



The First Presbyterian  
Church at Caldwell

# FIRST PRESS

Sunday, February 5th, 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](http://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 every Sunday 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 Facebook or livestream.com by following the links below.*

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

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH** **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00 AM** **FOLLOWED BY ANNUAL MEETING**

Our annual congregational meeting and receiving of reports will be Sunday, February 5th following worship at 11:00am. To make attendance as accessible as possible, we will have only one worship service on February 5th, starting at 10:00 am. Those physically present at worship are expected to stay for the meeting. Those present on-line can join the meeting through the Zoom link provided below.

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://bit.ly/3Rbj0eb>

Meeting ID: 861 4601 9702

Passcode: 006432

## **SOUP KITCHEN NEWS**

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have signed up to make a meal for our clients at Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen in Orange. Your assistance in this ministry has made a definite difference in the lives of our clients. We now need to ask for more help because our numbers have grown significantly. We have had to up our quantities on all of the items on our menus. If our supporters could continue to sign up and perhaps have a friend or neighbor also sign up for an item or two, we would be grateful for the help. This ministry could not survive without your help, you folks are the backbone of this mission. Sign up to prepare a meal for the Thursday and/or Saturday soup kitchen:  
[www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news).

We also have room for two volunteers to sign up to serve in person on Thursdays. Come with us and see how a smile, kind word and hot meal can make difference in that day for those in need. Come with us and make a difference.

Any questions, please contact Laura Schalles, 976-476-8616 or Joyce McGrath, 201-738-6531

## **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

For over thirty years the Souper Bowl of Caring has been inspiring people across the nation to tackle hunger in their own communities. This has been a rich tradition organized by the youth at First Pres for many years. In 2022, we collected an astonishing \$1,737.37 and 479 items of food for the Caldwell Food Pantry. These numbers were record breaking for FPC! Let's try and beat that in 2023!



The in-person collection will run from now until Sunday, February 12th – Super Bowl Sunday! You may donate online until Sunday, February 19th. Food items, including cans of soup, and cash donations will gladly be accepted during Sunday School, and on Sunday mornings. There will also be a bin at the Christian Ed desk for non-perishable food items. Monetary gifts will also be collected through the Church Office and online. See below for all of the ways in which you can donate!

1. Direct food donations can be made via <https://yougivegoods.com/fpccaldwell2023>. Shop online using the link provided and all donations will be delivered to the Caldwell Food Pantry after the drive is over. Online food donations will be accepted until Sunday, February 19th.
2. Monetary donations will be accepted through the church office. You may mail checks to the church office made out to The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, or drop off a monetary donation during church office hours. If writing a check, please indicate “Souper Bowl of Caring” in the memo. First Pres Caldwell will send the final amount to the Caldwell Food Pantry. Credit card or bank draft donations can be made online via this link <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8WB>
3. There will be a bin at the Christian Ed Desk to drop off canned goods on Sundays and during church office hours. We invite you to be a part of the tradition of using the energy of the Big Game to tackle hunger. Every dollar and food item donated goes to the Caldwell Food Pantry. Thank you for helping make a collective impact on hunger!

