# THE SEEKER FOR OCTOBER 2017

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## LIFE IN COMMUNITY

One of the many privileges of pastoral life is walking with people during heightened times of both joy and challenge—and, yes, grieving at the end of life. It is an honor of my life to preside at funerals and memorials to proclaim the promises of our faith and the mystery of life eternal. Last Sunday I participated in a service of witness to the resurrection and celebration of the lives of Caldwell's longtime members Victor and Neva Strom. It was a great honor for me to remember their full and faithful lives, their many accomplishments, and their contributions to community. One of the cornerstones of Victor and Neva's lives was their active participation in small group ministry through all the years. There was the young adult groups and couples' fellowship Victor and Neva enjoyed from earliest days in their married life. I remember vividly how they would tell me about the deep bonds that formed from listening to others' testimonials in their years attending Marble Collegiate Church in NYC. They considered those small group experiences a gift that stayed with them throughout their entire lives. Victor was anchored by his men's fellowship group in NJ for decades and, we were reminded last week, he held on to one of his fondest hopes: for such a men's group to take root at Caldwell.

The idea of *community* is deeply rooted in the nature of God. From the book of Genesis we understand God's intention for us is not to go it alone but to be in relationship with others. Throughout scripture we witness the unfolding of the Creator's intentional relationship with creation, and in Jesus ministry God sends God's only Son to enter into the human experience, and to show us how to live. From the earliest days of his ministry Jesus calls the 12 disciples to be his community. Jesus would enter homes and sit at table and proclaim the Good News. He would laugh and weep and support those with whom he walked the journey. He loved, forgave, served, encouraged, prayed, equipped, carried burdens, spoke the truth in love, and treated all people as members of one body.

Small group ministry is one way to cultivate community and follow the example Jesus has given us.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in his book "Life Together," writes about the value of intentional connection in community:

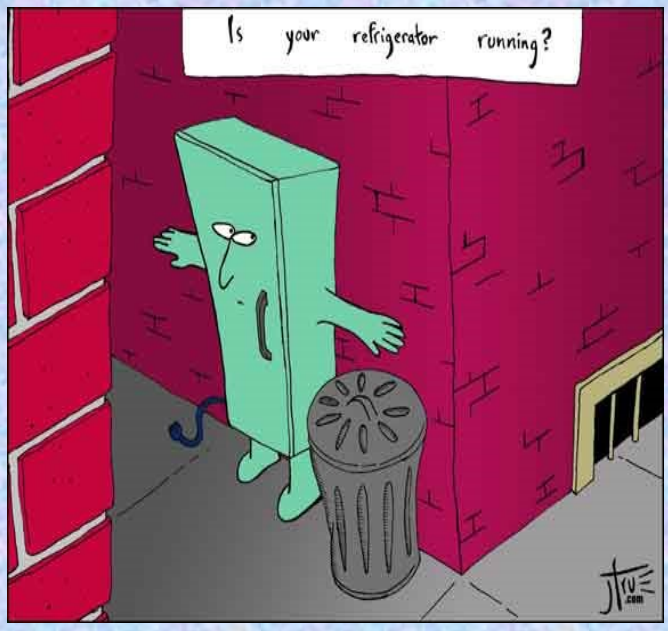
> "A Christian fellowship lives and exists by the intercession of its members for one another, or it collapses. I can no longer condemn … a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me. His face… is transformed in intercession into the countenance of a brother for whom Christ died… Christian community is like the Christian's sanctification. It is a gift of God which we cannot claim."

This fall there are several small group ministries happening at Caldwell: a parent group, a women's bible study group, an ecumenical book group, a Gospel of Mark study group, a movie-going group.
I encourage you to try one. You may be surprised by the gift you receive.

Faithfully,
Ali

**Does anyone have an upright freezer in good condition they are thinking about getting rid of? The one in our food pantry is not behaving itself.**

**Please contact the church office 518-668-2613.**




## Preschool Fall Fundraiser

The preschool is off to a great start. The children are excited and eager to learn and make new friends.

