Caldwell Good News! A monthly publication for members, guests, friends and our community

August 2012

BELL helps kids, uses Caldwell as a Charlotte base

Caldwell is HQ for a group that brings summer education to underserved children

A non-profit group that brings summertime and school year academic and enrichment activities to many hundreds of local underserved children needed a home base in Charlotte - and found it at Caldwell.

Building Educated Leaders for Life - BELL - uses office space adjacent to the Shelby Room. The office houses four BELL staff who oversee an undertaking that during the summer uses 10 CMS schools and one church to deliver muchneeded opportunities to nearly 1,400 students whose summer might not be all it could be.

BELL, a national organization headquartered in Boston, also provides after-school services during the regular school year.

The summer opportunities are significant for underserved children. According to **Ashleigh Snyder** of BELL, research shows students can

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lose two months of grade level equivalency on math and reading skills over summer months. "Our goal is to close the achievement gap," says Snyder.

To do that, class size is limited to 20 students, and are taught by one certified teacher and one teacher's assistant. Each school day is six and a half hours. Snyder says mornings are devoted to academics, while afternoon sessions are set aside for "enrichment" activities that children in under-resourced communities might not normally experience, such as drama, arts or tae kwon do. On Fridays students take field trips to local educational or cultural attractions such as Discovery Place.

Nutrition is a consideration, too, because in the summer, students may not eat at home. Students eat breakfast and lunch at school.

The program is also a boon for local educators, many from CMS. Because class sizes are small and the need for teachers great, Snyder says "at least 200 people had jobs this summer." She adds that BELL "hires and trains the teachers, and we provide all the curriculum." Classes are spread among schools in the west corridor of Charlotte where there is the greatest need.

The cost per student for summer programs is very expensive - as high as \$1,500 per student. BELL provides a private-public partnership to carry the substantial cost of the program. Snyder says BELL can bring in outside funding sources to the school district. Many companies want their donations targeted to precisely the sort of students reached by

the summer and after school programs in Charlotte.

The reception to the summer program is very good. Snyder says "We have parents that the minute it's over, they are asking when we will have it next year."

Caldwell entered the BELL picture



Some Charlotte students take a break during classes provided by BELL.

when the offices next to the Shelby Room were vacated by **POST** (**Partners in Out of School Time**). A comment from a POST staff member led BELL to Caldwell. "**Clair Tate** called me and said 'we are leaving the church, do you want the office?'," says Snyder. "It's perfect. Tate thought it would be a perfect fit and it is." Four BELL staff members use Caldwell's space.

For BELL, the arrangement at Caldwell has worked well, and the effort to serve Charlotte children has been even better. "We have done work in Charlotte the last few years, a school here and there, and there's a huge need in Charlotte" for this sort of approach, says Snyder.

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Telling God's Story...and Yours, Too

Pastor's Message

I've always believed that one of our privileges and responsibilities at Caldwell is to share the story of what God has done here with others. It's a message of hope and possibility, one that our denomination and other churches need to hear. It's not our story, so much as God's. It is God's initiative and our response (which is a pretty good thumbnail summary of Reformed theology and belief).

With that responsibility and privilege in mind, I wanted to share news of three opportunities to tell the story of the "miracle on 5th Street."

First, so many of us have hung on every word of **Beth Van Gorp's** monthly "Centennial Minute" presentations during worship in the first seven months of the year. When I tell people that we had a member

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actually *volunteer* to read 100 years of session minutes, their jaws usually drop. If Presbyterians believed in making people saints, this might qualify, they say.

I am utterly delighted that Beth's enormous effort will take a more lasting form, one more part of her wonderful leadership of our centennial celebration. Talented writers and editors **Linda Matney** and **Peg Robarchek** are polishing Beth's excellent speaking notes into a new history of Caldwell church to be published soon. Thanks be to God!

The last history of Caldwell was printed on the 50th anniversary of the church. The new one will include the unpredictable subsequent chapters of the Caldwell story. It will also be more narrative in style, including Beth's contextual references to Charlotte's own story. It will include photos and other content.

