

Christian Reporter

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church

July 2023

Clouds are amazing. Clouds come in different types according to their height, and the weather that they produce. It's fun to look up at the clouds and find one or two that seem to appear like an animal, face or whatever else our imagination can behold.

On vacation in June I went to Alaska. Alaska is often referred to as "the last frontier." Alaska is very cloudy. It often rains as well as snows in that massive state. There is even a rainforest in Alaska. If you ever have the opportunity to go to Alaska, go for it! It is a wonder to experience.

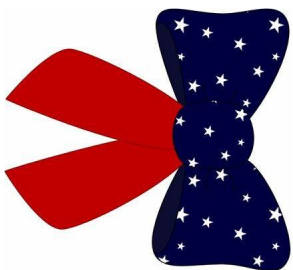
As I was watching clouds, there were a couple of particular clouds that had an opening in the middle of them. One cloud stood out as the opening revealed the mountains it was covering. I was reminded that God appeared to Israel in the wilderness as a cloud during the day.

What also was clear to me in that moment was that God will reveal our next steps as a congregation. God will reveal the vision to us. Our job is to be faithful and prayerful and to continue to do the work of discernment. What is God saying to us now in this time. We have been faithful in the past, but we cannot dwell in the past. The Gospel brings new life every morning. God has a great plan for us as individuals and as a congregation. What will be revealed? What part will each of us play? Please continue to pray for the discernment team and our congregation. Pray for God's vision to be revealed. Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill us and use us.

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
Assistant Pastor: The Reverend John McCarty

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM
CAYA Service at 6:00 PM

PLEASE JOIN US!

Worship
With Us



JULY Worship Leaders & Elders



<u>Elders</u>	<u>Worship Leaders</u>
2 - Verna McGinley	2 - Dan Wahl
9 - Brad Montgomery	9 - Chuck Sargent
16 - Sally Myton	16 - Verna McGinley
23 - Kathy Spray	23 - Jeff Hawn
30 - Sally Myton	30 - Amy Angotti

Reminder: Bible Study is off for the Summer. It will resume the September.

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
John McCarty
Tom Spray
Joyce Lackey

Pastor
Asst. Pastor
Board Chair
Secretary

minister367@mtlebocc.org
John.mccarty@mtlebocc.org
tomspray@hotmail.com
churchoffice@mtlebocc.org

<u>JULY BIRTHDAYS</u>	<u>JULY ANNIVERSARIES</u>
4 - William Ozanick Alice Lawson	1 - Ralph & Barb Scott
7 - Dylan Wolff	June is Cindy's 6th Anniversary as our minister. We thank God for bringing her to us.
11- Ray DuBiel	
18 - Heather Campbell	
28 - Ron Brown	
29 - Crystal Ozanick	

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/>)

MT. LEBANON CHRISTIAN CHURCH OFFICERS 2023-2024
as of 6/22/2023

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

2023-2024

2024-2025

2025-2026

ELDERS

Chuck Sargent
Kathy Spray

Amy Angotti
Jeff Hawn
Jane McCarty
Verna McGinley
Brad Montgomery

DEACONS

Paul Bowers
Lee Hasselman

Ray Dubiel
Tom Spray
Chris Wagner

Jr. DEACON

Carmine Campbell

DEACONESES

Mary Jane Webb

Laurie Sargent
Kathy Spray

TRUSTEES

Tom Spray
Mary Jane Webb

Ralph Scott
Dan Wahl

Ed Persinger
Mike Philippon



**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.

Prayer Requests: If you have requests for the prayer list to go with the announcements, please let Rev. Cindy or Pastor John know by Wednesday of each week by 4pm

Prayer list:

Bowers family- Death of Kevin Bowers
Barb Scott - healing
Jocelyn Wagner
Donny Harrison - healing
Totin Family - Death of Ed
Audrey Houke - Hospital
Scout - friend of Scotts - 5 yr. old with brain tumor
Dwyane Ready - Health issues
Carla - Health issues
Sara & Ron - Friends of Wahl's
Rev. Janet Hellner-Burris - pastor of DOC Wilkinsburg - recovery
Daryl Gray
Arthur McCarty
All those with Covid
Hugh Pollon - Bonnie Philippon's Father
Ed Pajak
Those affected by disasters

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

I was going to waste,
but Jesus recycled me.



