

THE SEEKER FOR OCTOBER 2018

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FALL AT CALDWELL

Dear Caldwell Church Friends,

Fall is in the air—there is a crispness that we recognize, there is the angle of the sun that's changing, there are the harvest days ahead for our gardens, and switching out our decorations from summer to fall, welcoming pumpkins and trick-or-treaters and mums in the planters. And as we walk around the lake or around the block and look up, it's as if God took a paintbrush and painted the hills.



I'm thrilled to report some of the findings from our September Rally Sundays during coffee hour: because of your expression of interest, we will move forward with a new bell choir, a new cycling club, and more opportunities for small group discussion, whether it's a lunch and fellowship group, a book study, a bible study, or a women's breakfast.

To me the way to deepen one's spirit life is by attending worship, offering service to those in need, and by joining a small group. If you haven't already, I encourage you to keep an eye on the calendar for ways to get involved.

And please mark your calendars for Reformation Sunday, October 28th, when we will celebrate everyone's efforts and contributions to honor and beautify our church. We will hold a ceremony following worship that day to thank all who contributed to our Steeple Capital Campaign, celebrate Caldwell's placement on the National Register of Historic Places, and celebrate Sean Mannix's Eagle Scout project which transformed the entrance to our church into a place of welcome and rest.

I hope to see you in worship as we continue to celebrate that which unites us – our faith and devotion to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Faithfully yours,

Ali



"The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up
all those that be bowed down."
Psalm 145:14

Preschool News:

Dear Church family,
This is the most wonderful time of the year for me! The air is crisp, the smell of cinnamon is in the air and pumpkins are everywhere you look- I like the flavors too!

At school the kids are starting to settle into our routine. What a joy to have our staff and students all working together so nicely. God has put together a wonderful staff, and our families this year are fantastic as usual.



As we look at the October calendar we see Grandparents day coming up, our trip to Sunnyside Garden, and our Fall Soup Fundraiser. Each one is a great start to this school year.

**Please be watching for that sign-up sheet for soup. Tavern Soups are SO good!
Don't miss out on getting your favorite soups this year.**

We are looking to celebrate our Preschool in it's 45th year this spring. We are in the beginning planning stage, but would like to ask you to be thinking of staff and students that you know of who would have been involved in the school years ago or even recently. Please jot down names as they come to you and we will try to get in contact with them.

As I close, I would like to encourage you to look out at our playground. We had some young men and a teacher come over and work on it for us. They spread mulch and cleaned up the houses out there for us. We are so grateful for the Lake George High School and how it reaches out to the community to serve in such practical ways. We were so blessed!

It is good to be serving with you,
Christine Sallstrom

Christian Education for October

Happy Fall! Sunday school started on Sept. 9 so we've had about a month of classes. All is going well with our three age groups. The kids had a great day out mini golfing on Sept. 16.

All adults involved with kids at Caldwell had a required boundary training session after church on Sept. 23. If you missed it and are involved in our CE program, please see Ali for the handouts.

Upcoming Youth Events to mark on your calendar are:

Sunday, Oct. 21- start of Confirmation classes. The class will be held once a month on the following dates: Oct. 21, Nov. 4, Dec. 2 and January 6. See Pastor Ali for more details.

Wed, Oct. 24- community dinner at Sacred Heart. Helpers needed to make desserts, serve and clean up. (note: these dinners will no longer be held exclusively on the third Wednesday of the month. Stay tuned for the upcoming dates).

Sunday, Oct. 28- Annual Great Pumpkin Race after church. (shout out thanks to Yvonne Fuller for her very creative work on this!).

Tues. Oct. 30- next CE meeting at Panera at 5:30pm.

Enjoy the great fall weather and see you in Church!

The Christian Education Committee

College Student Addresses Needed

If you know of a freshman 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 Margy Mannix.



Coffee Hour Hosts

October

- 7 Blanco family
- 14 Jenne family
- 21 Amrock family
- 28 Pat Carpenter & Leslie Clemons

November

- 4 Hunsicker famiy
- 11 Tom & Bev Roach
- 18 Mel Quigan & Laura Chapman
- 25 Howard & Linda Nicols



Office of Aging

We are looking for drivers to provide meals on wheels and to take people to medical appointments. We reimburse you for your gas mileage. If interested in volunteering, please call Maryann McCarthy #518-761-6347.

Cycling Club October 6th, 8 am.

