

# CGN!

**Caldwell Good News!**  
**April, 2013**



**Anna Masto**, age 3, and her brother **Colin** (5) help their mother **Carrie** arrange garden flowers on the Easter cross, an Easter morning tradition at our church. We are now in the season of Eastertide - the period of 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. More Easter coverage on page 3.

## **'I prayed for the church and all its members'**

What did some of the participants pray for during the 24 hour prayer vigil the evening and day after our Maundy Thursday service?

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## **Caldwell in 3D**

We all know how far Caldwell has come in recent years. But where will our church be in 3-4-5 years - and perhaps beyond?

That will be the mission of small groups of members and guests who will discern, discuss - and dream - about Caldwell's future.

*Pages 6 - 7*

## **Building goodwill**

Helping to put a roof over the heads of those who need quality, affordable housing is all in a morning's work for some of our construction-minded volunteers.

*Page 8*

## **Caldwell in photos**

Guests, visitors and acts of good speak louder than words.

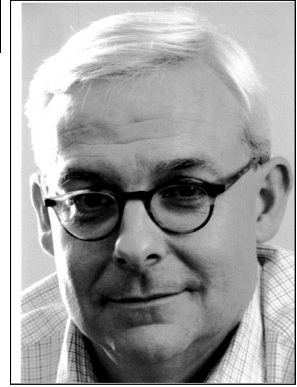
*Page 10*

## Like Those Who Dream

As I have said from the pulpit, dreams are serious business in the Bible. The ancient Hebrews believed God communicated through dreams. (See Jacob, Daniel, the Pharaoh in Genesis and the Magi after Christ's birth.) God has since sent dreams to other, more recent prophets, too, people such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The center spread story of this month's newsletter invites us all to come together and dream ... in God's name. In the next two months or so, we will be called into small groups. First, without any agenda, we will build and deepen relationships. So many of you have been eager for an experience like the "Four-by-Four" gatherings a few years ago. Since then, we have so many new members and you are eager to know them. Then we will "discuss" some im-

portant questions that frame our next 3 to 5 years together (at least). In those discussions, we will dream and ask "what if?", looking through two lenses: What does it mean to be a missional church? And, what does it mean for church to be transformative for us, for our neighbors and for our community? Out of all of this will



Rev. John Cleghorn

### Want to join in on Lucy and Malcolm's dream?

They already have five of six needed laptops for the first class of Caldwell House online learners and dreamers. But they need one more soon and then others for subsequent classes. If you have a laptop – in any condition - to contribute or if you want to help Lucy and Malcolm in other ways, contact her at [lucb202@gmail.com](mailto:lucb202@gmail.com) or speak to her at church.

come dreams and visions – God's dreams and visions, if we are atten-



tive – that can mark our path going forward.

### A Dreaming People

You are, in so many ways, a dreaming people.

Take member **Lucy Barber**, for example. At 23, she doesn't remember life without the internet. Now she's carving out a career as an internet entrepreneur already involved in her second start-up company (right here in little, old Charlotte).

Lucy's got ideas and dreams pouring out of her ears. Lately a particular dream has come to her concerning Caldwell House. "What if ...?," she asked herself. What if some of our Caldwell House neighbors learned about all of the on-line skills and

training classes available to anyone with a computer?

What if she taught a 5-week class in Caldwell House that gave them that education and empowerment? Then ... what if each member of her class who completed certain requirements received a refurbished laptop computer (refurbished by her high-tech boyfriend and Caldwell member, **Malcolm Frazier**), allowing them to pursue on-line education, find jobs that can be done from a laptop or even explore starting an on-line enterprise of some sort?

Sound crazy? Perhaps to some. Not to Lucy, however, who has launched a ministry to fulfill her vision. She's assured that the dream is completely sane in the information age.

