

Caldwell Good News!

A Monthly Publication of Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church

February 2010

Elizabeth area Ecumenical Lenten series at Caldwell

Preparations are well under-way as **Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church** readies to welcome hundreds of visitors to seven weeks of Lenten services in the church sanctuary and our other facilities. All Wednesday services begin at 12 noon.

Our neighbors from several Elizabeth churches are expected to attend one or more of the **Elizabeth Communities of Faith** programs here at Caldwell. Following each service, an optional \$5 lunch of soup and bread from neighborhood restaurants will be available in the Shelby Room and Fellowship Hall, with all proceeds benefiting **Friendship Trays and the Community Culinary School of Charlotte**. See the series web site at www.elizabethfaith.org/events.html

Friendship Trays provides meals on wheels in Mecklenburg County.

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Seven weeks of Lenten services

- February 17** (Ash Wednesday), **Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church**, with **Rev. John M. Cleghorn**, will lead the service; **Nothing But Noodles** will provide vegetarian tomato bisque for lunch.
- February 24** **Rev. Eric Guthrie**, chaplain at **Carolinas Medical Center-Mercy**, will lead the service; soup by **Custom Shop**.
- March 3** **Hawthorne Lane United Methodist Church**, with **Rev. Andrew Brown**, will lead the service; **Anderson's** will create a vegetarian soup.
- March 10** **Presbyterian Healthcare Chaplaincy Services**, with **Chaplain Darryl Jefferson**, will lead the service; soup courtesy of **Crisp**.
- March 17** (St. Patrick's Day), **St. John's Baptist Church** (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) will lead the service; **Carpe Diem** will supply our soup.
- March 24**, **St. Martin's Episcopal Church**, with **Rev. Sally Brower**, Ph.D., will lead the service; vegetarian soup created by **Community Culinary School of Charlotte**.
- March 31** (During Holy Week and Passover), **Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church**, with **Veronica Rogers**, Intern in Ministry, will lead the service; **Common House** will provide the soup.

Community Culinary School of Charlotte, Inc., is a private, not-for-profit organization that provides training and job search assistance in the food service industry for chronically unemployed or underemployed people. Students from the culinary school will serve lunch in the Shelby Room and Fellowship Hall. Services will be approximately 35 minutes in length, including time for music and meditation.

By **Lawrence David Sander**, CGN! correspondent

The 2010 Lenten Series team:

Lawrence David Sander, Worship Committee member (team leader)
Ann Alford, Buildings and Grounds Committee chair
Rev. John M. Cleghorn, (clergy liaison)
Elizabeth Hyland, (restaurant liaison)
Ruth Curtis, (hospitality supervisor)
Leslie Gipple, (administrative support)
Brenda Soltys, Hawthorne Lane UMC (administrative support)

The congregation is grateful to **Ann Alford** and **Jimmy Todd** for refurbishing the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall.

Five questions, five answers

Pastor's Message

As moderator of the Session, what are some of the Session's highest priorities?

First, we've got a great new class of Elders, each with a lot of energy and a perspective they bring, and they are joining the other experienced Elders. Looking back at last year we made great progress in our financial and our systems upgrades that are the backbone of church administration. We have a good grasp on financial health, and it is very good. We are building on a good foundation. In 2010, one of my primary areas of focus is on congregational care. The heart of this church will always go out to oppressed and the poor and the needy. It is important that we put in place systems of care to look after members of the church and keep fabric tightly woven as a church family. That can mean

how we visit our sick and shut in members to how we care for members going through hardship or crisis as well as fellowship events and on to small group gatherings where we can get to know each other by name. All that is really important as a balance to our other ministries whether they are external or internal.

Haiti was an immense tragedy. How can God allow such a thing to happen?

Well, this relates to one of the most difficult questions in the life of faith. How we understand the will of God, especially in tragedy. One of the parts of life with God, is that there is a part of God's will we can't understand and we can't fully know. Dealing with the question of where God is in tragedy or allows bad things to happen, I'm reminded of scripture from St. Paul, now in this life, it's as if we see the world through a clouded glass, but we will see God one day face to face. This really underscores why we call it faith because we can't get our human minds and understandings around why things don't make sense to us. There are other things we do know and can work through. What we can be more certain of, is what God is not doing in tragedies like this, so when we hear for example that this is God's retribution against a people who have different faith practices, we know that is not the loving nature of God. Just this week, I spent time with a wise person who is still dealing with the loss of someone very important to her. She cited to me a quote, sometimes a life with God, God has his arms around us even when we are beating on his chest. That expresses we are with God and God is with us even in tragedy we don't understand.



