

THE SEEKER—MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Dear Caldwell Church Family,

As we approach the 3rd week of Lent, I hope you have enjoyed the daily devotions on the d365 app as I have. Engaging this devotion is a simple daily action that allows us to intentionally “sit up straight” and tend to our walk of faith. Lent is the season to take note of ourselves—not just as individuals, but also in our common humanity, and to tend to the places of struggle, avoidance, sin, and regret.

I love Barbara Brown Taylor’s wise advice for Lent and turn to it each year. She points to the hollowness all of us can sometimes feel; it is not a sign of something gone wrong. It is the holy of holies inside of us, the “uncluttered throne room of the Lord our God.” And rather than seek to fill it, with food or sweets, TV or social media, or other things, we would do ourselves some good to let it remain open, and let God alone fill the hollowness. Lent is a time to *make time* to sit alone in silence, which is to sit alone with God, and to wander the rooms of your heart. And when we do, our faith tells us we will begin to see a glow of something bright. As the prophet Isaiah writes, “your light shall break forth like the dawn...”

This Lent, let us remember the simple and profound truth of the gospel: we are sons and daughters of God, forgiven and freed from the weight of our sin, loved by the God we know in Jesus Christ—who leads us toward Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, the same God who keeps calling us out, calling us back, summoning us, saying, “Turn again to me. I will may you whole.”

Here is a prayer I’ve been praying –it’s from one of the d365 devotions:

God,
grant me the faith to see beyond the visible
and embrace your miraculous possibilities for my life.
Amen.

A holy and blessed Lenten Journey to you all.

Faithfully,
Ali





Prayer Concerns:



Jessica Gosselin, Moise family, George Brendal, Katie Boxley, Linda Van Anden, Michael Amrock, Ann Marie Wasniewski, Roland & his family, Jo Anne's nephew Chris, Melody Nace, Kathy Bishop, Alberano family, Cuttrow family, Tasker family, Tina Bunalski, Jess King, Jay Burk & fellow sailors on the Red Sea, Aunt Bonnie, Paul Kubik, John Onjack, Kendie's mother, Debbie Mosebach, Marcus, Martin, Addie Lynn, Judelin's family, Sabina Tidd, Rice's friend Bill, Jean Stanton, Margo's daughter & friend Linda, Mary Marcello, Liz & Megan Klein, Papo Villarubia, Kathy Duell, Melissa Chambers, Dennis Dickenson, L. Rose, Shirley Von Dem Bussche, Ron Powers, Tom Roach, Peg Earl, Pam Parrott.



PRESCHOOL NEWS:

March brought to completion our first Fun Friday program. Sixteen students stayed after school on Fridays to sing with Jim Corriveau. Students sang, danced, and played instruments. They loved Mr. Jim, "He is so funny" students said. We are grateful that he shared his talents with us. Here is a link to students singing with him.

March's theme was animals so an animal hospital was created for the students to play in. They dressed as doctors, took notes on computers, weighed and x rayed animals. If pets were healthy, students gave them a bath then cut and brushed their coats. Students also read to our stuffed St. Bernard, Big Bevereaux, in his dog house.





PIE AUCTION, Sunday March 10th

following the service.

Please sign up to make a pie or cake to donate to this fundraiser, then invite your friends to join you and bid on your favorites.

March Community Dinner

Our Community Dinner is back on the second Wednesday of the month so mark your calendar for 13 March 2024. Dinner will be served from 5 to 6pm in the fellowship hall at the Sacred Heart church. This month, our dinner will be prepared by Mario's Restaurant. We will post the menu as soon as it is available.

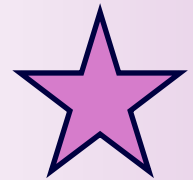
As usual, our desserts will be provided by our own Lake George Community Church members. Fun and fellowship will be provided and enjoyed by each one of us.

