

# Christian Reporter

*Mt. Lebanon Christian Church*

*November 2022*

The month of November is a natural time to consider the Attitude of Gratitude. As a nation we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. We pause and gather as family, friends and neighbors to give thanks for our blessings. Thanksgiving is about much more than parades, food and football. Thanksgiving is a particular day on the calendar to celebrate.

Gratitude/thanksgiving is an everyday attitude and way of life. Gratitude gives us a different perspective on life and can prompt us to action.

During worship in November, we will be given opportunities to express our thanksgiving and gratitude to God for our many blessings.

On your way into the sanctuary, you will receive a leaf. On that leaf you will write down one or more of your blessings. During the offertory, we will bring our offerings and our leaves to the front of the sanctuary. You may place your offering in the offering plate and place your leaf on the "Blessing Tree." The Blessing Tree will be a visual reminder of our blessings and gratitude to God 'FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.'

Let us give thanks to God for all of our blessings!

*Blessings*

*Cindy*

**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**



**Sunday Morning Worship**

**11:00 AM**

**PLEASE JOIN US!**



## November Worship Leaders

Elders  
 6 - Brad Montgomery  
 13 - Chuck Sargent  
 20 - Sally Myton  
 27 - Laurie Sargent

Worship Leaders  
 6 - John Crist  
 13 - Chuck Sargent  
 20 - Dan Wahl  
 27- Laurie Sargent

### 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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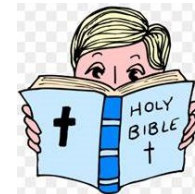
"Every Member Is A Minister"

Cindy McClung  
 John McCarty  
 Tom Spray  
 Chuck Bieri  
 Joyce Lackey

Pastor  
 Assistant Pastor  
 Board Chair  
 Director of Music  
 Secretary

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## Bible Study



Bible Study continues this month on Wednesdays at 7 PM on Zoom. We will be using a study by Amy-Jill Levine called Signs and Wonders. The study will be led by Dr. Cindy McClung. Please join us.

This study is easy to understand and will help deepen your understanding of scripture and Jesus' work on earth.

"In Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus' words and actions."

Topics include:

Giving sight to the blind: Metaphors of understanding (Mark 8, John 9)

"Take up your pallet and walk" (the paralyzed man)

A bleeding woman and a dead girl

Walking on water and stilling the storm

The feeding of the 5,000 (or more)

The raising of Lazarus



### December Dates to Remember

December 2-4 - Women's Retreat

December 11th - Church Christmas Party after worship

December 24th - Christmas Eve service at 7:00 pm

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

We will continue to film the Facebook Live services on Sunday 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/>)

## Autumn Fest success!!

The Autumn Fest on October 8<sup>th</sup> was a big success. We had great food and games for the youth. The live animal show was a huge surprise. The Wild World of Animals brought us several animals that we learned about and even got to touch some of them. They included a scorpion, sloth, lemur, big frog, legless lizard, huge owl, armadillo, alligator, snake, tortoise and a spotted leopard.



## 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.



## 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 please contact the church office or one of the Elders.

### Church Members

Mary Crist  
Hawn Family on her death of Dorothy  
Bill Green  
Audrey Houke  
Karen Newman - surgery recovery  
Mary Nicholson  
Ed Pajak  
Duane Ready

### Friends and family

Doli – Rev. Cindy's Niece - heart by-pass surgery  
Matt - Dan Wahl's Nephew - recovery  
Joanne - Bill Green's daughter  
Patrick Holstead  
Katy Creenan - cancer  
Ann Peden - cancer  
Kathleen Miller - kidney concerns  
Maggie Goodwin - back surgery recovery  
Rick Fleischauer - Traumatic brain injury - nephew of Jane McCarty  
Leo Schober - healing  
Richard Sykes  
All those affected by Mass shootings  
All of those affected by the Hurricanes and storms  
Peace in the Ukraine

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



Angel Tree

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 - Jim Powell  
18 - Richard Ozanick

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

2 - Cliff & Mary Nicholson  
19 - Ed & Joy Pajak



Watch for the Angel Tree this coming month. The Angel Tree will provide the opportunity to give presents to patients to residents at Kane in Scott Township. You can bring a bit of joy to one of the residents by taking a tag from the tree and purchasing an item as a gift for one of our brothers and sisters in this caring place. Please bring your wrapped gift to the church by the first week in December.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and care at this special time of year.



