

LINK 'N' TOWER

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and United Church of Christ
Rev. Melanie Lawrence-Caldwell, Pastor

Volume 117, Number 4

April 2017



This seems like an opportune time to offer thanksgiving. We give thanks to God for the new life in Christ as we approach Easter. We give thanks to Jesus for the amazing gift we receive through his crucifixion. We give thanks for the warmer days and nights as spring is sprung. We give thanks for the lengthening of days.

But we give thanks, too, for the many people who offer so much of themselves in our midst. We must always remember those of our military who are serving us all each day, and their families. We give thanks for the firefighters, EMTs, police and other emergency personnel who come to service us in the worst of times. We give thanks for the medical professionals who care for us and heal us. And we give thanks for our teachers, administrators, and elected officials and pray for them in their service.

I give thanks every day for all of you. There are so many amazing volunteers at Collenbrook United, both members and friends alike! You never cease to amaze me with your Community Dinners each month and how everyone comes together to feed so many! Thank you! Those of you with some physical strength (and you know who you are) are forever moving tables, chairs and pews. Thank you! Some of you build, paint, fix, clean, reorganize, decorate, plan, cook, lead, arrange, sing, play, teach, care – I'm sure I'm not getting everything into this list, but you know what I mean.

I am so grateful for all that YOU do to share what you're able when you're able. It takes all of us together to serve God and God's people. I can't thank you all enough for simply being the gracious and generous people you are. May God continue to bless you and keep you as we move toward being God's resurrection people.

---Melanie

IMPORTANT DATES

- 4/6 Chinese Dinner
- 4/11 Yoga Council
- 4/13 **Maunday Thursday Service**
- 4/14 **Good Friday Service**
- 4/15 **Easter Vigil**
- 4/16 **EASTER**
- 4/22 Boot Camp
- 4/27 Community Dinner
- 4/29 Organ Dedication Concert

UPCOMING DATES

- 5/6 Creek Cleanup
- 5/7 Recessed Annual Meeting
- 5/11 Community Building Workshop
- 5/14 Begin Set up for Rummage Sale
- 5/19,20 RUMMAGE SALE

**JUSTICE RESCUE (animal rescue)
April Mission of the Month**



Since 2011, Justice Rescue has taken in and rehabilitated over 3,000 dogs to forever homes. They are one of the only nonprofit groups on the east coast dedicated to no kill solutions for abused and unwanted dogs. Justice Rescue investigates abuse cases and then takes an active role in medical care and finding forever homes for these beautiful gifts from God. We can help by digging deep in our pockets to help offset costs of food, medicare care, sheltering and fostering our canine friends. You can learn more about this wonderful local organization at www.justice-rescue.com.

“It’s not about the toes we step on but the paws we protect.”

Next month: One Great Hour of Sharing

ANIMAL BLESSING

On *Saturday, April 8th at 2 pm* you are invited to bring your pets to the church. There we will offer a blessing for all of the animals both together, and individually as you wish. We are called to care for all of God’s creatures, and those who dwell with us in our homes are very much a part of our families. We look forward to meeting your special animals!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm/Passion Sunday 10:30 worship Join us for a palm parade and lots of music! We need all the kids and young at heart to make some noise!

Maundy Thursday 7 pm Worship Join us for Holy Communion and hearing the story of the Upper Room and the time after the meal. This is one of the most beautiful and powerful worship experiences of the church year.

Good Friday 6 pm Worship (in Fellowship Hall for 30 minutes)

This short service recalls the crucifixion of Jesus, is meditative and filled with quiet time and readings. Please join us for this spiritually powerful service of simplicity. Take time to breathe and prepare for the celebration that’s coming.

Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil Something new this year is a time for intentional prayer. You may sign up for 30-60 minutes (or longer is you wish) to simply pray. Meditation materials will be offered to you if you need them. The place for your prayer is your choice, but not at the church. You can pray anywhere else you’d like. If you are interested in participating, please contact Melanie as soon as possible.

Easter Sunday Breakfast begins at 9 am with pancakes (thanks Ted) and a whole lot else (talk with Bill F. if you’d like to bring something). We do eat well here, but this is an amazing opportunity to visit with each other on the most amazing day of our church year! Worship begins at 10:30 with processions, bells, music and singing! This is the festival day of resurrection! Come one and all and bring ALL your family, friends and neighbors!

Donations given in Easter envelopes found in your box are for the Deacon's Fund, which is used to help with emergency needs of members and others. Your regular pledge goes in the white envelope. The pink envelope is for the Building Fund.