## **FEBRUARY FOUNDATIONS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**

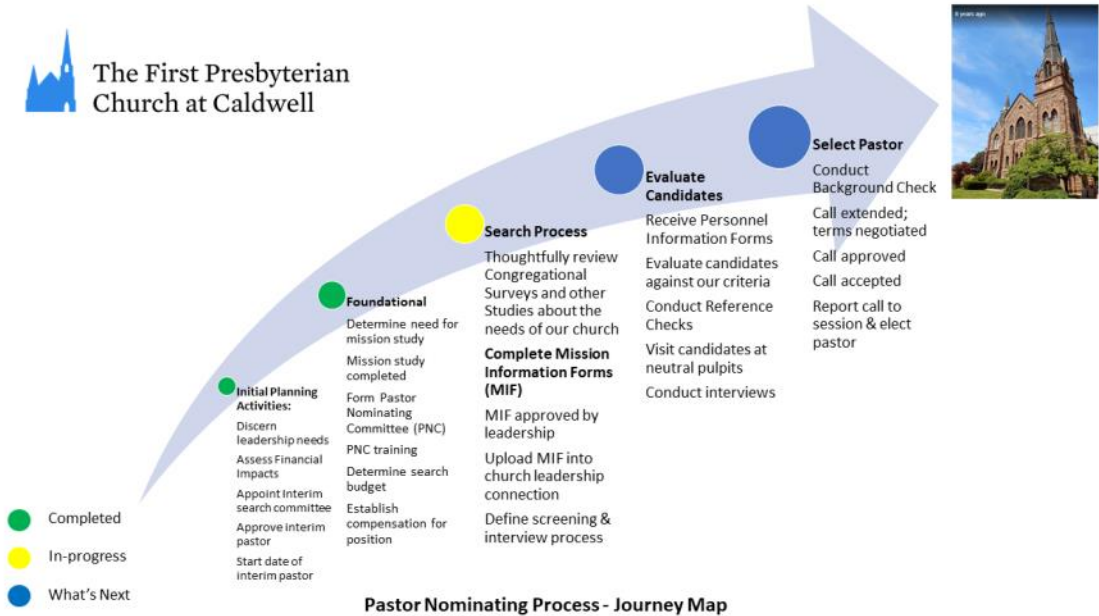
Exciting things are happening in Sunday School for the month of February. First of all, we will have the opportunity to be together EVERY SUNDAY! Yup, that means the first Sunday of each month, which used to be our Family Service, we will do something FUN together as a group. It might be a lesson, a game, a craft... join us and find out what fun things we are doing!

Second, for the month of February we are going to learn about how the Bible is put together. We know there are lots of books in the Bible but do you know how they are arranged or what to expect in each book? Probably not.

Join us for the month of February to learn more about the Bible! Let's explore how this important book is put together – and maybe have some fun while we do. We even have an ‘expert’ coming in to help us understand even more. We hope you can join us for each week in Sunday School!

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Below is a Journey Map created by the Pastor Nominating Committee detailing where they are at in the pastor nominating process. Green indicates tasks that were completed, yellow indicates tasks that are in-progress and blue gives you a look at what is next. Follow along with us!



## OASIS—A HAVEN FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Oasis began a 10-week Rise & Shine Saturday program on January 21. They are looking for volunteers to either assist or help teach a class. (Some of the Saturday classes include Tutoring in Math & Reading, Art, Photography, Sewing). If you are interested in sharing your talents please contact Andrea Johnston at [andreajohnston@oasisnj.org](mailto:andreajohnston@oasisnj.org) or 973-881-8307 ext.121.

There is also a need for volunteers to help out in the nurturing center on the first floor while one of their part-time employees is out on medical leave for several months. The nurturing center has been expanded with the completion of the building addition and is a favorite place to volunteer since this is where the infants are cared for while the moms are taking classes.

Oasis is also in need of groups to make and deliver 200 meal bags with a sandwich, juice box, and snack for students participating in the Saturday Rise & Shine Program. Lunch bags could be delivered on Friday before 3pm or Saturday before 11am. This need for 200 lunch bags will continue through the last Saturday in March. Contact Andrea Johnston at [andreajohnston@oasisnj.org](mailto:andreajohnston@oasisnj.org) or 973-881-8307 ext.121 if interested in participating. Very rough estimate for 200 bag lunches including a snack and juice box \$425-\$500.

## MLK JR. DAY OF SERVICE PROJECT

A big thank you to everyone who participated in and donated towards the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Days of Service Project done cooperatively again this year with Congregation Agudath Israel of Caldwell!

On Tuesday Jan. 17th, members of FPC and CAI were able to bring 5 car loads of donated food to Memorial West United Presbyterian Church in Newark for the 7th Street Bistro. An additional \$671.00 was collected, which will enable additional amounts of requested items to be purchased for and delivered to the 7th Street Bistro in the coming months. The 7th Street Bistro volunteers expressed their gratitude for this influx of contributions that will help their efforts to alleviate food insecurity in Newark's West Ward. A few pictures from the three days of events are attached. Thanks again!



### Online Giving

FPC will be utilizing a new credit card processing vendor effective immediately. You will still be able to access online giving via the updated links on the church website. The new platform is very user friendly with the only inconvenience being that you will need to establish a new account profile. Access directly via link below.

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8WB>

*Please call the office should you experience any difficulties.*

## **SANDWICH NIGHT**

Come one, come all to our next Sandwich Night on February 22nd at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. A wonderful group of Doctors & Nurses from an organization called Marion Rose will be our hosts. This ministry benefits St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark, where we bag 400 to 450 lunches for those in need. If you are looking for a fast paced activity and you want to make a difference in the lives of those in need, come and join us. Family, friends and kids welcomed. See you on the 22nd!

