



Mt. Lebanon
Christian Church

MLCC Newsletter - October 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
367 Cedar Blvd
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

<http://www.mtlebocc.org>

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

Have you ever invited someone to church or to a church event, Bible study or fellowship group? In casual conversation you can tell people how much you love our congregation and invite them to join us. Most people who come to church come because of a personal invitation. It is our responsibility to share with others the good news. Your invitation could make the difference in someone's faith and life! We love to share good news with others about family, etc. Let's share the news of our congregation and the opportunities to explore and grow in faith! Here are some thoughts about the importance of inviting people to church.

The Importance of Inviting People to Church

Inviting people to church is a meaningful and impactful gesture that can have profound effects on individuals and communities. Here are several reasons why extending an invitation to church is important:

1. Building Community

Churches often serve as the heart of a community, providing a place where people can come together, support one another, and build lasting relationships. Inviting someone to church can help them feel connected and supported, fostering a sense of belonging.

2. Spiritual Growth

For many, attending church is a vital part of their spiritual journey. It offers opportunities for worship, learning, and personal growth. By inviting someone to church, you are opening the door for them to explore and deepen their faith.

3. Emotional Support

Church communities can provide a strong support system during difficult times. Whether someone is dealing with loss, stress, or other challenges, the church can offer comfort, counseling, and a sense of hope. An invitation to church can be a lifeline for those in need of emotional support.

4. Moral and Ethical Guidance

Churches often teach values and principles that can guide individuals in making ethical decisions and leading a moral life. Inviting someone to church can help them gain access to this guidance, which can be particularly beneficial in navigating life's complexities.

5. Opportunities for Service

Many churches are involved in various outreach and service projects that benefit the wider community. By inviting someone to church, you are also inviting them to participate in these acts of service, which can be fulfilling and help them make a positive impact. At MLCC we want to make a difference in the world. Invite them to take part. The more people that are involved, the more we are able to do.

6. Creating a Welcoming Environment

Inviting people to church helps create a welcoming and inclusive environment. It shows that the church is open to everyone, regardless of their background or current beliefs. This inclusivity can help break down barriers and foster a more diverse and accepting community.

7. Personal Fulfillment

For the person extending the invitation, there is also a sense of fulfillment and purpose. Knowing that you have potentially made a positive difference in someone's life by inviting them to church can be incredibly rewarding and can be life changing for the person who is invited.

Conclusion

Inviting someone to church is more than just an invitation to attend a service; it is an invitation to join a community, grow spiritually, receive support, and contribute to the greater good. It is a simple yet powerful act that can have lasting positive effects on both the inviter and the invitee. So, the next time you think about inviting someone to church, remember the potential impact of your gesture and extend that invitation with confidence and kindness.

Blessings!

Cindy

Support MLCC

Mail Checks to: Mt. Lebanon Christian Church - 367 Cedar Blvd. - Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Or Give online at mlebcc.org

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.

October Outreach

This October

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church is Helping Neighbors through SHIM



More than 6,000 families are turning to SHIM for food this year.

Can you help us stock the three food pantries that serve families across the South Hills?

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church is collecting food and supplies for thousands of families and individuals who rely on SHIM monthly.

Most-needed items:

- Dried beans, lentils, rice
- Pasta sauce in jars
- Cereal and oatmeal
- Soup (especially low sodium)
- Adult diapers, especially L and XL, Baby Diapers sizes 3-6
- Baby food
- Sugar, Cooking oil
- Spices and seasonings (salt, pepper, garlic, ginger, chili powder, turmeric, etc.)
- Diapers
- Personal care (shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine items, etc.)
- Dog food

Please drop off your donation at the church outreach table off by October 27

Elder's Corner

THE GIFT OF TEARS



For over 28 years, I have visited a local nursing home and hospital as a Communion and Prayer Minister. Many times, being called when no one else was available. One day the hospital room was full of family. Not completely sure of what to do, I quietly stood at the door asked for heavenly help. When I went in, there were 11 family members present. My brain was saying: “Yikes, I never faced this before.” A usual visit had no more than 2 family members present. Bringing Communion and Holy Oil, placing them on the ill persons head, provides a presence, comfort and communion with our God. I had been trained to have a level of separation for these moments, including “A non-anxious presence”. This was a challenge for me.

