

Christian Reporter

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church

August 2022

Dear Friends,

This fall, we as a congregation will begin to have small groups to help build community, deepen our faith, support one another, ask questions and help create a stronger community of faith. Groups will meet over a meal or snack and talk and learn together.

"Dining Disciples" is also a way to invite others into a time of community, friendship and spiritual growth. As people share a meal together there is a greater comfort level with one another.

Conversation often flows easier. The first century Christians met to eat and encourage each other in faith.

The groups will meet once a month to eat, get to know one another, and talk and study what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. You can choose from daytime, happy hour time, evening or weekend.

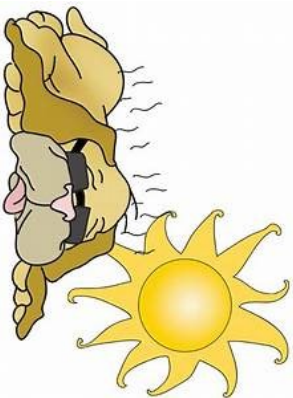
If you need a ride, please let me know. Sign-ups for "Dining Disciples" will continue thru August. Sign up in the Narthex or call Rev. Cindy. Please invite a friend, neighbor, co-worker to join us as well. Please join us in this venture! Let's grow together!

Blessings

Cindy

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



August Worship Leaders

- 7 - Chuck Sargent
- 14 - Verna McGinley
- 21 - Dan Wahl
- 28 - Jeff Hawn

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
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"Every Member Is A Minister"

- Cindy McClung
- John McCarty
- Tom Spray
- Chuck Bieri
- Joyce Lackey

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- Secretary

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How many days until Christmas????

Lots of people start counting down to Christmas in July. This year the Outreach Team is inviting you to make this Christmas extra special. You can help make this Christmas even more meaningful by giving 10 - 20% of what you would spend on Christmas presents for your family. I think it is helpful to remember that Christmas is Jesus' birthday and not ours. By giving a portion of what we would spend on gifts to give to a special project adds an extra sense of joy to our celebration.



This year we are challenged to give to World Vision Water projects. An article from World Vision follows in the newsletter. I am hopeful that our giving will be significant. The first \$2500 will be matched. I prayerfully hope that we can exceed that amount.

There will be a special place in the narthex to place your donations, checks or cash put water project on the memo line.. If you are making out a check, make it to the church and the donations will be sent together. Congratulations to Lisa Doyle and Mike Rusko who were married



Congratulations to Lisa Doyle and Mike Rusko who were married on July 16.



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](https://www.facebook.com/MtlebanonCC/), pick Video and select what you want to watch. (or enter this <https://www.facebook.com/MtlebanonCC/>)

From World Vision: Help us bring water points to the people who need it the most.

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. The reason for these deaths is that water is still collected by hundreds of millions of people from rivers and lakes and open wells. In fact, 771 million people do not have access to a basic clean water source for their homes. That's 1 out of every 10 people on the planet.

World Vision has become the largest nongovernmental provider of clean drinking water – reaching one new person with clean water every 10 seconds. We're committed to reach everyone, everywhere we work with clean water by 2030 – some 50 million people.

WHAT IS A WATER POINT?

World Vision determines the type of water point to provide in a community based on an assessment of what will be most sustainable, cost-effective and based on the available water sources. Types of water points may include a water kiosk in a community, a hand-pump well, or a solar-powered system. The water may be provided through a borehole drilled by a drilling rig. Or, it may be provided by a water source such as a protected spring and then a piped water system running into a community. Each water system is either protected or treated to ensure it is safe for users to drink.

Our standard is to ensure that every community member has access to water within 30 minutes roundtrip of their home, including the waiting time at the water point. This means that the number of water points we have in a specific area will vary by population and geography. On average, we estimate about 200-300 people are served by each water point. Therefore, depending on the yield of the system, many thousands of people could be served by one complete system.

An independent study funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and conducted by the University of North Carolina Water Institute in the Greater Afram Plains region of Ghana showed that nearly 80% of wells installed by World Vision were still functioning at high levels after nearly two decades. In contrast, previous studies have shown that 30% to 50% of non-World Vision-installed wells are not repaired when they inevitably break down. The reason for this high level of success is that we work with communities to ensure they own the water points and are able to fix them when they break down.



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:

Leslie - cancer.

Kurt & Katy - healing and strength

Matt - Dan Wahl's Nephew - recovery

Chuck - Lee Ann Wahl's brother

Carol Dubiel

Jeannie & Danny - covid

Mary Jane Webb

All those affected by Mass shootings

Leo Schober - healing

Dorothy Hawn - Paramount (McMurray)

