

Christian Reporter

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church

March 2024

Dear Friends,
We are in the midst of the season of Lent. Our theme this year is from Ashes to Resurrection. We began the season with ashes to mark our mortality and sinfulness. The ashes are a sign of wanting to reconcile with God.

Hope comes as we journey with Jesus and move towards Holy Week and Easter. Easter reminds that nothing is more powerful than God raising Jesus Christ from the dead. Nothing, not even sin or death, is more powerful than our God.

As Christians we strive to live in a more Christ-like manner in our daily lives. As a congregation we have opportunities to deepen our understanding of Jesus and being a Christian. The worship experience on Sundays invites you into God's presence to glorify God and be together with brothers and sisters of faith to pray and offer gratitude to our God.

Bible Study on Wednesday evenings this Lenten season, will enable you to see the places in the Holy Land where Jesus experienced the last hours of His life before His death on the cross.

Dining Disciples gives you the opportunities to discuss matters of faith with other followers of Jesus.

On St. Patrick's day we will gather for worship with Celtic Music and then share lunch together and hear the summary of the House Meetings that have met the last two months. We will consider our future story as a Congregation. How will we as followers of Jesus Christ make an impact in our community? How will we share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those around us? As we move from ashes to resurrection we celebrate the incredible love God has for us and the call that God places upon us. What is before us? Let's see!

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**





MARCH Worship Leaders & Elders

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Worship Leaders</u>
3 - Verna McGinley	3 - Chuck Sargent
10 - Brad Montgomery	10 - John Crist
17 - Jeff Hawn	17 - Dan Wahl
24 - Chuck Sargent	24 - Jeff Hawn
31 - Kathy Spray	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;

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
 Samuel Olawoyin
 Joyce Lackey

Pastor
 Asst. Pastor
 Board Chair
 Director of Music
 Secretary

minister367@mtlebocc.org
 John.mccarty@mtlebocc.org
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 solawale46@gmail.com
 churchoffice@mtlebocc.org

Easter Flowers

All orders are due by March 17

Make checks payable to Mount Lebanon Christian Church with Easter Flowers written on the Memo line

Order forms are available at the church or by calling the church office.

6 ½" Pot Mums (White, Yellow, Purple)	\$9.00
6 ½" Pot Easter Lillies (White – 1 stem, 3 blooms & up)	\$11.00
6 ½" Pot Tulips (Assorted Colors)	\$9.50
6 ½" Pot Hydrangeas (Pink, Blue)	\$19.00
6 ½" Pot Azaleas (White, Pink, Red-Pink)	\$19.00
10" Pot Large Lilies (White – 3 Stem, 24"-30" tall, 10 Blooms and up)	\$32.50

Celtic Music on March 17 at 11 AM

The Laurel String Duo will be with us as we sing, play and hear Celtic music during worship.
 Don't miss this exciting worship experience.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2 - Clare Maree Newman
 19 - Lee Scott
 27 - Amy Angotti
 28 - Janet Bowers

MARCH Anniversaries

7 - Verna & Bernie
 McGinley
 18 - Diane and Richard
 Ozanick
 19 - Horst & Doris Riddler



IN NEED OF PRAYER

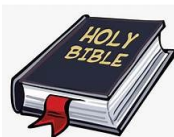
Connie McCarty – healing
 Goldberg and Maykuth families – death of “Chic” – Samantha’s grandmother
 Ron Brown – healing - hospital
 Horst Riddler – Rehab
 Rick Matthews – pancreatic cancer
 Giles McCarty - healing
 Gray and McCarty Families – death of Darryl Gray
 Pajak and Wagner families - death of Ed Pajak
 Ron – death of Sara - friends of Wahl’s
 Judy Bolind – Healing – friend of Cindy McClung
 Chuck Sargent – shoulder surgery recovery
 Bill Samples
 Bill Green
 Duane Ready
 Donny and Heather Harrison – Healing
 Frank Family – death of Jim - friend of Jane McCarty
 Scout – friend of Scott’s -5 year old with brain tumor
 Carla – recovery from surgery – health issues
 John Schohn - cancer - friend of Alice and Dave
 George Walling - cancer - friend of Alice and Dave
 Leo Schober - healing - Jane McCarty's nephew
 Rev. Janet Hellner-Burris - pastor, DOC Wilkinsburg
 All those with Covid, RSV and the Flu
 War in Ukraine
 War in Israel



Bible Study

24 Hours That Changed the World by Adam Hamilton is our study for Lent in the month of March.

“No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. In this book, Hamilton will help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus’ suffering and death like never before. He retraces the day that changed human history in his usual straightforward yet easy, conversational style that speaks to both long-time Christians and those who are simply curious about the story of Christ’s crucifixion.”



We will take a look at the events that took place Maundy Thursday—Good Friday. Hamilton provides a video of the places in the Holy Land where these events took place. Join us Wednesdays at 7 PM on zoom for this fascinating study.

Also, please remember in your prayers our members who are homebound. Bill Green, Audrey Houke, Connie McCarty, Betty Rothermel, Bill Samples, Lois Lindemann and Lee Scott.

Bill Samples address has changed. It is now:

Providence Point
Personal Care
PC 303
200 Adams Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Bill Green's address has changed. It is now:

Asbury Place
700 Bower Hill Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15243 (No mail)



Holy Week Events

March 24

Palm Sunday— Holy Week begins with! Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The people waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna", which means "save us." Palms will be available as we worship together. Worship is at 11 AM and 6 PM.

