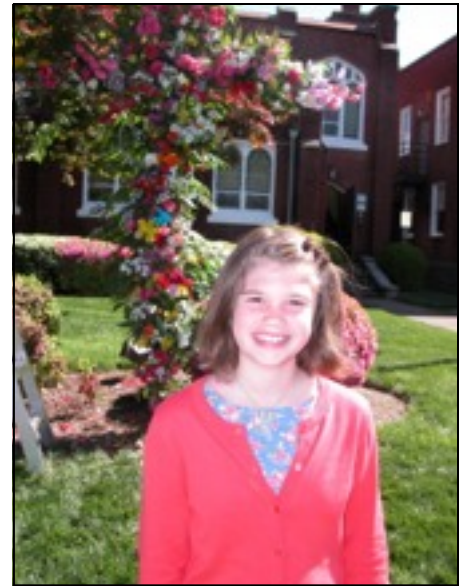
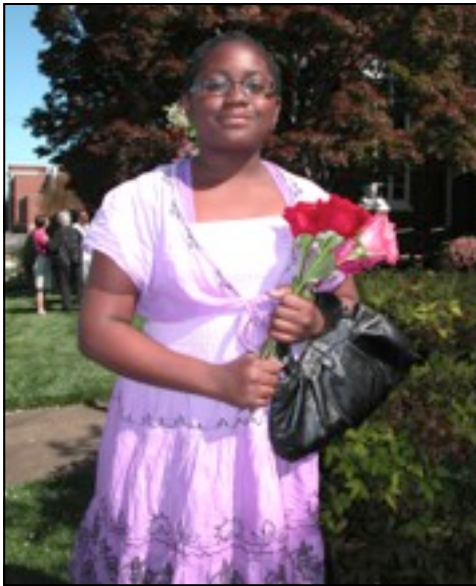
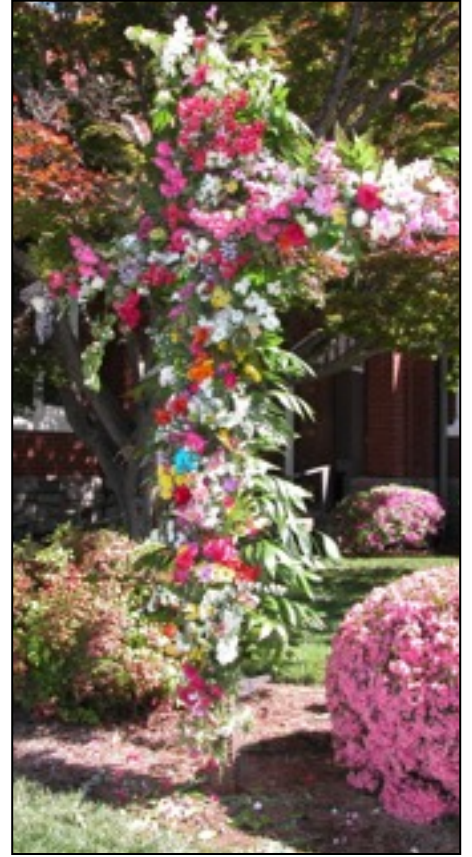


LOOK FOR FULL EASTER COVERAGE INSIDE



CGN!

Caldwell Good News!
May 2014

He is risen!

CALDWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Pastor's Column

We witness the faith of the young

In this season of Easter, the 50 days leading to Pentecost on June 8, we look and listen for the risen Christ, just as the disciples did – seeking to confirm with our own eyes and heart that the Lord is Risen. One of those signs for Caldwell comes in the form of our 2014 Confirmation Class. These five teenagers, aged 13-15, began an intentional course of study last December – probing and prompting their beliefs about God, Christ, the Bible, Church and their callings as children of God. This course concluded in each one writing a brief faith statement. With their permission, I am pleased to share those statements. In them, I think, we hear the voice of the Risen Christ in the rising generation of the church. Happy Eastertide.

**Rev. John Cleghorn****Parker Bergeron**

Being a thirteen year old girl in middle school isn't easy. Between all the stereotypes, fashion, and many standards, it's hard to stay positive. If you don't have the latest Tory Burch sandals, or Nike tennis shoes, you're not cool. There are many impossibly high standards in society we have to meet, but the only ones that I have to meet, are God's standards, and that is to be loyal to one another, and treat everyone as if they are your brothers and sisters, because they are your brothers and sisters. Sure having all of the latest fashion trends would be nice, but none of that matters, and none of that will make you happy. Only you can do that, and God can help you get there.

