



## MLCC Newsletter - September 2024



### Worship with Us

In-Person or Facebook Live

Traditional Worship: Sunday at 11:00 AM

**Mt. Lebanon Christian Church  
367 Cedar Blvd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220**

Dr. Cindy McClung: [minister367@mtlebocc.org](mailto:minister367@mtlebocc.org)  
Assistant Minister: The Reverend John McCarty: [john.mccarty@mtlebocc.org](mailto:john.mccarty@mtlebocc.org)

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



## Minister's Message

Connect. Grow. Serve. These three words will help guide us in the months and years to come. The discernment team has been working hard to coalesce the data and information shared over the year. As a congregation we gathered in house meetings to talk about many things including where our strengths and our passions for ministry lie.

Connect, Grow and Serve describe our strengths as a congregation and point us in a direction for the future. We connect with God and each other. We grow in faith, relationships and the empowerment of our gifts and talents. We serve God's people.

One of the areas of greatest need in our community is dealing with loneliness and isolation. The new Caring Connections Calling Ministry is one step towards ministry in this area. We will begin by calling those who are homebound or in caring residences in our congregation and then partnering with others to reach out to people in the community around us.

Dining Disciples is another way to connect and grow. If you are joining us for Dining Disciples, bring a friend with you. As we get to know one another and discuss issues of faith we become better equipped to serve out in the world as well. Connections with others are powerful and necessary for a healthy life. Bible Study is another way to connect and grow. We would love to have people beyond the congregation join us. Worship is another way to connect, grow and serve. We have lots of opportunities before us to make an impact. Each of us needs to play a part in those opportunities. Tell a friend or neighbor about our congregation and invite them to connect, grow and serve with us!

Blessings!

Cindy

## Support MLCC

Mail Checks to: Mt. Lebanon Christian Church - 367 Cedar Blvd. - Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
Or Give online at [mtlebocc.org](http://mtlebocc.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.

# Caring Connections

## Invitation to Join Our New Ministry: Caring Connections

Dear Church Family,

We are excited to announce the launch of a new ministry dedicated to reaching out to our homebound members and helping to reduce social isolation within our community. This ministry is a wonderful opportunity to show Christ's love and compassion by simply picking up the phone or dropping a note to check in on those who cannot join us in person.

## Why This Ministry Matters

Social isolation can be a heavy burden, especially for those who are homebound due to illness, age, or other circumstances. A friendly voice and a kind word can make a world of difference. By joining this ministry, you can offer comfort, companionship, and a sense of belonging, reminding them that they are a cherished part of our church family.

## How You Can Help

We are seeking volunteers who are willing to dedicate a little time each week to call and chat with our members and neighbors who can't get out much. No special skills are required, just a loving heart and a listening ear. Training and guidelines will be provided to help you feel comfortable and confident in this role.

## The Impact You Can Make

- Spread Joy: Your calls will bring joy and light into the lives of those who may feel isolated.
- Build Connections: Develop meaningful relationships with members of our church and community.
- Grow Spiritually: Experience personal spiritual growth as you serve others in love.

## How to Get Involved

If you feel called to be a part of this vital ministry, please sign up after our Sunday service or complete our volunteer form at this link and select Caring Connections: [MLCC Volunteer Form](#). Join us for an orientation breakfast Sunday, August 25 at 9am to provide training and information you need to get started.

Let's come together to show our homebound members that they are not alone and that they are deeply loved. Your participation can make a profound difference in someone's life.

In Christ's Love,

Mt. Lebanon Christian Church

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

John 15:12

# 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!

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## Bible Study:

Bible Study is a great way to connect with others, and grow in your knowledge and understanding of scripture.

“James: What You Do Matters” by Margaret FeBinberg will be our study for September and October. The study will be led by our pastors. The book of James is a very practical book that sounds similar in some ways to Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. James is packed with “down to earth teaching, golden treasures of wisdom, and a timely call for believers everywhere to grow into maturity.”

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# Elder's Corner



## PEOPLE ARE #1 ON GOD'S LIST

People were to be loved, and things were made to be used. But often we get confused and many of the world's problems are caused because we love things and use people.

