

The Seeker

Caldwell Presbyterian Church
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caldwell.seeker@gmail.com; Len Bunalski, Editor

December, 2012

A message from our Pastor



Merry Christmas to my Caldwell Church Family,

As a pastor I see my role in the Christmas season as being a bit “Grinchy.” My role is to ask the question, “*Will Christmas come without ribbons, will it come without tags, will it come without packages, boxes, or bags?*” Advent invites us to entertain the notion that the Grinch finally came to embrace, “*Maybe Christmas doesn’t come from a store, maybe Christmas means a little bit more?*” Maybe the Who’s down in Whoville had it right when they gathered in a circle at the dawn of Christmas. The Grinch expected moans and groans because he had taken all their presents away, but instead what he heard was singing. One line from the song he heard was this, “*Christmas is within our grasp as long as we have hands to clasp.*”

Christmas really is about community: community with God through Jesus Christ and community with one another through love! Therefore, Advent calls us to realize one important truth: Christmas is about our common bond in being loved by God and our common bond of being called to love one another. Advent and Christmas are about God’s love that will never let us go, even in death. As we come to this awareness we will have the strength of “*10 Grinches plus two!*”

So please imagine me saying to you now in my “Grinchiest” voice, “If the wrapping doesn’t look great, if the candy tastes off, if the tree is crooked, if some lights are out, WHO CARES! LET IT GO!” Let’s get back to finding the true Christmas, the real Christmas by building community with family, friends, neighbors, and even strangers through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! “*Christmas is within our grasp as long as we have hands to clasp!*” Have a very Merry Christmas and we’ll see you in church!

Blessings,

Pastor Chad

**2013 PLEDGE
DRIVE OFF TO
A GOOD
START**

The 2013 Pledge Drive is off to a promising start. As of November 11 we received 33 pledges totaling about \$66,000 which is over \$20,000 ahead of the comparable point in last year's drive. However, our target is \$105,000 so we still must work hard to finish our annual fund drive with a strong effort.

Typically pledge payments constitute about 70% of our church's operating receipts and are utilized to pay day to day bills such as insurance, heat, light, employee wages and building repairs. This money also maintains important church outreach and assistance programs so we can spread the Word of Christ. However, even if we reach our pledge goal of \$105,000 we will need to rely on other sources of income such as fund raisers, special offerings from members and support from summer visitors as well as tight spending controls to keep our church on sound financial footing.

We thank all of you who have supported Caldwell Presbyterian Church's 2013 Pledge Drive and encourage those of you who have not yet pledged to do so in the near future.

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Jeff Brozyna

Stewardship and Finance Elder

**Caldwell
Presbyterian
Church Pre-
School**

*The Lake George Enrollment trends have historically been between 900-1100 since the 1980's, some years on the higher side, some on the lower.

*There is presently no preschool program in the district boundaries. Affording families the opportunity to attend a program in the community will be of great benefit.

*Children attending a preschool program in advance of kindergarten show better preparedness, not only for the academic rigor; but with the necessary social conventions as well.

*Partnership - The district would be happy to include children from the program in appropriate district assemblies and activities that would enhance their preschool program.

Patrick Dee

Lake George Superintendent of Schools

**Save the
Date!**

Thursday, December 20th

We are planning to go Christmas caroling around the village. This should be a fun event for the kids and families of Caldwell Church.

Teens encouraged to come!

Details to follow.

Contact Laura Moody (368-0540) with questions or to help plan this event

**Love Feast
and Advent
Wreath
Making
Activity**



Again this year, we will hold our Love Feast and Advent Wreath Making Activity on the first Sunday in Advent, December 2nd at 5:00 P.M.

Mark your calendars and plan to participate in this special event open to all Caldwell families and friends. Here's how it works:

Those attending should bring enough sandwiches, whole pieces of fruit and baked goods for their family. The idea is to make the sandwiches special, as if for a friend because all the food is pooled and shared. (You may not necessarily eat what you bring.) Last year the food was varied and bountiful.

After the Feast, we will distribute Styrofoam rings, fresh greens and candles...all the materials needed to make a beautiful Advent Wreath. The 2-hour evening will conclude with a brief Advent reading, songs, prayer and the lighting of the first Advent candle.

