



The First Presbyterian
Church at Caldwell

FIRST PRESS

Sunday, March 6, 2022

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](#)

WANTED: Lay Readers

WHAT: To read scripture or other printed parts of the worship service.

WHY: to remind us that worship is a act of all the people.

REQUIREMENTS: Being able to read in front of the congregation

WHEN: Readers needed at both the 9:30 and 11:00 services

WHERE: At some (but not all- we will rotate) services. Your availability will help determine how often.

If interested contact: fpc@firstprescaldwell.org

Come on people this is an easy way to help out and it gets you in front of a microphone!! Looking forward to getting swamped with volunteers! From the Worship Committee



FACING RACISM TASK FORCE

Rescheduled Event: First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell's Facing Racism Task Force will reschedule the first event in our discussion series (via Zoom) entitled, "What are we called to do?" to occur from 7:30-8:45 pm on Monday, March 21, 2022. A different PCUSA recommended resource will be discussed each meeting. The topic of discussion on March 21st will be A Matter of Faith: A Presby Podcast's Episode 7: Social Media, Protest?, & Does Faith and Politics Mix? <https://amatteroffaith.buzzsprout.com/1648090/8326592-episode-7-social-media-protest-does-faith-and-politics-mix>

To join the conversation on Monday, March 21st, please RSVP by Sunday March 20, 2022 to facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

“WALKING THE WAY OF THE CROSS with Paul”

6 week Lenten Study from Adult Education

Hopefully combination in-person & ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS 7:00 – 8:30 pm March 9th to April 13th

Register by March 6th ADULT.EDU@FIRSTPRESCALDWELL.ORG

Free handouts for each lesson will be emailed to you

Lent is, among other things, a journey on the way of the cross--a journey of learning how to appropriate Christ's teaching about "taking up the cross" (Mark 8:34-35) for ourselves. **This six-session study will look at how one early Christian missionary, teacher, and theologian sought to do just that in his work and in his life.**

Participants will examine a number of passages in Paul's letters in order to reflect on the place of the cross in Christian lives today. They will consider Paul's statements about the cross and its implications not only in themselves but in relation to his practice--including areas where he seems to us to have had difficulty living up to his own ideals.

The aim is to invite you into Lenten reflection and practice centered on the cross of Christ, guided by Paul's own incorporation of the cross into his spirituality. Leaders and participants will have an opportunity to reflect on their own practices of Christian spirituality and ethics in the light of the experience, teaching, and faith of the apostle Paul.

WEEK 1: What does it mean to live in a new creation because of the crucified Messiah

WEEK 2: Rediscover/reclaim what is “foolish” about the Christian message and the Christian life, particularly w/ regard to the crucified Messiah. **See 1 Cor 1:18–31**

WEEK 3: Reflect on the relationship between Jesus and God. • Discuss our understanding about the place of Christ-like humility and obedience in our own lives

WEEK 4: Understand how Paul sees the cross of Christ as a means of spiritual transformation

WEEK 5: Learn Paul’s understanding of the power of the cross. • Reflect on our own weakness and God’s power in us.

WEEK 6: Articulate what the cross means for Christian living.

Dear Fellow Church Members,

You may or may not know that the biennial auction supports most of the Church's mission budget, enabling us to help these wonderful organizations that make a difference to so many people:

Caldwell Food Pantry, The Foodbank of New Jersey, Oasis, Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen, St. John's Soup Kitchen (Sandwich Night), Urban Promise, 7th St. Bistro and African Dream Academy.

We don't want to let our mission partners down so we need our June 11th auction to be a huge success. Our title "Here Comes the Sun" and beautiful photo by our own Rob Thiemann signifies the hope we feel for the future that our congregation will rally to help those who are so much in need. We are hoping you will submit a donation to the auction.



All kinds of items are welcome: jewelry, handbags, new clothes, electronics, and household items, etc.. Please note that items should be new except for jewelry, antiques, art work, china, crystal, collectibles, etc. that people would want to buy. You might have season sports or concert tickets and be willing to give up one event. The businesses you frequent might be willing to donate something. A favorite restaurant might be willing to donate a dinner for four or you might offer to cook dinner in the bidder's home or yours. You might have a vacation home you are willing to donate for a week or weekend or frequent flyer miles you won't use. You might have connections for a children's birthday party. Donations can range from preparing a will or a decorating consultation to making a birthday cake or wrapping Christmas gifts, gardening or mowing lawns.

There are two ways to donate an item. You can do it directly online at the auction website. Or you can fill out and mail in a donation form or drop it off at Church. There will be a box in the back of the Church. If you don't have anything to donate and prefer to send a monetary donation, you can do so on the auction website. Visit www.firstprescaldwell.org for access to the auction website.

If you would like to volunteer to help or have questions, please email: lydia.spinelli@gmail.com.

