



## **LINK 'N' TOWER**

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

Volume 117, Number 5 June 2017



WE ARE GROWING A GOOD NEWS CHURCH! PRAISE GOD! We welcome new people to worship each week. Our new Organist/Choir Director, Bill Lowden, brings amazing and joy filled music to us each week, blessing our worship. We welcome more community members to our Community Dinners each month. We continue to offer food and donations to Chester Eastside Ministries each week. There are 3 AA groups meeting at the church each week. Ancona, of course, is here each weekday. Podowon continues to worship here each week. We have a Girl Scout Troop meeting here every other week. It seems that more and more community groups are seeking space to meet for events.

#### WE ARE GROWING A GOOD NEWS CHURCH!

So with all this going on, it has become clear to me that we may be experiencing some 'growing pains.' With new people come new ideas, new ways of doing things, new opportunities and possibilities. Change can be wonderful, and it can also be unsettling. If we're used to things being a certain way and suddenly without notice it changes, we can find ourselves thrown off a bit. We may not always reach everyone with the communication that's needed. Please be patient with each other and with me. We're learning a new dance and we're likely to step on each other's toes a bit. It is good that we can come together to serve God and each other in new and amazing ways. THAT is what we're here to do – to serve and be served through the love and grace of Jesus Christ. We must never lose sight of our reason for being...

WE ARE GROWING A GOOD NEWS CHURCH! Shalom, Melanie

#### IMPORTANT DATES IN JUNE

Every Sunday – WORSHIP

every Tuesday – Yoga every Tuesday – Bible Study every Thursday – Hiking

9,10,11 - PA SE Conference

17- Charity Boot Camp

18 - Philly PRIDE Parade, Booth

27 – Community Dinner

# SAGE (Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders) June Mission of the Month

Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE) is the country's largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older adults. Founded in 1978 and headquartered in New York City, SAGE is a national organization that offers supportive services and consumer resources for LGBT older adults and their caregivers, advocates for public policy changes that address the needs of LGBT older people, and provides training for aging providers and LGBT organizations, largely through its National Resource Center on LGBT Aging. With offices in New York City, Washington, DC and Chicago, SAGE coordinates a growing network of 28 local SAGE affiliates in 21 states and the District of Columbia.

#### PRIDE PARADE

On June 18<sup>th</sup> we are gathering at Locust and 13<sup>th</sup> St to participate in the Philadelphia Pride Parade and Festival. We are hosting a booth in the afternoon and we can always use help. If you want to have a great time you can either come down to the parade with Pastor Melanie, who will be leaving from the church after a short morning service. This parade is for everyone!!!!

If you would like to attend the festival bands are \$15 at the gate but if you contact Pat L or Melanie before friday evening bands are \$10.

### **Pentecost and Music** – *Thoughts from the Organ Bench* by Bill Lowden

Each Pentecost Sunday in my church career, I have chosen the spiritual "I'm Gonna Sing when the Spirit Says Sing" as a congregational hymn or choir anthem. Of course, singing is not the only thing the Spirit can urge us to do. According to other verses in this song, we can be led to pray, preach, and shout, too. I am moved to add other things like listen, care, share, love, and even make waves.

What, besides the first verse, does this have to do with music? I'm so glad you asked!

The Spirit calls us to fulfill various roles in our lives both in and out of the church. In my specific field that can mean singing, ringing, playing an instrument, listening, and supporting. Not everyone can fulfill <u>all</u> these roles, but anyone can do <u>something</u>.

As we move through this long season of Pentecost (sometimes called ordinary time), be open to the call of the Spirit in ways that may not be your *ordinary* choices...do what the Spirit calls you to do. If you sing, sing with enthusiasm; if you ring, ring with clarity; if you perform on an instrument, make music with humility and strength; if you listen, do so with openness and appreciation.

Make a joyful sound for our God as the Spirit calls you!

#### **NEW AND EXCITING THINGS**

**YOGA** is now being offered for free through the summer thanks to Bridget. So grab your mat and come to the fellowship hall on Tuesday evenings at 6 pm.

**BIBLE STUDY** with Pastor Melanie will be held on Tuesdays... 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays will meet at 7 pm at the church 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays will meet at NOON at the church.

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.)

**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.

#### **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.

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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 <u>collenbrookunitedchurch@gmail.com</u>. 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.

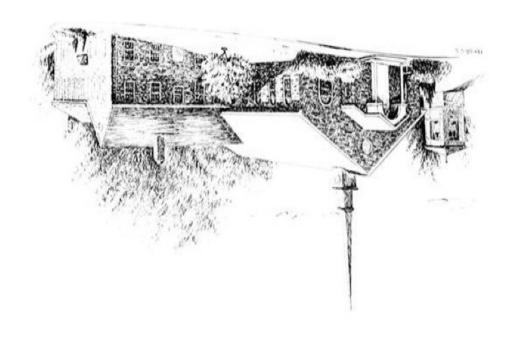
From the editor: if you are not receiving an email copy of the newsletter and would like to please send an email to the above email address so you can be placed on the newsletter email list.

## COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH CALENDAR JUNE 2017

JUNE 2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				7pm Hiking	7-10pm Podowan	3 3pm AA
4 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	5 6-8 Daisy Scouts	6 6pm Yoga 7pm Bible Study	7 5-7 Civitan	8 7pm Hiking 7pm AA	9 PASE Conference 7-10pm Podowan	10 PASE Conference 3pm AA
9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP DC Pride PASE Conference 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	12	Noon Bible Study 6pm Yoga 7pm Council	14 7pm Bell Choir 5-7 Civitan	7pm Hiking 7pm AA	7-10-pm Podowan	17 10 am Charity Boot Camp 3pm AA
18 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP 11:00 PRIDE 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	19 6-8 Daisy Scouts	6pm Yoga 7pm Bible Study	21 7pm Bell Choir 5-7 Civitan	22 7pm Hiking	23 7-10-pm Podowan	24 3pm AA
25 9:30 Choir 10:30 WORSHIP 1-7 Podowan 7:30 AA	26	27 Noon Bible Study 6pm Yoga	28 7pm Bell Choir 5-7 Civitan	27 5PM COMMUNITY DINNER 7pm Hiking	7-10-pm Podowan	

Sanctuary – S Choir Room – CR Fellowship Hall – F **LEGEND** 

Chancel – C Off Campus - OC Office - O Downstairs Room - DR



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