There are sign up sheets in the coffee room if you would like to help with setting up, serving, cleaning up or preparing a dessert. If you do not get a chance to sign up that is ok too. Come and be part of the fun and fellowship. Looking forward to seeing you there!!!

Happy Birthday

2 Dave Madden
2 Carol Bayle
3 Ginny Hoose
6 Thalia Chase
9 Lonny Chase
9 Jim Corriveau
12 Barb O'Reilly
12 Lauren Azer
13 Pat Carpenter

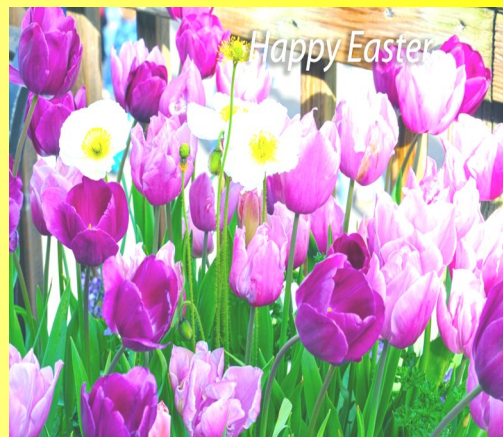
16 Mel Quigan
22 Tim McCann
22 Margo Mulleins
23 Kate MacEachron
23 Leah Jenne
26 Linda Nicols



It's Time to Order Easter Flowers:!!!!

If you order flowers, please fill out this form and make the check out to the Caldwell Presbyterian Church. Please mail it or place it in the offering plate **by Sunday, March 10th**. You can take your flowers home following the Easter Service. —Thank you.

Lillies 6" pot (6+ blooms)	\$14.99_____
Tulips 6" pot	\$13.99_____
Daffodils 6" pot	\$10.99_____
Hyacinths 6" pot	\$10.99_____
Azaleas 10" pot (2 plants)	\$36.99_____
Hydrangea 6" pot (3 blooms)	\$21.99_____



Your Name: _____

Deacons Corner

The Deacons are busy gathering food items to fill food baskets for several needy families for Easter Day.

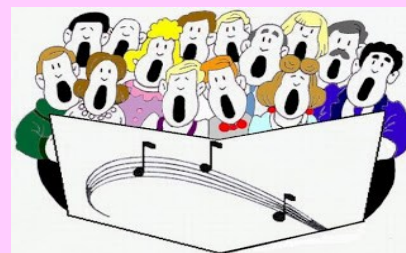
They are also thinking about having a Rummage Sale the first week-end of May. So start cleaning out your closets please!

Watch for more information next month!



Choir Practice has begun for Easter. Please join us to rehearse in the Middle Room of the church. Anyone over the age of 12 is welcome!!!

We will have choir practice this week on
Wednesdays at 6:30.





NORTH COUNTRY MINISTRY

Offering a Hand of Hope

Serving our community since 1992

March Mission of the Month, 2024

North Country Ministry is a faith-based, 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit, outreach organization which provides assistance without discrimination to anyone in need in our service area.

Our mission is to provide a Hand of Hope to those seeking help through life's difficult situations.

North Country Ministry was founded in North Creek in 1992 by a small group of Catholic nuns and priests who saw great need in the area and few resources to address it. Since then, NCM has become a cornerstone of the southeastern Adirondack region, providing critically needed human services.

Our programs offer a range of assistance including everyday needs such as food, clothing and furniture, to emergency assistance through our outreach services. Over the years, these programs have impacted the lives of thousands living in our extremely rural and underserved 650-square-mile service area.

Today, North Country Ministry thrives in large part due to the commitment of our 100+ volunteers. Through their generosity and dedication, our volunteers give nearly 7,000 hours each year to the operation of NCM. They provide day-to-day support for our programs, organize fundraisers and events, as well as serving in specialized or advisory capacities on our Board of Directors.

North Country Ministry is a subordinate organization of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany and enjoys ecumenical collaboration with a wide variety of churches and congregations throughout our service area. Our partnership is motivated by both in service to faith and a commitment to help those less fortunate.

