



# COLLENBROOK UNITED CHURCH LINK -N-TOWER



United Church of Christ  
March 2019

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Volume 119, Number 3

## Melanie Lawrence-Caldwell, Pastor

### CALENDAR

#### Worship Opportunities:

Sundays 10:30am

March

6th **Ash Wednesday Service**

12th Council Meeting

16th Game Night/ONA MTG

23rd Blood Drive

28th Community Dinner

April

9th Council Meeting

13th Creek/Church CleanUp

14th Palm Sunday

18th **Maundy Thursday Service**

19th **Good Friday Service**

21st **EASTER**

25th Community Dinner

*Handbell Choir rehearsal every  
Wednesday at 7pm.*

#### Game Night

Join us for a fun fellowship activity on **March 16**. Bring a board game or some cards. We will supply some pizza and you supply the fun. 6pm.

### FROM THE PASTOR



Lent has begun. The English word Lent is a shortened form of the Old English word len(c)ten, meaning "spring season." I think we're all definitely up for some real spring weather. The 40 days of Lent represent the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness. Keep in mind that Sundays are not included in the 40 days of Lent. Each Sunday is a mini Easter and is to be celebrated as such.

As a time of preparation, I'm encouraging each of you to stop and take time each day to listen for God's voice in your midst. Yes, you can offer your prayers as you always do, but we often forget to just sit and be quiet.

Listen. Listen with your eyes closed. Listen with your eyes opened. Go to a quiet place in your home, or your yard, or the woods. Find a place where all the noises that distract you are set aside. It is amazing what you'll be able to hear. It's amazing what you'll be able to even hear with your eyes. Yes, I said hear with your eyes. There doesn't have to be sound to understand something more closely.

When you're sitting and watching people, you often hear what's going on in their lives just by watching and looking at them. Perhaps God is showing you something that you're supposed to be paying attention to.

There are some who believe that God only spoke through the prophets and our scripture. But God has never stopped speaking to us. God speaks to us in so many amazing ways. We just need to be open to the possibilities of how God may be speaking to us. But to hone those listening skills, we need to stop and practice. That's what we can do during these 40 days of Lent.

Please join me in listening to our Still Speaking God! This is how we prepare for the celebration of new life to come.

Shalom, Pastor Melanie

## COMMUNITY DINNER MARCH 28th 5-7 PM

**PurrFect Paws Rescue**  
March Mission of the Month



PurrFect Paws Rescue is a registered, non-profit corporation in the State of Pennsylvania and operates as a 501(c) 3 federally tax-exempt Public Charity. It is comprised of a small group of experienced, compassionate animal rescue volunteers who address the friendly stray (non-feral) cat population living on the streets. These unfortunate animals, are among the neediest that other shelters are not willing to take. The organization provides them with complete veterinary care often running into thousands of dollars and places them in caring and devoted foster homes until they can find their furever family.

John Valerio, who many of us know as a news anchor at KYW Newsradio 1060, is Vice President and on the Board of Directors for Purrfect Paws. He will be joining us at Fellowship Hour after church on **Sunday, March 10th** to kindly give us a professional presentation on this very deserving rescue.

Please join us for our always fabulous "coffee hour," which we all know is much more than that, and enjoy the extra added opportunity to learn more about Purrfect Paws Rescue!



**ONA/MORE LIGHT MEETING**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 16th**  
**after game night**

The first meeting of our ONA/More Light group meets Saturday immediately after game night. If you have never participated in this group please think about coming to this meeting to see what we are about. We will be discussing our participation in the 2019 Philadelphia Pride Parade. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Stonewall, which has been dubbed the beginning of the LGBT movement.

Many people believe there is no longer a need for Pride events because we now have marriage equality. This is not true. We can still be fired, lose a place to live, difficulty in adopting, serving in the military, and still, for many, be rejected and ostracized by our own immediate families and places of worship. In other words, we still fight for our very right to exist as full human beings so please join us Saturday evening to see how you can help us in this still ongoing fight.

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**MARCH 23RD**

**IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR TO  
GIVE UP SOME OF WHAT SO  
MANY NEED....BLOOD! KEEP  
AN EYE OUT AND A VEIN  
READY FOR MORE  
INFORMATION AS WE GET  
NEARER TO THE DATE.  
GIVING BLOOD IS THE BEST  
LIFESAVER WE CAN GIVE TO  
OTHERS. LEND A VEIN.**