The new work will be out later this fall. Stay tuned for details on that. In the meantime, I know you are as excited as I am.

Second, Caldwell's story continues to attract interest from church leaders hungry for examples of inclusive and mission-minded ministry. I've been asked to lead a workshop entitled "A Story of Hope: One Church's Journey From Wilderness to Resurrection" at the Mid-Atlantic Regional NEXT Church Conference in Durham. NEXT is a group of young and emerging church leaders who describe their organization as "Connectional. Positive. Relational. Open. Diverse. Alive. PCUSA."

I'm looking forward to showing the 11-minute film about Caldwell's turnaround and leading a discussion on what from Caldwell's story might be replicable in other places and churches.

Third, Caldwell will be honored by a visit and tour by a group that ad-



Rev. John Cleghorn

vises national denominational leaders on social witness. As part of a three-day meeting in Charlotte, the PCUSA General Assembly Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy will tour our campus to see how God has put our old buildings and grounds to use in service to others. If you are interested in helping host that tour, please let me know.

In a time of division, mistrust and departure in many areas of our denomination, I see this interest as an affirmation that there is a future for Presbyterians who are sincerely interested in seeking to be the body of Christ in the world. I'm humbled by these invitations to tell God's story—and yours—as a message of encouragement and inspiration that our Lord always has alternate endings in mind, even when we can hardly see a way forward.

If you would like to know more about any of these opportunities, don't hesitate to call, write or grab me on a Sunday morning.

Happy end of summer to you. May God be with you there as we move forward in God's sight.

Do you have event or committee news, calendar items, photography and other tidbits Caldwell members and guests should see in the newsletter? Please send items by the first of each month to the editor: david.bradley@yahoo.com Visit us on the web at:

www.caldwellpresby.org

Back on Track extending to church congregation

The instructive program has helped women at the shelter search for work. It will open to all at Caldwell

Back on Track, a program to provide computer and other job skills to aid women at Elizabeth's Caldwell House in their search for work, will expand to others who could use those same skills, including members and guests of Caldwell.

"Absolutely, there are lots of people who could benefit" in the congregation, says **Tracy Godfrey**, a Caldwell member who works closely with *Back on Track* at the shelter. "I'm sure there are lots of people in that same boat who could benefit in the congregation."

Although details remain to be worked out, classes at the shelter do address a broad array of work skills necessary to find - and keep - work. These include familiarity with computers, how to search the Internet for jobs, interview techniques, and resume preparation, among others.

Jackie Trail, a Caldwell contact at the Salvation Army, says there are encouraging signs that *Back on Track* is meeting distinct needs.

"I know several of them say how much more encouraged they are to look for work and it's not so scary. The classes make it much more accessible (the job search)," says Jackie "They are especially encouraged by the mock interviews, and how to hone the skills they already have. Several speakers have told them there are jobs out there, it's a just a matter of learning how to stand out and embrace wheat they already have." Email Jackie for class info: jaclyn.trail@salvationarmy.org.

Tracy says volunteers to teach classes are needed, and prospective teachers can reach him at his email: tlg0612@gmail.com.

It was nearly standing-room-only at a Monday *Back on Track* session as more than 30 women from Caldwell House heard sage advice from two human resource experts about how to find a job - and keep it.

Jessica Patton and Jennifer Day of AON Hewitt, a human resource benefits and outsourcing firm, covered substantial ground from how to dress to creation of a 30 second 'elevator speech' to how to tactfully ask an employer for a day off.

Their responses came as they fielded numerous questions from an audience clearly hungry for work, and for guidance about how to find it

When Day asked the type of work the women hoped to find, the responses came quickly - warehouse

work, call centers, cashiers, pet therapy, child care, health care, retail, and even security guard. Others asked about the best website to find work, or about the role of appearance and presentation during interviews, as well as networking.

But the focus remained on the big picture: finding work itself. One attendee succinctly summed up the search for many of the women: "Anywhere there are jobs available."



Jessica Patton and Jennifer Day of AON Hewitt spoke to the group. Their #1 rule for job seekers (and finders): be on time.



