



# *The Window into the heart of*

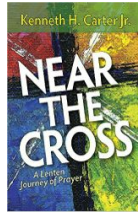
*Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church*

Volume 2, Number 1, Lent/Easter 2016

## Observing Lent

### Prayer: Moving Near the Cross

Lenten Bible Study with Bishop Bashore



Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 10, our 9:30-10:30 am Bible study on Wednesday mornings in Wesley Hall will explore how prayer draws us near the cross and into the heart of Christ. Paul's letter to the Philippians will be our primary resource, supplemented with *Near The Cross* by Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., United Methodist Bishop in Florida. The goal of this seven week study is to lead us into a deeper life of prayer and a strong faith to transform life's defeats into joyful victories.

Bishop Carter writes, "To pursue a spiritual discipline during the season of Lent is to move through these forty days, knowing that we will become more like Jesus Christ, as we walk with Him into experiences of solitude, emptiness, and reliance on God. To adopt a practice of prayer is to grow into it, and within it, allowing the practice to shape us, even as we move through changing circumstance in life." His book is available for \$10 through the church office.

Everyone is invited to participate in this Bible study led by our bishop in residence, Bishop George W. Bashore. Themes to be developed will be partnership and the Cross, prayer and service, prayer and formation, prayer and sacrifice, prayer and perseverance, prayer and discipleship, prayer and gratitude.

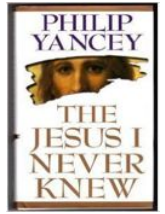
### February 10th, Ash Wednesday Services

**6:30 - 10 am, at your convenience**

Sanctuary, Silent communion,  
ashes available

**7 pm Sanner Chapel, Communion service,  
imposition of ashes**

### The Jesus I Never Knew



Book/DVD Study with  
Pastor Tom during  
Terrific Tuesdays in Lent  
February 16 & 23 March 1, 8, & 15

Andrew Lloyd Webber cast him as a rock-n-roll rebel in the musical Jesus Christ Superstar, many Christians see him as a handsome European-looking man, and social justice groups place him next to Ghandi in his defense of the downtrodden. But, says Philip Yancey, the real Jesus would have left most people scratching their heads along with the disciples and asking, "Who is this guy?"

This is exactly the question Yancey asks in his book *The Jesus I Never Knew*. Yancey's search for the real Jesus collides with the calm, cool, collected, and "loving hippie" notions of Jesus he saw in modern American culture. Instead, he finds a Galilean Jew born into apparent scandal making the most daring of claims: that he is the Way, the Truth, and the Light.

Join us, as we take another look at the Jesus you thought you knew so well! Based on the challenging and insightful bestseller *The Jesus I Never Knew*, this rich visual study will lead us through an examination of Christ in the Gospels. Led by Yancey and featuring film clips of cinematic portrayals, it's certain to get you thinking and growing!

## Our Spiritual Center

*" . . . And this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you." Genesis 28:22*

As the liturgical calendar moves swiftly onward, we will soon find ourselves at the beginning of the Season of Lent. For Christians, Lent has traditionally been a time for personal introspection, and for centering ourselves, spiritually. It really is a "homecoming," of sorts, as we take stock of our spiritual condition, and determine to move closer to God. We endeavor to make this move through the use of the traditional spiritual disciplines – things like, prayer, fasting, and Bible study. Scholars often refer to these as "internal disciplines" since they may be accomplished by an individual working alone. This year, I would like for us all to consider the "external disciplines" which include the outwardly-focused activities like evangelism, service, and stewardship. These spiritual disciplines can move us closer to God just as surely as the ones that we normally think about. Consider the following example from the Hebrew Scripture.

Like so many biblical characters, Jacob was not a perfect person. In Genesis 27, we read how Jacob cheated his brother Esau out of his birthright by fooling their father Isaac. Having received his father's blessing, Jacob sets off to find a wife. Along the way, he dreams of the famous ladder, and he hears God's voice, establishing an everlasting covenant with him, and with all of his descendants. Jacob is overwhelmed with a strange feeling of fear and joy, as he makes a vow unto the Lord, saying, *"If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's house, then the Lord will be my God and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you."* (Genesis 28:16-22) As imperfect a man as he was, Jacob knew who was the source of all that he had received, and he was determined to give back in return. He knew that the discipline of stewardship would be the key to his safe return home.

Andrew Murray once said: The world asks, "What does a man own?" Christ asks, "How does he use it?" The world thinks more about the money getting; Christ, about the money giving. And when a man gives, the world still asks, "What does he give?" Christ asks, "How does he give?"

