

Caldwell Good News!

A Monthly Publication of Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church

September 2011

‘Women of the Bible’ now through November 20

182 women are mentioned by name in the Bible. 17 such women will be studied in adult Sunday school

The **Women of the Bible** are on tap for discussion now through mid-November in each week’s **adult Sunday school** class.

Although only two books of the Bible are named after women (**Ruth** and **Esther**), there is no shortage of biblical scripture for the class to review.

Class leader **Helen Hull** says attendees will look “at the narratives of different women in the Bible and consider what we all - women and men - can learn about discipleship from their stories.” The women under discussion may have lived in a different time, Helen told the class “We will find some similarities but some differences, too.”

One such story is of Ruth, a short four-chapter book from the **Old Testament**. Ruth is the daughter in



Adult Sunday school members discuss the Book of Ruth during the first of many weeks of classes devoted to women in the Bible. The class is open to women and men.



Ginger Dickerson reads along with the adult Sunday school class. Life Lessons From Women in the Bible is the devotional used by the class.

law of **Naomi**, and the class of 17 took turns in reading the brief chapters, followed by lively discussion about the conflicts presented as well as Naomi’s penchant for procedure and ritual - and the impacts on Ruth.

The class will use the devotional guide *Life Lessons From Women In the Bible* by **Rhonda Harrington Kelley**. Helen emphasized that while women are at the core of the nearly two-month focus of the class, the hour-long sessions (9:45 - 10:45 a.m. in the Shelby Room) are open to Caldwell members and guests.

This particular Sunday school class began with an open discussion on the definition of faith which includes this observance from Hebrews: “The substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen.”

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The Blessed Busy-ness of Autumn

Pastor's Message

Sometimes, busy-ness gets in our way and keeps us from the peace we need to let our souls settle and our minds and hearts to focus on God. This issue of CGN! Is a portrait of a different kind of busy-ness, the blessed busy-ness of the body of Christ hard at work in the vineyard of our God. I hope you will take time to read every word and take in every image.

Throughout the issue, you will find notes of key dates and activities. At risk of leaving some out, let me highlight just a few so that you can put them on your calendar.

- Sunday, Oct. 2: We will kick off our annual **Discipleship Campaign**, which will run through Oct. 16. This is also a special day in the history of this church as the Belk family will hold the first part of its

“homecoming celebration” by joining us for worship.

- Saturday, Oct. 8: Our **Annual Fish Fry**. Come and see how God works through cod and croaker and other delicacies to grow and feed the church.
- Tuesday, Oct. 11: Support **Veronica Rogers** as she completes the process of preparing for her ordination. In a Presbytery meeting that begins at 10 a.m., Veronica will preach and stand for her examination. The meeting is at Siler Presbyterian Church. Upon her successful completion of this step, she will move toward ordination as Associate Pastor at Caldwell on Nov. 13.
- Oct. 14-16: The Caldwell **Men's retreat** in Montreat. Oct. 16 is also the day of the **CROP Walk** to alleviate hunger and is Commitment Sunday for turning in all pledges of time, talent and financial treasure for 2012.
- Sunday, Oct. 30: Bilingual worship with our friends from the **Bilingual Preschool**, with a covered dish with them to follow.
- Sunday, Nov. 6: Joint worship with our sister congregation Bread of Life.
- Sunday, Nov. 13: Veronica Rogers' ordination.

Thanks be to God for such blessed busy-ness in the body of Christ!

A Name and a Look for Elizabeth's Caldwell House.

With 18-months of funding in place, a group has been working hard to expand our ministry to the Salvation Army shelter for homeless women, which we now call **Eliza-**



Rev. John Cleghorn

beth's Caldwell House. It's been amazing to see how people of so many different talents emerge and contribute at just the right time, in just the right ways.

I wanted to share the gifts of one volunteer in particular. Caldwell friend **Marty McKinney** has helped out here and there in the past. In August, he devoted his considerable skills as a graphic designer and marketing expert to helping us “brand” Caldwell House. With a distinct and recognizable identity, we knew Caldwell House would be able to gain deeper support in the community.



Marty's design makes such creative use of the name, finding the word “dwell” in our name and giving the words a crisp and memorable look. We will use Marty's creativity in signage and other ways to give Caldwell House a face and a voice in our community. Way to go Marty, and thank you! You can thank him at mmckinney99@hotmail.com.

