

THE SEEKER FOR NOVEMBER 2021

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



PRACTICING THANKSGIVING in NOVEMBER

November is here, and English poet Thomas Hood from the early to mid 19th Century put it like this: “No butterflies, no bees, no fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds!—November!” It is true that many of the markers of bustling life in creation quiet down at this time of year, and nature goes underground for deep rest and silent preparations for next spring. In the meantime, Thanksgiving is coming, a time to pause and give our thanks for God and one another.

Karl Barth once said that the basic human response to God is not fear and trembling, not guilt and dread, but thanksgiving. “What else can we say to what God gives us but to stammer praise?” Barth asked. And what better way to stammer than with some of the greatest hymns of all, which we will sing at our worship service the Sunday before Thanksgiving: “Come Ye Thankful People Come,” “We Gather Together,” and “Now Thank We All Our God,” which the late Robert McAfee Brown once said is the best all-purpose hymn, suitable for every important occasion—birth, baptism, wedding, ordination, or funeral—and was sung at his own. Here is the first verse:

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
who, from our mother’s arms, has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

In her book *Fresh Bread*, Joyce Rupp divides the year into months and seasons. The chapter on November includes a litany that I invite you to pray. As the days grow shorter and we turn our clocks back, marking the end of Daylight Savings, may Thanksgiving be on your mind and this litany of gratitude on your heart—a companion throughout the month of November:

A Litany on Gratitude

Gracious God, silence in us any thoughts but your own so that we may live in gratitude:

To share whatever gift it is that you have given to us...

To acknowledge you as the giver of all good gifts...

To give without counting the cost...

To share without expecting something in return...

To be wise in the way of caring for ourselves and others...

To hold all of our treasures and values with open hands...

To have gospel priorities and to align our life, love, and time in their light...

To be gracious and unbegrudging in our giving...

To recognize the abundance of blessings in each passing day...

To know the freedom that comes with true generosity...

To accept our talents, whether many or few, and to use them in service of the Kingdom...

To grow in giving thanks for everything...



PRAYER: Gracious God, who so generously lavishes our lives with goodness, create in our hearts a deep center of gratitude, a center that grows so strong in its thanksgiving, that sharing freely of our treasures becomes the norm and the pattern of our existence. Remind us often of how much you cherish us, of how abundantly you have offered gifts to us, especially in the hour of our greatest need. May we always be grateful for your reaching into our lives with surprises of joy, growth, and love. Amen.

