

The Seeker

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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caldwell.seeker@gmail.com; Len Bunalski, Editor

February, 2013

A message from our Pastor



Pastor Chad.....Well its February in Lake George and you know what that means!

Caldwell Church.....No Pastor Chad, we don't know what that means!

Pastor Chad.....It means that it's cold outside!

Caldwell Church.....Well, how cold is it?

Pastor Chad..... It so Cold that _____:

Your shadow freezes to the sidewalk, you have to open the fridge to heat the house, your false teeth chatter and they are still in the glass, police tell a robber to freeze and he does, the fire hydrant is begging a dog to pee on it, and local lawyers have their hands in their own pockets!

OK....Not my best work! But you get the point. It is cold here in February. We knew that moving here, but it is still a shock to the system. I had heard someone say at Bible study last week that they love the winter here, not because of the frigid weather but because it helps them to appreciate summer. Wow! What a way to look at it! Misery today inspires the promise of tomorrow! So over the past few days I pondered on that point and I began to think about it in light of recent tragedies and now I am not so sure.

With the Sandy Hook Elementary shootings in December and the loss of the Rosenbrock's 15-month old daughter Vivian in January, I am starting to feel a sense that we aren't guaranteed a thing. The fragility of life has come into full focus for me! God has never promised any of us a tomorrow, only a today! And as the days grow longer a minute at a time, we may all do well to reflect on the gift of our years, our days, even the hours and minutes we have received at the hand of a gracious and merciful God. Perhaps we would do well to use these extra minutes of daylight to give thanks to God for all the blessings of this life, or perhaps put a smile on someone's face.

This month begins Lent, a time of spiritual disciplines - reflection, prayer, fasting, Bible reading, and service to others. These 6 weeks are a great opportunity to reconnect and be reconciled, both to God and to one another. Take the time to forgive and forget transgressions of the past. If

you have been annoyed, burned, shunned, or hurt by others, take this chance to let it go. Give someone a fresh start and a fresh chance with you. After all, God does the same for us daily!

As we take this journey to the cross with Jesus Christ, let us be mindful this Lenten season that we are only promised today. Let's start to live each day with the end in mind....Thankful for our blessings and praising God for the goodness bestowed upon us! Have a happy February. See you in church!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Chad

CALDWELL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH: 2012
Financial Situation

We ended 2012 with strong financial momentum. Pledge receipts for the month of December, 2012 were 3.6% ahead of the Dec. 2012 budget and overall Operating Receipts for Dec. 2012 were 23% ahead of Dec. 2012 budget. This allowed us to catch up on our year end bills and retire our kitchen loan obligation.

2012 year to date (YTD) results were as follows:

- 2012 YTD pledge receipts were 4.6% ahead of 2012 budget.
- 2012 YTD Operating Receipts were almost exactly even with the 2012 budget.
- After expenses, the Operating Gain for 2012 was about \$450. This gain was favorable to the budgeted loss for 2012 of about \$5,000. This is due to increased donations during the Fall of 2012, under spending in most budget categories and the timing of staff employment startup dates.

(Note: the phrase "Operating Receipts" has the same meaning as "Budgeted Income" in the Treasurer's Report-All Funds.)

The 2013 Pledge Drive started fast, lost momentum, then finished strong. As of the date the Seeker went to press, we received 54 pledges for over \$124,000-a new record.

Church attendance is a pre-cursor of church financial trends.

Attendance during the 4th quarter of 2012 averaged 97 people per service. That compares to 78 in 2011 and 94 in 2010.

Be sure to read our 2012 Annual Report for a full summary of 2012 financial activity and our 2013 Operating Budget.

WE THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE CHURCH FINANCIALLY THIS PAST YEAR, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO WORKED SO HARD ON OUR FUNDRAISERS!

Respectfully,

Jeff Brozyna

Finance/Stewardship Elder

**Brownbag
Bible Study**

Begins Wednesday, January 16th noon to 1pm.

Bring your own lunch and dive into a delectable mid-week study. This group (led by Pastor Chad and Pastor Tom) will be on-going and will rotate between studying the Bible and religious themed books. Take this opportunity on hump day to ground yourself in God's Word and surround yourself with great fellowship and conversation as we set out to find the answer to all of life's burning questions!

The first book we will be studying is "Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo. Here is the publisher's description from Amazon:

Heaven Is for Real is the true story of the four-year old son of a small town Nebraska pastor who during emergency surgery slips from consciousness and enters heaven. He survives and begins talking about being able to look down and see the doctor operating and his dad praying in the waiting room. The family didn't know what to believe but soon the evidence was clear.

Colton said he met his miscarried sister, whom no one had told him about, and his great grandfather who died 30 years before Colton was born, then shared impossible-to-know details about each. He describes the horse that only Jesus could ride, about how "reaaaally big" God and his chair are, and how the Holy Spirit "shoots down power" from heaven to help us.

Told by the father, but often in Colton's own words, the disarmingly simple message is heaven is a real place and Jesus really loves children.

**Potential
Confirmation
Class??**

If you have a jr. or sr. high school student that you believe is ready and willing to be confirmed into the church, please contact Pastor Chad at 668-2613 or at pastor@caldwellpres.org .

This would be a 7-week class with a potential date/time of Sundays from 12pm to 1:30pm (lunch provided), or Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 7:30pm (dinner provided).

This class would start on Feb. 10th (or Wednesday Feb. 13th) and run through Palm Sunday, with Confirmation on Easter Sunday. Please let me know if you would be interested and which day would work best for you. I will try to meet the needs of the most people.

