



The First Presbyterian
Church at Caldwell

FIRST PRESS

Sunday, November 5, 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](#)

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!

2023 Turkey Drive



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

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

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE

It's that time of year again! The leaves are turning colors, the night air is getting cooler and families are making their holiday plans. Unfortunately, too many families cannot plan their holiday. They are too busy wondering how they are going to put food on the table for the rest of the week. We can help! The Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive takes place on Saturday, November 18th from 9:00am—2:00pm in our circular driveway and at Jack's Supermarket. Please help by donating a turkey and canned goods. The NJ Foodbank uses all donations to assist NJ families who would otherwise have no means to provide a holiday meal. When sitting down to dinner tonight, please say a prayer for these families and help out on November 18th.



2023 Christmas Giving Tree Project for Oasis, A Haven for Women & Children

Please be an angel this holiday season and bring some joy and Christmas spirit into the lives of those less fortunate by participating in our Oasis Giving Tree Project. We will have our traditional tree with gift tags set up outside the church office as well as a gift registry at **AMAZON.COM** where you can see a list of over **1000** items including toys, winter coats, & pajamas for you to select from in a variety of prices. The easiest way to access the Registry is by clicking on the link directly:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/1HJN4PRFE4GNG>

You can also access the gift registry by using the following steps:

*Go to [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

*Click on the Registry- Gift List tab button.

*Under “Find a Registry or gift list-search by Name” enter OASIS A Haven for Women and Children *This will bring you to the Oasis gift registry.

Once you select your item and put it in the cart, **be sure to select the Oasis Gift Registry address** to send all items directly to Oasis at 59 Mill St. Paterson. **Last day to order from the Registry will be Thursday, Dec 7th to provide enough time to process & ship your gifts to Oasis.**

This year we are offering a “hybrid” collection so you may either order items online at Amazon or select a tag from the Giving Tree located by the Christian Ed Desk and purchase an item and drop it off in the red collection bin at church **December 10th**. As a reminder, gifts should not be wrapped and we are only collecting NEW ITEMS for the Christmas Giving Tree Project.

You can also make a financial donation by going to the church website and clicking on the drop-down tab labeled DONATE and from there another drop down which will show you the OASIS Giving Tree Project. You can also send in a check made payable to First Pres Caldwell and be sure to put in the memo section Oasis Giving Tree. All monetary donations must be received no later than **DEC 1ST** to allow us to shop on your behalf. **Last day to order from the Registry is Dec 7th and drop off gifts in person at church will be Monday Dec. 10th** to provide enough time to process & deliver your gifts to Oasis.

Thank you for your continued support & generosity of the Oasis Giving Tree Project! Please feel free to contact Ellen “Elf” Johnson at johnsonellend@gmail.com if you have questions or need any assistance.

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.

Psalm 24:1-5 (The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it) Similar to Genesis 1, this Psalm reminds us that everything we have is from God. But then it takes us a step further and tells us that to see God face to face, we cannot lift up our souls to what is false. Money and consumerism can easily become a false idol. We are called to recognize that all we have comes from God. Acknowledging God’s abundance and provision, and then sharing generously from that provision will help us move in the direction that Psalmist tell us to, to have clean hands and pure hearts. And we are promised blessing, vindication and salvation when we do that.



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
COOKIE WALK

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
9AM-NOON**

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
(GYMNASIUM, BOTTOM FLOOR)

*All proceeds will go to support the good works
of the First Pres Deacons.
All are welcome!*



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell
326 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07044 (973) 228-0310

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.

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!

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

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!* 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:

**"Listening,
Learning,
And
Moving
Forward!"**

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwiY4i8xW1c>

--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!!

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>

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 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Children and Youth Ministry Committee is excited for this Sunday School year! If you can spare a Sunday morning, or a few, we would greatly appreciate your assistance! Please take a look at the schedule below, and consider signing up to help us with Sunday School! <https://bit.ly/3FHQBba>

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](https://clc.pcusa.org)

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.

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>

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, 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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

- 6:00 PM Buildings & Grounds, Zoom
- 6:30 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Yoga, Room 120
- 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study, Parlor

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 6:30 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8th

- 4:00 PM Thursday Soup Kitchen Drop Off, Staff Lot
- 7:00 PM PNC Meeting

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9th

- 6:00 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room
- 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12th

- 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