

LINK 'N' TOWER

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

Volume 117, Number 2

February 2017



There is an elephant in the living room. We are stuck in political disagreement and are not talking respectfully to each other. Anyone who has been on social media or watched the news in recent months can see, hear and feel the angst we have in our country. We seem to have stopped trusting each other. We are not listening to each other. We definitely do not understand each other. We are also not talking to each other with open, honest, respectful dialogue.

I am scheduling a round table discussion to begin addressing these issues in our safe setting. Yes, these issues in our relationships are stemming from politics and poor communication. I am also keenly aware of separation of church and state. However, that separation has nothing to do with having conversation outside of worship for respectful dialogue.

If we cannot do this here among our faith family and friends, how can we ever expect to do the same outside the church? The round table discussion needs ALL voices at the table. I will mediate and set clear ground rules and boundaries. We MUST address this for personal well being, communal well being and spiritual well being.

Date will be determined very soon. You all will receive clear information about start up but in the meantime PLEASE be prayerful and plan to attend.

Shalom
Melanie

February Mission of the Month - CWS Blankets and Tools

This vital ministry helps people around the world recover from disasters and get a fresh start. Someone like Karen, a senior citizen in Michigan whose home was flooded in 2014, or Nerline, a mother of four in Haiti, who lived in a tent for several years after the earthquake in 2010 destroyed her house are only two who have been served by CWS Blankets.

Through CWS Blankets you are helping neighbors not only recover from disasters, but offer them hope, necessities for cleanup, and the tools they need to rebuild their lives. You also make it possible to be prepared for whatever may come in the future so CWS is ready to act.

\$50 can provide 5 warm blankets for a family left homeless by a tornado or other disaster and \$110 can provide an emergency food package for a family of 5 for a month. \$200 can provide 20 mosquito nets to help keep families safe from the bite of mosquitoes and the illnesses they bring.

*During the month of February, please be prayerful about what you are able to offer others whom you will never meet, but will most certainly impact with your gift.
Thank you for your generosity.*

February 19th after service the annual Mission of the Month meeting will take place to determine the year's missions. All are welcome to attend.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/5 Congregational Meeting
- 2/12 Lansdowne Symphony
- 2/14 VALENTINE'S DAY
- 2/14 Council Meeting
- 2/18 Charity Boot Camp
- 2/19 MOM Meeting
- 2/23 Community Dinner
- 2/23 LGBTQA Meeting
- 2/25 Rainbow Movie Night
- 3/1 **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**
- 3/14 Council Meeting
- 3/25 Blood Drive
- 3/30 Community Dinner

Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra February 12th at 3pm Upper Darby Performance Arts Center

The fellowship event this month is a concert. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors and \$5 for students. Please see Debbie M. for more information.

Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.

Maya Angelou,
Celebrations:Rituals of Peace and Prayer

ONA/MORE LIGHT

presents

MOVIE NIGHT AT THE COLLENBROOK!

Extra, extra read all about it! **Saturday, February 25th at 6:30 pm** the movie "**BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER**" will be presented with a round table discussion following. Hosted by Collenbrook's LGBTQ group serving popcorn and hotdogs. The movie is rated "R" for adult themes and language. This movie takes a campy look at conversion therapy.

What if our loneliness is the result not simply of needing a partner but of needing people? We are made in the image of a relational God; it makes sense that we possess the desire to be together.

Debra Fileta, True Love Dates

FEBRUARY CHARITY BOOT CAMP - February 18th

11:30 Collenbrook Fellowship Hall

Smile Drive for Oral Health

Chris Templeton is offering an hour that will get your heart pumping, your glands sweating and your legs jelling! It's an hour to help get you moving at your own pace and the only entry fee are items having to do with oral health: toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss.

For more information see Chris or go to:

www.BeTheCHANGE-fitness.com

A bear, however hard he tries, grows tubby without exercise.

A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh

ONA/MORE LIGHT MEETING- February 23rd

7:15 after the Community Dinner

It is time once again to gear up and get together to plan for events to come, support and encourage each other and discuss the direction this group wants to move in this year. This meeting is open to all people but we especially invite those who identify as LGBTQA.