Thanks,

Pastor Chad

Fellowship and
Hospitality
Committee
News

This committee's New Year's Resolution (with some coaching by Pastor Chad!) is to hold a Potluck on the last Sunday of each month in place of the coffee hour! Our first Potluck was held on Sunday, January 27, immediately after the service and congregational meeting. In February we will have our Potluck on Sunday, Feb. 24. Anyone willing to help our committee on Potluck Sunday would be welcomed! Please bring a main dish, side dish, salad, or dessert and drop off your food item (ready to serve) to the kitchen crew before church.

An Important Word About Food Safety

Beginning in 2008, NY State legislation mandates that all food service establishments which handle, cook, store, deliver, remove and dispose of food will be required to have one " ServSafe" certified individual on staff. Dave Madden, Tom Jenne and Alan Chandler took the day-long training and are certified by "ServSafe". They will oversee the proper food handling regulations at church.

Food that is prepared at home for shared consumption must also be prepared and cooked properly to insure food safety. And please remember that anyone working in the kitchen must wash hands, sanitize, and wear gloves at all times. You must also refrain from "nibbling!"

**Christian Ed
Youth Group
is starting!
Youth Group
is starting!**

Look for the 1st youth group meeting, led by Pastor Chad and Kathy Gowen, this month.

Join Pastor Chad in his ongoing Brown Bag Bible Study on Wednesdays from noon to 1pm. Swing by the church during your lunch hour with your lunch in hand and share in the book group discussion of Heaven is for Real by Todd Burpo. The book discussion has already started but all are welcome to attend on any Wednesday. Look for more details on this ongoing Bible Study next month.

We will be playing musical rooms as the preschool is being renovated. If you are in need of a space or looking for a classroom, please speak to one of us.

Happy Valentine's Day!
Judy Guilford, Sarah King, and Yvonne Fuller
Christian Education Elders

**Mission of the
Month**

**Wounded
Warrior Project**

The Mission of the Month for February is the Wounded Warrior Project. Founded in 2003, the purpose of the WWP is to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help those members aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs.

The Wounded Warrior Program began when several veterans and friends, moved by stories of the first wounded service members returning from Afghanistan and Iraq, took action to help others in need. What started as a program to provide comfort items has grown into a complete rehabilitative effort to assist warriors as they recover and transition back to civilian life and, in many cases, their "new normal".

Thousands of wounded warriors and caregivers receive support each year through WWP programs designed to nurture the mind and body, and encourage economic empowerment.

Each week in February, you will hear about how WWP has helped some of these warriors.

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.

**Caldwell Food
Pantry**

Isaiah 58:10, Matthew 25:35, Proverbs 28:27

Reminder: The Food Pantry has changed its monthly open dates to the second and fourth Friday of the month from 10am to 12pm! Spread the word. We are also available by appointment for anyone experiencing an emergency food shortage! Our food pantry helps an average of 40+ people in any given month.

**Our items of the month are:
Tomato Sauce, Beef Ravioli, Beef Stew, Canned Fruit and Hand Soap!**

Please keep the food pantry and these items in mind while you are at the grocery store in February!
Items can be placed in the basket at the back of the sanctuary every Sunday or in the church office during normal business hours (Tues-Fri, 8:30am to 1:30pm).

Prayer Concerns



Jean Morris, Dolly Wood, Len Bunalski, Jerry Dexter, Denise & Maria LaRose, Diane & Alan Chandler, Nancy Munro, Andrew Adams, John Adams, Lauren Azer, Karen Azer, Joe Bailey, Carrie Bradley, 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, Cathy Morris, Shannon Mower, 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, Donna Alfano & Daughter

Hospital, Nursing & Retirement Homes & At Home	Indian River Nursing Home	Elsie Timms	
	Westmount Health Facility	Mary Harbourne	
	Fort Hudson	The Cole Family	
Out of Town	At Home	Clyde Gazlay, Austin	
	Afghanistan	Andrew Mayer	
	California	Kurt Peltz	
	Colorado	Tim Glenn	
	Florida	Beth Gailey, John Skee	
	Georgia	John Logan	
	Haiti	James Obarowski	
	Illinois	Wendy Raphael	
	Massachusetts	Erin O'Reilly	
	New Jersey	Victor Strom, Family of Paul Schisler	
	New York	Bev Sliter, Jackie Mackey, Eddie Mills, Ken Austin, Donna Hickey, Esme Savoie, Marion Prescott	
		Pennsylvania	Kristin Pike
		Thailand	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

February Birthdays

Emmaline Donnelly	Emery Jones	Benjamin Nicols	Dana Whitcomb
Peg Edwards	Nicholas King	Alex Parrott	
Gale Freiberger	Olivia King	Tom Roach	
Duane Gowen	Ann Kohland	Jean Stanton	

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

February 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Worship 10:00 A.M.	28	29 AA 7:00 P.M.	30 Bible Study 12 Noon Pre-School 7:00P.M	31 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M	1	2
3 Worship 10:00 A.M. Communion New Member Class	4	5 Senior Breakfast 8:30 AM Daisy Girl Scouts 2:30 AA 7:00 P.M. Paper Bin Pickup	6 Bible Study 12 Noon Pre-School 7:00pm	7 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M	8 Food Pantry 10-12	9
10 Worship 10:00 A.M.	11	12 AA 7:00 P.M.	13 Fellowship/Hosp.Comm 8:30 A.M. Bible Study 12 Noon Pre-School 7:00pm	14 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M	15 Seeker Deadline	16
17 Worship 10:00 A.M.	18	19 Session 7:00 P.M AA 7:00 P.M. Paper Bin Pickup	20 Bible Study 12 Noon Pre-School 7:00pm	21 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M	22 Food Pantry 10-12	23
24	25	26 AA 7:00 P.M.	27 Bible Study 12 Noon Pre-School 7:00pm	28 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M	1	2

*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