In addition, we hold great gratitude and appreciation for our generous base of donor support. It is their consideration and contribution that helps our mission thrive so we may impact as many lives as possible.

With locations in Warrensburg, North Creek, and Brant Lake, we are able to serve the needs of our communities and assist a population living in an area with a high poverty level. It is because of our dedicated volunteers, the collaboration of our faith community, and the generosity of our donors that North Country Ministry is able to offer a *Hand of Hope* to those in need here in the Adirondacks.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

“These Days Daily Devotions for Living by Faith” booklets are available free for you to take one in the coffee room or outside of the office.

Tuesday Time to talk with Pastor Ali on Tuesdays, 10 to 11:30.

Animal Shelter Donations needed. Please help the youth with their service project for 2 pet shelters by donating newspapers, dry dog food, canned cat, kitten food.

The Wednesday Ecumenical Study Group: Practicing Jesus’ Seven Last Words. March 6 from 1-2. Then a time change on March 13, 20, and 27th from 12:30 to 1:30. The Study Guide is available in the office. All are welcome.

New Member Class March 10th following the pie auction. Please see Pastor Ali.

New!! Caldwell Book Group!! Do you love to read and discuss a great book? Join for a one-time discussion on **David Brooks’ new book: How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen.** Please buy or library loan the book and read it and come with your thoughts on it! We will meet on **Wednesday, March 13, 2:00-3:00 p.m.** at Caldwell. ALL ARE WELCOME!!



Story Time Thanks & Plans for March:

On Sunday, February 18, we were blessed to hear Lynda Glenn share some stories about her growing up years and some about she and Roger’s life together. I have known them for 15+ years and I did not know that Lynda is a skydiver!! WooHoo!!! I’m guessing some of you also learned some new things about them. So....thank you Lynda.... Thanks as well to those who stayed to listen, helped prepare food, clean up, run zoom and the many other tasks that enable us to bring and keep story time alive.

Our next story time will be Sunday 17 March 2024 following worship. Jeff York will be our story teller. As usual, we plan to serve a light lunch and give ourselves time load up our plates and greet each other before we return to the sanctuary or our zoom machines to hear some about the life and times of Jeff York. Thank you Jeff for volunteering. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to join in on the fun and fellowship as we get to know each other in a new and different way.



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US FOR OUR INTERFAITH FIELD TRIPS!

The Confirmation Class takes field trips to other houses of worship to gain exposure to world religions as they are studying and practicing their own Christian faith during their Confirmation year. These visits are open to the whole congregation! ALL ARE WELCOME! Please sign up in the coffee room.

Saturday March 9: A visit to New Skete Monastery, Cambridge, NY:

3:45 arrive, 4:00-4:30: Tour the sanctuary, listen to an explanation of Eastern Orthodox Christianity and iconography.

4:30-5:00: Visit and play with the German Shepherd Puppies which the monks breed to support their ministry.

5:00-6:00: Attend Vespers --6:00 Depart

Friday, April 12: A visit to Temple Beth El, Glens Falls:

6:45 p.m. arrive, 7:00-8:00: Attend service in Temple as guests

8:00-8:20: Attend "One"--time of refreshments, meet/ mingle with synagogue attendees.

8:20-8:45 p.m.: Q & A with Rabbi Norm in sanctuary. Depart by 9 p.m.



Wish List for Community Block Party in May 2024

We've already started planning our craft offerings for our community block party the weekend of May 18 and 19th. We have several fun activities planned and are looking for donations of the following materials. Walmart or any craft store should have these. Or if you're cleaning out your craft cabinet, you may already have these at home. Please leave on long counter with names Sarah King/Jo Pedersen on them. Thanks!

