

THE SEEKER FOR JANUARY 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Carry It Well”

It has been written somewhere, by some sage, “Those who have lived well in their own time have lived well for all time.” Sister Joan Chittister, member of the Benedictines in Erie, PA, interprets this statement in her wonderful book “A Passion for Life: Fragments of the Face of God.” She takes it to mean that every age needs to know that people carry the great weight of life, and carry it well.

When we think back on models from the past, the memory of their struggle, of how they lived with courage, conviction, compassion, and grace, often it is the light from their lives that enables us to make our own way through the mysteries and strains of our time. There are so many of the faithful from the past who come to mind: Teresa of Avila, Joan of Arc, Gandhi, Martin Luther King. And looking back on 2015, there are countless present day models whose valiant lives are the light that inspires us, and as this calendar year comes to a close, I am mindful and grateful for each on

In the 14th Century, in a tiny hut built against her local church, one such model was Julian of Norwich, who devoted her life to God and to listening to the plights of the people. It was a time of peasant revolt, disparity between rich and poor, and the Black Death was ravaging Europe. In her *Revelations of Divine Love*, Julian expressed her visions of God and shared them with the people of her community in Norwich. She devoted her life to reflection and communion with God. She prayed for the world around her, compassionately looking upon her own troubled time with the loving eyes of God.

As a mystic and spiritual leader, one of her greatest contributions to the church was the notion that despite our state of sinful nature, “All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.” She urged her people to realize that it is through challenges that we grow, as we continually turn ourselves over to God. She believed deeply that through the weakest points of our humanity, we are raised to the divine in the ultimate hope: divine love made known to us in Jesus—even in her world burdened by corruption, a church divided, the plague, and unrest in society. Julian of Norwich belongs to history as a witness to God’s love in the face of human frailty, and hers was a testimony to a better way—a way of hope.

As we begin 2016 together and alone, I pray God’s divine love and spirit of hope come alive in us all, so that we step into the New Year ready to carry it well.

Faithfully,

Ali



all shall be well
All shall be well,
and all shall be well,
and all manner of thing
shall be well.

JULIAN OF NORWICH, 14TH CENTURY
*Lord, you taught me to say
it is well with my soul*

Latest Update from Chad Jones and Family.

Hello Everyone,

We wanted to let all of you know that we pray you have a wonderful New Year and to give you our latest update. Chad recently completed a one year chaplain residency at the University of Louisville hospital . He recently accepted a job offer in Minneapolis with hospice. He's very excited about this next venture and I think he'll be really good at it. He's always loved the pastoral care part of any of his previous positions the most, so I think he will really enjoy this. Chad starts with them January 18th but he'll be going up alone at first. The kids and I will stay back and try to get things squared away with our house here in Louisville. Chad's also going to spend some time checking out the surrounding areas outside of Minneapolis so that we can live outside of the city a little bit. We hope to be able to join him in March. Please keep us in your prayers as we begin this exciting adventure."

Blessings,

Natalie



Fellowship and Hospitality

Committee Members: Emilia Bernd, Helene Horn, Ann Kohland, Tom Jenne, Joni Steiner, Sue Moore and Jessica King (chairperson).

The Fellowship and Hospitality Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30am in the middle room at Caldwell Church. We encourage anyone who would like to be a part of this committee to join us. Perhaps you would just like to help at some of the events we sponsor. If that is your choice please contact one of our committee members.

Our committee arranges for Coffee hour hosts. Please check the bulletin board in the coffee room to see when your name appears. If you find the date you have been assigned is not good for you, we ask that you find someone to take your place. Please call Tom Jenne if you switch dates with someone (Tom's-cell-#716-870-0013).

We celebrate the first Sunday of each month as Birthday Sunday for all people who have birthdays in the current month. A cake is provided which will be found in the refrigerator in the church kitchen. You may choose to serve just cake and coffee or if you prefer you may add other snacks as you see fit. There is a list of instructions to follow on the cupboard door near the sink describing how to make the coffee etc. Peg Earl will also call you during the week to remind you of your upcoming date to serve as the coffee hour host.



