



MLCC Newsletter - April 2024



Worship with Us

In-Person or [Facebook Live](#)

Traditional Worship: Sunday at 11:00 AM
CAYA Contemporary Worship: Sunday at 6:00 PM

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

Minister: The Reverend Dr. Cindy McClung: minister367@mtlebocc.org
Assistant Minister: The Reverend John McCarty: john.mccarty@mtlebocc.org

**Our Mission:
Serving Christ!
Living and Sharing Faith, Hope and Love**

Minister's Message

Easter is upon us! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! We shout out on Easter morning of the miracle of Christ risen from the dead. God is more powerful than sin and death. Christ is victorious! We celebrate as Christians our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ whose love is more than we can fathom.

We are Easter People! What does that mean? Easter is a way of living - a certain perspective and a life toward God's grand plans of justice and joy. (Brian Blount)

What does it look like to live all of our lives in response to Easter? What if we really lived with a sense of confidence that "nothing . . . not heights or depths, not principalities or powers, . . . nothing can separate us from God's love?"

As Easter people we embrace the power of God to share God's love with the world. We proclaim that Good Friday is not the end. We proclaim that we are and all of God's children are deeply loved and part of the family.

What does it mean for us as a congregation to be Easter people? We are called by Christ to love and serve. We are called to serve with passion and with energy. The Holy Spirit works through us to speak to the world around us. We celebrate our gifts/talents that we have been given in order to make an impact in God's earthly kingdom. How are you living out your Easter? Let's talk about it and work on our purpose as Easter people. Happy Easter!

Blessings!

Cindy

Support MLCC

Support MLCC: Your gift of time, talent or treasure enables MLCC to serve Christ by living and sharing faith, hope and love.

It's simple to donate once or set up reoccurring donations using the Give link. Options for giving include helping with Building Maintenance projects and Community Outreach programs.

There are plenty of ways to get involved. Volunteer opportunities include:
AV Tech - Contemporary Worship Musicians - Social Media - Child Care
Nursery - Small Group Leader - Landscaping - Greeter - Community Service
Event Planning

For more information about volunteering contact John McCarty.

Discerning Our Church's Future Listening to God's Voice and Setting Intention

On Sunday, March 17th, at a reception following the traditional worship service the house meeting facilitators presented the congregation with its "Report to the Congregation." This report summarized what we learned about ourselves and our surrounding communities and what God has been whispering to us about how to move forward by looking purposefully outward.

A "working why" was proposed which leaned into our gifts around hospitality and individual and community needs around wellness – *To be a mission-oriented congregation carrying out God's calling to our church by caring for and supporting the spiritual, emotional, and physical health of all members within our surrounding communities.* We were asked to consider how this mission statement resonated with us. Could we bring it to life given our passion, energy, and resources?

We set out next steps to further reflect on our mission and gather additional information on our resources. Using the spiritual gifts inventory as a start, we will be asking people about their individual passions and willingness to become actively involved. We are also working on budgets to begin to shape a future that puts human, financial, and physical resources to work for our mission. Additionally, Rev. Cindy is leveraging the Hope Partnership and regional ministry to identify additional resources to support our efforts.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please reach out to one of the house meeting facilitators to share your thoughts.

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John McCarty – jcm8080@gmail.com // 412-527-6027
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Bible Study:

Luke: “Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws”

This Spring we will be using Adam Hamilton’s study on Luke. Jesus came to lift up the lowly. Throughout his ministry to his final days on the road to the cross, we find stories of his relationships with ordinary, flawed, and unexpected people. He met, dined, and traveled with people who were not perfect. Many of them were struggling, some were outsiders or even outlaws. Whoever they were, from those he healed to the outlaws with him at his crucifixion, Jesus brought the good news of God’s kingdom to those who most needed to hear it.

In Luke: “Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws”, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explores the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke’s stories we find Jesus’ care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus’ concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.” Beginning April 10, join us Wednesday evenings at 7 on zoom as we explore together.

Happy Camper Outreach



Each year Camp Laurelview is host to campers from grades one to twelve. At camp students develop a relationship with God, one another and a deeper understanding of the Christian Faith. To ensure all interested students can participate, Mt. Lebanon Christian Church is collecting monetary donations this April to sponsor a student camper.

If you have a student who is interested in attending Camp Laurelview this summer please visit <https://laurelview.org/>

Donations can be made by cash, check or [Givelify](#).
Be sure to mark April Outreach on your envelope, check memo or on Givelify.
Thanks for helping to sponsor a happy camper!

Elder's Corner

FEEDING THE BIRDS



Every morning, regardless of the weather outside, a variety of birds come and wait for me to fill the bird feeders, put out some peanuts, and change the water in the bird bath. All sorts of birds come: Blue jays, Cardinals, Chickadees, Wrens and of course the Doves. These birds know that when I go inside, they can fly down and enjoy the feast. How do they know the time? Why are they lining up on my fence?

Our Creator is abundantly more generous than we are. Jesus told us not to worry about food and clothing. He will feed and clothe us. Our clothes will have beauty greater than the lilies of the fields.

During a rather difficult time long ago, I was terribly worried about coping financially. My concerns were alleviated when I closely read the Matthew 6 passage. "I of little faith!" How many times did I need God to remind me that He would provide all that was needed. Through Faith, Prayer, and Growing Trust, I turned to God focusing on what was important—to obey His will. My burden of fear was lifted, and God provided as He promised. After we receive Christ as our Savior, we have the privilege of using our limited time on earth to spread His life-changing truth while loving others. Even during our hardest and loneliest moments, we can trust He'll provide what we need. No matter what the personal cost, God's good news is always worth sharing.

Thanks be to God who always uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. (2 Corinthians 2:14)
Strive first for the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these

things will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:33)

Dining Disciples.

Group A:
Thursday, April 11
12:00 PM at Bravo

Group B:
Friday, April 12
6:00 PM at Bravo

Group C:
Thursday, April 18
6:30 PM at Bravo

Birthdays

April 3: Joyce Lackey
April 10: Mike Rusko
April 4: Hali Montgomery
April 16: Jocelyn Wagner

Anniversaries

April 27: Gary & Margie Schwartz

April Worship Leaders & Elders

Elders /Worship Leaders
7 - Kathy Spray 7 - Verna McGinley
14 - Jane McCarty 14 - Chuck Sargent
21 - Verna McGinley 21 - Dan Wahl
28 - Brad Montgomery 28 - Jeff Hawn

MLCC Calendar		April 2024				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11:00 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm CAYA Service			7:00 pm Bible Study on zoom	12:00 pm Dining Disciples Group A: at Bravo	6:00 pm Dining Disciples Group B: at Bravo	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
11:00 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm CAYA Service			7:00 pm Bible Study on zoom	6:30 pm Dining Disciples Group C: at Bravo		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
11:00 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm CAYA Service			7:00 pm Bible Study on zoom	7:00 pm Elders Meeting on Zoom		
28	29	30				
11:00 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm CAYA Service						