



The First Presbyterian
Church at Caldwell

FIRST PRESS

Sunday, October 19, 2025

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

Upcoming Worship Schedule

10 am Traditional Service
5 pm Contemporary Service

Sunday School for children in preschool through 6th grade will begin again in the fall.

Nursery care is available every Sunday in the Cradle Room.

Worship online any time via our YouTube account which is available on our website. www.firstprescaldwell.org

PLEDGE! PLEDGE! PLEDGE!

Please take the next few weeks to faithfully consider how you can pledge to the church in 2026. Last year, our goal was \$240,000. We didn't just meet that goal, we reached \$266,000! Unbelievable! Now, we are aiming for a new goal: \$305,000. I know it sounds like a massive jump. After all, it's about a 14% increase. But even if a few more pledge this year, I have no doubt in my mind that we will reach that number and may well go even higher! You can use this QR code to pledge:



HARVEST DINNER

October 19th 6:00pm Please Join us for our Harvest Family Dinner with an Octoberfest flare. We will be serving Brats and salads with Apple & Pumpkin Pie for dessert.

Due to the menu we are asking that you let us know that you will be joining us.

Please RSVP either via the below link, the QR code, or by calling the church office 973-228-0310.



THE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL!

Open to performers ages 4-13
Rehearsal begins November 9
Performance Sunday December 14, 10AM

For more information go to:
www.caldwellbroadwayarts.org
to register scan the QR code
or contact Valerie Shondel, Director of Music:
valerie@firstprescaldwell.org



JOHN J. CALI SCHOOL OF MUSIC CONCERT!

The Broadway Repertory Orchestra
Directed by Chad Smith
Will be at First Pres on November 17th at 7:30 PM
They will be performing Broadway hits from:
Gypsy, Company, Baby, Funny Girl, and more...
Free and open to the public!

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteer nursery help on Sundays for our 10am and 5pm services. Please consider giving an hour of your time to make sure that we can provide a loving space for our youngest worshipers each Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet on the door, and for any other questions please ask Amanda!

FALL FESTIVAL!

Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 12-4pm Rain or Shine
Fundraiser featuring food by Cloverleaf Tavern
Live Music, Games, Halloween Costume Contest,
Indoor Vendor Fair Event.
Entertainment by Mr. Magico the Magician

CLOTHING DRIVE!

It is that time for our second clothing drive of the year! Just like last time, we are accepting any We'll be collecting clean, gently used clothing. Since 80% of St. John's guests are men, we do want to stress the importance of donating men's clothing. Disposable rain ponchos are also a much needed item for all.

Our planned donation dates are from Sunday, October 26th through Sunday, November 9th. The donation bin can be accessed 24/7.

As always, the Deacons thank the congregation for their continued support of this mission. Joyce and I would like to encourage you all to prayerfully consider joining us on the Board of Deacons. We can always use more folks who are willing to join us, and serve not only the FPC community, but the community beyond.

LEAVING A LEGACY OF LOVE

Helping you properly prepare for the day you join the heavenly banquet

On Saturday, October 25, 2025, the Stewardship Committee will be hosting an end-of-life seminar called "Leaving a Legacy of Love".

We will begin at 10 am with bagels and coffee in Room 120, and the seminar will begin at 10:30. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and we expect to finish no later than noon.

Four speakers, including Pastor Houtz, will discuss end-of life issues, which you and your family may face. These include church and funeral matters, as well as medical, legal and financial considerations.

The seminar is free, and all are welcome from our church and community alike, so please invite anyone you know who may benefit from our seminar.

In order to allow us to anticipate the number of people attending, please click on the QR code below or call the church office at 973-228-0310 to let us know you plan to attend.

However, pre-registration is not required, so you may attend even if you are unable to let us know in advance.



SANDWICH NIGHT ANNOUNCEMENT

Sandwich Night is next month on Wednesday, November 12th, starting at 5:30pm, in Fellowship Hall. At Sandwich Night we prepare over 400 bagged lunches to benefit those in need at St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark. When you participate, you get to spend time with new and old friends. And it usually only takes one hour! Everyone is welcome to join in this wonderful mission!

SOUP KITCHEN ANNOUNCEMENT OCTOBER

We want to thank everyone who has donated food to the Soup Kitchen. We hope that more people will consider donating food so that we can continue to provide delicious meals for the growing number of patrons at Our Lady of the Valley Soup Kitchen, in Orange, NJ. We serve meals every Thursday and the 4th and 5th Saturday of each month. Please check the website to see how you can help. If the drop off times are inconvenient, food can be delivered to church during office hours. If other arrangements are needed or you have any questions, please call Laura Schalles at 973-476-8616.

HANDICAP AND MOBILITY CHALLENGED PARKING FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

In order to make more parking available, that is in close proximity to the church, the staff and musicians will not be parking in the staff lot or circle driveway. **These spaces will be reserved for anyone truly in need of close parking accommodations.** We ask that all others park on the street, the non-permit spots in the lot behind the diner, or in the community center parking across the street next to the firehouse.

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 7pm 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 6:00pm to 8:00pm Volleyball is open to all ages 18+. Our Tuesday night session of Pickleball is currently full; however, new participants are welcome to join us on Thursday evenings. Beginners will play from 6pm to 6:30pm From 6:30pm to 8pm, we will have a mixed level play. New participants must contact Barb Bruchac at (973) 454-5583.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets every other Monday. Next meeting, in the parlor and zoom, is Monday October 6th. Please call Barb Bruchac at (973) 454-5583 with any questions.

OFFERINGS

Offerings will be collected during worship. If you prefer, you may give online at:

www.firstprescaldwell.org/give.

Mailed in donations are also 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 3pm, we cannot guarantee inclusion of material submitted after that.

Please email Dennis Velez at dennis@firstprescaldwell.org.

OUR STAFF

Rev. Christopher Houtz, *Pastor/Head of Staff*

Valerie Shondel, *Director of Music*

Christine Brunner, *Office Manager*

Chris White, *Building Manager/Head Sexton*

Amanda Lecuona, *Director of Youth Ministry & Christian Education*

Erika Hallenbeck, *Contemporary Band Leader*

Dennis Velez, *Communications*

and Outreach Engineer

Brittany Heun, *Sunday Receptionist*

Kaitlyn Heun, *Sunday Sexton*

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

SUNDAY, October 19th

10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

11:30 AM Church Life Meeting, Parlor

3:00 PM Contemporary Rehearsal, Chapel

5:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service, Chapel

6:00 PM Harvest Church Dinner, Room 120

7:00 PM Euphonium Concert, Sanctuary

MONDAY, October 20th

6:30 PM Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Yoga-Vinyasa, Room 120

7:00 PM Woman's Bible Study, Parlor/Zoom

TUESDAY, October 21st

6:00 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Dapper Dans Rehearsal, Chapel

7:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 120

WEDNESDAY, October 22nd

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Parlor

THURSDAY, October 23rd

6:00 PM Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Handbell Room

7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

FRIDAY, October 24th

5:30 PM AA Meeting, Room 120

SATURDAY, October 25th

7:00 AM Men's Basketball, Fellowship Hall

8:00 AM Dads with a Mission, Rockin' Joe Café

10:00 AM End of Life Planning, Room 120

SUNDAY, October 26th

10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary

10:45 AM Bible Study Adults, Chapel

10:45 AM Bible Study Children & Youth, Room 207

11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Room 120

3:00 PM Contemporary Rehearsal, Chapel

5:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service, Chapel

5:45 AM Bible Study Adults, Chapel

5:45 AM Bible Study Children & Youth, Room 207