



Mt. Lebanon  
Christian Church

## MLCC Newsletter – April 2025



### Worship with Us

In-Person or Facebook Live

Worship: Sunday at 11:00 AM

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

<http://www.mtlebocc.org>

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

Friends, we have been focused on walking a mile in the shoes of others during this Lenten season. The phrase “walking a mile in someone else’s shoes” calls us to a life of deep empathy and understanding. To walk in another’s shoes means to see the world through their eyes, to feel their joys, struggles, and pain, and to approach them with compassion rather than judgment. As Easter people—those who live in the light of the resurrection of Jesus Christ—this call becomes not just an ethical guideline, but a spiritual imperative.

Easter celebrates the ultimate act of sacrificial love and redemption.

Through Christ’s death and resurrection, we are called to embody the transformative power of grace. This means adopting a posture of humility, compassion, and reconciliation in every interaction. As Easter people, walking in someone else’s shoes is not just a metaphor; it is the way we live out the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Embracing the Burden and Blessing of Others When we make the effort to understand someone else’s struggles, we participate in Christ’s call to bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2). This might mean listening without judgment to the stories of those who differ from us—socially, culturally, or politically. It could involve advocating for the voiceless, serving those in need, or simply being present for someone in pain. Walking in another’s shoes doesn’t mean we solve every problem; it means we share in their journey, lightening their load with the love and hope Christ gives us.

This journey of empathy is not without challenges. To truly walk a mile in another’s shoes may take us into uncomfortable territories—exposing our own biases or forcing us to confront issues we would rather ignore. Yet, it also expands our capacity to love and deepens our faith. By seeing the image of God in others, even in those we might find difficult to relate to, we grow into the fullness of what it means to be Easter people.

Walking in another’s shoes does not stop with understanding their pain. Easter reminds us that we are people of hope. As resurrection people, our walk is not just a journey of empathy but also of encouragement, bringing light to dark places. We walk alongside others, not as saviors, but as companions pointing to the hope found in Christ.

To walk a mile in someone else’s shoes as Easter people is to embrace the radical love and grace of the resurrection. It calls us to live lives of empathy, courage, and hope, bridging divides and building connections in a fractured world. In doing so, we reflect the heart of the Gospel—a love that knows no boundaries and a grace that transforms lives.

Friends, as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us not forget that as Easter people we are called to live out Jesus’ ministry to and with others. We cannot ignore the vulnerable, those different from us, the outcast and forgotten. Where is Christ calling you to walk in the shoes of another? We are Easter People!

Let us be a living example of sharing the Good News with all around us!

Blessings!

Cindy

# Holy Week Activities

## **Palm Sunday – April 13th**

- **Laying Down Our Cloaks for Jesus:** Bring a T-shirt (or we'll provide one) as we symbolically lay down our "cloaks" in the sanctuary aisle, echoing the crowd's gesture for Jesus.
- **Friendship Village Choir:** Our choir will be joined by the Friendship Village choir for a special musical offering during worship.
- **Earth Day Clean-Up:** Join us after worship for an Earth Day service project to care for God's creation in our neighborhood. A light lunch, as well as vests, gloves, and bags, will be provided. Many hands make light work!

## **Last Living Supper – A Dramatic Musical Experience**

- **Thursday, April 17th at 7 PM**  
*First Christian Church of Washington (615 E Beau St, Washington, PA 15301)*  
Experience Leonardo Da Vinci's iconic *The Last Supper* brought to life through Ruth Elaine Schram's moving enactment, *The Living Last Supper*.

## **Good Friday Service – April 18th**

- **2 PM – 3 PM**  
Reflect on Christ's sacrifice through a powerful service centered on the **7 Last Words of Christ**.

## **Easter Sunday – April 20th**

- **9:30 – 10:30 AM:** Pancake Breakfast – Come share a delicious meal and fellowship!
- **11 AM:** Easter Worship – Celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection with us!

We look forward to walking through this sacred week together—there's a place for everyone!