*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*

Caldwell Good News!

A monthly publication of
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More than one way to support the Caldwell mission

The first of October, Caldwell members and friends will receive a letter and a pledge card for 2012. This packet also includes a booklet of Discipleship opportunities and a sign-up sheet. Our goal is 100% participation with our congregation being involved in 2012 with time, talent and treasure. Our goal is attainable if you would prayerfully consider your availability for volunteering your time and pledging whatever amount you can afford. As a church family, the hope is for all to be involved in some way with the many opportunities you will find in our updated booklet.

This is a challenging economic time for our country and for many in our church family. We turn to God for guidance and strength as we maintain and grow our amazing activities within our church and out in our community. We will need your help!

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.
(TNIV, Luke 6:38)

BG Metzler, CGN! correspondent

Toe the line for those in need at the Crop Walk

Did you know that over 40,000 children in Mecklenburg County alone are at risk for hunger? What can we as individuals do about it? What can we do about the fact that 1/6 of the world's population doesn't have regular access to safe, clean drinking water?

One thing that each of us can do is support the upcoming Charlotte CROP walk on October 16 at 2:30 p.m. Whether it be by walking, "spirit" walking, sponsoring, or volunteering on walk day, each one of us can make a difference.

We are so excited about the availability of online donations this year. Contributions can be made to either our team, or individual members of the team via the website. Check out our Caldwell Memorial Team page at www.churchworldservices.org/goto/caldwellpresby2011.

Please e-mail or call us to find out more about how to participate. We can show you how to set up your own page to collect CROP donations! We will also have the old-fashioned means of donating, with the envelopes, available to you as well. Caldwell, let's make a difference in our community and around the world by participating in the nation's largest CROP walk! Contact co-chairs **Marion** or **Stephen Idol** at cmmsidol@carolina.rr.com or call 704-849-2002. Last year's walkers had a great time walking for others and raising donations!

Latest Caldwell financials

As of Aug 30, 2011	YTD	YTD Budget	+/- Budget
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 170,178	\$ 174,934	-2.8%
Other Income	35,737	35,067	1.9%
TTL Operating Income	\$ 205,915	\$ 210,001	-2.0%
Expenses	\$ 197,600	\$ 210,000	-6.3%

Although we continue to live in uncertain economic times, Caldwell's financial picture is positive.

A little more than halfway through the year, tithes and offerings are 2.8% less than expected. In comparison, at the same time last year our tithes and offerings were 18% less than expected. This year, many of you have been able to contribute toward your pledges in a steady manner and it has helped tremendously in funding and managing our church ministries and operations.

The total operating budget for the year is \$315,000. While we remain cautious, we are hopeful that our ministries and committees will be fully funded by the end of the year. Thanks be to God!



Caldwell's CROP walkers in 2010 had a great time hoofing it for a good cause - and they raised a lot of money to boot.

Hands build a house, but only hearts build a home



Veronica Rogers

Recently, I saw a segment on the TV show, 60 Minutes about the lack of decent housing for many Americans. A reporter followed a school bus, first to a homeless shelter and then to a temporary housing motel.

The commentator was amazed by the number of children who got off the bus at these locations, children who do not have permanent housing. In this prosperous nation, our children deserve to have a place of consistency and stability. We owe it to our children to give them a good start in life. Yet, homeless families (including children) make up the fastest growing segment of the homeless population in the United States. Our housing crisis in America is at a critical mass. The world is experiencing a global housing crisis, not just because of economic unrest, but also because of natural catastrophes such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, droughts, fires, tsunamis, and earthquakes. Our guests at the Caldwell House have shared their stories of the impact of homelessness on their lives. Among the groups that continue to provide resources in combating this scourge of inadequate housing is **Habitat for Humanity**.

Earlier this month, I had the privilege of attending a graduation for potential homeowners who had completed a rigorous program of study. At this ceremony, one could see a microcosm of America, representing people from different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and ethnicities. They had been through countless hours of hard work, using their heads, hearts and their hands to accomplish this goal. They had learned how to secure a mortgage, how to maintain their homes, and how to protect their homes from fire. They were committed to diligence about security, safety, and energy conservation. They even had courses in taking care of their health and resolving conflict. And here they stood: proud, hopeful, and grateful, celebrating the possibility of their dream. But they were not alone in this effort.

