



The First Presbyterian
Church at Caldwell

FIRST PRESS

Sunday, October 29, 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 Traditional Service
11:00am Contemporary Service
Sunday School and/or quiet bible-based activities are available at both services. Nursery care is available every Sunday in the Cradle Room.

Worship online any time via Facebook or livestream.com by following the links below.

[Livestream on Facebook](#)

[Livestream on Livestream Website](#)

Note: The online submissions form for The Saints Of Our Lives will close on Monday morning, October 30th.

FOOD PANTRY BINGO & POTLUCK

Join us on **Saturday, November 4th, 2023** for our Food Pantry

Bingo Night & Potluck in Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 6:30pm, first call is at 7:00pm.

Entry fee is food for the pantry, and you get 2 bingo boards. Bring an appetizer, salad or sweet treat to share. All donations go to the Caldwell Food Pantry.



THE SAINTS OF OUR LIVES

In the New Testament, “saint” is used to identify all members of Christian churches. Paul often addressed his letters to “All the saints at _____” In this sense we are all saints. However, we all have people of faith who have had special impact on our lives because of their example and way of living. We want to honor those who have been such saints to you. They can be living or deceased, family friends or even strangers whose example has inspired you.

Those at the 9:30am service can use note cards in the pew racks to record saints in your life. You can place these in the offering plates at the rear of the sanctuary or at the door on the piano side of the sanctuary. Those at the contemporary service can fill out a card at the welcome table and leave it in the offering plate there. You can also leave word at the office, 973-228-0310 or office@firstprescaldwell.org. Online submissions are available here: <https://bit.ly/3QI4zQl>. The collected names will be listed and honored during communion on Nov. 5, which is the Sunday following All Saints Day. This is in addition to our church's tradition of specifically honoring members and close friends of the church who were lost during the past year. Those names will be read separately and accompanied by the ringing of a bell as has been done before.

STEWARDSHIP 2024 - BOLDLY...RESPONSIBLY...FAITHFULLY

Pledge Dedication Sunday is November 19, 2023

Our Stewardship theme this year is “Boldly...Responsibly...Faithfully.” We are asked to act boldly and responsibly in faithfully stewarding our part of Christ’s body into the future. This church has witnessed great acts of caring, wonderful acts of worship, lives changed by experiencing and knowing our gracious Lord and savior. It was accomplished by Boldly, Responsibly and Faithfully using what God has given us in service to Christ. As Jesus said, more will be added to faithful witnesses. In receiving more and using it boldly, responsibly, and faithfully, we shape our church’s future.

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. Pledging is about more than what we can do. It is also about who we are. Making a commitment and giving regularly to the church is one of the ways we express what it means to be disciples and a part of this faith community. Your pledged commitment is a financial investment in the mission and ministry of The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell.

Pastor Schram’s message to the congregation discussed one of the final parables Jesus shared in Matthew and how it applies to our stewardship of God’s gifts. It was sent out by email on October 26, 2023. Members and friends of First Pres received a letter and pledge card in the mail from your stewardship committee this week, which was sent out on October 25, 2023.

Pledge cards are also in the pews. You may complete and submit a pledge card by placing it in the offering basket during worship or delivering it to the church office. You may also submit your pledge online on our church website, www.firstprescaldwell.org by clicking the “stewardship” tab. Finally, you may contact the church office directly at 973-228-0310.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, You call us to be stewards of
Your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us.
Help us to always use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing Your message to those we serve.

OUR CHRISTIAN CALL TO GRATITUDE, GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP

We invite you to read this passage from scripture and to reflect upon God’s call to each of us to be grateful and generous stewards.

Genesis 9:1-3, 16-17 (Noah, the aftermath of the flood and the rainbow) This story is a reminder of God’s generous provision to humanity. God provides for our basic needs and also establishes an everlasting covenant with us. Our response must be one of gratitude and generosity, for this abundant provision. We can be inspired by the image of the rainbow and the reminder that God will provide for us, so we are called to respond generously to provide for the needs of others through stewardship.

FACING RACISM TASK FORCE'S DISCUSSION SERIES:

The Presbyterian Church USA's website states: "Racism is the opposite of what God intends for humanity. It is the rejection of the other, which is entirely contrary to the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ." With that in mind, please join First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell's Facing Racism Task Force this fall as we, guided by the ministry of Jesus Christ, continue to try to unpack the topic of racism. *Listening, Learning, and Moving Forward!*

"Listening,
Learning,
And
Moving
Forward!"

Listening, Learning, and Moving Forward! is a discussion series via Zoom this fall. In each meeting we will discuss three short videos that we ask you to watch before the meeting. The information and perspectives presented in the videos will give us many different possibilities for discussion. Several potential discussion questions will be provided for each session but do not hesitate to add your own. Feel free to attend even if you have never previously attended one of FRTF's discussion series, and, if you can only attend one or two of the discussions, that is fine too. We love new voices and perspectives and just want you to join the discussion. There are two dates remaining in this Monday evening series: **Nov. 13 and Dec. 11**. We will meet via Zoom from **7:30-8:45 pm**. We know you are busy and will try to keep to the schedule! Here are the videos we will be discussing on Nov. 13:

--Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man (episode 2)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwiY4i8xWic>

--Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man (episode 3)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfo1XJDJKSU>

--Fifth Avenue Courageous Conversations: Jessica's Story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lg3RIA7iXQY>

Please RSVP for the Nov. 13th meeting by the morning of Nov. 13th to facingracismfirstpres@gmail.com. You will be sent the meeting's agenda and Zoom link. Finally, we want to thank the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church's Courageous Conversations curriculum for their list of resources which inspired much of this series!!