Coffee Hour Hosts:

January

03 Bunalski Family
10 Judy Dewey
17 Hunsicker Family
24 Roach Family
31 Green Family

February

07 Pat Carpenter & Lesley Clemons
14 Kathy Duell & Nancy Hollenbeck
21 Quigan Family
28 Corriveau Family

Kids Corner

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee, we hope your Christmas season was full of family, love and remembering the special gift Christ gave all of us, when he gave us his Son. Our prayers extend to your friends and families for a happy and healthy New Year!

December was a busy month. We hope you were able to come and enjoy the **Christmas Pageant** on December 20th. The kids did a fabulous job!!! We'd like to thank the children and their parents for their time and effort in making it the success that it was. A special thank you to Patti Brozyna, Pat Carpenter, Suzanna Burn and to everyone who helped with costumes and scenery. Thank you too to Lesley Clemmons for leading the children's choir that added a wonderful touch to this year's pageant.

We had a wonderful turn out at the **Love Feast**. We had tasty sandwiches, treats and devotions. Each family left with a beautiful Advent Wreath to enjoy in their own homes. Thank you to Sarah King, Ted Guilford and all involved, for getting the fresh evergreens and supplies needed.

Another successful event was the **Stocking Project**. The coins collected by the children from the congregation yielded \$420.00 which was used to fill Christmas stockings with gifts for 10 needy children in our community. This completed one of our youth group's goals for the year. Thank you to Patty Brozyna for making the stockings, purchasing the gifts, and helping to assemble them.

Sunday school resumes January 3rd. We encourage all the children to come and bring a friend. We have some special things planned and would love to start off the new year with a nice turn out.

Children's Choir will begin to hold rehearsals after church again.

Family Flick Night will be coming in February. More details later.

We are continuing our **6 week block teaching schedule for 2016**. We hope to continue to have 2-3 classes available based on age every Sunday during church. If you are interested in getting on the rotation we would love some volunteers to help out. The more volunteers we have in the rotation the better everyone will be able to enjoy all facets of Sunday morning worship. If you are unable to commit to a 6 week block of teaching, we are also creating a **Sub list of people** who would like to be involved in helping out in Sunday school classes if something comes up for our regular teachers. We encourage anyone interested to contact Dana, Judy or Laura.

Sincerely,

The Christian Ed. Committee



The Lake George Music Festival 2016

The schedule is coming together, and they are bringing something new for this winter season!

Don't miss out on the 2nd Annual Winter Concert Series on

February 6th & 7th, 2015, here at Caldwell!

The Lake George Music Festival is known for bringing thrilling performances and world-class musicians to Lake George during the summer season. The festival is Lake George's first and only classical music festival and artist retreat for gifted young professionals and musicians. Offering free concerts and events including open rehearsals, live concerts, interactive workshops, outreach events and more ~the Lake George Music Festival is perfect for music lovers of all ages!

The 1st Annual Winter Concert Series, part of the 2015 Lake George Music Festival, will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6th at 7:00 and Sunday, Feb. 7th at 3:00. The concert series will feature musicians from The Yale School of Music, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra. Both concerts will be held at Caldwell Presbyterian Church on 71 Montcalm Street in Lake George. Both concerts are free and open to the public (there is a suggested \$10 donation). Free parking will also be available in the lot behind the church.



AMUSING SENTENCES THAT ACTUALLY APPEARED IN CHURCH BULLETINS

Contributed by Lesley Clemons

- The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals
- The sermon this morning; “Jesus Walks on the Water.” The sermon tonight; “Searching for Jesus.”
- Don’t let worry kill you off...Let the Church help.
- Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- At the evening service tonight the sermon topic is “What is Hell?”. Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.
- This evening there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side.



DEACON'S CORNER

With your help the Deacons have been working hard all year.

The Food Pantry continues to be a wonderful community service to many. This month again, over 100 people have been served. You only need to go to the grocery store and see how much food costs to know there is a great need for many. We are happy to be a part of helping hungry people.

We will continue our Soup Ministry. As a reminder, if you make soup or a meal/casserole put some in a little container or big one and bring it to church and we will freeze it and give it to people in need. These are given to people back from the hospital, sick etc.

Prayer Shawl Ministry. This is the perfect time to sit in your favorite chair and get those needles clicking. For those of you who don't know..... using a soft yarn a wide blanket like shawl is made for someone who is sick, suffering from a loss etc. As you make the shawl you are asked to pray for the person who will eventually receive it. It is a simple pattern that Lynda or others could teach you in a few hours.