Each time a graduation of potential homeowners is celebrated, Habitat for Humanity is also to be celebrated. With an efficient staff of employees and a dedicated cadre of volunteers, miracles are being performed every day. It is Habitat's mission that *every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live*. This mission is an example of faith in action. Habitat has built, rehabilitated, or improved over 400,000 houses around the world since its founding in 1976. This organization has reached out to over 2 million people worldwide. And each time a home is completed and a family moves in, there is concrete evidence of what can be done when a community works together in partnership to achieve an objective.

And although it takes many "hands to build a house, only hearts can build a home." It is the love for others that will motivate us to lend a helping hand to someone else. It is our love for all creation that will inspire us to take care of the environment and the universe. It is our love for God that will move us to reach out to others and to put our faith into action daily.

Rain cancels event, but 'Plan B' raises funds for Elizabeth's Caldwell House

Rain may dampen the spirits of some people, but not "Magic" **Mike Watson**.

Rain washed away a fundraiser for the women's shelter (featuring Mike's BBQ). Undeterred, he still fired up his smoker, sent an e-mail to potential buyers and sold his savory delicacies out of his kitchen.

The bottom line for the shelter: \$233. "Thanks be to God, who helped with the weather and with Plan B response," said Mike.



"*Magic Mike Watson hand packs BBQ pork and beef brisket in his kitchen to raise funds for Elizabeth's Caldwell House.*

Merry Oaks Elementary's favorite number: 1927

The next time you're in the checkout line at Harris Teeter, be sure to flash your VIC card - but be even more sure you tell the checkout staff to credit your purchases to the number **1927**.

'1927' is the store code for **Merry Oaks Elementary School**. A portion of your purchases go to support the school. Caldwell volunteers are a major source of support for the school.

'Core group' of medical volunteers for the shelter



The 'core group' of medical professionals for Elizabeth's Caldwell House include, from left, **Dave Eaker**, **Jill Aleong** (a primary volunteer for the shelter), **Sherry Bargoil**, and **Felicia Hobgood**. Eaker says another 30 potential medical volunteers have raised their hands to help.

The scope of services to our guests at **Elizabeth's Caldwell House** is growing beyond their spiritual needs.

Medical professionals from CMC Mercy and CMC Randolph will volunteer their skills on Thursday evenings at the shelter.

Dave Eaker, a community wellness nurse at **CMC Mercy**, surveyed guests to help volunteers determine what services residents need. Services could range from blood pressure tests, smoking cessation, cancer prevention and diabetes screening.

Eaker, who has done urban ministry as well as medical outreach on several African trips, says he was drawn to the shelter because "I thought I would be a good fit, and I guess I have a servant's heart to give back to the community."

Felicia Hobgood, a psychiatric nurse at **CMC Randolph**, says the Thursday evenings allow her to "donate my professional skills and meet a diverse range of folks." **Sherry Bargoil**, also a community wellness nurse, will kick off the first official night as a "visiting" nurse on September 29.



Luca Denison reminds other youngsters and their parents that Caldwell offers nursery care during Sunday morning worship services.

The nursery is located adjacent to the Shelby Room. Please ask any usher for directions.

Caldwell's services to families with children have grown with the addition of a nursery as well as the new Godly Play curriculum for children in regular Sunday school classes. As classes grow, so does the need for volunteers for any of our youth classes.

Mark your calendar with these Fellowship events

The **Fellowship committee** has scheduled several autumnal block-buster events that deserve to be on your calendar.

- **Saturday, October 8:** It's back - the **Fabulous Fish Fry!** Join our neighbors from Bread of Life Congregation and our guests from Elizabeth's Caldwell House. Dinner time: 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, October 30:** Bilingual families will join us Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead); for our post-service lemonade/coffee time, we will add some additional light food like chips, cheese, small sandwiches.
- **November:** Plans are in the works for a *possible* covered dish brunch meeting for Caldwell and Bread of Life women; Thanksgiving meal for women at Caldwell House.
- **Sunday, December 18** Christmas breakfast. Time TBD.

Elizabeth Hyland, CGN! correspondent.

Groups for adults, and the



The **Caldwell Women's Group** has held their first meeting after a summer break and continues to plot their year-long agenda for other monthly meetings.

Beyond meeting topics, the group is also considering a joint session with women from Bread of Life, among other activities.

The group encourages more women to join the informal gatherings (the next of which is set for Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Shelby Room). No RSVP necessary. For more information, call **Katy Hill** at 704-335-1510.

