

## LINK 'N' TOWER

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

Volume 117, Number 6

July/August 2017



Wow! 110 people at our BBQ Community Dinner! We are feeding and sharing such good news with so many people in our community! I celebrate each and every one of you and all the gifts you so graciously share with the Body of Christ! Hallelujah! Amen! There are so many people who need God's love and we are here to share it! It is what we do and who we are! Praise God!

During the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference gathering, one of our speakers was Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette. It just so happens that I had just started to read her book "Real Good Church" just before the Conference meeting. I confess that it was one of our members who loaned me Molly's book, thinking that I would enjoy it, as I have. Thank you, Sue!

I came back from Conference energized. I am excited about who we are and where God is leading us. We are growing, both in numbers and spiritually. Yet there are always new ideas and opportunities ahead of us to grow even more. We're here to share God's love and hope and promise. God continues to invite us to step out of our comfort zones and risk being real and vulnerable, moving toward being all that we can be.

If you're interested in reading Molly's book, let me know and we can order a bunch of them to pass around! As a sidenote, Pat and I (and parents) will be taking our summer vacation at the end of July (July 24<sup>th</sup> -August 7<sup>th</sup>) so there will be no bible study or bell choir rehearsals during those weeks. There will be pulpit supply for those who need pastoral care during this time.

*Shalom, Melanie*

## **CHESTER EASTSIDE, INC. (CEI)**

### **July Mission of the Month**

Chester Eastside, Inc. (CEI) is a welcoming and inclusive community that enables individuals of all ages to achieve their goals and aspirations, and that promotes a just and peaceful coexistence in Chester through advocacy and programs for education, social services, and justice. CEI is:

- a non-profit social service organization
- a transformational agent in the community

*CEI provides food and hospitality, after-school and education programs, social justice and cultural arts programs, as well as various other programs activities and services.*

Current programs and services include

- o Food / Hunger Program
- o Clothing Closet
- o After School Program
- o Summer Camp and Peace Camp
- o Parents First
- o High School GED Program
- o Prison Ministry
- o Chester Eastside Clubs
- o Providing a community space
- o Advocacy for social justice

We at Collenbrook have been closely associated with Chester Eastside for many years and have done many fund raising projects for them. Marie Dolton has served as Treasurer. Others have spent time there assisting with work on the physical facility. The food we collect in the food donation bin goes to Chester Eastside. *Meeting basic human needs.....helping people of all ages be all they can be..... working for a more just society.*

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

## **THE UN REFUGEE AGENCY (UNHCR)**

### **August Mission of the Month**

According to the UNHCR annual Global Trends report, 65.6 million people were uprooted from their homes by conflict and persecution at the end of 2016. That is the total population of Great Britain and more than France!

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established in 1950 to help millions of mostly Europeans who had been displaced during World War II. Since then, the UNHCR has helped many millions of people who have been displaced from their homes due to war and persecution. Their primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of people who have been forced to flee. Working with other partners they help to ensure that everybody has right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another country. They serve over 130 countries and 87% of staff are in the field working daily, many times in very dangerous conditions to get these people to a safe haven.

Can you imagine if your home, place of worship, job were gone! Can you imagine what it must be like to not knowing where your family was or if you were going to survive the night? Please give generously to the UNHCR during the month of August so they may continue this heartbreaking but much necessary work. To learn more please go to **[www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)**.

## EXCITING THINGS

**BIBLE STUDY** with Pastor Melanie will be held on **Tuesdays**...please check the attached calendars for dates and times. Each session will stand completely alone, not building on anything previous. Feel free to come and go throughout the summer as you're able. Bring your Bible and yourself. No snacks unless you decide to bring them. I'll have ice water available (if you don't have a Bible, please let me know and we can certainly either purchase one or loan you one).

**BOOT CAMP** takes place once a month on the **second Saturday at 10 am**. This is a great way to get your muscles moving and have some fun. Medium to high intensity group workout with fitness trainer Chris. Each month the cost to participate is a donation to whichever charity Chris chooses so grab your gym shoes and get ready to get your heart pumping!

**COMMUNITY DINNERS** are always a fun time and every month we feed more community people. Remember – dinners are always the last Thursday of the month so **July is on the 27<sup>th</sup>** and **August is on the 31st**.

**HIKING/WALKING/RUNNING** group getting underway. Debbie M. is spearheading this wonderful way to exercise, enjoy nature and get to know each other on a more personal level. All fitness levels are welcome. Group meets on **Thursdays at 7 pm** at different parks so be sure to contact office or Debbie for weekly locations.

