

The Seeker for August 2019

Newsletter for the Caldwell Presbyterian Church



The Life of Trees

The very first lines of the very first Psalm in the Psalter read:

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; ²but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. ³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The psalms are ancient words inspired by God that have guided the faithful throughout the millennia. It would seem, then, that the idea that trees are like people is not new. There are two books I read recently that have brought me into a closer understanding of the miraculous world of nature—and more specifically—the miraculous life of trees.

Peter Wohlleben's book, *The Secret Life of Trees*, claims that "there are more life forms in a handful of forest soil than there are people on the planet." When I read this it blew me away—and made me think hard about deforestation practices. Planting new trees (after cutting them down for consumer use) is a great idea, but this biodiversity doesn't just happen overnight. A mere teaspoonful of soil from an ancient forest contains many miles of fungal filaments. All these work the soil, transform it, and make it invaluable for the trees. Wohlleben showed me that even a rotting stump has a purpose, indeed a significant role to play in the forest: the decomposition of the tree breeds new life forms that support the forest's ecosystem and biodiversity.

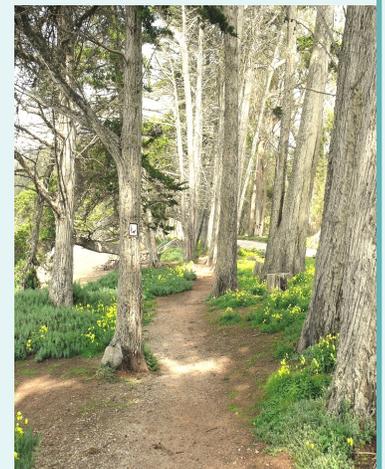
And *The Overstory*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, was an incredible journey through multi-characters' lives, each of whom have a special connection to a tree that has played a defining role either through a dream, an accident, a near-death experience, and ordinary encounters. "Trees have long been trying to reach us," says the author Richard Powers. Belden C. Lane, in the current issue of *The Christian Century*, offers a wonderful summary of the novel's main message:

"Each of the novel's characters learns that 'the most wondrous products of four billion years of life need help' right now. Not the trees, but *us*. We are the ones who have lost our sense of connection to everything else. 'Trees used to talk to people all the time,' Powers writes. 'Sane people used to hear them.'"

Food for thought on our early morning or after dinner summer walks.

Happy are those...whose delight is in the law of the Lord...they are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

Faithfully, Ali



Our August Mission is Operation Kid to Kid

This is the same Mission that our Vacation Bible School is supporting. This is run by World Vision and Group Publishing.

This year they are raising money to help babies in Zambia.

Did you know the first 1,000 days of a baby's life are crucially formative to their future?

Malnutrition during the first 2 years can lead to irreversible issues that limit babies from reaching their full potential in life. BUT, it's preventable—and you can help!

Group Publishing and World Vision are partnering to help moms and babies get the best beginnings they can. Each \$10 donation through Operation Kid-to-Kid provides supplemental nutrition and education to a mom and child for 2 years.

By joining with thousands of other VBS kids, you'll bring health to new moms and babies—and hope to the nation of Zambia!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children & Youth, Aug. 12–16 - Vacation Bible School **“Roar”**
If your child is going into 7th grade or above, we'd love to have their help. Children, ages 3-6th grade should register to participate.

Forms are in the coffee room and online.

If you have questions, please contact Sarah King.



Coffee Hour Hosts

A CUP OF
COFFEE
SHARED WITH
A FRIEND IS
HAPPINESS
TASTED AND
TIME WELL
SPENT.



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August

- 4 David & Tammy Montgomery
- 11 Jeff & Patty Brozyna
- 18 Roger & Lynda Glenn
- 25 Nancy Hollenbeck & Kathy Duell

September

- 1 Pat & Barb O'Reilly
- 8 Fuller family
- 15 Carol Bayle & Berne Kouba
- 22 Mannix family
- 29 Bev & Tom Roach

Save These Dates

Communion Sunday is Aug. 4th.

The Food Pantry has changed the August dates to Aug. 9th & 30th
from 9:30 to 11:30.

The Session Meeting is Aug. 20th at 5:30.

Reverend Skip Bush is preaching on Sunday, Aug. 25th.



THIS IS A REMINDER OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY—WISHING EVERYONE WELL—PHOTO FROM FALL 2018

Please join us for a fundraiser by Eagle Scout Michael Burrows.
His project is to improve the playground at Caldwell.

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!!

along with eggs, sausage, bacon, coffee, tea, and juice.

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

Saturday, August 3rd, 8 am to 11 am, \$8.00

Thank you for supporting this project!



PRAYER CONCERNS

Karen Azer, Justin & Alex Blanco, Pam Parrott, Bud Steiner, Len Bunalski, Kenny Austin, Marie Himes, Bill Wicks, Eileen's mother Shirley, Don Peltier, John Kohland, Camille Cadaluto, Melody Couter, Paulie Stevenson, Peg Edwards, Paige Brower, Pastor Shawn, Dean Allen, Dari Norman, Jenne family, Cliff Moon, Lucy Barrett, Elaine Berninger, Sharon Koshak, Buell Brayton, Nancy Hollenbeck, Danielle York, Linda Carr, Debra Rota, Julianna Potts, Jacob Gabe, Linda Moxham, Helene Horn, Tom Duer, Patricia Dever, Tom Parsons and his nephew Bob, Anna, Bee Roman, Pott's family, today's youth, Tina Bunalski, Chelsea Blanco.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We need volunteers to mow the lawn each week. There is a riding mower, push mower, and gas can in the garage. Sign up sheet in the coffee room.

Volunteers needed for church fundraiser on Thursday evenings in August. Please sign up to sell glow necklaces. It only takes 2 hours of your time. It is a great way to help the church. Please see Jo Anne Pedersen.

Sunday, August 4th, after coffee hour, please join us in the sanctuary to hear Alex Blanco speak and give a presentation on his year at Word of Life Bible College in Argentina.



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:

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