The Caldwell Women's Group meets on a recent evening. Included on the agenda for this meeting: discussion of possible topics and activities for their year of meetings. There is plenty of room for more attendees.



Mary Carol and George Michie, long time Caldwell members, incredible volunteer activists, friends to many and all-around good people, are shown outside their new abode in Black Mountain.

Lynn Watson, a recent visitor to the Michies, reports "George says their dog has adjusted easily because he used to bark at everything that moves, but not a lot moves around there." Lynn says "I think they would love to have a group come from Caldwell and make some joyful noises out in that lobby."



The Men of Caldwell also met in September, and as per the group's custom, kicked off their meeting with a shared meal. Their year is just beginning, too, and both Caldwell members and guests are invited to break bread, and share ideas, at this monthly gathering. The next Men of Caldwell meeting is set for Monday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m.

*Your presence would be very welcome. For more information, send a note to **Craig Rhodes**: Rhodes9559@yahoo.com*

e Taj Mahal of sandboxes

Thanks to the incredible energies of a budding Eagle Scout, the children at the **Bilingual Preschool** now have a new sandbox to play in. But this isn't just any sandbox: it is the Taj Mahal of sandboxes.

The sandbox is the brainchild and handiwork of **Kiley Doyle**, a soon-to-be Eagle Scout and a junior at Hough High School.

A member of the scout troop at nearby **St. Martin's Episcopal Church**, Kiley was on the lookout for a project to push him over the top for scouting's top honor when his minister mentioned the preschool at Caldwell.

Nearly 80 hours and \$2,500 later, the preschool children have a sandbox worthy of home improvement magazines and Kiley is that much closer to his final step in scouting. The sandbox is situated on a concrete floor covered by a roof to protect youngsters from the elements.

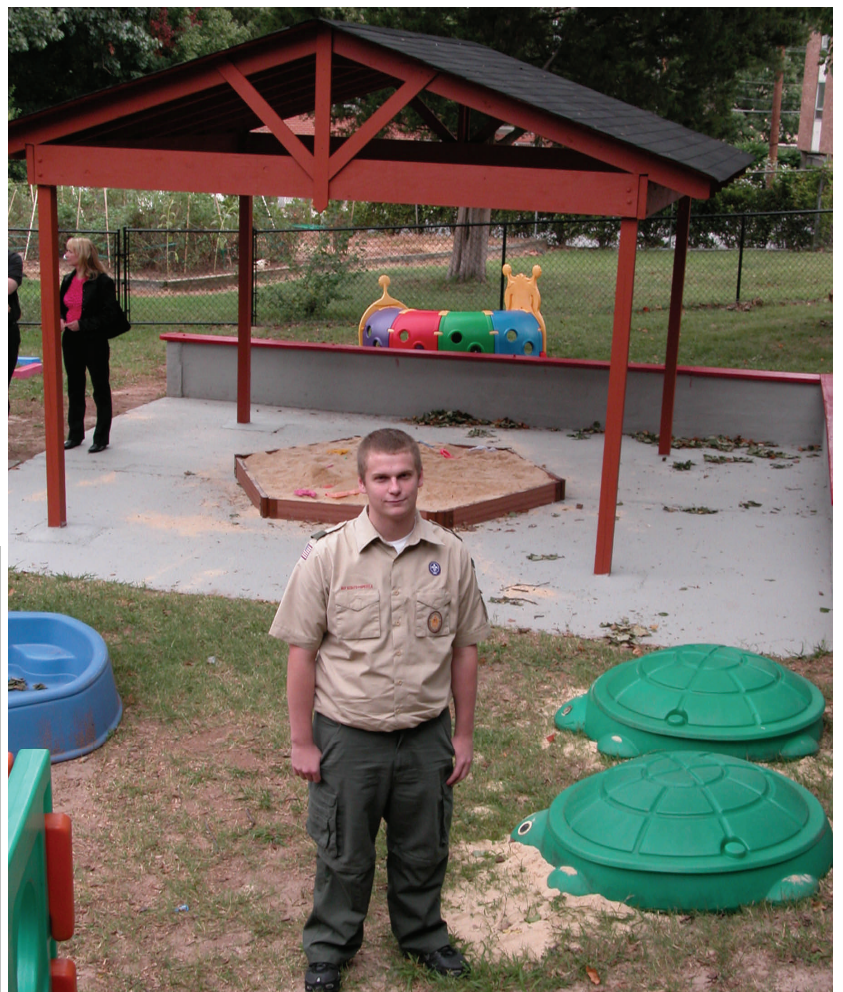
Indeed, the roof will serve double duty for Caldwell; since the sandbox is adjacent to a doorway women use for **Elizabeth's Caldwell House**, the roof will offer morning shelter to women waiting for a Salvation Army bus to take them on their day's activities.