How do we give? Isn't that one of the fundamental question that we all must face in our spiritual lives? During our 2015 stewardship campaign, I lifted up "the widow's mite" as a model for our giving. Jesus praised this gift, not for its size, but because of the attitude of "full surrender" which had prompted it. Great Britain's famous wartime prime minister Winston Churchill once said, *"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."* Both Jacob and the widow in Jesus' parable knew the truth of that statement, and so should we all. I think that this attitude of full surrender is the key to our spiritual growth and development. Do you desire to move closer to God in this season of Lent? Try adding the disciplines of evangelism, service, and stewardship to your daily routine. May God bless each one of you, as you seek to give your all for Jesus' sake!

Yours in Christ,  
**Pastor Tom**

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# United Methodist Women Events

## March UMW Meeting:

### Lenten Call to Prayer and Self Denial Thurs. March 10 11 am Wesley Hall

Join us for our annual Call to Prayer and Self-Denial event. Under the Reverend Deborah Ackley-Killian, we'll gather for reflection and prayer — then enjoy lunch together in Wesley Hall. Cost for lunch is \$6. Please call the church office at 412.531.7131 to make a reservation. Drop-ins are welcome, too!

### Combined UMW Circle Meeting Thurs. March 17 10 am Wesley Hall

Dr. Cleon Cornes, our speaker, will lead the discussion on "The Other Wesleys." All UMW members are invited to attend.

## Friday, March 11: Asbury Bake Sale

It's time for the annual Asbury Bake Sale and we need your delicious contributions. Asbury's residents look forward to these sweet treats, so please consider donating homemade cake slices, cookies, cupcakes, sweet rolls, tarts, fudge and other baked goods. Donations should be packaged in small amounts (for 1 or 2 people) and labeled, paying special attention to ingredients that might cause allergies, such as eggs, nuts, peanut butter and chocolate — or if they're specially made, such as "gluten-free" or "diabetic-friendly," etc.

Baked goods can be dropped off in our church's Asbury kitchen on Thursday, March 10 or Friday morning, March 11 directly to Asbury Heights on Bower Hill Road. For more information, contact the church office at 412.531.7131.

## EGGstravaganza

Saturday, March 19 10 am to Noon

Come to MLUMC for the annual EGGstravaganza. It's a family-friendly event geared especially for children from preschool through elementary school age. It's free of charge to everyone in the community. Invite your friends and neighbors.

Children and Mom and Dad will rotate among several stations including egg dying, crafts, Easter egg hunt and games. Donations will be accepted for our church's mission outreach projects.

You can help make this year's EGGstravaganza a success with a generous donation of food or time. Volunteer to serve as a rotation helper, station leader or as a set-up, clean-up or kitchen crew member. Donations of small wrapped candies placed in plastic eggs can be left outside Kim Rhoton's office.

Watch for a sign-up sheet in the bulletin or contact Kim Rhoton: [krhoton@mlumc.org](mailto:krhoton@mlumc.org)

## Handbell Happenings: Save the Dates

The 2016 **Berries 'n' Bells** will be held on Friday, May 6 at 7:30 pm in Asbury Center.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this exciting handbell concert with dessert! And you never know what kind of fun these ringers are going to stir up as they share their music...be there! There's a rumor that PDQ Bach is involved...



Once again, the acclaimed **Three Rivers Ringers** will be in concert in our sanctuary. Friday, May 13 at 8 pm will be your lucky day for hearing the Bells of Broadway, a concert featuring music not only from Broadway shows but the movies and even that wildly favorite TV series *Downton Abbey*! Nancy Lutz is Artistic Director and Andy Seay is Associate Conductor.

Watch the bulletin and website for more details!



# Weekday Ministries

by Mettelise Ziegler, WDM Director

Every day at Weekday Ministries, especially during the Lenten season, we learn that God chose to love us and make us members of his family forever! That makes us happy!



*But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise.*



*He chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.*



*And God chose what the world thinks is not important ---what the world hates and thinks is nothing. He chose these to destroy what the world thinks is important.*



*God did this so that no one can stand before him and boast about anything.*



*It is God who has made you part of Christ Jesus. And Christ has become for us wisdom from God. He is the reason we are right with God and pure enough to be in his presence.*



*Christ is the one who set us free from sin.*

1 Corinthians 1:27-30 (ERV)



# The Food Pantry: Blessings and Challenges

Help the hungry in our community - that's the mission of the MLUMC Food Pantry. For over 20 years, food Pantry coordinator Liz DiPietro and her volunteer teams and donors have provided food for those in need, at times also assisting with rent, utilities, warm clothing, service referrals and prayers.

The Food Pantry distributes food twice a month, the 1st and 3rd Saturdays. Volunteers are organized into 4 different teams for the distribution tasks - a shopping team, packing team, distribution team and delivery team. Liz keeps track of all the administrative details, including an ever-changing client list.

