



# THE VOICE

November 2024

## "A Protective Sealer for Our Soul"

Many years ago, my parents lived in a house with a nice wooden deck in the backyard where family members often gathered for BBQs and family time. But over time, the weather began to take its toll on the condition of the wooden deck. To prevent further corrosion and deterioration, I went to a nearby Home Depot, bought a weatherproofing sealer, and applied it to the deck. This sealer contains a chemical that protects the wood from the harsh elements. Though I didn't know the exact name of the chemical or how it worked, this layer of protection made a significant difference. The deck was safeguarded and stood strong against the elements.

The truth is, that wooden deck isn't the only thing exposed to harsh conditions. Our souls, too, are subject to "weathering"—but of a different kind. As we go through life, our souls face countless challenges that can lead to worry, despair, and weariness. From financial stress to relationship struggles to parenting issues to personal hurts, and disappointments, life is filled with situations that can frustrate and drain us, resulting in a loss of joy and energy in life. In these battles, we can start to feel like that wooden deck, growing weak and worn down. Just as the deck needed a special treatment to withstand harsh conditions, our souls need a form of protection against life's challenges. For me, that "special sealer" for the soul is the practice of thanksgiving.



In the Bible, the Apostle Paul urges believers to "give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Why encourage gratitude in every situation, especially when it's so difficult, if not seemingly impossible? It's not because gratitude always makes sense or even feels right, but because it's essential for keeping our souls resilient and hopeful amidst life's difficulties. Practicing gratitude, even for small things in tough times, acts as an antidote against the bitterness, rigidity, and despair that life's struggles can bring. Paul's call to give thanks in all circumstances serves as a reminder that gratitude is not just a virtue but a necessary practice for anyone seeking to rise above life's hardships.

For me, choosing gratitude isn't just a necessity; it's also a choice we can make in life's everyday battles. None of us can control what life brings our way, but we all have a choice in how we respond. When we choose to give thanks in "all" circumstances, it's like applying a protective sealer over our souls, helping us remain strong, resilient, and even joyful—even during life's most challenging times.

*Pastor Park*

**Tea & Coffee Social  
November 15th**



Tea & Coffee Socials are hosted once a month by Dave & Rita Whetton as a time to share fellowship and conversation with our church family and neighbors. All are welcome.

Stop by any time between 9:30 am and 12:00 noon to enjoy a complimentary cup of tea or coffee and check out the array of fresh home baked goods as well as other items for sale.

*All the proceeds from sales go to the church.*

**Happy 2nd Anniversary!**

The November 15th Tea & Coffee Social is our second anniversary and it has raised over \$2,000 to date from the sale of baked goods.

Thank you to all who have supported this monthly event.



**November Prayer Circle Dates:**

**November 12th & November 26th**

***Chant and Prayer Circles***

**the second and fourth Tuesday of each month 10:00 AM (30-45 minutes)**



***Chant and Prayer Circles*** begin with a harp meditation to calm and focus our mind on the presence of God in our midst. Scripture, chant, silence, and prayer will then draw our circle closer together and grow the Light of God within us.



**Caldwell Street Fair  
October 6, 2024**

To serve our community we provided coffee and breakfast for the rides workers and opened our restrooms to the fair goers



**Rebuilding the Parsonage Front Porch**

Work to rebuild the front porch of the parsonage was finished complete with landscaping. It looks great!







**2024 Golf Outing**

**To benefit Caldwell United Methodist Church and the West Essex First Aid Squad**

**Thank you to Ken & Barbara Ingra for organizing the golf outing and to the many volunteers who all helped make the event successful this year!**





Oasis Baby Items



be made online at njpa.org/bookdrive. Non-perishable food donations can be dropped off at the office location, unless specified as otherwise.

second floor, in Livingston. For more information about the book drive, visit [njpa.org](http://njpa.org) or call 973-969-2000.

Paymedia, L.L.C., 383 Ridgeland Ave., Suite 2A, in

The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants, Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 300, in Roseland.

### Afternoon program for middle school students offered at Caldwell United Methodist Church

**CALDWELL** - Students in grades 6-8 in Caldwell and West Caldwell are invited to participate in a new after-school program offered by the Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road.

The program - named "The HUB," which stands for Here U (you) Belong - will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting on a date yet to be determined, following the Grover Cleveland Middle School calendar.

It is meant to provide a safe and supportive space with adult supervision where students can spend time with their friends, enjoy a plethora of different activities and simply relax.

Members of the James



The Caldwell United Methodist Church on 8 Academy Road in Caldwell is offering an afterschool program for Grover Cleveland Middle School students from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays starting on a date to be determined later this fall.

Caldwell High School Key Club and National Honor Society will also be available to help students with assignments.

