

*THE SEEKER FOR JUNE/JULY/AUGUST
NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2021*



A Time to Talk

**When a friend calls to me from the road
And slows his horse to a meaning walk,
I don't stand still and look around
On all the hills I haven't hoed,
And shout from where I am, "What is it?"
No, not as there is a time to talk.
I thrust my hoe in the mellow ground,
Blade-end up and five feet tall,
And plod: I go up to the stone wall
For a friendly visit.**

-Robert Frost

Fine poetry has a way of making a lasting impression. I remember reading Robert Frost's poem, *A Time to Talk*, early in life. I was in high school and was challenged by a steady rigorous dose of poetry throughout those four years. Many poems were complex, highly nuanced, and hard to access, but this one stood out to me for its simple and clear message, and I instantly recognized the truth to which it spoke. The value of human connection, and the art of cultivating relationships, is perhaps one of the most telling measures of the quality of one's life. Now, some 35 years henceforth, I call Frost's poem to mind for what I hope is a summer of reconnection and *a time to talk*.

As many of us are venturing out more often and returning to a more regular pace of life that had been on-hold during the pandemic, now is a great time **to reconnect**. Some of you I've seen in church recently on Sunday mornings and for in-person visits when we've had the chance to do so safely. I'm aware though that some of us are still making our way back to regular contact and connection.

I thought it would be a good idea to create "a time to talk" a la Robert Frost, and designate a regular time each week when I'll be available at church for a drop-by friendly visit, a chance to reconnect, and to hear what's new in your life. Every **Tuesday between 9-11**, I'll have the chairs set up outside by the front garden of the church. You are welcome to swing by, bring your own coffee, and join me for a chat.

I hope to see some of you who are just beginning to venture out, as well as those of you who may want to stop by to catch up, share a story, and enjoy "a time to talk." Happy Summer!

Faithfully,

Ali

"Lemonade on the Lawn"~ Volunteers needed to host after worship each Sunday, weather permitting, so we can visit and catch up with one another in-person, out of doors. Please call the office at 518-668-2613 or sign up in church. There is lemonade and iced-tea mix in the kitchen--they just need to be prepared. You are welcome to bring an individual serving of a store-bought or homemade treat (no communal foods). A table will need to be set up outside on the lawn before church. Thank you for helping!

Christian Education

Be sure to put **June 13** on your calendar and join us live or on Zoom for our annual **Youth Sunday service**. We will be celebrating all our youth with-

- * Youth led service
- *Scholarship recipients
- *Dedication of our sunflower garden to celebrate and honor **ALL** Caldwell youth who had a most different and difficult year through the pandemic.
- *Celebration of those folks who are dedicated to Christian Education at Caldwell.



We will continue the celebration after the service with our Lemonade on the Lawn and a special cake. Please join us.

Youth, please email Sarah King at scubakings@roadrunner.com if you haven't yet to sign up to participate in the service.

We would also LOVE to hear from our graduating High School seniors to hear what adventures you have planned for the upcoming year! Again, contact Sarah if you haven't already.

On another note, we are looking for adults to be on standby each Sunday this summer to provide childcare if we get any youngsters during the service. This begins the Sunday after Youth Sunday (June 20 through Labor Day Weekend). Dana and Sarah will provide the activity (craft, coloring materials, books to read etc), so no need to stress over preparing anything. Please contact Sarah if you could commit to a Sunday this summer.

Sadly, there will be no VBS again this summer due to several factors. The uncertainty of whether camps would go forth when planning in mid winter (when I usually starts to line up staff), other commitments I have acquired since Covid hit and the general sense of uncertainty that still exists in regard to youth activities even as I write this. Let's all hope and pray for a more normal summer of 2022.

Blessing to all,
Sarah and the Christian Ed Committee

Hello, my name is Samantha Gorey and I had the pleasure of meeting and speaking with Gladys Tasker. I'm currently a 10th grader at Lake George Jr/Sr High School, and have been going to Caldwell Church since kindergarten.

Meet Gladys. Gladys is a 97-year-old, garden loving great-grandmother. She loves to read mystery novels and loves cooking as well. Gladys also loved to entertain people and have gatherings for many years. She was born in Staten Island in 1924 but grew up in Freeport, Long Island. She lived with her mother, father and brother on a dead end street. Her father was Danish and her mother was of German descent.

One fond memory she has occurs during the winter; when the plows pushed the snow to the end of the road. Gladys and her friends would build a snow slide and play outside all day. Growing up Gladys had a cat who thought he was a dog. He once went up against a German Shepard and made him run away. When she was little Gladys loved going to her grandmother's "salon". Her grandmother owned the bar during World War I in Staten Island. Her grandmother had a player piano in her bar which was the highlight of her day. Gladys played tennis and golf in a club near her home. She always wished for a big family when she was younger and got her wish with her five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Even though her parents didn't go to church her parents insisted she go to church. She was raised in the Lutheran church just like my mom. Jack Simon was her pastor who made her church experience wonderful.