There's only way one to go - onward and upward - for those who take Back on Track classes in the second floor resource room at Caldwell House. Classes cover a wide range of job skills.

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Church finances in good shape

Initial reports for Caldwell for the month of July show the church's financials continue to be sound.

Thanks to an effort by congregants to catch up on pledge payments, year-to-date income from pledges of \$128,654 was only 2% behind annual projections. Combined with unpledged income and other sources of income (space usage fees, etc.), total operating income stood at \$188,505.

Expenses year-to-date through July totaled \$178,548. Caldwell's total reserves stood at \$77,939. The church carries no debt.

Education Committee

Our programs have grown and we need more volunteers to support them. We are delighted by the addition of new volunteers to our Sunday school programs who will begin this fall. If you are interested in volunteering, please email **Sharon Harmon** (Education Committee chair) at sharonharmon67@yahoo.com

We can always use more volunteers as the number of children attending each Sunday continues to grow!

We are excited our school-age room is getting a makeover. Soon, we will have new flooring and bright new paint. Come by and see us some Sunday!

Music director search progresses

Caldwell's Music Director Search Committee kicked off its work in early August. According to committee chair **Jim Curtis**, committee members will invest some time in "grounding and education" over the next month as they visit other local worship services and talk with a few noted leaders in this area's church music scene.

Combined with the congregational input document (referenced in the July *CGN!*), which the committee has nicknamed "the compass," the next couple of steps will be to finalize a job description, settle on an evaluation process, and then post and promote the job. "I love the analogy of a compass because the input from the choir and congregation meetings give us a clear understanding of our surroundings and intended direction," reports Jim.

"Caldwell folks are very well connected in the community," says Jim, "and we've already received a couple of unsolicited resumes. When we're ready to post the job, Caldwell members can help get the word out if they choose. We also expect to post the job with on-line career sites, musician message boards, through denomination newsletters and general classified ads."

Finally, a Top 10 list you can believe

Here are the 'Top 10' things you won't want to miss about Homecoming Weekend (Friday October 12th – Caldwell Dance, Sunday, October 14th – Worship and Lunch on the Grounds).

- **10.** Dancing to **Smitty Flynn** and the fabulous **Riverias**.
- **9.** Surprise performances at the Caldwell Dance.
- **8.** Enjoying time with our campus partners who are also invited.
- 7. A special lunch following worship service on Sunday.
- **6.** Welcoming back folks who worshipped here in the past.
- **5.** Amazing music at worship (but this is always true).
- **4.** Celebrating the re-birth of Caldwell
- **3.** Homemade desserts for lunch!
- **2.** Enjoying spending time with friends.
- 1. Celebrating 100 years of service, worship and the word of God at Caldwell.

Looking forward to seeing everyone - members, friends, guests, the community - there! Thank you!

Beth Van Gorp, Centennial Committee chair

Veronica's column from page 5

James Madison, a principal author of the Constitution and Jefferson's successor as president, was a graduate of Princeton College where he also studied divinity. He was a champion of religious liberty and yet, Madison felt that the separation of church and state was important and saw it as a model for governments. He is said to have advocated an even more rigid separation of church and state than Jefferson.

So as the election gets closer and the clamor gets more thunderous, perhaps it would behoove us as Christians to spend less time on "judgment" and more on "justice." The United States has increasingly become a nation of people with diverse religious beliefs, just as the Founding Fathers probably imagined. And yet, we are seeing an increase in persecution of those who worship differently or express their beliefs through other outward spiritual denotation such as turbans (as we do when we wear the cross). Those who insist on a particular brand of religion are the distorters of the intention of the Founding Fathers.

We will continue to disagree on what being a Christian really entails as we struggle to live a life of discipleship. These Founding Fathers, though not perfect or necessarily practitioners of what they preached, were wise in building a government that ensures religious freedom. Let us pause to express our gratitude that we live in a country where we can worship at Caldwell each week without fear of persecution and work together so that this benefit is extended to all---whether Sikh, Jew, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist or any other believer.

America's founding fathers - what did they intend?



