

# THE SEEKER FOR JUNE/JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2023



## Summer: A Time to Unbury Wonder

Even though I'm probably too old for this, I still get butterflies of excitement about summer. The chance to switch gears, change focus, and be outside more brings out the inner child in me, and perhaps, in you, too. The three summer months stretch before us, and our family is thinking about our camping trip to Great Smoky Mountains National Park, summer reading, planting the garden (finally), and making plans with family and dear friends over long dinners, bonfires, and hangouts. From the friendly glow of fireflies at dusk, to the bluebirds going about their early morning chores in and out of their house in our backyard, to "spotting the station" from our front lawn—watching the ISS in its orbit overhead amidst the planets and stars in a limitless sky, there is endless wonder to explore. I pray you reconnect with your inner child this summer, and remember the excitement of first discoveries, and the comfort of returning miracles, new every morning.

One of my favorite writers is theologian Ted Loder, whose gift with language borders on the sacred. From his book, *Guerrillas of Grace*, I share excerpts which, for me, and hopefully for you, open the doorway to the wonder ahead of us, no matter our age or stage in life. He writes in verse, all prayers, so let us pray this together:

O God of miracles, of galaxies and crocuses and children,

I praise you now from the soul of the child within me...

Help me unbury my talents for wonder, and humor, and gratitude,

So I may invest them eagerly in the recurring mysteries of spring and beginnings,

of willows that weep, and rivers that flow and people who grow

in such endlessly amazing and often painful ways;

that I will be forever linked and loyal to justice and joy,

simplicity and humanity,

Christ and his kingdom...

The one who taught us about moving mountains,

healing touches, wondrous stories, great banquets, first suppers,  
broken bread, crosses, and resurrections...

Throughout these summer months, nurture in me the song of a lover,  
the vision of a poet, the questions of a child, the boldness of a prophet,  
the courage of a disciple...O Lord, it is said you created people  
because you love stories.

Be with me as I live out my story.

Blessings of summer to you all. I hope to see you!

Faithfully,

Ali



## 2022-23 Community Dinner Success!



Another great year filled with good food, good fun and good fellowship has drawn to a close. It is thanks to you and others like you for the success of these dinners. Our community came together and served on average 80+ meals each month and we appreciate each one who participated in any way. A special thanks to our brothers and sisters and Sacred Heart for the use of their building. Thanks to those who baked, set up, cleaned up, served up and, of course, those who came to eat and share in the fun and fellowship.

We are grateful to our local restaurants and cafes for their generous and mouthwatering donations of lovingly prepared food. Our thanks and appreciation to: ADK Pub, Holiday Inn, Fort William Henry, Mama Riso's, The Barnsider Smokehouse BBQ Restaurant, Mario's, the Caffe Vero and to our own crew for a delicious chili and cornbread dinner.

We hope you all have a wonderful summer and look forward to being back together with you in the fall for more great food, fun and fellowship. Until then, we wish God's grace, joy and peace to each one.

The Spring Rummage Sale was also a big win! The sale raised over \$2800.00! Thank you to everyone who helped with setting up, advertising, selling the items, and cleaning up. Special thanks to Patti Brozyna was here everyday, and was the last one to clean up the final remains with her electric saw and several trips to the dump.



**"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 a store-bought or homemade treat. Thank you.

### Christian Education



We had a great hike to The Grandmother Tree in Pact Forest in Warrensburg and even found some trillium, a springtime treat to see!

VBS Fun! We are learning the story of Joseph and his special coat, and that God loves us no matter what! We are also learning to sign Psalm 23.

Blessing to all,

Sarah and the Christian Ed Committee



*June, July & August 2023*

*News from the Haiti Mission School*

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As I sit here and ponder about the people of Haiti and their future.....about the violence and chaos that continues to manifest itself in their streets....I wearily wonder, as I know so many of our Haitian brothers and sisters do, and as the Psalmist did in chapter 13:1 “How long, O LORD??? How long??? Will you forget me forever?? How long will You hide Your face from me???” How long will You let this go on??? We are tired and weary and hungry and discouraged and afraid....please help us!! And I pray with them, “please help.” There are times, I am certain, when they want to give up and I surely feel the same. Then I remember back....I see the faces of our students..hear their voices....watch their progress...worship with them and I am convinced that God is truly in this place suffering as they suffer and evil may endure for the long night yet God will hold them, carry them and God will prevail. I am encouraged when I read what the Lord says through the Prophet Isaiah in chapter 43:18....”Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past; Look, I am doing a new thing!!!”.... “I will make a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.” And so I forge on...we forge on together and with God to make a difference where and when and while we can. We will feed and educate and encourage and pray, and as best we can, be a part of whatever new thing God is and will create from this chaos...remembering that in the beginning all was chaos and that sometimes God does God’s best work in that environment.