Fresh out of high school she got a secretarial job at the Freeport Bank. She quickly took the job and her career began. One day when she was 18 the bank told her to transfer \$16,000 to a reserve bank. They handed her a paper wrapped package with all the money in it. She was a bit scared but safely transported the money on the train. She found many secretarial jobs where she enjoyed working. She got to travel many times on an airplane for work. One time she had flown down with her boss and clients to Cuba and their plane's tire broke. She had to withstand the heat while sitting outside waiting for a tire to arrive. Finally, Guantanamo Bay had a tire and they returned to the States. Another crazy story happened when she was travelling on a private jet. She had heard yelling saying that the rug was getting pulled out of the plane as it was flying. While people held onto chairs some men quickly went to the rug and pulled it back in. Before her secretarial work she once wanted to be a flight attendant. Gladys visited an airline in New York but was rejected because she was not a nurse and was apparently too tall.

In her 20s she would go to the movies with her friends for 25 cents. The theatre was by a railroad track so they had to stop the movie everytime a train went by. In the theater Gladys would sit in the non-smoking area which was cheaper than the smoking area because she didn't like to smoke. All of Gladys's friends smoked so she would primarily sit by herself and watch the movie. She made sure to still have fun!

Even though her favorite animal is a dog she now has a furry friendly cat named Wizard who keeps her company. She has many favorite foods like steak, chicken, and especially salmon. Her son cooks for her every night and she loves his food. Her favorite inventions would be improved kitchen appliances/utensils. She hates the heat but was married to her husband who hated the cold.

Throughout her lifetime Gladys lived through three wars. She said World War II was the worst since you couldn't buy anything. She also said stockings were really hard to buy. If Gladys had a million dollars she would make sure her family is well taken care of and then give the money to people in need. She has many fond memories of her daughter and husband going swimming at the YMCA. She got to build her comfortable house in Lake George where she lives today.

I'm so happy I got to talk with her and have her share her knowledge with me. I got to laugh about many different things that we both related to. Gladys feels truly blessed about her life. She had many wise words of wisdom to tell. Gladys makes sure to enjoy her life to the fullest and you should too.

June Mission of the Month-Save the Children

Why Are Unaccompanied Minors Traveling Alone to the U.S. Border? The number of unaccompanied children taken into border authority custody after crossing the [U.S. Southern Border](#) is growing dramatically by the day. In January and February alone, there were 15,000 unaccompanied children taken into custody.

While [statistics](#) show that 75% of unaccompanied minors are between the ages of 15 to 17, it has been reported that **some children traveling alone are as young as 6 or 7.**

So many of them have experienced severe trauma and have been subjected to **horrific exploitation** en route to the border. Many children attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border are asylum

seekers left with no choice but to flee their homes. **Seeking asylum is not a crime.** Every child has a right to safety, protection and a future, regardless of who they are or where they're from. Save the Children is deeply concerned for the well-being all children, including unaccompanied children, crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. We have worked in Latin America for many years, addressing the root causes that force children to flee their homes.



Here's what we know about the issues that are forcing children to make the dangerous journey.

-For years, [a complex crisis of violence](#), gang warfare and corruption has driven children and families to flee the Northern Triangle of Central America – [El Salvador](#), [Guatemala](#) and [Honduras](#) – and seek safety and protection in the United States. These countries have some of the highest child homicide rates in the world. Crushing poverty is pushing families to the brink

-Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly [60%](#) of the population of Guatemala lived in poverty. Honduras and El Salvador faced high levels of poverty as well with nearly [50%](#) and [40%](#) respectively.

The climate crisis has displaced families and children

-Extreme weather, such as the back-to-back hurricanes that struck Central America in late 2020, leave many families living in poverty with less food, less clean water, lower incomes and worsening health. The [UN](#) warns that many will have to choose between starvation and migration

How is Save the Children helping unaccompanied children at the U.S. Border?

Children's best interests must be the guiding principle in all actions taken that will affect kids and families trying to cross the southern border. As such, **Save the Children continues to advocate for children's rights, humane treatment and care.**

We are also helping meet the urgent needs of children and families by providing cash and critical supplies to a network of more than 35 shelters and social service agencies. We are also committed to addressing the **root causes** of this crisis. We are expanding and strengthening programs focused on protection, education and peace-building in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Through cross-border collaboration, we are supporting children and families throughout the entire path of migration. The same families we support as they travel from the Northern Triangle countries are those the U.S. border communities are welcoming and providing respite.

