



The First Presbyterian
Church at Caldwell

FIRST PRESS

Sunday, January 1st, 2023

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 Contemporary Service
Sunday School and activities are available at both services except the first Sunday of each month. Nursery care is available in the Cradle Room.

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 Contemporary Service.

Updated indoor worship guidelines are available at the following link: <https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/worship-guidelines/>

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

[Livestream on Facebook](#)
[Livestream on Livestream Website](#)



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a brief congregational meeting between worship services at 10:30am on January 8, 2023. The purpose will be to elect officers and Nominating Committee members.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

Have you signed up to prepare a meal for our Thursday or Saturday Soup Kitchen yet? It's very easy. Visit www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news and click on the Thursday or Saturday links. Choose the item that you wish to prepare, click sign/submit. Add your name, phone number and email, scroll down and click sign up. Done! Any questions, please call Laura Schalles (973) 476-8616 or Joyce McGrath (201) 738-6531.

SIGN UP TO HOST COFFEE HOUR

We are asking to have more congregants sign up to host. Kaitlyn will continue to make coffee/set up the coffee each Sunday, but we need someone to bring in and set up the food, milk, and cream, as well as host in room 120 to offer assistance and be a friendly face. If you host coffee hour you are also required to stay and clean up. Please review the calendar and sign up for any dates that work for you. If you have any questions please reach out to Diane Joy at dianejfp@gmail.com or (973)768-4656. Thank you for your help with this ministry of fellowship! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4FA5AD29A0F94-coffee>

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Project 2023 organized by
The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell and Congregation Agudath Israel**

Since 1994, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday has been designated as a national day of service. The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell and Congregation Agudath Israel are teaming up once again this year to invite you to participate in a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Project benefitting the 7th Street Bistro of Memorial West United Presbyterian Church in Newark, New Jersey. This soup kitchen helps to address some of the food insecurity needs of families who live in the West Ward of Newark. We will be collecting requested items to help restock the food pantry of 7th Street Bistro of Memorial West United Presbyterian Church.

Members of Congregation Agudath Israel and First Presbyterian Church will be stationed outside of First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell (326 Bloomfield Ave, Caldwell, NJ) on the circle/staff parking lot to receive drive-by donations: Date: Sunday 1-15-23 Time: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Members of both congregations will also be stationed in the parking lot of Jack's Foodtown (Caldwell) to collect donations. Date: Monday (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) 1-16-23 Time: 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Requested items

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| • Vegetable soup, tomato soup, cream of chicken or cream of mushroom soups | • Potato flakes, spaghetti, rotini, pasta shells, macaroni |
| • Crackers | • Boxes of mac & cheese |
| • Canned tuna fish or pink salmon, canned chicken | • Pasta sauce (any variety), diced tomatoes |
| • Peanut butter, grape or strawberry jelly/jam | • Any prepared canned meals (chili or Chef Boyardee products) |
| • Assorted canned fruit (pears, pineapple, peaches) | • Cold breakfast cereals |
| • Apple sauce (or mixed fruit) | • Variety packs of oatmeal |
| • Canned vegetables: green beans, greens, peas and carrots, corn, spinach, mixed vegetables, sweet potatoes | • Hot chocolate packs |
| • Any juices (especially apple) | • Pancake mix |
| | • Pantry milk/non-fat dry milk |

**If we need to cancel the Monday event (1-16-23) due to inclement weather, the Foodtown collection will take place the following Sunday (1-22-23) from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm at the Foodtown parking lot.

If you would prefer to participate 100% remotely, there will be a donate button for monetary donations towards this project on the First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell's website. We will be happy to do the shopping for you!

We would love for you to partake in this Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Project in whatever way you feel comfortable; and in doing so, assist us to continue to help realize Dr. King's vision of a "Beloved Community."

For questions or more information, please email facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com.

