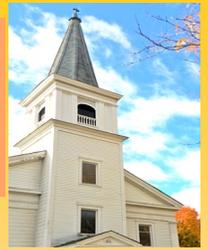


# The Seeker for September 2021

## Newsletter for the Caldwell Presbyterian Church



Dear Caldwell Church Members and Friends,

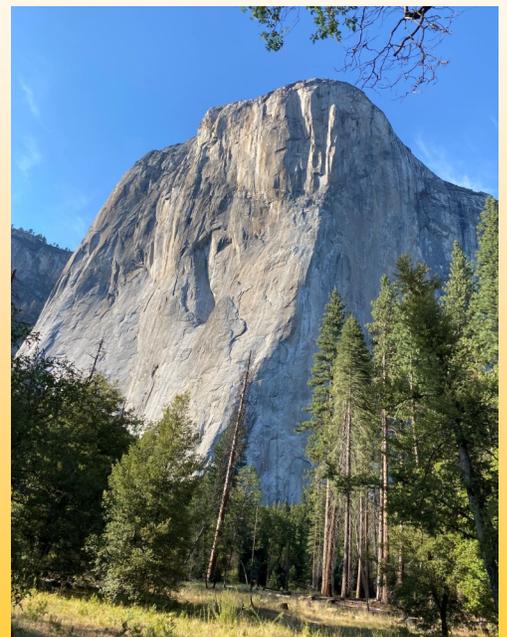
One of the lasting impressions of the summer for me was a picnic lunch my family had along the banks of the Merced River beneath El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. The cool water on our toes, the view of the expansive valley floor with wildflowers and grasses, and then that sheer granite monolith of El Cap, rising 3,000 feet directly above us, at once quietly protective and fiercely intimidating, is a tableau forever etched in my memory. It is not convenient to get to Yosemite, but once you are there, you fall in love and want to savor the precious moments—you want time to stand still.



The words of the Psalmist come to mind: “A thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past” (Psalm 90:4). There in Yosemite, stretching out beneath that blue sky and brilliant sun by day, the endless stars by night, I thought how little note that place takes of a pandemic, how unphased that scene is by what the world is going through. It was a welcome change of perspective from all the tracking and tracing, the protocols and safety practices, we have so carefully implemented throughout the last 18 months.

At this time every year we are keenly aware of the passage of time. As our children and grandchildren prepare for the return to school, we can hardly believe where the time has gone. In a sense, we also look to the Fall as a chance for a new beginning and a clean slate to start afresh. The pandemic continues to be a part of our lives, but we are accustomed to it now— we know what we need to do to keep others and ourselves as healthy and safe as possible as we return to a full schedule of activities.

In this issue of the Seeker you will read about some new offerings at Caldwell as we continue to live into this time. As our children return to school to begin new studies, I invite you to accept a new assignment this fall as well: to prepare your hearts and minds for a new beginning. Tune in for zoom Enrichment Programs on the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. to hear from one another and deepen our friendships. Join us for “A Time to Talk” on Tuesdays (all but the first Tuesdays of the month) outdoors on the church lawn. Join us for “Staying Strong”—gentle exercises on the church lawn starting later this September (day and time TBD). Help us continue to “be the church” for this time, trusting that in God’s time, all shall indeed be well. Let us savor every precious moment of this time, for though it is asking much of us, it all passes too quickly. Let us be truly grateful for the time yet left to us.



Faithfully yours,

Ali

## SEPTEMBER PRESCHOOL NEWS

Where did the summer go? Time just goes by so quickly sometimes. But, a positive result of that is that Preschool is about to reopen at Caldwell. Our staff Ashley Wesling, LeeAnn Bombard, Wendy McCabe and Jordan Miller will be welcoming 23 students to our building this year. As of this writing, there will be 13 students in the 4 year old class and 10 in the 3 year old class, all looking forward to having a new, fun and exciting year at Preschool. May God bless them and give them a most productive and loving school year.



Submitted by Leslie Clemons, Preschool Education Elder

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Happy Fall Y'all!

We're set to resume our Christian Education line up on Sept. 12! Watch for an email from Sarah to all families soon regarding our Sunday School offerings. We have lots planned for the year. Watch for more info on the following:

- Zoom and in person classes
- community service projects
- getting our rock garden going again with some freshly painted rocks
- our Christmas pageant in some form (not sure how that will look yet)
- resuming our Getting to Know You project
- youth help with our "to go" community dinners
- possibly a Habitat for Humanity project.
- Confirmation class

Thanks,

Sarah and the Christian Ed. Committee





**Dinner Cruise Fundraiser for Caldwell on the Mohican,  
Sunday, September 19th, 2021.**

**Board:4:30 Sail: 5-7 Deadline: Sept. 5th.**

**Chicken Dinner or Vegetarian Option (please let us know in advance)—Cash Bar —Door Prizes**

**Cost \$45.00 pp. There will be plenty of room to socially distance!**

**Please see an Elder or call the church office for tickets. #518-668-2613.**

**If you would like to make a basket for the raffle, or other donation, please bring it to the church office. Please make checks out to Caldwell and put cruise on the subject line. Invite your friends and family for a fun evening out!**

