

There was plenty to cheer about at the Caldwell Women's Retreat. Full coverage begins on page 3.



# CGN!

Caldwell Good News!

April 2014

The two days of Palm Sunday with our Latino brothers and sisters.

Page 4

In the works: a domestic mission trip. You can be included in the planning which starts now.

Page 5

What some members and guests are praying for.

Page 6

Caldwell builds another home, and with it, the hopes of a family.

Page 8

Caldwell in photos.

Pages 7 and 10

**Pastor's Column**

## A 3D update

**We at Caldwell try to be intentional about observing Lent, the 40 days that lead to Easter.** But we might sometimes forget there is a 50-day period that follows, called Eastertide, which delivers us to Pentecost, when we mark the arrival of God in the Holy Spirit to guide us as we seek to be the Body of the Risen Christ.

So, Happy Eastertide, a season of new life and new responses to God's grace.

One of the ways Caldwell continues to respond to God's grace is through our ongoing 3D process. We are now amid the phase when six teams of members are looking at some concrete ideas for large-scale ministry, ideas that came from the congregation's own discernment, discussion and dreaming. The ministries would potentially involve our campus space, our time and talent as disciples in service, our financial resources and deep partnership with organizations or agencies in the community.

I asked the leaders of those teams, which are at different points of progress in their "due diligence" and exploration of the practicalities of these various possibilities, for an update. Here it is:

**After-School Partnership, from Kim Bohannon****Caldwell Good News!**

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The 3D Due Diligence team for the After School Program is making wonderful headway. We have met twice with a 3rd meeting scheduled for early May. We have done a great deal of research with existing after-school programs and have met at least once, if not twice, with all of them to envision a partnership that will honor Caldwell's missional and transformational mission statement. We are optimistic and have open ears to God's calling in this, however he may choose to lead us.

**An Independent Multi-Lingual Preschool at Caldwell**

The team responsible for due diligence regarding the potential for a bilingual preschool housed at Caldwell met several weeks ago. Joanne Tate, the Director of Charlotte Bilingual Preschool (CBP) that Caldwell has housed in the past, is a member of the team. She provided a wealth of information about the past, present and potential future of bilingual preschools currently operating in Charlotte.

CBP provides education for 72 students and has a waiting list of 256. However, both Caldwell and the CBP understand that Caldwell cannot be a site for CBP's expansion because the Price building's deficiencies do not meet certain standards required for use of public/government preschool funding.

This leaves Caldwell to explore interest from area families in a smaller-scale, self-funding preschool experience in which youngsters would be exposed to both English and Spanish. As a first step in that exploration Caldwell will be the site this summer for a week-long bilingual summer camp, which CBP will staff. The team will soon meet again to discuss all the information gathered, consider what other information should be gathered and prepare a report for the Session.

**Discipleship of Race and Class, Yvette Wilson and Jill Flynn**

This team has met to discuss the scope of this idea, which deals with honest,

**Rev. John Cleghorn**

open and truthful dialogue about race and class that gets past pleasantries and passing friendships. The team considered whether this work should be done through engagement of external, community organizations and agencies or focus on relationships within Caldwell. The team chose to focus this work, for now at least, on relationships within and among Caldwell members and friends.

Two related initiatives and opportunities that have come our way. Caldwell has entered a five-congregation group, representing African-American, Latino and white Presbyterians, that will worship and fellowship together several times over the coming months. The group begins with Easter morning's sunrise service. It will gather again on Sunday, June 8, Pentecost Sunday, for joint worship and a cook-out in the afternoon. Then, on Sunday, August 10, the congregations will be invited back to Caldwell for a special worship service that lifts up the story of De Kirkpatrick and Jimmie Lee Kirkpatrick, who have recently discovered their families are connected through slavery.

**Ministry to At-Risk Teenaged Moms and Dads, from Gina Shell, leader**

The group considering mission to at-risk moms is reaching out to 4 community organizations to learn more about what is already happening to support these women and what is needed.

**Ministry Involving Central Piedmont Community College, Sheena Bossie, leader**

This team is exploring how Caldwell

*Pastor's column ... page 11*



# To the mountaintop and back

One of the group activities included a hike and a stroll through a labyrinth painted on the woodwork of an open air structure.