In all the times that I was at the bedside of a dying Christian, I never cried. On this day I surprised myself. I placed the bread and oil on the patient's head and then I felt something I never felt before. The patient was gone. Not as a dying stillness, but I sensed him leaving for heaven. Since I had given the other family members their Communion, I wanted to get out of there, since I was slightly afraid.

Turning to leave, a tear escaped from my left eye. I quietly and quickly scurried out of the room. One of the patients' daughters followed me out. “Is he dead?” she asked. I don't know, let's ask the nurse to check. The nurse went back, and I could hear the patient's wife scream...

The tears kept falling as I went to the chapel to reflect on the event. I was reminded that many theologians who have written about tears likened them to a type of Baptism and a means of Grace. Instead of being embarrassed thinking that I had somehow failed to be a good minister, I started to wonder. Were these tears given to me on that day as a ministry unto themselves?

Read John 11:28-35

Lord, give me wisdom, I pray to know when to fight back tears and when to let them flow freely. May I accept the gift of tears to cleanse me and heal me. Amen

Dining Disciples



Join us for Dining Disciples!

Dining Disciples are groups that meet once a month for lunch or for dinner to get to know others, talk about faith and find ways to live out our faith in our everyday lives. Dining disciples is a great way to connect with others, grow in your faith and find ways to serve the Lord in God's Kingdom here on earth. Sign up in the narthex or let Rev. Cindy know you would like to take part in the group. Groups will begin meeting in September. Please indicate if you would prefer a daytime or evening group. Invite a friend to come with you!

Upcoming Events

Saturday October 12 @ 10 AM - Card Making in the chapel with Cathy Snyder, sign up in the narthex

Sunday October 20 - Octoberfest following worship service - Pumpkin decorating contest

Monday November 4 @ 7 PM - Prayers for the Nation - Community prayer service

Saturday November 9 @ 7 PM - Concert by Samuel Olawoyin and Giulia Golinelli

Sunday December 15 - Christmas Party following worship service

BIBLE STUDY - Wednesdays at 7 PM on Zoom

Oktoberfest

Don't Miss It! Join us for Oktoberfest after worship on October 20.

Spread the word and bring a friend.

Food, Music, Games and a Pumpkin Decorating Contest.

Bring your ideas.

We'll provide the pumpkins!

Please bring a dessert to share.



		OCTOBER 2024					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	2 7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom	3 11:30 AM Dining Disciples at Bravo	4	5	
6 11:00 am Traditional Service	7	8 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	9 7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom	10 7:00 pm Elders Meeting on Zoom	11	12 10:00 am Card Making in Chapel with Cathy Snyder	
13 11:00 am Traditional Service	14 Columbus Day	15 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	16 7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom	17	18 6:30 PM Dining Disciples	19	
20 11:00 am Traditional Service Octoberfest following Service - Pumpkin Decorating Contest	21 7:00 pm Trustee Meeting on Zoom	22 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	23 7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom	24	25	26	
27 11:00 am Traditional Service	28	29 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	30 7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom	31 Halloween			
							

Card Making

Have you seen any of Cathy Snyder's handmade card? They are wonderful and a blessing to the recipients.

You have an opportunity to learn how to make your own cards on Saturday, October 12 at 10AM in the Chapel.

Learn how to make cards to brighten the day of others. Materials will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet

In the Narthex.

Prayers for the Nation

Monday, November 4 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Let's gather together for prayer the night before the election.

Invite friends and neighbors to pray for our country.

Spread the Word!!!!

Samuel Olawoyin and Giulia Galante in concert

Saturday, November 9 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Our own Samuel Olawoyin and Giulia Galante will present a concert of classical music from Nigeria, Brazil and Western classical music as well.