**MUSIC** programs at Collenbrook include adult vocal choir (**Sundays at 9:30 am**) to handbell choir and ensemble (**Wednesdays 7 pm**). We also have so many talented musicians who help us in worship throughout the year from classical flute to folk guitar to African drums so if you love to sing or being a part of an ensemble or play an instrument, feel free to come to rehearsals (check calendar) or let Bill (organist/choir director) or Pat L (handbell director) know of your interest.

### **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](http://www.collenbrook.org) [info@collenbrook.org](mailto:info@collenbrook.org)**

**All articles and calendar events must be in to the editor no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please send items to [collenbrookunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto: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

## JULY 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  6-8 Daisy Scouts	4 10am Yoga	5 7pm Bell Choir  5-7 Civitan	6 7pm Hiking  7pm AA	7  7-10pm Podowan	8  3pm AA
9 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	10	11 Noon Bible Study 6pm Yoga 7pm Council	12 7pm Bell Choir  5-7 Civitan	13 7pm Hiking  7pm AA	14  7-10-pm Podowan	15  10 am Charity Boot Camp  3pm AA
16 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	17  6-8 Daisy Scouts	18 6pm Yoga 7pm Bible Study	19 7pm Bell Choir  5-7 Civitan	20 7pm Hiking	21  7-10-pm Podowan	22  3pm AA
23 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	24	25 6pm Yoga	26  5-7 Civitan	27 5PM COMMUNITY DINNER 7pm Hiking	28  7-10-pm Podowan	29
30 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	31  6-8 Daisy Scouts					

***Pastor Melanie will be on vacation from July 24<sup>th</sup> to August 7<sup>th</sup>. She will be back on the 8<sup>th</sup>. No bible study or bell choir during those weeks.***

### LEGEND

Sanctuary – S

Choir Room – CR

Fellowship Hall – F

Chancel – C

Off Campus - OC

Office - O

Downstairs Room - DR

# COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH CALENDAR

## AUGUST 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 3pm AA
6 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	7  6-8 Daisy Scouts	8 Noon Bible Study 6pm Yoga	9 7pm Bell Choir  5-7 Civitan	10 7pm Hiking  7pm AA	11  7-10pm Podowan	12 10am Council Retreat  3pm AA
13 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	14	15 6pm Yoga 7pm Bible Study	16 7pm Bell Choir  5-7 Civitan	17 7pm Hiking  7pm AA	18  7-10-pm Podowan	19  10 am Charity Boot Camp  3pm AA
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27 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP  1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	28	29 6pm Yoga 7pm Bible Study	30 7pm Bell Choir  5-7 Civitan	31 5PM COMMUNITY DINNER 7pm Hiking		

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Choir Room – CR

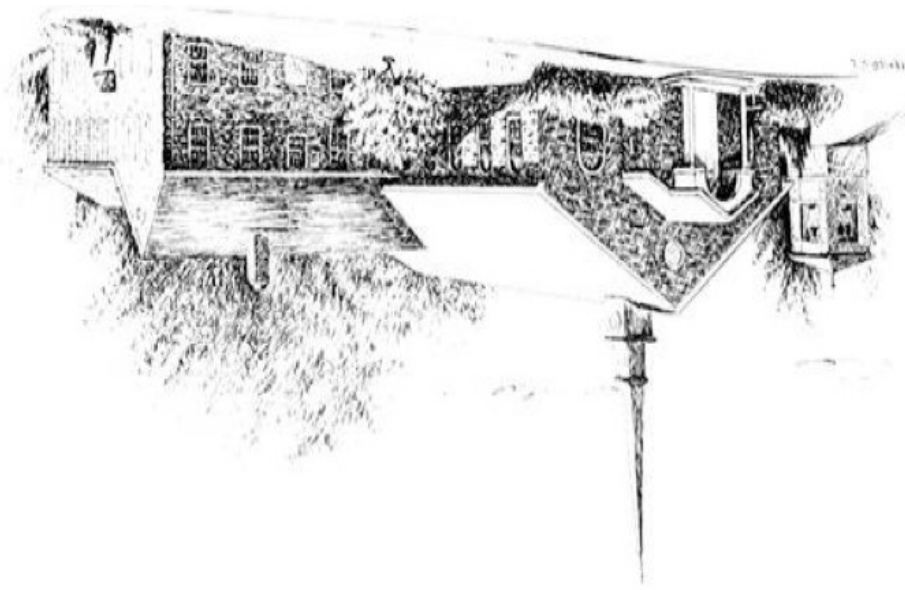
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[www.collbrook.org](http://www.collbrook.org); [info@collbrook.org](mailto:info@collbrook.org)

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FIRST CLASS MAIL