I believe in God, the maker of heaven, earth and all things beautiful in the world. I understand who God is in my life because when no one else seems to understand me, and listen to my feelings, no matter how crazy they are, he is always there, listening, and comforting me. I believe that the bible is true, and a word of God. The bible is in our life to remind us that whenever we feel defeated, we read the bible, and become closer to God and learn to make the best of the situation, no matter how hard it may be. I belong to God and he gives me strength, and allows me to live the wonderful life I am destined.

Believe it or not, God seems to be mostly present at school, when real life situations come up. When there's a fight, do you run up, and encourage it, or stay back and tell your friends to stop yelling? Or when you hear people talking rudely about someone, do you laugh with them, or tell them that's not nice? Situations like this help me understand the temptations in life, and the right and wrong way to deal with them.

God lets me understand the beautiful things in life, and why they really matter. Life is too short to make bad decisions, and have regrets, because you will never be able to go back and change them. God will always be there for me, and even though my faith will always be changing along my journey, I will always rely on God and have faith in him.

Caldwell Good News!

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**Destiny Gloyd**

Writing this faith statement really took a lot out of me. Actually thinking about what I believe and what this church means to me was a lot. I have never really been a big religious person, but I have gone to church basically my whole life. It really wasn't till last year till I liked to go to church.

A lot of people at the church don't really know me to well, but this past year I have been going through a very deep depression, my attitude, personality, and ways have changed. I felt like nobody liked or loved me, that I couldn't talk to anyone, and I was just all by myself. Until I really started to understand God more. One thing that I would do was go on the internet and search up good quotes that make me happy and give me positivity.

Destiny Gloyd ... next page

Destiny Gloyd ...

Another thing I've been doing is started to read the bible, I would read it when I felt like I was headed to the wrong path, to seek guidance, and when I was confused. When I would go out on the field or to a competition I would say a prayer to Jesus. Honestly when I danced I felt nobody was watching me, but Jesus. If I messed up, forgot apart of my routine, or fell, I felt like Jesus was there saying, "It's ok Destiny. Just get back up everything is going to be alright." Although I feel that Jesus is with me when I dance I also wanted to say what this church means to me.

Ever since I've been going to Caldwell it's been a blessing. It's been helping me with all of the stress and negative energy that has surrounded me. But also when I go to Caldwell, it's the people, the love, support, honesty, friendships you make and guidance you get from the church is unbelievable, and I appreciate that very much.

I believe that in my journey with the Lord everything that he has planned for me is great. I feel that every time I go to church, read the bible, and pray to him that I get closer to him. The more years that pass by in my faith journey I feel that he is going to bless me with all happiness, positivity, and love for a great life.



**Jermaine
Johnson Jr.**

I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior because He died on the cross for all my sins. My sins were caused by all the mistakes that I made. Jesus is the Son of Mary and Joseph. Mary had Jesus my Savior sent to her from my Lord. Jesus will always be by my side when I call on him, and Jesus will always be beside me.

I believe that God is with me through my ups and downs. I see God and feel God through the eye of my heart. I especially feel God through sports when I run and move. I believe that I am a child of God. Therefore, in my journey of life, God will see me through my struggles.

I believe the Holy Spirit lives inside me. The Holy Spirit helps me to understand the challenging bible. I believe that church matters because it is a place where we come to worship and connect. I love my church family because they are a bunch of fun and they care.



Gabe Russell

First and foremost I believe that God loves us. I believe that God is our father and our creator. I believe that God knows us more than anyone else even ourselves. He walks with us every day throughout our lives. He is not however at our beck and call; it is not his job to fulfill every whim we have. I do believe though that there is always a plan in which we will be just fine. I believe that God is forgiving. As humans we are all imperfect to the extreme, but I believe that you can never stray too far; there is no limit to the grace of God. I believe that Jesus is fully human and fully God; he understands what it is like to be human because he walked this earth as a man; however, as God he has more insight than man ever can or will have. I believe that Jesus died on the cross so that we may have eternal life.