Come; join your Caldwell family in this meaningful Christmas tradition. Watch for the sign-up sheets or contact the church office.

**Adopt a
Family**

This year we can share the joy of the holiday season by helping to purchase gifts for 2 families in our community. Simply take a mitten from the clothesline, purchase the item on the mitten, and return the unwrapped item, with mitten attached, into the gift box in the coffee room.

We are hoping to get the presents back as soon as possible in order to ensure delivery.

If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Fuller at 743-9759.

**Christian
Education
News**



Birthdays are so exciting. We often talk about them weeks or even months in advance. And the anticipation of a baby is equally fantastic. This month we are all excited as we prepare to celebrate Jesus's birth. We will start the month off with our Love Feast and Wreath Making Advent

Celebration on Sunday night, December 2nd. At this event we bring sandwiches to share followed by wreath making. On Saturday, December 8th, we will have a scrumptious breakfast at church, make ornaments, and bring them to the nursing home while we share the joy of the season with caroling. Mark your calendars for December 16th, our annual pageant: CHRISTMAS!

Everyone is welcome to participate with instruments, speaking, or with other talents. We will have rehearsals every Sunday in December immediately following the church service. Please call Yvonne Fuller with any questions

**Christmas
Joy
Offering,
2012**

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
During this season, we hear “the good news of great joy” that was proclaimed to the shepherds and transformed their fear to joy. We live with the anticipation that once again the spirit of Christmas will be born in our hearts. Our hope is that the love of God made known to us in the child of Bethlehem will be a reality in our lives and in our world. Through worship and service, our congregations seek to share the good news so that all will experience God’s love and be filled with great joy. Yet we live in a world in which many people live with uncertainty, anxiety, and even fear about their futures. In response to these concerns, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has always sought to faithfully witness to God’s presence in the world, particularly to those in need, through generous giving in the Christmas season. One way in which the PC(USA) has joined together and shared the good news of great joy is through the Christmas Joy Offering. One half of the Offering supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Through this support, these schools offer an opportunity to young adults to advance their education and escape the cycle of poverty and prejudice. The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions receives the other half of the Offering and uses it to assist pastors, missionaries, and church workers in special need. Your gifts enable the Assistance Program to support active and retired church workers who have unexpected needs they cannot meet. The Joy Offering will be collected during our church service on December 23. We greatly appreciate your participation in the Christmas Joy Offering and wish you all a blessed and joyous Christmas season.

**Thank you,
The Mission Committee**

**Pastoral Care
Deacons**

When the Congregational Care Committee dissolved last year, the Commissioned Pastoral Care Deacons became responsible for coordinating Caldwell’s annual College Care Packages. Last month, 16 “care packages” were sent to students attending the following school’s: Messiah College, University at Buffalo, Paul Smith’s College, SUNY Adirondack, Keene State College, St. Michael’s College, Georgetown University, Penn State University, Keuka College, Cedarville, Hudson Valley Community College, Wesley Theological Seminary, Three Rivers Community College and Elmira.

We are so pleased to see how Caldwell’s love and generosity has reached so many of our areas youth across New York and the New England States!

Please take a moment to read the letter that accompanied their “care packages” this year.

Blessings,
Sue Hunsicker
Kathy Gowen
Laura Moody

**“Care
package”
Letter**

October 2012

Dear,

Greetings from Caldwell Presbyterian Church! Fall is definitely in the air in our beautiful town of Lake George. The leaves are falling furiously; the foliage couldn't be more vibrant. We are so blessed to live here in the Adirondacks.

We are thinking of you as you are immersed in your college studies. Whether you are attending a school near or far, we want you to know that your Caldwell family is thinking of you.

We have been hard at work at Caldwell; trying our best to be good stewards and serving those in our community and beyond. Enclosed you will find a gift card valued at \$40.00. Please use it as you see fit. Consider this a “modern day” care package! You will not find any chocolate chip cookies or peanut butter bars in this envelope, but we do hope that you can use these funds perhaps towards filling up your gas tank, buying a pair of warm Winter boots or treating yourself to a hot meal outside of the mess hall! One could say this “care package” is a little unconventional, but given the times and knowing how expensive a college education is these days, we thought sending you a gift card in lieu of cookies could provide you with a little more sustenance.

