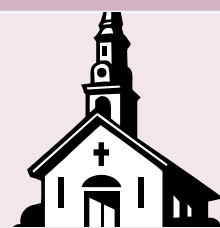


# The Seeker - April 2023 - Newsletter

## For the Caldwell Presbyterian Church



### AN EASTER PEOPLE

One of the greatest joys I experience throughout the year here at Caldwell Church is the weekly small group gathering in the Middle Room of the church. We begin our meetings with catching up over coffee and treats, then a prayer, and then we read scripture and discuss God's word for us. This group of people is not only a small group study...we are sisters and brothers in Christ, and we are friends.

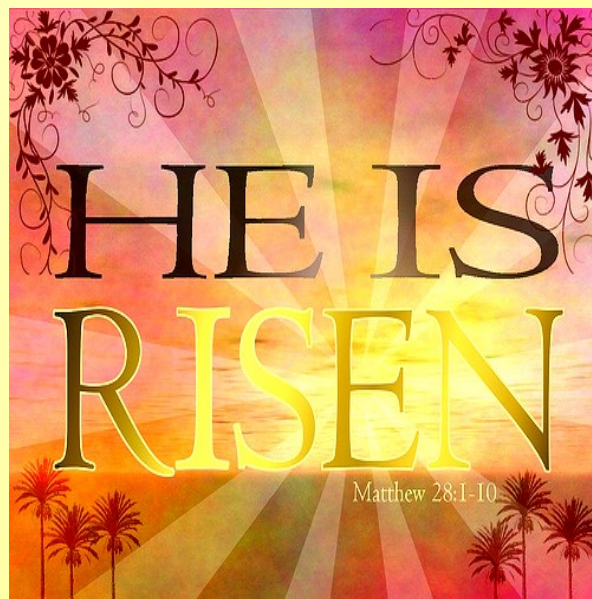
All of our sister churches from within the three block radius of Caldwell have faithfully participated over the many years...Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterians, as well as Lutherans and Baptists from a bit further away, and we share in the age-old art of being the church and being a community to one another. It is really a simple formula: come together around a mutually meaningful topic, share table fellowship, and grow in faith. But it nevertheless surprises me every time I experience it afresh, the gift of being *a relational people*, for whom life together is everything.

By the time you receive this issue of the Seeker, we will be on the eve of Holy Week. Beginning with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, we will then gather on Maundy Thursday for the very dramatic and moving service of Communion and Tenebrae—which is Latin for “shadows” or “darkness.” Good Friday will find us in an ecumenical gathering making stops in each of our sister churches' sanctuaries as we “Walk the Way of the Cross.” Beginning at 12 Noon at Sacred Heart we will remember the events in the Garden of Gethsemane, the Trial of Jesus, The Cross of Jesus, the Crucifixion, and the Burial in the tomb. It will give us an opportunity to ponder together these most sacred moments of our faith as we follow the stations of the cross.

And then, early on April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Easter, first at the Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. at the pier at Shepard Park, followed by a complimentary continental breakfast here at Caldwell, and then at 10:00 a.m. Easter worship in our sanctuary. After all the preparations and devotional practices, the resurrection of our Lord, at last. I'm helped immensely by J. Barrie Shepherd's wonderful words in “Easter Essentials,” in which he writes, “strip away the lilies and the brass, set aside the customs of 2,000 years, and you are left with a report, some blood-stained bandages in a vacated garden cave, several startled temple guards, a gaggle of bewildered witnesses, and through all this... a dawning hope, so strange yet sure it drives you to your trembling knees, groping for fresh syllables and sounds to shape this ever new, yet ancient cry: The Lord is risen...He is risen indeed!” (“Easter Essentials,” by J. Barrie Shepherd, *The Presbyterian Outlook*, Vol. 197 No. 07, March 30, 2015, p. 23)

We are friends, we are neighbors, we are an ecumenical gathering of the faithful, we are seekers on life's path ever-unfolding before us, we are followers of the one who goes the way of the cross, and the empty tomb, and who appears on the road to Emmaus when we recognized *God with us* in the breaking of the bread. We are the startled, bewildered, frightened witnesses who tremble to imagine and take in what Christ has come to give. But beyond anything else, here in the midst of Holy Week, let us rejoice that no matter what season of life we find ourselves, or what we may be facing, we are an Easter people, for whom new hope is dawning. And may that knowledge be sufficient for now, and forever. Easter is coming. Thanks be to God.

