

Christian Reporter

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church

July 2022

The birth of our nation is one again upon us. We are in need of praying for our nation more than ever. Here are a couple of prayers that I encourage you to use as we reflect on and celebrate our nation. Blessings to all!

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: '[Love your neighbor as yourself](#).'" ~ [Matthew 22:37-39](#)

Prayer For Our Country

Almighty God,
Ruler of all the peoples of the earth,
forgive our shortcomings as a nation,
purify our hearts to see and love the truth,
give wisdom to our leaders,
and steadfastness to our people,
and bring us at last
to that fair city of peace
whose foundations are mercy,
justice, and goodwill,
of which you are the designer and builder;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

By Woodrow Wilson

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
367 Cedar Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
412-531-8554
www.mtlebocc.org

PASTOR: THE REVEREND DR.
CINDY McCLUNG



WORSHIP
WITH US



CAYA (Contemporary) Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM

PLEASE JOIN US!



July Worship Leaders

- 3 - Dan Wahl
- 10 - John Crist
- 17 - Chuck Sargent
- 24 - Jeff Hawn
- 31 - Verna McGinley

MISSION STATEMENT

Serving Christ!
Living and Sharing Faith, Hope and Love

VISION STATEMENT

God's vision for Mt. Lebanon Christian Church (DOC) is that we be a Christ-centered church; growing in faith through prayer, worship, and Bible study; growing in service through outreach; growing in love through Fellowship.

MT. LEBANON CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

A Church Alive with the Holy Spirit!
367 Cedar Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Office: (412) 531- 8554
Fax: (412) 531- 4155

“Every Member Is A Minister”

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Cindy McClung | Pastor | minister367@mtlebocc.org |
| John McCarty | Assistant Pastor | john.mccarty@mtlebocc.org |
| Thomas Spray | Board Chair | tomspray@hotmail.com |
| Chuck Bieri | Director of Music | charlesbieri@yahoo.com |
| Joyce Lackey | Secretary | churchoffice@mtlebocc.org |

MT. LEBANON CHRISTIAN CHURCH OFFICERS 2022-2023 as of 6/26/2022

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Congregational Chair | Tom Spray |
| Vice Chair | Ed Persinger |
| Recording Sec. | Chuck Sargent |
| Financial Sec. | Barb Scott |
| Treasurer | Janet Bowers |
| Church Clerk | Cathy Snyder |

2022-2023

2023-2024

2024-2025

ELDERS

Amy Angotti
 Verna McGinley
 Brad Montgomery
 Sally Myton

Rev. Dr. John Crist
 Chuck Sargent
 Laurie Sargent
 Kathy Spray

DEACONS

Ray Dubiel
 Tom Spray
 Chris Wagner

Ed Persinger
 Jim Powell
 Duane Ready
 Dan Wahl

Paul Bowers
 Lee Hasselman

JR DEACON

Carmine Campbell

DEACONESSES

Alice Lawson
 Kathy Spray

Carol Dubiel
 Bonnie Philippon

Geri Offenbach
 Mary Jane Webb

TRUSTEES

Ed Persinger
 Mike Philippon

Tom Spray
 Mary Jane Webb

Ralph Scott
 Dan Wahl

Services in-Person, via Facebook Live or Free Conference Call

We will continue to film the Facebook Live services on Sunday at 9:30 and 11:00 am even though we are meeting in person now. We will also continue to use "Free Conference Call" using phone number 425-436-6348 and access code 284262#. Remember, you can view past services on our Facebook Live page by clicking here, pick Video and select what you want to watch. (or enter this <https://www.facebook.com/MtLebanonCC/>)

Small Town USA

You'll know you live in a small town when:

- Third Street is on the edge of town.
- You don't use your turn signals because every one knows where you are going.
- A baby born on June 14 receives gifts from local merchants as the first baby of the year.
- You speak to each dog you pass by name and he wags his tail at you.
- You drive into a ditch five miles out of town and the word gets back before you do.
- You dial a wrong number and talk for 15 minutes anyway.
- You can't walk for exercise because every car that passes offers you a ride.
- You miss a Sunday at church and you receive a get-well card.
- Someone asks how you feel and listens to what you say.
- Thank God for small towns and the people who live in them.



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Please contact The Elders for any prayer concerns or even just to talk. The Elders pray for those in our congregation who need prayers from those on our prayer lists and those mentioned during our worship services. If you are in need of prayer and would like to be included in our private prayer list or in the newsletter prayer list, please contact the church office or one of the Elders. Please pray for our church family, friends and neighbors. Pray for all of America and the World as we fight this COVID-19 virus.

Prayer List

All of those affected by mass shootings

Connie McCarty

Audrey Houke

Ed Pajak

Dorothy Hawn - Paramount, McMurray

The family of Erma Wilson - death of Erma

The family of George Hafner - death of George

Karen Newman - surgery recovery

Peace in the Ukraine

Harrison family - death of Connie

Mary Crist

Pajak and Wagner families - death of Stephen Wagner

Rick Fleischauer - Traumatic brain injury, nephew of Jane McCarty

Jim Powell

Art Mace

Maggie Goodwin - pain

Deborah Sykes - spiritual strength & health

Richard Sykes

Betty Rothermel

Ron Brown

Duane Ready

Active service military



Strawberry Festival – great time

The Strawberry Festival on June 4th was a big success. We estimate over 100 people attended including many children with their families who saw the bouncy house and other activities and stopped to enjoy them. The food was great and music provided by the Big Fat Jazz Band was enjoyed by all.



