

The Seeker for September 2016

Introducing...The LAKE GEORGE TEEN CENTER

Dear Caldwell Family,

I am thrilled to share some very exciting news with you. Beginning last winter, Caldwell has been engaged in a conversation with Lake George High School, the LG Public Library, our sister congregations at Sacred Heart and St. James, and some devoted community leaders, to explore how Lake George might unite around the idea of creating a safe space for High School students after school. This is not a *new* idea—it has been considered many times over the years and some important strides have been made. But still, an after school program has eluded the Lake George community. After many thoughtful conversations and the wonderful camaraderie shared at our strategy sessions, with the insights gleaned from LG students whom we surveyed last Spring, and with the unanimous vote of approval at the August 8th Lake George Town Board Meeting, **we will launch the Lake George Teen Center this Sept.!**

WHERE: Jack Abrahams, the president of the Lake George Senior Center, presented to the board the idea that the Teen Center be housed twice a week at the Lake George Senior Center on 22 Schuyler Street. If you've visited the Senior Center, you know what a handsome building it is, complete with a wonderful gathering room with plenty of tables and chairs, wifi, and a kitchen. There is space outdoors for a basketball court, and the basement floor already has a pool table and room to grow as a lounge space for our teens.

TRANSPORT, HOURS, and VISION: A school bus will run from the High School to the Senior Center (aka the Teen Center) on Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning September 14. The Teen Center will open at 3:30 p.m. and close at 5:30 p.m. The Teen Center will provide a safe space where the kids can relax, build relationships, have a snack after school, and get some tutoring for those who want it.

BUT THERE IS A LARGER VISION AT PLAY, AND HERE'S WHERE YOU COME IN: From the first moment we began our discussions about a Teen Center, the idea of ***building relationships*** has driven our thoughts and dreams. We hope the Teen Center is a place where every student feels a sense of belonging, and has opportunities to make connections with adult volunteers who are invested in them and support them and want to see them grow and thrive. ****We need volunteers to help staff and supervise the center.*** Each of our sister churches has been charged with the responsibility of providing at least one volunteer per week to help cover the two hour shifts.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!

If you have two extra hours in your week on occasion

if you like the idea of investing in the community

if you like the idea of getting to know some of the kids growing up here

if you want to help make a difference in a child's life

if you have a certain expertise in a foreign language, English writing, math, etc, and are willing to help students with their coursework as a tutor on occasion

If you know you are free for one day, but not sure about more than that

Simply call the church office 668-2613 and let us know and we will schedule accordingly.

What we need to do is **GET STARTED**. We have a great location, we have the wonderful support of the school, the library, and the churches in our community, the town board who operates the building unanimously supports the idea, and so now we need you—volunteers—to help staff the center. We will be using social media and we are pursuing grants to help pay for food for snacks. ***What we can't predict is the level of investment from the rest of us.*** I hope you will join me in volunteering your time and your talents to support this new initiative, which has been a long time coming.

What a wonderful way to carry on the Caldwell spirit of community investment in Lake George, and in our youth, to build toward a brighter future for us all.

Faithfully,

Ali

Preschool News

Dear Caldwell Family,

What a joy to be able to work with the teachers at the preschool. Kate, Leslie, Sherry and I just had lunch today and shared our ideas for this coming year. We are excited to know that we will have sparkling floors and new lights as we move into another great year. This summer, Kate had picnics at the area Lake George parks that were open to our preschool families. What a great time for our families to get to know each other and to welcome new families. Kate does a great job getting the name of our school out there and loving on our families.

Sherry's sister graduated from Lake George and is looking forward to college this fall. How great that Sherry has played such a wonderful role in her sister's life. Sherry also has 2 little ones in elementary school, so she has such a great background to bring to our class each day.

Leslie seems to be enjoying a summer of playing piano at a local church. She mentioned the joy it has been getting to know the people there this summer. So cool how God uses our talents in so many ways.

My summer has been great as we plan for my daughter's wedding at the end of August. Our son is also gearing up for his year at college in Ohio. He has been with us this summer doing an internship at Angio-Dynamics. Love to see our kids loving Jesus and serving Him this summer. My husband and I are about to enter empty-nest this fall. Guess we will have a blast!

