

The Seeker

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A message from our Pastor



This is my favorite time of year. The air is cool, the leaves have color, football is on TV, and Natalie is busy in the kitchen baking the world's best pumpkin bread (I have to say that, but I do believe it)! Now usually her bread turns out perfect, but every once in a while she will open the oven and find a loaf sunken in the middle that simply didn't rise. Now this isn't just an appearance problem, the taste is also negatively affected and we generally throw out the loaf. I once asked Natalie what she did differently or if she didn't follow the recipe exactly and I got a dirty look! She told me the problem was not with her, it was with the yeast. She said, "If the yeast is dead it doesn't react like it should and the dough will not rise properly."

I of course had no idea what that meant, so I went to the source of eternal truth for the technology generation....Wikipedia. As it turns out, the significance of yeast in the baking process is not the yeast itself. Yeast is small and has no color or taste. What makes it important is the "action" that it brings to the dough. Through the relentless activity of this microscopic organism, sugars are broken down and carbon dioxide is released, which expands the bread to produce the light, fluffy texture and makes it "rise". If the yeast is no longer active, it's serves no purpose to the process.

Being who I am and what I do, I couldn't help but make the connection to theology, because this is a perfect description of our life of faith in Jesus Christ. Faith is the yeast, it is never static; it's something that is active and alive within us. Our relationship with Christ is a transforming presence that changes everything about us and has a real affect on how we live our lives. Our faith should naturally rise up and elevate to a level of great importance in everything we do. But, like yeast, if this faith is not active then it does us and those around us no good. There is no point to it; it leaves a big, sunken, guilt-ridden hole in our life.

That is why I encourage each of you this fall to be a more active participant in your walk with Christ. It is very tempting in our busy schedules to simply show up for worship one hour on Sunday morning (or not at all) and put God on the back burner the other 167 hours in the week. But our life in Christ should be dynamic and active and should and could be a higher priority in each of our lives. So I challenge you to find the time to study the Bible, devote more time and energy to prayer, get actively involved in a service or mission project, something more to elevate Christ in your life. Without an active faith the Gospel will “go flat” within us and it will cease to be the dynamic, life transforming, nourishing, guiding, leavening force that it is intended to be. We will cease to be the leaven that we were intended to be in the loaf of the world.

So if your life is feeling a little sunken in and hard to swallow, allow yourself to be “re-infected” with the yeast of the Good News of Jesus Christ, it just might be the cure!

See you in Church!

Pastor Chad

**Fall Rummage
and Bake Sale**

This year's sale will be Thursday, Oct 18th 4-8PM, Friday, Oct 19th 2-6PM and Saturday

Bag Sale will be 9-11AM.

Set up will be after the service on Sunday 14th. Please plan to stay for an hour or so to help.

Items for the sale will be accepted Sun 14th until noon, and Mon 15th, Tue 16th, and Wed 17th from 8:30AM to 6PM.

PLEASE IF POSSIBLE - WHEN YOU DROP OFF ITEMS FOR THE SALE STAY AND SORT AND PRICE THEM.

Expect a call from Laura, Kathy, or Pastor Chad – We need help and will be calling the congregation to ask for an hour or two of your time.

Additionally, baked goods are needed for the Bake Sale. Contact Nancy Munro to volunteer to bake or sell. 792-1876

For more information or to volunteer your time call Laura Moody at 368-0540.

This article is from the news letter of the First Christian Church of Watseka, Illinois. Tom and I led worship there this summer and spoke about the Haiti Mission School. This article was written by the choir director of the First Christian Church. We hope you enjoy and appreciate the message.

Jo-Ellen Parsons

Hello Choir!

It's just about time to get back to doing what you do best...singing the Lord's praises as First Christian's Worship Leaders! Regular choir rehearsals will begin on Sunday, Sept. 2 immediately following the service that day. We have wonderful new music to learn...contemporary, old standards, and our favorite, southern gospel.

And to all of you in the congregation, if you ever thought that you might like to join the choir, now would be the time. Music is such a vital aspect of ministry and we want to present to our Lord the very best we have to offer. There's strength in numbers, and a full, energetic. Spirited choir would be pleasing -to God and rewarding for you, as well as the rest of the congregation.

Occasionally there will be an unfamiliar hymn sung. (That would be considered one of the "new songs" the Bible was referring to when it says to sing to the Lord a NEW SONG".) Hang with us on this, and eventually those songs will be very familiar to you, too. The most important part of any hymn is the lyrics. Pay close attention to those lyrics, and the hymn will take on a whole new meaning. In fact, they will suddenly become the Praise and Worship songs they were intended to be as you sing them with gusto and enthusiasm. Music styles inspire us also, but the words bring life and meaning to the songs.

Does the choir ever sing an up-beat song that just makes you want to dance and shout 'Amen" or "Halleluiah"!? Well, what's stopping you? Some of our praises to God are so Spirit-filled that it's almost irreverent NOT to respond in some way. Go ahead and applaud, but certainly not for the choir. When the choir offers an up-tempo praise song, the applause that should erupt is not, IS NOT in appreciation of the performance. If the Spirit is truly moving among us and the congregation truly is lifted up, the applause is an energetic, positive AMEN", expressing total agreement. As Randy Vader (one of our composer heroes) said, "There are times when silence is irreverent. It's just wrong. We must never squelch the Spirit's moving."

