

THE SEEKER FOR MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



True Hospitality

One of my mentors in ministry, and also a dear friend, Rev. Elizabeth Andrews, as she neared retirement from congregational ministry, trained as an Oblate in the Benedictine Order. Oblates of St. Benedict are Christian individuals who live the Benedictine way of life in order to enrich their Christian way of life. By integrating prayer and work, they manifest Christ's presence as they live in the world, and do what they can to bring the world to God by being witnesses of Christ by word and by example to those around them—in stewardship, relationships, community, balance, work, simplicity, and prayer. One of the telltale markers of such a person is their spirit of welcome and hospitality.

In Chapter 53 of the Rule of St. Benedict, about "The Reception of Guests," Saint Benedict reminds Christians to receive all guests as they would welcome Him, for Christ Himself will say, as the Bible tells us: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matt 25:35).

Whenever I would visit Elizabeth, there would be a special welcome—a new book with certain pages earmarked for me to read, or special hymns playing softly in the background, or simply her way of getting up from her desk—literally stopping what she was doing—to greet me. In Chicago, whenever we'd go to lunch or run to Starbucks for a coffee, she'd get something—a piece of bread or a muffin—and she'd always take a moment to give thanks for the opportunity to "break bread" together, and she'd split the muffin, and give me half. And now, every year on the occasion of Christmas and birthdays, a card comes in the mail from Elizabeth, her handwriting immediately recognizable, and inside is a notecard she made from a photograph she took in nature around Lake Michigan where she spends much of her leisure time; an image depicting a hummingbird, or a deer standing at attention, or a gentle breeze among the flowers, always captivating the mind and heart and spirit all at once.

It was Elizabeth who taught me about true hospitality. The way she welcomes me is the way she welcomes everybody, treating each person as a blessing, a fellow pilgrim on the journey, embracing differences in a loving spirit of reverence—ever pointing to a future where our differences will be celebrated and embraced in the Kingdom where the "light from the God of love and mercy will be all in all."

I am prompted to think about Elizabeth and her marvelous example of true hospitality as we enter the month of May, because this is the time when many international students on the J-1 Visa program will be coming to Lake George. They will be far from home, and looking for connection, friendship, good work, and the chance to enjoy the beauty of this region. There will be opportunities for each one of us to offer the Benedictine spirit of true hospitality and welcome in the days and weeks ahead, and I pray that we take each opportunity as a gift and blessing, in the spirit of our Lord, who said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Faithfully,

Ali



May Coffee Hour Hosts

- 6 Dana Power and Sarah King
- 13 Mother's Day...Current Board of Elders
- 20 Sue Hunsicker and Jackie Montgomery
- 27 Memorial Day weekend...Tom and Jo Ellen Parsons

JUNE COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

- 3 Mark Mannix Family
- 10 Jess and Naomi Hodgekinson
- 17 Board of Deacons....Father's Day
- 24 Patti and Jeff Brozyna

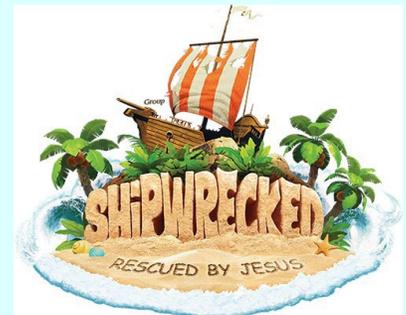
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

HAPPY MAY! WE HAD SEVERAL GREAT EVENTS IN APRIL. THANKS TO ALL THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO TRAVELED TO THE WARREN CENTER ON PALM SUNDAY TO HAND OUT PALM CROSSES. ON EASTER, WE HAD A WONDERFUL EASTER EGG HUNT WITH LOTS OF CANDY AND GOLDEN EGGS TO BE FOUND. THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED OUT WITH THIS EVENT.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDARS ARE:

JUNE 10- YOUTH SUNDAY

AUGUST 6-10– Shipwrecked VBS. ~ CALLING ALL TEENS!! IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING INTO 7TH GRADE OR ABOVE, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE THEIR HELP THAT WEEK. ~If interested, please contact Sarah King or Dana Powers.