Meet at the Lake George Steam Boat parking lot.



DEACON'S CORNER

Rummage Sale is October 25, 26, and 27th. The sale is a mission for the community and our church which we believe should involve our entire congregation. We especially need help with setting up on Sunday October 21st and breaking down on Saturday the 27th.

We are scaling the sale back this fall and hope to accept only: men's, women's and children's clothing, including shoes and boots, housewares, toys and holiday items.

Please save your larger outdoor items for the sale in the spring.

If you are available to help set up or work at the sale, please see Margy Mannix, Lynda Glenn, Patty Brozyna, Carol Bayle, Mel Quigan, or Bob Gunther.



SAVE THESE DATES:

Food Pantry Dates Changed for October are Friday the 5th and the 19th, from 9:30 to 11:30. Due to the Rummage Sale the last week in October.

Join the Choir! If you enjoy singing, we are meeting on Thursday nights at 7:00. Anyone from 9th grade on up is welcome.

Parent Group meeting Wednesday, Oct. 3rd, 9-10 am. Please come to get to know each other and enjoy some "tastes" of the fall season.

Lake George Community Dinner is available free to the public on **October 10th & 24th** at 5:00 at Sacred Heart. We will help serve on the 24th and are in need of desserts. Bella's Deli will be providing a barbeque chicken dinner with all the "fixins" that day.

St. James is serving a German Dinner on Sat. Oct. 6th from 4:40 to 6:30. Take out is available. Cost is \$15., children age 5-12 are \$10.

October 28th is Reformation Sunday. We will be celebrating and dedicating the new steeple, historic church sign, outdoor benches, and landscaping immediately following the service.

Ecumenical Book Group Meets Wednesdays to study the book of Job at Sacred Heart, 11:30 to 12:30. Bring your own lunch.

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

Karen & Lauren Azer, Justin & Alex Blanco, Pam Parrott, Peg Edwards, Linda Carr, Len Bunalski, Judd Brynes, John Kohland, Johnny Coccozza, impoverished children, Jenne family, Daneille & others with cancer, Joan Peltz, Bill O'Reilly, Rachel Bush, Bud Steiner, Edward Quin, Chet Ross, Danielle Morgan, Sharon Phillips, Joy Willman, Albert Constantine, Curt Dybas, Jay Rhinehart, Garrett Jahoda, Kathy O'Day, Sue Moore's sister Judy, Ken Austin, Jeff Anderson, Dale Tolene, Eileen's mother, Kopf family, refugee children & their families, Christine Nicols, Steve Parsons, flood victims, Marie Himes, Laura Tiprigan (J-1 Russian student).



Would you like to play in our Bell Choir?
Caldwell has a beautiful set of bells and we are looking for players. Whether you are an experienced bell "ringer" or brand new to the instrument, please sing up in the coffee room. Youths are welcome!



Fall Book Discussion Group and Potluck dinner with Pastor Ali on Thursday, November 1st at 5:15.

We will be discussing the book "Grateful" by Diana Butler Bass.

If interested, you can purchase the book off of Amazon at the following link:

https://www.amazon.com/Grateful-Transformative-Power-Giving-Thanks/dp/0062659472/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1538062035&sr=8-1&keywords=grateful+diana+butler+bass

"The author of the multiple award-winning *Grounded* and leading trend spotter in contemporary Christianity explores why gratitude is missing as a modern spiritual practice, offers practical suggestions for reclaiming it, and illuminates how the shared practice of gratitude can lead to greater connection with God, our world, and our own souls.

More and more people are finding God beyond the walls of traditional religious institutions, but these seekers often miss the church community itself, including its shared spiritual practices such as gratitude. While four out of five Americans have told pollsters they feel gratitude in their daily lives, cultural commentator and religion expert Diana Butler Bass finds that claim to be at odds with the discontent that permeates modern society.

There is a gap, she argues, between our desire to be grateful and our ability to behave gratefully—a divide that influences our understanding of morality, worship, and institutional religion itself. In *Grateful*, Bass challenges readers to think about the impact gratitude has in our spiritual lives, and encourages them to make gratitude a "difficult and much-needed spiritual practice for our personal lives and to make a better world."

Grateful is partially an individual, emotional response to our circumstances, but research has shown that what we often miss is how much more it is a communal, actionable response. Bass examines this more unexpected experience of gratitude, and reveals how people and communities can practice it and thrive, whether or not they are part of a traditional religious community."