SANDWICH NIGHT

We are gathering in Fellowship Hall with our hosts, The Women's Club of Caldwell, on **November 15th at 6:00pm** to prepare 400 to 450 bagged lunches to benefit St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark. Come and participate in this fabulous ministry, to meet and share with our neighbors and congregants. Enjoy this fun fast pace event. The record for preparation of these lunches is 30 minutes—can we beat that? Come and see!

SIGN UP TO ACOLYTE THIS YEAR

It's a very special responsibility to bring the light of Christ into the sanctuary for our services of worship. Children in grades 3-5 are encouraged to participate in this wonderful ministry of light. To sign up to be an acolyte, use the following link: <https://bit.ly/3EdAQYq>

MUSIC AT FIRST PRES



*CALLING SINGERS, ACTORS, DANCERS, AND STAGE
HANDS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4 and 17 to JOIN US
FOR.....*

The Christmas Musical

Directed by Sarah Solie

Sunday December 17 10:00 AM

First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell

*Performers between the ages of 4 and 6 are invited to participate and will have a
modified rehearsal schedule TBD.*

SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19: 12-2:30PM Script reading and part assignments

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2: 10am-2pm Rehearsal

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9: 10am-2pm Rehearsal

SATURDAY DECEMBER 16: 10am-2pm Rehearsal

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17: Call time 9:00am. Service & Musical begins 10:00am.

SIGN UP TODAY!!!! By contacting Valerie Shondel at valerie@firstprescaldwell.org

2023 Turkey Drive



*Share the joy a holiday meal can bring
& help feed those in need.*

Saturday, November 18th
9:00am-2:00pm

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 Mondays at 7:00pm in Room 120. 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 or 862-684-3673.

VOLLEYBALL & PICKLEBALL

Join us for volleyball in Fellowship Hall on Mondays from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Our Tuesday night session of Pickleball is currently full; however, new participants are welcome to join us on Thursday evenings. Beginners will play from 6:00pm to 6:30pm. From 6:30pm to 8:00pm, we will have a mixed level play. New participants must contact Barb Bruchac at (973) 454-5583.

SIGN UP FOR COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour is an opportunity for church members and friends to gather in fellowship while enjoying coffee and refreshments. Coffee Hour begins again in Room 120 on September 17th in between the two worship services. Please review the calendar and consider signing up for any dates that work for you to either host or provide refreshments. Sign up using following link. <http://bit.ly/3XqBYQb>

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

It's almost November and the holidays are fast approaching. The joy of gathering for Thanksgiving with family and friends for turkey, pumpkin pie, laughter, football and being together is right around the corner. With all of this, we still need to remember folks who do not share what we are fortunate enough to have. So, as we come closer to the holidays, consider signing up to make a meal. A smile, a kind word, and a hot meal goes a long way. Pans are on the Christian Ed Desk. Thursday and Saturday soup kitchen sign ups can be found at www.firstprescaldwell.org/soup-kitchen-news. If you wish to volunteer at OLV, please reach out to Joyce McGrath 201-738-6531 or Laura Schalles 973-476-8616. HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR UPCOMING CBA EVENTS.....

December 17 FPC and CBA Christmas Pageant

December 22 Live Nativity & Caroling

August 5-9, 2024 CBA Musical Theater Camp



Sunday School Assistants Needed

Sign up for one or a few Sundays
at www.firstprescaldwell.org.

PNC: NEW PROCESS for referring applicants for our next installed Pastor

After navigating PC(USA)s launch of the new CLC call posting system, potential candidates should be directed to apply online via the following link: [Church Leadership Connection](#)

To navigate directly, go to <https://clc.pcusa.org/login>. On the left under Discerning Your Call, enter NJ to Select State and press Search. On the Opportunity Search Results screen, type "Caldwell" in the City field and press Update Search. Our listing will appear. Feel free to follow the link and View MDP for an understanding of qualifications.

Please note that the PNC operates confidentially. Therefore, we are not able to share status updates on any referred applicants.

ROVING REPORTERS NEEDED

"If a picture is a worth a thousand words, then a video is worth a million." First Pres is looking for roving reporters to help us with capturing our services, programs and events via photos and/or videos. If you take any photos or videos at FPC, please email them to Lauren at lauren@firstprescaldwell.org.

SINGERS: Teenagers to adults. NO experience needed. Come ***SING*** with us!!

BELL RINGERS: Teenagers to adults. NO experience needed!! Come ***RING*** with us!!



CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: Teenagers to adult performers looking to join the Contemporary Service Musicians! Come ***JOIN*** us!

The Caldwell Food Pantry is in need of donations.

Please consider donating the following items to help your neighbors in need. Items include canned tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, rice, beans, canned veggies, kids snacks, coffee. Place your donation in the red shopping carts in either entrance of the sanctuary.

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.



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>

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, *Director of Music*

Kaitlyn Heun, *Interim Director of Youth Ministries*

Amanda Lecuona, *Youth Education Coordinator*

Scott Westenberger, *Worship Leader*

Lauren Restaino, *Communications Coordinator*

Christine Brunner, *Office Manager*

Chris White, *Building Manager/Head Sexton*

Celesta Silvera, *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, OCTOBER 29th

9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary

10:30 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

11:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service, Chapel

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30th

6:30 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Yoga, Room 120

7:00 PM Additional Choir & Handbell Rehearsal

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31st

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Parlor

6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1st

4:00 PM Thursday Soup Kitchen Drop Off, Staff Lot

7:00 PM PNC Meeting, Parlor

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd

6:00 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room

7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4th

6:30 PM Food Pantry Bingo, Fellowship Hall



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5th

9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary

10:30 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

11:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service, Chapel

12:15 PM Church Life Meeting, Parlor