Veronica Rogers

Look alive, Caldwell Family! All eyes are on Charlotte as we prepare to host the National Democratic Convention in a few weeks and this city is all abuzz. (This heightened energy can probably be felt in Tampa as they prepare to host the Republican National Convention, but we are here.) As we get closer to the elections in November, the religious rhetoric becomes louder and the verbal darts sharper. Who is the "true" Christian and who is the "false" Christian? Which presidential candidate is really a Christian and which is an imposter? And what kind of religion did the Founding Fathers

anticipate when this nation was being formed?

The question about the intentions of the Founding Fathers has become a "bone of contention" between the religious right and the religious left. We are choosing our candidates based not only on their religious affiliation, but on a narrow interpretation of that affiliation. After all, when the Founding Fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, they intended that the United States would be a Christian nation. Or did they?

It appears that the Founding Fathers went to extreme efforts to declare that this country would be one of religious freedom, rather than one of a particular faith or creed. Some have argued that the wall of separation between church and state has been erroneously established by our contemporary judicial interpretation of the Constitution. These early proponents of liberty were well aware of religious persecution in Europe and the dangers of government's control of religion - and religion's control of government. We can see the danger of the two being intertwined in conflicts throughout the world today in governments of theocracies.

The beliefs of the Founding Fathers were varied. However, the issue of freedom of religious expression and the separation of church and state seemed to have been areas on which they could agree. Their aim was that the proposed United States be a nation or religious *choice*, not one of any particular religious belief.

A number of the leading founders were known as Christian leaders. John Witherspoon (Presbyterian minister), Charles Carroll (Catholic layman) and Roger Sherman (member of the Congregational Church) were signers of the Declaration of Independence. John Jay, first chief justice of the Supreme Court and Patrick Henry (famous for "Liberty or Death" speech) were Evangelical Anglicans. However, many of the Founding Fathers were much less traditional in their approach to religion.

Although Thomas Jefferson was brought up in the Anglican Church, he questioned principles of that theology. As a student at the College of William and Mary, he was introduced to the philosophy of the Enlightenment and its concern with individual rights, the rule of reason, and the emphasis on the human capacity for self improvement and self government. Jefferson, the country's third president, could best be described as a Deist, one who practiced a theology that assumed that the existence of creation presupposed a benevolent creator. The Deists were considered free thinkers. They placed strong emphasis on morality, yet opposed the narrow dogmatism of some Christian views. In the Declaration of Independence (1776), there is reference to "Divine Providence," a term used by the Deist that would incorporate varying beliefs in a supernatural being.

Jefferson was a proponent of the teachings of Jesus Christ, yet he did not ascribe to the beliefs of the divinity of Christ, the virgin birth, or miracles. He saw the Bible as inspired by God, not dictated by God, composed by fallible individuals with human limitations. He did not accept as literal what was written in the Gospels. Therefore, Jefferson used a razor to cut out the parts of the Gospels which he felt had relevance and paste them in a document that is now known as the *Jefferson Bible*. In 1777, Jefferson, with the aid of James Madison, composed the *Virginian Statue of Religious Freedom in* which it was declared that no expression of religious view should in anyway "diminish, enlarge or affect" the civil liberties of others. Because of Jefferson's views, some New England ministers had warned during Jefferson's presidential campaign that if he were elected, he would confiscate all the Bibles and convert churches into temples of prostitution. (The use of religious scare tactics in a presidential election is not new.)

Although John Adams, the country's second president was of Puritan and Calvinist background, he did not regard the Bible as the only divinely inspired writing. Adams has seen firsthand the possible abuse of declaring one religion over all others. However, he was content to settle upon the *Sermon on the Mount* as a perfect code presented to humans by a more than mortal teacher.

Benjamin Franklin, sometimes thought to have had no religious affiliation at all, most closely identified with the Deist school of thought that God could only be known through reason in studying the physical universe. However, Franklin saw Jesus as a model from which we could learn humility rather than God's Incarnate Son.