I look forward to working with these ladies this year as we partner with you in loving this community of Lake George families. We all love working in this special school. Thanks for your support of the preschool and please pray for us as we teach and love these children.

Right now the 3's class has 13 students and the 4's class has 9 students (3 students just dropped out). I am sure that come the end of August, more families will be thinking of preschool, so we will pray that we fill those spots soon.

Partnering with you,

Chris Sallstrom



Deacon's Corner

We hope everyone had a great summer filled with laughter, love, family and friends. The Deacon's are looking ahead to our annual **Fall Rummage Sale** scheduled for **Thurs., Sept. 29th 3-7** (student \$1.00 night on jeans & tees 5-7); **Fri. 30th, 11-6** (Early bird bag sale 4-6); and the bag sale on **Sat. Oct. 1, 9-11** (tent sale 11-2). We need help with setup the week leading up to the sale. Please start collecting your gently used clothing, and household items. This is a huge fundraiser for our church so plan to come and lend a hand sorting and organizing Sept 26 through the 28th. Bake sale items are also needed. Come be a part of the Caldwell team and experience great fellowship, laughter, and the joy of helping others!

The **food pantry** didn't take a summer vacation in fact, we're busier than ever. The need for food is always on the minds of the hungry. Our wonderful friendly staff served over 110 people in June and July. August numbers look to be along the same lines. The pantry is open the second and fourth Friday each month. We welcome donations of non-perishable food as well as personal care items.

Fellowship and Hospitality

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

The Fellowship and Hospitality Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am 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. It is possible to just switch dates with someone else who is listed with their permission.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHANGE ON THE CHART AND NOTIFY TOM JENNE OF YOUR ACTION. (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.

September Coffee Hour Hosts

- 04 Quigan Family
- 11 Fuller Family
- 18 GreenFamily
- 25 Amrock Family

October Coffee Hour Hosts

- 02 Cornelius Family
- 09 Mannix Family
- 16 King Family
- 23 Roach Family
- 30 Earl Family

Kids Corner:

Welcome back to everyone. We hope all of you had a wonderful summer. Looking forward to hearing all about those summer trips and vacations that you had.

We had a wonderful turn out for **Cave Quest Vacation Bible School**. 48 children attended daily from 9:00 am to noon, the week of August 8th to the 12th. The Church turned into several caves complete with bats, stalagmites and stalactites. It was a fun packed week of games, crafts, music, and food. Highlights were the 5 daily Bible points; Jesus gives us...hope, courage, direction, love and his power.

Thanks to all that helped with VBS especially Sarah King. She spearheaded this great week and was instrumental in getting volunteers, teachers, and seeing that everything ran smoothly on a daily basis! Over 15 local teens and adults from Caldwell, Sacred Heart, Lake George and Queensbury communities were here to assist. Words cannot express our thanks to all who helped make this event the success that it was. Special thanks to Ali Trowbridge, Mother Jean DeVaty and Jim Corriveau who rallied us each morning with skits, songs and fun experiments to bring the word of God to life."

Our Mission project for the week of VBS and throughout the upcoming Sunday school year will be Habitat for Humanity. In one week of VBS alone we raised \$128.00

Please mark your calendars - **RALLY DAY - Sunday classes begin on September 11th**. Parents will be able to register their children for another year. We have a great program that you won't want to miss. **Don't miss the first day back to Sunday school! We will be having a group activity as well as an ice cream party**. We are in need of parent volunteers to join us in teaching classes. Think about teaming with a friend. The CE Committee as well as Pastor Ali are here to help you and it really is a lot of fun. Please contact Judy Guilford or Dana Power if you are interested.

Welcome back!! Hope to see you in Sunday school class!!

Judy & Dana



North Country Ministry is seeking volunteers to work in the Food Pantry from 4-7pm on Wednesdays and another volunteer to help with food pick-up 1 or 2 mornings per week. Both Volunteer positions are located in Warrensburg. Please call 623-2829 if you can help!

