



# FIRST PRESS

Sunday, November 7th, 2021

## **WELCOME VISITORS!**

*We are glad you have chosen to worship here today! Please come again!*

*For more information about our church, please visit our website: [www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org).*

**9:30am Sanctuary Service**  
**11:00am Illuminate Service**  
*Sunday School is available at both services except on the first Sunday of each month.*

*Advance registration for in-person attendance is not required at this time. 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 at the following link: <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](#)

## 2021 Turkey Drive



*Share the joy a holiday meal can bring & help feed those in need.*

Saturday, November 20th  
9:00AM - 2:00PM

The collection will take place at FPC and Jack's Supermarket.

### **ANNUAL THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE**

It's that time of year again! The leaves are turning colors, the night air is getting cooler and families are making their holiday plans. Unfortunately, too many families cannot plan their holiday. They are too busy wondering how they are going to put food on the table for the rest of the week. We can help! The Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive takes place on **Saturday, November 20th from 9:00am—2:00pm** in our circular driveway and at Jack's Supermarket. Please help by donating a turkey and canned goods. Last year, the Caldwell community helped over 300 families celebrate the holidays. We hope to help at least that many families once again. The NJ Foodbank uses all donations to assist NJ families who would otherwise have no means to provide a holiday meal. When sitting down to dinner tonight, please say a prayer for those families and help out on November 20th.

### **THANKSGIVING INTERFAITH SERVICE**

Please join us for WEMA's Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, hosted by the West Essex Ministerial Association, including several houses of worship from the surrounding community on Tuesday, November 23rd at 7:30PM at Saint Aloysius Church.

## Expressing Gratitude Together

Recalling the Gospel story of the four people who bring a paralyzed man to Jesus for healing by digging through the roof of the crowded house where Jesus was staying and lowering the man down on ropes, got me thinking about Stewardship here at FPC. The scripture reads, "When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven" (Mark 2:5). Did it ever register that Jesus was talking about the faith of the four friends, not the faith of the paralyzed man who may or may not have initiated the encounter or may have just been along for the ride.

When Jesus witnessed this act of faith, he might have said, "With people like that around, we have something here!". When I looked around the sanctuary or the gym on Sunday mornings, I see volunteers outside to collect coats, or see the committed faces on the recent Zoom session meeting, or hear of the choir's plans, washing pans for soup kitchen meals being taken, see new (to me) faces at worship I have to agree! Some very exciting things are happening at First Pres especially considering the pandemic challenges,—with people like that around, we really do have something special here at FPC!

It makes me grateful to be part of the effort to share and express our faith in this place and time. Continuing to engage in ministry through a pandemic has taken positive and faithful hearts. For those who have such hearts, I am grateful.

A stewardship campaign also requires a great deal of faith and gratitude --not just from some of us, but from the whole group of us together. Our 2022 stewardship theme is "Expressing Gratitude Together." We have faith that if each of us, in gratitude for what God has given us, makes a commitment to sustain our church financially, the sum total of our pledges will be what we need to support our ministry in the coming year.

We have set Nov. 21 as our Pledge Dedication Sunday. [You can record your pledge online by clicking here.](#) We will send cards to those not on our email address list, and you may ask the office to send you one.

"One recent hymn at the first service had us singing together:  
We've been through fire, we've been through rain  
We've been refined by the power of His name  
We've fallen deeper in love with You  
You've burned the truth on our lips."

If not fire and rain, we've been through viruses and masking, distancing and caution. I hope you have felt a deep love in God for seeing us through it all. What's been done will be stepping stones to the future if we respond with gratitude and hopeful spirits. Let us all respond by Expressing Gratitude Together.

From Your Stewardship Committee

## THE FACING RACISM TASK FORCE

The Facing Racism Task Force of The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell is excited to announce an evening Zoom event: “An Evening with Weata and Siata” on **Monday, Nov. 15 from 7:30-9:00 pm**. Weata was the first Academic Director of the African Dream Academy in Monrovia, Liberia. She now works and resides in Georgia, U.S.A. She will share some of the differences in her life in Liberia and in Georgia. Siata, her daughter who lived in Liberia and attended the African Dream Academy until the 5th grade, will share some of her experiences attending public school in the U.S. Lydia Spinelli, an FPC elder and President of the Board of the African Dream Academy Foundation, will be interviewing Weata and Siata during this event. Questions from attendees are welcomed.



Please RSVP by November 14th to [facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com](mailto:facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com) if interested in joining in on what certainly will be an interesting conversation!



## SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

We are excited for November’s schedule—both the Saturday and Thursday Soup Kitchens. This month includes a new and tried recipe from Lenore Voorhis-Hayden. THANK YOU LENORE. We are so excited for our clients to try this delicious new dish.

