



THE VOICE

CALDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006

www.caldwellchurch.org / phone: 973-226-4410 / email: caldwelum@aol.com

December 2017

**Loving God, as we enter
this Advent season,
We open all the dark places
in our lives and memories
to the healing light of
Christ.
Show us the creative
power of hope.
Prepare our hearts to
be transformed by you,
That we may walk
In the light of Christ.**

Dear Friends,

Join me on Saturday, December 2 during the Holiday Open House at the Advent Wreath Making Table! We supply the wreath forms and greens and you supply the imagination. Fun for all ages.

The next day we will bless your family's wreath at worship, supply your purple and pink candles and light all the first candles as we Bless the Advent Wreaths. This first Sunday of Advent is also when all members of our congregation are invited to hang prayer doves on the Christmas tree. As we begin our four week sojourn through the weeks leading up to Christmas, we hope to...

See you in worship!

Pastor Viv

WHAT'S AN ADVENT WREATH?

An Advent wreath's evergreen boughs form a circular shape, symbolizing continuous life, with four candles to represent the four weeks of Advent. Advent wreaths sometimes contain holly to remind Christians of the thorns in Jesus' crown when he was crucified. The center white candle is lit on Christmas Eve.



Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service

Sunday, December 24 at 5 pm



Caldwell United Methodist Church is a certified **Safe Sanctuary Congregation** with safeguards in place for the protection of infants, children, youth and vulnerable adults.



December 9

9:00 – 12:00

Messy Christmas includes
a visit with Santa, pancake breakfast,
Christmas activities and crafts

Messy Church is a fresh expression of church that welcomes kids & adults of all ages & degrees of faith. You are invited whether you're a Sunday morning regular or haven't stepped foot in a sanctuary in ages. We gather once a month, usually on Fridays, in the church gym. The vibe is fun & informal as we share a simple message, crafts & activities, a hot home-cooked meal & mission opportunities.

Save the date: January 19 for the next Messy Church

Let Your Light Shine!

We had over 60 people of all ages at October's "Let Your Light Shine" Messy Church! Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped prepare and serve our meal and assist with the activities. Thank you to Joyce Francavilla and Fairfield Farms for the very generous pumpkin donation!

It looks like Messy Church is growing! We'd like to build 2 teams to help us grow & flourish:

1. **Messy Meal Team**
(Help plan meals, recruit cooks, help serve &/or cook)
2. **Messy Craft Team**
(Help plan & prepare crafts and activities)

The idea is for many hands to make light work (and fun for all). If interested, contact Tracy Voca at 973-226-4485 (H), 973-978-9053 (C) or tmrvoca@msn.com.



facebook

Check In And Always Share Our Post With Your Friends!

Are you on Facebook? If so, you may be familiar with the feature "check in". By checking in every Sunday at church, you'll show your Facebook friends where you are. They will be able to click on Caldwell United Methodist Church' and go to our Church Facebook page. You never know, they may one day come for a visit! You can snap a photo and include that, too. Look for helpers during coffee hour to learn how.



We will once again provide gifts to local and nursing home residents. Our congregation has become extended family and they always enjoy and appreciate the love sent to them through your generosity

Take a card from the "tree" in the Narthex. **Purchase the item and return it, wrapped, by 11:00 a.m. on December 10.** Put it under the tree and check your name off the list.

The gifts will be delivered on December 11. Please call Marilyn LaFlamme a 973-901-2713 with questions.



Sunday, January 7

Please plan to stay after worship to help remove the Christmas greens.

Need Event Space?

Please be reminded that various spaces in the Church may be rented for parties, showers, meetings, classes, etc. Please contact the Church Office for details regarding guidelines, and to check availability.



If your ministry or group is planning a meeting or event, please contact the church office so it may be put on the church calendar in order to avoid any conflicts. Contact the church office at 973-226-4410 or caldwllum@aol.com.

CALDWELL FOOD PANTRY

On Sundays in December please bring **hearty soups** for the Caldwell Food Pantry. Donations should be placed in the back of the sanctuary.

Greeter Ministry

Please arrive at 9:30 and stay until 10:10. If you are unable to greet, please ask someone to take your place. We need more greeters and want to be sure that we are a welcoming congregation. Please let **Zorina D'Emilio** know if you can be added to the greeters list.

