



FIRST PRESS

Sunday, December 12, 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.

9:30am Sanctuary Service
11:00am Illuminate Service
Sunday School and activities are available at both services except 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](#)

ADVENT VESPERS

You are invited for a time of scripture, prayer and meditation during the Wednesday evenings in Advent at 6:30pm - 7pm in the church sanctuary. Enter the sanctuary by coming up the ramp and the door at the top. The sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas and the lights will be dimmed to enjoy the glow of the candles. Prepare your hearts for the coming of the Christ Child during this holy season. A video recording of the service will be posted on the FPC Facebook page later in the evening for viewing at home.



NEW DATE: BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF PEACE AND HOPE

Deacons and Stephen's Ministers invite you to join us at a Blue Christmas Service of Peace and Hope on **Sunday, December 19th at 4:00 PM**. People are welcome to join us in person this year. In a year marked by ups and downs of anxiety, losses, and limitations, let's share in a time of quiet and calm prayer, soft music, and candle lighting.



MESSIAH SING— **DECEMBER 17TH 7:30-9:00**

Enjoy an evening of Christmas music on Friday, December 17 at 7:30pm - 9pm in the church sanctuary. We will be singing the choruses from Handel's MESSIAH and many of your favorite Christmas carols. Soloists will be presenting some of the popular recits and arias from the Oratorio. Accompaniment will be with organ, timpani and trumpet. You are invited to join this event by attending in person or online via Facebook live.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT FIRST PRES

December 19th

9:30am Christmas Family Service & Live Nativity
7:00pm Illuminate presents "An Angel Came Down - A Musical Story"

December 24th

8:00pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service
10:30pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service



LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Help us accommodate everyone who wishes to attend Christmas Eve worship in person. We ask that you estimate how many might be coming and sitting together in your group - one person per group should respond. We know this is an estimate - but that's okay. This will help us to determine if we need overflow spaces and where to set up this technology for remote viewing and participation. Yes, there will be livestream viewing of each service as well. This survey will close on Sunday, December 12. Fill out the survey online: <https://forms.gle/Ho6BJ3tYaV7Yt9W7A>, or fill out the paper form at the end of First Press. Please only fill out one form.

TURTLE BACK ZOO EVENT

Here's a fun way to get in the holiday spirit - Meet your Church Friends at the Turtle Back Zoo at 6:30 on Wednesday Dec 15. Join us as we take a stroll through the Turtle Back Zoo under the sparkling lights of over 50 winter and animal characters. Admission is free but they are asking for a non-perishable food item donation. (Rain Date Thursday 12/16) Please let us know if you will be meeting us there by emailing Susan Jones at sjones127@yahoo.com.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

Yes, it's Christmas for all... The pans are out for December 25th and we are serving our clients on Christmas Day! Please pick up your pan and make this holiday season special for all. May all of our family and friends in the congregations and community have a blessed Christmas season. Thursday's menus are also out and ready for sign up. Please continue your very generous donations during the holiday season. Click the following link to sign up for the Thursday soup kitchens: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f4fa5ad29a0f94-december>

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

NEW REGISTRANTS Contact Barb Bruchac to confirm availability at 973-454-5583

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thank you to those of you who have already submitted your pledge to the work of Christ through FPC for the year 2022. As of December 2, 2021, we have received 56 pledges totaling \$234,325.00. For the 2021 year, there were 124 pledges received, totaling \$414,057.11.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR 2021 PLEDGE ONLINE](#)



Offerings will continue online at www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate.

Mailed-in donations continue to also be gladly accepted.

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 Hicoek, *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: fpc@firstprescaldwell.org
website: www.firstprescaldwell.org

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

ALL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE VIA LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY, December 12th

9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom
10:30 AM Children's Christmas Music Rehearsal
11:00 AM Illuminate Worship Service, Fellowship Hall
5:00 PM Youth Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6:00 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

MONDAY, December 13th

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

TUESDAY, December 14th

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Chapel
6:00 PM Finance Committee, Zoom
6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM Special Meeting of Session, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, December 15th

6:30 PM Advent Vespers, Sanctuary

THURSDAY, December 16th

2:00 PM Crane's Mill Fellowship—Residents Only
6:30 PM Chancel Handbells, Sanctuary
7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

FRIDAY, December 17th

7:30 PM Messiah Sing, Sanctuary

SATURDAY, December 18th

11:00 AM Children's Advent Activities

SUNDAY, December 19th

9:30 AM Family Christmas Worship, Sanctuary
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom
10:30 AM Live Nativity, Church Lawn
4:00 PM Blue Christmas Service, Sanctuary
5:00 PM Youth Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6:00 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:00 PM Illuminate Christmas Worship, Fellowship Hall

Christmas Eve In-Person Worship

Help us accommodate everyone who wishes to attend Christmas Eve worship in person. We ask that you estimate how many might be coming and sitting together in your group - one person per group should respond. We know this is an estimate -but that's okay. This will help us to determine if we need overflow spaces and where to set up this technology for remote viewing and participation. Yes, there will be livestream viewing of each service as well. This survey will close on Sunday, December 12.

* Required

1. Which service(s) are you most likely to attend in-person on Christmas Eve? *

- Illuminate Service at 7 pm on December 19, 2021
- Traditional Candlelight Service at 8 pm on December 24, 2021
- Traditional Candlelight Service at 10:30 pm on December 24, 2021

2. How many people do you anticipate will attend all together with you? (If you will attend more than one service, please indicate how many will attend at each service) *