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

Session met January 17th, 2023. We welcomed the newly elected elders. Committee assignments were made for this year and are listed below:

Adult Education - Jeannine Archibald, Bonnie Chiappetta

Communications - Carol DeFrance

Building & Grounds - Anthony D'Annunzio, Steve Willenborg, Mike Bruchac

Church Life - Bonnie Chiappetta, Sharon Baker-Wetzel

Mission - Lydia Spinelli

Finance - Jack Dusinberre

Stewardship - Paul Califf, Jonathan Pryor

Personnel - Roger Johnson, Nancy Hauser

Worship & Music - Richard Heun, Barbara Heuston

### **Other Actions:**

Betty Resch was elected clerk of session and as secretary of the FPC corporation. Lew Wefferling was elected as treasurer of the congregation and corporation. Jack Dusinberre was elected president of the FPC corporation.

A team was appointed to research an active shooter safety/response policy pursuant to a new state law requiring such of public gathering sites with a potential seating of 500 or more.

The Communications Committee reported on progress upgrading our website, and shared proposed website development costs which were approved.

Mission Committee shared recent activities and that planning is starting on a proposed mission trip to the African Dream Academy in Liberia. Target date is 2024.

If you have any questions or want more information, contact Clerk Betty Resch, moderator Bill Schram, or any of the committee contacts.

## **SIGN UP TO HOST COFFEE HOUR**

Coffee Hour is an opportunity for church members and friends to gather in fellowship while enjoying coffee and treats. Coffee hour takes place in Room 120 on Sunday mornings at 10:30am (in between our two service times). We are asking to have more congregants sign up to host coffee hour. Kaitlyn Heun will continue to make coffee/set up the coffee each Sunday, but we need volunteers each Sunday to provide and set up the food, milk and cream. Hosts will also offer assistance and be a friendly face in Room 120. If you host coffee hour, we ask that you stay and clean up, as well. Please review the calendar and consider signing up for any dates that work for you. We appreciate all of our volunteers for helping us to make this a special time for our church community. <http://bit.ly/3XqBYQb>

## **MIDWEEK VINYASA YOGA AT FPC**

Relax, recharge, and renew for the rest of the week by moving through a sequence of poses to increase strength, flexibility, and focus led by Sue Tannler. Join us on Wednesdays at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring a mat and a water bottle. If you have blocks and a strap, scarf, or belt, bring them as well. Please enter through the gym doors in the parking lot. Any questions reach out to Sue Tannler [btannler@gmail.com](mailto:btannler@gmail.com) or 862-684-3673. **No yoga on February 22nd.**

## **DRIVERS WANTED**

The Deacons are involved in coordinating transportation to and from church for church members who are unable to drive themselves. An online sign up form has been created and includes information related to the process for pick-up/drop-off. Please consider signing up to help with transportation for a week or two. <http://bit.ly/3kuNYSj>

## **CAN YOU SPARE A SUNDAY MORNING?**

We've been so excited about this amazing Sunday school year and opening up our Cradle Room for families to bring their little ones this year. If you can spare a Sunday morning, or a few, we would greatly appreciate your assistance! Please take a look at the schedules below, and consider signing up to help us with these important FPC programs.

If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Restaino at [lauren@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:lauren@firstprescaldwell.org).

Sign up for Sunday School: <http://bit.ly/3HBolli>

Sign up for Nursery Care: <http://bit.ly/3H5ybAW>

### **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**



# Expressing Gratitude Together

The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell

## **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](http://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.

## 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](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate). Mailed in donations continue to also be gladly accepted.

Direct link to online giving

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8WB>

## 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).

## **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*

**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, February 5th***

10:00 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:00 AM Annual Meeting, Sanctuary/Zoom

11:30 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

6:30 PM Confirmation Class, Youth Room

### ***MONDAY, February 6th***

7:00 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Bible Study, Parlor & Zoom

### ***TUESDAY, February 7th***

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Parlor

12:00 PM WEMA Luncheon, Chapel

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

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

### ***WEDNESDAY, February 8th***

7:00 PM Yoga, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM PNC Meeting, Parlor

### ***THURSDAY, February 9th***

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

6:00 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room

7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Choir Room

### ***SUNDAY, February 12th***

9:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary

10:30 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

11:00 AM Contemporary Service, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Confirmation Class, Youth Room