Caldwell women got close to the spirit - and nature, too - during their annual retreat

- We arrived at different times on Friday afternoon and early evening, picked a room and bed and settled in. We were on our own for dinner. Friday night we were asked to tell the group when in our life that we felt the most free. The answers were all over the place and very interesting. I suggest you ask yourself this question and then to others to see how different most of the answers are. It's a great question. We then proceeded to delve into our annual ice cream social. Gallons of all kinds of ice cream and toppings galore graced the big table. Was it awesome? What do *you* think?

- On Saturday morning after breakfast, made and brought by some our group, we walked to a larger facility for the morning program led by our electric, dramatic, incredible EVIE. Oh, how we are blessed! The subject centered around the many faces of shame and the difference between healthy shame and toxic shame. Someone called it "very deep" and tears were shed, but so much was learned and discovered about this human emotion. It was excellent.

- Saturday afternoon was designated as free-time. Some of us hiked Lookout Mountain, some shopped, some slept and some walked the Prayer Path.

- Dinner of lasagna casseroles, salads and baked garlic bread, again brought by some of our generous group members, beat any Italian restaurant that I know of. Many had seconds and thirds.

- The Saturday night program was led by our very talented and creative Beth Van Gorp who taught us how to make necklaces with handmade and store bought beads. The handmade beads were made with strips of magazine paper, wrapped around a skewer and then varnished before they were removed from the skewer. They were then



Beth Van Gorp models some of the bead work jewelry hand crafted at the Women's retreat.

*Continued ... page 10*

**Wayne Russell** bears treasured gifts for visitors and guests on Palm Sunday.



The beautiful Maundy Thursday service was followed by the solemnity of a 24 hour Prayer Vigil.

**Carl Brinson** said he prayed for "... peace ... for injustices that are so rampant in our society today, and for the thankfulness for this body of believers and for people who will take time out to pray."

### Two days of Palm Sunday

In addition to its regular Palm Sunday service, Caldwell also hosted a Casita "Palm Sunday on Saturday" worship service for our Latino brothers and sisters.

The service was planned specifically for the children by the Casita moms to incorporate multiple Latin American and Presbyterian Lenten traditions. They heard the Bible story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, waved their palms in a procession, and made traditional crosses out of palm leaves and flowers.

**Filiberto Moran** offered the message focusing on gathering as a community of faith to tell the story of who Jesus is to the children. Pastor John Cleghorn joined Filiberto in the custom of blessing the children and their crosses.

- Text and photo by **Kitty Bohr**







**Making  
Connections in  
the Prayer Room**  
Each Wednesday,  
4 - 6 p.m.

## Prayer activities, vacation bible school

Wednesday night will be prayer 'activity' night, and mark your calendar for *Summer Nights at Caldwell*

The ever-adaptable nature of our prayer activities is changing. Our prayer get-togethers will now feature hour-long "specific activities" according to **Peg Robarchek**.

Those include intercessional prayer, group meditation or a visit by a guest to lead the group in prayer, said Peg. There may also be some sort of group study - including "the idea of doing a mid-week look back" at the sermon from the past Sunday in terms of "how does this apply to my life?"

The discussion, Peg said, would not be from a "theological perspective." Overall, Peg said there is "lots of room for small group" activities and the like.

Also on tap for this summer: *Summer Nights at Caldwell*, a very Caldwellian version of Vacation Bible School with activities and fellowship for children and adults.

In part, it reflects the growing needs of our growing numbers of families with children.

In that vein, families should mark these dates on their calendar:

June 26, July 10, July 24 and August 7.

Want to help? Contact **Peg Robarchek** or **Caroline Lublinkhof**.



**Rev. Steve Shoemaker** preached on a recent Sunday. "I have loved the worship here ... this community seems like an outpost in the kingdom of God."

## A domestic mission trip

Caldwell members have extended the church's mission as far as Guatemala - and extensively at the local level, too - and now some thoughtful consideration is being made toward a domestic mission trip as well. We are, after all, a missional church.

Although nothing has been decided at this point, conversations about when, where and how are going on right now.

Leading the discussion is **Mike Watson**, who is soliciting input from anyone who is interested in whatever the mission trip turns out to be. Among the possibilities yet this summer: a trip to Koinonia Farm in Georgia.

