

THE SEEKER FOR APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Dear Caldwell Family,

It's somewhat hard to entertain the idea that Spring is here! The birds know it—louder than I remember them in years past (or maybe I'm just more thirsty for their song this year)—they are busy cleaning house and preparing for their nesting season. From Barred Owls, to Warblers, to Chickadees, to Blue Jays, they're all busy as can be, singing and laughing, I imagine, and in their merriment, awakening us to the wonders of Springtime in the Adirondacks.



As we prepare to welcome Spring, so too our Lenten journey winds toward the final days of Holy Week, Jesus' death on the cross, and Jesus' resurrection to new life. We prepare ourselves to follow where Jesus courageously walked. One of my favorite poets, Mary Oliver, wrote a poem that I bring to mind this time every year:

"Faith is the instructor. We need no other. Guess what I am, he says in his incomparably lovely young-man voice. Because I love the world I think of grass, I think of leaves and the bold sun, I think of the rushes in the black marshes just coming back from under the pure white and now finally melting stubs of snow...Then, he who owns the incomparable voice suddenly flows upward...and I follow, obedient and happy. Of course I am thinking the Lord ...And who else could this be, who goes off down the green path, carrying his sandals, and singing?" "Spring," by Mary Oliver, Evidence, 2009.



*"In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me." John L. Bell*

May yours be a most reverent and meaningful Holy Week and joyous Resurrection celebration. May Springtime in the Adirondacks lead you to rise up and follow the one along the green path, take off your shoes, and sing.

Faithfully,

Ali

CALDWELL LAKE GEORGE LIBRARY

ANNUAL FUND RAISER

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH AT 5:30

HOLIDAY INN, LAKE GEORGE

DINNER BUFFET, MUSIC, BASKET RAFFLES

COST IS \$25

RSVP BY APRIL 8TH @ #518-668-2528

Kids Corner

Happy Spring! During Lent, the Sunday school classes are working on memory verses. Instead of taking something away for Lent, we want to teach them a meaningful scripture verse that they will always remember. The younger classes are learning John 3:16. The older classes, 3-12th grade are learning 1 Corinthians 13:1-8A, and verse 13.

Save the Date :

- April 7th, Confirmation Class meets in Pastor Ali's office 11:15.
- April 14th, We will visit the elderly at Warren Center after church.
- April 21st, Easter Service with egg hunt following the service.
- April 24th, Community dinner at Sacred Heart. Youth helpers are needed 4-6:30.
- August 12-16- Roar VBS- Life is Wild, God is Good. Stay tuned for more info!

A Big thank you to all who made the Scholarship Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser a success. To date, we raised \$520 and counting! Special thanks to the Fuller and Amrock families, to all the youth who helped with set up and cooking, and to our supportive congregation.

Deacons Corner

The deacons will fill and distributed almost 20 baskets full of ham, potatoes, dessert, and all of the fixings needed for Easter dinner to needy families in the area. If you or someone you know needs a basket. Please call the church office to sign up.



The dates of May 9, 10, will be the Rummage Sale dates with set up May 5-8. This is a Caldwell Church family rummage sale and all members are invited to help. The more helpers we get, the better the sale goes!

Fellowship and Hospitality

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



Coffee Hour Hosts:

APRIL

- 7 – The Moody Family
- 14 – Eileen Horgan & Dale Tolene
- 21 – MacEchron Family
- 28 – The Earl Family

MAY

- 5 – Amrock Family
- 12 – Elder's Mothers Day
- 19 – Linda & Lee Davis
- 26 – Carol Bayle & Berne Kouba



News from the Haiti Mission School

HAITI TRIP POSTPONED

The situation in Haiti, on which we reported last month, continues to be unstable. Although the day-to-day riots are fewer, the underlying causes of the “*manifestations*”, as they call the demonstrations, have not changed. Costs for necessities like gas and food remain high. The government has not paid salaries (including teachers) since January and the government of President Jovenel Moise is under investigation for corruption. Opposition politicians continue to seek the removal of the president, and the situation could go downhill again at any moment. As a result, the U.S. State Department has issued a rare “Do Not Travel” level 4 warning. So, for the first time, although we are eager to get to Haiti to see how things are working at the school, we decided that discretion was the better part of valor and postponed our trip. As this article is being written, tentative plans are to try to go after Easter.

The U.S. government has dispatched an envoy, David Hale, to see if there is any way that he can encourage negotiations. Haitians, like our own nation, don't like foreigners interjecting themselves into their political situations. For several years until recently, the United Nations peacekeeping forces kept an uneasy lid on things. Although it helped keep the peace, and provided a boost to the economy, it did not help the Haitians solve their perennial political problems.