I believe the Bible is a guide but not an instruction manual. It leaves a lot of room for interpretation, but also for user error. I believe that the Bible is a source of advice for all situations in life. I do not think the Bible was meant to be used to degrade and beat people down. There is no one universal understanding of the Bible; everybody's interpretation of the Bible is slightly different and there is no way to be entirely sure of who is right.

I believe the church is an important part of Christianity. The church keeps us on track; it holds us accountable and forces us to focus on God once a week. It is also a support during troubling times, a second family that will always be there to pick you up when you fall. I believe the Church is capable of being wrong. It is after all made of humans who have always been and always be imperfect. In the end God will be your judge and have the final say, not the church. I believe the church should be always changing, they should adapt as new issues/solutions arrive and as society changes. Tradition is not bad though and if the Church were to change completely it would no longer be the Church. The important thing is to keep God at the center of it all.

As Christians we are God's hands and feet on earth and God calls us to be ambassadors of love to the world and its people. We are called to help those who are in need. As people of God we should work toward justice and equality. We should love God with everything we have.

Gabe Russell ... page 5



Rev. Evie Landrau

As a pastor, I treasure these opportunities and consider them holy ground.

One year anniversary coming up!

On June 11, 2014, I celebrate my one year anniversary as the Associate Pastor of this wonderful church family. Throughout this year, I have had the awesome privilege of getting to know many of you in very special ways. Building relationship with each of you has been a blessing to me. We have given each other permission to enter the sacred spaces of life through worship, Bible study and fellowship. As a pastor, I treasure these opportunities and consider them holy ground.

Ministry at Caldwell has been both challenging and rewarding in ways that have shaped my own faith journey. My faith has been stretched toward God as I have seen your faith and perseverance in the Lord stretched too. I have been brought to tears as brothers and sisters have shared their testimonies with me. Most importantly, I have been transformed by the opportunity and privilege of planning and participating in worship with this community on Sundays. Thank you!

Furthermore, ministry at Caldwell has been like an adventure! From week to week, we do not know what to expect. This aspect of ministry has taught me Divine Flexibility. When we walk in Divine Flexibility, we cannot place God in a box because the Holy Spirit is always doing things differently. Walking with you all has stretched me and enabled me to gain new insight on what it means to flow in the Spirit of flexibility. For instance, the flow of God can be like a river whose pattern is steady, yet never identical on any given day. The Lord helps us to open our lives to Divine flexibility and each other in ways that help us become partners in ministry with Jesus on the journey. Jesus comes along side us and helps us to break rigidity and sets us free to a life of healthy adventure in the Church and community.

When I wake up each morning, I breathe deeply, thank God and wait to hear the next adventure with the Triune God and my beloved community at Caldwell.

Thanks be to God!



New comer classes continue on Sunday mornings. The **Rev. Diane Mowrey** leads this particular class on a recent Sunday morning. "We were looking at who was Calvin and a brief overview of the development of Presbyterianism. They were interested and seemed engaged and some were taking notes. It's interesting because we had a range of people," including a former Methodist minister. "It's a microcosm of our diverse congregation," she said.

Who is that on the cover of CGN? In the bottom row of photos are, left to right, **Tatyanna Montgomery**, **Linda Shenton** with her 95-year-old mother **Ruth Shenton**, and **Olivia Zavadil**, the granddaughter of **Ann Alford**. On the ladder is **Jim Schick** and lending support is **David Ashley**.



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

Sermon discussions, music and more

The Prayer Room will be a busy place this summer, with a special offering each Wednesday night from 5:30-6 p.m., plus a new sermon discussion group every other week.

If you've ever left church on Sunday deeply inspired by a sermon and challenged to apply the message to your life, join us bi-weekly this summer for Living the Sermon, a new discussion group from 6:15-7:30 p.m. in the Prayer Room. We'll have copies of the sermon to study, ask questions and share our thoughts.

Living the Sermon begins on June 4 and will be every other week. Use the clip and save calendar in this month's edition of *Caldwell Good News!* to keep track of this and other activities throughout the summer.

In addition, each week in the Prayer Room will now have a special focus from 5:30-6 p.m., including intercession, group meditation, scripture-based meditation, music and a special guest to lead us in prayer on the fifth Wednesday in July.