Thank you!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MOW THE GRASS.

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the sheet in the coffee room or call Laura at #368-0540. Sign up is by week for the following Sunday.

North Country Ministry's Fundraisers

North Country Ministry's **Summer Jackpot Raffle** is underway! 1st Prize is \$5,000; 2nd Prize is \$2,000; 3rd Prize is \$1,000. Only 200 tickets will be sold! Tickets are \$100 and may be purchased by individuals or groups. Drawing will be held at the Ministry's Golf Tournament (see below).

North Country Ministry's **8th Annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament** will be held on **Sunday, September 18th** at the beautiful **Cronin's Golf Resort**. \$95 per player includes golf with cart, lunch, Steak Bake Dinner, prizes and a great opportunity to support the important work of the Ministry. \$30 for Steak Bake (for non golfers). **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, September 14.**

Please call 623-2829 or visit www.NorthCountryMinistry.org for more information or to register for the above events! Thank you!

Caldwell Children's Choir starting again this Fall!

Leslie Clemens will meet with any children who want to participate for 10 minutes at the beginning of Sunday School each week in the Middle Room. She will start the choir on Sept. 18th.

All are welcome!



YOUTH FALL KICK-OFF: at Adirondack Extreme!

Calling all kids (age 7 and up) and youth to an exciting fall activity of climbing ropes and having a blast together with Pastor Ali on Columbus Day, Oct. 10th!!! The cost is free! RSVP to the church office by Friday, Oct. 7th. #668-2613.



Fall Ecumenical Book Study:

Beginning Wednesday, September 21st, 1-2 p.m. in the Middle Room, please join us for our Fall book study of "The Gospel According to Peanuts", by Robert L. Short. Books are available for purchase in the Church Office beginning September 13th for \$14.50. Please join us for lunchtime fellowship at 12:30 with a bag lunch. Our book study will begin promptly at 1p.m. Bring a friend and come whenever you can. All are welcome!

Pastor Ali would like to know everyone's month and date of birth. You do not have to give her the year. You can place a slip in the offering plate, her mailbox, or email it to secretary@caldwellpres.org.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!!! It is time to start sorting and saving your unwanted items for the Rummage Sale, Sept. 29, 30, & 1st of Oct.

You can start bringing your items to the church on Sunday, September, 25th. We also need volunteers to set up and help with the sale. So mark your calendars!

September 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Mission Comm. Meeting 2	8 Preschool Open House 6-7:30 Choir 7	9 Food Pantry 9:30-12	10
11 Sunday School Rally Morning	12 1st Day of Preschool	13 Fellowship & Hosp. Mtg. 10:30 Ch. Ed. Mtg. 5:30/Paneras	14 Deacons Mtg. 6:30	15 Choir 7	16	17
18	19	20 Session Mtg. 5:30	21 Bible Study 1-2	22 Choir 7	23 Food Pantry 9:30-12	24
25	26	27	28 Bible Study 1-2	29 Choir 7	30	

Happy Birthday

September

Bobbie Hoffman

Carol Kirkwood

Drew Jackson

Emily Fuller

Judd Brynes

Leah Anne Monroe

Lauren Quigan

Judy Guilford

Marjorie Mannix

Mark Mannix

Norman Duell

Rachel Hunsicker

Rosemarie Earl

Sara Mannix

Stan Rummel

Ted Guilford



PRAYER CONCERNS

Jenne Family, Len Bunalski , Lauren Azer, Karen Azer, John Kohland, Pamela Parrott, Alex & Justin Blanco, Andy & Melissa Thomas, Faith & Will Weisner, Carol Foster, Ron Madeira, Becky Compson, Antwon Munda, Jean Paul, Harry Spahn, Peg & Les Edwards, Jana DeCamilla, Heather Lackey, Tracy Skidmore, Keri Ann Delaney, Alex Kuthovski, Laura Pettis, KC Glenn, Charlotte McCue's family, Dolly Wood, hospitals in Haiti, esp. Jereme, our military, government leaders, persecuted Christians around the world, missionaries, college & school students & teachers as they return to school.