The good news from what we hear is the Haiti Mission School is open... education is continuing and the children are receiving their hot meal each school day.

HAITI BOARD MEETING

The Board of the Haiti Mission School conducted a virtual meeting on March 3. Board member Tim Coombs set up the on-line conference for us, in a sign that we are *sort of* up-to-date technologically.

The Board agreed to provide money for grade one books (the children write in them and so they must be replaced each year). Other books are checked out and must be returned by the students. There is also a need for an allowance for those books damaged or lost. We are unclear whether books will be provided by the government or by parents (or us). When the team goes to Haiti, this is one item that will need to be clarified.



We agreed on the importance of school uniforms (the government does not provide them) so we will provide money for material which will be sewed by parents or a local tailor. (*pictures show boy's and girl's uniforms*) Local committee member Sister Roseline has been overseeing this program and we hope she will continue.

We also agreed to the request by the school committee to provide money for some new cooking pots, pans, bowls and utensils, and we want to continue the process of selecting six of the best students for scholarships to secondary school. However, we will need some clarity on how the students will be selected, and who will do the selecting.

Of course, one of the major continuing issues for the Board and our Haitian partners is replacing the building destroyed in Hurricane Matthew. Though the decision process seems slow and cumbersome, we would like to see more commitment to the school from the government before we move ahead. The Board would like an all-purpose building that can be used as community center, school and church. Although no final decision was made, the Board is in favor of moving forward with this when the time is right -- and if we can work out details.

In Christ's service,
Tom and JoEllen Parsons
The Board of the *Friends of Siloam School at Labastille*
And the students and families of the school

Haiti Mission School
P.O. Box 445
Lake Luzerne, NY 12846
www.haitimissionschool.org

*Once again, we join the students and staff at the Haiti Mission School in
thanking you for your continuing support and prayers.*

A ONE DAY WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ~MAY 4, 2019. 9-3:00.
Vantage Pointe Church, 543 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804

Keynote speaker Rev. Kaitlyn Wood will be inviting us to ask some questions of ourselves. Have you ever wished you could rewrite a chapter of your life? Or maybe just rip one out entirely? Falling and failing are a part of life and those falls don't have to define us. What matters most when life knocks us down, is how we turn to God, rise back up and learn to tell our story.

There's good news for each of us; whether we feel frustrated, barren, lost, forgotten, discarded, alone, disappointed, or even just bored. We serve a God who sees us and it is never too late to hand over the pen and let Him rewrite the next chapter of your story.

Tickets are not refundable but are transferrable. Nursing infants are welcomed. No child care provided at this event. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Morning refreshments with coffee and tea from 8-9 am.

Lunch choices from Panera are: Napa Chicken Salad Sandwich, Turkey and Bacon sandwich, Heritage Ham and Swiss sandwich, and Fugi Apple salad with Chicken.

Tickets at door available for \$35.00 with cash or check. You may also mail a check with lunch choice payable to Emerge Ministry. Please include your contact phone number.

Send checks to Carrienne Morgan, 20 Clements Road, Queensbury, NY 12804.
Questions? Please contact Carrienne Morgan @ 518-812-6306

Please register by April 28th.

**The annual Spring Rummage Sale is planned
for Thurs. May 9th through Sat. May 11th.**

Start collecting your rummage and consider helping with the set up any of the days leading up to the sale. This is a huge fund raiser for our church so plan to join in the fun !



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

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 12, 2019. 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.

April 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31 Deacon Mtg. 11:15	1	2 Womens Bible Study 1-2	3 Book Club 11:30	4 Choir 7	5	6 Officer Retreat@ Silver Bay
7 Communion Confirmation Class 11:15	8	9 Christian Ed. Mtg @Ambrosia 5:30 Elders Meeting 5:30	10 Book Club 11:30 Community Dinner 5:00 @Sacred Heart	11 Choir 7	12 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	13
14 Palm Sunday Sunday School visits the Warren Center	15	16	17 Book Club 11:30	18 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00	19 Walking the Way of the Cross 12:00 @Sacred	20
21 Sunrise Service 6:30 @Shepard Park Easter 10:00 Egg Hunt 11:15	22	23	24 Community Dinner 5:00 @ Sacred Heart	25	26 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	27
28	29	30				

Local School's Spring Vacation Week!

