# THE VOICE

### Summer 2021



"I know the plans I have for you," announces the Lord. "I want you to enjoy success. I do not plan to harm you. I will give you hope for years to come."

# "A Blessed Interruption"

#### Dear Friends,

As we find ourselves in the second year of the covid-19 pandemic we are becoming increasingly aware that things are never going to return to "normal." While Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever, His Body on earth, The Church, is not. Sure, some things won't be changing like our commitment to mission and outreach. Worship will remain our precious gathering time along with continuing zoom-ers. Suppers and fundraisers and Messy Church will resume as will our music program. But it just may not look just like it used too!

We also find ourselves on the eve of an opportunity, "a blessed interruption" as one person put it so well. A time to reevaluate. Effective, vital churches after the pandemic will not just be doing "the same old" but will be using renewed measures of discipleship, service and evangelism as "the new barometer" in everything they do. I believe this is God's wake up call. It is up to us to respond with new eyes and renewed energy to receive the "hope for years to come" that God is supplying!

#### With Love, Pastor Viv



# **Fish 'n Chips**







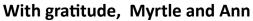


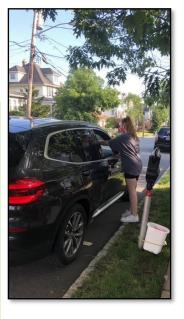


Fish/Chicken 'N Chip Fundraiser — A Great Success!

"We sold over 200 dinners on June 5 and had fun doing it. Just to be together, in person, after the pandemic brought such joy and it was fantastic to see familiar, smiling faces and waving hands as friends drove up to get their orders.

We want to express our heartfelt thanks to our awesome team who did an amazing job and also to everyone who purchased meals to benefit our mission outreach. It couldn't have happened without your support! Our profits are \$2,580.43. CUMC is alive!!!"





# **Newsworthy Notes**

The Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference at their June meeting, commissioned **Mark Ignatius Salvacion** as a Provisional Elder. We share our congratulations, prayers and blessings for our former church member!





**Pastor Karen Gazzillo** officiates at the American Veterans' Memorial ceremony honoring Washington's horse Bluestone with a scpture given by the Morristown Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Betsy Molisso** donated this chair as she downsized. It represents generations of her family here at Caldwell United Methodist. Weddings, baptisms, funerals and so many memories. We thank you for your gift to the church.





# Financial Report through April 2021

Through our first four months of 2021 our expenses exceeded our income versus our projected budget by \$11,928. This is due to our miscellaneous income being \$12,607 less than anticipated. Our miscellaneous income consists of things like building use, food card profit, the golf outing, Pastor Viv's 2% towards healthcare, and funds from Trustees for services provided by staff.

Our expenses were \$437 greater than expected. Savings from our personnel expenses and our ministries helped to offset higher than anticipated building expenses.

On the income side our overall giving was \$1,934 greater than our goal to date. Our Faithful Givers were \$813 greater than expected and our Pledgers were \$1,121 greater than anticipated

Based on the pledge cards we have received to date our pledged amount for 2021 is less 1% higher than 2020. To date our faithful givers are contributing at a rate which is 7% higher than last year.

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

#### **Church Seeks New Treasurer**

#### Effective January 1, 2022

If you or someone you know would consider this volunteer position, please speak to the Pastor or any member of the Nominations Committee : Tony Gazzillo, Ruth Carrara, Zorina D'Emilio, Barbara Ingra, Barbara Gordon, Jane Vogelsang.

The Treasurer is a member of the Finance Committee and Church Council. This position manages the financials of the

general church budget. They work closely with the Office Manager who performs many of the day-to-day activities

associated with the church finances. (Continued on the right.)

#### **Dow Rich Memorial Scholarship**



The Board of Trustees is proud to announce our

2021 Dow Rich Memorial Scholarship Recipient

#### **Dana Stelter**

Dana was presented with her scholarship during the Zoom church service on Sunday, May 23.

(**Continued)** The following are the activities associated with the Treasurer's position:

- Signing of checks
- Determine how funds move between accounts
- Call in payroll for the staff every other Friday
- Manage the electronic giving through the Vanco web site.
- Creating the annual budget for the general church
- Support the annual church audit by providing transaction activity reports to the church auditor(s) annually
- Participate in finance and church council meetings. This includes providing financial reports which are reviewed at both meetings. Creating the monthly finance committee status for the VOICE.
- Provide data to be used in completing the annual conference reporting used for determining our Shared Ministry payments to the conference for the following year.

The monthly bill payment and deposits are entered into Quick-Books by the Office Manager.

The Office Manager also reconciles the bank statements for the general church accounts.