Pastor John Cleghorn

You've been Caldwell's leader for a while now. What has surprised you most about the church?

I guess what always amazes me is the spirit of Sunday worship week to week, the alchemy that happens regardless of what mix of people are there. We always have a warm, welcoming spirit-filled experience and it always amazes me how that happens and it's not of any human doing or making, it's the spirit that is there, and the different combinations of people bring to it to life. There is a high energy and commitment of people to the church, and part of it gets to how people find a place in their minds, even before they join, of how to serve other. There is a comparatively high percentage of people in the Caldwell family who are engaged in one or more ministries, which creates momentum, and that in turn becomes contagious and attracts still more participation. It can't be manufactured, and it isn't the work of one committee, it happens and I'm so grateful for that.

Pastor's column continued...page 5

Have event and committee news, calendar items, photography and other tidbits Caldwell members and visitors ought to know about?

For the March issue, please send items by the first of each month to the church office:

admin@caldwellpresby.org

Visit us on the web at:

www.caldwellpresby.org

Caldwell Good News!

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Bilingual Preschool on track this spring

The wheels are turning and progress is being made toward the Bilingual Preschool to be hosted in our Price Building.

All systems point to 'go' for the **Central Avenue Bilingual Preschool** to begin classes in the **Price Educational Building** later this spring.

Ann Alford reports on progress on two fronts; remediation of existing conditions found in many older buildings, and a spiffy new playground for the preschoolers.

The preschool is predominantly for children of Hispanic residents in Charlotte. As reported in the December issue of **Caldwell Good**

News!, the existing location of the preschool is hard pressed to accommodate growing numbers of students - and parents - as the area's Hispanic and Latino population grows.

Alford has met with some of the preschool's board and with environmental engineering specialists to talk about remediation of what Alford calls "minimal up-fits" for the Price facility. Alford will attend a class on asbestos management.

On the bright side, the current playground has been redesigned and the new romping space for children will be fitted with new kid-friendly apparatus plus it will be surrounded by a new and larger fenced area when our feisty weather permits the project to begin.

A look at Caldwell security

Perhaps the best security measure Caldwell can take is to plan for situations before trouble occurs. Those are upshots of a church security and safety seminar attended by office manager **Leslie Gipple**.

"We've been given stewardship of this organization, and we need to protect the people, facilities, our resources and grounds" says Gipple.

Representatives from area Christian churches attended the seminar on real world problems faced by all businesses and organizations. Gipple says a safety and security crisis ranges from health emergencies during Sunday services to our response to a fire or storms. She says a potential next step is to take findings from the seminar to the Session. All churches regardless of size face safety issues that need to be dealt with, she says.



Did you know: Elders elected to Caldwell's Session serve three year terms.

Caldwell ordained and installed four new Elders to join Caldwell's governing body, the Session. Shown left to right are:

Troy Aleong, Doreen Byrd (front row).
Mark Rowe, Beth Van Gorp.

Pastor Cleghorn and **Ann Alford** each asked a series of questions to both the Elders and to the congregation. After the installation, the congregation greeted the four with a hearty round of applause.



Pastor Cleghorn led former Elders in prayer as the four new Elders knelt during the laying-on-of-hands portion of the ceremony.

2010 budget process continues Caldwell's good work

In January the **Session** approved Caldwell's 2010 operating budget. The **Finance Committee** is charged with overseeing the management of the church's financial resources, and has established a number of procedures to insure proper fiduciary oversight. Just like your home finances, we make regular deposits, pay bills and balance the bank statement each month.

During 2009 we implemented a new accounting and membership management database called PowerChurch. This application is key to managing our records because it houses all of the membership information and links it to the financial records. Following the deposit on Monday, Leslie enters each contribution into the member/friend's individual record. If you donate in cash and want to have tax credit for the donation, please be sure to place your donation in an envelope (provided in the pews) and write your name clearly on the envelope. Donations by check, of course, show the contributor's name. PowerChurch allows us to view total income and expense reporting on a weekly, monthly or annual basis.

