



FIRST PRESS

Sunday, September 5, 2021

HAPPY
Labor Day

**JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL LABOR DAY SUNDAY
WITH ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10AM!**

Today, September 5th, we'll observe a special holiday worship schedule. **There will be one worship service at 10am.** Music will be provided by both Barbara Piercy and Scott Westenberger. We will begin our month of acknowledging service to our community by lifting up the many ways our congregation serves our wider community. Communion will also be shared.

Following worship there will be a time of fellowship and food outside. Dads With a Mission will be grilling hot dogs and an alternative choice, beverages will be available. Appropriate health guidelines will be followed in the preparation and serving. Feel free to bring a lawn chair or towel to sit on.

REGULAR IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Sanctuary Service at 9:30am in the Sanctuary
Illuminate Service at 11:00am in Fellowship Hall

Advance registration, at this time, is not required. All registration will be done on-site, beginning at 9:00am for the Sanctuary service, and 10:30am for the Illuminate service. Updated indoor worship guidelines are available through the link below.

Please review the guidelines prior to arriving at either service.
<https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/indoor-worship-guidelines/>

Worship online any time via livestream by clicking the links below.

[9:30am Livestream Sanctuary Service on Facebook](#)

[9:30am Livestream Sanctuary Service on Livestream Website](#)

[11:00am Livestream Illuminate Service on Facebook](#)

A 9/11 PASTORAL RESOURCE FROM PASTOR BILL

I remember 9/11/2001 as a time that one of the anchors of a sense of security in life was shown to be more tenuous than I had realized. Since that time, the 2 decade long decline in church participation across the board, the pandemic, the events of Jan. 6 have added to a sense of tenuousness of other formerly secure anchors in my life.

The presence of our Lord with us and the foundation that comes through God's word in scripture are still firm. Therefore I share this resource for people to reflect on in this time before Sept. 11. The author, Bill Tameus has also written material for The Thoughtful Christian, part of our PCUSA publishing arm. Below is part of the introduction of the material

"This week our nation will observe the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. For The Wired Word editorial team member Bill Tammeus the anniversary is especially poignant because his nephew, Karleton Fyfe, was a passenger on the first plane to smash into the World Trade Center. Like others whose loved ones died on that catastrophic day, Bill has struggled to come to terms with the murder of a loved one and with the larger issues that terrorism presents to our world.

... We have asked Bill to write this lesson, not in the dispassionate words of a journalist (which Bill is), but in his own first-person voice"

<https://blog.homileticonline.com/special-installment/september-11th-sunday-school-lesson/?fbclid=IwAR2IITXZzuas4RBwstwPFRk0Wicb3cRoHI9x6VYGYHyrqI7i-JAJhPAzq90>

IN-PERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS ON KICKOFF SUNDAY

We are very excited to be back in person for Sunday School this year! Our first day will be on Sunday, September 19th during the 9:30am service. Registration forms will become available soon on our website and via email. All grades (preschool through 7th) will leave the worship service together and we will have one classroom in the chapel. Masks will be required for all.

We will enjoy a Sunday School Kickoff Celebration on the church lawn following the 9:30am worship service. Join us for an ice cream truck and lawn games. Please email Susan Jones at sjjones127@yahoo.com if you have any questions.



THIS YEAR'S AUCTION POSTPONED

Every two years First Pres has held an auction to support its mission charities. This spring we scheduled our 5th auction, and were forced by COVID-19 to postpone it to this fall hoping that vaccinations and responsible behavior would allow us to gather once again. We are committed to an event that would be fun and community-building as well as a fundraiser. COVID-19, and more significantly the Delta variant, continue to spread. As a result, we have decided to postpone the auction until April 30, 2022.

The escalation of COVID cases, masking requirements, the present limit of 40 people in Fellowship Hall and a concern about the logistics of holding the event inside or outside led us, regretfully, to make this decision. We hope you will continue to think about donations, both services and goods you might provide and donations from businesses you frequent. Do not hesitate to let us know at any time in the next months about what you might contribute. We are optimistic that our spring auction will be a fun event that will generate needed support for our mission partners: The Caldwell Food Pantry, The Community Foodbank of NJ, Oasis, Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen, St. John's Soup Kitchen, Urban Promise, and African Dream Academy. Thank you for your continued support.

Gratefully,

Jack Dusinberre, Ellen Johnson, Susan Jones, and Lydia Spinelli
The Auction Co-Chairs

PEDAL FOR PROMISE

UrbanPromise wanted to take the time to send a personal invite to First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell Church Family! UrbanPromise would love if you all could join us again for Pedal for Promise on Saturday, October 2nd! Your participation in Pedal for Promise will both raise awareness and help us reach our goal of \$100,000 to provide Camden teens with innovative, safe, quality education.

The below link has additional details:

<https://urbanpromiseneewsubscriberslist.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/y/B6C265831BC1D8292540EF23F30FEDED/49CBD9CCC4C909AE81176E9AA71FFAE9>

PS: Also, Please SAVE THE DATE: As UrbanPromise is planning a Missions Day on Saturday, September 18!



SOUP KICTEN NEWS

Thank you to our friends and church family for making last year's soup kitchen so successful. We are very excited to be back for our 2021/2022 Soup Kitchen season serving Our Lady of the Valley on the fourth and fifth (when applicable) Saturday of each month and every Thursday.

Menus are now available for all Thursdays during the month of September. [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.

SERMON SERIES AVAILABLE THROUGH ADULT EDUCATION

FPC Adult Education is very excited to make available this ongoing sermon series from Brewster Baptist Church (BBC) in Brewster Massachusetts. This 66-week journey through all the books of the Bible is an opportunity that addresses the desires of many Christians who are seeking to find a rich and enjoyable way to engage the entire Bible in a very doable way.