Also, please remember in your prayers our members who are homebound. Helen Butler, Connie McCarty, Ruth Schmidtter, and Lee Scott.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 - William Ozanick
Alice Lawson
- 7 - Dylan Wolff
- 11 - Ray Dubiel
- 18 - Heather Campbell
- 11 - Wilma Harty
- 21 - Rev. Andrew Wiegand
- 28 - Ron Brown
- 29 - Crystal Ozanick

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 -Ralph & Barb Scott
- 9 -James & Heather
Campbell
- 10 - Chuck & Roz Bieri



July Outreach

We are Disciples of Christ! We have two great opportunities to provide living water this July!

Water Bottle Distribution:

This July 4th, let's share God's love by giving a cold drink to the thirsty in our community. Volunteers are needed to staff the tent on Mt. Lebanon Christian Church front lawn. Please join us to share a kind word and distribute water bottles to community members as they head to the park for the Independence Day Celebration: Monday , July 4, 12:00 PM- 3:00 PM. Sign up to volunteer in the Narthex.

World Vision Clean Water Project

The global water crisis is one of the biggest public health crises of our day. More than 800 children under 5 die every day from drinking contaminated water.

This July, we are partnering with World Vision who has become the largest nongovernmental provider of clean drinking water – reaching one new person with clean water every 10 seconds.

Checks or online donations should be made payable to Mt. Lebanon Christian Church with "Water Outreach" in the memo line.

Sunday, June 5th was our 72nd Church anniversary. We enjoyed strawberries after worship and had a dove release that made the day special. All those in attendance enjoyed a beautiful day.



F.E. Marsh has enumerated some of God's blessings:



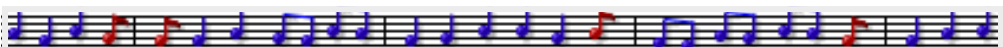
- An acceptance that can never be questioned. (Ephesians 1:6).
- An inheritance that can never be lost (I Peter 1:3-5).
- A deliverance that can never be excelled (2 Corinthians 1:10).
- A grace that can never be limited (2 Corinthians 12:9).
- A hope that can never be disappointed. (Hebrews 6:18, 19).
- A bounty that can never be withdrawn. (I Colossians 3:21-23).
- A joy that need never be diminished (John 15:11).
- A nearness to God that can never be reversed (Ephesians 2:13).
- A peace that can never be disturbed (John 14:27).
- A righteousness that can never be tarnished (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- A salvation that can never be canceled (Hebrews 5:9).



Peace, Perfect Peace

The quest for inner calm and peace has been a universal struggle for mankind throughout the ages. Even for those of us who profess to be followers of Christ, it is difficult to realize the consistency that God's ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts our own thoughts. It often becomes normal for us to make our own plans without consulting Him for His perfect will. This hymn, which reminds us that God's perfect peace is found only in Christ Jesus. This hymn was written by Rev. Edward Bickersteth who served as a Bishop in the Anglican church. While on a vacation trip in August, 1875, he heard a sermon on Isaiah 26:3 and was deeply moved by the way this verse reads in Hebrew: "Thou wilt keep him in peace, peace whose mind is stayed on Thee..." The repetition of the word conveyed the idea of absolute perfection. That afternoon while visiting a dying aged relative, Bickersteth read this verse from Isaiah to comfort the man. Then at the bedside he quickly composed the lines of this hymn text just as it reads today From the Hebrew expression of "peace peace" came the beginning phrase of each stanza, "Peace, perfect peace." For each of the five questions, he supplied a positive spiritual answer.

Peace, perfect peace – in this dark world of sin? The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.
Peace, perfect peace – by thronging duties pressed? To do the will of Jesus. This but calm is found.
Peace, perfect peace – with sorrows surging round? On Jesus' bosom naught but calm be found.
Peace, perfect peace – with loved ones far away? In Jesus' keeping we are safe, and they.
Peace, perfect peace – our future all unknown? Jesus we know, and He is on the throne.



Worshipping With Trees



When I read the Bible sometimes it personifies trees as singing and clapping their hands. We might think of these images as simple metaphors. In fact, they communicate. Science has found that trees have human-like capacities that may surprise you. Did you know that trees talk to each other? They do this through an underground fungal network that connects tree root systems, sometimes called the "wood wide web". This complex talking helps them share resources, alert each other about pests and nurture seedlings. Trees also breathe and give us oxygen as their waste. They dance when the wind blows, sing as leaves move against each other on a quiet night. Perhaps then, it is not too farfetched to imagine trees worshipping their creator as described in Psalm 96:12. Let the fields and their crops burst out with Joy! Let the tree of the forest rustle with praise.

I have always felt more comfortable being a "woody worshiper". As I lean against a tree it gives support just as Go does, protects me from inclement weather and makes me smile as I see all the other of God's creatures depending on this tree of life.

Isaiah (55:10-12)

"For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song and the trees of the field clap their hands."

There is so much more to God than we can imagine or discover in this life. There is more to life than most of us realize for most of our lives. There is so much more to Jesus than anyone can conceive. This is just the beginning of a journey that I hope will last the rest of your life.



Stay Happy, never let anyone get your goat.





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July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 11:00 am Traditional Service	4  12:00 - 3:00 - Pass out water bottles	5 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	6	7 7:00 pm Vision Team Meeting	8	9
10 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	11	12 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	13	14 7:00 pm Elder's Mtg	15	16
17 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	18 7:00 Trustees' Mtg..	19 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group 7:00 Board Mtg..	20	21 6 to 8:00 pm Mission Camp	22	23
24 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	25	26  7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	When the devil starts messing, God starts blessing.					