

THE SEEKER FOR MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Give Up or Take On?

Dear Caldwell Family,

Today is Ash Wednesday, a day of solemn remembrance as we begin the season of Lent. In some traditions, today marks the day when Christians are urged to “give up something for Lent.” Still others decide to “take on” something for Lent—perhaps a new spiritual practice of worship, study, or prayer, or a special form of service to others. In dedicating ourselves to such a pursuit, we prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Christ’s journey to the cross.

March is also the month when our mission focus is on service. The Mission Committee has a list of ways you can “take on” an act of service during this season (see their detailed list). There is something for everyone.

For me, I am doing a bit of both. I am participating in a weekly meditation group to quiet my mind and deepen my practice of being attentive to the Spirit during Lent. I’m also excited to help serve the meal at Sacred Heart, and make “serving” decisions for my family time and my free time that align with the Spirit of our Lord, who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life for us.

As you discern where God is leading you in this new season, here is a prayer to begin your Lenten journey:

Loving God, I awaken this morning and raise up my mortal body from sleep. I know that one day you will raise me to everlasting life. Thank you for such an inexpressible gift! Thank you, too, for the gift of this day, of this life among family and friends, my home and the beautiful earth. Show me how I can serve you today by serving someone else. Help me to see evidence of your grace all around. Remove any obstacle that causes me to stumble in faithfulness or prevents me from receiving the joy and gladness you offer. In Christ’s name I pray, Amen.

A blessed Lenten season to you all.

Faithfully,

Ali

Preschool News

Dear Friends,

We have been busy in the preschool getting ready for our Parent/Teacher Conferences. We have been having so many good conversations with our families through the year about their choices for next year, so it is going to be so much fun celebrating the work their children have done this year.



Our Open House is April 6th from 6 to 7:30.

Thank you for supporting the preschool and showing so much interest in what is happening here. We look forward to Easter coming and the wonderful opportunity we have of sharing all that Jesus did for us through His death and resurrection. We have a risen Savior! It's the best news we could share with these precious children.

Serving with you,
Christine Sallstrom

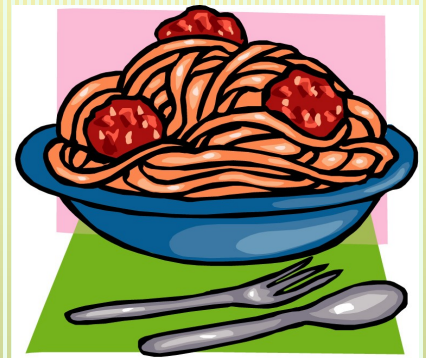
Scholarship Fund Spaghetti Luncheon

Please join us for this meal which will follow the service on **March 26th**. There will be spaghetti, salad, drinks, and dessert.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Volunteers to make a dessert are needed.
A sign-up sheet is in the coffee room.

Donations to the scholarship fund are greatly appreciated, and will go directly to individuals in our church who are pursuing advanced education.



Fellowship and Hospitality

The Fellowship and Hospitality 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 as you see fit. There is a list of instructions in the kitchen on how to use the coffee urns.

Coffee Hour Hosts:

March

- 5 Cornelius Family
- 12 Mannix Family
- 19 Fuller Family
- 26 Spaghetti Luncheon

April

- 2 Jenne Family
- 9 Dave Madden & Bonnie Kraham
- 16 Tom & JoEllen Parsons
- 23 Kathy Duell & Nancy Hollenbeck
- 30 Jess King & Naomi Hodkinson

Caldwell Presbyterian Church Scholarship Information Sheet

Each year Caldwell Presbyterian Church will present a scholarship to a student or individual who will be pursuing post secondary education at an accredited school or college or technical school. Any high school senior or person actively involved with the ministry of Caldwell Presbyterian Church may apply for this academic award. The amount of the award will be determined each year based on the funds currently available in the Scholarship Fund and by the number of eligible recipients.