Thanks be to God for each of you.
Faithfully,
Ali

Happy Birthday

2 Joni Steiner

22 Jeb Trowbridge

11 Dotty Kopf

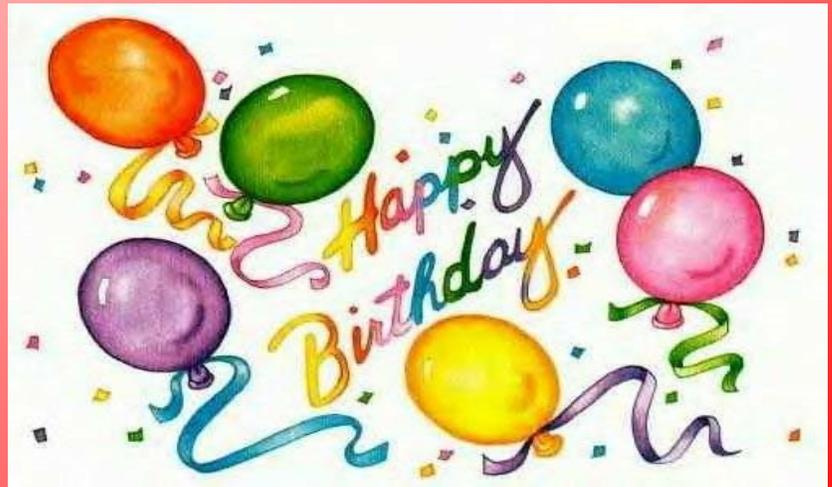
23 Susan Moore

13 Beth Corriveau

25 Alan Chandler

16 Scott Quigan

17 Bob Gunther



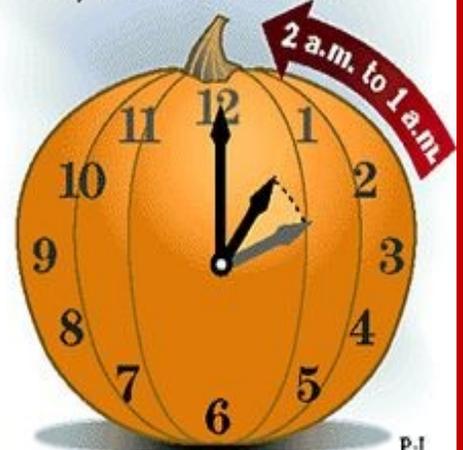
Volunteers needed to rake the church's leaves.

Bags are provided on the back porch.

November 7th

Daylight-saving time ends

- Turn your clock back one hour tonight before going to bed.
- It's also time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.



Christian Education Events:

Thanks to those who attended our mini golf outing in October. It was a bright sunny day and we all had a great time. If you missed out, we hope you can join us for another fun upcoming activity.

We are so excited to have Margo Nelson as our new Youth Director! She has been busy setting up all sorts of fun events for our youth to enjoy.



"In Your Own Voice ": An explorative translation of Bible Quotes, Stories, Psalms, Hymns and more. As interpreted in your own voice using art, music, journaling and improv. In our first meeting in November, you will be collaging your own journal which you will use in the coming sessions. This series will run on the **first and 3rd Sundays of each month (for Nov.7th & 14th) during Sunday school time for youth group members grades 7-12.** Come as you feel inspired. All materials provided.

"Fun in Fellowship" Calling all young disciples! Join us for special events and field trips planned with the intention to play and nurture our child like spirit. "Without play, without that child still alive in all of us, we will always be incomplete. And not just physically, but creatively, intellectually and spiritually as well" ~ Anonymous.

Fun in Fellowship will be the 1st Sunday of the month, beginning with.... **November 7th - Gratitude Camp Fire.** All of our young disciples will make Thanksgiving cards (for our Thanksgiving Baskets) and enjoy getting to know one another around the campfire for hot cocoa, stories & s'mores.

DONATION OF SELECT ITEMS NEEDED FOR WINTER!

- Please clean out your closets if you have kids winter coats size 6 to 14, hats, mittens, boots, and kid hoodies, please wash them and bring them to Beth in the office.

Families could also use sheets, blankets and comforters that you no longer use. Several families that attend our food pantry are in need of such items.

Thank you!



1 IN 3

Number of teachers who have purchased **COATS, MITTENS** and other **WARM CLOTHES** for their students.

#TEACHERSCHANGELIVES

Advent Wreath Making Activity

We will hold an Advent Wreath Activity on the first Sunday of Advent, November 28 at 5:00 pm. This event will be in person with a few modifications due to Covid still being among us. Please wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. We will not be having the Love Feast prior to wreath making or a cookie swap following. If you wish to pick up a kit and make a wreath at home, please let me know and I will have a kit ready for you to pick up on Friday, Nov. 26th.



We will start at 5pm and jump right into wreath making. I will have kits (Styrofoam rings, fresh greens and candles) for all those present. If you have pruning shears, bring those along. If you have your ring from last year, bring that as well.

At 6:15pm, we will conclude with a brief Advent reading, song, and the lighting of the first Advent candle. I will have Beth send out a Zoom link so anyone who wishes to join us for the readings and lighting of the candle may join in.

Come, join your Caldwell family in this meaningful Christmas tradition. Watch for the sign-up sheet or contact Sarah King at 744-9348 or at scubakings@roadrunner.com if you would like to attend or have a take home kit.



Thanksgiving Note Cards

Dear Parents,

Please encourage your child to write or draw a little note of thanksgiving to return to the church so that the Deacons can put one in each families food basket.

Thank you. The families always appreciate the hand written cards made by our children.

Thanksgiving Meal Baskets

The Board of Deacons will once again be offering Thanksgiving Meal Baskets to our Food Pantry recipients as well as members of the Lake George Community. We work with the elementary school nurse to identify families in need who don't necessarily come to the scheduled Food Pantry distribution.