Registration is required and costs \$25 per semester. To reserve a seat for your child, visit <http://caldwellchurch.org/the-hub>.

### Recycle computer and electronics in Cedar Grove Saturday, Oct. 19

Residents across Essex County are encouraged to recycle their old computers and unwanted electronics from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19, at the county's public works facility, 50 West Bradford Ave., in Cedar Grove.

Items being accepted at the Computer and Electronics Recycling Day are com-

puters, monitors, printers, fax machines, scanners, television equipment, speakers, televisions, keyboards, main frames, VCRs, stereos, DVD players, toasters, irons and cellular telephones. Not being accepted are smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms.

The recycling day is open to Essex County residents

### Essex Photo Club infrared photog program, month competition in

The Essex Photo Club will hold two meetings during the month of October.

The first is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 7, via Zoom, which will feature a discussion on infrared photography led by Bob Shea. The members of the Livingston Camera Club have been invited to participate, as well.

Shea is a photographer renowned for his work in infrared photography and authored a book in 2015 entitled "Color Doesn't Exist: A Practical Guide to Infrared Photography."

He also provides free camera profiles for Light-

room and Photoblog has numerous posts on his website, [www.sheaphotography.com](http://www.sheaphotography.com).

The club will close its monthly comp of projected image 7:50 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17, in person at the Methodist Church of Caldwell.

Richard Zent will as judge, critiquing rating digital image beginner, advanced level as well as artistic pictorial class.

This is an opportunity to learn what makes a picture-worthy image.

In addition to

In The News

### ZONING: DISH Wireless to be added to Borough H

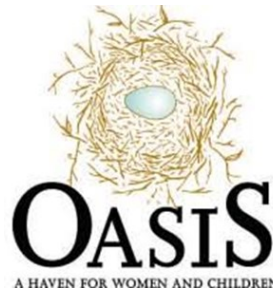
FROM PAGE 1

ings subject to the review and approval of the borough engineer and as permitted in accordance with state law.

equipment not in use shall be removed within six months of being unused. The wireless provider shall notify the borough within one month

equipment of \$50 for each application plus a legal agreement with a neutral party that would hold and disburse funds, also known

All of the towers also house New Jersey's emergency casting system to improve comm



## CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Now through December 13<sup>th</sup>

You are invited to donate new unwrapped toys and games for children in Paterson aged infant through 16. Why unwrapped? Moms, who might otherwise not have the means to shop, are empowered and given the opportunity to hand select gifts for their children.

**Simply place your gift in the bin in our sanctuary narthex.**



**Thank you for your generosity!**

Donations of baby items, dresses and 2 bins of dishes were delivered to Oasis, a Haven for women and children in Paterson in October. The delivery was met with great appreciation.



Start your holiday season off with  
a stroll down memory lane featuring  
**"The Inspirations"**  
Caldwell United Methodist Church presents  
**"A Doo Wop benefit concert"**



The Inspirations are a group of seasoned entertainers that come from all aspects of the music industry. Vocal skills comprised of Doo Wop, Classic, Big Band, and Barbershop blend their diverse skills into a unique yet classic Doo Wop sound.

**Sunday, November 24th at 4:00 p.m.**

**Caldwell UMC, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ**



**Tickets \$20 - purchase at [caldwellchurch.org](http://caldwellchurch.org) - events/upcoming events  
or by check payable to Caldwell United Methodist Church earmarked: Concert  
mail checks to Caldwell UMC, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006**

**Door prize: Original oil painting by AWARD winning artist Louise Woodcox  
Light Refreshments served**

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## November Birthdays

November 1	Abbey Pierce
November 10	Glenn Plumstead
November 13	Myrtle Connell
November 14	Dana Taylor Stelter
November 14	Tony Gazzillo
November 20	Jan Taylor

## November Anniversaries

Nov. 14, 1987	Bruce & Liz Ciccione
Nov. 5, 1988	Carole & Chris Volz
Nov. 19, 1993	Christine & Jon Waddington
Nov. 1, 2003	Bill & Lidia Ebbinghouser



## Girls' Night Out

**November 12 at 6:00 pm**

**Location: Frank's Restaurant & Pizzeria  
802 Bloomfield Ave.**

**In the West Caldwell Shopping Plaza**

**An evening out for women of the church to enjoy dinner, friendship  
& fellowship.**

**Call or email Myrtle to reserve your spot**

**973-214-3437 [myrtm3@yahoo.com](mailto:myrtm3@yahoo.com)**



**WE NEED YOUR VOICES!!** Please consider joining the choir as they present their annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 13 during the morning worship service.