"Getting people out of unemployment through traditional measures is all well and good, but it isn't complete," Lucy observes. "If our only encouragement is to say fill out more

*Those Who Dream...page 8*

*Do you have event or committee news, calendar items, photography and other tidbits Caldwell members and guests should see in the newsletter? Please send items by the first of each month to the editor: [david.bradley@yahoo.com](mailto:david.bradley@yahoo.com)*

*Visit us on the web at:*

*[www.caldwellpresby.org](http://www.caldwellpresby.org)*

### Caldwell Good News!

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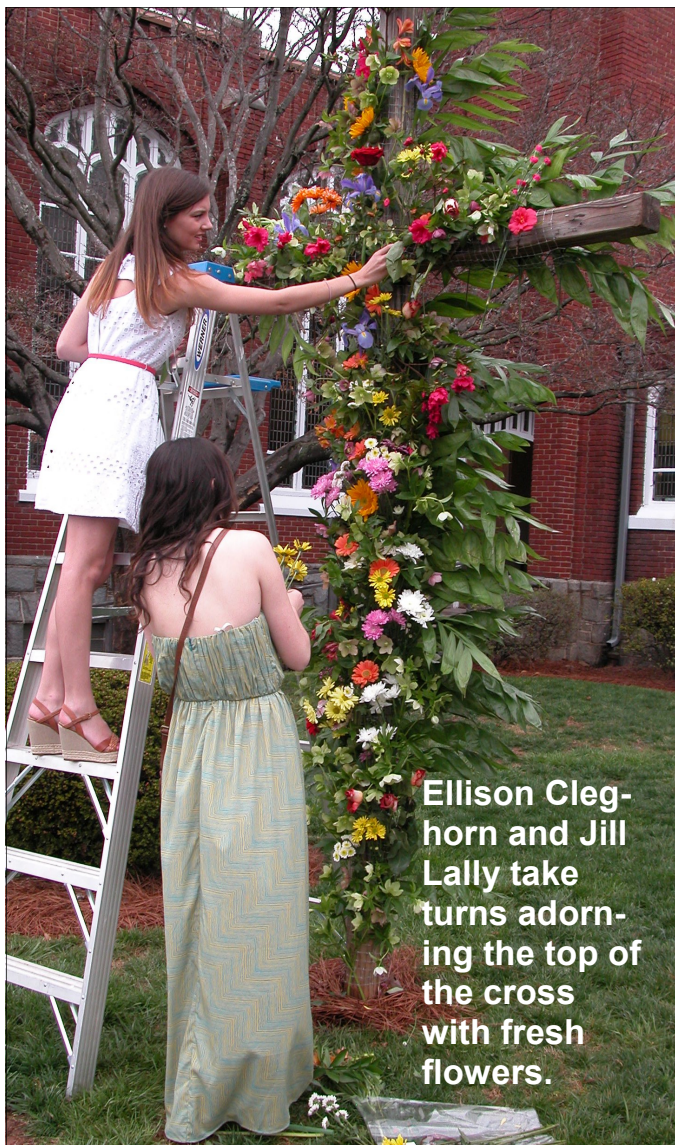
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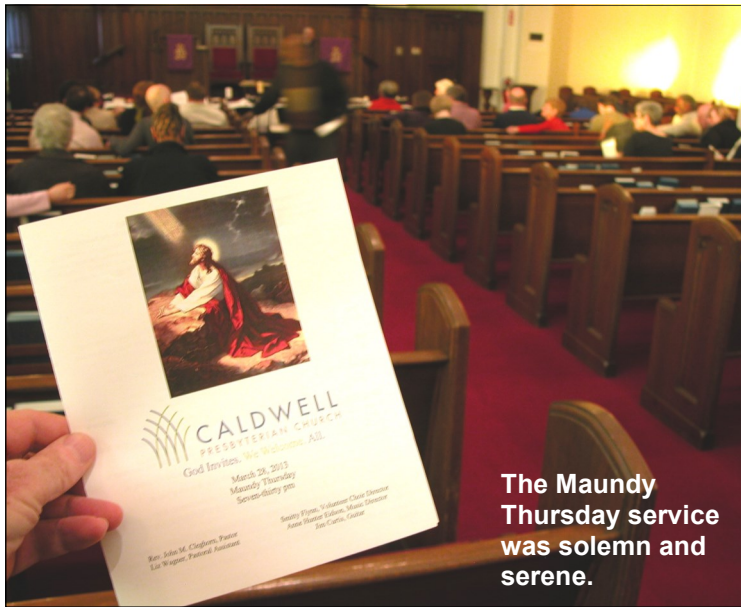
John Cleghorn  
Dave Bradley



Our Easter season was marked by solemnity, prayer, special services, the breaking of bread together and, yes, flowers placed on the cross.



