



# THE VOICE

October 2025

## "A Foursome Scramble"

15 under. That was the score of the winning team at our most recent golf outing, which took place on September 23, 2025, at the par-72 Knoll West Golf Club. Given that there are 18 holes in a round of golf, this winning score means that the four-golfer team essentially birdied 15 holes and parred the remaining three.

For those who don't play golf, it may be difficult to appreciate just how remarkable that score really is. To put it into perspective:



The lowest official score recorded in a single round of professional golf is 13-under-par 57 on a par-70 course, shot by Cristobal Del Solar on the Korn Ferry Tour (a developmental tour) at the 2024 Astara Golf Championship. On the PGA Tour (the major tour), the lowest round is a 12-under-par 58, achieved by Jim Furyk at the 2016 Travelers Championship. On the LPGA Tour, Annika Sörenstam holds the record with a 13-under-par 59 on a par-72 course in 2001.

So, as we can see, the score of 15 under is truly astounding—something even the very best in professional golf have never been able to achieve.

Now, some of you may object to this comparison by saying: *"But that 15-under score at the golf outing was achieved by four golfers working together, while the record-breaking scores in professional golf were shot by a single golfer!"* You are absolutely right—and that is exactly the point I want us to consider.

At our recent outing, golfers were divided into groups of four to make up a team and played in a format called a "Foursome Scramble." In this format, each player hits a tee shot, the team selects the best shot, and then all four players hit their next shots from that spot. The process repeats until the ball is holed. Only the best score for each hole is recorded.

This format encourages teamwork and collaboration, as every player contributes to the final team score. And what we saw is that teamwork and collaboration can accomplish more than even the most gifted individual efforts. None of the players in our outing could have posted a score close to that of a professional golfer on their own. But by working together as a team, they achieved something not even the best professional golfer ever has.

Life is a lot like this game of golf. We can try to live it as if it's a solitary competition—relying only on our own strength—or we can approach it like a "foursome scramble," where we bring our wisdom, gifts, and resources together for the good of all.

The Bible has long taught us to see life in this way. Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 reminds us:

*"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up... Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."*

God, in his infinite wisdom and goodness, has given us friends, families, faith communities (i.e. church), and other people in life for our own good so that we don't have to try to make something of life alone. Play life as a foursome scramble.

*Pastor Park*

### October Birthdays

October 1	Alan Pierce
October 6	Susan Drastal
October 9	Jon Waddington
October 13	Howard Hansen
October 16	Anthony Ingra
October 24	Tim Pierce
October 27	Jane Vogelsang
October 28	Jaxon Wallace
October 29	Janet Stanton

### October Anniversaries

October 6	Jee Young & Pastor Park
October 17, 1976	Alan & Leslie Pierce
October 8, 2000	Tracy & Bogdan Voca



### Tea & Coffee Social

**Friday, October 10th 9:30am-12:00pm**



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.***

### Dates for

#### Upcoming Tea & Coffee Socials

**November 7th** - 3rd anniversary of Tea & Coffee Socials –Holiday items for sale

**December 5th**-Holiday items for sale

Times for Tea & Coffee Socials are  
9:30 am –12:00 noon

Stop by any time between those hours



Food Cards for ShopRite, Foodtown and Stop & Shop are available to buy. Order your Food Cards by calling the church office at 973-226-4410 or on our website: [caldwellchurch.org](http://caldwellchurch.org).

# 20th Anniversary

## Caldwell United Methodist Church 20th Annual Golf Outing in partnership with the West Essex First Aid Squad

Many thanks for our successful 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary golf outing. It's hard to believe it has been 20 years. When we started thinking of a golf outing, we had just come off of 10 successful years of a bowl-a-thon and thought it would be a good idea as we already had some golfers in the congregation, and soon it grew from there.

So, the first CUMC Golf outing was launched in partnership with Paterson Habitat for Humanity in 2005 with 101 golfers. An amazing start, right?

What can we say about our Golf Committee and Volunteers, some of which have been with us from the very beginning. Without your support none of this would have been possible. We also appreciate all the support we have received from the congregation, business sponsors, and friends.

Again, Thank You!