Giulia Galante is a 23-year old singer and educator who graduated with a Bachelor's in Voice Performance from Duquesne University. She studied classical vocal technique throughout her four years at Duquesne, but she also sings in several different styles, such as samba, bossa nova, pop, and jazz. She has received the encouragement award from the Marguerite Dougherty competition, and she was the recipient of the undergraduate winner award of the same competition. Giulia was a member of the choir Voices of Spirit at Mary Pappert School of Music, singing as a first soprano, as well as a soloist. As a teacher and educator, Giulia worked at The Woodlands Foundation Summer Camp as an assistant vocal coach for kids and adults with special needs. She also worked with the Latin Community Center in Pittsburgh leading group classes where she taught vocal technique and worked on a wide range of repertoire with the students. In addition, Giulia has been working as a voice and beginner piano instructor at Empire music, as well as a private instructor.

Samuel Olawoyin started his musical journey as a young boy when he was enlisted among those that were selected to learn the piano in his local church in Nigeria. It is worth noting that Samuel's father at this time was the choirmaster in their local church.

Samuel earned a National Diploma in Surveying and Geoinformatics from Federal School of Surveying, Oyo, Nigeria and a Higher National Diploma degree in Surveying and Geoinformatics from the Polytechnic of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. Samuel was very much involved in music while he was studying Surveying and Geoinformatics. So, because of his passion and love for music he eventually decided to become a professional musician by proceeding to study music formally in the University. Samuel enrolled for graded exams in piano and organ playing at the Musical Society of Nigeria (MUSON) in Lagos, Nigeria, where he earned grades 8 in piano and organ playing respectively. Samuel earned his Bachelor of Arts in Music at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria where he graduated with a First-Class Honors. This earned him a scholarship to study for his Master's Degree in African Music at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Samuel is currently pursuing his Master's Degree in Organ Performance at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, United States of America where he is studying with the legendary organ teacher, Professor Ann Labounsky.

Samuel has accompanied several chorales and church choirs across Nigeria and in the United States. Samuel has also accompanied several oratorios on the organ like "The Creation" by Joseph Hadyn, "Judas Maccabeus" by G.F. Handel to mention few, between 2016 and 2022. Samuel has given organ recitals in Nigeria and has also been part of several organ recitals organized by the organ department at Mary Pappert School of Music, Duquesne University.

Samuel is currently the Organist at Mt. Lebanon Christian Church, 367 Cedar Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15228. Samuel is happily married to Omolola Grace and blessed with lovely children.

October Elders & Worship Leaders

6 - Chuck Sargent 6 - Kathy Spray
13 - Verna McGinley 13 - Brad Montgomery
20 - Dan Wahl 20 - Jane McCarty
27 - Jeff Hawn 27 - Verna McGinley

October Birthdays

1st: Ralph Scott
7th: Mary Nicholson
17th: William Samples
19th: Diane (Didi) Holmes
20th: Barb Scott
23rd: Greg Newman
27th: Margie Schwartz
28th: Charles Sargent, Dan Wahl
29th: Erika Lee Reick, Cori Lynn Holmes

October Anniversaries

7th: Greg & Karen Newman
17th: Alice Lawson & Dave Koerber

Prayer List

Peace and civility in our nation
Betty Ann Fletcher - healing
The Lange family – death of Katrina
Ron Brown – healing
Horst & Doris Riddler
Ray Dubiel
Joanie McCarty – change of residence transition
Kathleen Miller – Lung cancer surgery – Friend of Rev. Cindy
Emma– signs of rejecting liver
Maggie Goodwin - healing
Sam Levine – 17 year old - inoperable brain tumor
Giles McCarty - healing
Bill Samples
Bill Green
Duane Ready
Ann Peden – friend of Rev. Cindy
Carla– recovery from surgery – health issues
Jack Davis – Brother of Barb Scott
Ron Abels – Friend of Wahls
All those with Covid, RSV and the Flu
War in Ukraine
War in Israel
People impacted by Hurricane Helene