- Eligibility – Any high school student or adult actively involved in the ministry of Caldwell Presbyterian Church who wishes to further their education may apply for a scholarship.
- Priority will be given to members of Caldwell Presbyterian Church.
- The award will be a one-time non-renewable scholarship. (If you have previously received a scholarship, you are not eligible).
- Criteria – applicants themselves must complete a *Caldwell Presbyterian Church Scholarship Application*. The application must be submitted by the deadline date that is **May 14, 2017**.
- The Scholarship Committee will review applications.

Award presentations will be made at the Christian Education Service on June 11, 2017.

Please submit the completed application by May 14, 2017 to:

Howard Nicols
Scholarship Committee
Caldwell Presbyterian Church
71 Montcalm Church
Lake George, NY 12845

Any questions – contact Howard Nicols at howard.nicols@yahoo.com



Finance Committee: IRA Charitable Rollover

The IRA charitable rollover has proven to be very popular with taxpayers and beneficial to charities. Individuals may begin taking distributions from the Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) as early as age 59½, but are required to begin taking them at age 70½. Normally, these distributions are subject to income taxes. The IRA Charitable Rollover provision, established Under the Pension Protection Act, allows individuals who have reached age 70½ to donate up to \$100,000 to charitable organizations directly from their IRA, without treating the distribution as taxable income. In order to qualify, contributions must go directly to a public charity and be made from traditional IRAs or Roth IRAs. Donors may receive no goods or services in return for their contributions, and must obtain written documentation of their contribution from each recipient charity.

Beneficiaries include social service providers, religious organizations, cultural institutions and colleges—organizations that benefit communities and improve lives every day. Since the provision was enacted, hundreds of millions of dollars have been donated to charities through IRA contributions.

The tax benefits of the IRA Charitable Rollover are available to taxpayers, regardless of whether they itemize their returns. In particular, this helps older Americans who may have paid off their home mortgage and no longer file itemized tax returns. The mandatory distribution from their IRA would otherwise trigger a tax burden, even if they donate the money to charity. The IRA rollover provision removes these negative tax consequences and encourages Americans to give back to their communities during their lifetime.

Anyone interested in taking advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover should contact their tax advisor.



April 9, 2017

We are updating the church directory.

If you have an address change, please mark the clip board placed in the coffee room. Also, if you want your email in the directory, please give that to us as well. We need these updates by March 1st. Thank you.

ARE YOU LOOKING TO JOIN AN ADULT BIBLE STUDY?

We are exploring the possibility of starting a bible study in church members' homes. Right now we are looking for people willing to host or participate in a small group in your home on occasion. Please think it over and let Beth in the church office know of your interest: 668-2613. Thanks!

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Please join us for an ecumenical service of worship at 12:00 noon on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, at Sacred Heart Church. All are most welcome.

YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

Are you looking for an opportunity to deepen your spiritual practices during the 40 days of Lent? All are welcome to join in devotion, study, and fellowship Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:30, bring your own lunch. March 1st we will meet at Sacred Heart at 12:00 for Ash Wednesday worship and the imposition of ashes, followed by our first book discussion in the Parish House. March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5 meetings will be at Caldwell. Our book is *Wind in the Wilderness*, by DJ Del Rosario, available for \$10 in the Caldwell Church office. Hope to see you there!

Folks with strong backs and ability to climb stairs needed.

Personal Need----At the end of March, I will start a move to The Willows on Bay Road. This is not move I want to make, it's a move I need to make. My home in Dunham Bay is too much for me by myself. It is on the water, so there are many steps up and down to do anything or get anywhere. I'm in the process of down sizing and will have many garbage bags of both trash and rummage sale items. My need is this--I cannot get them up to the garage. I will need a couple able bodied people for just about a half hour, at the most, to give me some help. Not sure of the exact timing yet, but if you could see my home you'd know it will be later than sooner.