In contrast, when the choir's selection is a meditative piece that moves you to worship, please do just that... worship. Let the music wash over you and put you into a completely worshipful and prayerful frame of mind. Listen carefully to the lyrics... let them move you, and think about His love as you respond with prayer.

Sometime when we're singing one of the old, great hymns, take in those magnificent lyrics. They're talking about praising and glorifying our great God. Calvary was not something that "happened" to Jesus. He chose to do what he did. Therefore, may our singing and our words never stray too far from Calvary. "Worship is all that we are, responding to all that God has revealed Himself to be, initiated and empowered by His Holy Spirit." We, the choir, are here to encourage the worship and praise of the congregation. Our purpose is not to impress, but to inspire. We're not here to perform for anyone, but to lead you in worshiping Jesus.

We do hope some of you will consider joining us this year. We have a variety of wonderful new music to learn and we'll be sure to bring back some old favorites. To our regular faithful choir members, "Welcome back". We appreciate so very much your dedication to the Lord and to singing His songs.

**ADULT BIBLE
STUDY PUTS
ABRAHAM
LINCOLN'S
SPIRITUAL
BELIEFS ON
TRIAL**

Please grab your Bible, coffee and some cookies and join our fall adult Bible study class to be held on Sundays immediately after church beginning October 14.

Jeff Brozyna's fictional book, "Lincoln: Soul on Trial" which is being prepared for self-publication in late 2013, will be the course book. In the book, the Devil has filed an indictment in Heaven demanding the soul of the spiritually unorthodox Lincoln on the grounds that he is not a Christian. God has instructed Saint Peter to conduct a special judicial proceeding in which the Apostle Paul is assigned as Lincoln's defense counsel and the reader is given a seat at the defense table. The Devil himself prosecutes Lincoln in an attempt to devour his soul for all of eternity.

The Bible study supplement in the book will focus us on such issues as what it means to be a Christian, the core beliefs of Christianity, sin and forgiveness, and the meaning of God's grace in our lives.

The course is expected to be completed in six sessions. Materials for the class will be provided free of charge. If you want to sign up for the course or if you would like additional information, please contact the church office or Jeff Brozyna.

What a Halloween Treat! Do you miss having trick or treaters at your house? Are you planning to trick or treat in the village?
You are invited to "Trunk or Treat" at Caldwell Presbyterian Church this year on Halloween Night from 6-8 p.m.
Simply bring your bowl of treats, park your car at/near church and pop open your trunk. If you are more comfortable, feel free to bring chairs and sit on the lawn.
Hot cocoa will be provided.

Christian Education News We have had an exciting start to the new church school year.
Thank you to Diane and Alan Chandler for kicking off the year with a scrumptious pancake breakfast.
Approximately 30 students signed up for our Sunday School/Youth Connection. In fact, one classroom was so full that it overflowed into the center room.
Halleluiah! We will spend the year exploring the bible and how it affects our lives today.

OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: HAITI MISSION SCHOOL :

October's mission of the month is the Haiti Mission School. We begin classes for the 2012-13 year in October. We are anticipating about 125 students in five classes. Our sixth graders will be attending another school this year, so they can take their government exams in the spring. We hope to receive our license this year so that next year's class can take their exams at our school.

If you are sponsoring a student(s), we ask you to remember to keep him/her in your daily prayers.

We are planning another **Gourmet Soup and Sandwich luncheon** following church on the 4th of November. Last year's luncheon was a huge success raising more than \$2,000 for the school and satisfying many of us with good food and fellowship. We are asking once again for you to make some of those wonderful desserts like you did last year.

A reminder: we are **taking a team to Haiti in January**. It will be one of the last two weeks of the month... We are waiting to get the school calendar so that we will be sure to be there while school is in session. We will leave on Friday and return home on Sunday a week later. Anticipated cost is between \$1500 and \$2,000. Tentative plans include travel through Haiti, visits to the school, an orphanage, in homes of some of our friends, and in the town of Jeremie. While in

Haiti, we reside in hotels.

The weather in Haiti in January is usually lovely, in the 80's during the day...but it is weather, so we offer no guarantees.

Presbytery of Albany offers scholarships of up to \$1,000 for first time mission-trippers from the Albany Presbytery. For additional information go to the Presbytery website:

www.albanypresbytery.org

and click on mission trips or contact Tom or JoEllen Parsons (696-3990)

We need to know by December 1, if you wish to join us. Also, an 8-week lead time is required for those applying for Albany Presbytery scholarships.

We would like to say that the cistern is done, but as usual we are working on Haitian time... and I suppose God's time too because we pray a lot about it ... asking God for patience. We hope you will pray for the cistern too, and patience only if you need it! Thanks in advance...
Tom and JoEllen Parsons.