We have an ongoing relationship with an independent financial consultant, **Teresa Moore**. At the end of each month Teresa reviews our financial records, balances transactions with our banking records, and insures compliance with all accounting practices and regulations.

Teresa has managed her own company for years, is a member of **Covenant Presbyterian**, and came recommended to us through her financial work with **Seigle Avenue Partners**.

Each month the Finance Committee prepares a financial report for review at the monthly Session meeting. In addition to reviewing monthly and annual totals, each committee chair can easily see how they are tracking against their annual budget.

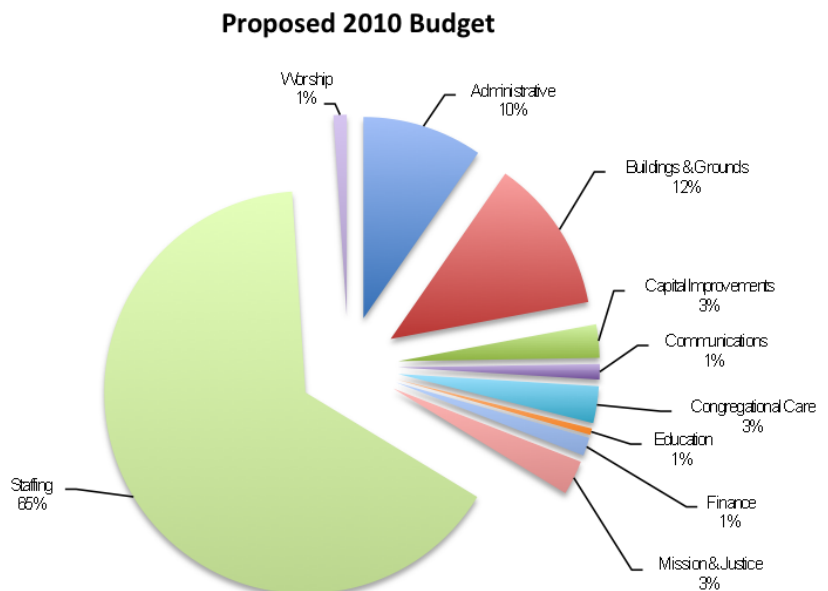
All financial records are strictly confidential. Leslie is the only person in the church who accesses individual's pledge or giving information. The pastor, Finance Committee and Session review aggregate pledge and payment information on a periodic basis, but not individual information.

At the end of January, Leslie sent out 2009 Contribution Statements; if you have not received yours please contact the church office (**704.334.0825**). And, if you haven't completed your 2010 pledge it's not too late – give Leslie a call and she'll be glad to receive your information.

As John discussed in his sermon on January 24th, financial management at Caldwell is more than simply adding up the column of numbers. It is a foundation for doing God's work, one with moral and spiritual responsibility; and one that allows Caldwell the privilege of serving God and community.

By **Janet Blanchard**, CGN! correspondent

	<u>Actual FY2009</u>	<u>Proposed FY2010</u>
Income		
Tithes & Offerings	214,250	244,046
Designated Income	14,823	18,876
Rental/Lease	19,380	20,700
Misc Income	21,779	15,322
Pass Thru	<u>5,846</u>	<u>1,046</u>
TTL Income	276,078	299,990
Expenses		
Administrative	23,590	28,876
Buildings & Grounds	33,390	37,055
Capital Improvements	3,685	8,000
Communications	2,176	3,700
Congregational Care	11,070	8,850
Education	860	1,550
Finance	3,993	4,400
Mission & Justice	8,713	8,300
Staffing	178,132	195,038
Worship	4,070	3,175
Pass-Thru	<u>2,490</u>	<u>1,046</u>
Total Expenses	272,167	299,990
Net	3,911	0



In case you were wondering...

Now here's ice we can all like in February

Buildings and Grounds thanks **Eloise Hicks** for spending a day working in the kitchen to sort, shine or stow 40 years of kitchen items. Instrumental in the kitchen updating were **Jimmy Todd, Chris Elslager** and **Ann Alford**.