Thanks so much

Lesley Clemons-- My email address is werbobnles@gmail.com

March 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Supervisory Meeting 12:15	1 Mission Committee 2:15 Book Study 12:00 AT SACRED HEART	2 CHOIR 7	3	4
5 Communion Worship Mtg 11:30 Confirmation Class 11:15	6	7 Supervisory Meeting 12:15	8 6:30 Deacons Mtg. Book Study 12:00	9 Choir 7	10 Food Pantry 9:30-12	11
12	13	14 Fellowship & Hospitality Mtg. 10:30	15 Mission Committee 2:00 Book Study 12:00	16 Choir 7	17	18
19	20	21 Session Mtg. 5:30	22 Book Study 12:00	23 Choir 7	24 Food Pantry 9:30-12	25
26 Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon 11:30	27	28	29 Book Study 12:00	30 Godspell Musica Warrensburg 7:00	31 Godspell Musical Warrensburg 7:00	1 Godspell Musical Warrensburg 7:00

Happy Birthday

Dave Madden

Jeff Brozyna

Jim Corriveau

Barb O'Reilly

Pat Carpenter

Melanie Quigan

Tim McCann

Leah Jenne

Lauren Azer

Linda Nicols

John Kohland

Tom Parsons



PRAYER CONCERNS

Pamela Parrott, Lauren & Karen Azer,
Justin & Alex Blanco, John Kohland, Jenne family,
Ron Madeira, Les Edwards, KC Glenn, Len Bunalski,
Judith Subisaretta, Keith Koshak, the Seed Program in Haiti
(for healthy crops to grow), Pastor Shawn, Andy Knoll &
Melissa Thomas, Naylor Wells, Jack Amneli, Harry Spahn,
Erica Ladu, Joyce Compson's mother, Mary Bradley,
Kristine Snajder, Ralph Dudley, Ella Moody, John Davis,
Pat Horne, Pat Carpenter, Nancy's son-in-law Mark,
Rev. Bob Schmidt.



Those Serving In The Military:

John-Navy Seal

Hospital, Nursing & Retirement Homes:

The Pines: Marion, Mary

Home of the Good Shepherd: Ree Humphrey

Hospital: Peg Edwards

Those Who Mourn

Lesley Clemons

Charlie Sandora's family

Neil Andrew's family

Helen Dicken's Family

Richard Matha's family

Tom Collin's family

Caroline Becker's family

Ann Kohland's son-in-law's family

Sue Lustyik's family

News from the Haiti Mission School, March 2017

For those on our email list, much of this is old news... But news is moving fast and in fact, thanks to newsletter deadlines, this will be old news by the time you get to read it.

School opened January 25! Using temporary tarp structures, students are back in classes. Hot meals are also being provided. We were pleased to hear many area residents and parents joined teachers and students in moving materials from the road and erecting the structures. They also rebuilt benches and desks that were damaged by the hurricane.

February 6... the new Haitian President was inaugurated today with little in the way of the usual protesting. We are hopeful that he will get the country moving again. The country has been on pause for the past year since the previous President stepped down due to term limits. (Haitian Presidents are limited to one 5-year term.) Meanwhile the interim government simply kept basic functions running, and dealt with the occasional crisis.

February 9... JoEllen arrived in Port Au Prince, spent the night and then bused to Jèrèmie the next morning. She has since met with Director Kenold, the oversight committee at Labastille, Administrator Pastor Poteau, and food manager Junior Eustache.

February 12... The shipping container with the tents has arrived in Jèrèmie. Current plans are for the tents to be brought to the site on Monday, Feb 20. Meanwhile foundations will need to be prepared for them. We are excited as we make each new step to return to normalcy.

A five-member team will also be arriving on Feb 16th. One member of the team is working on an Eagle Scout project at a church/orphanage that Howard has been working with. His father is part of the team, as is our son Steve, and Howard and his son, Ben.

The pictures below show the students meeting on their first day back, a couple of the tarp covered structures and one of the classes in session (under a blue tarp). We are concerned about how the school year will work out since they have missed so much school. Many of them may have to repeat the year since they missed so much school. We are not certain whether the government is going to treat the school year differently for students in the Grand Anse district, since the hurricane only affected this district and one other on the southwestern part of the island.



The shipping container also included a large amount of building materials including lumber and metal for roofing. Brian Bartow, who coordinated getting supplies and then shipping the container is now in Haiti. He is heading up the rebuilding project with the help of many Haitian hands. The church at Labastille is one of a group of nine small rural churches affiliated with the Free Methodist Church in Jèrèmie (all the small churches were destroyed in the hurricane). Brian will be overseeing the rebuilding of all these churches including repairing the mother church at Jèrèmie.

