEDS TO BE ADVERTISED?**

The deadline for the next First Press is tomorrow (Monday) at 3:00pm. We cannot guarantee inclusion of material submitted after that. Please email Lauren Restaino at [lauren@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:lauren@firstprescaldwell.org).

## **CHURCH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS HAVE BEGUN**

The church office will be open on Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00am until 3:00pm and Fridays from 8:00am until 2:00pm. The new hours started on June 2nd and will continue until Tuesday, September 7th.

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

*"God promises a safe landing, but not a calm passage."*  
Bulgarian Proverb

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 - 3PM, F 8AM - 2PM

Office Phone: 973-228-0310

e-mail address: [fpcc@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:fpcc@firstprescaldwell.org)

website: [www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org)

### CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

#### **SUNDAY, June 13th**

##### **Senior Recognition 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

#### **TUESDAY, June 15th**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Room 120

7:00 PM Session Meeting, Zoom Meeting

#### **WEDNESDAY, June 16th**

8:30 AM RRC Meeting, Zoom Meeting

#### **SUNDAY, June 20th**

##### **Father's Day**

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

**"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.**

# Congratulations High School Graduates!

\***Ethan Acquadro**, son of Mark and Tina Acquadro, is graduating from Sparta High School. Ethan is excited to begin his journey with Sacred Heart University with much anticipation, but as they say, “one cannot look forward without looking back.” Reflecting on his years with The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, he has built the foundation to which he will go out into the world and help others. From Ethan’s time working with the youth groups, assisting with Sunday school, lending a hand at the soup kitchen, and his travel with his confirmation class, he has built a strong sense of leadership, love, and faith to take with him into his college life and next chapter. Ethan’s parents are proud of his academic achievements, Music and Arts accolades with Honors Band, and Honors Wind Ensemble, earning him a scholarship to the college of his choice, and his active role of defense for four years playing Lacrosse with New Jersey Thunder Lacrosse League. He has shown his humble, sensitive dedication to all that he sets out to do, always thinking of others and willing to help. Ethan’s parents are extremely proud of the young man that First Pres and his church family have helped to raise. A special thank you to his mentors and to all that have been the rock to which we anchor our faith. Ethan will study sports medicine/PT at Sacred Heart University in the fall.

**Cailan Compierchio**, daughter of Robin Wallace and Mike Compierchio, is graduating from Verona High School. She has been involved at The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell for four years, participating in the Westminster Choir, Youth Group, Choir Camp, and the Pittsburgh Project. As a part of the Westminster Choir, she has attended three choir tours, traveling to Arizona, California, and Florida. At her high school, Cailan has participated in marching band, concert band, and the Spotlight Players Drama Club. As a member of the marching band, she was named Assistant Drum Major. She is excited to continue participating in various musical and theatre groups in college at the University of Arizona where she will study film and television production. Cailan is a recipient of this year’s John R. and Inge P. Stafford Memorial Scholarship.

\***Mitchell Haddad**, son of Kim and Tom Haddad, and proud big brother to Malcolm and Marshall, is graduating from James Caldwell High School. Mitchell has attended school in Caldwell-West Caldwell since kindergarten. An avid swimmer since elementary school, Mitchell earned four varsity letters swimming for the Caldwell Chiefs, specializing in the 100-yard butterfly. He loves to play, write and record music. At First Pres, Mitchell participated in the Pittsburgh Project, as well as provided technical support for multiple youth performances. He reflects on his days in Sunday school with much fondness. In the fall, Mitchell will attend Manhattan College to pursue a degree in electrical engineering.

\***James Phillips**, son of Donna and Bernie Phillips, is graduating from James Caldwell High School. At The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, James participated in Chapel Bells, Confirmation Class, and the Pittsburgh Project. He was a varsity member of the JCHS swim team, a varsity member of the JCHS Cross Country Team, and a member of the JCHS Band—Alto Sax. James will attend Ithaca College this fall, majoring in communications (television/radio broadcasting).



\***Hayat Pryor**, daughter of Jonathan and Jan Huston-Pryor, graduated from Purnell School where she played tennis and soccer. At FPC, Hayat participated in the Pilgrim and Youth Choirs, including a trip to London with Choir Tour, was part of Youth Club and after confirmation was a Sunday School Helper. Hayat was part of The Pittsburgh Project, Triennium in 2017 and many retreats at Johnsonburg. Hayat will attend Montclair State University in the fall and plans to major in Psychology. Hayat is a recipient of this year's John R. and Inge P. Stafford Memorial Scholarship.

\***Amanda Spinweber**, daughter of Ann and Steven Spinweber, participated in many programs at The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, including the acolyte program, assisting with the kindergarten Sunday school class, sandwich nights, and preparing desserts for the soup kitchen. Her favorite activity at FPC was helping out with the Advent Festival. In her spare time, Amanda sings, plays guitar, writes songs and poetry and creates 2-D art. This fall, Amanda will attend Mason Gross School of Art at Rutgers University with a concentration in drawing and painting.

\***Gianna Suda**, daughter of Gynine and Gary Suda, is graduating from James Caldwell High School where she was involved in many sports throughout the four years including cheerleading, basketball, lacrosse, track and field, and swim. Gianna was chosen to be a peer leader for incoming freshman during her junior and senior years. At FPC, she enjoyed attending The Pittsburgh Project mission trip, and she helped teach preschool and kindergarten Sunday School. Gianna was a counselor for Vacation Bible School (VBS) for a week over the summer, and she participated in many sandwich nights. This fall, Gianna will attend West Virginia University. Gianna is a recipient of this year's John R. and Inge P. Stafford Memorial Scholarship.

**Eliana Valente** is graduating from Cedar Grove High School. At FPC, she has been a part of the Westminster Church Choir since her sophomore year where she met so many new people and learned many things that will help her throughout the years to come. Eliana not only enjoys singing but other activities such as drawing and painting for her own school's set. She truly thanks everyone in the choir for making this one of the best experiences of her life. Eliana will attend Montclair State University this fall.

\***Robert White**, son of Alison and Chuck White, is graduating from West Essex Regional High School where he has been on the baseball team since his freshman year. Robert is a member of the National Honor Society, as well as the Science National Honor Society, and the French National Honor Society. He is actively involved in a variety of clubs, serving as vice president of the French Club, officer for the Robotics club, and member of the Science club. Robert has been an active member of The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell since confirmation. He enjoyed a summer with the Pittsburgh Project and occasional trips to the soup kitchen, and has been a committed teen helper in Sunday School throughout high school. This fall, Robert will attend Syracuse University. He is looking forward to combining his love for sports and interest in data science while pursuing his studies in Syracuse's Sports Analytics program.

**Emily Wynne**, daughter of Dana and Matthew Wynne, has been involved with the Westminster Choir since the eighth grade, performing in the shows, Teenage American Dream, Godspell, Everything Changes, Urinetown, Animals Cabaret, Fiddler on the Rood and Walking in Space. She has also been involved with the youth choirs, volunteering with Cherub and Pilgrim Choirs and helping during Choir Camp and the Christmas Pageant. Emily was a part of her school theater department, marching and concert band, and track and field team. This year, she was inducted into the National Honor Society, the National History Honors Society, the National English Honors Society, the National Science Honors Society, and the International Thespians Society. She hopes to continue her passion for theater and singing in college. This fall, Emily will attend William Patterson University.

**\* Member of The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell**