Faithfully,  
Ali





The Caldwell preschool has enjoyed the snow all winter, but are looking forward to spring. March was full of fun events. We had a special grandparent guest play guitar and lead us in song. Old Mac Donald had a farm is a hit in preschool. The three year olds took a field trip to Cafe Verro for snack. Thank you to the Cafe for their generosity, it was delicious. We are currently enrolling for the next school year. Our Open house March 22 was well attended. If you know anyone interested in preschool have them email the Director, Meghan Quillen, at [caldwellprespreschool@gmail.com](mailto:caldwellprespreschool@gmail.com)

**BIG RED W CLUB**

**WHAT IS THE BIG RED W CLUB?**  
THERE IS A STORY BEHIND THE NAME. COME FIND OUT WHAT IT IS!

**WHAT ARE WE?**

- A GROUP FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS, ANY AGE, OR PERSONAL HISTORY, ANY LENGTH OF TIME SINCE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE.
- WE WILL GATHER MONTHLY FOR GAME NIGHTS, MOVIE NIGHT, SHARE A POTLUCK MEAL, OR WELCOME A GUEST SPEAKER, ETC.
- SPACE TO SIT AND TALK WILL ALWAYS BE PROVIDED.

**WHAT WE ARE NOT...**

- A DATING SERVICE
- LICENSED GRIEF COUNSELING

JOIN US FOR AN INTRODUCTORY GET TOGETHER AND REFRESHMENTS

Two options to participate.  
Next meetings are...

Thursday, April 20 @6:00 at  
Caldwell-Lake George Library.

Or

Friday, March 31 @10 am at Lake Luzerne United  
Methodist Church parsonage, 23 Main Street,  
Lake Luzerne.

The meetings should be regularly the 4th Thursday  
of the month at the library, or, the last Friday of  
the month at the Lake Luzerne parsonage..  
the library meeting is a week earlier than typical  
in April because of the library dinner  
the following week.

Thanks Margie.



## Spring Rummage Sale

Caldwell's Rummage sale is May 4th—6th.

Set up will be April 30th to May 3rd.

Please start gathering your treasures to sell and watch for  
sign ups in the coffee room to help set up and to help sell the items.



## JOIN US IN CELEBRATING MAYOR BLAIS!

Thank you, Mayor Bob, for your love and service to Lake George.

For those who were not in worship on March 19<sup>th</sup>, here is the commendation the Church leaders presented to Mayor Blais on behalf of the congregation. This and the 121<sup>st</sup> psalm are sealed on the back of the framed photograph of the sunrise over Lake George by Alex Parrott, part of his 365-day study where he took a photo of the sunrise every morning.



Caldwell Presbyterian Church  
OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS

### PRESENTED TO ROBERT M. BLAIS

Mayor of Lake George, Elder of Caldwell Presbyterian Church, Treasurer of this congregation,  
Leader, Mentor, Friend, Brother in Christ, Child of God:  
In recognition of your love and devotion to Lake George,  
its people, the land, the spirit of promise and the community of hope,  
for your boundless energy, the joy and heart and skill you bring to every task,  
and your legacy of service;  
On behalf of this congregation and community,  
we offer our gratitude for your 52 years of leadership,  
and the good you have generated,  
to the blessing of many.  
The future is yours,  
and we look forward to walking with you in your next chapter of life,  
where the sun is always rising.  
The Lord bless you and keep you this day and forever.