If you are interested in helping to expand Caldwell's mission elsewhere, email Mike at [mwatson64@carolina.rr.com](mailto:mwatson64@carolina.rr.com).

# What are you **Praying for?**



*For me to be at peace. I might also need to help others to be at peace at what is ...*

**Fred Powers**



*I'm praying for my aunt and her dog who died a year ago, and my family.*

**Isaiah Lawrence**



*For good health, then for the Lord, and to be happy and treat everybody right.*

**GW**



*Peace at every level. Worldwide, for myself and friends. I always go back to that.*

**John Taylor**



*Equality ... just that everybody can be accepted in the world so that everybody has a place in life.*

**Heather Newgreen**



*I'm praying for unity in our nation, I'm praying for a solution in the Crimea and I'm praying for unity in our church.*

**Manley Roberts**



*Peace in the world and for all the monarchs in this world who want to take more than they need ... and for God's love for all of us.*

**Marilyn Rowland**



*I lost my partner a couple of months ago and I'm finding myself and reconnecting with God.*

**Rick Kinder**



*I'm praying just for the country and the safety for all of our soldiers abroad.*

**Brian Carter**



*I pray for my parents who are elderly but in good health ... I think God has set a plan for me to get back with my family.*

**Jean Musa**



*I think, in the midst of lots of change in our city, I'm praying that all of us will have peace and discernment about where the spirit is leading us.*

**Diane Mowrey**



*I'm praying for my grandson and hope he finds his way. And I hope these crazy Republicans soften their hearts to help poor people.*

**Brenda Campbell**





**Ron Wright** and **Tony Nicastro** on a recent Sunday. “We’ve been coming for the past few months. Oh man, it’s a special place. We’re thinking of making a commitment. We like the inclusiveness,” said Ron.



**Kristin Holler** and **B.J. Checket** have visited regularly as of late.



“I really like Caldwell,” said **Jessica Flood** of New York. “It’s different from anything I’ve seen in church before.”



The intrepid Habitat crew on the job: (L to R) Sheena and David Ashley, Lisa Raymaker, homeowner Tek Thapa, Ellissa Hunt, Scott Creigh, and Kate McKenzie. It's a great way to spend a Saturday helping others.

Caldwellians never hesitate to roll up their sleeves and get to work around the house - not theirs - but the dream homes of others.

### Caldwell helps create another home ...

It was another typical Saturday for Caldwell volunteers - priming walls, installing attic steps and picking up the grounds of yet another **Habitat for Humanity** home. But that's part of our mission to the community: helping to build homes for those who need shelter and housing stability. Caldwell has been performing such service for many years (and it's never too late for you to become involved).

Why  
we  
build  
homes

**Ellissa Hunt:** I guess I'm grateful for everything I have. If we help other people, it makes us more connected as humans ... they need our support and we should not ignore people who need our help.



**Scott Creigh:** I like to help out in the community. It's good. It's helping people who are less fortunate than me and don't have a home to go to every night like I do.

### Mecklenburg Ministry Events Calendar

## Food for Thought: Council for Children's Rights

<p><b>Thursday, May 15</b></p>	<p><b>Food for Thought: Mindfulness - Council for Children's Rights</b>                  May 15, noon - 1 p.m. Covenant Presbyterian Church  <b>Dr. Susan Campbell - Council for Children's Rights</b>                  Register for lunch at <a href="http://www.meckmin.org">www.meckmin.org</a> or 704-565-5455</p>
	<p>For questions, visit Mecklenburg Ministries Website at <a href="http://www.meckmin.org">www.meckmin.org</a>, or call email Marion Idol at <a href="mailto:cmmsidol@carolina.rr.com">cmmsidol@carolina.rr.com</a>.</p>