HAITI MISSION SCHOOL



HAITI MISSION SCHOOL: Our 2012-13 school year begins in October. As I write this, the cistern project is underway. We have the supplies for the filtration system and two of our people have been trained in how to manage the system. The training also prepared them to teach hygiene classes at the school and provided teaching aids for that project.

As we said last month, we are planning on taking a team to Haiti in January. It will most likely be one of the last two weeks of the month... We are waiting to get the school calendar so that we will be sure to be there while school is in session. We will leave on Friday and return home on Sunday a week later. Cost is in the neighborhood of \$1500,

The Haircut

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son: 'You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car.'

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, 'Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut.

The boy said, 'You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair ... and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair.'

You're going to love the Dad's reply:

'Did you also notice that they all WALKED everywhere they went?'

From the Editor



Seeker submissions should be emailed to: Caldwell.seeker@gmail.com, or placed in *The Seeker* mailbox at church.

We will continue to work with a deadline of the 15th of the month for submissions, so that *The Seeker* can be delivered to you by, or at least near the beginning of the month.

**Prayer
Concerns**



Andrew Adams, John Adams, Lauren Azer, Karen Azer, Joe Bailey, Carrie Bradley, the Burlingame family, Dick Butler, Michael Carr, Rod Cornelius, Mike Cox, Debbie, Henry Donrax, Dorothy, Joan Dowd, Kathy Dwyer, Jill Freeman, Charlie Fuller, Joann Gatarz, Gordon Gibson, Harvey Guerin (Christina Bunalski's father), Leiryn, Lynda Glenn, the Green Family, Jack, the Jenne Family, John & Barbara Kessler, John Kohland, Doris Krause, Helen Longman, Henry John, Diana Martin, Riley Mattson, Robert Martin, Shannon Mower, Nancy Munro, Suzanne Murphy, Mike Obarowski, James O'Brian, Eleanor Orange, Pamela Parrott, Richie's grandson, Ron, Stan Rummel, Susie, Joy Willmen, Richard Willmen, Justice White-Sloan

Hospital, Nursing & Retirement Homes & At Home	Indian River Nursing Home Westmount Health Facility Fort Hudson At Home	Elsie Timms Mary Harbourne Ron and Betty Cole Clyde Gazlay, Austin
Out of Town	Afghanistan California: Colorado Florida Georgia Haiti Illinois Massachusetts New Jersey New York Pennsylvania Pleasant Valley Thailand	Kurt Peltz Julie Valenza Physicians Assistant, 1 st Lt. Gregory Zerr Kurt Peltz Tim Glenn Beth Gailey, John Skee John Logan James Obarowski Wendy Raphael Erin O'Reilly Victor Strom Bev Sliter, Jackie Mackey, Eddie Mills, Ken Austin, Donna Hickey , Esme Savoie Kristin Pike The family of Pastor Shawn Harry Horn

Our Men and Women serving in the military
Our Nation and Our Leaders in Government
 The President, Congress, Town and Village Boards
Our Missionaries

CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October Birthdays	Chanda Dewey	Kayla Hansen
Abby Kate Delio	Charlie Fuller	Laura Corriveau
Alec Winyall	Darlene Wood	Michael Gunther
Beverly Sebold	Don Winyall	Pam Quigan
Caleb Perry	Grendon Sebold	Pat Radloff
Carol Whalen	Howard Nicols	Suzanne Hunsicker
Catelyn Jean McCann	Jessa Marie Cushing	

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Worship 10:00 A.M.	1	2 AA 7:00 P.M	3	4 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	5	6
7 Worship 10:00 A.M. Communion	8 Columbus Day	9 AA 7:00 P.M	10 Fellowship and Hospitality Committee 8:30 a.m.	11 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	12 Food Pantry 10-12	13
14 Worship 10:00 A.M.	15	16 Session 7:00 P.M AA 7:00 P.M	17	18 Rummage Sale Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	19 Rummage Sale	20 Rummage Sale
21 Worship 10:00 A.M.	22	23 AA 7:00 P.M	24	25 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	26	27 Food Pantry 10-12
28 Worship 10:00 A.M.	29	30 AA 7:00 P.M	31	1 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m	2	3

*The Seeker News Letter
Caldwell Presbyterian Church
71 Montcalm Street
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1 Chronicles 28:9

“If you seek him, he will be found by you.”

Updated Contact Information for Caldwell Presbyterian Church	Caldwell Presbyterian Church has a new email address for the Office and also for Rev. Chad Jones. Office secretary@caldwellpres.org Rev. Jones: pastor@caldwellpres.org Office Phone: 518-668-2613 Please also check out our new website which is up and running, located at: www.caldwellpres.org You can follow us on Facebook by clicking on the Facebook link located on Caldwell's website. You can also view the current month's edition of the Seeker by clicking the Seeker link on Caldwell's website.
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Mission Statement:

We are a Christian community of local residents and seasonal visitors with diverse ideas and theological backgrounds, bound together by our belief and faith in God. We are called to share God's love with all who come through our doors. The members of Caldwell Presbyterian Church, USA, maintain our church through our attendance at services, support of its work, our gifts, prayers and study of scripture. Through God's grace, we will grow in our faith and serve an ever changing world, both locally and globally