Ellison Cleg-horn and Jill Lally take turns adorning the top of the cross with fresh flowers.



The Maundy Thursday service was solemn and serene.



The Fellowship Committee hosted a hearty continental breakfast on Easter Sunday.



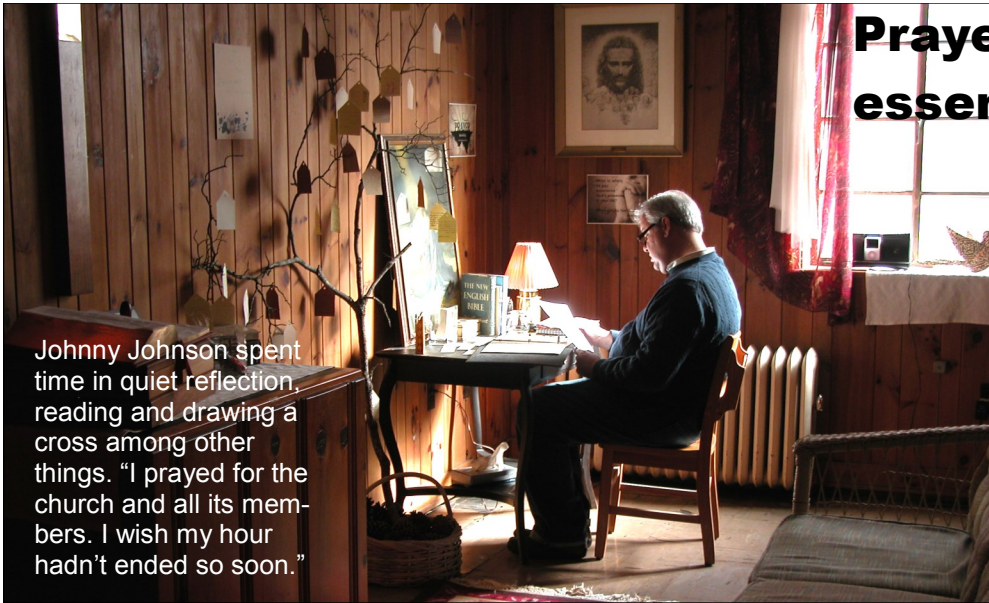
Lynn and Mike Watson made an early appearance to attach flowers.



The congregation needed no encouragement to wave palm fronds on Palm Sunday.

## Prayer vigil captures essence of Easter

A lot was said in the 24 hours of prayerful reflection after the Maundy Thursday service. A host of volunteers saw to that both night and day. Here are some of their reflections.



Johnny Johnson spent time in quiet reflection, reading and drawing a cross among other things. "I prayed for the church and all its members. I wish my hour hadn't ended so soon."



*I just prayed for our congregation to continue to stay focused and be supportive of each other and reach out.*  
Ginger Dickinson



*I did intercessional prayer for people in the church. It was very meaningful to me. I loved sitting at the foot of the cross and reading the journal. It was, and I can't really describe it, just sitting beneath it was very moving for me.*  
Lynn Watson



*I was trying to get myself centered in the right spirit. I need to be focused on being worshipful. I get so carried away in the day to day.*  
Linda Horton



*What happened is I started to pray for people in the congregation. I went row by row, and prayed for people by name.*  
Maggie DeVries

A new item for your Mecklenburg Ministry Events faith calendar:

## Building Community: Wisdom of Mothers

**Thursday, May 16**

### **Food for Thought: Building Community: Celebrating the Wisdom of Mothers - Interfaith, Multi-Ethnic Panel of Mothers**

Covenant Presbyterian Fellowship Hall, 1000 East Morehead Street, noon - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch available for purchase (\$6) - includes soup, salad, entrée, dessert, drink

RSVP to [meckmin@meckmin.org](mailto:meckmin@meckmin.org).



Caldwell said goodbye to interns Phanta Lansden and Will Davis at a reception. With Phanta are her daughters Alivia and Aria.

**Caldwell's finances in a "good overall financial situation"**

The financial year at Caldwell is off to a good start. Through the end of February, our contributed income is \$50,000, which is only 5% less than projected.

This is normal for the early part of the year. Expenses are running 18% below budget, which leaves us in a good overall financial situation.

Our major expenses, salary and buildings and grounds, are right on schedule. Our committees are hard at work and have great plans for the year.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed your resources and your time to create this favorable picture for Caldwell.