*"I figured the children at the preschool would like it, so I chose" this project, says **Kiley Doyle**. "I mean, it was an honor for me to do this, and it meant something to me to do this."*

For his efforts, Kiley was accompanied by his family as he was honored during a Caldwell Sunday service. A fine young man helped fine young children.



*Pastor **John Cleghorn** presides over a dedication ceremony for the new sandbox built for the entertainment of children at the bilingual preschool. Kiley Doyle says he visited the site with his Scout Master - and lo and behold, a sandbox was created.*



Common meal shows Caldwell's common ground

Nothing like a delicious Sunday meal to bring Caldwellians together

The Fellowship committee put together a communal meal after recent Sunday service. Members and guests brought covered dishes - with more than enough food to share.



"Mom, c'mon, let's go." Maegan Allen -Slattery (above) can't cut the food fast enough for her daughter Dot.

Long lines (upper right) moved quickly and there was ample food for all who came hungry. It is a Caldwell practice to bring a covered dish for all to enjoy.

The whole idea of these sociable get-togethers is to promote fellowship among members and guests. Everyone is welcome. Anything that brings the Caldwell community together is a good thing. ("God invites. We welcome. All.")



Only one thing a true requirement for membership

Anyone contemplating membership at Caldwell may well have questions about our church, Presbyterianism, or a host of other issues.

Caldwell will do its level-best to make sure you are comfortable in every respect when it comes to becoming a member of our diverse, welcoming church family.

So, what are the common questions membership hopefuls might have? Here are some answers:

Q. How do I change my membership from another church?

A. If you have been baptized and have an active membership in another church, we write a letter on your behalf to that church to ask that your membership be transferred to Caldwell.

Q. Are there classes I must attend?

A. No. Classes are not mandatory. A series of new comer classes are offered once or twice a year. They can help you connect with others and learn more about Caldwell, the denomination and some of the faith's main ideas. In addition, we do hope that once you do become a member, you'll avail yourself of adult Sunday school and our many, many volunteer and mission opportunities.

Q. What if I have questions that go beyond the basic membership inquiries?

A. Great. Call Pastor John Cleghorn at 704-334-0825.

Q. When can I join?

A. New members are welcomed by the Session after the 11:00 worship service the first Sunday of every month.

Q. So, what is the one requirement for membership?

A. To believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Visitors and guests welcome; "It's a nice service...nice people"

Caldwell does pride itself on its inclusiveness and the welcoming attitude of the church as a whole. Here is what some recent attendees told *Caldwell Good News!*:

- "Welcoming would be a good word" for this church
- "It feels like home"
- "Well, I like it. I like the church"



According to **Linda and Jim Murray**, Caldwell is "A wonderful experience. It's great to be here."