The pans for November’s Saturday Soup Kitchen are available on the Christian Ed Desk. The Thursday pan sign ups are now available at [www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news). Once again, thank you for all the support you have given this important ministry. Many blessings for a wonderful and safe holiday season.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL THANKSGIVING COLLECTION

Our Sunday School will be collecting Thanksgiving canned/non-perishable foods for the Caldwell Food Pantry during the month of November. Please bring your donations to the Christian Ed Desk on Sundays or during church hours.

## LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

We are looking for individuals or families to light the Advent Candle during the service on the following dates:

December 12

December 24 at 8:00pm Traditional Service

December 24 at 10:30 PM Traditional Service

Please call the church office at (973) 228-0310 or email [fpc@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:fpc@firstprescaldwell.org) if you are interested.



## NEIGHBOR BRIGADE

If you are in need of some assistance during a temporary time of crisis in your life, Neighbor Brigade is here to help you. We provide meals, rides to doctor appointments, dog walking, food shopping, etc. If you need this type of assistance or would like to be a volunteer, please call (973) 321-7353 or contact one of our chapter leaders: Barbara Bruchac, Carol DeFrance, or Sarah Solie.

# OPEN GYM

## **VOLLEYBALL**

Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

## **PICKLEBALL**

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

## PICKLEBALL AND PIZZA IN THE PARK

Come join us for some Pickleball and Pizza in the Park! We will be meeting at the tennis courts in Grover Cleveland Park at 5:30pm on Wednesday nights starting November 10th. Bring a paddle or just yourself and \$5 for pizza! Pickleball in the Park will be open to all Middle and High School students whether you are a seasoned player or are looking to learn a new game. Please register online each week so we know who is interested. We hope to see you there!

## CHRISTMAS MUSICAL 2021

Join your friends at The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell to present the children's Christmas musical, "The Animal Alleluia" for the Family Christmas Service on **Sunday, December 19 at 9:30am**. Wanted are performers and backstage help who are in Grades K – 7 to put together something very special for Christmas. Everyone can be a star!

"The Animal Alleluia" retells the Christmas Story through the eyes of the animals at the stable where Jesus is born and reminds us that even the humblest among us have important gifts to share! The story is told entirely through scripture readings and songs, which allows for maximum flexibility with Covid restrictions of small groups & distancing.

There will be plenty of rehearsals for us to work together and so that everybody can come as often as possible. We will also enjoy fun Advent activities on the Saturdays in December. There are some logistics that we will work out together with the church session as we continue our ongoing pandemic journey.

### Important Note!!!

Participants must wear masks to rehearsals. All rehearsals & activities are pending approval by the church Session and will be confirmed in advance. Dates will be available soon on [www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org).

**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](mailto:lauren@firstprescaldwell.org).



Offerings will continue online at [www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate](http://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.

**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**

**ALL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE VIA LIVESTREAM**

**SUNDAY, November 7th**

**Daylight Savings Time Ends**

- 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting
- 11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Fellowship Hall
- 12:15 PM Prayer Ministry, Chapel
- 5:00 PM Youth Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**MONDAY, November 8th**

- 7:00 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Zoom

**TUESDAY, November 9th**

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Chapel
- 6:00 PM Finance Committee, Zoom
- 6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Deacons, Zoom

**WEDNESDAY, November 10th**

- 8:30 AM RRC Session Sub Committee, Zoom
- 5:30 PM Youth Pickleball, Grover Cleveland Park

**THURSDAY, November 11th**

- 6:30 PM Chancel Handbells, Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

**SUNDAY, November 14th**

- 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting
- 11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 PM Youth Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

## *The Saints of Our Lives*

In the New Testament, “saint” is used to identify all members of Christian churches. Paul usually addressed his letters to “All the saints at \_\_\_\_\_”

In this sense we are all saints. However, we all have people of faith who have had special impact on our lives because of their example and way of living. We want to honor those who have been such saints to you. Below is a list of people who have been saints to our church community members. This list includes individuals who may be living or deceased, family, friends or even strangers whose example has inspired others.

*Alice Hoholik  
Jan Huston Pryor  
Patrick Jeffery  
Ray Liptak  
Joyce McGrath  
Bob McGruther  
Louis Morris  
Karen Nickels  
William Nunnamacher  
Jay O'Hara  
Roland Oliphant  
Helen Oliphant  
Kwadao Ose Bonsu  
Rev. Barbara Jo Piercy  
Mary Lou Pryor  
Reverend Jesseman Robert Pryor Jr.  
Louise Ritscher  
Eric Roemer  
Bob Scarillo  
Laura Schalles  
Rev. Bill Schram  
William Schram  
Elizabeth Schram  
Rev. Dr. Richard N. Sommers  
Dorothy Spanner  
Rob Thiemann  
Hanni Viviano  
Steve Viviano  
Raymond L Walter, Jr,  
Muriel Wilson*