On the first Wednesday of each month (June 4, July 2 and August 6), the focus in the Prayer Room from 5:30-6 p.m. will be intercessory prayer. Show up to engage in very intentional prayer for members of your Caldwell family or drop by for one-on-one prayers for your special circumstances.

On the second Wednesday (June 11, July 9, August 13) drop by from 5:30-6 p.m. for group meditation, a time to learn to let go of whatever the day has brought and restore yourself. You'll find this restorative and simple, even if you've never meditated before. Third Wednesdays (June 18, July 16, August 20) feature Lectio Divina, scripture-based meditation with Taize meditative music the fourth Wed.

Gabe Russell ...

Finally I know that my beliefs can change, they are not set in stone. By the day I die my beliefs may have changed drastically because of experiences I have not yet had. While most of my basic ideas and principles will likely remain, the way in which I apply them may change.



Jett Russell

Jesus, the son of God, is our Lord and Savior. He died for my sins. He was sent to Earth and became human. He was here to teach us how to live, but most important, Jesus died for our sins so we could go to Heaven. He was nailed to the cross and our sins were nailed there with him. He asked God to forgive them. That may be for the people there, but could also be for all people. Accepting Jesus as my Savior and living a good life will be rewarded with going to Heaven and living with my Lord for eternity.

In Romans 12:12, we read "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." I see my faith in this way. I have hope in knowing that I will one day live in Heaven. One thing my parents taught me was to pray. With faithful prayer, God does great things in my life. We give thanks before meals and have prayers before we go to sleep at night. They sure do make life easier to live.

The middle part of Romans 12:12 was to be "patient in affliction." By living in God, going to middle school is easier. I could have changed to fit in with most of the kids there by cursing, using sexual terms, or any number of things. I chose not to be that way. I must say, "being, patient in affliction" is hard. Things people say and do at middle school can test your patience. I can be a good example to others like Jesus was to us. His life was a way we can learn how to live.

Great things can come in threes. Being joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer are good things I can do to live a good life. With Jesus' example, living a good life, and believing that Jesus died for my sins will lead me to where I want to go and that is to Heaven. This is my faith journey; one that will have a great destination in my future.



Brenda Moricle played our wonderful church organ on a beautiful Easter morning to an appreciative congregation. “Well, you know, I love Caldwell and I love being here and love playing the organ,” she said. “There’s something about Easter here that is just glorious.”



Easter at Caldwell

It was a beautiful spring morning to attach flowers - as is our tradition - to the cross.



Isaiah and Iyanah Lawrence celebrate Easter morning





Not too many cooks in this kitchen. Jim and Angela Everitt, Woody Connette, MaryAnn Ogle and Scott Creigh prepared our Easter morning breakfast.



Peg Robarchek, Johnny Johnson and Linda Horton model Easter headwear.



Rachiel Mann and Sheena Ashley flank their mother, Linda Bossie.



What are you **Praying for?**



I'm praying for peace, praying for the homeless and our governments in cities so they will do something for the homeless and children who are starving.

Nancy Nance



What's on my mind are people with emotional struggles with depression. I have a real compassion for it. I found so much peace in my life and there's not much peace for these people.

Jean Prewitt



I'm praying for health for my friends and family, and for thankfulness for the youth and other people in this church and the 'family' that I've found here.

Jamie Hofmeister-Cline



I have some property in Tennessee that I'm trying to sell so I can be able to move here.

Linda Williams



I'm praying right now for my parents who are transitioning (in life) and for peace and unity in our community and nation.

Cathy Lum



I am praying for an end to violence and racism and hate.

Joan Kleinmann and son Eli

Mecklenburg Ministry Events Calendar

Question Bridge and Racial Equity Training

<p>Sunday, June 1</p>	<p>Mecklenburg Ministries Youth Council will visit the Harvey B Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture to view the <i>Question Bridge: Black Males</i>, an exhibition that explores challenging issues within the black male community by instigating a transmedia conversation across the geographic, economic, generational, educational and social divisions of American society. 2 - 4 p.m. Meet at the Gantt Center. Register at www.meckmin.org or 704-565-5455.</p>
<p>Tues. - Wed. - Thur. June 17, 18, 19</p>	<p>Student Racial Equity Training Youth of color are arrested, charged as delinquents, incarcerated, suspended from school, removed from their families and placed in foster care at significantly higher rates than their white peers. Why? Students will take an interactive journey to explore how we can all contribute to a community where all youth reach their potential. This workshop is free and limited to 40 students. Priority registration ends on Fri., June 6.</p>
<p>For questions, visit Mecklenburg Ministries Website at www.meckmin.org, or call email Marion Idol at cmmsidol@carolina.rr.com.</p>	

Stories of Godly Play

The church has always depended on oral traditions, conveying stories from past millennia that explain who we are, how we started, and why we value things like justice, mercy, and love. In its own way, the Godly Play program for young children at Caldwell carries this torch.