We are so grateful for your support,

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

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

The Soup Kitchen Committee is looking for help supplying food for Our Lady of the Valley's Thursday Soup Kitchen. Click the link below to sign up to help and download the recipes. Please select any and all slots that you are able to. Drop off will be in the church parking lot on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00pm. If you have any questions, reach out to Joyce McGrath at jlmlamby@aol.com. <https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news>

CALDWELL-OPOLY

The Caldwell-West Caldwell Educational Foundation has created a local version of the classic board game of monopoly featuring local businesses and community organizations, including FPC. We were happy to participate as a sponsor for this fundraiser supporting local education. Sales of the game will benefit the Caldwell-West Caldwell Education Foundation, which provides grants for teachers' special projects in the district. Caldwell-opoly costs \$42 and is available for purchase on the foundation's website at <https://www.cwcef.org>.



NEW MASK POLICY

As of Feb. 27, masks are up to individual choice in worship for fully vaccinated individuals. This accords with the newest CDC risk measurement which placed us in the Green category. (that's good) Changes in our written policies will be discussed this week and changes shared with the congregation.

We acknowledge that for some, this is welcome news. For others, it causes concern or worry. For still more, they are somewhere in between. Wherever you are on the spectrum, let us continue to give each other grace and stay unified in our common mission as a congregation. We also want to remind everyone that our livestream services remain an option for those still uncomfortable with making a return to in-person ministry. Whether you worship or learn or serve online or in-person, we are one church, humbly following Jesus Christ.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR UKRAINE

Join us for a prayer vigil on Monday, March 14 at 7:00pm. FPC is hosting for this West Essex Ministerial Association event and the entire community is invited. Masks are optional. This event will be live-streamed and in person.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Next week, March 13th is Daylight Savings time begins. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour on Saturday night.



OPEN GYM

VOLLEYBALL

Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

PICKLEBALL

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

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

**YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE LIVES OF
ALICE GIBSON & SANDRA HARVEY.**

ALICE GIBSON - Saturday, April 23 at 1pm

We invite you to attend A Celebration of Life of Alice Gibson, Saturday, April 23, 2022, at First Presbyterian Church of Caldwell, Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, New Jersey. The time is one pm. Please send your reservation with the number of persons attending in your party to pbradydan@erols.com.

Also contributions can be made in Alice's name to the Grover Cleveland Association by mailing them to: GCBMA PO Box 183 Caldwell, NJ 07006. In addition, contributions can be made to another of Alice's favorite organizations, UWWE Checks should be mailed to: Diane Vantuno, Treasurer, UWWE, 48 Walker Road, West Orange, NJ 07052.

There will also be a secure box available at the event for those wishing to contribute in person. Since we are expecting many of Alice's friends to attend, we recommend that you place your reservations early. We look forward to sharing a wonderful tribute to our dear friend, Alice Gibson.

SANDRA HARVEY - Sunday, May 22, 11:30am - 2:30pm

Please come celebrate our beautiful mother's life. Sandra Harvey loved being a member of First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell for the past 50 years. It was her wish to have a celebration of her life at the Montclair Golf Club, where she enjoyed many years with her husband David Harvey. Please join us on Sunday, May 22, 2022, from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm at the Montclair Golf Club.

So that we may have the appropriate space available, please RSVP to Nancy Lopus by May 1, 2022. Email address: Lopus253@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Nancy Lopus
Alex Lopus
Margie Jameson

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 FPC

What's an easy way to support First Pres? 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.](#)



Emergency response to Ukraine war



As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work. Our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

GIVE: To support emergency relief for those fleeing Ukraine, designate gifts to DR000156. You can also text PDAUKR to 41444 to donate. Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/UK22, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check using the below reply device.

ACT: Urge the U.S. government to support generous aid for refugees and civilians suffering in Ukraine, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

PRAY: *May we undergird our prayers with tangible resources to help.*

May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly.

May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy.

May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope and peace.

And in this Lenten season, when we walk the way toward death and resurrection, repent our complicity in cultures of violence and renew our efforts toward justice and peace.

-Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



\$500 \$125 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Congregation/PIN _____

Please detach the reply form and return it with your gift to your church; or enclose it in an envelope with your check and mail it to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

UK22-BI

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 March 3rd, 2022, we have received 80 pledges totaling \$291,717. For the 2021 year, there were 94 pledges received, totaling \$324,627.

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

OFFERNIGS

Offerings will continue online at www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate. Mailed-in donations continue to also be gladly accepted.

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.

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, March 6th

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

MONDAY, March 7th

7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, March 8th

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Chapel

6:00 PM Finance Committee, Zoom Meeting

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Deacons Meeting, Hybrid Zoom & in Chapel

THURSDAY, March 10th

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Chancel Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsals, Sanctuary

SUNDAY, March 13th

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

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