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## **Upcoming Events - Save the Date (see Holy Week Activities above)**

Thursday April 3 - Dining Disciples at Noon at Bravo  
Monday, April 14 - Elder's Meeting on Zoom at 7:00 pm  
Thursday, April 17 - Living Last Supper at FCC Washington  
Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday Service  
Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Service at 2:00 pm  
Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday Service  
Friday, April 25 - Dining Disciples

# Support MLCC

Mail Checks to: Mt. Lebanon Christian Church - 367 Cedar Blvd. - Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Or Give online at [mtlebocc.org](http://mtlebocc.org)

Or **Online Giving** available through our Givelify by clicking on <https://giv.li/rwhcas> or clicking on the QR code below



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.

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## 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. Check the calendar for dates.

# April Service & Outreach

Together we can **Step Into Compassion** to care for God's creation and God's people

Help us to **Collect Shoes and Coats**

**MLCC is partnering with City Mission** this Lent to bring warmth and hope to our neighbors in need. We invite you to **donate new or gently used shoes and outerwear** to help provide comfort and protection for those struggling with homelessness.

Drop off your donations at the **Service and Outreach table in the narthex** by **Sunday, April 20**. Together, let's make this Lenten season one of **kindness and compassion**—living out God's call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

## Care for God's Creation

Please join us this Earth Day as we do our part to care for God's creation.

**Sunday, April 27 at 12:00 PM** in the chapel.

A light lunch will be provided. Volunteers will receive bags, gloves and vests and head out to clean up litter on our Adopted section of Cochran Road.

Thanks for doing your part to care for this beautiful world.

Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it.

Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures.

Help us to become instruments of a new creation,

Founded on the covenant of your love.

- *The Cry of the Earth*

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## Difference Makers: Your Impact in Action

### **Bringing Light to Kane Senior Living**

Because of you, many neighbors at Kane Senior Living felt warmth and joy this winter! Your uplifting cards and thoughtful words brought smiles and comfort, reminding them they are loved and not forgotten.

### **Extending Compassion to Those in Crisis**

Through your prayers and generosity, MLCC contributed **\$1,240** to Week of Compassion, providing crucial relief to those affected by the **California Wildfires**. Your support is bringing hope and recovery to families in need.

### **Thank You for Being the Hands and Feet of Christ!**

Your dedication to connecting, growing, and serving continues to make a meaningful difference. Let's keep shining God's love in our community and beyond

# Elder's Corner



## Watch what you say!

A father and his eight-year-old son hired a guide for a fishing trip. As they quietly approached one of the guide's favorite coves another boat zoomed ahead of them and took the guide's favorite spot. Angry at the lack of courtesy, the guy let loose with a few choice words. Later as they moved to another location, he calmed down and apologized to the father for swearing in front of his son. That's alright, he answered, Sometimes I take him golfing with me and he hears a lot.

Marlene, a mother of six, was coming home from a neighbor's house. Things seemed too quiet. Quietly she looked out of the back door to see her children sitting in a circle in the yard. They are never quiet; she figured something was going on. She slowly crept up and found out what the center of attention was. There in the middle of the children were six baby skunks. The mother screamed at the top of her lungs; "quickly children run!" They immediately followed her orders. Each child grabbed one of the baby skunks and ran into the house. The mother, still upset, began to swear at her children. "How stupid are you!" And of course there are other words used here we cannot say.

Do we feel abusive language is no big thing? Jesus does not think so. Jesus warns us that if we use abusive language towards other people, we will be held accountable. Language that we would never use in public is now commonplace. What we speak is what lies in our hearts. Jesus shows us there is no place for an abusive tongue.

Read Matthew 5:22. Whoever says to his brother "RAGA!" They will be answerable to the Sanhedrin. Lent is the time to take an honest look at ourselves. Are there habits and sins that you have made peace with and have learned to accept? The Lord asks us to put away our sins; not just some, but all --, even those that we would rather not give up. It may not be easy at first, but it is necessary to quit doing evil and learn to do good. This should keep us praying all of this Lent.

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## Organ Recital

Our organist, Samuel Olawoyin will present an Organ Recital featuring pieces from his senior recital at Duquesne.

Bring a friend and come and listen to the wonderful music on Saturday, May 3 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. Spread the word about our talented organist and the opportunity to hear him play!