All are welcome to join us!

October's Mission of the Month is the Haiti Mission School

First, we would like to thank you and the congregation for all the years of continuing support for the Haiti Mission School. This relationship has been a wonderful bond which, when joined with numerous other supporting individuals and congregations, has allowed us to educate literally hundreds of children in this very poor Labastille area in Southwest Haiti.

Many members of our congregation have been able to join us over the years in visiting the school and the area of Haiti where the school is located and have been able to see first-hand the conditions under which we operate.

As you have seen and will see elsewhere in this newsletter, the school is now under new management. Overall responsibility for the school has been transferred from the committee in Jeremie to a local committee at Labastille, composed of educators, parents and members of the local church. Working in coordination with the Labastille committee, the Haitian government has assumed responsibility to provide the teaching staff at the school.

At the request of the parents, committee and government, we have agreed to continue providing a free hot meal each school day for each student, staff and others at the school. This has been a significant help to families that are still struggling two years after Hurricane Matthew devastated this part of the island. We have also continued providing scholarships for certain graduates of the school to secondary schools in the area.

In early November JoEllen and Howard will go to Haiti to see firsthand how things are working out, and to see how we might be of assistance in other areas as we go forward. Meanwhile, our own Board of Directors will be meeting in early October to work on charting our course for the future. One proposal before the Board is to change our mission and name to the *Southwest Haiti Rural Education Foundation*. This would allow us to continue our work with the school and also to assist other rural educational efforts in this part of Haiti.

Due to scheduling conflicts, we were unable to do our Soup and Sandwich luncheon in October, but are planning to have the luncheon on Nov.4. We hope you will join us then for what has been a very popular time to gather in support of the school.

As usual, we wait for direction from our Director, the Lord God. Stay tuned.

The Lake George Teen Center is Beginning its ThirdYear!

Volunteers are needed Tues. & Weds., from 3:00 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 Weds. Oct. 3rd, 5:30-6:45 or Oct. 9th, 1-2:30. Attending the training is required.**



October News from the Haiti Mission School

NO EASY ROAD

It's not an easy road they travel.
 Our Haitian friends.
 Not an easy road indeed.
 The way is pothole-filled and rocky,
 With many opportunities to shatter one's hopes and dreams.
 A safe arrival by no means guaranteed.
 Who could blame them if they just gave up,
 If they just sat by the side of the road hands outstretched?
 And many do.
 Yet others continue
 Walking, riding donkeys, motorcycles, buses.
 Carrying heavy loads on heads and backs.
 Hoping, dreaming, believing, working, helping.
 Trusting that someday, this rocky, pothole-filled,
 troublesome road they travel will become a paved highway
 And fulfill their dreams.
 It's no easy road they go down.
 Not an easy road indeed.



Annual Board Meeting

The Board of the Haiti Mission School (Friends of Siloam School at Labastille) will hold our annual meeting on October 7. This will be our first meeting since the Haitian government assumed operation of the school. As a result, there are several important decisions to be made. One of the most significant is our role in helping the Haitians to provide new school facilities. The school has been meeting in temporary facilities since Hurricane Matthew in 2016. If the school is to continue, these facilities clearly need to be replaced, or at least upgraded.

The Board will also need to consider what our continuing role at the school might be. We have had numerous requests to continue providing the hot meal each school day, and thus far have agreed. Junior Eustache who has been administering the program, has agreed to continue. The loss of this life-sustaining program was of most concern to parents when they thought the school would be closing. In previous years we also helped provide uniforms for the students and other programs, such as bibles for third graders. Some decisions on this may have to wait until Howard and JoEllen go to Haiti November 5-13 when they will meet with the committee at Labastille that is administering the school. The Board also needs to clarify a number of issues concerning the secondary school scholarship program, including whether we will continue to provide scholarships for graduating students.

We will appreciate your prayers and any thoughts you may have concerning our future relationship with the school.

Upcoming trip

Howard Nicols and JoEllen Parsons will travel to Haiti November 5-13. The main purpose of the trip will be to see how the transition to government operation is working and to discuss with the Labastille committee how we might continue to be of most help to the school.

Again, we thank you for your continuing prayers and support for this mission and please remember to continue to pray for Sabrina and the other Haitian Restavec children.

Haiti Mission School
 P.O. Box 445
 Lake Luzerne, NY 12846
www.haitimissionschool.org



The Seeker

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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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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