March 28

Maundy Thursday - Jesus gathered with his disciples in the Upper room, washed their feet and shared the Passover meal which becomes our Last Supper. After supper they went to the Garden of Gethsemane. Worship is at 7 PM.

March 29

Good Friday - On Good Friday the Church will be open for meditation from 12—3 PM. Prayer stations will be available for your use. Come and pray during this time of Jesus' crucifixion and death on the cross.

March 31

Easter Sunday - Celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Let's Eat breakfast together. The men of the church will be cooking this morning. Come and eat eggs, meat, and pancakes! Breakfast is 9:30—10:30 AM in the Chapel. We will have a combined worship service at 11 AM. Easter flowers will grace the chancel and we have a variety of music this Easter morning. Please pick up your Easter flowers following worship. We are Easter people! Don't miss the opportunity to worship!



As the discernment process continues ...
Keep Praying and Thinking

Thank you to all who participated in the New Beginnings House Meetings. Your commitment shows your care for our Community of faith and God's mission for us. As we consider our future story, your ongoing prayer and input are needed.



Two groups met in person and two groups met over zoom. The conversations were good. We considered our Why? and God's mission for us for the present and the into the future. We have considered our present reality and a look at our community context.

The discernment leadership team will present a report of our conversations together on Sunday, March 17 following the morning worship service. We will eat together and talk together about this report. Please join us as we hear the summary of our time shared together.

After the report is given to the congregation, we will begin to craft a plan for next steps.

Lunch provided!



March Outreach

Get ready to slam dunk for a good cause! March Madness just got a holy twist with MLCC Outreach program, and you're invited to join in on the action. Here's the game plan:

For just a \$20 donation, you can be part of the NCAA bracket frenzy! Whether you're a digital guru or old-school paper fan, you've got options. Simply complete your [NCAA bracket Online](#) or grab a paper copy and fill it out by March 19th. (We will email the selected teams to the congregation on March 18) When you submit your bracket, write down your name and the local ministry you'd like to support.

Once the buzzer sounds on April 8th and the champion is crowned, it's victory for both basketball and benevolence. The local ministry chosen by the bracket challenge winner receives all the winnings as a charitable donation from MLCC.

So, are you ready to make March Madness even more meaningful? Email your completed bracket to jane.e.mccarty@gmail.com or drop off a paper copy at the church office by March 19. Let's make this March Madness a slam dunk for good!



Inspirational Quotes about Easter

1. "The great gift of Easter is hope."
2. "For I remember Easter morn, and life and love and peace are all new born."
3. "Easter is the one morning in all of history where the dawn came twice; once on the eastern horizon and again in eternity."
4. "The Easter egg symbolizes our ability to break out of the hardened, protective shell we've surrounded ourselves with."



Let's think about the COLOR PURPLE

Elder's Corner

In the Gospels, both in St. Mark and St. John, it is stated that the cloak the soldiers used to mock Jesus was purple. During the time of Jesus, purple was a royal color, a sign of power and wealth. Purple dye could be expensive. While plants and other items could be used to dye, the best purple color came from spiny shellfish known as a Murex Mollusk.

Purple is a symbol of penance and preparation. It is mainly used during the seasons of Advent and Lent.

Jesus was treated like a King – the purple, the crown, the words of salute, and the homage. How ironic is it that soldiers thinking that making fun of Jesus was really truthful act. He is our King, his crown was not made of gold, but thorns. As so often happens, verbal abuse quickly turns into physical abuse. They hit him on the head, the same head a nameless woman anointed in the beginning of the Passion.

After a brutal scourging, Jesus is almost helpless. Like a child, he is undressed and redressed. He knows what it is like to be helpless and to feel like someone without dignity. How we treat people who are incapacitated – in any way is a measure of our love for the Lord.

The soldiers led Jesus away inside the palace that is the praetorium and assembled the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before Him in homage.

(Mk 15: 16-19)



Perfect happiness is a beautiful sunset, the giggle of a grandchild, the first snowfall. It's the little things that make happy moments, not the grand events.

Joy comes in sips, not gulps.



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March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Never let the fear of striking out keep you from swinging.					1	2
3 11:00 am Traditional Service Choir Rehearsal Noon CAYA Service 6:00 pm 3rd Sunday of Lent	4	5	6 Bible Study on zoom 7 PM	7	8 Dining Disciple 6 PM At Bravo	9
10 11:00 am Traditional Service Choir Rehearsal at noon Caya Service 6:00 pm 4th Sunday of Lent	11	12	13 Bible Study on zoom 7 PM	14 Dining Disciples Noon At Bravo 7:00 Elder's Mtg. on Zoom	15	16
17 11:00 am Traditional Service Caya Service 6:00 pm Congregational Meeting after morning worship with lunch	18 7:00 Trustee's Mtg on zoom	19 7:00 Board Meeting on zoom	20 Bible Study on zoom 7 PM	21 Dining Disciples 6:30 PM At Bravo	22	23
24 11:00 am Traditional Service Caya Service 6:00 pm Palm Sunday 	25	26	27 Bible Study on zoom 7 PMD	28 Worship at 7 Maundy Thursday	29  Meditation 12—3 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Breakfast 9:30—10:30 11:00 Combined Service Easter Sunday						