The basket will include a traditional Thanksgiving menu including turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, vegetables and dessert. Families will pick up their baskets on Friday, November 20th from 10-1. For more information please contact Patti Brozyna.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Caroline Tidd, Margo's cousin Erin, Sue's friend Ellie, Gretchen's coworker Earl, Aunt Colleen, Missionaries kidnapped in Haiti, Jo Anne's friend with cancer, Teachers, students and families, Jenn's sister-in-law Sue and family, Nick Suarez, Peg Edward's family, Jim Corriveau, Erin Nelson, Kendall's friend Natalie, Betsy's neighbor, Matthew's family, Jean's friends in TN, Nurses and Medical staff, Sean, Twyla Fitzgerald, Jan Loonan and family, Ted Brothers, friends with drug addiction, Rice's friend Karen and her family, Nell Brendel, Ansie Carrasquillo, Michelle Martino, Christians in Afghanistan and other countries where they are persecuted, Hurricane/flood/fire/shooting victims, Refugees at the border, Our country and leaders, Peg Earl, Douglas Dunn, Jason Ashline, Compson's grandson and daughter Becky, Delaney Locke, Sue Conklin, Mary Ann McCarthy, Jesse Kent, Billy, Sharon Koshak, Cayden Goodspeed, Mel Quigan, Bob Bayle, Joyce Duffy, Jack Choppa, Charity & Yvonne's father, Pam Parrott, Nancy Hollenbeck, Bob Gunther, Blais's friend with Lou Gehrig's disease.

A Word on Caldwell's Stewardship Campaign 2021

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

Stewardship, however, is in many ways even more 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 it all. In these ways, your Stewardship Pledge is the first among equals in your giving at Caldwell.

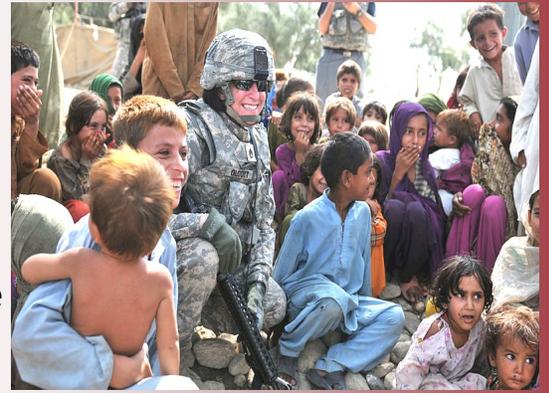
Thank you for your prayerful consideration of your pledge for 2021. With your commitment and with God's guidance, Caldwell will continue to strive to make a difference in the lives of many.

Sincerely,

Your Finance Committee

November Mission of the Month ~ Operation Adopt a Soldier

Operation Adopt A Soldier, Inc. (OAAS) was founded back in 2003 by Cliff Seguin and Dominick Comisso who began their efforts at the Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility in Wilton, NY. OAAS first started when Cliff began sending packages to a platoon soldiers from the 368th Combat Engineers, who included his son Steven, and were stationed overseas in Iraq. Later that year, Cliff met Dominick at a Support Our Troops Rally and learned that he was also sending care packages to the platoons of his two sons, Jason and Michael, who were stationed in Iraq as well. The two decided to join forces to bring their efforts to a larger scale and help more platoons stationed overseas.



OAAS is a purely volunteer program where our mission is to raise awareness about the daily sacrifices that the men and women stationed overseas and their families make in order to preserve freedom for all of us. Our main goal is to provide a sense of home to our soldiers and make them feel as comfortable as possible through care packages, gifts, letters, phone card, and more. Our motto is clear and simple "YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN."

We have three ways to help this organization.

- ~ We will be accepting monetary donations throughout November
- ~ There will be a box in the Narthex to donate items that they need. We will have the list posted there.
- ~ We will go to their offices and help pack boxes to send to the troops overseas.

Thank you all for your continued support year in and year out!