Be it your first time through or a revisit, this series is intended to help you come into relationship with the full story of God's Word and realize his persistence in leading us to be in relationship with him. And it is flexible! The series is broken into parts that help us reflect further about specific books of the Bible and how to understand them. Part 1 of this series covers the first 5 books of the Bible and is called "Choices that Change Us."

If you are interested in these weekly messages from gifted messenger, Pastor Doug Scalise, you will learn about significant themes and people in a manner that gives us wisdom and knowledge about how to live as God desires us to live. For more information, [CLICK THIS LINK](#).

ADULT EDUCATION - WE NEED YOU!

Help us to make Adult Education a vital and responsive ministry for First Pres members and our community. A robust participation in answering this questionnaire is an important way to help secure the future of this ministry and, we believe, a key component to the future of our iconic church on the corner that has served for more than 200 years.

We include a variety of questions to help us understand much that has been difficult to discern during the past year. Particularly we need to be knowledgeable about your awareness of what we are offering, the convenience or inconvenience of our studies, and your interest level in the different topics we have covered, and the venues for participation.

[Click here to access our questionnaire](#). Thank you for helping us help you!

THE 13TH ANNUAL
BOARD OF DEACONS YOUTH MISSION

GOLF OUTING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2021: REGISTER NOW

Please join us!

Register at: <https://www.dixongives.com/boarddeacons>

The friendly 4 player/best ball team format guarantees an enjoyable day, regardless of skill level.

- Individual \$175
Foursome \$165 per golfer (\$660)
- Early-bird Special: **10% discount before September 1st.**
Codes: For foursome: EBST21
For individual: EBSI21
- 11:30am – 1:00pm: Registration
Putting Contest
Grill Lunch
Shotgun start
- Great Awards & Prizes during the buffet dinner

All are Welcome!

Any questions please send an email to golf@firstprescaldwell.org.

PICKLEBALL HAS RETURNED!

Adult pickleball takes place in Fellowship Hall every Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00pm. A new schedule will be announced soon. Registration will be required in advance. In order to participate, a player must register their contact information and proof of vaccination. Please e-mail these items to christine@firstprescaldwell.org. You only need to do so **once** to be included on the registered player list.

Laudato Si

The Care of Our Common Home



by Pope Francis

SPONSORED BY

THE WEST ESSEX MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

Thursday, September 23, 2021

7:00pm - 8:00pm ZOOM

Hosted by **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CALDWELL**
326 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Thursday, September 30, 2021

7:00pm - 8:00pm ZOOM

Hosted by: **CONGREGATION AGUDATH ISRAEL**
20 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

7:00pm - 8:00pm ZOOM

Hosted by: **SAINT ALOYSIUS CHURCH**
219 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Laudato Si' is a call to all people of faith to look at creation
as a **GIFT** from the Creator.

A **GIFT** we all share. A **GIFT** we all need. A **GIFT** we must all protect.

STUDY BOOK CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH AMAZON \$3.50

On Care for Our Common Home Group Reading Guide to Laudato Si'

By: Bill Huebsch

Register early by September 15, 2021

Space is limited.

This is the link for the WEMA Laudato Si' study.
<https://forms.gle/DaFy8UPLnfvZuzXr6>

WE'RE LETTING THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG

Imagine a friend asks you to describe your church. What would you say? Chances are your answer would come from what you like about the church and what you have experienced, but no one person could give a full picture or know how other people feel. Until now!

Now you can help us change that as we "let the CAT out of the bag." CAT stands for Congregational Assessment Tool. This online instrument (also available on paper) will help our church gauge the strength, vitality, and trends in our church. The information gained from this assessment will be valuable in helping our church make decisions about the future and what skills to look for in our next called pastor.

From now through mid-August, our CAT survey is available online and on paper as needed. Our preference is that you complete and submit the survey online. If you prefer, you can print the pdf version from the link below, complete it on paper and return it to the church office where we will arrange to have someone enter it online. We can schedule time for someone to help you fill it out either online or on paper. Everyone who is a regular participant in our congregation is encouraged to complete this survey about their faith experience in this church. The more people who participate, the more useful the results will be.

Your CAT survey link is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPCCALDWELLNJ>

Your paper copy of the survey is here: [First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, NJ](#)

The survey is 104 questions. It took a Coordinating Team member 45 minutes to go through the survey and answer all questions online. Please note that you must be complete the survey during one online session. Since you cannot stop and return to finish later, it may be helpful to open the pdf link and read the survey before beginning your online session. After you submit, the site does a good job explaining why the survey is so long and detailed.

If you prefer a paper copy to fill in and do not have access to a printer, please contact the church office (973) 228-0310. One will be mailed or delivered to you.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. This is an important first step in selecting our new pastor. Thank you for your help in making this survey a success!

Offering

Offerings will continue online at www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate. Mailed-in donations continue to also be gladly accepted. In addition, there will be baskets at the entry door if people choose to leave donations. Knowing that our income could be impacted, we invite those with extra resources to consider making a special gift.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

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 - 3PM, F 8AM - 2PM

Office Phone: 973-228-0310

e-mail address: fpc@firstprescaldwell.org

website: www.firstprescaldwell.org

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, September 5th

10:00 AM Sanctuary & Illuminate Combined Worship Service, Sanctuary/Livestream

11:00 AM Labor Day Fellowship/Hot Dogs on the Lawn, Church Lawn

MONDAY, September 6th

Labor Day

Church Office Closed

7:00 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, September 7th

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, September 8th

5:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, September 9th

6:30 PM Chancel Handbells, Sanctuary

7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

SUNDAY, September 12th

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary/Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

10:30 AM Lemonade on the Lawn, Church Lawn

11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Facebook Livestream, Fellowship Hall

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

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