

THE SEEKER FOR OCTOBER 2019

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Dear Caldwell Family,

Grace and peace to you! As the night air grows crisp and cool, and the daylight begins to shorten, and we pull out another layer under which to sleep, we realize that yes, it's really true—autumn is here! The harvest is nearly in, the geese are flying in V-shape overhead, the leaves are adorned in spectacular brilliant pastels, and we can't help but thank God for creation whenever we are outside.



There is much to explore in our life together here at Caldwell—through small group gatherings (bible studies and book groups), the Crandall Library documentary film series (posted in the Coffee Room), Youth Group events (Great Pumpkin Race this Sunday), and Adult Education opportunities (Jeff Brozyna's Ft. William Henry talk on Oct 6 followed by an all church visit to Ft. William Henry on Saturday, Oct 19th at 9:45 a.m. free with local license), Caldwell Church is a community of people actively interested in the world we inhabit, eager to seek deeper understanding, and curious about gaining new perspectives which will influence our mission and vision for Christ's ministry today.

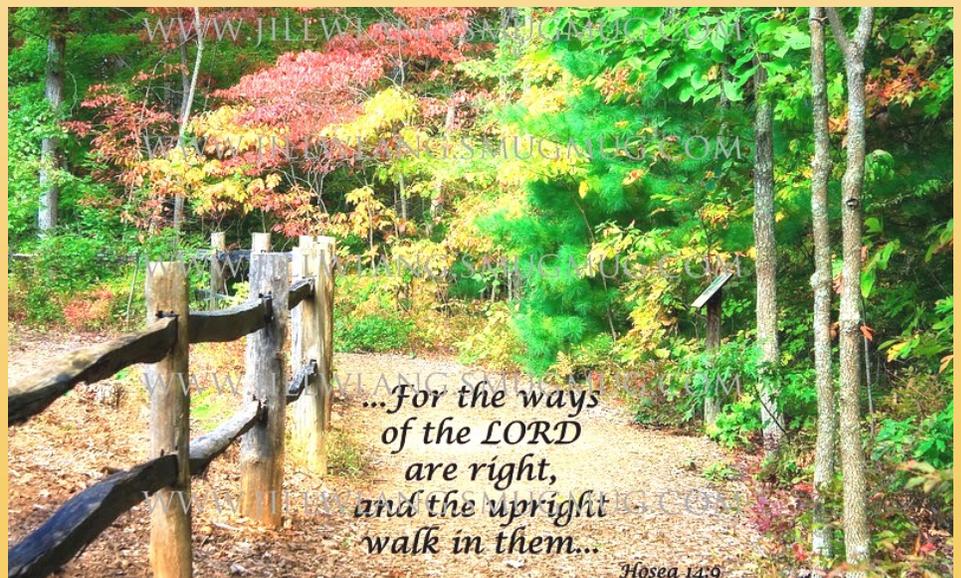
One of the most important ways we exercise our faith is in community and through discussion. The ecumenical book study does just that every week, and one of the things we are learning in reading *Kneeling at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* is that this was common in the time of Jesus. In fact, if you weren't challenging yourselves in debate, as well as challenging your rabbi, you weren't growing in the faith. It is in our wrestling with difficult texts and topics that we strengthen our faith lives. This is our Judeo-Christian heritage, and it is still true today.

In that spirit, and being that it is the Fall kick-off season of our church life together, I invite you to join me in a community book discussion on Nov. 10 after church. The book I've chosen by Ta-Nehisi Coates is titled, "Between the World and Me." Published in 2015, it is a National Book Award Winner about the story of race and America presented in the form of a letter to the author's adolescent son. I've started the book and can't put it down. It is "required reading for us all," as the late Toni Morrison put it. I urge you to order the book (or let the Church Office know you'd like a copy and we will order one for you) and plan to join me on Nov. 10 after church for a discussion which will help us better understand the history of slavery and segregation and the ways that history influences life today. If we seek to grow in faith and continue to gain deeper understanding, let us boldly pursue current works, always seeking the Spirit's guidance so we may participate, even in a small way, in the creation of a fairer and more just and peaceful world.

A responsibility of our faith life is to stay informed, and to stay curious...spiritually curious. Please join me in that endeavor. And Happy Fall!