The Congregation of Caldwell Presbyterian Church

### Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills –  
from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.  
He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.  
The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm;  
he will keep your life.  
The Lord will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and for evermore.





**6 Mary McIntyre**

**9 Susanna Bernd Gorey**

**17 Ron Eaglestone**

**18 Alex Blanco**

**22 Bill Carpenter**

**26 Laura Moody**

**26 Linda Grant**

**28 Jennifer Blanco**

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

Mary Madeira, Communities hit by tornados, shooting victims and families, Bobby Dick family, Ginger Aldrich family, Matthew Bishop, Kathy D., Judy & Dick Edmonds, Pam Vasio, Sofia Amrock, Jeff Hackenberg, Evelyn Mosebach, Ben Gorey, Roxanne & Jean Isaacs, Margo's friend Alison & daughter Nicole, Ralph Clemons, Jo Ellen's sister Judy, Katie B., Alison Darby, Pam York, Barb O'Reilly, Tom Roach, Ron Powers, Dr. Brasil, Gladys Tasker, Ella Cavas, the people of Ukraine, the people of Haiti, Bev's sister Carol, Peg Earl, Kathleen O'Brian, persecuted Christians, Pam Parrott, Volodymyr Abaschnik, Fuller's father-in-law.

Holy Week Schedule

**April 2 - Palm Sunday Service with communion**

**April 6 - 7p.m. Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service with Communion**

**April 7 - Good Friday "Walking the Way of the Cross"**

**12 p.m. start at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Lake George**

**April 9 - Easter Sunrise Ecumenical Service at 6:30 a.m. on the pier at Shepard Park.**

**Complimentary Continental Breakfast following Sunrise Service at CPC**

**April 9—Easter Worship Service at 10 a.m. -Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.**

*Christ  
is  
Risen!*



## SAVE THE CHILDREN

### Mission of the Month, April, 2023

*Save the Children was the first global movement for children,  
boldly declaring that children have rights.*

In 1919, when **Eglantyne Jebb** founded Save the Children, her conviction that children have the right to grow up healthy, educated and safe was not a mainstream idea. “Much has changed since then. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, based on Save the Children’s founder’s declaration, is now the most universally accepted human rights treaty in history. And, through their work in the United States and around the world, they’ve changed the lives of over 1 billion children.”

They work in **over 100 countries, doing whatever it takes — every day and in times of crisis —** to give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. In 2021 alone, they reached **more than 183 million children, including 837,000 here in America**. The scale of crisis in the world has increased exponentially in recent years. There are **more children living in conflict and war zones now** than at any time in the past 20 years, as well as more child refugees. Natural disasters are not only more frequent, but more severe. As always, **children in crisis** are among the most vulnerable. In particular, the **more than 12 million refugee boys and girls** now face a **triple jeopardy**. Not only have they lost their homes and their education, they now face the additional impact of **COVID-19** on their futures.

A child’s right to an education does not end in times of emergency. That’s why they’re focused on a return to education, **helping more children in crisis recover and return to learning** than any other global humanitarian organization. It is because of their commitment to children that **Save the Children ranks high** among other nonprofit organizations. Charity watch groups give them top ratings for achieving incredible results for children – with proven efficiency, effectiveness and accountability.

### CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

**Children** and their families are in desperate need following a deadly 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria borders. This is one of the strongest earthquakes to hit the region in 100 years. Thousands of people have lost their lives and thousands more have been injured. Save the Children’s teams are on the ground in the region and responding. Homes, buildings and essential infrastructure have been destroyed and children need urgent support to access food, shelter and warm clothing.

In any crisis, children are always the most at risk. The Children's Emergency Fund enables them to respond to crises around the world, whether from conflict, climate change or natural disaster.

With your support, Save the Children is there before, during and after an emergency. Working together to help communities become more resilient so that each time a crisis happens they are stronger, more likely to survive, and recover more quickly. Your support today helps make this possible.