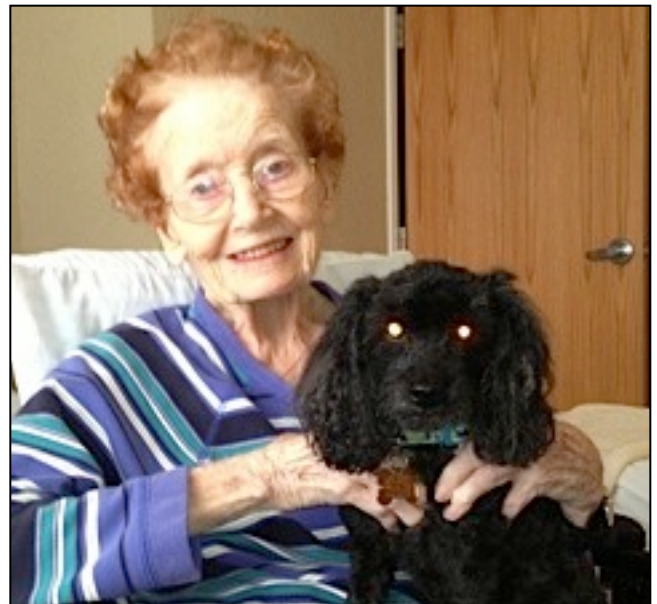
**... and fulfills another family's dream**

The home on Reid Street in west Charlotte is nestled in a neighborhood that has seen construction of other Habitat for Humanity homes. For **Tek Thapa**, married with two young children, it is a dream come true. "It's very nice," said Tek, in between hauling loads of building materials. "This opportunity is good. I like this house." As for Caldwell volunteers, "They're nice ... and they work good."

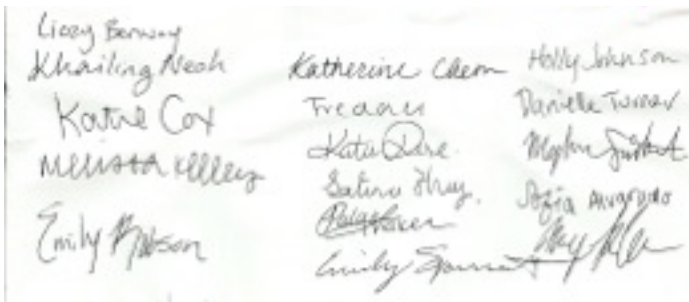
The new homeowners must pitch in on much of the construction. Their sweat equity is a valuable contribution to their new life.

The church had two collegiate groups visit us to help with building projects. One of those - the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority from Case Western Reserve University - sent us this wonderful note signed by the students:

*Thank you so much for allowing us to stay at the church! We really appreciated it and could not have contributed to Habitat without your hospitality. Additionally, your yoga classes were a relaxing end to our day on Tuesday. It takes a lot of trust to allow 18 girls from Ohio to stay at your church and use your facilities. Thank you so much for trusting us! Your kindness is admirable and welcoming. Much appreciated, Sisters of Kappa Alpha Theta*



Ginger and I have gotten to know and become good friends with **Jackie Abernathy** ... and now our dog Sadie is too! On a recent visit, we took Sadie and she snuggled right up in Jackie's lap. It felt wonderful to share Sadie with Jackie. They are both people we love very much. Jackie's smile said it all.  
- Text and photo by **Kim Bohannon**

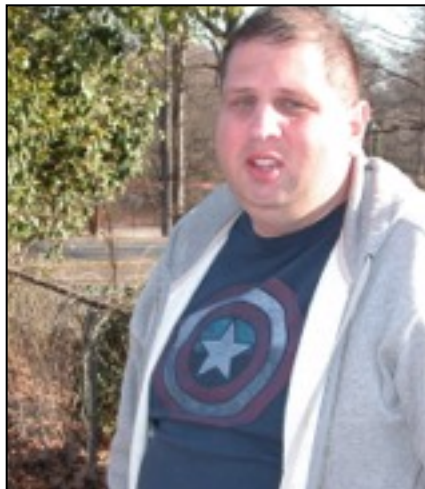


# Why we like to dig in the dirt in Caldwell's community garden



We are sharing this with the Food Bank. That's why I'm out here. This is all about our donation to those who don't have enough to eat. I also like to be out here with a good group of people.

**Carol Williams**



It's a way to give back to the church. It's nice to be out here in the weather.

**Ryan Kingston**



It's just just being a part of the Caldwell family. I come from a long line of farmers so the dirt is under my nails.