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MS concert draws great choirs and large audience



The St. Paul Baptist Church Men's Choir wows a crowd of 100 at the Gospel Charlotte International Mass Choir of the Gospel Workshop held in Caldwell's sanctuary. It was the 3rd annual fundraiser to benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. Caldwell's choir also sang at this celebratory gathering. (Photo: Janet Blanchard)

Aging Caldwell doors get some long-deserved TLC

Caldwell's doors, long exposed to the elements, get some attention

White oak is a marvelous material for wooden doors - particularly Caldwell's massive exterior doors - but even this durable wood needs some loving care now and again.

The doors got it from the fatherson team of **Colin** and **John Helms** who spent a day replacing four inches of rotted wood at the bottom of the doors.

"White oak is a good exterior wood," says Colin. The result came out great and will extend the life of our doors into the future.



A third Eagle Scout project is good for Caldwell

Another Eagle Scout brings his energy and skills to our "up and coming" church

For the third time, Caldwell is on the receiving end of a beneficial project that will help a local Boy Scout earn the coveted rank of Eagle Scout.

Will Morrill, a rising junior at Myers Park High, and a member of Troop 55 at Myers Park Presbyterian, is investing his sweat equity into a wonderful new shed that will store tools and equipment used to maintain and nourish Caldwell's community garden plot.

"I knew I wanted to build something, and we went to a couple of different churches, that needed something built," says Will. "We went over and talked to John (Cleghorn), and he showed us a bunch of different possibilities. It's been in the planning process for a couple of months."

Will was preceded by other Scouts on their way to Eagle Scout status who built a playground sandbox for the **Bilingual Preschool** and a transportation shelter for residents of **Elizabeth's Caldwell House**.

As is the norm with projects of this scope, Will shouldered all the responsibility. He oversaw the design, and he says "I went around to friends and neighbors and collected donations, and I pretty much have all the money for the project." The budget for the shed: \$1,300 - \$1,500.

Will also enlisted the surplus muscle-power and construction prowess of the **Woodpeckers**. **Byron Baldwin** says the loose-knit, informal group of friends meets at **Starbucks** at 7th Street and Pecan Ave. "every Saturday morning and if there's a building project, we grab our tools and go building something."

"I think it's great that they had something we could provide for them," says Will.



Will Morrill in front of his Eagle Scout project: a new shed to house tools for Caldwell's garden. Caldwell is "up and coming," says Will, "and they need help with things like this." Aiding Will were the Woodpeckers, a loose-knit group of friends who lend a hand on projects in the Elizabeth neighborhood. Our own Katy Hill and Diane Mowrey are members of the energetic bunch.



Will and the Woodpeckers work crew hoist the final wall of the shed into place. Will raised the money for the project and designed it, too.



Byron Baldwin of the Woodpeckers says the group meets Saturday mornings over coffee, and "if there's a building project, we grab our tools and go build something."

Care to help with the garden? Garden Get-Together weekends are set for August 25 and September 22 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. No skills needed to participate.
Green thumbs welcome!

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Caldwell in photos



Manley Roberts (at the piano) helps Randy Hood, Smitty Flynn, Charlie Brown and Jim Curtis tune their considerable voices prior to a Sunday worship service. Our choir may be modest in number, but it is beyond big in its collective voice.



Flowers grace an altar table the Sunday after the beautiful arrangement provided a lovely touch at a service to celebrate the life of longtime Caldwell member and church stalwart, **Jimmy Todd**.



Tianna Butler greets worshippers after she delivered a sermon on her final Sunday as an intern at Caldwell. "The power of prayer is magnificent. In truth, we are nothing without God," she told the congregation. "When we praise God, we open doors to his glory and blessings."

The congregation listens intently to a recent sermon. Caldwell draws routinely on its mission statement, which in part says:

- 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.
- 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.



Guests and friends - not strangers - in our midst



Glynnis, **Shannon** and **Thomas Ward** of Huntersville. "I come here every time I can," says Shannon. "It is the best church in Charlotte. It is the best church anywhere."



Ashley Mincey, visiting from Miami, calls Caldwell "very welcoming."