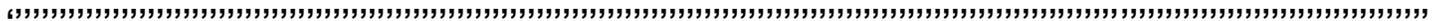
# BIBLE STUDY

## Bible Study on Jesus' Final Days

The four New Testament Gospels aren't the same story, but they offer the same Resurrection hope. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John devote most of their story detailing Jesus' last week in Jerusalem, all highlighting Jesus' triumphant entry into the city, the suffering and humiliation of the cross, and the empty tomb come Sunday morning, but the stories they tell aren't quite the same.

Each Gospel offers a different lens through which we understand Jesus' Passion. One portrait reveals Jesus to be in control, while another emphasizes his suffering. In one story Jesus offers hope to the thief on the cross, and in another Jesus only receives derision. These different perspectives aren't a reason to dismiss they Gospels; rather they reveal an abundant, diverse, and complementary picture of God's work in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7 on zoom as we compare and contrast the Gospels and Jesus' Final Days on April 2 and 9.



		APRIL 2025				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom	Dining Disciples Noon Luncheon at	Dining Disciples Noon Luncheon at Crust	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 am Daniel Plan 11:00 Worship Service		7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group	7:00 pm Bible Study on Zoom			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 am Daniel Plan 11:00 Palm Sunday Worship Service	7:00 pm Elders Meeting on Zoom	7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group		7:00 pm Living Last Supper at FCC Washington	2:00 pm Good Friday Service	
20	21	22		24	25	26
9:30 am Pancake Breakfast 11:00 Easter Sunday Worship Service		7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group			Dining Disciples at Crust (Time to be determined)	
27	28	29				
11:00 Worship Service		7:00 pm Women's Prayer Group				
						

**April Worship Leaders & Elders**

6 - Verna McGInley 6 – Brad Montgomery  
13 – Dan Wahl 13 – Jeff Hawn  
20 – Chuck Sargent 20 – Chuck Sargent  
27 – Jeff Hawn 27 – Kathy Spray

**April Birthdays**

10<sup>th</sup> – Mike Rusko  
16<sup>th</sup> – Jocelyn Wagner

**April Anniversaries**

27<sup>th</sup> – Gary & Margaret Schwartz

**Address Change**

Lois Lindemann  
Arrowood  
512 N. Lewis Run Road, Room 329  
Pittsburgh, PA 15122



Prayer List

Jocelyn Wagner  
Duane Ready  
Carol Dubiel  
Joanne Houston  
Lois Lindemann  
Family of Bill Samples - comfort and peace  
Family of Barb Scott - comfort and peace  
Family of Ron Brown – comfort and peace  
David Blandino - Cancer - friend of Rev. Cindy  
Those impacted by the California Wildfires  
Neal - friend of Anne Totin  
Peace and civility in our nation  
Horst & Doris Riddler  
Ray Dubiel  
Maggie Goodwin - healing  
Sam Levine – 17-year-old - inoperable brain tumor  
Giles McCarty - healing  
Bill Green  
Ann Peden – friend of Rev. Cindy  
Carla– health issues  
Ron Abels – Friend of Wahls  
All those with Covid, RSV and the Flu  
War in Ukraine  
War in Israel  
Individuals Impacted by Hurricanes Helene & Milton  
Travelers

THE  
**DANIEL**  
PLAN

Get Healthy-Stay Healthy  
Faith-Food-Fitness-Focus-Friends  
Small Group: Sundays 9:30 AM  
during Lent beginning March 9th

40 DAYS  
— *to a* —  
HEALTHIER  
LIFE

Join us as Mt. Lebanon Church engages together in The Daniel Plan. Developed by Pastor Rick Warren (The Purpose Driven Life), Dr. Daniel Amen, and Dr. Mark Hyman.

*The Daniel Plan* is framed around The Essentials: Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus and Friends – life areas that all work together to restore and sustain your long-term health. Faith is the foundation with God as the source of the power and the energy behind all transformational change. As you follow *The Daniel Plan*, you will discover that you have a part to play in getting healthier, but God will energize your efforts. The Daniel Plan offers practical solutions to improving your health physically, spiritually, relationally and emotionally. Integrating these Essentials can lead to a more vibrant life, ultimately preparing you to live out your calling. Books will be provided. Signup today!