News from the Haiti Mission School

Changes coming: As the 2017-18 school year comes to a close, it appears our lives may be about to change once again. For the past 13 or 14 years, a goodly portion of our (Tom's and JoEllen's—*mostly JoEllen's*) life has revolved around the Haiti Mission School (Labastille Siloe School). The government has now agreed to take over the operation of the school for the 2018-19 year. This will allow us to step back. While we still plan to continue supporting the food program, and assist with books, uniforms, and other necessary materials, we will no longer be responsible for the teaching staff, planning the school year, and all the attendant issues. If this transition has become a reality when we return in the fall, it will then be time to begin considering with the church, local families and the Haitian government how to replace our temporary structures with permanent one(s).

Meanwhile, the U.S. Board has agreed to a severance bonus for our teachers at the end of this school year, based on the number of years they have served. We want them to know we appreciate their devotion, commitment and hard work for the children and families of the Labastille area. Also, with our financial support, several of our current staff are in process of completing their teaching certifications. This would allow the government to hire them for the next school year.



MoonCatcher Project: As we previously reported (see March and April Newsletters) one of the major projects of the March trip to Haiti was bringing MoonCatcher kits for the teenage girls we support in the secondary school. Unfortunately, the MoonCatcher instruction booklet was only printed in English, which only a few Haitians can read. Andrea Jacobs, French teacher at Greenwich High School and some of her advanced students, translated the ten-page manual into French. In addition to Creole, French is the language used by most educated Haitians. We join our students and their families in our sincere appreciation of the hard work and dedication of Andrea and her students.

We were blessed on this trip to have a young woman, Shella, work with us as translator. The guys try to be sensitive when working with the girls and women about female issues and it still feels awkward at times. Shella (*standing in the picture*) is just starting law school in Jèrèmie. In addition to being a good translator, she is bright, hard-working, and related well with our students and team members. We look forward to many more trips working with Shella.

The MoonCatcher meeting, with the girls and several family members was led by Howard's niece Dr. Jena Curtis and, JoEllen. Our missionary friend Lindsay Anderson and Shella translated. There were lots questions and exchanges of ideas and information about women's issues. Haitian culture was discussed, particularly as it relates to puberty, sexuality, relations between women and men, and growing from girls to women in Haitian society. The girls and their family members were most appreciative of the information presented about feminine issues and the MoonCatcher kits. Based on comments after the meeting, the program was deemed a great success. If continuing feedback from the girls is positive, we hope to expand this project in the future.



MoonBee scheduled for Queensbury. Since 2011 The MoonCatcher Project has been making reusable, washable menstrual management - "[MoonCatcher Kits](#)" - These kits are constructed by volunteers at gatherings called "MoonBees". A MoonBee is a sewing bee that brings together diverse groups of people to help make MoonCatcher Kits for distribution worldwide. Volunteers usually spend two hours putting together the kits. Both sewers and non-sewers are welcome to participate. A MoonBee is scheduled for Sunday May 6 from 1-3 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Weeks Road, in Queensbury. More information is available from Ellie at (518) 310-7710, and at their website www.mooncatcher.org.

The picture at left shows Congressman Paul Tonko with MoonCatcher founder Ellie Von Wellsheim at a MoonBee in Rensselaer. Congressman Tonko spoke in support of the project and then joined in cutting out Tyvek for the waterproof pad carriers.

Once again, we join the students and staff at the Haiti Mission School in thanking you for your continuing support and prayers. Haiti Mission School, P.O. Box 445, Lake Luzerne, NY 12846

haitimissionschool@gmail.com



Caldwell Presbyterian Church
Annual Spring Rummage & Bake Sale

71 Montcalm Street, Lake George Village

Thursday, May 31st 3 - 7 pm

*Specials from 5 - 7 pm Get ready for summer
with \$1 shorts & t-shirts!*

Friday, June 1st 11 am - 6 pm

Bag Sale from 4 - 6 pm Friday night!

Saturday, June 2nd 9 - 11 am ~ Bag Sale continues

Buy one bag for \$3 or two bags for \$5 and fill to the brim!

*For your shopping convenience, the tents on the lawn will be
open until 2 pm for last minute deals!*

For more information, please call the church office at 518-668-2613

Children/Youth Choir is Meeting this Sunday after Church!

