



Link -n- Tower

Volume 119 Number7

NOVEMBER 2019

Pastor and Teacher:

The Reverend Melanie Lawrence-Caldwell

Reminders

- No November Community Dinner
- Sign up for thanksgiving dinner
- Sign up to help with fall sale and bake sale
- Yankee Candle order forms due soon
- Poinsettia orders

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From the Pastor...

Give thanks! Sing praise! Declare God's steadfast love! We are being called to rekindle the gift of God that is within us. That gift is already there. We don't have to go out looking for it. We don't have to imagine it into reality. We don't have to create it. This gift is the love of God that in-dwells our lives and resides within us always. We can rekindle it.

When you make a fire, either in the fireplace or an outdoor fire pit, you start with the small kindling which will light quickly and then move to the next size of wood, until you are putting the larger logs on the fire. But then you still need to tend the fire and add wood as it continues to burn, if you want that fire to continue.

That is what God is inviting us to do with our thanksgiving and with our stewardship. We don't need to start from scratch. The fire is already going. We just need to rekindle it. We need to add fuel. We need to tend the fire if we intend for it to continue burning.

As members and friends of Collenbrook United Church, you will be receiving a small packet either in person or in the mail. It contains several important pieces to read and pray about. It also contains a puzzle piece which we pray you will either bring back or send back with your pledge for 2020. If you choose to not return it, we'll try to come to you to retrieve it. The puzzle isn't complete without you! Each of you, and the gift of God that is within each of you is inte-

gral to the Body of Christ, God's church. Even if you are choosing to not pledge, you are still a part of us and we still need YOU.

I give thanks to God for YOU! I sing praise to God for this amazing community of faithful servants! I declare God's steadfast love for each of us as children of God, forgiven and blessed by God. Rekindle that gift of God that is within you as your prayerfully consider your stewardship to Collenbrook United Church for 2020. We are counting on everyone because we are never going to be complete without each of us.

Shalom,
Pastor Melanie

Mission of the Month - Neighbors in Need

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Min-](#)

[istry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are

awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

Church Family Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Once a year we gather as a family to celebrate each other and all the hard work and fun we have had during the past year. Our church is a family: we laugh, we cry, sometimes we fight. We also love one another. This is our time to give thanks for each other.

You are all invited... and your family, to our Annual Thanksgiv-



ing Dinner on **Saturday, November 23rd**. Pat and Melanie will be doing the turkeys and stuffing. You all need to bring the fixings to share! Sign-up sheets available November 3rd so we have an idea of numbers. This has always been a favorite event for many! While we extend the welcome wide, this not considered a community dinner. See you there! is not considered a community dinner. See you there!

Fall Sale and Bake Sale

Saturday, November 9th, from 9 am – 3 pm we have our annual Fall Sale! We need your clean rummage... yard sale items... holiday items... games... toys... puzzles, etc. Please make sure your items are clean before you bring them to church. This is one of our biggest fund raisers for the church so we need EVERYONE to pitch in and help as they're able. Thanks in advance. Signup sheets will be available Sunday. Fall sale is headed by Nancy and Pastor Melanie; bake sale is headed by Liz and Roseann. Contact any of them with any questions.

Saturday, Nov. 9th
from 9am - 3pm



FALL SALE AND BAKE SALE

Other Important and Fun Things To Do

UCC Conference Meeting

The Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ has its Fall Meeting on Sunday, **November 17th** at Ursinus College. If you are interested in attending with Pastor Melanie and Nancy Krody, please let Melanie know soon for registration. You are most welcome to attend.

Philadelphia Presbytery Meeting

The Philadelphia Presbytery has its next meeting on Tuesday, **November 19th** during the day. If you are interested in joining Pastor Melanie and Nancy Krody, please let Melanie know soon. You are most welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Are you interested in helping with the Christmas decorations here at the church! Melanie and Jil would love your assistance! It's always a lot of fun and many hands make things go a whole lot faster. Join us! We'll post date and time soon!

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Please make a note of the Poinsettia Order Form in this newsletter. The forms are also in the bulletins each week through December 8, the last day to order.

2020 WEEKLY FLOWER ORDERS

Beginning December 15, we will begin taking orders for weekly flowers for worship for the 2020 year. The cost will remain the same as this past year, so watch your bulletins and newsletters for more information.

CREEK CLEANUP

Lots of hands make light work. Please come help if you are able. It's a fun thing and it helps our property stay in good order.

Saturday, Nov.16th 9am

Yankee Candle Fundraiser

If you are taking orders and collecting money, those **orders need to be at the church no later than Sunday, November 10th**! This guarantees delivery well before Christmas.

Orders can also be done online by the customer herself. There are a couple of ways to get your friends, coworkers and distant relatives to

help out. You can download the Yankee Candle App. This allows you to send text or email invites to everyone you can think of. Or, you can direct them to yan-

keecandlefundraising.com along with our group number. This allows the person to buy directly from Yan-

kee Candle with Colleenbrook as the sponsor. Online sales continue til the end of the year.

They make great holiday gifts

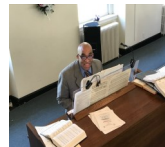
Activities from other Groups



Yoga Classes are under way in the Fellowship Hall! Contact Danielle for more information on rates and class schedule, by either calling/texting her at (610) 908-9670,



Junior Girl Scouts meet on Tuesdays at 5pm.



Piano and Organ Lessons. Reasonable rates. Contact Bill through church office.

AA groups

Meetings on:

Sundays 7pm

Thursdays 7pm

Saturdays 3pm

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Collenbrook United Church
All are Welcome, NO EXCEPTIONS

Lawrence-Caldwell Open House

It has become a tradition for Pastor Melanie to host an “open house” every December. This is her way of saying thank you to all her church family. Usually this is at Melanie’s home.

This year, due to logistics, the Open House will be in the **fellowship hall following worship service on December 15th**. We hope all of you will join us for some wonderful holiday fellowship.

Love, Pastor Melanie and Pat



Calendar

November

- 9 FALL SALE
- 12 Council
- 16 Creek Clean up
- 23 Church DINNER

December

- 1 ADVENT BEGINS
- 10 Council
- 22 Pastor Open House
- 24 **Christmas Eve Service**
- 26 Community Dinner
- 29 Agape Breakfast

Every Week

- Sun Choir 9:30am
- Worship 10:30am
- Mon Bible Study 1pm and 7pm
- Wed Handbell Choir 7pm