



THE VOICE

May 2021



**“We plant
the seeds
that one day
may grow.”**

St. Oscar Romero

Dear Friends,

Forty one years ago this March 24th, Archbishop Oscar Romero, San Salvador, was assassinated as he stepped to the altar of a small chapel at a Sunday evening service. He had been active in speaking out against poverty, social injustice and torture and was on the record as lifting up the struggle of his people for basic human rights.

In his writings he reminds Christians to “step back” and view things from God’s perspective. ***“The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is the Lord’s work.”***

All around us are avenues of injustice that have so cruelly targeted various groups of people. Sometimes it seems as if the racism and sexism and ageism, etc. will never end. And it is very discouraging. The recent trial of police officer Derrick Chauvin in the George Floyd case is an example of accountability for one egregious act toward a fellow human being. It is but a small step in the direction of kingdom life and it doesn’t seem to make much of a dent in all the wrongs and injustices experienced by the folks around us.

Romero reminds us don’t be discouraged. God sees the vision and the future. The ***“magnificent enterprise”*** is just around the bend! Keep the faith; be hopeful; plant the seeds of God’s Spirit wherever you find yourself. God will do the rest.

With my love, Pastor Viv

Maxine's Music Notes

Happy May to all from your Music Director!

I'm happy to report our Caldwell United Methodist Church music update.

For the very uniquely meditative and rich Five Lenten Tuesday evenings services, we had Ed Alstrom join me on percussion, guitar, piano.

Jill Land recorded three pieces to be used for our Sunday Services and will happily be involved with more.

Ruth Carrera graciously played The Palms to carry on the tradition and we recorded piano and organ and also have a track with Wendy Large on bassoon.

Fortunately we have recordings that we're using of the lovely CUMC Choir when Ed was with you.

Please reach out if there are musicians amongst us of any age that would like to add their gifts to our service. Soon, we will be together to create our music in person!

Thanks you,

Blessings, Maxine My email is max13a@aol.com



CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS



The Trustees are pleased to announce that there is a limited amount of funds available to children who are active in our church for postsecondary education, such as colleges, universities and trade schools. Applications must be received by the Trustees **no later than May 1** to be considered for this year's scholarships. Late applications will not be considered. Applications are available by contacting the church office at 973-226-4410 or Christine Waddington at mitchsmum@aol.com



Financial Report through March 2021

Through our first three months of 2021 our expenses exceeded our income versus our projected budget by \$9,263.

Our expenses were \$1,484 greater than expected. This is due to having three payroll cycles in March. Our ministries continue to do a good job managing their expenses.

On the income side our overall giving was \$1,488 greater than our goal to date. Our Faithful Givers were \$174 greater than expected and our Pledgers were \$1,315 greater than anticipated. Our miscellaneous income was less than expected.

We received a 2nd PPP Loan for \$33,675 which was funded on February 12th. Our first PPP Loan of \$33,675 was completely forgiven and has been paid off as of March 23rd.

We have received 78% of the pledge cards for 2021 as compared to 2020. It's not too late to submit your pledge. This will help us determine what our expected pledge amount would be for 2021.

Ken Ingra will be stepping down as treasurer of the Finance Committee and Trustees as of 12/31/2021. He will provide the year end Treasurer reports at the January 2022 meeting. If the Finance Chair position has not been filled, Ken will fill that role.

We will continue to provide updates regarding our financial health throughout 2021.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries through your pledges and faithful giving.