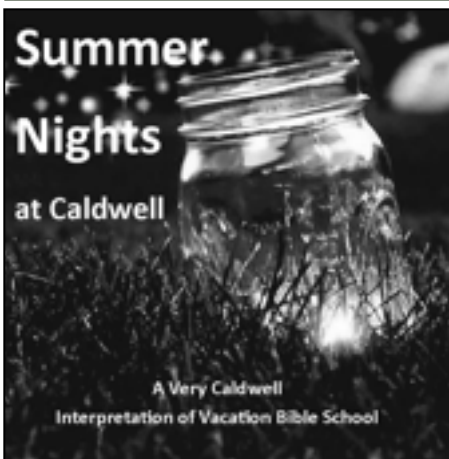
Every Sunday the congregation says, "May the Lord be with you there," and the children reply, "May the Lord be with you here." For the younger children, the place that we call "there" is the Godly Play room. The doorkeeper lets the children into the sacred space. Then, the children listen to adult storytellers, who share tales from the Bible, supplemented by pictures and figurines. Then, the children have a chance to play, be artistic, or otherwise offer a creative response to the story. Godly Play shows us what it might mean to "change and become like children" – to respond freely and creatively, in the way most meaningful at the moment, to what we learn about God and being God's people.

We are so grateful for our regular Godly Play doorkeepers and storytellers, who include **Jeff Mitchiner, Doreen Byrd, Sheena Ashley, Michele Birch, Elise Deal, Joe Lublinkof, and Beth Van Gorp**. As we prepare for the 2014-15 school year, we hope even more Caldwell folks can contribute their time and talent to the important storytelling time for our young children.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. (Matthew 18.3-5)



If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Elizabeth Ireland** (elireland@gmail.com) or 704-609-7211 or **Jimmy Squibb** (jjsquibb@gmail.com) or 304-639-6365. (Story and photos by Elizabeth Ireland.)



'Seek the common good ...'

In his baccalaureate address (*Common Good in Uncommon Times*) **Pastor John Cleghorn** told Queens University graduates to "Seek the common good, rather, by stepping out of your comfort zone on a regular basis. Seek the common good by putting others' needs above your own - by voting for school bonds even if you don't have a child in public schools, by pouring your sweat equity in with the homeowners-to-be on a Habitat House or by speaking truth to power when necessary, whether it be a corporate or government power, even if it's uncomfortable, because silence otherwise is only tacit approval."

Not your parents' Vacation Bible School

When the discussion began about planning Vacation Bible School for Caldwell, it quickly became clear that this would not be Your Parents' VBS. This would need to be a very Caldwellian version of the traditional summer activity for children.

First, it would be intergenerational - not limited to children.

Second, it would be inclusive - open to our campus partners and other groups.

Third, it would be throughout the summer and in the evening instead of confined to one week during the day, so more people could participate.

Scheduled on four Thursday nights in June, July and August, Summer Nights at Caldwell will include time for eating, playing, singing and experiencing a Bible story in a way you've never imagined it. Here's what the schedule will look like:

5-6 - Pick-up sports in the park or gym

6-6:30 - Light dinner

6:30-7 - Interactive Bible story and singing for all ages

7-8 - Activities & Fellowship

8-8:30 - Closing Prayer & Song

Each night will have a different theme, from celebrating diversity to encouraging creativity. So mark your calendars now to be part of Summer Nights at Caldwell:

Draw the Circle Wide will be the theme for Thursday, June 26. Our friends from Casita de Amor and the Bilingual Preschool will be part of planning an international night that will celebrate all kinds of diversity, first by looking at what the Bible says about diversity.