An ice maker/storage bin combo has been installed. This will relieve the Sunday Morning "Lemonade On The Lawn" team led by **George Michie** from buying and delivering bags of ice for our Lemonade Fellowship.

Pastor's column...continued

What are the three most pressing issues facing Presbyterians?

- 1) First and most broadly is the question is the peace and unity of the denomination. That is, how we Presbyterians can find a way to disagree on issues and yet stay together as one denomination. A large part of this is the ordination of gays and lesbians, and that question will come back to the headlines when the national General Assembly meets. But representative of the larger question of how we as Presbyterians can focus on the commonality of our traditions even when we disagree on certain social issues.
- 2) Presbyterians, as with several other mainstream denominations, are facing a change in role and scope of the national denomination. After more than two years of difficult economic times, the national denomination's resources are much more depleted, and so we as a denomination have to rethink the balance of what we can expect from our national office and what happens at the local church.
- 3) It is the issue of worship, of how Presbyterians worship, how we find new ways to worship that are inviting and inclusive and more contemporary without letting go of what defines us as Presbyterians. When I was in seminary I was keenly aware it would be a defining issue for me, and I never imagined I'd be called to a church that would have a wonderful answer to that issue. The blended worship style that combines the traditional with the gospel with some casual aspects, but with the warmth and reverence we always have.

Joys and Concerns always seems to strike a chord with the congregation. Why is that?

It makes the gospel very real. It (Joys and Concerns) happens within minutes of having heard it through scripture and then interpreted in sermon. I hear people say, if they think they've had a bad day or a bad week, they'll hear someone stand up to talk about a difficult diagnoses, or loss of parent or loved one, or loss of a job and they tell me they quickly regain a perspective. I hear a lot of that.

Ever wonder where the inspiration comes from for many of our Sunday sermons?

Understanding - and using - the Lectionary

Looking for theology and scripture to help you through the day? The source is just a few clicks away on the Internet, and it's available for you, too.

That source for Presbyterians is called the **Lectionary**. The Lectionary consists largely of a collection of daily readings (often posted on the Web more than once per day every day of the year) tied to the appropriate season of the religious year. Those readings are a frequent wellspring of ideas for Pastor Cleghorn but the **Presbyterian Church USA** makes the daily Psalms and other passages available to all church members.

You can read the daily scripture material on the Internet and even subscribe to the free online service. Paste **www.pcusa.org/lectionary/daily** into your Internet browser for a first-hand look at the Lectionary.



Headed to the store? Stock up on items for Loaves & Fishes

The next time you're at the grocery store, make room in your cart for **Loaves & Fishes**.

Any and all non-perishable foods are appreciated by this local charity which has been a primary food provider for many Charlotte residents during the economic downturn. When some go hungry, we all go hungry.

In addition to the items shown above, protein-rich cans of tuna, cereal, pasta sauce and other staples are among the favored items. You can place your sacks of food in a basket located at the rear of the sanctuary by our front door.

Caldwell helps to build dreams

Nearly 20 don tool belts on a dreary Saturday for Habitat for H

There is something about drywall that quickly brings a room to life. Drywall covers up the studs and insulation, pipes and wiring. The space becomes a room.

And Caldwell volunteers - no strangers to hammers, saws and other construction gear - have helped walls become rooms and rooms become homes literally hundreds of times in recent years.

"You (Caldwell) are reliable volunteers," says **Charles Monroe**, a **Habitat for Humanity** site superintendent. "We can count on you being here and we get the number of people we ask for. That is huge."

On this particular cold and damp Saturday in west Charlotte, about 20 Caldwell worker bees hung drywall. Under the helpful eye of Habitat crews, Caldwellians measured and cut sheets of drywall, hefted the panels into place, carefully hammered in hundreds of nails (no thumb injuries were reported), then dusted themselves off and did the process all over again from room to room.

Monroe estimates the savings in drywall labor alone was more than \$1,000, and volunteer man (and woman) power saves about \$20,000 on a typical home. Without the people power, funds to finish a home would come from other sources. "When we have a crew, it makes it affordable." Typical volunteer assignments include framing and roofing. Pros handle finishing detail work such as plumbing, wiring and finishing the drywall with tape and "mud" (white drywall compound that smoothes over cracks). Volunteers do not need construction skills beyond a willingness to pitch in and help.