*Chenille Stems (Pipe Cleaners)

*Pony Beads

*Rainbow Loom Bands

*Colored Sharpie Markers





Youth Group

March whether in like a lamb or lion, it is a transitional month for all of God's creation and a true delight of the senses. With our eyes we can see Crocus & Daffodil greens reaching towards the sun. Sweet Water, aka Sap, is running. We delight that there is more light in our days as the sun is setting later. This March, we also experience a spiritual bright light as Easter's joy reminds us that Jesus IS the light of the world! *"...Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* (John 8:12). Open your hearts, be grounded in faith and feel the essence of rebirth and new growth potential - both within you and all around you. *"Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him."* (Colossians 3:10)

For the Month of March, we offer the following:

Fun in Fellowship: March 24th Easter Egg Decorating - Throughout history, people have decorated, gifted, cooked, enjoyed, hidden and hunted eggs to represent the essence of Spring. Following Church service, join us in this creative tradition. We'll use tissue paper and assorted dyes to create your own decorated eggs. Eggs and Materials supplied. After Church Service.



Easter Sunday: March 31st - 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!

Rock Painting TWICE this month: Everyone is invited to paint a rock for the rock garden.

March 13th Community Dinner at Sacred Heart Church Hall. Enjoy a great meal and paint a rock.

March 17th St. Patrick's Day Rock Paint during Church Service. *This activity includes ALL Youth!*

Children's Message with Pastor Ali: March 17th - A special moment of inspiration for the young and young of heart of our church community! During Church Service.

Angel Disciples: March 3rd, 10th & 24th Sunday School during church service.

Youth Group: March 3rd Confirmation Class after Church,
and **March 24th** Spiritual Cinema Series, during service.



Sharing the Love at Warren Center: We continued a tradition we started last February. We made 14 peanut butter and birdseed hearts and took them to Warren Center to hang. We also filled the many birdfeeders around the building. New this year was that the residents made peanut butter birdseed pinecones, which we also hung around the building. Thanks to all who created and traveled to Warren Center to hang!



News From The Haiti Mission School for March 2024

General Haiti News:

The general news from Haiti is changing, however not for the better. I spoke with Junior for about an hour this week and remain in contact with him regularly electronically. The Manifestations (Demonstrations) are becoming more frequent, more intense and closer to home. The common people/peasants want Acting Prime Minister Ariel Henri' to resign and allow national elections for a new government. They hope they will have some representation if the elections were to happen. More of the wealthy and business people and the US Embassy continue to support Henri' and he remains in office. In Port au Prince....the gangs now control: The Harbor (where they have had control for a while), access to the International Airport which happened just a few weeks ago, all roads leading into and out of the city (happening over time) now much of the countryside and into the small towns such as Jeremie. Some say Henri' is using the gangs to stay in power.

The situation in Jeremie continues to deteriorate. There are increasing numbers of guns, the demonstrations are becoming more frequent and dangerous because of the anger and the guns. Never a good combination. The schools in Jeremie town are closed because it is too dangerous for the children to be on the street, even accompanied by a parent. The main market was closed for a brief period and has now reopened. The stores downtown close on days of Manifestation (Demonstration) and then reopen again. Prices continue to increase exponentially as food, goods, gas etc. become shorter and shorter in supply.

At the Haiti Mission School in Labastille:

We actually continue to hold classes and have been feeding our students daily. Sometimes it pays to be 20-30 minutes by motorcycle and and the 30+ minutes of walking time out of the town. Our Primary and Secondary students and their families are all safe and are doing the best they can at this time with relatives from the towns moving back with them. We are sometimes short teachers because they cannot get out of town and into the countryside. We have temporarily lost our source for sending money to Haiti so we are concerned about food for March. We

are working on another source so please keep this and our students and their families in your prayers. It is also time for another three months of tuition. Fortunately, we usually have a grace period on that so our students will be continuing school until we get this worked out. Our College Students (4 of 5 of them) are attending colleges in Jeremie so they are out of class for now. That means they will need to make up their time by going longer days, Saturdays or later into the summer.