Hospital, Nursing & Retirement Homes
Indian River Nursing Home – Pat Eaglestone
The Pines -Murial Kopf
Fort Hudson -Charles Sandora



September Mission of the Month: *Haiti Mission School*

Initiated by Tom and JoEllen Parsons, two of Caldwell's active participants, the school is now entering its tenth year. During that time, the school has grown from one class of 24 kindergarten/first graders to a complete primary school (K/1-6) which last year had 147 students enrolled. Three classes have graduated and last year, 15 of our top graduates were receiving scholarships to a nearby secondary school.

Haiti provides some public education in the cities, but in the countryside virtually all schools are provided by extra-governmental organizations such as ours, many with religious ties. However, most of these schools charge tuition, which bars many children from attending. Although tuition by our standards is low (most around \$100-\$150/year) average family incomes are in the \$500-\$800 range. In the countryside where our school is, incomes are even lower. To send even one child to school is a stretch for them.

For this reason, we made the decision this would be a free school. We provide all the materials necessary for our students' education. We pay for cloth for uniforms (parents sew the uniforms). We pay all costs for books, paper, pencils, benches and desks, pay the teachers' salaries, and all the other costs of education. Because we know that a hungry child doesn't learn as well as one who has been fed, we also provide a daily hot meal. A local church provides the classroom space and a local board provides oversight.



Howard Nicols shows the kids their picture

The majority of our students come from illiterate homes. Children often arrive, never having seen a book, held a pencil or crayon, learned how to spell or do even simple addition or subtraction. Still, they come with a great eagerness to learn.

This is where you come in. Your support for the school provides the opportunity for the children of this impoverished rural area to achieve success. Thank you for your continuing support!

Also here's a reminder that we will be providing the "Gourmet Soup and Sandwich" luncheon following worship on one of the last two Sundays in September (final date to be established). We hope you will join us for this church favorite.

September News from the Haiti Mission School

As students and teachers prepare to return to school in Haiti, the nation itself is in crisis. A strike by resident doctors in eleven state hospitals has left much of the country without medical services for the poorest of Haitians.

According to a report by Fox News, and confirmed by the Miami Herald, *“Young doctors and interns walked off the job in March to protest chronic shortages of basic medical supplies, dismal pay and working conditions so unsafe that relatives of patients routinely threaten them, even storming into operating rooms with handguns”.*



The strike which began in Port Au Prince soon spread to 12 other government-run hospitals throughout the nation (including the one in Jèrèmie) and the striking doctors were soon joined by nurses and other staff. They were protesting not only poor wages (Haitian doctors receive only \$120/month) but lack of critical medical supplies and equipment.

All of this has been exacerbated by the Haitian government which is in limbo due to the failure to complete the presidential elections in December of last year. The interim president, Jocelerme Privert was installed for 120 days when the previous president, Michael Martelly was forced to step down by the constitution which allows a Haitian President only one 5-year term. The 120-day period has expired and elected lawmakers have been unable to agree on whether to allow Privert to continue, or to replace him with another.

In addition to all this, many Haitians accused the U.S. of meddling in internal politics during the previous election. Whether we indeed interfered this time or not, the U.S. has a long history of “helping” the Haitians make political decisions. As a result, the Obama administration has decided to not help pay for the next round of elections, currently scheduled to take place October 9. (This time only 24 people are running--last time it was 53)

Now for some good news.

Thanks to the continuing donations by many organizations and individuals (like you), the Haiti Mission School is scheduled to open on time as usual. We are anticipating full classes and are expecting all our staff, with the possible exception of Jean Paul, who has had serious surgery last spring, to return in the fall.

Last fall, it was reported that the cistern at the school, originally completed in 2012, had developed some leaks and needed to be repaired. In order to do this, the cistern would need to be drained. So this past spring during our visit to the school, we hired a mason to drain the cistern and repair it over the summer. The work has now been completed and summer rains have hopefully refilled it so that it will be available for the school this fall.



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— ali@caldwellpres.org

Website— www.caldwellpres.org