2/15 JoEllen and several of our young Haitian guys are back in Port Au Prince to meet the team. They rented a bus for the trip. Since we must pay for a round trip anyway, the Haitians wanted to go along. It is good protection and they are fun to have along. It makes the 7-hour trip seem shorter.

Again, we thank you for your continuing prayers and support. If you would like to receive our e-news which is more timely, send an email to us at haitimissionschool@gmail.com. Our mailing list is strictly internal. We do not sell or otherwise provide it to others.

Easter Plant Ordering Form to decorate our sanctuary.



Your Name:

Quantity	Item	Price Ea.	Plant Color
	Lilies 6" Pot (3-5 blooms)	\$9.99	
	Lilies 6" Pot (6+ blooms)	10.99	
	Lilies 8" Pot (2 plants)	19.99	
	Lilies 10" Pot (3 plants)	26.99	
	Tulips 6" Pot	9.99	
	Daffodils 6" Pot	9.99	
	Hyacinths 6" Pot	9.99	
	Azaleas 6" Pot	19.99	
	Azaleas 10" Pot (2 plants)	29.99	
	Mums 6" Pot	9.99	
	Cineraria 6" Pot	10.99	
	Hydrangea 6" Pot (2 blooms)**	14.99	
	Hydrangea 6" Pot (3 blooms)**	16.99	
	Hydrangea 6" Pot (4 blooms)**	18.99	
	Hydrangea 6" Pot (5 blooms)**	20.99	
	Palm Buds	9.99	

Also Available *Foil Colors Available: Pink, Purple, Gold, Green, White & Blue ** White

If you order flowers, please fill out this form and make the check out to the Caldwell Presbyterian Church. Please place it in the offering plate **by Sunday, March 19th**. You can take your flowers home following the Easter Service. Thank you.

MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH: GIVING A HAND

People often think of giving something up as a spiritual offering for Lent. The Mission Committee would like to suggest a different kind of giving this month. Instead of reaching your hand into your pocket, try reaching out to give your hand to another. Therefore, our *Mission of the month* for March is giving up some time and giving your talents and abilities.

Although we will provide the *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering at Easter as usual for those who feel so moved, we would like to encourage your donation of time and talent in a mission outreach for March. A mission outreach is a donation beyond Caldwell. You won't need to travel far... There are many possible opportunities in our area. We have listed a few of them below.

- 1— *The Code Blue shelter provides shelter for homeless people whenever there is a forecast for a temperature below 20 degrees or at least 12 inches of precipitation. They are looking for volunteers to help out at the Code Blue Shelter in the following ways when they are open: Filling shifts at the shelter, providing meals for Code Blue guests on the days the Open Door Kitchen is closed (Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday), driving the Code Blue bus from the Ridge Street terminal to the Code Blue Shelter on Gurney Lane at 9:10 PM or helping in Kim Cook's office. Contact them at <http://opendoor-ny.org/need-help/codeblue/>.*
- *Caldwell is providing the community dinner at Sacred Heart on March 29th. Call Mark Mannix or the Caldwell office if you would like to help. Servers and desserts are needed as well as people to help make chili and corn bread and folks to set up and clean up. Thank you in advance!*
- *Volunteers to make desserts for the Scholarship Fundraiser luncheon on March 26th are needed. A sign-up sheet is in the Coffee Room.*
- *North Country Ministries in Warrensburg (623-2829) is always in need of volunteers.*
- *Spend a bit of time in our preschool, reading a book, telling a story or sharing in some other way. (Contact Chris Sallstrom - sallstr8@aol.com)*
- *Help out with minor issues around the church. Please contact Laura Moody if you need some ideas.*

These are just a few of the ways of giving your time, reaching out and doing mission. Most helping organizations are always looking for volunteers.

Help us to share with the congregation how members of our church family are helping the community by letting Mark Mannix or one of our Mission Committee members know (during March or anytime!)

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