### **Women's Circle tours the Billy Graham Library**

Visit not short on inspiration, faith

On April 8, the Caldwell Women's Circle went to the Billy Graham Library. Our group was small in number but quite enthusiastic. We all met at the church; Cornie Pleasants, Jackie Abernathy, Lynn Watson, Zoraida Stewart, our new member, Janie Lownes, and Elaine Hultman.

From there we began our adventure. As we approached the entrance of the library that is in the form of a cross, we were filled with anticipation. Each volunteer that we encountered was so helpful to guide us in the right direction. Every room had a theme, and as we toured the building, we learned so much about Billy Graham, his life, his ministry, his family and his deep and abiding faith in God.

At the end of our tour, we were able to view an extraordinary painting, *The Cross*, by Thomas Kinkade. There was also a prayer room next to the room with the painting so we could rest and pray. I think we all thanked God for the life and ministry of Billy Graham. There were so many souls he was able to reach since he felt God's call to preach the gospel at a young age.

Billy once said "People do not come to hear what I have to say, they want to know what God has to say." Before leaving we had lunch at the Dairy Bar located on the grounds, and were able to share with each other what we saw and learned about Billy Graham.

*Elaine Hultman*

## Caldwell has risen from near collapse. The congregation is active, enthused and missional. Now, the charge is to discern, discuss and dream: where is God leading us from here?

It wasn't all that long ago that the extent of Caldwell's dream was simple: *keep the doors open*. The discussion was how stop a congregation from shrinking more than it already had. Discernment? Discussion? Dreams? There just wasn't time.

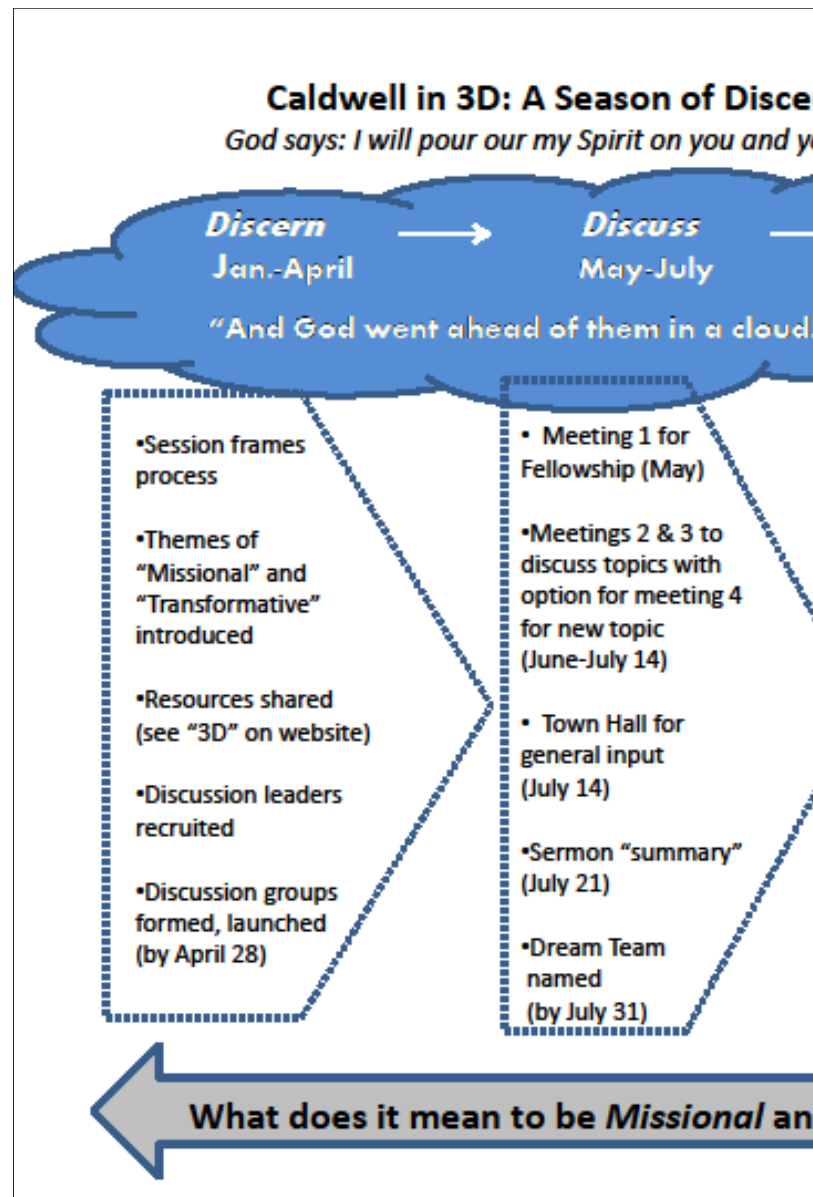
But that has changed and God has brought us to what the Psalms call "a wide place," where we can listen to God and to each other.