Faithfully,

Ali



Preschool News:

Dear Church family,

We are excited to move into October. It is such a joy to work with the families of Lake George. What a wonderful group of children we have in our classrooms this year. We have been amazed at how quickly they have settled in to our school schedule.

As we look forward to October, we just wanted to let you know of some upcoming events in the preschool.

- ❖ Our Soup Fundraiser will be October 7-23. Please order some of our delicious soups. Thank you for supporting the preschool.
- ❖ Grandparents Day is on October 11th
- ❖ Sunnyside Farm is on October 18th



We are so excited that Tyler Cornelius will be coming to take our class pictures this year. How excited to have an alumni coming to do that. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry of your church. ~ Chris Sallstrom

Christian Education for October

We had a beautiful sunny day for Rally Day. Thanks to the Fuller Family for setting up our ice cream social outside so we could appreciate the playground upgrades undertaken by Michael Burrows for his Eagle Scout project.

Remember to email church school registration forms back to Sarah. We're going digital!

Here are some upcoming events to mark on your calendar:

- **Oct. 6-** The Great Pumpkin Race (See write up below)
- **Oct 19-** Community Day at Fort William Henry. Family event. Meet at 9:45am at entrance to fort.

We are looking for youth help with the following events.

- **Oct. 16** Community Dinner. 5-6pm. Bella's Deli will provide food. Desserts needed.
- **Oct. 20** Rummage Sale set up after church
- **Oct. 26** Rummage Sale break down on Saturday at noon
- **Nov. 20** Community Dinner. Caldwell to provide food- Chili
- **Dec. 18** Community Dinner. Barnsider to provide food.

It's the Great Pumpkin Race!

Join us on Sunday, October 6 immediately following church. Who will be the first to find the clues and claim the prize? There will be fun, games, and autumn treats.



College Student Addresses Needed

If you know of a freshman college student in the congregation, the Deacons would like to send them a care package or a gift card to let them know we are praying and thinking about them. Please contact KC Glenn(518-683-2659) or send an e-mail (kcglen129@yahoo.com).



Coffee Hour Hosts

October

- 6 Amrock family
- 13 Moody family
- 20 Cornelius family
- 29 Laura & Mel Quigan



November

- 3 Hunsicker famiy
- 10 Linda & Howard Nicols
- 17 Mel Quigan & Laura Chapman
- 24 MacEchron family



Office of Aging

We are looking for drivers to provide meals on wheels and to take people to medical appointments. We reimburse you for your gas mileage. If interested in volunteering, please call Maryann McCarthy #518-761-6347.

Choir Rehearsal has been changed to a new time!

If you would like to try singing with the choir, we are going to meet on Wednesdays at 7:00. Anyone in 9th grade through adult is welcome.



New Church Picture Directory is being assembled. Alex Parrott will be taking pictures of members and friends every Sunday after church until the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Please speak with him to have your picture taken, and address updated. You can also send in a family photo instead. Thank you for your participation.

DEACON'S CORNER

Rummage Sale is October 25, 26, and 27th. The sale is a mission for the community and our church which we believe should involve our entire congregation.

We especially need help with setting up on Sunday, October 20th and breaking down on Saturday the 26th.

We are scaling the sale back this fall and hope to accept only: men's, women's and children's clothing, including shoes and boots, housewares, and holiday items.

Please save your larger outdoor items for the sale in the spring.

If you are available to help set up or work at the sale, please see Lynda Glenn, Patty Brozyna, Carol Bayle, Mel Quigan, or Bob Gunther.



SAVE THESE DATES:

Food Pantry Dates Changed for October are Friday the 11th and the 18th, from 9:30 to 11:30.

Lake George Community Dinner is available free to the public on October 2nd & 16th at 5:00 at Sacred Heart. We will help serve on the 16th and need desserts. Bella's Deli will be providing the food. Please contact JoEllen Parsons if you can bring a dessert.

St. James is serving a German Dinner on Sat. Oct. 12th from 4:30 to 6:30. Take out is available. Cost is \$15., children age 5-12 are \$10. Sauerbraten w/gravy and all of the fixins.

Ecumenical Book Group Meets Wednesdays to study the book of Job at Sacred Heart, 11:30-12:30.