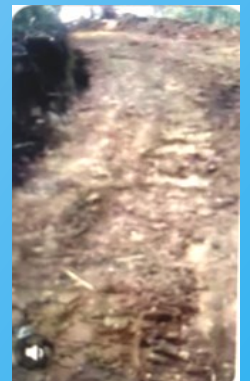


A New Road??

Meanwhile, out in the Labastille area the government (whoever that is) decided to provide the people of the area an earth mover and driver to help cut a road to replace the walking path up into the mountains. The catch to this is the people of the area, if they want the road, and they do, are required to provide money for the gas. As an entire area they came together and decided to borrow money for the gas. They were concerned that it may be many years, if ever, before they will have this opportunity again. They have asked the school for money to help pay for the gas and we were very sorry to say that we were unable to help them at this time and that their request is outside the parameters of our Charter. We did tell them we would try to let people know about their needs and if anyone felt called to help them with donations for gas we would send the money to their committee. So, if anyone among you feels so called please send your donation to the above address marked for 'Road Project Gas'.

Many thanks to each one from our Boards (Haitian & US), students, their families, faculty and others for your continuing encouragement, support and prayers for us and for our Haitian sisters and brothers...Many Blessings.

Haiti Mission School
P. O. Box 445
Lake Luzerne, NY 12846
haitimissionschool@gmail.com
www.haitimissionschool.org
A 501(c)3 organization



Lunch & Learn Series

**Thursday, March 21, 2024 – 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
(Snow date: March 22, 2024)**



Adventures in the South Pole

Presented by Peter Benoit, Photographer

Join local photographer Peter Benoit as he presents his most recent trip to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. Throughout a 24-day journey on a National Geographic expedition, he captured thousands of images of birds, seals, whales and Southern Ocean scenery to document his experiences.

You may be transported to an environment many of us can only imagine.

Free lunch - Soup, Dessert, Beverages

But please bring in a donation for the food bank.

**Reservations required: Call 518-668-2001 and leave a message
or e-mail office.stjameslg@gmail.com**

**St. James' Episcopal Church, Tuttle Hall,
172 Ottawa Street, Lake George, NY**

Join the Journey to Easter

Palm Sunday March 24, 10 a.m. Worship

followed by Fun in Fellowship ~ Easter Egg Decorating

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Communion Service, March 28, 7 p.m.

**Good Friday "Walking the Way of the Cross" Ecumenical Worship, March 29, 12 noon,
meet at Sacred Heart to begin walking the Stations of the Cross through each of the
Lake George churches; ends around 1:30 p.m. at Caldwell.**

**Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, March 31, 6:30 a.m. on the Pier, Shepard Park, Lake
George,**

followed by free Continental Breakfast at Caldwell.

**10 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship Service in the Sanctuary with Children's Message,
followed by Children's Easter Egg Hunt.**

Finance Team Update:

Our finance team has completed a successful stewardship program resulting in an increase in pledge units and income for 2024. This is absolutely necessary as increased costs across the board continue to impact our budget.

We continue to NEED to look to other sources involving fund raisers to close the gap between income and spending. Please support our upcoming fundraisers:

PIE AUCTION - March 10th

BLOCK PARTY - May 17 - 19

2nd ANNUAL 50/50 RAFFLE



A reminder also that church pastors are being scammed in our area!

Calls are being made to members allegedly be pastors, asking for gift cards to be donated to needy citizens. Several area churches have been victimized!

Ed Kopf is our new financial elder and is joins our committee, including Laura Moody, Darlene Gunther, and our financial secretary, Linda Shudt.

Bob Blaise, Treasurer



- 1) Easter always falls between which two dates?
- 2) Is more candy sold for Easter, Christmas, Valentine's Day, or Halloween?
- 3) About how many chocolate bunnies are produced each year?
- 4) Where is the most popular Easter parade?
- 5) In the 13th century, the church prohibited eating what during Holy Week?

1) March 22—April 25 2) Halloween 3) 90 million 4) New York City 5) Eggs

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

Pastor's Email— ali@caldwellpres.org

Website— www.caldwellpres.org