**Retired Senior's Volunteer Program needs drivers!**

**If you have some free time to take people to Dr.'s appointments, please call #518-793-3136. You will be reimbursed for mileage by Warren/Washington County RSVP.**

**Save These Dates!**

**Tour of Krantz Cottage in Lake George at 1:00, Friday Sept. 3rd. All are invited.**

**Communion Sunday is Sept. 5th.**

**The Food Pantry will be open from 9:30 to 11:00, Sept. 10th and 24th.**

**Caldwell Dinner Cruise Fundraiser is Sept. 19th, 4:30 boarding.**

**The Wednesday Ecumenical Book Study will watch a video series called "The Chosen" from 12:30 to 2:00 pm starting Weds., September 15th. This is a video series that depicts the life of Christ and is extremely well done.**

**Pastor Ali's "Time to Talk on Tuesdays" has changed! Meeting times on the first Tuesday of the month are at 10:00-11:30 in person or by Zoom. The remaining Tuesdays are from 10-11:30 a.m. outside on the lawn as weather permits.**

**Chancel Flower Guild members needed to assist in providing the flowers for each Sunday worship. Call the office to be part of this awesome team.**

## MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER: HAITI EMERGENCY

The area around Jeremie, Haiti was devastated by the recent earthquake. Thousands are injured and hundreds of people in the area were killed by collapsing buildings or falling debris. Thousands of homes and businesses were destroyed.

Immediate needs are food, health and shelter. In response, the Mission Committee has chosen three ministries in the Jeremie area for our Mission of the Month. The Committee assures you that all donations will be directed to emergency needs related to the earthquake and tropical storm in the Jeremie area.

Donations will be equally distributed to the following organizations:

### **1. The Haiti Mission School (Tom and JoEllen Parsons)**

*Provides education and hot meals to approximately 150 children in Grades k-6 and pays tuition and books for our best graduates to secondary school in the mountains outside Jeremie Haiti. We are assisting our student's families with tarps and emergency food distribution and have given each of them water purification systems.*

### **2. Voice of the Children (Howard Nicols)**

*Provides education, shelter and food programs for children in the Jeremie area of Haiti. These children include orphans, restavecs, and special needs children. Some of the food is provided by small businesses (bakery, peanut butter, meat and milk from goats) he has set up through small business loans. Some of the loan payback is made by providing food to families and an orphanage he has helped build.*

### **3. HSMS (heart, soul, mind, strength) (Lindsay Anderson - a friend of the Parsons)**

A Christian-based non-profit organization founded to love the people of the Jeremie region of Haiti in practical ways through:

*a) Education— Their residential academy is a dual language program-English in the morning and French in the afternoon.*

*b) Leadership program- Transforming future leaders through education, discipleship and example.*

*c) Adult English program taught by native English speakers*

*d) Community outreach-Believing we are the hands and feet of Jesus through acts of service and evangelism. This includes a prison outreach ministry which provides things like soap, toothpaste and mats to sleep on.*

*e) Building program- Has provided roofs, latrine/shower projects, cisterns and church rebuilding throughout the area. (This rebuilding will be part of her long-term use of disaster resources—Good Lord willing!)*

*More information can be found online at HSMS Haiti.*

Each of these programs has also brought Americans to Haiti to meet the people and perform mission projects. During the next six weeks we hope to hear from each of these programs. We hope you will be able to join us for this important ministry. And as always, we join our Haiti brothers and sisters in thanking you for your prayers and encouragement.

**PRAYER CONCERNS**



People of Afghanistan, Hurricane/flood fire victims, Refugees at the border, Earthquake victims in Haiti, Peg Earl, Children and teachers returning to school, Douglas Dunn, Jason Ashline, Compson's grandson and daughter Becky, our country, our leaders, covid and the variants, Peg Edwards, Delaney Locke, Jarod, Ron Powers, Sue Konklin, Mary Ann McCarthy, Jesse Kent, Sharon Koshak, Laura Reinhold, Billy, Cayden Goodspeed, Mel Quigan, Bob Bayle, Gina & Rachael Kip, Sean, Joyce Duffy, Jack Choppa, Charity & Yvonne's father, Carrie Theriault, Pam Parrott, Nancy Hollenbeck, Bob Gunther, Blais's friend with Lou Gehrig's disease.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**New Member Class Sept. 26th, 11:30-1:00. If you are interested in joining the church contact Beth in the church office. 11:30 to 1:00. #518-668-2613.**