Items Needed ♦ ♦ ♦

***Please no aerosol or used clothing**

- Toothpaste
- Fly Traps
- Flea Collars
- Chapstick
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant M/F
- Candy
- Baby Wipes
- Chips
- Dry Snacks
- Lotion
- Eye Drops
- Nail Clippers
- Maxi Pads/Tampons
- Antibacterial Soap
- Wet Wipes
- All-Occasion Cards
- Envelopes
- Stationary
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Pens/Pencils
- Shaving Cream M/F
- Single Roll Toilet Paper
- Cookies
- Tissues
- Spaghetti O's
- Hard Candy
- Little Debbie Snacks
- Girl Scout Cookies
- Hand Cream
- Powdered Drink Mix
- Hats
- Gloves
- Razors
- Gum
- Journals/Notebooks
- Bar Soap
- Shampoo
- Baby Powder
- Watch
- International Phone Cards
- Ramen Noodles
- Soup
- Cup Of Soup
- First Aid Items
- Crayons/Colored Pencils
- Coloring Books
- Games
- Playing Cards
- Books
- Comic Books
- Beef Jerky
- Tuna
- Trail Mix
- Dried Fruit/Nuts
- Energy Bars
- Pringles
- Candy Bars
- Canned Meals
- Hostess Cupcakes
- Instant Coffee & Tea
- Microwave Meals
- Foot Powder/Cream
- Q-Tips
- Cough Drops
- Insect Repellent
- Motrin/Tylenol
- Band-Aids
- Sun Screen
- Washclothes
- DVD Movies
- Music CDs
- Portable DVD Player
- Mp3 Player
- Crossword Puzzles
- Board Games
- Baseballs & Gloves
- Footballs
- Frisbees
- Soccer Balls
- Gameboy
- Cool Max T-shirts (Brown)
- Socks (Black and White)
- Flip-flops. Shower Shoes
- Sock Liners
- Goggles
- Sunglasses
- Can Openers
- Hot Plates
- AA and AAA batteries
- AA22v/110v Electrical Converters
- Small Flashlights
- English/Arabic Dictionary

Movie Night to Support our Food Pantry!

On Friday, Dec. 10th at 7 pm, the movie, "It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown at the Shepard Park Amphitheater. The cost is free but they are asking for donations of personal care items like shampoo, laundry detergent, deodorant, shavers, toothbrushes, toothpaste and other such hygiene products to support our food pantry. Please dress warm and come to enjoy the first year of a new holiday tradition being started in Lake George! (Bring your own hot cocoa.)



CHARLES DICKENS DAY, SATURDAY DEC. 4TH , IN LAKE GEORGE

PLEASE COME TO CELEBRATE AN OLD FASHIONED VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS WITH STROLLING CAROLERS, VICTORIAN MENUS AND DRINKS, CARRIAGE RIDES, CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND DISPLAYS AND MORE.

VOLUNTEER CAROLERS NEEDED TO DRESS AS VINTAGE AS POSSIBLE AND STROLL THE EVENT SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS. PLEASE CONTACT BETH IN THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING.

Caldwell Preschool

As one can imagine, preschool has been a busy place these past few weeks. Along with a weekly library visit, Ms. NeeNee shares her music and movement with us twice a week. We also were visited by the firemen and their BIG trucks. What an exciting day that was! And to top it off, we went to the Pumpkin Patch in Schuylerville for a terrific field trip.

PHEW!, BUSY, BUSY, BUSY!!!

Submitted by Lesley Clemons, Preschool Session Rep.



Adopt a Family—AKA Mitten Mission

The Deacons will be "adopting" several families in Lake George to provide Christmas gifts and food baskets to. Last year they served 10 families and have signed up for additional families this year.

Please watch for more details in the church bulletin and consider if you would like to shop or donate money towards the effort of serving needy families in Lake George during the holidays.



HAITI MISSION SCHOOL

Monday, October 25, 2021

To members and friends of Caldwell Presbyterian Church:

We want to thank all of you who supported the September Mission of the Month following the recent earthquake in Haiti. Our portion of these donations allowed us to provide tarps and additional food supplements to our student families and residents of the Labastille area, and to rebuild walls at the school. We were also able to assist homeowners with materials and skilled labor for rebuilding.

It is such support that allows the children of the Labastille area to continue their education and support residents of the area around the school. On behalf of the parents, students and our neighbors, we thank you.

The Board of the Friends of Siloam School at Labastille

(AKA Haiti Mission School)

P.O. Box 445

Lake Luzerne NY 12846

www.haitimissionschool.org

Email: haitimissionschool@gmail.com



“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.”