Now Caldwell is embarking on a new phase of its journey - **Caldwell in 3D: A Season of Discernment, Discussion and Dreaming** - that over the length of this year will invite every voice in our church to help navigate the course we are called to follow in the next 2-3-5 years.



"We need to be willing to let the Spirit lead us ... we are at a point of transition."

**Gina Shell**



The impetus for 3D, coming on the heels of our 100 year anniversary in 2012, grew out of a Session retreat late last year. "We realized we were at a pivot point," said Session chair Gina Shell. "We thought it was time to think about what's next for Caldwell."

What's next for members and guests are a series of informal, small group meetings to formalize the 'what's next?' portion of the process.

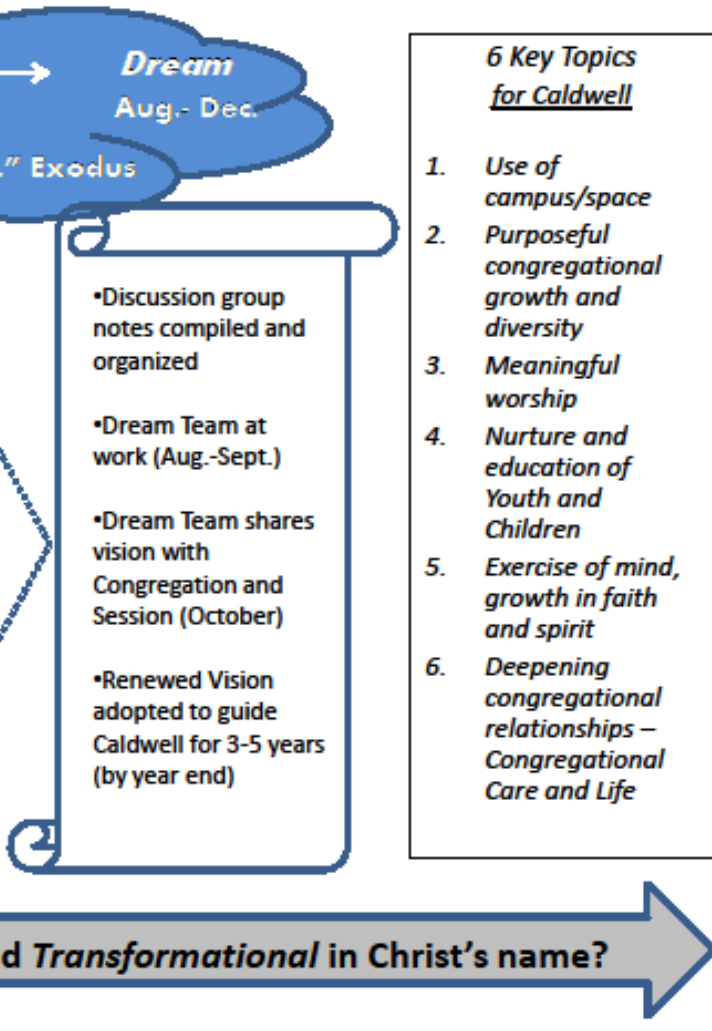
3D centers around two key concepts of the current Caldwell: to be missional and to be transformational. Both are the "lenses," according to 3D materials, through which groups will view their discussions and decisions.

### **Borrowing from 4x4**

3D actually borrows from, and expands on, the '4x4' sessions of a few years ago which essentially gave members and guests the chance to get to know each other. 3D will still

## ment, Discussion and Dreaming

*You will dream dreams and see visions. Acts 2:17*



## The Six Key Topics

1. Use of the Caldwell campus/ space
2. Purposeful congregational growth and diversity
3. Meaningful worship
4. Nurture and education of youth and children
5. Exercise of mind, growth in faith and spirit
6. Deepening congregational relationships

## The Five Key Questions

1. How is Caldwell in transition?  
What has changed?
2. What is our impact?
3. Who have we impacted
4. What opportunities do we have now?
5. What problems have we created?  
What obstacles stand in our way?

give people the chance to make acquaintance but now the charge is much broader in scope.

### Wide involvement

Gina said the very idea of 3D "will involve every member and every friend who is able to meet with a group" three to four times. She estimated that more than 100 people will sign up to take part in the process.

Participants will be split into small groups and as soon as the week of April 15, the

volunteer discussion leaders (who have already gone through a training session) will contact those in their groups to make arrangements as to time and place for the first round sessions.

Groups will discuss six key topics from use of our campus space to meaningful worship to deepening congregational relationships. There will be reading materials, and sessions are expected to last in the 90 minute range.

### Summary, options

Groups will wrap up their sessions in July, followed by a 'Town Hall' session. The Session will convene in July to name a 'Dream Team' to pore through all the notes and work into the autumn to create a summary of options.

Gina said by the end of 2013, "We want to be open to the Spirit. We need to be willing to let the Spirit lead us. If it leads us to one decision, fine. If it leads to

a series of smaller descriptions, fine. If it leads to more questions, fine. We are at a point of transition."

You are welcome to sign up for the process and to be assigned a group.

If you have not heard from a group leader by the end of April, feel free to call Gina at 704-507-4070.

Alongside other volunteers who joined them on a Habitat for Humanity roofing project, Kate McKenzie, David Ashley, Sheena Bossie and Beth Van Gorp spent a nice Saturday shingling a 1,080 sq. ft. home. The owners will be a mother and her 4 year old son. Felicia Pine and Loretta McCutchen also helped.



Felicia Pine does some heavy lifting.

Pastor's column continued...

applications, go to more interviews, so on and so forth, then we're forgetting that we live in the information age, which is changing the job landscape ... whether we want to recognize it or not."

If you'd like to get involved, see the accompanying box on page 2 to get involved.

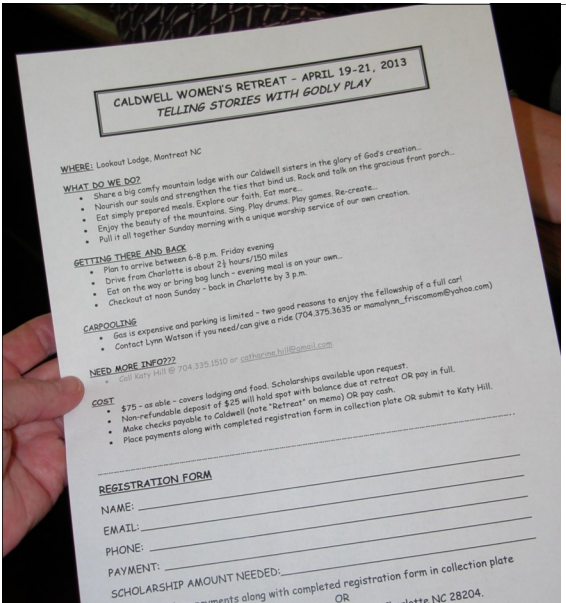
Thanks be to God for her and Malcolm's gifts, their energy, their generosity of time and spirit and their courage to seek God in their dreams!

**The Sum of Our Dreams**

Caldwell has been so remarkably blessed by our ability to start ministry here with practically a blank slate – an empty campus, a gracious older generation who essentially gave us the keys and an amazing set of energetic and committed disciples comfortable with taking risk in Jesus' name to build the Kingdom of God.

Everything that has happened here since then has been the sum of our dreams, dreams of a life together and with God as the body of Christ. As we move forward in our second century, taking up 6 key questions that will shape our future, may our God inspire audacious dreams that challenge and affirm our faith at the same time.

Put on your "3D" glasses. Let's get started.



The Women's Retreat is April 19 in Montreat. There is still room for more. Contact Katy Hill: [catharine.hill@gmail.com](mailto:catharine.hill@gmail.com)



## Committee news and updates

Volunteers always welcome

### Mission & Justice

Your Missions and Justice groups continue to provide the face of Caldwell's love and compassion to those who are in need.

- Room in the Inn and Souper Sunday were great successes involving the whole church and led by Jessica Pistole and Caroline Lubinkhof.
- Our community garden under Katie Hill is taking full advantage of the arrival of spring.
- The Bilingual Preschool has expanded, and has a new director, Joanne Stratton Tate. Ann Alford has "retired" from school director to become one of our 9 ESL teachers and 3 child care volunteers.
- Caldwell House is preparing to move sleeping quarters to "the gym," under new leadership by Helen Hull, Jackie Trail, and Phanta Lansden.
- Sally Thomas led Merry Oaks group hosts their first party of the year to support new readers the week of April 15.
- Cathy Lum is preparing 12 Caldwell people to go to Guatemala.
- Lucy Barber is helping us feed the hungry through Loaves and Fishes and is working in creative ways with our neighbors at Caldwell House.
- Sheena Bossie and David Ashley led members finishing off the first Habitat house roof of the year.
- We have signed petitions and joined demonstrations to support immigrants and the LGBT community.
- Marion Idol is coordinating our Mecklenburg Ministries participation, and Margaret Fleeman is leading our crew at McCreech Place.
- Jeff Mitchiner seems to "just show up everywhere" but we have way more wonderful volunteers than I can count or list. God is smiling back at us through the eyes of the hundreds of people we are helping.

Alex Smythers

alex.smythers@carolina.rr.com

### Congregational Life

The next event for Congregational Life will be the Church picnic on May 18 at Veterans Park.

Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. We are encouraging folks to invite a friend. There will be games for adults and children. Zack Thomas is rounding up all musicians...so if you think you can play an instrument, bring it. If you can't, bring it anyway!

More details will be posted in the church bulletin. Remember it's May 18. Save the date!

Yvette Wilson

ymdentley@yahoo.com

### Newcomers

We are working to get everyone added to the Yahoo group and are also creating a database of all new-ish members so we can begin going to lunches and being in touch about other matters. I also hope to touch base with everyone to ensure they are becoming involved as they would like to. I am a committee of one, but would love to add to that if anyone is interested!

Johnny Johnson

john-johnson@ncbtonline.com

### Communications

This group has worked diligently over the past two months to have our church online directory ready sometime this summer. It will include all contact information, along with a picture of all who attend Caldwell. Hardcopy versions will also be available for those without access to the online version.

Members of the committee will be in the back of church over the next few weeks to update any of your information.

Kim Bohannon

kimbohannon12@aol.com

## You can volunteer

**A MISSIONAL CHURCH** has many and varied volunteer needs from teaching children to preparing meals to tutoring children or simply caring for those who have less.

If you have **A SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM** to share with others, let us know. Contact the committee chairs or volunteer leader:

Sharon Harmon  
sharonharmon76@yahoo.com



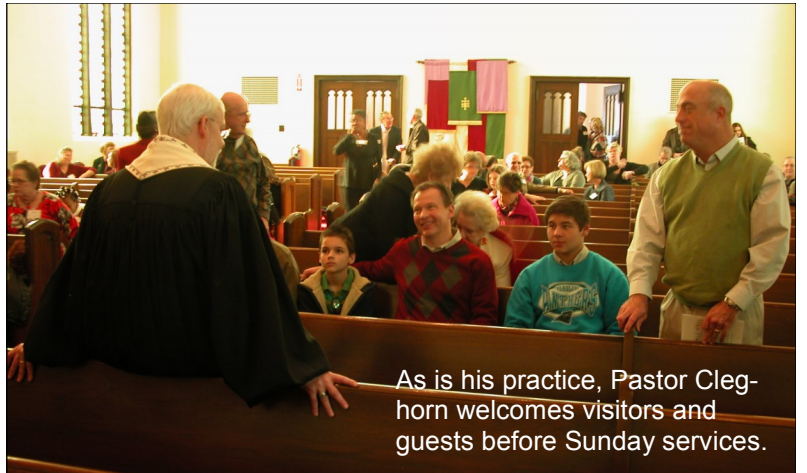
Will Davis gets in some early rehearsal before his final sermon at Caldwell.



Angela Everitt prepares for her Sunday morning students.



Ruth Curtis spent time in reflection during the 24 hour prayer vigil.



As is his practice, Pastor Cleg-horn welcomes visitors and guests before Sunday services.



Felicia Pine and Daisy Oatman (above) converse during the Easter breakfast hosted by the Fellowship Committee.



Gordon Pressly (left) and his daughter, Erin. "I love it here," said Erin. "I just feel welcome, and I feel like I have a bunch of 'family' (friends Angela and Jim Everitt, Marilyn and Scott Ethridge) that go here, so it just makes me feel like I'm home."

# Caldwell Good News! Bulletin Board

## April

Mon., 15th, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Women's Book Club, TBA
Tue., 16th, 6:30 - 8: p.m.	Buildings & Grounds, Shelby Room
Thurs., 18th, 6:30 - 8 p.m.	Education Committee, Upstairs
Thurs., 18th, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Worship Committee, Shelby Room
Fri., 19th, 5 p.m. -	Women's Retreat, Montreat
Fri., 19th, noon - 1:30 p.m.	Finance Committee, Upstairs
Sat., 20th, all day	Women's Retreat, Montreat
Sun. 21st, until noon	Women's Retreat, Montreat
Tues., 23rd, 5:30 - 8 p.m.	Session, Shelby Room

## May

Wed., 8th, 6 - 7:30 p.m.	Mission & Justice, Shelby Room
Thurs., 9th, 6 - 8: p.m.	Congregational Care, Shelby Room
Mon., 13th, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Women's Circle, Shelby Room
Thurs., 16th, 6:30 - 8 p.m.	Education Committee, Shelby Room
Sat., 18th	Church picnic, TBA
Mon., 20th, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Women's Book Club, TBA
Tue., 21st, 6 - 8:30 p.m.	Buildings & Grounds, Shelby Room
Fri. 24th, noon - 1:30 p.m.	Finance Committee, Upstairs
Tues., 28th, 5:30 - 8 p.m.	Session, Shelby Room

## Church Calendar

### 1st Monday

6:30 p.m. - Men's Group

### 2nd Monday

Women's Circle

### 3rd Monday

6:30 p.m. - Women's Book Club

### 4th Monday

5:30 p.m., Session, Shelby

### 1st Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Women's Group

### 2nd Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Mission & Justice Comm., Shelby

### Wednesdays

7 p.m. - Choir practice

### 2nd Thursday

6 p.m., Congregational Care, Shelby

### 3rd Tuesday

12:15 p.m. - Finance committee, Upstairs

### 3rd Thursday

12:15 p.m. - Worship committee, Shelby

6:30 p.m. - Education committee, Upstairs

### Every Friday

7:30 p.m., AA, Shelby

### Sundays

9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School, Upstairs

11 a.m. Worship (including children's Sunday school)

1st Sunday Holy Communion

Session receives new members

All Sundays Loaves & Fishes Collection

(Non-perishables in entry basket)

### Administrative Office Hours

Monday, 2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Pastor's Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Reach Pastor Cleghorn on his cell phone:

704-957-4511

## **PLEASE! REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSON**

*A card, a call, a visit - please remember our longtime members & keep in touch!*

**Mrs. Barbara Atkinson** Lake Park Nursing Center  
Mailing address 830 Faircrest Drive  
**Mrs. Irene Kennedy** 419 Clement Avenue

3315 Faith Church Rd., Room 600 Indian Trail, NC 28079  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
Charlotte, NC 28204

## Caldwell's Mission Statement

In the Summer of 2007, Congregational Dialogues formed the foundation of our church's renewed mission statement as adopted by action of the Session that Fall:

- We seek to build a diverse, intentional, affirming community animated by joyful worship and called forth into social action for service to the greater good.
- We seek to hear God's call not only as individuals but also as a progressive, missional community striving to reflect the Kingdom of God in the here and now.
- We embrace the rich history of the Reformed Tradition and the storied past of our once-prominent, center-city church, as we welcome a diverse, urban community of seekers—young and old, gay and straight, rich and poor, of all races and ethnicities.
- We are called into a meaningful, transformative community that values the unique blessings and perspectives of each member and offers a place of welcome and healing to weary souls.
- We seek dynamic servant leaders who serve humbly, embrace change, and boldly challenge injustices in the wider community.
- Most important, we seek to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed, following the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**God Invites. We Welcome. All.**

### Caldwell Presbyterian Church

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