A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.



A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were.

The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it."

Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people that they were so lucky that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively. When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear.

The most beautiful thing is to see a person smiling. And even more beautiful, is knowing that you are the reason behind it!



We send our prayers to the Hawn family on the passing of Dorothy Hawn (99) on October 21, 2022. No service is scheduled; Dorothy preferred her passing to be private and just with family. The Hawn family has greatly appreciated your prayers and concern.



Weave For Us a Garment

Elder's Corner

A gladsome, joyous mind is the product of a grateful, praising heart. Gratefulness is the opposite of selfishness. The selfish person is boastful of his accomplishments. The grateful Christian, however, realizes that all achievements and blessings come only from God's bountiful hand. This realization results in a life of praise. Far too often our prayers consist only of a series of personal requests. God wants our requests, but He also desires to hear our praise for His eternal kindness and love in response to our daily needs.

*Let Us With A Gladsome Mind is a hymn written by John Milton in 1621 when he was only 15 years old. It is based on Psalm 136 vs. 1,2,7, and 23.*

*Let us with a gladsome mind praise the Lord, for He is kind: For His mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.*

*He with all-commanding might filled the new-made world with light. For His mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.*

*All things living He doth feed; His full hand supplies their need; For His mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.*

*Let us then with gladsome mind praise the Lord, for He is kind: For His mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever*

The words Thanks and praise often come together in the Bible. We thank God because everything is a gift from Him. Praising God means sharing in and showing the greatness and joy of God.

A psalmist wrote: "Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving... He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and grass grows on the hills. He provides the cattle."

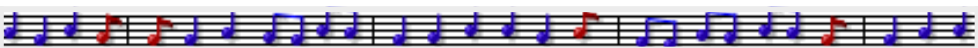
Paul and Silas were beaten and thrown into prison. In prison they prayed and sang hymns to God. Paul wrote: Give thanks in all circumstances this is God's will for you. He also said, "Make music in hearts to the Lord always giving thanks to God the Father for everything."

Paul wrote: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

Paul's letter to the Hebrews says, "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise..." This means a sacrifice where we let go of what we want in order to do something for God.

Prayer in Eph. 4:1-6 is a prayer of unity, a prayer for us to live as one- one faith, one baptism, one God, one body, one spirit and one hope. This Native American prayer below is also a prayer of unity, a prayer for us to live in a world where all people all creation are woven into one garment. May we be part of creating such a world.

Weave for us a garment of brightness;  
May the warp be the white light of morning,  
May the weft be the red light of evening,  
    That the fringes be the falling rain,  
May the border be the standing rainbow,  
Thus weave for us a garment of brightness.  
That we may walk fittingly, where birds sing,  
That we may walk fittingly where the grass is green  
O our Mother of the Earth, O our Father the Sky



If you can't stand the heat,  
better make plans to avoid it.



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 PH: 412-531-8554, Email: [churchoffice@mtlebocc.org](mailto:churchoffice@mtlebocc.org)  
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## November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	2 Bible Study, 7:00 pm on Zoom	3	4	5
6  11:00 am Worship Service	7	8 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	9 Bible Study, 7:00 pm on Zoom	10 7:00 pm Elder's Mtg.	11  11 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER HAPPY VETERANS DAY HONORING ALL WHO SERVED	12
13 11:00 am Worship Service	14 7:00 pm Trustees' Meeting	15 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group 7:00 pm Board Meeting	16	17	18	19
20 11:00 am Worship Service	21	22 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	23 	24 	25	26
27 11:00 am Worship Service	28	29 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	30 Bible Study, 7:00 pm on Zoom	<p><b>Facing a tough choice today? Trust yourself.</b></p> 