Your donation to Save the Children’s Emergency Fund can help teams respond quickly to children living in crisis in countries like Turkey, Syria and around the world. Together, we can protect children in crisis.



## **APRIL COMMUNITY DINNER!!**

Please note that the date of our April Community Dinner has changed. Because Spring Break is scheduled to be during the same week as our April Community Dinner, we have decided to move the dinner to the following week.

Instead of our regular second Wednesday of the month, the Dinner will be held on the third Wednesday of April: Wednesday 19 April 2023. As you know the dinner is free and will be held at the regular time: 5 to 6 pm.

So, don't forget to update your calendar and plan to join us. Watch the bulletin for our hosting restaurant and menu. We will have sign up sheets in the coffee room so please check them out and plan to help out with setting up, serving, cleaning up, preparing a dessert and joining in the fun and the fellowship.

For any questions you can call the church office at (518)668-2613 or contact JoEllen Parsons at (518)696-3990. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## **COFFEE HOUR HAS BEGUN AGAIN!**

**Caldwell is excited to be meeting to enjoy coffee and a snack together after church. If you would like to help serve one Sunday, please call Beth in the office. Thank you!**



## **Greetings and an Update from the Caldwell Safety Committee:**

The safety of our gathered community at Caldwell is always our foremost priority. Since 2015, the Caldwell Church Safety Team has worked closely with the Warren County Sheriff's office to be trained and to stay up to date in our safety protocols both at church and in our preschool. We meet regularly to address safety concerns and emergency preparedness so that you, the congregation, can know we are doing all we can to be as vigilant and as prepared as possible. From AEDs and First Aid Kits, to fire safety, to a Safety Team member point-person assigned to every worship service, we work together behind the scenes to ensure all our gatherings run as smoothly and safely as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to any one of us. We are here to serve you. Thank you.

Your Caldwell Church Safety Team:

Bob Blais, Todd Earl, KC Glenn, Roger Glenn, Ed Kopf, Scott MacEachron, Alex Parrott, JoEllen Parsons, Jo Pedersen, Meghan Quillen, Jeb Trowbridge, Ray VanAnden, and Ali Trowbridge.



## Youth Group Information



Eggs have always represented new life and rebirth. Throughout history, people have decorated, gifted, cooked, enjoyed, hidden and hunted eggs to represent the essence of Spring. Naturally, Easter also has a symbolic relationship with the Egg as it represents the Resurrection of our Lord - new life emerging from the shell. So as you decorate your eggs this Easter season, consider the following: Yellow represents the resurrection, blue represents love and red represents the blood of Christ (<https://www.chaseoaks.org/blog/easter-eggs-what-is-the-history-behind-this-tradition/>). Perhaps you will come up with your own color association for your Easter Eggs this year. If so, I would love to hear what that was!

Join us for these April Events:

4/2 - **Fun In Fellowship:** *Easter Egg Decorating* Use tissue paper and assorted dyes create your own decorated eggs. Eggs and Materials supplied.

4/9 - **Easter Egg Hunt:** *After Church Service* Dozens and dozens of treat filled eggs will be hidden both inside and out. May you be lucky enough to find the magical Golden Egg!

4/30 - **All Together Now:** *Making Fairy Houses* All are invited to our 5th Sunday Community Wide Event. Join us and make a Fairy house out of natural objects. These houses will be built outdoors for the purpose of staying for the fairies. We will enjoy Fairy Bread and a short tale about the Fairies.

Sunday School for Young Disciples: 4/2, 4/23 & 4/30 during church service.

Youth Group Book Study: 4/16 at 9:15am

Rock Painting (for all ages): 4/16 during church service.