None of which was lost on the would-be home owner. How did **Tep Rahlan's** feel as he watched Caldwell volunteers swarm over his new home: "Thankful."



*Like a seasoned pro: **John Chandler** deftly wields a hammer (it doesn't hurt to be tall) to drive nails high on an interior wall.*



***Joyce Deaton** sets a nail with a few well aimed smacks. The sheet was then lifted into place. A few whacks later and the nail - and the sheet of drywall - was firmly in place.*

*Caldwell's "reliable" volunteers and other **Habitat** leaders pose moments before they were covered in clouds of drywall dust. Caldwell has helped construct hundreds of homes in Charlotte as part of Caldwell's mission.*



*Aspiring homeowners like **Tep Rahlan**, his wife, soon own their first home thanks to **Habitat for Humanity** volunteers. **Tep** works, too: owners are required to work on their home but homes under construction for a*



for families - one nail at a time

humanity; donated sweat equity part of church's larger mission



Life Sem Puih and three young children will for Humanity and the tireless work of Caldwell need to put in 250 hours of labor, not only on other Habitat for Humanity homeowners.



Women stepped up - to hammer a panel into place as their cohorts hefted the drywall panel into position. The large basic panels were installed in relatively short order. It took time to cut and fit various pieces into other open spaces. Note the amount of insulation that will keep the home comfortable all year.



Caldwell's Habitat crew chief Tom Bohr deftly fits an odd sized piece of drywall in the master bath.



Tools of the trade: tool belts, a lever to lift drywall, sturdy work gloves, safety goggles, nails and a trusty hammer. Not pictured: Caldwell's can-do attitude and caring spirit.

Caldwell in tune - quickly - with needs of new members

The **New Member Engagement Committee** was organized late in August 2009 with the goal of exploring ways to assure that new members are welcomed and fully integrated into the life of Caldwell as quickly as possible. Those participating in the committee included **Woody Connette, Mark Rowe, Lawrence David Sander, Marie Mancinelli, and Terry Nilles**.

The committee began its work by discussing how to collect detailed information related to skills, interests, and abilities of new church members as well as current members in an efficient manner. **Janet Blanchard** and **Leslie Gipple** introduced the committee to the church's Power Church software program, which the committee believes will be an excellent tool for keeping track of members' time and talent interests.

The committee will continue to explore this tool and develop a system for assuring that information is updated in the Power Church program and that committee and mis-

sion groups within the church are well aware of members' interests. After several brainstorming sessions, the committee identified its top priorities as:

1. Enhancing our name tags to increase their usage.
2. Creating a "buddy system" program to quickly connect new members with established members to assure new members are encouraged to participate in the life of Caldwell and that they are able to develop friendships and support within the church family.
3. Developing a personal information form to capture the time and talent interests of new members.
4. Having a representative from the committee participate in New Members classes.

Research has already begun on name tags that will best suit our needs and we look forward to seeing this implemented in early 2010. During the months of November and December, the committee took on the task of following up with over 35

individuals to gather more detailed information about their time and talent interests as indicated on the time and talent pledge cards from the 2010 Stewardship Campaign. The information gathered from these calls will be helpful in getting members plugged into ministries of the church in 2010.

The committee will continue to focus on developing and recruiting members to develop and/or serve in the "buddy system" program, continue to examine methods to assure time and talent information is continuously collected as new members join, and develop processes for assuring new members are quickly connected with programs and ministries in the church.

Please contact any member of this committee if you are interested in serving on the New Member Engagement Committee or have ideas that you would like to share of ways to engage new members.

By Mark Rowe, CGN! correspondent

We welcome a new member and many visitors

Craig Rhodes of Charlotte is a new member. Please give him a rousing welcome the next time you see him in the sanctuary.

Are you interested in possibly taking a closer look at Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church as your new church home?

Contact the church office (704-334-0825) for more information about Caldwell's membership efforts. You may also email the office manager at admin@caldwellpresby.org.