DECEMBER GREETERS

December 3	Entry	Barbara and Ken Ingra
	Narthex	Ann Calvin
December 10	Entry	Tracy Voca and family
	Narthex	Arlene Fudali
December 17	Entry	Phebe and Jack Bishop
	Narthex	Zorina D'Emilio
December 24	Entry	Lidia and Bill Ebbinghouser
10:00 a.m.	Narthex	Joan Coleman
5:00 p.m.	Entry	Rameeza Narine and family
December 31	Entry	Zorina D'Emilio and Ann Calvin

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 5	Matthew LaFlamme
December 6	Scott Plumstead
December 10	Greg Elphinstone
December 13	Lauren Crooks
December 16	William D. Carter, Jillian Crooks
December 17	Christine Waddington
December 19	Pastor Viv
December 25	Donald DeBruyne
December 26	Angelo Pezzino
December 28	Barbara Gordon

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 1, 1973	Barbara and Ken Ingra
December 17, 1972	Gail and Glenn Plumstead
December 29, 1982	Cynthia and John Rogers

PARISH REGISTER

Robert Parks entered Life Eternal on November 8, 2017. We pray for God's comfort to surround Bob's daughter, Kiersten, and family.

Congratulation to **Tim and Samantha Pierce** on the birth of their daughter, **Hayden Reen Pierce** on November 5, 2017.

**December 2017
Caldwell United Methodist Church**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					01 UMW - Set Up in Auditorium	02 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE 9am» Hanging Greens, Cookie Walk & Family Advent Wreath Making
03 10am» Advent Worship, Doves & Blessing of wreaths 1pm» Boy Scout Court of Honor-Auditorrium (Tentative)	04 10am» Advent Study- Guyn Room	05 7pm» Church Council, Trustees & Finance @ Tracy Voca;s home (90 Hatfield St., Caldwell	06 6:30pm» Bell Choir Reheasal - Sanctuary 7:30pm» Boy Scouts Troop 3 - Auditorium 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	07 10am» Men's Breakfast at Caldwell Diner	08 Set Up Breakfast w/Santa-Auditorium	09 9am» Messy Church, Advent Workshop & Breakfast w/Santa
10 10am» Christmas Cantata	11 10am» Advent Study - Guyn Room	12 10:30am» Pastor Viv- Services at Sunrise	13 6:30pm» Bell Choir Reheasal - Sanctuary 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	14 10am» Men's Breakfast at Caldwell Diner	15 Voice Deadline	16 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - sanctuary & auditorium
17 10am» A Simple Christmas Pageant	18 10am» Advent Study - Guyn Room	19	20 6:30pm» Bell Choir Reheasal - Sanctuary 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	21 10am» Men's Breakfast at Caldwell Diner	22	23
24 10am» Advent Worship 10am» Worship 5pm» Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service-Sanctuary	25 Church Office Closed CHRISTMAS DAY	26 Church Office Closed	27	28	29	30
31 10am» Worship						

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Fax: 973-226-1094

Website: caldwellchurch.org

SAFE SANCTUARY CERTIFIED CHURCH
HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE-LIFT at Academy Road Entrance
HANDICAP PARKING ON Washburn Place

FOLLOW US ON 

CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Saturday, December 2 10am-2pm Holiday Open House

*Cookie Walk, Christmas Shoppe, Family Advent Wreath Making
and Hot Dog Lunch*

Sunday, December 3 10 am Advent Worship

Hanging of Prayer Doves on Tree, Blessing Advent Wreaths, Holy Communion

Saturday, December 9 10 am Messy Christmas with Santa

Pancake Breakfast, Visit with Santa, Plenty of Christmas Crafts for all ages.

Sunday, December 10 10am Choir Cantata

Special Music, Bells, and Seasonal Readings with Diane Moser, Music Director

Sunday, December 17 10am Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 24 10am Advent Worship

Beautiful Poinsettias, Seasonal Music, A Message of Hope

Sunday, December 24 5pm Christmas Eve Candlelighting

Sunday, December 31 10am Informal Worship

*Worship around tables in the Auditorium;
Coffee, Juices and Bagels; A New Year Message*