Is God nudging you to find out more? Please call me! Pastor Viv

## The Congregation Congratulates Our Graduates





**Katherine Mascuch** 

Katherine is the granddaughter of Ann Calvin. She is graduating from North Hunterdon Regional High School and will be attending Virginia Tech in their School of Architecture this fall.



#### **Julia Conklin**

Julia, who is graduating from Eastern Christian Middle School is the granddaughter of Myrtle and John Connell. She is a high honor roll student and will attend Eastern Christian High School in North Haledon in September.



**Chris Volz** 

Chris, son of Chris and Carole Volz and brother of Katie Volz has graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology with high honors. His family is very proud of all his accomplishments.

Four of Ruth Carrara's grandchildren will be graduating or beginning graduate programs in 2021.

Rebecca Carrara will be pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Health at Brown University

Rachel Carrara received a B.A. from Muhlenberg College with a major in English and a minor in Sustainability. She was an honor roll student.

Jack Carrara graduated this spring with a B.A. from Montclair State University. He will be pursuing a Master's Degree in Education at the University of North Carolina.

Elizabeth Carrara, who has been attending classes remotely at Dickinson College for her freshman year due to the pandemic, will be on campus for in-person classes for the first time as a sophomore.

# **Mother's Day Love OUTREACH**

"When Family Promise, formerly the Interfaith Hospitality Network, reached out to our church regarding Mother's Day gifts for forty of their currently or previously homeless moms, we responded. Although our congregation had not met in person for over a year, my hope was that we could still put together gifts that would offer a real boost. The result was heartwarming. The appeal to our church family from the Outreach Ministry was for forty \$20 Shop Rite gift cards for a total donation of \$800. I was nervous that this ask might be too big, but I need not have worried. Many of you stepped up most generously. The women of Caldwell UMC even offered to get us to forty if we fell short. We did not. After the year we've experienced, it was so wonderful to see our church family come together to offer loving gifts to women less fortunate, many of whom are front line workers. We were able to assemble gift bags with items to celebrate the mothers, each with a symbolic meaning: a Shop Rite gift card (loving provider), a



piece of jewelry donated by the women of CUMC and congregation members (beautiful woman), some lovely lotions and potions donated by our congregation and a Caldwell resident (moment of relaxation and pampering), and a beautiful potted begonia donated by Joyce and Sal Francavilla Fairfield Farms (nurturer). Thank you, everyone, for your generosity and for helping to spread love and light!"

~Tracy Voca, on behalf of the Outreach Ministry



Save the Date! Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Event

### Saturday, November 13, 2021

#### **Dimes for Rise**

We've raised \$360.50 for our meal packaging event simply by filling 8-oz. water bottles with dimes. One bottle = \$40. We invite you to continue filling your water bottles – every little bit counts! If you have dimes or other spare change to donate, contact Tracy Voca at <u>tmrvoca@msn.com</u> or c 973-978-9053. She'll roll it up & get it into the Rise account. *Take a bottle. Drink water. Collect dimes. Raise \$40. Feed 118!* 



It's not too early to SAVE THE DATE

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing Golfers Needed!

#### Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Knoll West Country Club Parsippany, NJ To register visit caldwellchurch.org Summer Birthdays & Anniversaries

July 4

#### **June Birthdays**

June 2	Amy Hansen
June 3	Kathy Zajac
June 5	Amanda Turton
June 6	Catherine Wallace
June 7	Donna Pierce
June 8	Tracy Voca
June 11	Andrew Wallace
June 12	Bill Ebbinghouser
June 21	Jenna Rose Dolce
June 22	Kelly Winkler
June 29	Barbara Ingra
June 30	Joyce Francavilla

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#### **June Anniversaries**

June 9, 1990	David & Christine Knight
June 14, 2008	Danielle & Angelo Pezzino
June 17, 1978	Donald & Stephanie DeBruyne
June 17, 1978	Joan & George Carnrick, Jr.

#### **August Birthdays**

August 17	Bruce Ciccione
August 18	Elena Krupa Dorothy Theile
August 27	Sarah Inglis Carissa Stelter

#### **July Birthdays** Paige Moeller Katie Volz Matthew Dolce

July 9	Matthew Dolce Brian Knight Norah Winkler
July 14	Barbara Bechtold
July 15	Geri Tomich
July 17	Jonathan Ciccione
July 20	James Maiullo
July 21	Michael Leonardis
July 23	Beth Rueter
July 24	Nancy Blesser
July 26	Ruth Carrara Carlene Starke

#### **July Anniversaries**

July 6, 2002	Jennifer & Peter Earley
July 28, 1979	Joe & Kathy Zajac
July 28, 1994	Eric & Donna Pierce