### **Pull Wagon is Needed:**



**We are looking for a kid's wagon or gardening wagon. Our Christian Ed. Leaders have volunteered to fill the bird feeders at Warren Center each month and it would be great if they had a wagon to load the birdseed bag in to. Dana and Sarah used over 40 lbs of seed this week. Thanks in advance.**

**Email Sarah at [scubakings@roadrunner.com](mailto:scubakings@roadrunner.com) if you can help with this request. Birdseed donations would also be appreciated!**

Panera  
FUNDRAISING



*Help support us!*

# CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

**20%**  
OF SALES  
WILL BE  
DONATED

**April 21, 2023  
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm EST  
820 Lake George Road**

Use code FUND4U at online checkout, in the Panera App,  
or at the kiosk in-café.\*

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the café or enter the  
promo code FUND4U at checkout on Panerabread.com or the Panera App to ensure your  
organization gets a portion of the proceeds.\*\*

Learn more at [fundraising.panerabread.com](http://fundraising.panerabread.com)

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\*Gift card and catering order placed on Panerabread.com, and delivery orders placed through third-party sites are excluded and will not count towards the event. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit: <http://fundraising.panerabread.com/terms-conditions/>. \*\*Services vary by café.





## **MONUMENTAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS ON FOR THIS MAY!!**

We are holding a modified VBS for Caldwell's Angel Disciples, and Caldwell Preschoolers and siblings up to grade 3 beginning Sunday, May 14 from 10am-11:30. It will run for 5 consecutive Sunday ending on June 11. We will celebrate our participants and all Caldwell youth on June 18 at our Youth Sunday service, followed by our second annual SUBS, SALADS AND SUNDAES on the lawn. All are invited.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Any high school senior or person actively involved in the ministry of Caldwell Presbyterian Church who wishes to further their education may apply for a scholarship. Applications may be picked up in the Church Office, or by emailing Sarah King at [scubakings@roadrunner.com](mailto:scubakings@roadrunner.com). The deadline for applying for the scholarship is June 1, 2023. The Scholarship Committee would like to remind members and friends of Caldwell that they may donate to the Scholarship Fund by giving a gift in memory of or to honor someone or as a general donation.

### **The Caldwell Connection**

Take a minute to look over the list below and think about reaching out to one or more of these folks with a card or a phone call, to let them know they are missed and still a part of our Caldwell family.

**Tom Roach**- had an ankle fused and spent several weeks at Warren Center. I think he is now recuperating at home.

**Jess King**- still doing PT twice a week at High Peaks Physical Therapy but doing great. She keeps busy writing stories for her Story Worth project given to her by daughter-in-law Sarah at Christmas.

**Peg Earl**- is turning 100 on May 16! Birthday cards available in the coffee room.

**Leslie Clemmons**- is having a birthday on May 16!! .

**Gladys Tasker**- going strong at 98! I love her story of how she worked for George Skakel in NYC when she was a young woman and got invited to Robert Kennedy and Ethel Skakel's wedding!

**-Stan Rummell -Carol Bayle -Joni Steiner**

Prayers and Best (Birthday) Wishes to these and all our Caldwell Family! If you know of someone in our congregation who should be recognized, please email Sarah King at [scubakings@roadrunner.com](mailto:scubakings@roadrunner.com) and I'll include them in our next Caldwell Connection in May.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

APRIL 21- PANERA FUNDRAISING NIGHT FROM 4-8PM. TO BENEFIT CALDWELL FOOD PANTRY.

APRIL 14—MAY 20. PANTRY DINING WEEK (TO BENEFIT CALDWELL AND SACRED HEART'S FOOD PANTRIES. ) More details coming in the May Seeker

JUNE 18- YOUTH SUNDAY FOLLOWED BY SUBS, SALADS AND SUNDAES on the lawn.



## Getting To Know You by Luise Ahlers “This was my Life”

I was 4 years old sitting in our Methodist Church in Hamburg with my parents the Minister quoted Revelation 3:20: “behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice I will open the door and come in to him.” I heard him and I got up from my bench, walked down the long isle to the entrance door and opened it, but there was nobody outside and nobody could have knocked at the door or opened the door.” I went back to my seat and very loud proclaimed: he lied, nobody locked and no one is outside!