Elder Meeting, Oct. 15th at 5:30

Save the Date! Saturday, October 19th, at 9:45 a.m., there will be a Caldwell Church visit to Ft. William Henry. The tour begins at 10 a.m. and lasts 30 minutes. There are many installations to visit in the museum. Cost is FREE with local driver's license. In preparation for the event, Jeff Brozyna, will offer a history talk about the Fort William Henry on Sunday, Oct. 6th, following worship.

If you are interested in learning more about Caldwell and exploring the prospect of joining the church, please save the date for a New Member Class on Sunday Oct. 20th following worship in Pastor Ali's office. This is the only prerequisite to joining Caldwell. Please RSVP in the church office.

Pulpit Changes will have Rev. Michael Birkley, Vice Moderator of the Albany Presbytery on Oct. 13th. Rev. Ali is trading places with him, and will preach at Rockwell Falls in Lake Luzerne.

Senior Breakfast at the Holiday Inn, Oct. 21st at 8:30 am. Bob Bayle is speaking.

Preschool Meeting, Oct. 22, 12:15.

Film Series at Crandall Library in Glens Falls. Check the brochure in the coffee room for information.

Senior Breakfast at the Holiday Inn at 8:30 on Oct. 21st.

Happy Birthday

Laura Corriveau	Oct. 1
Pam Quigan	Oct. 1
Annabelle Trowbridge	Oct. 3
Sue Hunsicker	Oct. 21
Charlie Fuller	Oct. 24
Samantha Gorey	Oct. 30
Carol Whalen	Oct. 31
Howard Nicols	Oct. 31



Prayer Concerns

Karen Azer, Justin, Chelsea & Alex Blanco, Pam Parrott, Bud Steiner, Bill O'Reilly, Len & Tina Bunalski, Dee Spencer, Eileen's mother Shirley, Dari Norman, Elaine Berninger, Sharon Koshak, Buell Brayton, Thomas Duer, Patricia Dever, Linda Moxham, Uncle Kracher, Nancy Hollenbeck, and her granddaughter Marie, Debra Rota, Julianna Potts, Jacob Gabe, Kay Kupa, Marianne McCarthy, Ann Brendel, Randy Rollins, caregivers, Donnie Smith, Kelly Annis famiy, Peg & Les Edwards, John Kohland & his daughter's inlaws, youth from our church, Sue & Shelly, the people of Haiti, the Reiley family.



Would you like to play in our Bell Choir?

Caldwell has a beautiful set of bells and we are looking for players. Whether you are an experienced bell "ringer" or brand new to the instrument, please see Alex Parrott. Youths are welcome!



Stewardship Campaign 2019

As we enter this year's Stewardship campaign, the Finance Committee wants to thank all of you for the many ways you give your time and talents in serving the church.

Stewardship is so important. By funding our church, we lay the foundation for all that we do at Caldwell. We provide the space for our Food Pantry, the home for our Preschool, and host meals and meetings important to our community. From Christmas dinners to meetings for Scouts and AA, it is our collective support of Caldwell that allows us to provide for it all. In these ways, your Stewardship Pledge is the first among equals in your giving at Caldwell.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of your pledge for 2019. With your financial commitment and with God's guidance, Caldwell will continue to strive to make a difference in the lives of many.

Sincerely,

Your Finance Committee:
Don Tenne, Darlene Gunther,
Laura Moody, Howard Nicols,
Rod Cornelius, & Bob Blais.



MISSION OF THE MONTH: MERCY CORPS BAHAMAS



"The water rose within 2 mins in the house and was up to windows. We thought about the attic-trap. Roof-no way safe. We found dry land," Matthew [Aylen said on Twitter](#), responding to someone who suggested staying put might be safer.

The mission committee has chosen the **Mercy Corps Bahamas Hurricane Dorian** response as our October mission of the month. Dorian, a level 5 hurricane essentially parked over part of the island chain for days, nearly inundating Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands. Mercy corps was one of the first groups to respond to the emergency caused by the hurricane.