Since May 2019, our programs along the U.S.-Mexico border have directly served more than 142,000 people, including 72,000 children. Your donation today will support our critical work to [help migrant children and families at the border.](#)

Help the session create a *NEW* Caldwell Church Slogan!

The Elders currently serving on the session have been working with a graphic designer on a new church logo design that we are excited to share this Fall. It is a design that incorporates the church, the lake, and the mountains.

The session would **love the congregation's input** on the slogan that goes beneath the new logo. Right now our slogan is: "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors." If you have a suggestion for a different slogan/phrase we could use for the new logo, or if you like the current phrase, please send your ideas to Beth in the church office: secretary@caldwellpres.org or 518-668-2613. The elders will take into consideration all the ideas you have. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration!

Cute Stuffed Animals Needed:

We are seeking stuffed animals. My quilt guild and I make a quilt to go with a stuffed animal and then give them to children going into foster care, so they have something to hug and feel is their own.

We are also giving this gift to kids when they leave the Krantz Cottage, the new Ronald McDonald vacation house in Lake George, for terminal or seriously ill children and their families. Please give me a call or drop them at church. Thank you.
Lynda Glenn. # 518-668-9293.

Happy Birthday

JUNE

5 Tina Bunalski
9 Ali Trowbridge
15 Yvonne Fuller
17 Nancy Earl
18 Justin Blanco
21 Tyler Cornelius
21 Chelsea Blanco
21 Al Kopf
25 Madeline Gorey
26 Jo Ellen Parsons

JULY

4 Maddie MacEachron
5 Emilia Bernd
6 Roger Glenn
12 Jessica Hunsicker
22 Diane Chandler
22 Gladys Tasker
26 Ree Humphrey
26 Dorothy Quigan

AUGUST

1 Pat O'Reilly
2 Margi Mannix
2 Tiffany Cornelius
8 Lilly Trowbridge
8 Max Jenne
12 Michele MacEachron
20 Laura Chapman

Prayer Concerns

Becker family, Fuller's relative's-Charity and Grandfather, Carrie Theriault, Jim Hunt's family, Laura Reinhold, Priscilla, Bob Bayle, Candice Radcliff, Marina Skee, Dennis Wilson, Chester Ross, Bill Garrow, Steiner family, Kohland family, Kevin & Dennis Galloway, Rusty Pedersen, William Caslow, Pat McCoy, Jack Choppa, Bob Gunther, Kathy's hip, Raymond & Anita Rios, Nicol's relative's Ronny and Stella, Jared Winters, Kris Haskell, Sean, Blais's friend with Lou Gehrig's disease, Pam Parrott, Peg Edwards, Nancy Hollenbeck, Joyce Compson.



CALDWELL PRESCHOOL NEWS

As we come to the end of another year in preschool, the staff would like to thank everyone who made it possible. With everything in such upheaval and turmoil over the past twelve to eighteen months, we were and are very lucky to have such love and support.

Our graduation will go on this year as planned on Friday, the eleventh of June. The children are excitedly preparing for it. If Mother Nature agrees, it will be celebrated at Sheperd Park. If she's not so gracious our celebration will take place in the sanctuary of the church with spaced seating and masked protocol in place. Either way, we will then go to Usher Park for a party after. **GOOD TIMES ARE AHEAD!**

Both fondly and respectfully,

Lesley Clemons, Preschool Elder



Lawn Mowers Needed:

Please contact Property Elder Jo Anne Pedersen, if you would like to help mow on occasion this summer. Text or call her directly: 845-721-7576. We greatly appreciate your help--even if it's just one or two times--as together we help maintain our beautiful church grounds.



Have Gardening Questions? We can help with: Landscapes, Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Gardens, Herbs, Houseplants, Plant Diseases, Soils, Beneficial and Harmful Insects, Composting and Water Conservation.

Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension's Master Gardener office at 518-623-3291

Worship Zoom Techs needed!

If you are able to take a turn periodically running zoom during worship, please contact Pastor Ali or Beth in the church office! We are looking for new volunteers. Training is easy. Thanks!



Sunflower Garden Honoring Caldwell Youth!

As you know, we are planning to install a Caldwell Youth container garden honoring the courage and resilience of our Youth from ages Preschool to Graduate School who have forged through this pandemic school year with flying colors.

We plan on transplanting the sunflowers that are currently growing under grow lights on Youth Sunday, June 13.

Please join us in celebrating our awesome youth!

We greatly appreciate your support and donations for the project.

Thank You and Happy Spring from the Garden Committee.