Sincerely,
Your Finance Committee

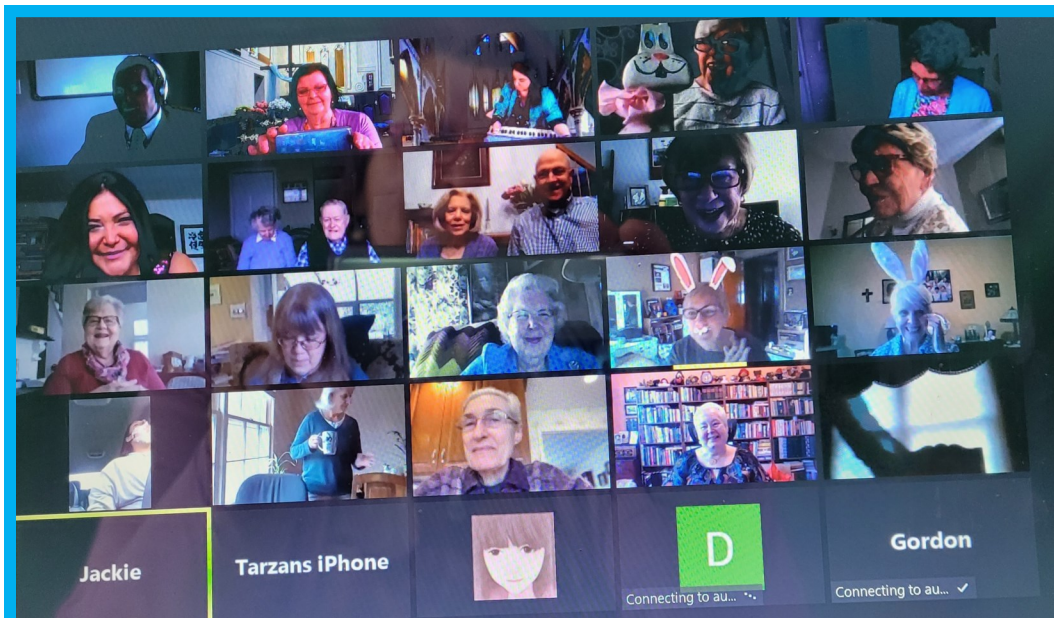


Winter is
ending and
Spring is
arriving in
Caldwell.
The blossoms
on the
cherry tree
announce the
change of
seasons
beautifully.

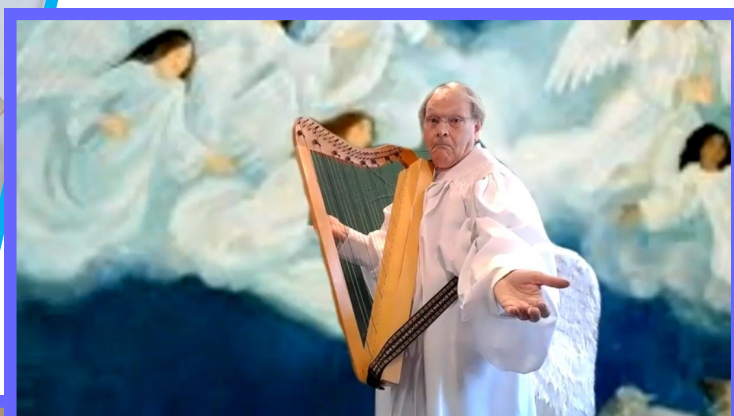


Virtual **"Passing of the Cross"** at the end of Palm Sunday worship. Each person was invited to hold up a cross.





Thank You! Park UMC in Weehawken presented this beautiful wreath made from retired hymnal pages as a “thank you” to us for sharing worship. We were blessed by them as well. Thank you!



Holy Humor Sunday ,
The Sunday after Easter
“Practicing for Heaven.”



**Palm Sunday
and Easter
Preparations**



**Ruth Carrara records
The Palms along with
Music Director Maxine
Alstrom on organ.**



May Birthdays

| | |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| May 4 | Robert Schaedler |
| May 5 | Robb McCombe |
| May 10 | Doreen Boyer |
| May 13 | Kelly Mitstifer Paige Mitstifer |
| May 15 | Nicole Pierce |
| May 20 | John Taylor |
| May 22 | Ashley Tomich |
| May 23 | Alissa Pierce |
| May 27 | Kaleigh Corbett |
| May 29 | Alexandra Craine |

May Anniversaries

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| May 20, 1972 | Doug & Cathy Wallace |
| May 20, 1973 | Pastor Viv & Robb McCombe |
| May 20, 1989 | Brett & Marybeth Mitstifer |



Church Calendar May 2021

Saturday, May 1– **Deadline for Scholarship applications**

Sunday, May 2 - at 10 AM **Zoom Worship and Communion**

Monday, May 3 - at 7 PM - **NOW Meeting**

Monday, May 10 - at 7 Pm - **Finance Meeting**

8 PM - **Trustee Meeting**

Monday, May 31- **Memorial Day Church Office Closed**

No Prayer Group

Worship at 10 AM every Sunday on Zoom

Prayer/Discussion Group, Mondays at 10 AM via Zoom

***All meetings are via Zoom**

FISH N'CHIPS

AND CHICKEN TOO !!

Saturday, June 5

5:00-7:00 PM

Caldwell United Methodist Church



ADULT \$18 CHILD 10 & Under \$14

Curbside Pickup ONLY

Benefits Mission Outreach!

PREPAID ONLY BY JUNE 1*

***Pay on our website caldwellchurch.org**

or call 973-226-4410



THE VOICE

CALDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Phone: **973-226-4410**

Website: **caldwellchurch.org**

Newsletter Editor: **Ellen Elcavage**

SAFE SANCTUARY CERTIFIED CHURCH

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE-LIFT at Academy Road Entrance

FRIEND US ON



JOIN US FOR ZOOM WORSHIP

Sundays at 10 AM

Join us Sunday mornings for joyful music, preaching and prayers and let
God change your life for the better.

Use the QR below to sign in to zoom church.