#### **August Anniversaries**

August 20, 1949	Ken & Barbara Bechtold
August 21, 1992	Glenn & Geri Tomich
August 28, 1965	Rev. Karen & Tony Gazzillo

# **Reopening Update**

At their **June 29th meeting** our Administrative Council will decide a date for our official reopening and the protocols that must be in place for this to occur. If you have input for the council to consider, please send an email to either Doug Wallace, Council Chair or the pastor. Our emails are below:

vivrodeffer@gmail.com

dougwal451@comcast.net



# Re-Cap 2021 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference

More than 1,500 gathered May 24 and 25 for the 2021 Annual Conference Session – Forward. Proverbs 3:6 shaped the conference sessions as the conversations, actions and worship trusted God for our path forward.

#### **Episcopal Address**

In his opening address, Bishop Schol encouraged everyone to find something to celebrate, as he shared a lesson he learned from a rabbi named Jonathan Sacks. "Celebration reflects an attitude of gratitude to God and others and gives thanks for what we have, instead of looking to what is next. Celebration also changes things," said Schol. Amid the challenges are signs of hope, said Schol who is looking forward to working together to end the sin of racism and building congregational vitality through A Journey of Hope and a rebirth of worship and ministry following the pandemic.

In celebration of our similarities and differences, Schol said, "We are a holy communion of different races, ethnicities, cultures, and perspectives united by the Holy Spirit, driven by the mission of Christ, and bearing the good news of an unmerited grace that changes lives and transforms communities."

#### A Journey of Hope

Amid a pathway of collaboration and insight, A Journey of Hope moves forward with the selection of the consultant, Fearless Dialogues, who will equip 150 leaders to lead the project into the next phase of providing training support to our churches as we grow our vitality and engage in the community, we will work together to end the sin of racism.

The conference passed legislation to strengthen A Journey of Hope–ensuring equity, ensuring congregations in low income communities are apportioned shared ministry at a reduced amount and ensuring that all congregations are treated the same regardless of their shared ministry. The GNJ Designated Fund Policies was postponed to the adjourned session, October 14, 2021, when the financial and property sales reports will be provided.

Council of Finance and Administration Chair Vasanth Victor shared with us that billing collections this year are up 29% over 2020, and that our churches have received about \$5.9 million in PPP funding in 2021. He also reiterated that vigilant efforts would continue to be made toward budget control and oversight.

Also passed on Tuesday was Intersectional Peace with Justice legislation from the United Methodist Women as presented by GNJ UMW President Sue Zahorbenski to "work for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems" and "provide educational experiences that lead to personal change in order to transform the world."

#### Worship

At the Service of Passage on Monday we celebrated the ministries of 22 clergy who retired, including Palisades District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Gina Kim who has faithfully served God full time for 30 years as youth pastor, associate pastor, senior pastor and district superintendent. Her farewell service is Tuesday, June 1 at 7:00 p.m. at Korean Community Church.

On Tuesday, Rev. Kim called on everyone to "tap into the reservoir of the power of the Holy Spirit," and Bishop Schol encouraged us to narrow our paths and focus more on clarity, play and loving and nurturing each other to become closer to God.

GNJ commissioned and ordained 13 clergy, which consisted of Bridget Galvin as a provisional deacon; David Ledford, Jaemyoung James Lee, Joshua Shuster and JiSun Yang as ordained elders; and Brendan Galvin, Elouise Hill-Challenger, Eunkyong Kim, Geralda Aldajuste, Hyunsook Song, Hyun Woo Kim, Laura Steele and Tiffany Murphy as commissioned.

The service was graced by two powerful testimonies from Laura and James who shared with us the circuitous journeys that brought them to this place and how they listened to the voice of God.

#### Barbara Ingra, Lay Delegate and Pastor Viv represented

Caldwell United Methodist Church at the zoom annual conference.

# THE VOICE

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# **Book Discussion In the Memorial Garden!**

### Bring a Chair!! And a Friend!

#### Wednesday Evening July 21 at 7 PM [Raindate TBA]

We will have lively discussion on **The Book of Longings** (our discussion questions are in the back). And maybe toast some marshmallows as well. Limited to 15 persons. Text Pastor to register.

What if...Jesus was married? Kidd examines through characters and story this outlandish proposition! What if.....? Our ZOOM version of this book discussion will be Monday July 26, 10–noon.



Join us Sunday mornings for joyful music, <u>p</u>reaching and prayers and let God change your life for the better. Use the QR below to zoom church.





JOIN US FOR ZOOM WORSHIP Sundays at 10 AM