Please Welcome our Guest Preacher and Theologian-in-Residence
Caldwell Presbyterian Church
June 6th and June 7th, 2021:



Nichole R Phillips, MDiv, MA, PhD

If you have been concerned about race relations in the US, particularly the events of the last year, and if you are interested in understanding more about how race and faith intersect, join us for an incredible opportunity this Sunday and Monday when the Reverend Dr. Nichole R. Phillips, a seminary professor at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, and childhood friend of Ali and Jeb Trowbridge, will discuss *The Beloved Community*. The Session of Caldwell Church along with the Racial Justice Steering Committee is thrilled to present a two-part program where Dr. Phillips will be guest preaching on **Sunday morning, June 6th, at the 10 a.m. worship**, then on **Monday evening, June 7th, 7:00-8:30 p.m.**, she will lead us in a Faith Formation program. Please join us, mark your calendars and spread the word.

Please Note: As always, you are welcome to join us either in-person or via Zoom for the 10am worship on June 6th. The Monday evening program will be held via Zoom only. **Please call the church office to RSVP if you'd like to join via Zoom for either/both events: 518-668-2613.**

Topic for Monday, June 7th: U.S. "Race Matters" and *The Beloved Community*

Throughout the 20th century, foremost thinkers, leaders, and ministers have held distinct and different conceptions of "the beloved community." In a time where, as Americans, we are facing drastic cultural and religious changes as well as increasing social and political polarizations, where can we find "the beloved community"? Implied in each visionary's notion of "the beloved community" is *race*. *Race* is conceptually a *barrier* to, while simultaneously primary to *actualizing* "the beloved community." Informed by our nation's most contemporary social unrest and racial protests, in this presentation, we will consider U.S. "race matters" (i.e., the politics of race) as both *pivotal* and *paradoxical* to the dynamic process by which genuine community emerges.

Dr. Nichole Renée Phillips is the Associate Professor in the Practice of Sociology of Religion and Culture and Director of Black Church Studies at Candler School of Theology, Emory University. A sociologist of religion and public intellectual, she teaches courses in community and congregational studies. Her research interests lie at the intersection of

religion and American public life with a focus on community and congregational studies where she investigates the moral commitments and vision of community and congregational members. Her scholarship treats religion, critical race, gender and cultural memory studies. She is also developing new research interests in the sociology of science and religion.

Her first monograph, *Patriotism Black and White: The Color of American Exceptionalism* (2018) is a study of blacks and whites in a rural southern community and their shifting interpretations of American national identity and U.S. exceptionalism with the election of Barack H. Obama as America's first President of African descent and at the height of wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. The volume further considers the implication of these patriotic and exceptionalist meanings under the present Trump Administration. In 2019, *Patriotism Black and White* landed on the Best Sellers List for the Christian ecumenical and flagship magazine of U.S. mainline Protestants, *The Christian Century*.

Nichole also contributed a chapter to the published collection, *Revives My Soul Again: The Spirituality of Martin Luther King Jr.*, which commemorated the 50th-year anniversary of the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (2018). Her chapter explains the ways in which King Jr.'s spirituality animated his delivery of 'I have a dream' and inspired his rearticulation of American national identity at the height of the Civil Rights Movement.

Nichole is nationally recognized for her expertise on race, religion and the U.S. nation. An engaged public scholar she provides regular commentary to local and national news outlets like *The Washington Post*, *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *WABE/NPR*, *Sojourners* and even France's main protestant weekly, *Rèforme*. She has appeared on CBSN (the 24/7 streaming digital format of CBS News) and her commentary can be found on Georgetown University's Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs website, "Colin Kaepernick and Black Civil Religion: American Football and 'Our' Patriotisms" and the e-news journal, *Religion & Politics*, Amanda Gorman's 'City on a Hill.'

She has received numerous awards, honors, and recognitions including being the inaugural recipient of Emory University's 2019 Provost's Distinguished Teaching Award for Excellence in Professional and Graduate Education for Candler School of Theology. Her research has been supported by the Center for Community Studies of Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, and the Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB). She was recently awarded a \$100,000 grant by Templeton Religion Trust and the Issachur Fund.

The Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Religion and the Humanities, Nichole was the first fellow in Emory University's Mellon Foundation Humanistic Inquiry Program (HIP) to be appointed at the professional schools. She is a Senior Faculty Fellow at Emory University's Center for Ethics and Associate Faculty in the Emory's Department of Sociology.

An ordained Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), Dr. Phillips has served the wider connectional church and on ministerial staffs in New England and the South. She is presently a member of the Atlanta-North Georgia Annual Conference of the Sixth Episcopal District, led by presiding prelate, Bishop Reginald T Jackson.

She received the A.B. from Wellesley College, an M.Div. from Harvard University's Divinity School, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Religion, Psychology, and Culture with a minor in anthropology of religion from Vanderbilt University.

The Seeker

Caldwell Presbyterian Church
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All are welcomed into The Caldwell Church Family.
We would love to see you in church at 10am Sunday!

Contact Information:

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