**Elder Meeting on Weds., Sept. 8th, 5 pm, and Mon. Sept 13th 5:30 on Zoom.**

**Deacon Meeting on Tues., Sept. 14th, 7 pm on Zoom.**

**Communion Kits are available for folks on Zoom. Please call the office to have one delivered to your house by a church deacon.**

**The Rummage Sale has been cancelled for the fall.**

**SEPTEMBER**

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 4 Emily Fuller      | 21 Drew Jackson   |
| 8 Stan Rummel       | 24 Rosemarie Earl |
| 12 Mark Mannix      | 26 Bobbie Hoffman |
| 13 Rachel Hunsicker |                   |
| 16 Sarah Mannix     |                   |
| 17 Norman Duell     |                   |
| 20 Marjorie Mannix  |                   |

## STAYING STRONG, with Emilia Bernd

Please stay tuned for a special outdoor offering this Fall: Staying Strong, light exercises led by Emilia Bernd.

We will gather on the lawn outside the church once a week beginning later in September for gentle guided stretching during the autumn days which are glorious by the lake. For those older adults who may be interested, we advise you to get your doctor's permission prior joining this class. Please stay tuned for details!

All are welcome, men and women alike, and no prior experience needed.

To help us prepare, please call the church office if you think you would like to participate: #518-668-2613.

Thank you!



**Family Budget Coaching Program Now Available for Families and Individuals** in Warren County Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County is now offering a free, confidential Family Budget Coaching Program to community residents. The one-on-one sessions are available to individuals and families who want to improve their financial literacy, set goals, create a savings plan, reduce debt and get a better handle on finances. The trained coaches will offer sessions either via Zoom or in person in Glens Falls, Warrensburg and Johnsbury. For more information on this program, please contact Roxanne Westcott at [rmw38@cornell.edu](mailto:rmw38@cornell.edu) or (518) 668-4881.



## **VOICES OF HOPE FROM CALDWELL**

As you may know from a previous offering of some of this information, Caldwell has formed a new area of ministry called Congregational Life. Elders Jeff York and JoEllen Parsons and Pastor Ali have conceived of a project we are thrilled to reintroduce to you and we invite your participation in: **Voices of hope from Caldwell**, a compilation of recordings of your thoughts, ideas and wisdom to share your hope our collective hope for our world.

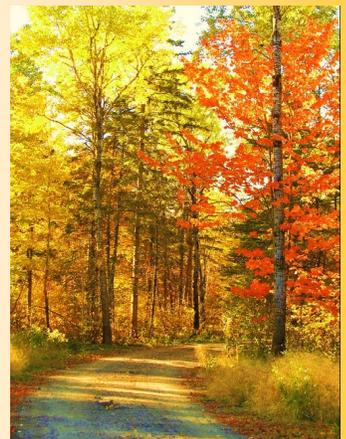
At the heart of this project are the following questions: How might we use the experience of the last year constructively in our life together as the body of Christ? As we move forward, how may we make this a moment for growth, of rekindling our connections, and the very sparks of servant love that make us who we are as the body of Jesus in our homes, our church, our communities and in our world. What has helped you get through these difficult times? What precious kernel of wisdom have you gleaned from the past year that you are willing to share with others?

And so we are asking you, the congregation and friends of Caldwell Church, to join us in **Voices of Hope from Caldwell**. Later this fall we will reach out to you at worship and at other times and places and ask you to record your voices of hope. We will produce a CD to give to you, your friends, visitors to Caldwell, and whomever may need a special hopeful word. We may play them during worship or share them with people of the street. We are looking into a digital format as well. In addition to offering your reflections, you are welcome and encouraged to read a favorite poem, or sing a song, pray a prayer or whatever comes to mind to express your unique hope for this time. We would like to hear from everyone —-from babies to toddlers to teens to adults to grandparents and great grandparents—all of us, raising our voices, expressing our sincere love and hope for each other and for our world.

Ours is a faith based not on death and diminishment, but on the power and love of resurrection hope. It is the miracle of Easter that gives us this hope, that energizes, creates and re-creates... it is this very unique and precious thing we are called to share with each other and the world. May there be for you, for all of us this same Easter like transformation happening as we move forward in this offering of love and hope. May there be a collective letting go of the doubt and despair that has so characterized our world in this past year, and may it be replaced with the seed of hope planted in us and through us as we share our offerings of hope and love and encouragement to a broken, fearful, often divided and discouraged world.

Please join us in sharing your voice, your love, your vision, your wisdom for how we, the Caldwell Church, can make this world a better place awash with possibility and hope for the days and weeks and months and perhaps years to come.

Thanks for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from each and every one of you in the days ahead.



## **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:**

Office Number—(518) 668-2613

Secretary Email—[secretary@caldwellpres.org](mailto:secretary@caldwellpres.org)

Pastor's Email—[ali@caldwellpres.org](mailto:ali@caldwellpres.org)

Website— [www.caldwellpres.org](http://www.caldwellpres.org)