Youth Sunday is just around the corner!

All Sunday School Students are invited

to learn a very simple song to cover all age levels.

**Practice will take place every Sunday, immediately after
Sunday School, for only 10 minutes in the Preschool room.**

Youth Sunday will happen in early June, and we need all of you!

Can't wait to hear how wonderful this choir will sound with you in it!!



Community Dinner May 16th 5:00 at Sacred Heart

The free dinner is being sponsored by Bella's Deli in Lake George

**Youth are asked to help with the set up, clean up and serving of the meal.
Please contact Gretchen Amrock if you are available.**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A NEW MEMBER?

**A new members class will meet with Pastor Ali on May 20th following
worship in her office from 11:30 -1:00. This is the only prerequisite
for joining the church.**

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

**Any high school senior or person actively involved in the ministry of
Caldwell Presbyterian Church who wishes to further their education may
apply for a scholarship. Applications may be picked up in the Church Office.
The deadline for applying for the scholarship is May 13, 2018.
The Scholarship Committee would like to remind members and friends of
Caldwell that they may donate to the Scholarship Fund by giving a gift in
memory of or to honor someone or as a general donation. Thank you.**

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Book Group's study of the parables. Sacred Heart 11:30 Bring your lunch	3 National Day of Prayer Service 6:30-7/Sanctuary Choir 7	4	5
6 Communion	7 Woman's Bible Study 10	8	9 Book Group's study of the parables Sacred Heart 11:30	10 Choir 7	11 Food Pantry 9:30	12
13	14 Christian Ed. Mtg. 5:30 at Ambrosia	15 Session Meeting 5:30	16 Community Dinner 5 @Sacred Heart // Book Group's study of the parables	17 Choir 7	18	19
20 Deacon Mtg. 11:15	21	22	23 Book Group's study of the parables	24 Choir 7	25 Food Pantry 9:30	26
27 Rummage Sale Set-Up	28	29	30 Book Group's study of the parables	31 Rummage Sale 3-7	1 Rummage Sale 11-6	2 R.S. 9-11

Happy Birthday

- 16 Peg Earl
- 16 Lesley Clemons
- 17 James Bombard
- 22 Rod Cornelius
- 26 Darlene Gunther
- 30 Dante Corriveau

PRAYER CONCERNS

Lauren & Karen Azer, Justin & Alex Blanco, Pam Parrott, Peg & Les Edwards, Jenne family, Linda Carr, Steven Little, Charles McNaughty, Raymond Calore, Joyce Wilimen, Len & Tina Bunalski, Darlene Butler, Dean Farley, Michael Frese, Bill Cirillo, Margy's friend, Candice Cook, Herb Wood, Scott Bidel, Jim Kuipers, Cathy Wood, Joyce Constantine, Judd Brynes, John Kohland, Anita Rios, Johnny Coccozza, Sabrina & impoverished children in Haiti, Robert Miranda, Harry Spahn, Samantha, Mark's co-worker, Mel's friend Kim and Sid, Naomi's sister, Shelly, Selina, Sharon Koshak, Twyla, Richert family, Liv's mother-in-law, Danielle and others with cancer, Compson family, Corey Hayes, Margery Morris, Jake Corriveau, Chaz's mother and friend's daughter, Pat Carpenter's son-in-law Dick and friend Chris, Nancy Brown.

Wednesday Book Study Group—You are invited to join the book group as they study the parables on Weds. from 11:30-12:30 at Sacred Heart.

Sunday, May 6th, a Barbershop Quartet Group is coming..... to sing during our worship service. Feel free to invite a friend.

From Pastor Ali's sermon on April 22: *"I close with these words of challenge, directed to us all, as we try to listen for the voice of the Good Shepherd in the midst of our busy lives, and act in love. They were written by educator Dr. Kent M. Keith for his students in the 1960's, and Mother Teresa had her own version of them written on the wall of her children's home in Calcutta. It is her version I'd like to share:"*

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.
 Forgive them anyway.
 If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.
 Be kind anyway.
 If you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies.
 Succeed anyway.
 If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you.
 Be honest and sincere anyway.
 What you spend years building, others could destroy overnight.
 Build anyway.
 If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.
 Be happy anyway.
 The good you do today, will often be forgotten.
 Do good anyway.
 Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough.
 Give the world your best anyway.
 You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God.
 It was never between you and them anyway.