Caldwell Good News! routinely asks first and second time visitors and guests "Tell us about your first impressions of Caldwell." This is what they have to say:

- "It certainly is a warm congregation. And I love the choir."
- "I was looking at the church web site, and since I live in the neighborhood I thought I would stop by. This is so interesting here. It's such an accumulation of races, nationalities and communities."
- "This is our second time, and we love it. I went to a church like this when I was young, and this made me feel like I was home."
- "We think it is interesting."
- "This is wonderful and welcoming and warm."
- "This is the way church should be."

High points of the January 24 annual meetings

Rev. Cleghorn called the **Congregational Meeting** - the first meeting of the year - to order with prayer, followed by remarks on the state of the church:

- The state of your church is strong.
- Financially, we finished 2009 with a slight budget surplus and entered 2010 with a 10 percent increase in budget. This is in contrast with many churches that have cut budgets and staff. This positions Caldwell to serve others, nurture each other, and to continue to take care of our buildings and grounds.
- The church has 187 members verses 52 members four years ago. We added 27 new members in 2009 and expanded almost all areas of ministry, established many new partnerships, perhaps most notably our agreement with CAPB.
- There were many new “firsts” for Caldwell such as an international mission trip, a confirmation class, public school partnerships, active alliance of neighborhood churches and a we launched a men’s group.
- We have strengthened administrative aspects with an office manager, accuracy and usefulness of financial data, and new systems.

Outgoing elders **Ann Alford, Jeff Sinn, Tovi Martin** and **Kevin Martin** were honored for their contributions.

The Congregational Meeting recessed and the **Annual Business Meeting** started and was led by **Jimmy Todd**.

Minutes for the 2009 Annual Congregational and Business Meetings were passed out along with the 2009 Financial Report and the Session approved budget for 2010. The financial report and budget were reviewed by **Jim Schick**, treasurer.

Jeff Sinn asked “Are there funds set aside for long-term needs such as the grace fund or for Building & Grounds?” Rev. Cleghorn said there are future aspirations for growth but nothing has been funded to date. He noted one estimate that improvements required to up-fit the campus would cost approximately \$250,000.00.

The Annual Business meeting closed and the Congregational Meeting resumed. Rev. Cleghorn noted the Pastoral Terms of Call were voted on in the Fall Meeting, with no further action required. He also noted that a new Nominating Committee will be elected in the near future for 2010. Benediction was given at the close of the meeting by Rev. Cleghorn.

Congregational Care in Times of Illness and Bereavement

“Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God” (Isaiah 40:1).

You learn that a friend or a member of your church family is ill or a bereaved. You want to reach out with love and compassion to this person; yet you hesitate. What do you say to someone who is experiencing physical, emotional, or spiritual pain? Do you find it a little unnerving to be with someone who has dementia? Are you uncomfortable visiting someone who has received a diagnosis of a terminal illness? Is it awkward to talk to someone who has lost a loved one? Do you find it distressing to think about your own mortality?

Together we can explore these questions and others about caring for those who are in need of comfort during difficult times in their lives. We will share ways in which we can carry out Caldwell’s mission to proclaim the Gospel, not only in word, but in deed.

Join with others who have an interest in the ministry of Congregational Care for this workshop on Sunday, February 28, 2010 after worship service. Lunch will be provided. The workshop will begin at 1:00 pm and end at 2:30. Registration forms are provided in the sanctuary. Registration deadline is Tuesday, February 23. Contact **Lynn Watson** with any questions: mamalynn_friscomom@yahoo.com

E. Veronica Rogers, Workshop Facilitator

Check out the improved [caldwellpresby.org](http://www.caldwellpresby.org)

Caldwell’s web site now has all the bells and whistles our congregation, guests and visitors need to go online to find out virtually everything about the church.

Calendar items, past sermons, wonderful photo archives, plenty of updated news items and past issues of Caldwell Good News! are only a click away. It easy to access and its all online right now and it’s cool.

High praise for this incredible work goes to **Jessica Polk, Tovi Lynn Martin** and **Leslie Gipple**.

Be sure to bookmark www.caldwellpresby.org.

Session roles defined for 2010

With the Session just now gearing up for the coming year, these key assignments have been made. If you are interested in any of these particular groups, feel free to contact the chair directly.