ADULT EDUCATION WINTER NEWSLETTER

Greetings! Our focus this winter and spring is Amazing Grace. Just what is grace, you may ask. It is an unearned, possibly undeserved gift, given freely to the receiver but at a cost for the giver. Gifts have differing values which are contingent on two things: how indispensable the gift is to the receiver, and how costly it is to the giver. For example, an unexpected cup of coffee from a friend is appreciated, especially if we are in dire need of an energy boost to meet a dreaded deadline and, even more so, if your friend is someone you have placed on the back burner for a long time. You have been graced by a friend who overcame hurt and did not allow your ungrace toward them to continue. Both the need and the cost pump up the value of their gift, and, in turn, the relationship with the giver. Grace is truly amazing when it enters into deep hurt, despair, a closed mind, or a hard heart. Even everyday “graces” can be powerful glue to relationships when we don’t let the everyday aspect cloud over the unmerited nature of the gift we’ve received, or the gift’s goodness in our day.

When we consider the mission of First Pres Caldwell to Shine God’s Light, we are talking about sharing the amazing grace of God through the gift of his one and only Son. In Philippians 2: 3-8 the apostle Paul beautifully parses, line by line, the sacrifices Jesus chose, bearing the price of our sins so that we might choose him. Remembering too that there is nothing we can do to lose his love, then how do we respond to such love? Paul also entices us to be grace dispensers: “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” Let the gift of his humility also be ours and invite his Spirit to build in us a desire to respond to others’ “interests” as Jesus does. This issue is about offering grace in a world filled with “ungrace”. Sharing God’s grace can be costly, but it can also be truly amazing for the receiver and the giver.

DOWNLOAD NEWSLETTER: <https://bit.ly/3BJSNge>

WINTER/SPRING BIBLE STUDY “What’s So Amazing About Grace?” by Philip Yancey

For more information about this study, download the Adult Education Newsletter: <https://bit.ly/3BJSNge>

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE:

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO MAKE A PLEDGE COMMITMENT FOR 2023?

Pledging makes it possible for First Presbyterian to discern what commitments to make for the year ahead; it provides church leadership with an understanding of the resources that can be available for those commitments. First Presbyterian asks all new and ongoing members for pledges of time, talent and treasure. There is an expectation that all members will participate with a financial pledge that is meaningful and manageable in their current financial situation. If circumstances change, your financial pledge can always change.

WHY DOES MY GIFT MATTER?

Pledged commitments directly determine what is possible for us to do through mission and service, education and discipleship, and worship and music. Pledging is about more than what we can do. It is also about who we are. Making a commitment and giving annually to the church is one of the ways we express what it means to be disciples and a part of this faith community. By being generous in our financial giving, we express our gratitude for what God is doing in our own lives and in the world.

HOW CAN I MAKE A FINANCIAL PLEDGE COMMITMENT?

If you have already made a financial pledge for 2023, Thank You! If you have not had the opportunity to participate by making a financial pledge for 2023, it is not too late to prayerfully consider doing so. You may submit your pledge online on our church website, www.firstprescaldwell.org. You may also complete and submit a pledge card by placing it in the offering basket during worship or delivering it to the church office. Finally, you may contact the church office directly at 973-228-0310.

VOLLEYBALL

Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

PICKLEBALL

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Thursdays 6:00pm Beginners
6:30 to 8:00pm Mixed level play

NEW PARTICIPANTS

MUST Contact Barb Bruchac at 973-454-5583

AMAZON SMILE—SUPPORT FPC

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

OFFERINGS

Place your offering in the plates are at the welcome tables. Or give 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*

Valerie Shondel, *Interim Music Director*

Kaitlyn Heun, *Interim Director of Youth Ministries*

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 - 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, January 1st

Happy New Year!

10:00 AM Combined Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

MONDAY, January 2nd

Church Office Closed

7:00 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Parlor

TUESDAY, January 3rd

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Parlor

5:00 PM Building & Grounds, Zoom Meeting

5:00 PM Caldwell-4U Basketball, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, January 4th

6:00 PM Sandwich Night, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Yoga, Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, January 5th

5:00 PM Caldwell-4U Basketball, Fellowship Hall

6:00 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, January 8th

9:30 AM Traditional Service, Sanctuary

10:30 AM Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary

10:30 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

11:00 AM Contemporary Service, Fellowship Hall