"A Cup Full of Blessings" 2018 Women's Retreat

Please join us for a weekend retreat at the Wiawaka Holiday House on the shores of Lake George on Sat., June 2 through Sun., June 3. We will explore the spiritual practice of prayer and how we can develop a more meaningful relationship with God and in turn with one another. We have scholarship funds available. Cost is \$75.00. Registration **deadline is May 20th**. Forms in the coffee room.

May Mission of the Month—Young Adult Volunteers

The Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program is an ecumenical, faith-based year of service for young people, ages 19-30, in [22 sites](#) around the world and in the United States. [YAVs](#) accompany local agencies working to address root causes of poverty and reconciliation while exploring the meaning and motivation of their faith in intentional community with peers and mentors. YAVs serve during the academic year, August to July.

The program is open to all Christian young Adults, not just Presbyterians in the belief that we are all called and equipped by God for service in many forms. This is the 25th year of YAV and more than 1,700 young Adults have participated in the program.

Program benefits during the YAV year include a regular stipend, housing, transportation assistance and student-loan repayment options throughout the duration of the service year.

We will have 3 people from YAV speaking at our Church on Mother's Day, 5/13. We are also going to see if there is enough interest to have a Saturday afternoon presentation at the Church. We are going to invite local Churches to meet the missionaries.

The money that we will raise will go towards off setting the cost of the program.

More information can be found at: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/> and <https://missioncrossroads.epubxp.com/i/932333-spr-2018>



NEW FUND RAISING COMMITTEE



Committee Members: Laura Chapman Melanie Quigan Janie & George Green Marybeth Tenne

Robert Blais Sue Hunsicker Pat Brozyna Linda Nicols, Chairperson

Fund Raisers and Coordinators

Americade Breakfast -- Laura Chapman, Melanie Quigan

Summer Parking (during fireworks, etc.) – *This could be you!*

—*Please contact Linda Nicols if you are interested in coordinating summer parking!*

Harvest Pork Dinner -- Janie and George Green

Rummage Sale – Pat Brozyna, Sue Hunsicker

A Surprise new fund-raiser will be announced as soon as it is confirmed! — Marybeth Tenne will be coordinating it!

Thanks to each of the Committee Members who have agreed to serve!

But, for real success, they can't do it alone!

Please consider volunteering for one or more of these events!

Sign up sheets will be available in the coffee room soon --

- Or -

Feel free to contact the event coordinator or Linda Nicols to express your willingness to help!



Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser for the Preschool

May 20th from 12:00-9:00

Food and drinks, we get 10% for the preschool. (there will be a "coupon" that you need to take to present to your waiter for us to get the 10%, Chris will make those available as we get closer to May 20th)

Come enjoy a great night out.

There will also be a basket raffle at the door.

We welcome and business donations towards the basket raffle or if you'd like to create a basket for the raffle that would be GREAT!!

Pray for America-Unity

“MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE” Ephesians 4:3

Please join us for a service of wholeness, healing, and praying for our nation in the sanctuary from 6:30-7 pm on Thursday, May 3rd.

... for my nation ...



**first thursday of may
www.nationaldayofprayer.org**

Everyone is Invited to the Ecumenical Boat Cruise

Sunday May 6th, at 4:30. Sail 5-7.

Board at the Lake George Steamship dock on Shoreline Drive.



The cruise is free to all who have a ticket.

Please pick up a ticket in the coffee room.



...From the Garden Group:

Happy Spring, Caldwell Church!

You are invited to please help us

beautify our gardens

by donating either an annual or a perennial plant,

either sun-loving or shade on

Bring A Plant To Church Day!

When: Sunday, May 20th: Bring an annual or perennial to church



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 at 10am Sunday!

Contact Information:

Office Number—(518) 668-2613

Secretary Email—secretary@caldwellpres.org

Pastor's Email— ali@caldwellpres.org

Website— www.caldwellpres.org