We are so grateful to the support of the Caldwell church for our program and staff.

**We are having a fall fundraiser selling "Tavern Soups".**

**The soups are delicious, and the cost is $8.00 per bag, or 4 for $30.00.**

**There will be a sign up sheet in the coffee room.**
**Please bring in a cash or check made out to Cooke Tavern by Oct. 20th.**

The money raised will be used for the playground and the garden area in the back of the preschool.

Thank you for taking time to be a part of this fall fundraiser.

—-The Preschool Staff

## College Student Addresses Needed

If you know of a college student in the congregation, the Deacons would like to send them a care package or a gift card to let them know we are praying and thinking about them.
Please contact Patty Brozyna.

## Coffee Hour Hosts

### October

1. Howard and Linda Nichols
8. Tom and Bev Roach
15. Ann Kohland and Joni Steiner
22. Darlene and Bob Gunther
29. Melanie Quigan and Laura Chapman

### November

5. Mannix Famiy
12. Hunsicker Family
19. Dana Power & Pat Carpenter
26. Jenne Family

***A Message from an Anonymous Giver:***

*"Caldwell Presbyterian, a vital part of Lake George for many years, has a rich history of mission work. The physical maintenance of a church sends a message for all to see, that we are an active and alive congregation working toward the service of all and to the glory of God. It is our belief that it is time to repair and maintain our own home, thereby giving back to the mission of Caldwell itself. To this end we have gifted Caldwell an anonymous gift of $10,000 to be used for the repairs and improvements to our physical church building. We would like this donation to be the beginning of other gifts used to maintain the beauty of the church's physical property. We encourage all members and friends to add to this donation and to give generously of their time and talents to the church we all love. Thank you."*

***BELOW IS OUR ANNUAL FALL PROPERTY PROJECTS LIST. This year, thanks to our anonymous donor and the matching challenge to the congregation, we've enhanced the list and added matching value ($). Your contribution can either be monetary ($) or "in kind," volunteering your time and effort. This way we can track the value of everyone's contribution and try to meet the matching challenge!***

**PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS—CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

| **Outdoor Needs** | **Monetary Value** |
|---|---|
| Elementary wing front and west side; wash aluminum siding and apply 2 coats Sherwin Williams paint to product | $700 |
| Replace rotted siding of garage and paint | $400 |
| Middle Room outside siding | See Roger Glenn |
| New Office Entrance light pole | $300 |
| Remove stump on corner property | See Jess King |
| Repoint stone sign on Montcalm | $400 |
| Power wash the deck and ramp | $150 |
| Purchase non-slip runner for ramp | $100 |
| Replace bases on signs that say "church parking only" | $100 |
| Wash windows inside and out | $15/window |
| Scrape paint off garage windows and wash | $50 |
| Rake leaves | $15/hr |
| Clean moss on blacktop apron around church | $200 |
| Trim grass around Montcalm Street Sign | $50 |
| Take air conditioners out and place in Preschool basement | $25 |
| Ice melt roof wires: check that they are ready for winter | $50 |
| Snowblower: tune up and ready for winter | $100 if needs tune up |
| Landscape Sanctuary Entrance and Message Board: Eagle Scout Project | See Sean Mannix |

| Indoor Needs | Monetary Value |
|---|---|
| Sanctuary ceiling –paint where stained | $250 |
| Boiler: reserve funds for eventual boiler replacement | any amount |
| New refrigerator in kitchen | $750 |
| Clean refrigerator and freezer in Preschool | $50 |
| Carpet for under the piano in sanctuary | $300 |
| Refinish scratched folding chairs | $25/chair |
| Wash chandelier globes | $50/fixture |
| Kitchen: repair ceiling and reinstall light fixture in front of stove | $400 |
| Middle Room ceiling: replace ceiling tiles where stained | $400 |
| Update fixtures (toilet and sink) in Men's room | $400 |
| Update fixtures (toilet and sink) in Women's room | $400 |
| Convert Preschool heat from electric to gas | See Roger Glenn |
| Sanctuary floor: buffing and refinish | $2500 |
| Office entrance vestibule: remove and infill recessed walk-off mat | $200 |
| Bathroom/Choir closet lobby: repair and repaint upper walls | $200 |
| Sanctuary: wash all pews and vacuum cushions | $200 |