Next time you are home, please come see us and Pastor Chad at Caldwell. We would love for you to share with our Junior and Senior High Youth your experiences at college. Perhaps we can establish a new panel here at church called the “Caldwell College Connection.” A forum for college freshman (and upperclassman & alumni) to talk to our youth about college opportunities that await them!

Enjoy the rest of the “autumnal weather” before old man Winter arrives!

Your Loving Deacons,

Kathy Gowen (Paul Smith College Alumna, Class of 1986, Forest Technician)

Sue Hunsicker (Russell Sage College Alumna, Class of 1990, Nursing)

Laura Moody (Cornell University, Class of 1991, Civil Engineering)

Please feel free to email us any time and keep us apprised of your studies:

Kathy (stumpy2050@gmail.com), Sue (Hunsicker@verizon.net) and Laura (ljmoody_2000@yahoo.com)

Fellowship/ Hospitality

The Fellowship/Hospitality Committee would like to make everyone aware of some very special events that are planned, so please mark your calendars as we hope that you will attend these opportunities for good Christian fellowship.

1. Senior Breakfast will be Tuesday, December 4th at 8:30 A.M. at the Holiday Inn. Al and Dottie Kopf will present the program on their Dermatology School and Clinic in Tanzania plus share some of their 9/11 experience. Cost will be \$7.00 including tip. Make reservations by Dec. 2nd with Helene Horn or the church office.
2. Caldwell "Dinner-Theater" – As a follow-up to the Bucket List Luncheon held this summer; we will have supper and watch the movie, "The Bucket List." Date: to be determined.
3. On Saturday, December 8, we are planning "Breakfast with Santa" which will include games for the children and end with a trip to Westmount Nursing Home where we will sing Christmas songs for the residents. Our hope is to have large contingent of Sunday School children engage in this community service project. We will provide songbooks, elf hats and some musical instruments. Parents and choir members are encouraged to come along. Drivers will be needed. This is a great way to get into the Christmas spirit and spread joy to the elderly. They love to sing along! Watch for the exact times and more details for this event.

Christmas Gift Giving

Simplify your gift giving and honor family and friends at the same time by donating to one of the following missions. You will receive Christmas cards to give to the persons you wish to honor. Cards will be available in the Coffee Room on Dec. 2nd and 9th. You may write one check to Caldwell Presbyterian Church for the total you wish to donate.

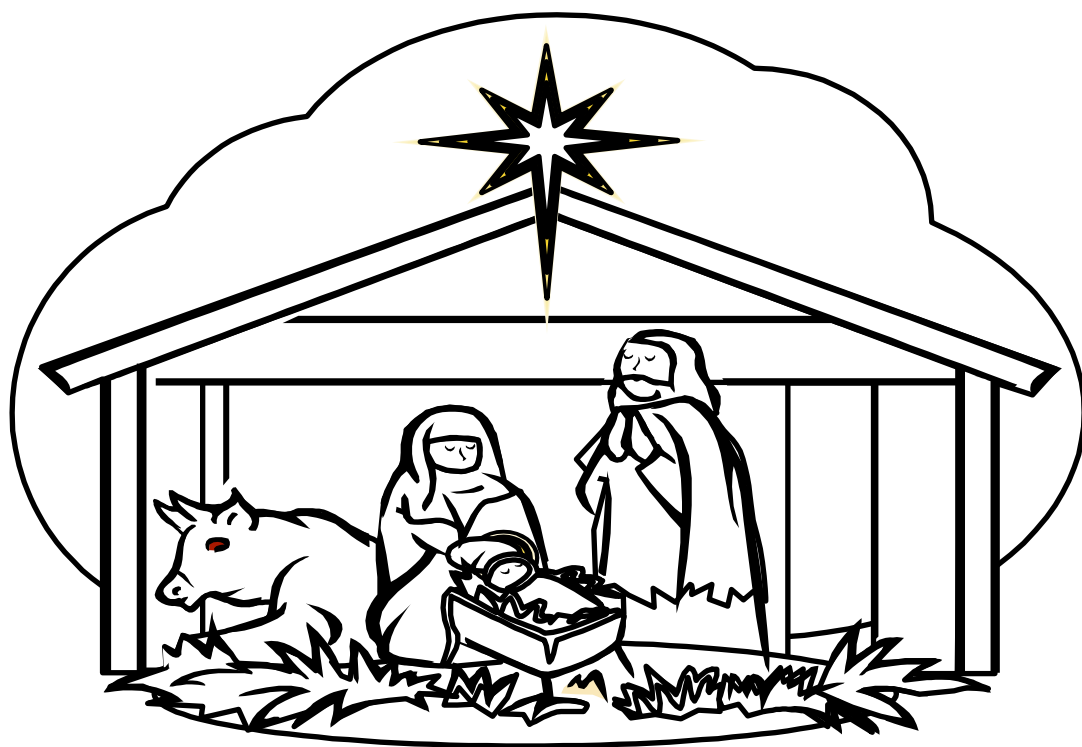
- Regional Food Bank: \$5.00 and up
- Medical Benevolences Foundation: \$2.00 and up
- Heifer International: \$10.00 and up
- Church World Service: \$5.00 and up
- North Country Ministries: \$5.00 and up