In 1939 when I was 3 the 2nd World War began and a year later my brother was born. Every night there were loud air-raid alarms and we had to go down to the bomb shelter in the basement. I had to get out of bed and dressed now by myself and my mother took care of my little brother. But I was half asleep and lay down on the floor to sleep again. After 3 years of bombs almost every night, living in 3 different apartments, two already destroyed in those years, we were now warned of a new severe bomb raid. This was July 1943. We were advised to go into an underground bombproof bunker. My mother had already packed 4 suitcases with our clothes, but also with valuables like photo album, silverware, our good china and other things, all of that she had brought into the bunker. At that night our house and all the apartment-blocks around us were totally destroyed. We were saved in that big bunker. When we were allowed to get out of the bunker there was fire everywhere. My mother had to abandon all those suitcases and clothes and also my brother’s stroller. She just wanted to get out of Hamburg and out of the fire. She carried my brother on her arm together with her handbag and held me on her other hand making sure I did not step on fire on the road. All of Hamburg was consumed by the raging “fire storm”. There were flames all around us. We followed in a long line of people, all trying to get out of the burning city. Finally we found an empty cargo train waiting on the tracks. We were advised to get in. The train would go south. We all crawled in and had to sit on the dirt floor and spent thirty hours in that train. We made it to a small city in Bavaria where all had to get out. The Red Cross ordered the local people to take mothers with children into each home but nobody wanted the people from the north. After long arguments with my mother and her children, - nobody wanted more than one child - my mother was finally taken into an elegant home but we were not welcomed by the lady and we also did not want to be in her house. But where else would we go? After some time my mother became good friends with the lady of the house. This lady also owned a restaurant and she allowed my brother, three years at the time, to say hallo to her guests but my brother did not stop at greetings, he wanted to “read” from his book he had with him. The guests were amused and listened as my brother started reading, never mind that he did not turn any pages. He could not read yet, but he knew all pages by memory and once in a while he asked me whether he should turn the pages. He also offered to sing for the guests giving them great entertainment when they heard a sailor’s-song sung in his northern Hamburg accent. After some time my mother was given a small apartment in which an old lady had just died. A few days later an old Nazi town official knocked on our door with a large Hitler poster in his arm. He wanted to hang that poster on our living room wall, “every household must have Hitler in the house”. My mother refused: “I don’t want to see that man in my living room” she said and the man warned her, he could report her to the authorities and they would at least take her children away in safety. At the end of the war that same man came again to our door shaking with fear bringing his Nazi uniform to my mother to be burned in our oven. My mother took the uniform off his arm: “Oh no, I can make two winter coats for my children from this coat” she said and this man walked out and was never seen again. We continued to have alarms and at any time of the day or night we had to seek shelter in a large cave in the mountains. At the end of the war we spent 2 weeks, day and night in our cave before American soldiers let it be opened. They occupied our town and our restaurant. My brother quickly made friends with the soldiers with his singing. I always had to be around my little brother to make sure he did not get lost. One day a soldier called me outside the restaurant. He took me by my hand and told me in broken German he had also a daughter at home and that I looked just like his daughter and then he gave me a chocolate bar and something in a small bag to give to my mother. I thanked him and when my mother drank that coffee she became totally high – my mother had not had any such real coffee in years. At that time I was in regular school again. But some of our classrooms were set up with hospital beds for injured American soldiers. We were encouraged to bring cards with our greetings to them. I gave my card to a soldier who looked much like my father. On one Sunday in summer 1945, my father came home from British prisoners-war camp. He mostly walked the long way from northern Germany to the south. The Red Cross knew where we lived and my father found us: we were a family again. I remember I recognized my father even with his beard. But my brother began crying because he did not know that man. My father soon got a good position as a supervisor in a wool factory.