Happy Birthday

- 6 Mary McIntyre
- 9 Suzanna Bernd-Gorey
- 17 Ron Eaglestone
- 18 Alex Blanco
- 22 Bill Carpenter

- 23 Nancy Hollenbeck
- 23 Len Bunalski
- 26 Laura Moody
- 28 Jennifer Blanco

Prayer Concerns

Karen Azer, Justin & Alex Blanco, Pam Parrott, Linda Carr, Bud Steiner, Len Bunalski, John Kohland, Bill O'Reilly, Ken Austin, Marie Himes, Bill Wicks, Horgan's mother Shirley, Sue Moore, Camille Cadaluto, Melody Courter, Barbara Brundage, Kevin Galloway, Paulie Stevenson, Paige Brower, Pastor Shawn, Vickie & her daughters, Mel's cousin, Laura's students Nick, Oliver & Michael, Joyce Willmen, Dean Allen, Peg Edwards, Lesley's cousin Matthew, Dari Norman, Don Peltier, Morrines, Kayla's friend Debbie, Shawna's baby & her mother-in-law, Nancy Monroe, Barbara Howell, Carpenter's sister, son-in-law, neighbor Chris & Gabrielle, Jean Miller, Judd Brynes, Barb & Sean O'Reilly, Port Au Prince-Haiti, Griffin family, Ryan Cooper, Lucy Barrett, Elaine Berninger, John Bunalski, Amrock's uncle, Roach's sister Nancy, Sharon Koshak, Dave, Tom Parsons, Compsons, Williams & Cook family, Red Dingman.



April Mission of the Month

This month we support the works of Joshua Heikkila and to fund their Goat donation program. Appointed as a PC(USA) mission co-worker in October 2009, Josh is regional liaison for West Africa. He facilitates support for the programs, relationships and activities of PC(USA) partners. He also provides support to PC(USA) mission personnel and helps connect partner churches with PC(USA) churches that want to be involved in ministry in the region. West Africa has tremendous challenges. Niger, for instance, is *the* poorest country in the world. But the Christian churches of West Africa are some of the most dynamic on the continent, and they are committed to addressing the many problems that people of faith confront. The PC(USA) has partnerships with churches in three countries in West Africa. In Ghana, where our historical roots go back many years, PC(USA) maintains partnerships with two denominations, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana. The PC(USA) also has newer partnerships with the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria and the Evangelical Church of the Republic of Niger. Josh is responsible for maintaining relationships with all these partner churches. More information on Josh can be found at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/the-rev-joshua-heikkila/>



We also will be raising money to purchase goats for his program in Africa. **A pair is \$178.**

The goats enhance food security through milk, cheese, butter, and yogurt. These valuable foods offer nutrition to those who need it most. The gift of a pair of goats is one that will keep providing.

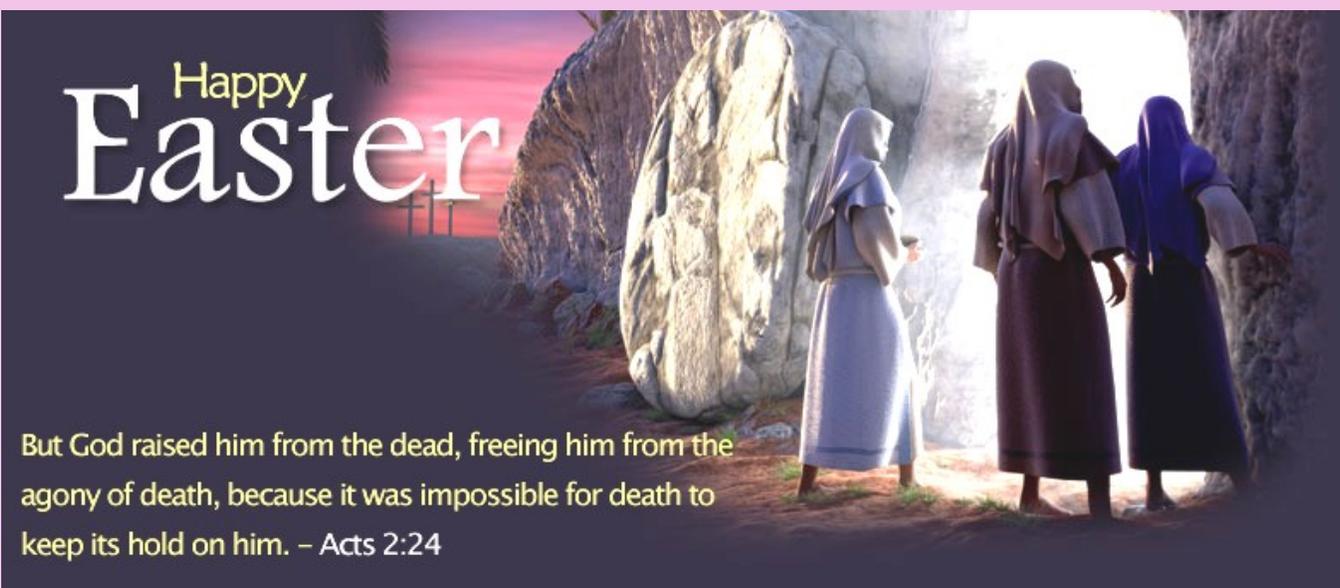
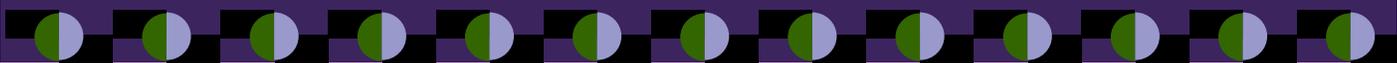
Prayer for those in the middle of the Lenten wilderness