Our church "adopted" five families over Christmas, and supplied them with gifts, food, and gift cards. The families were very grateful for the church's generosity.

Margy Mannix, Moderator, Rummage Sale, Food Pantry,

Patti Brozyna- Christmas Families, Sunshine, Soup ministry

Lynda Glenn-Recording Treasurer, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Christmas Families,

Bob Gunther- Rummage Sale, Food Pantry, Gas Cards

Tom Jenne-Food Pantry, Holiday Baskets

Margy Mannix- Secretary, Holiday Baskets, Food Pantry, Soup ministry

Tim McCann-Rummage Sale, College Care

January 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Communion	4	5 Fellowship & Hospitality Mtg. 10:30	6 Mission Committee Mtg. 2:00	7 Choir 7	8 Food Pantry 9:30-12	9
10	11	12 Christian Ed. Mtg. at Panera 5:30	13 Deacon's Mtg. 6:30	14 Choir 7	15	16
17	18	19 Session Mtg. 5:30	20	21 Choir 7	22 Food Pantry 9:30-12	23
24 Annual Meeting	25	26	27	28 Choir 7	29	30
31						

Happy Birthday

Bev Roach	Grace Moody	Helene Horn
Anke Jenne	Judy Dewey	Lynda Glenn
Chloe Monroe	Nathan Fuller	Oscar Blanco
Clay Moody	Ross McIntyre	Sarah King
Christine Cooper	Shane Lenihan	
David King	Stuart Chapman	
Garret Jackson	Tim Hunsicker	



PRAYER CONCERNS

Jenne Family, Lauren & Karen Azer, Ben Green, Skyler Castro, John Kohland, Pamela Parrott, Justin & Alex Blanco, Mitch Monroe, Melissa Thomas & Andy, Janet Murphy, Christine Nicols, Robin Hoffman, Jeanne Bureaus, Rhyann Towne, Julie Bonn, Anna Van Guilder, Kenny Phillips, Sarah Laustrop, Sheri Phillips, Linda Grant, Helen Boyle, David Rabine, Helen Longman, Nancy Munro, Glen Gabriel, Pam O'Bryan, Jim Guerin, Kelly Moody's family, Ian Quillinan, Len Bunalski, Vern Harris, Linda Nicol's sister-in-law, Roger Glen's friend's daughter, Dicky, Jacksen Corriveau, Norm Duell, Tim Hunsicker's mother Jean, Pat Decker, Betty Cook, David Rabine, Sue Moore's friend-Katie, George Stanard, Warren Schemerhorn family, John Haskell family, John-a Navy Seal, Caselli family, Bill Harris family.

Out-of-Towners

Neva & Victor Strom, Jackie Mackey, Ken Austin, Ron Madeira, Esme Savoie, Linda Muehling, Jacksen Chervel, Sharon Frohnapfel, Nanette Bushey, Lori Maason, Donny Baker.

- Our men and women serving in the military
- Our Nation and our leaders in government
- Our missionaries
- Persecuted Christians around the world



Recently Deceased

Jean Morris
Jean Dansen
Betty Cole
Sue Rummel
Carol Longman
Ed Pharmer

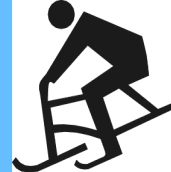
Hospital, Nursing & Retirement Homes and At Home

Indian River Nursing Home – Pat Eaglestone
The Stanton— Mary Harbourne,
At Home — Clyde Gazlay
Fort Hudson— Charles Sandora



Mission of the Month

January, 2016



The Double H Ranch
Adaptive Winter Sports Program

The Double H Ranch, co-founded by Charles R. Wood and Paul Newman, provides specialized programs and year-round support for children and their families dealing with life-threatening illnesses.

The Double H Ranch Adaptive Winter Sports Program, established in 1998, offers children ages 6-16 dealing with chronic and life-threatening illnesses the opportunity to participate in various winter sports in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains FREE of charge with necessary equipment provided. Activities include Alpine skiing and snowboarding instruction, as well as snowshoeing lessons. This unique program is coordinated by Double H staff, and the magic that takes place on the slopes is made possible through the efforts of volunteer instructors and National Ski Patrol who provide 1:1 support.