But my parents wanted to get back to our Hamburg and that happened 2 years later. My brother was then soon ready for school. I entered high school and after school I wanted to become a doctor. I entered Medical School in 1956 for 5 years of study. At that time only few women studied medicine in Germany. People said “what were girls doing in academia? Let them at least be nurses”. But I got into Medical School and I enjoyed my studies. I made many friends and got to know also my professors – which was very important, I was being told, for the many long, final oral examinations at the end of study. I was told it was good to have the professors remember you at exam time!

In 1962 I began my two-year rotating internship in Hamburg: 6 months internal medicine, 4 months surgery and obstetrics/gynecology and 4 months an elective rotation and I chose dermatology and the last one was 6 months pediatrics at a large Children's Hospital. During that time at many occasions the nurses were the ones with the greatest experience who knew exactly what needed to be done and when. I relied on my nurses during the beginning of my training and valued their professional judgments throughout my many years of medical practice. During that time I met Rolf again. We had lost touch when his family immigrated to America. As children we went to the same church and lived in the same neighborhood. But now we were adults. Rolf spent a year in Germany studying in Munich and Hamburg. But beginning in 1962 he taught at the School of Theology at Hamburg University. During that time we often met and became close. We were married in 1965. I will never forget that day: We had rented an apartment from an academic couple that wanted to go to America for a year. After all ceremonies at the church my father drove us to our own "home" his car decorated with flowers. The apartment was supposed to be free for us to move in. But we saw from the car that all the lights inside were still on. Rolf went in and I tried to hide in the car. The people inside were still packing. We had to wait for quite a time before the people were ready to leave. But how shocked were we when we finally entered. The apartment was almost completely empty, had hardly any furniture but all over crates and sealed boxes. In the bedroom stood a bedstead without a mattress. We had been told the apartment was rented furnished! There were not even a table or chairs. By the time the owners left, it was almost 2 in the morning. We took off our finery, my veil and high heels and it was almost morning when we were ready for our private celebration. We opened a bottle of champagne and celebrated into the early morning hours. We had another surprise at breakfast: we had brought toast, butter and honey but there was no silverware, only one cup and a big butcher knife. We went later to purchase our silverware. Still in my parent's apartment I had my chest of contributions to our new common household. Since we had become engaged I had every month set aside a portion of my salary and every month I purchased from a long list of selections. For several years we lived in two countries, one year in Germany then again a year in America.

Our first son was born 1967 in Germany. Christoph studied at Middlebury College prior to medical school. He is now an oncologist and hematologist. We finally settled in this country. But I could not work here. My German medical credentials were not accepted. I had to take several oral and written examinations and repeat two more years of clinical practice before I could get my American medical credentials. When I was finally ready to practice again our older son was ready to enter school. I started a position at Albany Medical College. At my interview with the Chairman of pediatrics my professor warned me "don't you get pregnant". I did not tell him that warning came too late! But when our second son was born 1974 my professor was the first to congratulate me. This second son was the only person of our family born in this country as an American. Many years later after he had finished school in the Albany Academy then Skidmore College and Maryland Institute of Art Marcus received a Fulbright Grand in Berlin. When his year in Berlin was over he remained in Berlin and now lives permanently in Berlin as a sculptor and engineer. For 40 years I worked with great enthusiasm as a Pediatrician first in Hamburg and then in this country. In the morning I was teaching a class of medical students and afternoon I saw patients, always having at least one student with me. Twice a week I saw pediatric patients at the Albany County Health Department in downtown Albany. These patients had mostly no insurance. I particularly liked the children and their parents in this clinic. They were in need, not only physical needs but needs of many other kinds in raising their children and I could take the time to help because I was not in a private practice. Over the many years I worked in that clinic I got to know most of these families and I liked to work with them. Some met me outside their housing projects when I walked by to show me their babies. Some of the mothers of these children were difficult and they had difficult lives also, but difficult patients have to be accepted and tolerated. I felt a responsibility for the wellbeing and health of their children no matter how difficult the parents made my job. For instance, most mothers wanted a prescription for antibiotics when their children had a cold. I just explained to them that the cold would go away by itself and antibiotics did not help for a runny nose. And in time more often than not I found they turned around and agreed with my way for their children's care. Before I retired I sent these families personal letters to tell them that I would soon not be around anymore. On my last day in this clinic these parents came with flowers for me and to say their goodbye. I very much enjoyed what I was doing at Albany Med and the County Clinic.