Ed Pajak

Erma Wilson family - death of Erma

George Hafner family - 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

Kathleen Miller - Lung cancer recovery

Rick Fleischauer - Traumatic brain injury - nephew of Jane McCarty

Audrey Houke

Jim Powell

Art Mace

Maggie Goodwin - back surgery recovery

Deborah Sykes - spiritual strength & health

Richard Sykes

Betty Rothermel

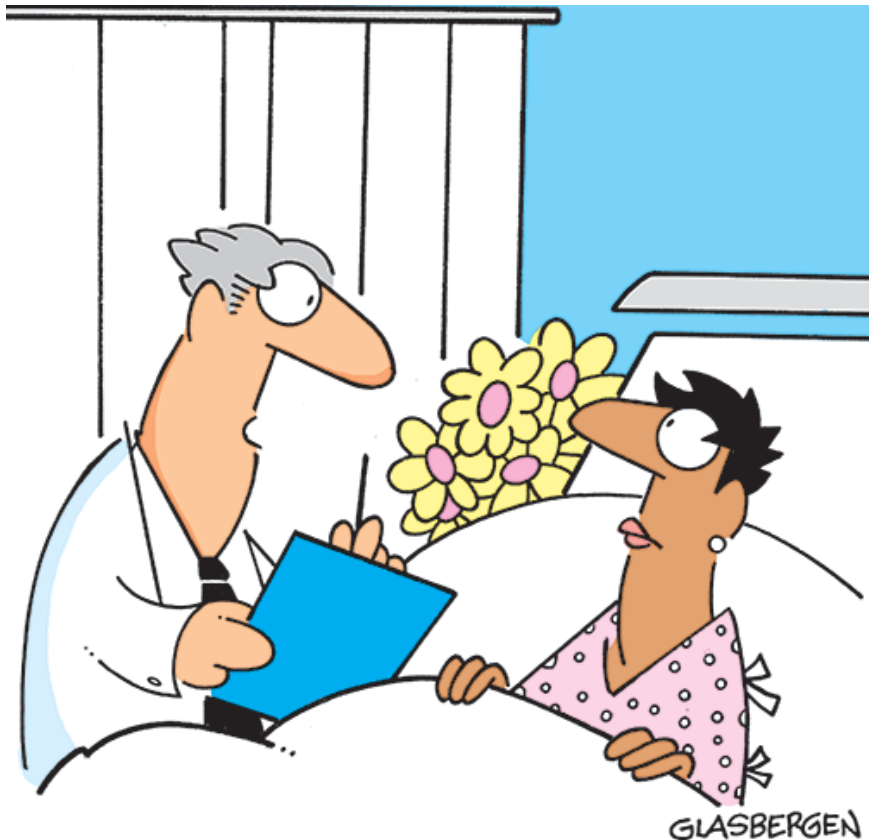
Ron Brown

Duane Ready

Active service military

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8 - Gary Schwartz
14 - Sally Myton
19 - Daryl Gray
20 - Virginia Plavetich
21 - Doris Riddler
23 - Cindy McClung
Ruth Schmidetter
26 - David Koerber



“Please don’t pray for healing. If it works, your insurance won’t know who to reimburse and it messes up our accounting system.”



August Outreach

School Supply Drive

This August, we are teaming up with The Education Partnership to provide much needed school supplies to students and teachers from under-resourced schools. A pair of scissors or a pack of pencils may seem like a small gift, but for a student without them, it can mean having the opportunity to actively participate in the classroom. Help us put that power in students’ hands by donating the resources they need to succeed.

High-need supplies include:

headphones
dry erase markers
desk chairs
pencils
notebooks
filler paper
crayons (24-packs)
markers (8-packs)
scissors
copy paper reams (8.5×11, white)

Please bring your school supply donations to the Outreach Table in the Narthex by August 28. Monetary donations will be accepted through Givelify or church envelopes (be sure to note “The Education Partnership” in the message section) Thank you for helping to level the education playing field so that local students are ready to learn.



In the game of life the answers are not in the back of the book.





UPSIDE DOWN

Open My Eyes, That O May See

In order to receive God's truth properly, then, we must have our entire being alive and alert to His every prompting. In general, most Christians do not deliberately and dramatically disobey God. Instead we simply do not heed Him by being sensitive to His leading in the small details of our lives. How important that we learn the lesson taught by this hymn text that we should have seeing eyes, hearing ears, a verbal communication of the truth, and a loving heart for sharing God's love. All of this is possible as we are illuminated by the Holy Spirit during times of quiet waiting. Clara Scott, author and composer of this hymn was a prolific composer of vocal and instrumental music. The text of this hymn has been widely used to help believers have a greater awareness of God's will for their lives and a readiness to obey.

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see; open my eyes – illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear, and while the wave-notes fall on my ear, every thing false will disappear. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God, Thy will to see; open my ears – illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth every where. Open me heart and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see, open my heart – illumine me, Spirit divine.



Speak when you are angry -
you will make the best speech
you'll forever regret.



I might as well tell you now; God has turned my life upside down. As it turns out will be right side up. This is what Jesus does. He radically transforms the lives of the people he encounters by rearranging their priorities. Perhaps that is why I avoid a deeply personal encounter with Jesus; because I am afraid of that radical transformation. I will look back a few years from now on things I thought were so very important today and realize that they were not, and that my new priorities have more truth, beauty and wisdom.

Throughout the Gospels we see Jesus challenging people's priorities and, in the process, radically transforming their lives.

I remember one story of change that I told my religion class. The story of Zacchaeus is a wonderful and radical tale of transformation. I began by telling who Zacchaeus was, and when it says, "He was trying to see who Jesus was." This tells us he was proactively seeking Jesus. I see change here.

How about Nicodemus coming to Jesus in the night presumably so that nobody would see him consulting with Jesus. They conversed and then Nicodemus said, "How can these things be?" Later in the Gospels Nicodemus tried to defend Jesus to the other Pharisees. "Does our law judge a man without hearing and learning what he does?" Sounds like a transformation to me! There are so many other stories, such as Saul the centurion and Lazarus are just a few more I can think of. The Gospel has had a radical impact of countless lives since Jesus walked the earth. It is guaranteed to have a radical impact on your life and mine.

Upside down points to ponder, Be open.

Verse to think about: Create in me clean heart O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." PSALM 51:10.

Consider this: What's preventing you from making yourself available to God?

I pray: Jesus makes me 100 percent available to you today.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	3	4 7:00 pm Program Committee.	5	6
7 11:00 am Traditional Service	8	9 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	10	11 7:00 pm Elder's Mtg	12	13
14 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	15	16 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	17	18	19	20
21 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	22	23 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	24	25 	26	27
28 9:30 am CAYA 11:00 am Traditional Service	29	30 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	31	<p>The Bible isn't antique or modern - it's eternal</p> 		