



# FIRST PRESS

**Sunday, December 19, 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 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.



## **TODAY: 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. Submit your prayers: <https://forms.gle/GU3iCF1NLwNtg3fe7>



## **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 59 pledges totaling \$236,085.00. For the 2021 year, there were 124 pledges received, totaling \$414,057.11.

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

## 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—Livestream Available

10:30pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service—In-Person Only



## 2021 OASIS GIVING TREE

My heartfelt appreciation to all those that participated in the 2021 Oasis Giving Tree Project. This year we collected an impressive total of 461 items including 48 Pajamas, 29 winter Coats, 21 Fleece & Hoodies, 8 hats & gloves, along with 355 toys to be distributed to the kids at Oasis in Paterson! Thank you so much for being part of this special project now in it's 14th year. — Ellen Elf Johnson

## 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.



## **AMAZON SMILE—SUPPORT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

What's an easy way to support First Pres during the Christmas season, and all year long? Just sign into Amazon using the link below before you start shopping. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to First Pres. [Click here to get started.](#)

# **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

**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.

**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](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, 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  
6:00 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
7:00 PM Illuminate Christmas Worship, Fellowship Hall

***MONDAY, December 20th***

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

***TUESDAY, December 21st***

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

***WEDNESDAY, December 22nd***

6:30 PM Advent Vespers, Sanctuary

***THURSDAY, December 23rd***

7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

***FRIDAY, December 24th***

***Christmas Eve***

8:00 PM Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary & Livestream  
10:30 PM Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary (in-person only)

***SATURDAY, December 25th***

***Christmas Day***

***SUNDAY, December 26th***

9:30 AM Family Christmas Worship, Sanctuary  
10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom