



# FIRST PRESS

**Sunday, August 16, 2020**



## **THERE IS STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR CHOIR CAMP!**

All children entering grades K through 8 are invited to join us for an outdoor Choir Camp on Monday, August 17th through Friday, August 21st. We will meet from 7:00PM—9:00PM each night, with a rain date scheduled for Saturday, August 22nd from 10:00AM-noon. All church guidelines will be followed including wearing masks, physical distancing and no eating.

We will be doing a musical, "THE SAILOR'S BIBLE" by our favorite choir camp composer & lyricist, Allen Pote & Tom Long. The Bible stories include Noah's Ark, Jonah & the Whale, and the Apostle Paul's journey on a boat.

While this year is a little different, there is still plenty that will be the same, including games, crafts and lots and lots of fun as we work on the musical. We will be recording our scenes outside and our video will be featured in our livestream service on Choir Camp Sunday, August 23rd at 9:30am. Register online at [www.firstprescaldwell.org/choir-camp-2020](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org/choir-camp-2020).

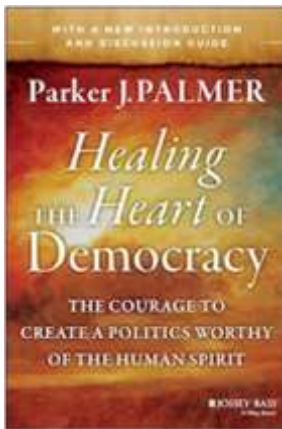
ZOOM Offering from Adult Education Committee!

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**Join this timely & important book study**  
**“Healing the Heart of Democracy” by Parker J. Palmer**  
**Starting the week of SEPTEMBER 14th**

Pastor Bill Schram has offered to lead this important 7 WEEK STUDY at TWO TIMES.

Join us as we consider and practice ways that we can speak, listen to and value each other in order to foster a community that regenerates a democracy “of the people, by the people, and for the people”. (*A quick disclaimer: the book does not advance any political opinion. Rather it teaches us about “Habits of the Heart.”*)



“Habits of the Heart” (a phrase coined by Alexis de Tocqueville) are deeply ingrained ways of seeing, being, and responding to life that involve our minds, our emotions, our self-images, our concepts of meaning and purpose. Parker Palmer writes about five interlocking habits that are critical to sustaining a democracy:

**1. An understanding that we are all in this together.**

Biologists, ecologists, economists, ethicists, and leaders of the great religious and wisdom traditions have all given voice to this theme. We humans are a profoundly interconnected species. Which leads to a second key habit of the heart...

**2. An appreciation of the value of “otherness”.**

It is true that thinking of the world in terms of “us” and “them” is one of the many limitations of the human mind. The good news is that “us and them” does not have to mean “us versus them.” Instead, it can remind us of the ancient tradition of hospitality to the stranger in which we recognize that the stranger has much to teach us. Which leads to a third key habit of the heart...

**3. An ability to hold tension in life-giving ways.** Our lives are filled with inner and outer contradictions. We are flawed and finite beings whose understanding is always partial and in need of correction. The genius of the human heart lies in its capacity to use the tensions that come with our limitations to generate insight, energy, and new life. Making the most of those gifts requires a fourth key habit of the heart...

**4. A sense of personal voice and agency.** Insight and energy give rise to new life as we speak out and act out our own version of truth, while checking and correcting it against the truths of others. It is possible for us to know the satisfaction that comes from contributing to positive change—if we have the support of a community. Which leads to a fifth and final habit of the heart...

**5. A capacity to create community.** In a mass society like ours, community rarely comes ready-made. There are many ways to plant and cultivate the seeds of community in our personal and local lives. We must all become gardeners of community if we want democracy to flourish.

**Sessions begin the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>**

- **Monday mornings from 10 to 11:30**
- **Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30**

Register at [Adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:Adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org) Please include...

- Name
- Email
- Phone
- Pick your session (Monday a.m./Wednesday p.m.)
- Adult Ed buy your book (Kindle/Paperback) OR Buy your own
- Are you interested in being a discussion facilitator? (We will give you more information)
- Are you familiar with ZOOM meetings?

**IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS BOOK STUDY, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONTACT US AT THE SAME WEBSITE [Adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:Adult.edu@firstprescaldwell.org)**



### **COVID CONCERT SERIES**

Join us for a "Covid Concert Series!" A new link will be posted each Sunday evening on Facebook and will later be sent out via email. This 30-40 minute recital will feature favorite FPC musicians performing a variety of music, both sacred and secular. This week's performers are Katie Kreil, Adriana Pierce, Michael Restaino and Paul Salierno.

"Encounters With..."

**YOUTH**  
Online Devotions

**WEDNESDAYS** *beginning August 5th  
grades 6-12*

**2:00PM**

Led by Rev. Katherine Scott-Kirschner  
from the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

EMAIL: YOUTHMINISTRY@FIRSTPRESCALDWELL.ORG TO SIGN UP

## **NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH** **"Encounters with....."**

All incoming middle school and high school students are invited to join us each week as we take a look at what it might mean to have an encounter with God. Guest speakers will record videos telling the tales of their encounters with God and with Christianity, and what it has meant for their lives. Each Wednesday at 2:00PM, Rev. Katherine Scott-Kirschner from the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair, will help us dive into the stories to see what kind of lessons can be learned, and how to look for "Encounters " in our own lives.

Videos will be posted each Sunday for you to watch at your convenience, after which a Zoom link will be sent out for the discussions on Wednesday. We will meet virtually each Wednesday until September 2nd. Please email [youthministry@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:youthministry@firstprescaldwell.org) to sign up. We look forward to seeing you!

SUBMIT A HYMN REQUEST FOR OUR SUMMER

# HYMN SING

The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
9:30am Livestream Sanctuary Service

## JUST A FEW WEEKS LEFT OF OUR SUMMER HYMN SINGS

Summer hymn sings have always been very popular at First Presbyterian. Each week members of the congregation eagerly call out the number of their favorite hymn. Well - this summer we shall once again seek your hymn favorites for Sunday morning worship. Submit your hymn request through the church website at <https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/hymn-sing/>. Visit the following link to see a full-listing of hymns in GLORY TO GOD: <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/GG2013?page=1>

Do you like to hold a hymnal when you sing during worship? Do you enjoy reading hymn texts for prayer and inspiration? Do you enjoy playing hymns on your piano or keyboard? Call the church office (973-228-0310) and we will make arrangements to bring a hymnal to you as a loan during this time of livestream worship.



### WORDS TO PONDER FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

“Give thanks in all circumstances; For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18

To find out more about this caring, listening, confidential ministry call the confidential line at 973-228-0310 ext. 235, or speak to one of our pastors.

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.*



One of the implications of suspending public worship is that our regular offering isn't being collected. As it is essential to pay our staff and meet our current obligations, we ask if you are able, please mail your offering to the church or submit your offering online at <https://www.firstprescaldwell.org/donate/>. Knowing that our income could be impacted, we invite those with extra resources to consider making a special gift.

### OUR STAFF

**Rev. Bil Schram**, Interim Pastor/Head of Staff

**Rev. Barbara Jo Piercy**, *Minister of Music*

**Noel Piercy**, *Associate Director of Music*

**Kaitlyn Heun**, *Interim Director Youth Ministries*

**Susan Jones**, *Interim Director Children's Ministry*

**Scott Westenberger**, *Worship Leader*

**Lauren Restaino**, *Youth Ministry & Communications Coordinator*

**Christine Brunner**, *Office Manager*

**Chris White**, *Building Manager/Head Sexton*

**Jennifer Garcia**, *Administrative Assistant*

**Brittany Heun**, *Sunday Receptionist*

**Kathleen Carlson**, *Director*

*Weekday Nursery School - 973-226-6674*

*<http://www.firstpresnurseryschool.com>*

**David Hicock**, *Superintendent*

*Prospect Hill Cemetery - 973-228-4410*

*[prospecthillcemetery@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:prospecthillcemetery@firstprescaldwell.org)*

**Dr. Robert R. McGruther**, *Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. Robert Pryor**, *Parish Associate*

## THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CALDWELL

326 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Office Hours: M-Th 9AM - 4PM, F 9AM - 3PM

Office Phone: 973-228-0310

e-mail address: [fpc@firstprescaldwell.org](mailto:fpc@firstprescaldwell.org)

website: [www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org)

### CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

#### **SUNDAY, August 16th**

9:30 AM Worship Service, Facebook Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

11:00 AM Illuminate Service, Facebook Livestream

#### **MONDAY, August 17th**

7:00 PM Choir Camp, Church Lawn

#### **TUESDAY, August 18th**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, Zoom Meeting

10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Session Meeting, Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Choir Camp, Church Lawn

#### **WEDNESDAY, August 19th**

2:00 PM Youth Online Devotionals, Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Bible Study, Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Choir Camp, Church Lawn

#### **THURSDAY, August 20th**

7:00 PM Choir Camp, Church Lawn

#### **FRIDAY, August 21st**

7:00 PM Choir Camp, Church Lawn

#### **SUNDAY, August 23rd**

9:30 AM Worship Service, Facebook Livestream

10:30 AM Virtual Coffee Hour, Zoom Meeting

11:00 AM Illuminate Service, Facebook Livestream