As we understand it, school will remain in session through July, because of the late start. Because there is no current government except Prime Minister Ariel Henry, it is often difficult to understand who is making these decisions and where they are making them. Yet, we abide by them and continue to try to find ways to support and encourage our staff, students and their families. Many of the teachers continue to teach even though they have not been paid for two years. When they receive their salary they will be reimbursed for the back pay they have not received. This seems to have worked in the past and we (and they) hope it will hold true for the future as well. The school where our secondary students attend, College Dumas, is a private school run by a Catholic organization in Canada and plans to continue through July so our students will have a full school year. We are grateful for their continuing commitment to Haiti and Haiti’s children. Our students in college continue to work hard and they continually send their thanks and gratitude.

As is the custom in our church, there are no news letters through the summer months. This year, that will be June, July and August. If there are events or articles of news or information that come up through the summer we send them out individually as they occur. In keeping with that policy we will be doing the same with the Haiti News as well. So we hope and pray you will have a good and safe and fun summer and will return with us in September renewed and refreshed and ready to send children to school, feed them and encourage and help them in any way we can. In the meantime we hope you will keep Haiti, Haiti’s children and families, the restavec children of Haiti and the world and families of the Haiti Mission School in your thoughts and prayers

***Thank you from our Boards (Haitian & US), students, families, facility and friends for your continuing encouragement, support and prayers for us and for our Haitian sisters and brothers. Blessings.***

## CHURCH PICNIC INVITATION TO ALL CHURCH MEMBERS:

our YOUTH SERVICE will be on JUNE 18th, followed by...

SUBS, SALADS AND SUNDAES ON THE LAWN. Yum!

We will supply the Subs and the fixings for the Sundaes (Beverages too).

You bring a salad, or side dish to share. Please sign up in the coffee room.



### Story Hour Reflection by JoEllen Parsons

We tried something new!!! Believing that Everyone has a Story, we invited members of our own Caldwell Church family to tell us a bit about their fascinating, glamorous and/or regular lives. We heard some wonderful, interesting and inspiring stories. We have learned that people we have known for many years have stories we never knew about. And we have had some good fun, good food and good fellowship.

We heard stories from Bev Roach about her growing up years in Cuba, Honduras and Panama. We heard from Luise Ahlers about growing up in Germany in through the 1940's, studying to become an MD, practicing medicine in Germany and then here in the US. We heard some about what life was like growing up, being a student, wife, mother and doctor in years when there were few women doctors. We heard from Doctor Al Kopf about some his life and work as a dermatologist in Africa with the International Foundation of Dermatology (the pictures were great especially the ones with Mt. Kilimanjaro looming in the background). And finally, we heard from our Birthday Gal, Peg Earl, telling us about hope as the precious gift of life. Peg's granddaughter Maggie prepared a great picture presentation about different phases of Peg's life, her 100th birthday party and time with elephants. We are so grateful to each one for sharing these parts of their lives with us. **Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.**

We also thank those who have made deserts, soups and rolls along with those who helped set up, serve and clean up. I especially want to thank my daughter for coming up from Clifton Park each month bearing gifts of food and support. Thanks to our Zoom operators for making it possible for people to join on zoom, and who have faithfully recorded each talk for saving and for sharing. Thanks to Sarah King for the follow up stories about our story tellers. Many thanks also to our committee: Bev Roach, Sarah King, Pastor Ali and the Good Lord without whom none of this would be possible..

We plan to resume our Story Hour in the fall, however we cannot do it without you. We invite each of you to prayerfully consider joining in the fun by sharing some stories of your own about your growing up years, your work (volunteer or paid), your family, hobby, travel or other life experiences. Our story tellers usually share for around 20 minutes...some have pictures and some do not...some have notes and some do not... all have been a blessing to those hearing the telling.

Looking forward to hearing from you about your story (just contact the church office) and seeing you in the fall.

# 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

- 1 Ray VanAnden
- 4 Bob Blais
- 4 Maddie MacEachron
- 5 Emilia Bernd
- 6 Roger Glenn
- 12 Jessica Hunsicker
- 13 Ryan Madkour
- 22 Diane Chandler
- 22 Gladys Tasker

## AUGUST

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

## Prayer Concerns

Jeff Simpson, Jonathan Simmes, Lori Rehm, State Qualifiers-Lilly and Dante, Aden Murphy, Melissa Chambers, Desimone family, 2023 Graduates, Bill Carpenter, Matthew Bishop, Dale's family, 2023 Graduates, Joyce Compson, Deana's parents, Henry Carpenter, Josh Farley, Lillian Napier, Dick & Elaine Lane, Douglas Liva, Jack Brennan, Kathy D., the Edmonds, Sofia Amrock, Evelyn Mosebach, Ben Gorey, Alison Darby, Tom Roach, Ron Powers, Ella Cavas, Peg Earl, Kathleen O'Brian, Pam Parrott, Andrea L., Fuller's father-in-law.