Love to all,  
Ken and Barbara





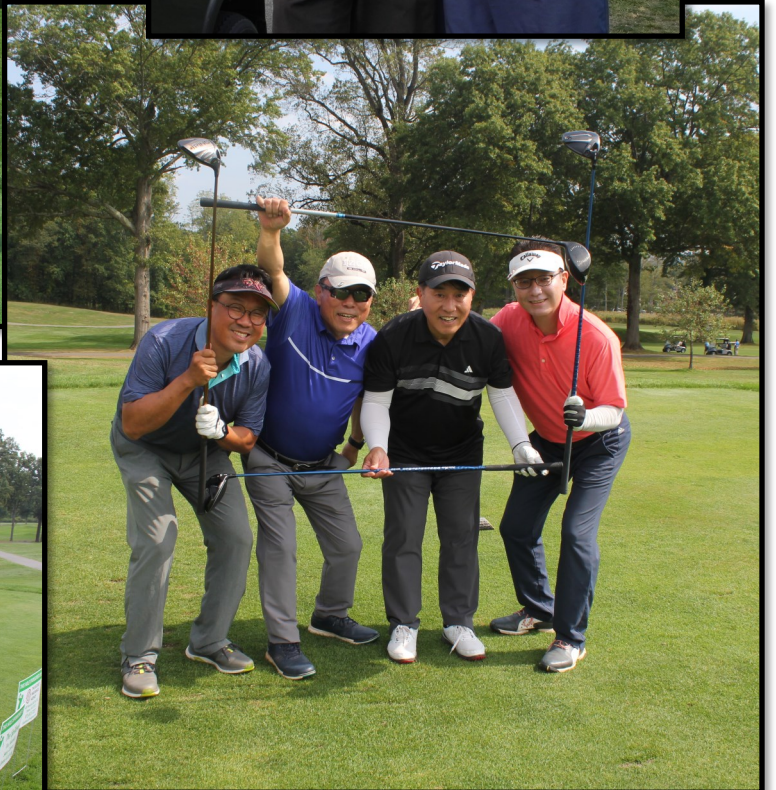


# 20th Annual Golf Outing

Knoll West Country Club  
September 23, 2025











## Caldwell Food Pantry Collection

### *Shelf Stable Milk*

(such as Parlamat)

*until November 1<sup>st</sup>*

Please leave donations on the table in the narthex.  
Thank you!



## **HUB Resumes October 7th**

Mark your calendars! HUB (#HereUBelong), our Tuesday/Thursday after-school program for middle school students, resumes October 7<sup>th</sup>. We welcome all volunteers, old and new. If interested in volunteering, speak with Kathy Zajac.



### *Meet Greg Elphinstone*

Greg was born in Orange, New Jersey and raised for a bit in West Orange before his family moved to West Caldwell in 1961. He is one of two siblings, with a younger sister and niece currently residing in California. A graduate of Seton Hall University, Greg forged a career as a tax specialist and CPA, working for large firms Coopers Lybrand and Arthur Anderson in addition to smaller firms. In 1996, he bought a home in West Caldwell and in 2004 was named partner with Connolly and Company. In 2015, Greg married his love, Julie. They enjoyed a brief five-years of happiness together before she succumbed to breast cancer on December 31, 2020. Shortly after Julie's death, Greg shattered his knee in a car accident. The road to recovery has been marked by repeated surgeries and additional fractures to his right ankle and left wrist.

When asked what his favorite hobby is, Greg wryly responds, "Well over these past four years, it's been physical therapy!" Previously, Greg enjoyed running and swimming, basketball, and baseball. He's completed two marathons and two triathlons. He also enjoys yard work. Happily, Greg is now back to cautiously jogging and walking every day. Perhaps above all else, Greg is a Yankees fan.

Greg attended the now shuttered West Caldwell Presbyterian Church for years with his family. When the writing was on the wall, he began looking for a new church home. He vividly recalls being warmly welcomed by George Stanton and Mary Hartmann the first time he entered our doors. He appreciated the close-knit community of Caldwell UMC and joined in 2011. Greg quickly became involved in church life. He became an integral member of the praise band. A skilled guitarist in his younger days, Greg recognized arthritic hands needed a new instrument. Handed a set of bongos, he was first tasked with playing along to the tune of *Silent Night*. Bongos and *Silent Night* were a firm no-go for him, however, so he picked up the bass guitar. Greg has held other leadership roles over the years: Church Auditor for eight years, SPRC Chair, Head of Nominating Committee, and Trustee. He now serves as Treasurer.