***Please write your name next to the "property need" you would like to contribute and place this page in the offering plate or in Laura Moody's mailbox.***
***Thank you for your prayerful consideration of how to help Caldwell Church literally SHINE!***

**No Pie Orders being taken this year due to circumstances beyond our control. Sorry!**

## *NEW!* Women's Bible Study

Are you looking for a more intimate setting to explore God's Word for your life?
**This Tuesday, October 10th, from 10-11 a.m.,** women young and older are welcome to gather in the library at Caldwell for fellowship and study.
We will be using the PC(USA) *Horizon's Bible Study* of Hebrews,
by Rev. Melissa Bane Sevier and Professor Sung Hee Chang.
Come and explore how God is at work in your life.

## Roast Pork Dinner

Sunday, October 22, 5 to 7:00

Seating: 5:00, 5:30 and 6:00

Advance ticket sales will be available and take out must be picked up prior to the dinner serving time.

Tickets are available through Jesse King, Helene Horn,

Janie Green, or the church office.

Cost is $10 per person/$25 per family.

## DEACON'S CORNER

**The Rummage Sale was a huge success!** We made over $4000.00, and are so thankful to everyone who volunteered their time.

Our food pantry is busy as ever. We are currently assisting approximately 35 families per month through our food pantry which equates to over 100 people helped per month.

Food pantry families come from Lake George, Queensbury and Warrensburg. In addition, we provide holiday meal baskets at Thanksgiving and Easter. Thanksgiving baskets are also given to families in the Lake George school district that are recommended by the nurse.

We are in need of turkeys or money to create the Thanksgiving baskets. There will be a sign up sheet in the coffee room for you to sign if you can donate a turkey.

You can also contribute by donating canned goods, personal care items, and boxed food that is not out of date.

If you would like to volunteer your time the 2nd & 4th Friday morning of the month, please contact Tom Jenne.

# October 2017

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1<br>Communion | 2 | 3 | 4<br>Mission Committee Mtg. 2 | 5<br>Choir 7:00 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10<br>Women's Bible Study 10-11 | 11<br>Mission Committee Mtg. 2<br>Book Study 12:30-2 | 12<br>Choir 7:00 | 13<br>Food Pantry 9:30-11 | 14 |
| 15<br>Teen Center cruise 3:30, boarding, 4-6 | 16<br>CE Mtg at Panera 5:30 | 17<br>Session Mtg. 5:30 | 18<br>Book Study 12:30-2<br>Deacons Mtg. 4 | 19<br>Choir 7:00 | 20 | 21 |
| 22<br>CE teacher training 11:15 Pork Dinner 5-7<br>29 | 23<br>30 | 24<br>Women's Bible Study 10-11<br>31 | 25<br>Seeker Deadline | 26<br>Choir 7:00 | 27<br>Food Pantry 9:30-11 | 28 |

## Happy Birthday

| | |
|---|---|
| Laura Corriveau | Oct. 1 |
| Pam Quigan | Oct. 1 |
| Annabelle Trowbridge | Oct. 3 |
| Sue Hunsicker | Oct. 21 |
| Charlie Fuller | Oct. 24 |
| Samantha Gorey | Oct. 30 |
| Carol Whalen | Oct. 31 |
| Howard Nicols | Oct. 31 |

## Prayer Concerns

Lauren & Karen Azer, Justin & Alex Blanco, Peg & Les Edwards, Linda Carr, Judd Brynes, Pam Parrott, Tom Parsons, Suzy Trowbridge, Peter Apgar, Gus Hoffman, McGinnis family, Sharon Phillips, Dennis Buckley, Doug Coon, Fascio family, Ann & John Kohland, Pastor Shawn, Jenne family, John Davis, Compson family, Hunsicker family, Colleen Cook, Jake Corriveau, hurricane victims and aid workers, Max Ross, Strom family, the Haiti school administration, Palermo family, Corriveau family, the shooting victims and their families, the church team traveling to Haiti.