COMMUNITY DINNER

CHICKEN

Starts at 5 pm so put your boots and coat on and join us for some good food and great fellowship.

October 2017 will mark the first production of Collenbrook's own theater troupe when a band of radical revolutionaries defy bigotry and injustice in the award winning musical **GODSPELL**. But this ambitious project will need help from anyone we can draft...from church members to friends to generous acquaintances. So, we are “preparing the way” in earnest to fill the positions below:

Here is a list of who it will take in addition to the cast for us to make this successful:

Producer: Michael Tovar	Rehearsal/Performance Pianist (paid)
Director: Len Hedges-Goettl	Volunteer musicians
Asst. Director: Barb Hedges-Goett	Props Person
Choreographer	Advertising/promotions people
Costumer	Set Builders
Lighting Person	Sound Person: Jeff Mycek
Stage Manager	Concession Staff
Ticket Person	Program Designer/producer
Ushers	

Tabitha Tarbutton is the volunteer coordinator so if you want to help out with any of the positions above please contact her through the church office. If you know of someone who loves theater and wants to volunteer please pass on this information. Let's join together and make this a ministry project to remember for years!

BLOOD DRIVE

Collenbrook United Church

Fellowship Hall

Saturday, March 25, 2017

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

There is a huge need for blood and platelets. We can help by signing up to give a blood donation. It only takes about 30 minutes and you get some good treats. Please go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: collenbrook.

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

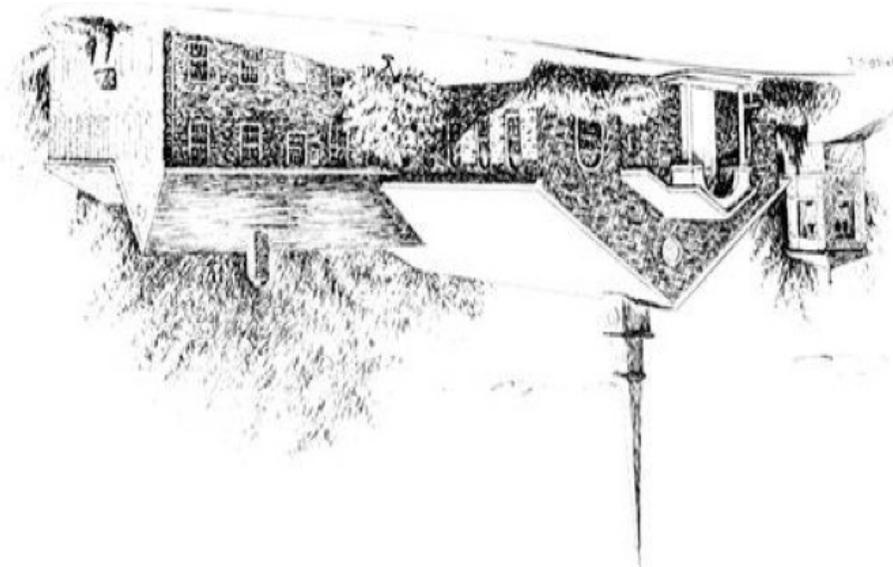
Phone: 610.789.9590 www.collenbrook.org info@collenbrook.org

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.

COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7pm Bell Choir	2 7pm AA	3 7-10pm Podowan	4 3pm AA
5 9:30 Choir 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	6	7	8 7pm Bell Choir	9 7pm AA	10 7-10pm Podowan	11 3pm AA
12 9:30 Choir 10:30- WORSHIP Fellowship Event-Concert 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	13	14 7pm Council	15 7pm Bell Choir	16 7pm AA	17 7-10-pm Podowan	18 11:30 AM Charity Boot Camp 3pm AA
19 9:30 Choir 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	20	21	22 7pm Bell Choir	23 5-7 Community Dinner 7:15 ONA/ML MTG 7pm AA	24 7-10-pm Podowan	25 6:30 MOVIE NIGHT 3pm AA
26 10:30- WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	27	28	1 7 pm-Ash Wednesday Service			



www.colleenbrook.org; info@colleenbrook.org

COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH

5290 Township Line Road

Drexel Hill, PA 19026

FIRST CLASS MAIL