Ted Martin, guest musician (and father of Kevin) says "I really enjoy the fellowship here."



Nancy Faires (above) greets Rory and Annie Huntly. Rory says "It's a wonderful and diverse congregation." Annie says "Everyone knows each other and it's such a warm environment."

Jan and Dan Johnson. Dan thinks Caldwell is "very friendly, and it's a place I'd come back to and find out more about."



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New members...and a testament to Jimmy Todd



New members Ginger Dickinson and Kim Bohannon. Ginger says "We found this place we want to be part of." Kim adds, "We were intently trying to find a church family." We are glad to welcome them.

New members are welcomed by the Session following the first Sunday service of each month. Call the church office, 704-334-0825, for more information.

Visitors and guests are welcome at Caldwell. *Caldwell Good News!* regularly asks those new to our church for their first impressions of what they see, hear and feel after they walk in our doors:

"First, it's a beautiful structure, and two, it's a diverse congregation which is what I'm looking for."

"It's wonderful. I like it. I have really enjoyed myself here."

"It's very welcoming."

"It's a very welcoming place. And it is very diverse."

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George Miller used this note to remember his friend Jimmy Todd.

Dear Rev. Cleghorn and Rev. Rogers:

I knew Mr. Todd for over 40 years. His daughter and I went to school together starting in the seventh grade at McClintock Jr. High School where I met Liz and we've been friends ever since. He was a character and it was clear at his funeral that everyone knew it and loved him.

Enclosed is a small donation to help paint the brown shutters Mr. Todd fretted over. I know it's like spitting in the ocean when it's measured against all the work that needs to be done at your wonderful church, but I hope you will accept my thoughts.

Sincerely, George

Caldwell Good News! Bulletin Board



COMING UP SOON...

AUGUST

Sunday, August 19

PRIDE Week Worship Service, 4 p.m., Sanctuary

Monday, August 20

Women's Book Club, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., TBA

Tuesday, August 21

Finance committee, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m., upstairs

Thursday, August 23

Worship committee, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby

Saturday, August 25

Garden Get-Together, 8 11:30 a.m., garden

Monday, August 27

Session, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., TBA

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 4

Caldwell Women, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Shelby

Monday, September 10

Women's Circle, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Shelby

Wednesday, September 12

Mission & Justice committee, 6 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby

Thursday, September 13

Congregational Care committee, 6 - 8 p.m., Shelby

Monday, September 17

Women's Book Club, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., TBA

Tuesday, September 18

Finance committee, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m., upstairs

Thursday, September 20

Education committee, 6:30 - 8 p.m., upstairs Worship committee, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby

Saturday, September 22

Garden Get-Together, 8 - 11:30 a.m., garden

Church Calendar

1st Monday

6:30 p.m. - Men's Group

2nd Monday

Women's Circle

3rd Monday

6:30 p.m. - Women's Book Club

4th Monday

5:30 p.m., Session, Shelby

1st Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Women's Group

2nd Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Mission & Justice Comm., Shelby

Wednesdays

7 p.m. - Choir practice

2nd Thursday

6 p.m., Congregational Care, Shelby

3rd Tuesday

12:15 p.m. - Finance committee, Upstairs

3rd Thursday

12:15 p.m. - Worship committee, Shelby 6:30 p.m. - Education committee, Upstairs

Every Friday

7:30 p.m., AA, Shelby

Sundays

9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School, Upstairs

11 a.m. Worship (including children's Sun-

day school)

1st Sunday Holy Communion

Session receives new members

All Sundays Loaves & Fishes Collection

(Non-perishables in entry basket)

Administrative Office Hours

Monday, 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Reach Pastor Leghorn on his cell phone: 704-957-4511

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 Lake Park Nursing Center

Mailing address 830 Faircrest Drive

Miss Toby Herring Carmel Hills

Mrs. Irene Kennedy 419 Clement Avenue

3315 Faith Church Rd., Room 600 Indian Trail, NC 28079

Charlotte, NC 28210

2801 Carmel Road, # 115 Charlotte, NC 28226

Charlotte, NC 28204

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.

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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