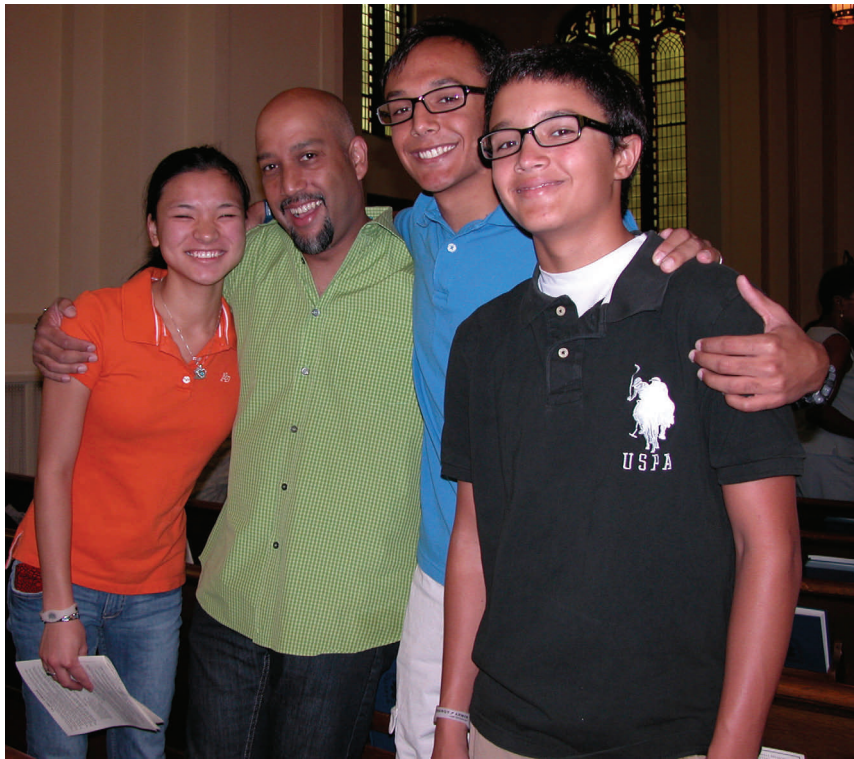


"I enjoy coming here."

William Wilson is the father of **Yvette Wilson** of Caldwell, and William can often be seen among the Sunday attendees.

"I enjoy coming here," he says. "It's a nice service with nice people. It seems to have a lot of outreach programs."

Caldwell in photos...



*It was a family affair at a recent service for **Troy Aleong**. His niece **Joyce Lau**, Troy, his God son **Roger Aleong, Jr.** and other nephew **Randy Aleong** made a long weekend of it in Charlotte with Troy and his wife **Jill**. The kids “knew how much we enjoy church and it was a good way for them to see our sermon. I just enjoyed them here,” said Troy.*



Para Caldwell La Iglesia Presbiteriana
 Con mucho amor y gracias
 por su apoyo y generosidad.
 De los niños, las familias y el personal
 del Preescolar Bilingüe de Caldwell

Bilingual preschoolers helped create a beautiful quilt in the east side of the sanctuary. The translation: “For Caldwell Presbyterian. With much love and thanks. The children, the families and the staff of the Caldwell bilingual preschool.”



Our front steps are the intersection for a lot of foot traffic on Sunday mornings.

*Caldwell’s new intern **Lisa McLennan** introduced herself to Caldwell members and guests prior to the service where she was formally announced to her new congregation.*

Caldwell Good News! Bulletin Board

COMING UP SOON...

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 26

Session, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Shelby Room

Wednesday, September 28

Zumba, 6 - 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

OCTOBER

Monday, October 3

Men of Caldwell, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, October 4

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

Wednesday, October 5

Zumba, 6 - 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 8

Annual fish fry, Fellowship Hall, time TBA

Monday, October 10

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

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

Wednesday, October 12

Zumba, 6 - 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Friday through Sunday, October 14 - 16

Men's retreat, Montreat

Wednesday, October 19

Zumba, 6 - 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Monday, October 24

Session, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 26

Zumba, 6 - 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Church Calendar

1st Monday

6:30 pm - Men's Group

2nd Monday

(Women's Circle in recess until Fall)

3rd Monday

6:30 pm - Women's Book Club

4th Monday

5:30, Session, Shelby Room

1st Tuesday

6:30 pm - Women's Group

2nd Tuesday

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

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, Shelby Room

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

All Sundays Loaves & Fishes Collection

(Non-perishables in entry basket)

Administrative Office Hours

Monday, 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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 Lake Park Nursing Center
Mailing address 830 Faircrest Drive

Miss Toby Herring Emeritus @ Eastover

Mrs. Elise Hood Legacy Heights

Mrs. Irene Kennedy 419 Clement Avenue

Mrs. Ann Ranson Legacy Heights

Mrs. Irene Brown Emeritus @ Eastover

3315 Faith Church Rd., Room 600 Indian Trail, NC 28079
Charlotte, NC 28210

3610 Randolph Rd, Memory Care Charlotte, NC 28211

11240 Ballantyne Trace Ct., F-4 Charlotte, NC 28277

11240 Ballantyne Trace Ct. Charlotte, NC 28204

3610 Randolph Rd., Room 228 Charlotte, NC 28211

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.

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Caldwell Good News (USPS 082-860) is published monthly by Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1609 East Fifth Street, Charlotte, NC 28204. Periodicals postage paid at Charlotte, NC. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1609 East Fifth Street, Charlotte, NC 28204.