If you want to take a good honest look at your priorities get out your checkbook and credit card statement to examine the things you have spent money on. Still not sure? Then get out your planner and calendar and explore the things you give your time to.

Do we have Jesus' priorities? Are we using Gospel values? The answer is usually yes and no. We do and are to some extent, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

The world is constantly trying to lure us into making things. Money, accomplishments, and comfort are the priorities in our lives. We have all worshipped these things to varying extents by giving them an inordinate place in our lives.

Awhile back, Reverend Art Mace wrote a little reminder about a shoeshine boy.

“Charles R. Leary tells of a certain downtown businessman who became fond of the little boy who shined his shoes every day. He did such a good job that one day the businessman asked him, “Son how come you are so conscientious about you work? The boy felt complimented. He looked up to the man, and said, “Mister, I'm a Christian and I try to shine every pair of shoes as if Jesus were wearing them.”

The businessman saw something genuine in the shoeshine boy. Soon after that he began reading his Bible. When he decided to be a Christian himself, he credited his decision to the little boy who shined every pair of shoes “as if Jesus Christ wearing them.

I wonder what would happen if we began treating others as though we were treating Jesus.

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## SEPTEMBER

The year is growing old.  
Hills will soon hoist red and gold;  
Dainty blooms will meet their doom  
As fields of grain are scraped and groomed.  
Where acres flatten farthest  
The farmers flaunt their harvest --  
Coils of hay litter the ground  
That now lays dormant, bare, and brown;  
No blade of grass, nor stalk of corn,  
No neighbors seen, nor traffic horn;  
Only quiet solemn space  
Greets this city-dweller's face.

A blue and cloudless day like this  
Both enlivens and boldly lies;  
Tis beautiful yet haunting  
When Summer disappears and dies.

-- dan wahl

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### **CAYA Worship Announcement**

The CAYA (Come As You Are) Worship Service will be taking a step back to enter a season of discernment and reflection. As we seek to better understand God's direction for our community, we will temporarily pause our regular gatherings. This time will allow us to pray, listen, and thoughtfully consider the future of our worship together. We encourage everyone to join us in prayer as we seek clarity and guidance, trusting that God will lead us toward a path that best serves our congregation and the broader community. Stay tuned for updates on how you can participate in this process and for future announcements regarding the next steps.



# September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11:00 am Traditional Service	2 Labor Day	3 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	4	5 Noon Dining Disciples at Pravo	6	7
8 11:00 am Traditional Service Caring Connections Calling Training 8:00 to 9:00 am	9	10 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	11 Patriot Day	12 7:00 pm Elders Meeting on Zoom	13	14
15 11:00 am Traditional Service	16 7:00 pm Trustee Meeting on Zoom	17 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference 7:00 pm Board Meeting on Zoom	18	19	20 6:30 pm Dining Disciples	21
22 11:00 am Traditional Service	23	24 7:00 pm Women's Prayer Free Conference	25	26	27	28
29 11:00 am Traditional Service	30					

## September Elders & Worship Leaders

1 - Jeff Hawn 1 - Dan Wahl  
 8 - Chuck Sargent 8 - Verna McGinley  
 15 - Kathy Spray 15 - Chuck Sargent  
 22 - John Crist 22 - Jeff Hawn  
 29 - Brad Montgomery 29 - Chuck Sargent

## September Birthdays

2nd: John McCarty & Cathy Snyder  
 4th: Niko Campbell  
 11th: Paul Bowers  
 19th: Marisa Campbell  
 23rd: Brad Montgomery  
 24th: Alivia Montgomery  
 26th: Lisa Doyle  
 28th: Lee Ann Wahl

## September Anniversaries

129th: Kat & Ed Persinger

## Upcoming Events

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

**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:

Peace and civility in our nation  
Those affected by fires  
Joanie McCarty – healing, transition to new residence  
Kim –healing – friend of Rev. Cindy  
Heather & Don Harrison – death of Heather’s Mom  
Ron Brown – healing  
Horst& Doris Riddler  
Ray Dubiel  
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