## The Lake George Teen Center is Beginning its Second Year!

**Volunteers are needed Tues. & Weds., from 3:30 to 5:30.** If you have a few extra hours to invest occasionally in the young people of our community, please sign up! The center is located at the Lake George Senior Center. It provides a safe space where teens can relax, build relationships, play ping pong, Wii, basketball, pool, and get some tutoring. Current volunteers please watch your email for sign up slots. **New volunteer? Great! There is a brief training meeting at the center on Wednesday, Oct. 4th at 3:30 that lasts no more than half an hour. Attending the training is required.**

## Would you like to play in our Bell Choir?

**Caldwell has a beautiful set of bells and we are looking to see who might be interested in playing them from time to time! Whether you are an experienced bell "ringer" or brand new to the instrument, please let Pastor Ali know if you are interested in playing. Right now we are assessing interest. Children are WELCOME!**

## Haiti Mission School Update

**For this month (Oct. 2017), the news that we sent to the church newsletters opened with this:**

***"At this time last year, it was the beginning of our tenth year, and school was underway. We were excited!***

*What a difference a year (or even a few days) can make. It was on October 4th last year that Hurricane Matthew struck and devastated much of the southern end of the island of Hispaniola, including our school and church. Now, one year later, school has begun again in temporary housing; however, plans have been drawn up for a new building and we are working on getting prices to build."*

We have talked in previous newsletters how deadlines for church newsletters occur as early as the tenth of the month preceding the actual newsletters distribution. As we saw last year, by the time those newsletters come out, a world of change can happen. And so it is again this year.

The change this year is not as outwardly dramatic as the one last year. This year's hurricanes that have been so devastating in much of the rest of the Caribbean, have passed us by. However, this year's change has the possibility of being at least as serious as the one last year. This year, much of what we had written about for the church newsletters has failed to come to pass. In those newsletters, we were talking about how the government takeover of the school and the plans for building the new building were progressing. School was underway. Once again we were excited!

However, as we have found in our years of working in Haiti, life is a series of ups and downs … one minute we are on the mountaintop and the next in the deepest of valleys. We are currently in another deep valley… Here is the situation: the government takeover of the school has resulted simply in an appointment of a supervising principal. They have not sent the promised teachers. The current teaching staff and school leaders refuse to work with the man the government appointed or currently with the government itself. Also, the work we had hoped for on the new building seems to be at a standstill, with our lead contractor facing surgery. The committee in Jeremie is unhappy with the government takeover and has essentially ceased to function. There is more, but this gives a picture.

Thus, the current situation is discouraging at best, and simply untenable at worst. We are unsure of what is actually happening at the school. As a result, a representative group (Tom, *yes, Tom*, Howard and JoEllen) from our board in the U.S. is heading to Haiti next week to review the current situation, and see how we might begin to move ahead again.

As is often the case, we would like to be able to see with God's eyes the outcome of our labors. Still, we find ourselves called to live in faith and hope, while we do what we feel called to do. Please keep us and the school in your prayers.

## OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

American Red Cross

For October we want to help those that have been affected by the Hurricanes from the last few weeks. To do this, the Mission Committee is suggesting the option of supporting the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) or the Red Cross. If neither of these appeal to you please consider directly contributing elsewhere.

The PDA provides support to local Churches and Synods to directly help those in need. They are currently working in the Caribbean, Mexico, Florida and Texas. They are trying determine how best to help in Puerto Rico. Communications and the power outages have made this difficult.