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.



Luke, Chapter 2,

6: And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7: And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Prayer Concerns



Andrew Adams, John Adams, Lauren Azer, Karen Azer, Joe Bailey, Carrie Bradley, the Burlingame family, Dick Butler, Raymond C. Calore, David Caprood, Rod Cornelius, Mike Cox, Debbie, Henry Donrax, Dorothy, Joan Dowd, Pat Eaglestone, Peg Edwards, Kate Filicetti, Charlie Fuller, Joann Gatarz, Gordon Gibson, Leiryn, Lynda Glenn, the Green Family, Jack, the Jenne Family, John & Barbara Kessler, John Kohland, Doris Krause, Carol Longman, Helen Longman, Henry John, Diana Martin, Riley Mattson, Robert Martin, Colin McNeil-Nephew of Alan & Diane Chandler, Cathy Morris, Shannon Mower, Nancy Munro, Suzanne Murphy, Family and friends of Donald Norton, Mike Obarowski, James O'Brian, Eleanor Orange, Pamela Parrott, Richie's grandson, Ron, Dinelle Rosa, Sue Rummel, Susie, 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	California: Colorado Florida Georgia Haiti Illinois Massachusetts New Jersey New York Pennsylvania Thailand	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, Marion Prescott Kristin Pike 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

December Birthdays

Adam Eaglestone	Erika Miller	Kathy Duell	Michael Quigan
Barbara Eggleston	Fran Grant	Kimberly Cornelius	Rev. Shirley Mosholder
Barbara Kessler	Holly Markwood	Marc Zahn	Sara Bunalski
Claire Madden	Jessica King	Margaret Rose Earl	Sean Cox
Daniel Tenne	Jessie Pagnotta	Martie Buckbee-Nortman	Sean Mannix
Donald Quigan	Jesus Christ	Marybeth Tenne	Thomas Jenne
Erica Quigan	John Skee	Melody Perry	Todd Earl
	Karen Azer		

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 10:00 A.M. Communion Love Feast 5:00 PM	3	4 Senior Breakfast 8:30 AM AA 7:00 P.M Paper Bin Pickup	5 Fellowship and Hospitality Committee 8:30 A.M. Pre-School 7:00P.M.	6 Choir Rehearsal 7 P.M.	7	8 Family Christmas Breakfast 9:00AM
9 Worship 10:00 A.M.	10	11 Session 7:00 P.M AA 7:00 P.M	12	13 Choir Rehearsal 7 P.M.	14 Food Pantry 10-12	15
16 Worship 10:00 A.M.	17	18 AA 7:00 P.M Paper Bin Pickup	19	20 Choir Rehearsal 7 P.M.	21	22 Food Pantry 10-12
23 Worship 10:00 A.M.	24	25 Christmas Day AA 7:00 P.M	26	27 Choir Rehearsal 7 P.M.	28	29
30 Worship 10:00 A.M	31	1 AA 7:00 P.M	2	3 Choir Rehearsal 7 P.M	4	5

The Seeker News Letter
Caldwell Presbyterian Church
71 Montcalm Street
Lake George, NY 12845

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