Philadelphia Association United Church of Christ Spring Meeting

Sunday, April 23 at 3 pm the Association will hold its Spring Meeting at Chestnut Hill UCC Church in Philadelphia. If you are interested in attending, please speak with Nancy K. or Melanie.

ORGAN CONCERT



We are dedicating our new organ with a wonderful concert on **Saturday, April 29th at 3 pm**. Don McFarland of Cunningham Pianos will be our organist offering a one hour concert to show off what this instrument can do. You won't want to miss this! Bring all your friends and neighbors to this free afternoon of great music!

NEW AND EXCITING THINGS

Collenbrook United is delighted to welcome a newly forming Daisy Girl Scout Troop. They will meet at the church on Monday evenings from 6-8 pm. Watch your monthly calendar for specifics on their meeting days. Welcome Girls and Leaders!

Bridget T. is hosting 8 weeks of **YOGA** at Collenbrook United Church on Tuesdays at 6pm. These classes are free and the goal of learning the poses of Yoga and getting started. Please speak with Bridget if you're interested!

CHURCH INFORMATION - NEW

Pastor Melanie has changed her days off to Mondays and Fridays, at least for now. She was finding herself working many Tuesdays due to various meetings, etc. Therefore, Melanie will be in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please call the church or drop in during those days if you would like to speak with her. It is always a good idea to call ahead just to make sure she is available. Please remember there are times when she is out of the office during these days working on church or denominational business.
Collenbrook United Church, 5290 Township Line Rd., Drexel Hill, PA 19026
Phone: 610.789.9590 www.collenbrook.org info@collenbrook.org

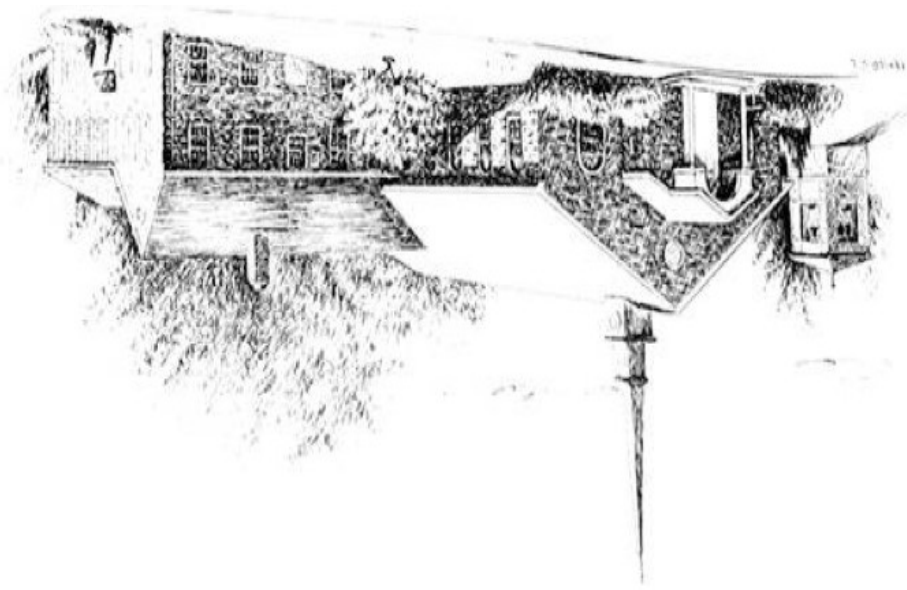
All articles and calendar events must be in to the editor no later than the 25th of each month. Please send items to collenbrookunitedchurch@gmail.com. Please note that this email is different than the church email. If you do not have email please give your articles/event dates to Pat Lawrence-Caldwell in legible form.

From the editor: if you are not receiving an email copy of the newsletter and would like to please send an email to the above email address so you can be placed on the newsletter email list.

COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH CALENDAR

APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 3pm AA
2 9:30 Choir 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	3	4 6pm Yoga	5 7pm Bell Choir	6 6:30 pm Chinese Dinner 7pm AA	7 7-10pm Podowan	8 3pm AA
9 9:30 Choir 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	10	11 6pm Yoga 7pm Council	12 7pm Bell Choir	13 7PM MAUNDAY THURSDAY SERVICE 7pm AA	14 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7-10-pm Podowan	15 EASTER VIGIL 3pm AA
16 10:30 EASTER SERVICE 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	17	18	19 7pm Bell Choir	20	21 7-10-pm Podowan	22 10 am Charity Boot Camp 3pm AA
23 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	24	25	26	27 5PM COMMUNITY DINNER	28	29 3pm ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT
30 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA						



www.collbrook.org; info@collbrook.org

COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH

5290 Township Line Road

Drexel Hill, PA 19026

FIRST CLASS MAIL