This is a wonderful musical offering to usher in the Christmas season. **All voices are needed!!** **Choir practice for the Cantata will be every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary starting Thursday, October 3.** If you cannot be at practice on October 3, please see Jackie during coffee hour (happy hour) for more information.

We hope you will consider being a part of this special musical program.



*Coming this Fall*

# THE HUB

**An After-School Program  
for the students of  
Grover Cleveland Middle School**

THE HUB will provide a safe and supportive space with adult supervision where students in 6th-8th grades can come spend time with their friends, receive help with schoolwork, enjoy sports, games or other fun activities, and simply relax after a long day at school.

**Tuesday & Thursday  
afternoons from 3pm-5pm**

- ✓ Welcome & Acceptance
- ✓ Peer Connections
- ✓ Sports & Activities
- ✓ Snacks & Refreshments
- ✓ Free help with schoolwork provided by JCHS Key Club and National Honor Society students

**Registration is required and begins  
August 1, 2024**



Scan the code with your smartphone camera or visit [caldwellchurch.org/the-hub](http://caldwellchurch.org/the-hub) for registration information.

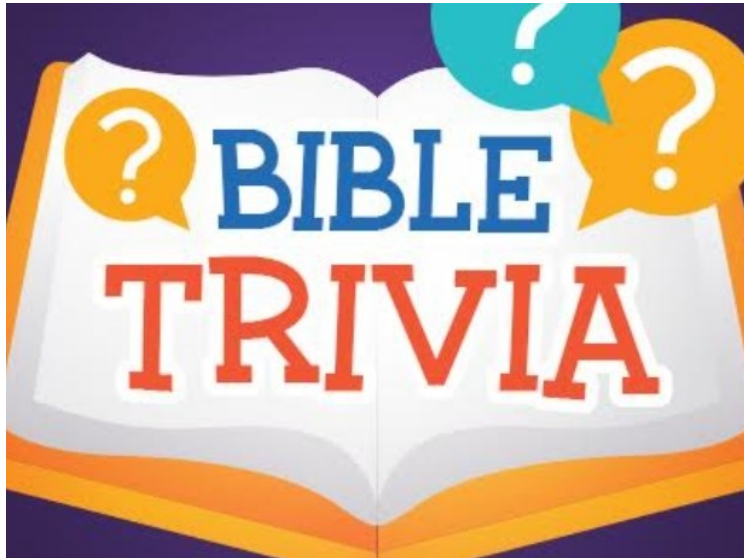
**#HereUBelong**

Grades  
6th-8th

*New for  
Fall 2024!*

*Just \$25  
per semester!*





## **BIBLE TRIVIA:**

Test your knowledge of the Bible by answering these questions. See how many you can answer correctly without looking at the answers.

1. Who asked Pilate for Jesus' body after he was crucified?
2. What is the shortest book in the New Testament?
3. Who worked as a tax collector prior to becoming one of Jesus' 12 disciples and preaching the word of God?
4. Paul says Christians should follow whose example? (Ephesians 5)
5. What did Saul encounter when he was traveling to Damascus?
6. What was Simon Peter's profession prior to becoming an apostle?
7. What is the name of the first Christian martyr recorded in the Book of Acts of the Apostles?
8. According to the Gospels, which literary genre does Jesus implement to help preach his message?
9. Which Gospel is written by a doctor?
10. What is the name of the village where Christ turned water into wine?

## **Answers:**

1. Joseph of Arimathea
2. John
3. Matthew
4. Christ's example
5. A great and blinding light
6. A fisherman
7. Stephen
8. The parable
9. Luke
10. The Cana of Galilee



# November



# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						Men's Breakfast 9 am
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Worship 10 am Communion		Hub 3-5 pm		Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Hub 3-5 pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship 10 am 	Veterans Day	Chant & Prayer Circle 10 am Girls' Night Out 6 pm Hub 3-5 pm		Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Hub 3-5 pm		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship 10 am		Hub 3-5 pm Finance & Trustees meeting 7 pm		Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Hub 3-5 pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship 10 am Doo Wop Show 4 pm		Chant & Prayer Circle 10 am Hub 3-5 pm Ad Council meeting 7:30 pm		Thanksgiving 	Church Office Closed	Christmas tree & lights up



**Caldwell United Methodist Church**

*Life is Better Together!*

# THE VOICE

## CALDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Phone: **973-226-4410**

Website: [caldwellchurch.org](http://caldwellchurch.org)

Newsletter Editor: **Ellen Elcavage**

**SAFE SANCTUARY CERTIFIED CHURCH**

**HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE-LIFT** at Academy Road Entrance

FRIEND US ON 



**Worship with us  
Sundays at 10 am**

**Invite a friend or family  
member to join  
in worship**