**Greg Shell**

*It's never to late to help in the garden. Most gardeners tend to their plots at approx. 9 a.m. on Saturday mornings. No experience necessary.*

### Women's Retreat from page 3 ...

strung with other beads, producing jewelry that was beautiful and unique. Look around Caldwell events and worship and you'll notice women wearing them. Thank you, Beth!

■ Throughout the weekend, Janet Blanchard blessed us with her drums and her giant basket filled with all kinds of instruments. We all chose one and shook, rattled and rock & rolled. Such fun!

■ Up early Sunday morning, Evie led us in a soul-stirring, heart-stirring, heart-moving and empowering worship service. She is really an amazing woman and Caldwell is lucky indeed.

■ After a lunch of sandwiches and chips, we cleaned up, packed up and headed back home with new friends and great memories. As the saying goes, "A good time was had by all."

- By Linda Sluder





# Caldwell Good News! Bulletin Board

April		
Mon., 21	Mustard Seed	6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby Rm.
Tues., 22	ESL class Session	9 - 10:30 a.m., Price Building 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby Rm.
Wed., 23	CMA	6 - 7 p.m., Price Building, First floor
Thu., 24	ESL class	9 - 10:30 a.m., Price Building
Sat., 26	Youth gathering	3:30 - 7 p.m., Youth Room, Price Building
Sun., 27	Confirmation Class	9:45 - 10:45 a.m., Youth Room, Price Building
	Newcomer Class	9:45 - 10:45 a.m., Front Room, Price Building
	Vacation Bible School planning session	2 - 3 p.m., Front Room, Price Building
	Piedmont Courts Community	4 - 5 p.m., Front Room, Price Building

*Pastor's column from page 2 ...*  
 might partner with CPCC, the large community college whose main campus is two blocks away from ours.

**Caldwell Enterprises, Bob Metzler, leader**  
 This team is looking at how Caldwell can “teach a person to fish, rather than hand that person a fish.” In other words, how might our campus be used to encourage, enable and empower those on the margins who need to develop work-ready skills and opportunities? This might include small-scale enterprises they can start and operate. The team has begun by researching non-profit organizations that focus on job-training, readiness and small business entrepreneurship.

As you can see, these teams are working initially to get their arms around some very large and somewhat undefined possibilities for how Caldwell can innovate in ministry, using the assets we have to help build the Kingdom of God on earth. Please pray for their energy, wisdom, creativity and inspiration, and get involved if you would like.

**Church Calendar**

**Sundays**  
 9:45 a.m. - Adult Christian Education, Shelby Room  
 10:45 a.m. - Nursery is open  
 11 a.m. - Worship (including Children's Sunday School)

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**  
 Communion  
 Session receives new members

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**  
 Ten Cents a Meal Offering

**All Sundays**  
 Loaves & Fishes Collection (non-perishables in entry basket)

**Monday**  
 6:30 p.m. Mustard Seed Men's Group (biweekly)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday**  
 6:30 p.m. - Women's Book Club

**Tuesdays**  
 6:30 p.m. - Yoga, Fellowship Hall  
 7:00 Theology on Tap (biweekly)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday**  
 10:30 a.m. - Women's Circle

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday**  
 6:30 p.m. - Building and Grounds, Shelby Room

**4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**  
 5:30 p.m. - Session, Shelby Room

**Wednesdays**  
 3:45-6:45 - Contemplative Prayer, Prayer Room  
 7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice, Choir Room

**2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**  
 6:00 p.m. - Mission & Justice, Shelby Room

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**  
 6:00 p.m. - Congregational Care, Shelby

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**  
 6:30 p.m. - Worship Committee, Shelby  
 6:30 p.m. - Education Committee, Upstairs Meeting Room

**Fridays**  
 9:30-11:30 Casita de Amor Bible Study & Zumba,  
 Third Presbyterian Church  
 7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous, Shelby Room

**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday**  
 6:00 p.m. - Young Adult Fellowship

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday 12:15 p.m. - Finance Committee, Upstairs Meeting Room

**Administrative office hours**  
 Monday, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 - 5 p.m.

**Pastor's office hours**  
 Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
 Reach Pastor Cleghorn on his cell: 704-957-4511

## 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 in 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 important, we seek to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed, follow the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

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Church newsletter: Caldwell Good News!

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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Charlotte, NC 28204