Clerk of Session:	Eloise Hicks
Treasurer:	Jim Schick
Finance Chair:	Janet Blanchard
Mission and Justice Co-Chairs:	Doreen Byrd, Ann Dorsett (non-elder)
Worship Chair:	Carl Brinson
Buildings and Grounds: Chair	Ann Alford , Chair (Elder, Class of 2010); Troy Aleong , Vice Chair
Education Chair:	Kimberly Shumaker
Administration Chair:	Richard Bargoil
Stewardship Chair:	BG Metzler
Congregational Care Chair:	Beth Van Gorp
Member Engagement Chair:	Mark Rowe
Transportation Chair:	John Chandler

Coffeehouse & Talent Extravaganza Feb. 20

Have a talent to share (even if it's hidden or latent) in front of a receptive audience? What better place for your debut than the **Coffeehouse & Talent Extravaganza** on February 20 at 6:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Co-organizer **Merrilyn Gill** welcomes "Any kind of talent, it doesn't matter what. People will read poetry and sing. Anything goes." Last minute performers are welcome. Send **Jim Everitt** an email if you're interested: everitts@carolina.rr.com. Also bring a snack to share. Needed too: an audience. Merrilyn says "If your talent is clapping and listening and having fun, we need you in the audience." Stage fright? What's that?

Clear Skies and Sunny Days in the Forecast for Merry Oaks Elementary School!

It might be cold, rainy, and windy outside, but Caldwell's congregation is helping to bring warmth, comfort and cheer to the students and faculty of **Merry Oaks Elementary School**. Our partnership with the CMS school is thriving!

Last August, when school began, Caldwellians like **Mike Watson**, **Nancy Nance**, and **Jeff Mitchiner** lined up outside the school's entrance, enthusiastically greeting students arriving for their first days of school. Students couldn't resist the general good cheer (and Mike's high fives), and they walked into the school's doors with huge grins on their faces. From nervous to eager in 20 yards - quite the transformation!

Since then, many of Caldwell's congregation have been helping out on a regular basis. **Bob** and **BG Metzler** are tutors in one of Merry Oaks' classrooms. Joyce Deaton works in the library; Cyndi Haden has volunteered in the office. **Erskine Harkey**, **Joel Tompkinson** and Mike Watson facilitate Merry Oaks' recycling program. **George Michie** visits **Ms. Mastaler's** fourth-grade class almost every day; he and **Mary Carol** recently took Ms. Mastaler and some students and their parents out for lunch at a local Vietnamese restaurant. These and other volunteers are not only helping, they are building personal relationships with members of the Merry Oaks community.

Our congregation is helping out behind the scenes and with special events. **Alyce Llewallen** has served by phoning volunteers, reminding them of the events they have signed up for. Jeff Mitchiner coordinated a crew to help with a fundraiser at the school's Winter Concert this past December. Among Jeff's reindeer helpers (he provided reindeer antlers for us to wear!) were **Jean Nance**, **Doreen Byrd**, **Linda Horton**, **Kathy Neale**, and **Mary Alice Bryson**. Bob and BG Metzler attended the concert, too. We all enjoyed the festive occasion and the opportunity to support Merry Oaks.

Sally Thomas has been working tirelessly these past few months to organize Merry Oaks' PTA. (Merry Oaks' community faces some challenges, including language barriers, that have made it hard for a PTA to get established.) Sally and **Mary Lou Lindsey** just met with about 70 parents, as well as several teachers, to talk about spring events. We are all excited about the transformative possibilities that an established PTA would bring.

There are many ways to get involved, and Spring 2010 presents new opportunities. We are partnering with **Ameri-corps** volunteers to organize a book fair; we are recruiting volunteers to help with that, with covering classes during their Teacher Appreciation Day luncheon, and with proctoring for EOG's. You will find flyers with more information in the back of the church; you can also visit Caldwell's website. Blue skies ahead!!

Caldwell Good News! Bulletin Board

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 17

Lenten series/soup lunch, 12 noon, Sanctuary

Thursday, February 18

Education Committee, 5:30 pm, Shelby

Worship Committee, 6:30 pm, Upstairs

Finance Committee, 8:30 pm, Upstairs

Saturday, February 20

Coffeehouse & Talent Extravaganza, contact
Merrilyn Gill for details.