The Red Cross, in the last month, has launched a wide-ranging relief effort to help people devastated by three historic, back-to-back hurricanes - Harvey, Irma, and Maria. The Red Cross is part of a large team of agencies and organizations responding to provide help to communities turned upside down by these three category 4 storms.

Overall Response Efforts, in the last four weeks, the Red Cross along with community and government partners have provided over 1 million (1,044,000) overnight stays in emergency shelters due to hurricanes. Shelters were opened in 8 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. They have served more than 4.2 million meals and snacks, and provided more than 1.5 million relief items to people in need. Volunteers have provided more than 134,000 mental health and health services to support those affected.

More than 4,900 Red Cross disaster workers and nearly 300 emergency response vehicles are on the ground right now, helping thousands of people affected by these storms. More than 83 million hurricane and flood alerts have been issued through Red Cross mobile apps for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

## Join us aboard the Lac du Saint Sacrement for a Fundraiser Cruise!

All monies raised will be shared between the

**Lake George Teen Center** and **Nico's House Inc.**

**The Lake George Teen Center** is available after school for all Lake George Teens in grades 7-12 two days a week for recreation and camaraderie. Teens enjoy the company of their peers and build relationships with caring adult volunteers who serve as mentors. Operating in the Lake George Senior Center in the Village of Lake George, volunteers hope to expand hours and opportunities to the teens.

**Nico's House** was founded in honor of Nico Scroggy who passed away from the effects of heroin addiction two years ago. Nico's House works with the Council for Prevention and they participate in panels in area schools for kids and parents about addiction. They provide scholarships to students entering trade schools and support families going through these struggles via scholarships, education and advice on where to seek help. Nico was a member of Lake George Central School class of 2013.

### Teen Center Cruise Sunday Oct. 15, 4 to 6 PM.

Boarding at 3:30pm, Sailing from 4-6pm

Adults $15 ~ Students 12-18 $10 ~ Children 3-11 $8.00

Pasta Buffet with 3 Sauces, Caesar Salad, Hors d'Oeuvres, Dessert Station, Coffee/Tea ~Cash Bar / Cash Soda

Entertainment, Silent Auction bidding during cruise.

Please join us for an afternoon of food, fun and fundraising.

Fall

## News from Fellowship and Hospitality Committee:

This fall our committee plans to resume the "Pie Parties" that originated when Pastor Ali first came to our church. The purpose then was for small groups to become acquainted with our new minister. Not everyone was able to attend a Pie Party but those who did enjoyed the fellowship and bonding that took place. Pastor Ali agrees that coming together in small groups really promotes friendship within our congregation. If there is anyone who would like to attend a small gathering in a home with Pastor Ali or **host** a Pie Party please be in touch with any member of this committee.

Please mark your calendar. We expect to have our annual fall dinner on Oct. 22. It is a S unday night and the entrée is the best pork roast you will ever have prepared by Janie and George Green.

We continue to look for people who are willing to host a coffee hour on Sundays. If you have never hosted one but would like to please contact one of us.

We welcome any interested person(s) to join our committee. We meet generally on the first Monday of the month at 10AM in the middle room at the church. We try to keep our meetings to one hour. It is a time to share ideas and make plans for future fellowship and hospitality within our congregation. This is one way you can become connected and stay connected.

Committee members are: Rev. Ali, Helene Horn, Emilia Bernd, Ann Kohland, Joni Steiner, Naomi Hodgekinson, Tom Jenne and Jess King, Chairperson.

## Senior Breakfast

Join us on Monday, Nov. 6th at 8:30 a.m.
at the Lake George Holiday Inn. The Program is
"An Adirondack Portfolio" presented by Robert Bayle.

Reservations must be made by Sunday, Nov. 5th with
Helene Horn or Jesse King.

Cost is $8.00

**The Seeker**

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

71 Montcalm St.

Lake George, NY 12845

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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— pastor@caldwellpres.org

Website— www.caldwellpres.org