According to their website: *"Mercy Corps exists to alleviate suffering, poverty and oppression by helping people build secure, productive and just communities. We are a leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible. In disaster, in hardship, in more than 40 countries around the world, we partner to put bold solutions into action - helping people triumph over adversity and build stronger communities from within. Now, and for the future."*

Mercy Corps is working with other organizations such as [Mission Resolve Foundation](#), to get water to the people. One of the ways they are doing that is by bringing in two reverse osmosis water purifiers that each provide 7500 gallons of pure water each day to residents. Among other things, this saves transporting water in plastic bottles which later become a disposal problem. Mercy corps is also committed to reaching 3,000 families with emergency kits which include such items as mosquito netting, tarps, jerry cans, chlorine tablets to purify water, and rope.

We thank you for your support of this important mission of the month for October.

The Lake George Teen Center is Beginning its Fourth Year!

Volunteers are needed Tues.,Weds., and Thurs. from 3:00 to 5:30.

If you have a few extra hours to invest occasionally in the young people of our community, please sign up! The center is located at the Lake George Senior Center. It provides a safe space where teens can relax, build relationships, play ping pong, Wii, basketball, pool, and get some tutoring. Sign up sheets are in the coffee room.



October News from the Haiti Mission School

Last month, we mentioned the 50% inflation that hit the country last year. This month we are beginning to hear how it is affecting our Haitian friends. The news is not good! For example, gasoline is now the equivalent of \$13.50 in U.S. dollars per gallon (if you can get it.) What it means in practice is that in Jèrèmie, many people are walking instead of riding their motorbikes or driving cars. It also means that there are long lines at gas stations that have gas. The price of rice and beans (Haitian staples) and other groceries have doubled. It also means our cost for tuition, books, etc. at secondary school has increased significantly. Our average cost per student at the Haitian secondary school is \$160.49 (up from about 125.00 last year). Of course, that's still a pretty good deal compared to the cost to send a student here in Lake Luzerne. In that sense, it is one of the world's great deals. Still, when we think about the Haitian families... please keep them in your prayers.

In Jèrèmie, the city is rocked by turmoil as people go to the streets to protest these rising costs. One of our friends described his trip to the store yesterday. He left his motorbike at home and walked. However, not wanting to get involved in "manifestation (demonstrations) he had to walk several blocks out of his way to get to the store where, of course, the price of everything is up. So a 5-minute trip took more than an hour.



He also tells us that the city of Jèrèmie can't afford the price of the oil necessary to run the generators, so the city now has no lights at night. This reminds us of the days when we first went to Haiti. Only the rich people (yes, Haiti has them) and the hotels had lights, which they usually turned off about 10 p.m. That meant that the fans in our hotel rooms also went off. Then you needed to cover up to keep the mosquitos away and sweated through the hot humid nights. Not exactly a "Haitian vacation" Meanwhile, Howard Nicols and JoEllen Parsons are planning a fall trip to Haiti (October?), if anyone wants to join us.... contact us at the above address...



We have sent the money to pay for food, buy books and material for the uniforms, and in general, get things going at the school for the year. We are concerned that the teachers have not been paid, and this is a continuing serious problem. At our upcoming meeting, the board will have to decide if we want to reconsider our earlier decision to wait for the government to do what they have promised. Meanwhile we hope the teachers keep coming to teach.

This is all just life in the poorest country in our hemisphere. It's hard for us to imagine living in such situations without just giving up.

Thank you for keeping Sabrina and Haiti's other Restavec children in your prayers and thank you for continuing to pray for and support the school.



The Seeker

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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Lake George, NY 12845

Thank you to our friends at Caldwell Presbyterian from the Haiti Mission School.

It is almost time for school to begin again in Haiti. Although we are no longer paying for the teaching staff or managing the school, we continue to be involved in the life of the Haiti Mission School. We thought you might be interested in how your donations (a total of \$5,000 this time) are helping.

Last year we were able to provide an education and meals each school day for more than 140 children. These are children who might not have always had a meal or been able to attend school. We spent more than \$7500 to provide a hot meal each school day for 147 primary school students. We also purchased necessary school supplies for them. *In addition*, we rented books, purchased calculators and paid tuition for 27 of our top graduates attending secondary school.

Your donations will go long way toward making the coming school year another success. We hope they will make a difference in Haiti as a nation. We believe they will make a difference in the lives of each of these children. Our goal is to help Haiti and its families... one family, one child at a time.

We also hope that you will continue to keep the children of the school and the nation of Haiti in your thoughts and prayers. Once again, many thanks for your continued support.

With fondness and love

JoEllen and Tom Parsons