Front Porch Night will be Thursday, July 10. Storytelling, games and crafts will connect the generations as we enjoy the old-fashioned summer tradition of gathering on the front porch. (Hint: Homemade ice cream will be involved.)

Lights, Camera, Action will be Thursday, July 24, will give us time to share our talents.

Festival, an end-of-summer music festival, will be Thursday, August 7.

Want to be part of making Summer Nights at Caldwell memorable? Contact Peg Robarchek (coachpeg@aol.com) to find out how you can help out.



A group of Caldwellians who attended the play *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* by Stephen Adly Guirgis together on May 3 at Carolina Actors Studio Theatre. Pictured are Felicia Pine's guest, Yvette Wilson, Elise Deal, Beth Van Gorp, Marilyn Rowland, Felicia, Jimmy Squibb, Elizabeth Ireland, Anne and her husband, Jonathan Eidson. Felicia put out the invitation to see this play and discuss afterwards to all on the church yahoo group, and promises to continue sounding the call for similar events.

By Anne Hunter Eidson

Caldwell Good News! Bulletin Board

May		
Mon., 19	Women's Book Club Mustard Seed	6 - 8 p.m., location TBA 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby Rm.
Tues., 20	ESL class	9 - 10:30 a.m., Price Building
Wed., 21	CMA	6 - 7 p.m., Price Building, First floor
Thu., 22	ESL class	9 - 10:30 a.m., Price Building
Sun., 25	Newcomer Class Vacation Bible School planning session Piedmont Courts Community	9:45 - 10:45 a.m., Front Room, Price Building 2 - 3 p.m., Front Room, Price Building 4 - 5 p.m., Front Room, Price Building
Tues., 27	ESL Class ESL teacher luncheon Session Theology on Tap	9 - 10:30 a.m., Price Building 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Price Bldg. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby 7 - 8:30 p.m., location TBA
Wed., 28	CMA	6 - 7 p.m., Price Building, First floor
Thu., 29	ESL class	9 - 10:30 a.m., Price Building

June		
Sun., 1	Piedmont Courts Community	4 - 5 p.m., Front Room, Price Building
Mon., 2	Mustard Seed	6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby Rm.
Wed., 4	CMA	6 - 7 p.m., Price Building, First floor
Sun., 8	Newcomers lunch Piedmont Courts Community	12:30 - 1:30 p.m., location TBA 4 - 5 p.m., Front Room, Price Building
Tues., 10	Theology on Tap	7 - 8:30 p.m. location TBA
Wed., 11	Mission & Justice Comm.	6 - 7:30 p.m., Shelby Room

Church Calendar
<p>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)</p> <p>1st Sunday Communion Session receives new members</p> <p>2nd Sunday Ten Cents a Meal Offering</p> <p>All Sundays Loaves & Fishes Collection (non-perishables in entry basket)</p> <p>Mondays 6:30 p.m. Mustard Seed Men's Group (biweekly)</p> <p>3rd Monday 6:30 p.m. - Women's Book Club</p> <p>Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. - Yoga, Fellowship Hall 7:00 Theology on Tap (biweekly)</p> <p>2nd Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - Women's Circle</p> <p>3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m. - Building and Grounds, Shelby Room</p> <p>4th Tuesday 5:30 p.m. - Session, Shelby Room</p> <p>Wednesdays 3:45-6:45 - Contemplative Prayer, Prayer Room 7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice, Choir Room</p> <p>2nd or 3rd Wednesday 6:00 p.m. - Mission & Justice, Shelby Room</p> <p>2nd Thursday 6:00 p.m. - Congregational Care, Shelby</p> <p>3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m. - Worship Committee, Shelby 6:30 p.m. - Education Committee, Upstairs Meeting Room</p> <p>Fridays 9:30-11:30 Casita de Amor Bible Study & Zumba, Third Presbyterian Church 7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous, Shelby Room</p> <p>2nd Friday 6:00 p.m. - Young Adult Fellowship 3rd Friday 12:15 p.m. - Finance Committee, Upstairs Meeting Room</p> <p>Administrative office hours Monday, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 - 5 p.m.</p> <p>Pastor's office hours Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Reach Pastor Cleghorn on his cell: 704-957-4511</p>

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.

Church newsletter: Caldwell Good News!

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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Charlotte, NC 28204