Sunday, February 21

Confirmation Class, 9:45 am, Price Building

Lay Committee, 2:30 pm, Shelby

Monday, February 22

Pastoral Relations Comm., 5:30 pm, Upstairs

Tuesday, February 23

Communications Committee, 6:30, Upstairs

Wednesday, February 24

Lenten series/soup lunch, 12 noon, Sanctuary

MARCH

Wednesday, March 3

Lenten series/soup lunch, 12 noon, Sanctuary

Sunday, March 7

Confirmation Class, 9:45 am, Price Building

Monday, March 8

Women's Circle, 10:30 am, Shelby

Tuesday, March 9

Mission & Justice Comm., 6:30 pm, Shelby

Wednesday, March 10

Lenten series/soup lunch, 12 noon, Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 17

Lenten series/soup lunch, 12 noon, Sanctuary

Monday, March, 22 Session, 5:30 pm

Church Calendar

2nd Monday

10:30 am - Women's Circle meeting

3rd Monday

6:30 pm - Women's Book Club

4th Monday

5:00-6:30 pm - Pastoral Relations Committee

2nd Tuesday

6:30 pm - Mission & Justice Comm., Shelby

Last Tuesday

6:30 pm - Communications Comm., Upstairs

Wednesdays

7:00 pm - Choir practice

3rd Thursday

6:30 p.m. - Worship Committee, Upstairs

6:30 pm - Finance Committee, Upstairs

5:30 pm - Education Committee, Shelby

Every Friday

7:30 pm, AA, Fellowship Hall

Sundays

9:45 am Adult Sunday School, Upstairs

11:00 am Worship (including children's Sunday school)

1st Sunday Holy Communion

Session receives new members

3rd Sunday Monthly Session meeting

(1:00 pm), Shelby Room

All Sundays Loaves & Fishes Collection

(Non-perishables in entryway basket.

Thank you!)

Administrative Office Hours

8:30 am -4:30 pm Weekdays

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Reach Pastor Cleghorn on his cell phone:

704-957-4511

See calendar events online: caldwellpresby.org

PLEASE! REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSON

A card, a call, a visit - please remember our longtime members & keep in touch!

Mrs. Barbara Atkinson	The Little Flower, room 22	8700 Lawyers Road	Charlotte, NC 28227
Mailing address	830 Faircrest Drive		Charlotte, NC 28210
Mrs. Martha Cooper	2115 Bucknell Avenue		Charlotte, NC 28207
Miss Toby Herring	Sunrise Assisted Living @ Eastover	3610 Randolph Rd, Room 310	Charlotte, NC 28211
Mrs. Elise Hood	Legacy Heights	11240 Ballantyne Trace Ct., C-3	Charlotte, NC 28277
Mrs. Irene Kennedy	419 Clement Avenue		Charlotte, NC 28204
Mrs. Ann Ranson	Legacy Heights	11240 Ballantyne Trace Ct.	Charlotte, NC 28277
Mrs. Irene Brown	Sunrise Assisted Living @Eastover	3610 Randolph Rd., Room 228	Charlotte NC 28211
Miss Sue Aivez	12019 Verhoeff Dr.		Huntersville, NC 28278

Caldwell's Mission Statement

In the Summer of 2007, Congregational Dialogues formed the foundation of our church's renewed mission statement as adopted by action of the Session that Fall:

- We seek to build a diverse, intentional, affirming community animated by joyful worship and called forth into social action for service to the greater good.
- We seek to hear God's call not only as individuals but also as a progressive, missional community striving to reflect the Kingdom of God in the here and now.
- We embrace the rich history of the Reformed Tradition and the storied past of our once-prominent, center-city church, as we welcome a diverse, urban community of seekers—young and old, gay and straight, rich and poor, of all races and ethnicities.
- We are called into a meaningful, transformative community that values the unique blessings and perspectives of each member and offers a place of welcome and healing to weary souls.
- We seek dynamic servant leaders who serve humbly, embrace change, and boldly challenge injustices in the wider community.
- Most importantly, we seek to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed, following the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

God Invites. We Welcome. All.

Sunday Services at 11:00 a.m. Nursery and children's activities available during the service.

Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church

1609 East Fifth Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

<http://www.caldwellpresby.org>



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