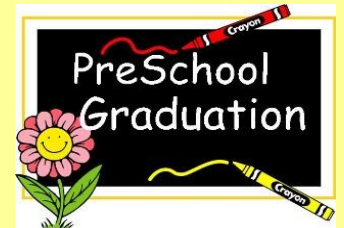


## Caldwell Preschool News for June

The preschool celebrates this year's successes! On June 9, a total of 22 preschool students will have completed their classes this year. Sixteen will move onto kindergarten and six will move up to the four-year-old class. The school's staff has been blessed by the wonderful families we serve. As we wind down, we reflect on all the fun learning activities we did and how much each student has grown. Thank you for your support.

We are still enrolling students for both four and three year old classes for next year. Visit [www.caldwelprespreschool.com](http://www.caldwelprespreschool.com) for application and information.

The Preschool Committee



## Mission of the Month—The Caldwell Preschool

Caldwell Presbyterian Preschool was built in 1973 and is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Lake George community. As the new director I meet a lot of people interested in the preschool. Everyone I have met know someone who came here, or shares a story about our school. It is exciting to be a part of something with such an impact on so many people's lives.

Caldwell Presbyterian Preschool is excited to the mission of the month. This year our total enrollment was 22 children and four part time staff. The preschool had over a dozen different field trips and family gatherings of our school community. We are growing and learning everyday. We have many new curriculum ideas to keep our school up to date and relevant. We would like to have an outside classroom ready for next year. We have already started by composting and planting a garden to be ready for fall. We have added a gate to the parking lot entrance and a mud kitchen.

--On our wish list is a sensory light table with lights to explore colors and shapes. We would also like to replace some of our toys to update our curriculum. For our outdoor classroom activities, we would like some wooden play houses as the plastic ones are old and falling apart. We also want more natural materials and items for the children to explore and experience. For our inside classroom we would like a simple playhouse that we could decorate with different themes, and seasons.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our preschool. Hope you have a wonderful summer!

Meghan Quillen, Preschool Director

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

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Summer Solstice; Ripening Strawberries; School Year Ends! June is ripe with potential! All we need to do is cultivate the field for an abundant harvest of fun, family, friends, vacation, BBQ's, beach days, etc. etc. Each of us holds the seeds of our own dreams which God has planted in our hearts. May the dreams of your sweet summer flourish! ~ Margo



**Sunday School Schedule:** Angel Disciples – VBS 6/4 during Church, and Youth Group – Last Book Study meeting, 6/11 at 9:15am.

### **Special Events....**

- ....**Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> “Fun in Fellowship”** trip to the Aviation Mall Movie to see: “Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse” Animated, rated PG. 12:30pm.
- ....**Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** All Groups, **Youth Service Pizza Planning Meeting 5:30-7:30.** Join us for Pizza, discuss ideas for our Youth Service and Create a new “All Are Welcomed” here hands of peace banner for our Church.
- ....**Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> Youth Service, followed by Salads, Subs and Sundaes!**
- ... **Sunday, June 25** Start our **Rockin’ Sundays** (rock painting for all/any youth during the service).



## Church Announcements



**AMERCADE PARKING HELP NEEDED TO PARK VEHICLES ON THE CHURCH PROPERTY** the evening of June 1,2 & 3. It is a great fund raiser for the church! **Please grab a friend and sign up in the coffee room.**

**AMERCADE BREAKFAST AT CALDWELL** - June 1, 2, 3 from 7 to 10 am. Please sign up to help or come join us for breakfast. Cost is \$10.00.

**TIME TO TALK** with Pastor Ali is Tuesday from 10-11:30. Join us on the church lawn. Bring a chair.

**DEACONS PRAYER CALL MINISTRY:** If you would like to join and support the praying ministry of the Deacons, please contact the church office.

**NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE:** The History of Caldwell Presbyterian Church written by Rev. “Skip” Bush, a pastor from 1972-81. Cost is \$25.00.

**THANK YOU TO THIS MONTHS SAINTS FOR ALL THAT THEY DID TO KEEP OUR CHURCH IN A CLEAN AND GOOD CONDITION.**

**Tim McCann, Dave and Sarah King, Jo Ellen Parsons, Todd Earl, Patty Brozyna, Bob Blais, Alex Parrott, Jo Anne Pederson, Ed Koff, Rev. Ali Trowbridge, Scott Quigan, Linda Glenn, Karen Azer, Bob Gunther, and Ted Moseback, and all that have volunteered for the Americade Breakfast. Special thanks to the Lake George High School Seniors.**

**God Bless you all. Property Chairperson Elder Raymond Van Anden.**

### Caldwell Connection

May 16 was a special day! It was Peg Earl's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!! She celebrated with family at the Fireman's Home in Hudson and we celebrated at Caldwell. She was our featured StoryTime host as we viewed an interview with Ali and granddaughter Maggie on the big screen in the sanctuary. Best to you Peg and many congrats!!



Leslie Clemons also celebrated a birthday on May 16. She has a few more years til we can celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> with her! Lol. We hope Leslie had a special day too.



## **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 at 10am Sunday!

### **Contact Information:**

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

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