The Bedrock of Faith"
Yabba dabba doo,
God loves you!





July 12 - Mission Night - We will have a light dinner together and work on projects for local missions!



July 2023 Outreach

Help support mental health and wellness for local teens and their families this July.

Discernment Committee

The Discernment Committee continues to explore what might be necessary to ensure that our church community is healthy and sustainable well into the future.



An initial brainstorming session resulted in the forming of several areas of focus including building, finance, organizational structure, people/culture, public relations, and external community. Subcommittees were formed and researched what we know about each of these areas to help us better understand our current realities and challenge possible assumptions.

The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for July 9th when we plan to discuss what a successful, viable church community might look like several years from now. Please hold the Discernment Committee in your prayers!



STEAM VBS success



On June 17th the youth enjoyed the animals provided by Verna McGinley.

They also learned about **S**(science), **T**(technology), **E**ngineering), **A**(art), **M**(math) !

The event was led by Jane and John McCarty.



Mt. Lebanon Outreach Teen and Family Service provides affordable and accessible connection, education, counseling, and coaching to children, teens and families through safe, caring, responsive, confidential professional therapists supported by dedicated community advocates.

You can make a monetary donation in your church envelope or online through givelify or provide an item from the wishlist below:

Gift Cards to local stores (e.g. grocery stores, Target, office supply stores, etc.)

Art supplies

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."



Be content with what
You have but never
with what you are





Strawberry Fest Success

The strawberry Fest on June 10th was a big success. The music rocked the neighborhood.



We estimate we had over 100 people attend with kids enjoying the crafts and bouncy house. All got their fill of hot dogs, burgers, strawberries, shortcake and ice cream.

If you missed it this year, make sure you attend next year. Thanks to all who contributed prizes and their time and talents to make this another great event.

When in doubt
Tell the truth.

LIES
LIES
LIES
TRUTH

TURMOIL OR GRACE? Your choice....

Elder's Corner

During my recent turmoil, I called upon God to help me figure out how to handle those things that were confusing and draining my strength. Then my heart reminded me how God loves me freely. He lets me freely choose. This choice happens regardless of His will.

When we turn away from God, we are a bit like children hiding their own faces as they cry "you can't see me!" This won't work since we know God can see us. We are the ones in darkness; we are hiding from ourselves, not from him. Regardless, God is with us, watching us, and waiting wide open arms.

God loves us when we are confused, angry, or even if we reject Him. He draws us to himself, even if we don't respond to his call. He is with us, whether we are aware of him or not. That is what grace is.

There should be sorrow in our hearts when we sin. God desires to give us forgiveness and healing; this is because of His longing for our love. Grace is God's tireless offer to fill our emptiness—his tender urging that we open our arms to him. This is how God loves us freely.

Looking for examples of grace in the Bible, check these out:

- John 1:16 "Grace Upon Grace"
- Romans 1:5 "Undeserving Sinners"
- Romans 5:17 "Abundance of Grace"
- Ephesians 1:7-8 "Lavished Grace"



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July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 11:00 Traditional Worship Service CAYA Service 6:00 pm	3	4th of July 	5	6	7	8
9 11:00 Traditional Worship Service CAYA Service 6:00 pm	10	11 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	12 Mission Night	13 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting	14	15
16 11:00 Traditional Worship Service CAYA Service 6:00 pm	17 7:00 Trustee Mtg.	18 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group 7:00 Board Mtg.	19	20	21	22
23 11:00 Traditional Worship Service CAYA Service 6:00 pm	24	25 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	26	27	28	29
30 11:00 Traditional Worship Service CAYA Service 6:00 pm	31			<div data-bbox="1186 1421 2047 1624" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>We hold our heads high, despite the price we have paid, because freedom is priceless.</p>  </div>		

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