Greg's favorite Biblical principles are "Love Thy Neighbor" and the Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." What he looks for and enjoys most in church is a supportive, loving community of people who care and are there to help each other. He recently shared that he doesn't care *what* someone is; he only cares about *who* someone is. When asked what Biblical character (besides Jesus) he'd like to dine with and why, without missing a beat, Greg responded with a chuckle: "Judas - What the hell were you thinking?!?" Before recent blood tests revealed a climbing A1C, Greg's go-to comfort foods were pasta, veal parm, chocolate and butterscotch pudding. Today, he declared with a twinkle in his eye, he's working on falling in love with salads. In closing, a fun fact you probably don't know about Greg, a man of half Italian and half Scottish heritage, is that legally and technically, in Scotland he's known as Lord Robert Gregory Elphinstone. Ask him and he'll gladly share the story!

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.

**Join us on Sunday, October 26th at 4:00 p.m.**  
**at Caldwell UMC, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ**  
**Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at [caldwellchurch.org](http://caldwellchurch.org)**  
**checks payable to Caldwell United Methodist Church**  
**earmarked Doo Wop Concert**  
**There will be light refreshments after the show**







Thank you to all who gathered in our gym 9/21 to repackage 40 lbs of dried beans for the Garfield Unity Food Pantry. Ideas for ways to reach out and share our love with neighbors were flowing. Stay tuned for opportunities to join in Outreach Ministry together!



*Tracy & Christine with Garfield Unity Food Pantry  
Director, Jill Goordman*



*Bags of beans ready for clients*



*CUMC Outreach Ministry in action*



*Prepaid Event! Limited Seating!*



# ***A Traditional British Afternoon Tea***

**Sunday November 2, 2025 1-3pm**

**Caldwell United Methodist Church Gym**

**8 Academy Road, Caldwell**

**\$35** *(Cash or check made out to*

*Cure Alzheimer's Fund)*

*Email [davewhetton72@gmail.com](mailto:davewhetton72@gmail.com)*

*for details on reserving your spot!*



***Enjoy an elegant afternoon of British tea,  
sandwiches, scones, & treats...***

***plus British trivia (with math!), prizes, and a  
holiday sale table***

All proceeds will be donated to Cure Alzheimer's Fund. Let's fund a cure!

**This event is prepaid only**



A DAY TO CELEBRATE LOVE, FAITH, AND FRIENDSHIP

# Friends & Family DAY



JOIN US!  
BRING YOUR  
FAMILY & FRIENDS!



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025**



CALDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
[www.caldwellchurch.org](http://www.caldwellchurch.org)



# CALDWELL STREET FAIR

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025**  
**12 NOON - 5 PM**

Come and join us as we flow out  
into our community and share  
with others who we are and  
what we do!

**FLOW OUT! CONNECT! & INVITE!**



CALDWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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



**FLOW  
OUT &  
CONNECT!**







## Upcoming Events for 2025

### Caldwell United Methodist Church

*Life is Better Together!*



*Join Us for Worship Sundays @ 10 am*

October 5	World Communion Sunday
October 12	Family & Friends Sunday
October 19	Laity Sunday
October 26	Youth Sunday Doo Wop Concert
November 2	Communion
November 23	Thanksgiving Sunday
November 30	Youth Sunday
December 6/7	Hanging of the Greens
December 7	Communion Sunday - Prayer Doves
December 13	Blue Christmas Service
December 14	Christmas Concert
December 24	Christmas Eve Service @ 7:30 pm
December 28	Hymn Sing

# October



# 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
						Saturday AA 10:00 pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship 10 am Communion  Sunday AA 6:30 pm					Tea & Coffee Social 9:30 am	Saturday AA 10:00 pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship 10 am Friends & Family Day Sunday AA 6:30 pm				Essex Photo Club 7 pm		Saturday AA 10:00 pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship 10 am Sunday AA 6:30 pm		Church Council meeting 7:30 pm				Saturday AA 10:00 pm
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Worship 10 am  Sunday AA 6:30 pm						



**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**

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**