When Rolf and I finally retired we moved into our house at the lake. We both had a hard time retiring. For 3 weeks I sat in my study and looked out of my window over the lake. I thought I had made a big mistake. I never was so unhappy. I had lost the most important work of my life. And then I had an idea: I looked at my 67 fat ring books up on the book shelves in my study that I had filled over many years writing about my early life and my life as a wife, mother and Pediatrician. I wanted to write our family history. And this is what I am still doing whenever I have time: sitting in my study, thinking and writing, working now on my 5th volume. My computer tells me when I get English and German grammar mixed up. But writing is not the only work I am doing now. I always liked plants and flowers. My mother used to have always plants in all rooms of our home. Now I surrounded myself inside and out with plants, not thinking that several animals also like my plants, especially ones that I had planted. When the plants grow too high I cut them down, put the cuts into water until they get roots and voila! I have new plants. I particularly like geraniums and I do the same: cutting and planting again. A few years ago I had over 80 geranium

pots not counting all my other plants. I don't have the heart to throw plants away. Throughout the winter I keep all my plants in the house. That means getting them into the house in fall and finding for them places inside. And in the spring taking them all back out again, always out of reach from the animals. I like my plants as I liked my patients! I had to let go of my patients and I hate to let go of my plants. And now at the end I have to come back to one of my patients. I cannot stop before I have not told you the story of this young man: many years before I retired there was a mother bringing her little newborn son to me. I saw that healthy boy for many years and into late adolescence. He had finished school and was about to enter college and I referred him to my colleagues for adult patients. But every year and in between this young man came again to see me. Once he had an illness he did not want to see any one else and he asked me to treat him and I did. After that I did not see him for a long time. But suddenly he was there again in my office. I raised my arms: no! But before I could send him away he also lifted his hands and told me I would continue seeing him for a long time, for at least another 20 more years!! And then he let his wife come in and she put their little newborn son on my examining table and so I examined this healthy baby as I had examined his father as a baby long time ago. And so this young father with his little son remained my patients in this way until I retired and he and I were very happy with this arrangement!



## Everyone Has A Story—Story Time Is Back!!!

Hi folks....23 April 2023.....you will want to mark this date on your calendar. On this date following worship Story Time will be coming to us once again. This month, our own Doctor Al Kopf will be sharing some of his life story with us live in the sanctuary and on Zoom. He has some wonderful pictures prepared for us as well. We thank Doctor Al and Dave King for working together to provide us with these photos and videos.

Following worship we will be providing a light lunch of soup, bread, beverage and desert. We will invite you (those of you at home and at church) to take 10 or 15 minutes following worship to get some food and greet your friends and perhaps make some new ones. Please feel free to bring your food into the sanctuary and eat during the story time. This is a fun informal gathering of our church family.

If you would like to join in the fun by sharing some of your own story about your growing years, your work (volunteer, paid or unpaid), hobby, travel or other life experiences please contact Beth here in the office at Caldwell (518)668-2613 or JoEllen Parsons at (518)696-3990 or on line at [tjparsons@frontiernet.net](mailto:tjparsons@frontiernet.net) or see us in church. We are inviting people to share for 15 to 30 minutes and we are looking forward to hearing from you and hearing about you.

**The Caldwell Food Pantry is in need of toothbrushes, tooth paste, floss, deodorant, shampoo, soap and laundry detergent. Please drop it off on the back porch of the church next to the rear parking lot, or bring it into the church library/ youth sitting area.**

**Thank you for your help.**



## **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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