-Numbers 6:24-26

Get To Know You Project: Nancy Hollenbeck

By Kate Trowbridge, 6th Grader at Queensbury Middle School

Kate introduction: This is a project from the youth of the church and the goal is to learn more from and about the elders of our church. Today you'll be hearing about Nancy Hollenbeck, a longtime member of our church. She is a very wholehearted person and has such a kind way about her. Here is my interview about some of her story.

Nancy: I'll do the best I can to answer anything you ask me!

Kate: Where were you born and where did you grow up; do you have siblings?

Nancy: I was born in Binghamton City hospital. I grew up mostly in Glenville. We retired over here on Lake George. Bruce had a business. I have a sister who is still living in her 70s. My brother passed away. My other sister passed away.

Kate: Have you been married and do you have children?

Nancy: I was married for 70 years. My husband passed away about 10 years ago. He was a painting contractor. He painted black-top all around NY state. He was very conscientious. I'm a registered nurse. I began my training when I was a teenager. I've worked in many different places. We took care of so many kids in different situations. My daughter Laura is in her 50s, she's married, and lives across the road from me. She's an accountant, a very busy lady! This time of year she is frantically busy. My other daughter Lynn does bookkeeping. She's very busy. They worked all their lives. Lynn has 2 children, Maria and Nicole, and they're very highly educated.

Kate: What kinds of things make you the happiest in your life?

Nancy: My children, my church, my friends, I've got the best people to take care of me since I've been sick. You can't imagine the crew of people who takes care of me. I'm very fortunate to have a group of wonderful people coming into my home to help me. They're really good.

Kate: What is something you wish you knew when you were younger that you didn't learn until you were older?

Nancy: That's a hard one! I wish I could remember things about my children and stuff. I've forgotten. Losing memory with old age is hard. I realize it's not my fault, and that I used to be a highly intelligent person, and now I'm not sure what day it is. I had a wonderful time singing in the church, for years and years, and was church treasurer in Glenville at the Methodist Church. My younger years were spent there. Then I started to go to Caldwell and have been there for years too...probably 30 years ago. So much of my life is gone, but that's part of getting old. Bruce's family always had a place on Lake George so it was natural for us to retire up here.

Kate: Who has influenced you the most in your life and why?

Nancy: My mother. She was a very busy, smart lady. A nurse. Valedictorian of her class. My father was very smart too, worked for GE for years, in Schenectady. My mother trained me to do everything in the world. Raise kids and be a nurse. She lived to be in her 90s. I spent the most time with her. She took care of me and I took care of her. Someday you'll do that for your mother.

Kate: What were you doing in your 20s and where were you living?

Nancy: I was a nurse and a mother. Taking care of my family was my big thing. I grew up on a farm. That's kind of a unique thing! My parents had cows, goats, horses, chickens, pigs, all kinds of things. They sold goat milk. We had about 20 goats. I raised my children in Glenville—a nice place to live.

Kate: What's the most important life lesson you think our generation should learn from yours?

Nancy: Make sure everybody feels loved and cared for. Your mother is very good at that!

Kate: What's your favorite movie?

Nancy: Oh that's too hard! I'm more of a story person. I love the stories. Where I lived out in the country we didn't do a lot of movie watching. I had to go 7 miles to the theater. Then with my husband we were so busy working and raising kids. I read a lot of books. Thousands. That's the thing I did more than anything. When you live out in the country on a farm and no TV, you read a lot of books. That was my story source.

Kate: What invention in your lifetime do you think is the most amazing?

Nancy: That's a hard one to answer...the TV! There are so many modern things now that we didn't have growing up.

Kate: What is the best advice you can give to me?

Nancy: Be very careful. Think honestly, love, and share with other people.

Kate: What does your faith mean to you?

Nancy: Oh, it means so much. It's my background when I'm having a bad time. My faith has taught me everything.

Kate: Well, that is the end of our interview. Thank you so much for your time. This was really fun and I learned so much about you that I didn't know. Bye for now!

Nancy: Bye for now! Hope to see you in church!



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 10 am.

Contact Information:

Office Number—(518) 668-2613

Office Email—secretary@caldwellpres.org

Pastor's Email—pastor@caldwellpres.org