The winter program is aimed at not only teaching children a life-long skill, but also to provide an experience that can be enjoyed by the entire family. In addition to day programming, they host Family Sleepover Weekends, allowing the entire family to experience the great outdoors together. Participation is based on approval by the Ranch Medical or Nursing Director, and availability.

Our own Todd Earl, a volunteer at the ranch for about 8 years and Director of the Ski Patrol for the Adaptive Winter Sports Program, will be sharing about his experience and the great work being done during church service Jan. 3, 2016.

You won't want to miss it!

Mission Committee

News from the Haiti Mission School for January 2016

As we reported last month, Howard [Nicols] and JoEllen [Parsons] recently went to Haiti, where among other things they visited the Haiti Mission School [HMS] and the secondary school where some of our graduates are going. Our attendance figures are up this year with 140 students registered at HMS and another 15 receiving scholarships to the secondary school. On the day they were at HMS [unannounced visit], 130 students were in attendance! During this trip they also brought French/English dictionaries to the students at the secondary school. It's always a joy and inspiration for us to see and visit with these energetic and committed students.

While there, they found out that one of our ninth grade students was recently arrested in relation to a murder in the area. This young man, Jackson, has been with us from the beginning. He is being held in jail in Jèrèmie. From all indications, he was not personally involved but the authorities believe that he may have information about the crime. He maintains he has no knowledge of the incident. After two months they continue to hold him in jail. In Haiti they can apparently do this legally. JoEllen and Howard visited him in jail and hired an attorney to see if he could move things along. They also gave one of our Haitian helpers some money to purchase and bring him food while he waits for the wheels of Haitian justice to turn. Meanwhile please join us as we raise Jackson up in prayer.



As you can see from this pile of rocks that they have collected, our students are eager to get going on the new school building. We hope these rocks will eventually become part of the foundation of the new school. Students and other board members have been bringing the rocks to school and depositing them in this pile. Because there is no vehicle access to the school, this kind of backbreaking work is necessary. If and when we begin to build, mules will be needed to transport most of the sand, concrete and other building materials from the road about a mile away.

This is one way they are encouraging us to explore the idea of working with the Haitians to construct a new school building. We are hoping with the new President taking office in Haiti after the first of the year the Haitian government will work with us to accomplish the project, and again undertake paying our teachers. The one year they did pay the teachers, we were able to set aside

money we had been paying them for this project, so we already have a start. Meanwhile, until the new President in office, such things have pretty much ground to a halt!

When asked how HMS could better prepare them for secondary school, those in secondary school told us they could use better preparation in French. Advanced schools in Haiti are taught mostly in French. JoEllen and Howard discussed this with the Committee and suggested an idea: What if a couple of our secondary school students would start a French club at HMS, where the members would speak in French, write stories and do other fun kinds of things? They would meet at least once a week after school and be open to anyone who was interested. We would pay the leaders a small stipend.

The Committee's response was interesting. They couldn't seem to understand the idea of a club run by students that students would *choose* to attend. They wanted it to be a more formal thing with a teacher and assignments and tests. It reminded Howard and JoEllen of the current emphasis in the U.S. of teaching for tests, rather than encouraging learning because it is fun and students simply want to learn. We're convinced most of the students are at our school because they want to learn! They are not required to go to school in Haiti.

January is the month that we send out tax letters to everyone who has made a contribution to the school during the past year. ***If you made a donation, and have not received your letter by the end of January, please let us know either by email (haitimissionschool@gmail.com), or snail mail (PO Box 445, Lake Luzerne, NY 12846).*** These forms are required by the IRS as proof of your donations. BTW: You can send donations to the same address if you wish. Checks can be made out to Haiti Mission School. We also accept *PayPal* donations.

The Seeker

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

71 Montcalm St.

Lake George, NY 12845

All are welcomed into The Caldwell Church Family.

We would love to see you in church on Sunday mornings at 10am!

Contact Information:

Office Number—(518) 668-2613

Secretary Email—secretary@caldwellpres.org

Pastor's Email—pastor@caldwellpres.org

Website—www.caldwellpres.org