by Jill Duffield, editor of the Presbyterian Outlook Magazine.

The ashes on my forehead long gone, my Lenten discipline exposed as more good intentions than realized practice, the cold days of winter beginning to give way to warmer afternoons, the center of Lent feels like a mix of blooming daffodils and bare tree branches. Lord, I long for beauty even as the world languishes in the carnage of cyclones, war and revenge. I began this Lent determined to stay alert to the presence of the holy, awake to the inbreaking of the divine, on watch for how to serve the One who came to save the world. But, dear God, right here in the middle of the wilderness, I confess I am weary, weighed down with the urge to sleep until the suffering has passed and resurrection reigns.

What are 40 days in comparison to the expanse of Kairos time? I hear Jesus in the garden, disappointed and exhausted, asking me why I could not keep awake for even a little while. I know the story, Lord. I know your people do not remain in the wilderness forever. I know that even in deserts, wild flowers grow and you provide. Manna comes each day and we keep moving toward your promised future. Even so, Gracious God, I forget that you give all that is needed and then some. I forget, joy comes in the morning and the great waves of justice cannot be held back much longer.

Forgive my faithless stupor and in your mercy nudge me awake with glimpses of goodness, small acts of kindness and relentless beauty emerging from places long desolate. Do not let me ignore the angels who minister in wilderness places, the nourishment of daily bread or the gift of those on this journey with me. Patient God, guide me through these waning days of Lent, keep me alert to your presence, awake for your sake and on watch for your promised new creation. Amen.



Happy
Easter

But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. – Acts 2:24

Report from the Caldwell Safety Team

In response to a November 2018 information and safety training program provided by Undersheriff Shawn Lamoure, a safety team was formed to explore safety concerns and procedures here at Caldwell. The safety team members lead by Pastor Ali include Todd Earl, KC & Becky Glenn, Jeb Trowbridge, Roger Glenn, Alex Parrott and JoEllen Parsons.

Our first meeting focused on safety plans for the Christmas Eve service. At our second meeting we began to make longer range plans. We considered issues of fire safety, the possibility of an active shooter, health emergencies, the safety of our preschoolers, our Sunday School students and Beth, Pastor Ali or others when they are in the building alone.

Some decisions have been made and implemented:

- (1) Space has been cleared at the front of the sanctuary so, if necessary, people can evacuate through the choir loft and/or past the grand piano as well as the narthex. (Main doors at back of church)
- (2) A new FIRST AID KIT AND AED DEVICE have been purchased and installed in the hall next to Leo's Closet (near the bathrooms).
- (3) CPR, FIRST AID AND AED TRAINING is being planned for the Safety Team members. If there are others in the congregation who are interested in this training, please call the office or send an email. If there is enough interest, we will try to provide a training at church or post in the bulletin and/or Seeker where trainings are available.
- (4) A decision was made and has been implemented to LOCK ALL DOORS AFTER WORSHIP HAS STARTED so we will know who is in the building when our children are in church school and to prevent unwanted visitors from entering the building. IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO LEAVE THROUGH ANY DOOR AT ANY TIME. DURING WORSHIP, PEOPLE WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO ENTER THROUGH THE NARTHEX DOORWAY (doors at the rear of the sanctuary).
- (5) We believe that in case of an emergency, it is important for the congregation to know what to do and be able to do it as quickly and as safely as possible. Because of this, we are planning to have a time to PRACTICE EVACUATION OF THE BUILDING. We are tentatively planning this practice evacuation at the end of the service on MAY 5. The service will be shortened that morning to allow for the practice. More information will be forthcoming.

The safety team will be meeting again on March 24. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to talk with any of the committee members. We believe it is better to be prepared with a plan and not need it than to need a plan and not have one.

We thank you for your prayers and support.



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