The Pantry client list currently ranges between 130 and 150 individuals from 45-50 families. When clients show up at the Pantry, located to the right of Wesley Hall, they are greeted by and receive their food bag from a volunteer distribution team member. Items in the bag

were either donated or purchased by a shopping team member and the bag was filled by the packing team. On the way out of the Pantry, clients can choose from bread, baked goods and produce at a table provided and staffed by another volunteer organization, the Food Lift. Delivery team members load bags into their cars and deliver the bags to shut-ins or clients without transportation.

## How can we help?

- Become a Food Pantry team volunteer.
- Donate food/paper items during the Pantry "Sunday of the Month." Watch for info on that program around the church and in the announcements.
- Consider "charging" a Food Pantry donation item as admission to your church event.
- Honor or memorialize your friends and loved ones with a financial donation to the Pantry.

**For more information, contact Liz DiPietro, 412-279-4592.**

## 2016 Easter Memorials

**Purchase flowers or make a donation to the Food Pantry in honor or memory of friends or loved ones.**



The flowers will be on display in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 27, and may be picked up after the 10:45 service or any time after Easter. Brighten someone's day - deliver your flowers to a shut-in or ask the church to deliver.

Turn in this form to the church office before the deadline, Sunday, March 13.

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### 2016 EASTER MEMORIALS ORDER DEADLINE - MARCH 13

**Make check payable to MLUMC. Mark the memo line "Easter Flowers" or "Food Pantry"**

**Food Pantry Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_**

#### Flower Selection (color cannot be guaranteed)

_____ Lilies (1 stem)	@ \$8.50 = _____	_____ Hyacinths (3 plants)	@ \$7.50 = _____
_____ Tulips (5 plants)	@ \$7.50 = _____	_____ Begonias (6" pot)	@ \$10.50 = _____
_____ Mums	@ \$9.50 = _____	_____ Pansy Basket	@ \$10.50 = _____

**Total Flower Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**Given in (circle) "memory" or "honor" of (please print): \_\_\_\_\_**

**Donor Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone \_\_\_\_\_**

☐ I will pick up flowers

☐ I will deliver to a shut-in

☐ Deliver to a shut-in

## *From Finance and Stewardship Committee chairs, Rob Spicher and Jim Young:*

February 2016

Dear Family and Friends of Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church,

As Chairs of the Finance and Stewardship Committees, respectively, we wanted to review with you where our Church ended up financially during 2015 and express our hope for 2016.

When we look back at actual 2015 results versus those budgeted, expenditures tied to ministries, staff, and buildings were in line with what was projected. Many thanks go not only to members of the Finance Committee but also to the Staff for finding ways to reduce expenses in certain areas while not compromising our Church's mission. Of particular note were significant savings in the areas of utilities and insurance.

Revenues, however, did not keep pace with the budget. A loan (secured by a portion of our Church's unrestricted endowment account) was obtained in mid-2015 to cover this revenue gap. Thanks in part to this loan and also to a generous (and unbudgeted) gift from a Church member, we were current on all bills at year end and were able to pay our Connectional (aka Conference) Apportionment, which funds worldwide missions and ministry outreach, in full.

The Finance Committee is currently working to finalize our Church's 2016 operating budget. Said budget will project the revenues needed to support our many outstanding ministries, pay our talented and dedicated staff, and maintain our large and historic building.

Historically, approximately 90% of our Church's revenues have come from your financial gifts. Approximately 2/3 of this 90% has been in the form of pledges, wherein pledgers commit to pay a specified amount in regular intervals. (The other 1/3 of this 90% has been from persons who do not pledge but give regularly throughout the year.) Pledges have proven to be a very predictable source of revenue, with payments on pledges typically exceeding 95% of pledged amounts. The more people that pledge, the easier it is for the Finance Committee to accurately project revenues and prepare an achievable budget.

Our annual Stewardship Campaign is a very important part of the budgeting process. The results from the most recent Campaign (held in November 2015) were mixed. Approximately 140 families and/or individuals made a pledge, including approximately 20 new pledgers – that is the good news. The not-so-good news (at the time of this letter) is that we are approximately 20 pledges below where we ended up for 2015. These outstanding pledges, and the dollar amounts they represent, are critical not only to preparing an achievable budget for 2016 but more importantly to supporting our ministries, paying our staff, and maintaining our buildings.

If you have not already done so, we hope that you will demonstrate your continued support of our Church through your financial gifts, preferably in the form of a pledge.

We, as Christians, all have a role to play to support the work of our Church through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. Your past, present, and future support in all of these areas is very much appreciated.

Rob Spicher, Finance Committee Chair

Jim Young, Stewardship Committee Chair

# Why Do We Pay Apportionments, Again?

*by Dr. Bob McKibben, Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference*

It's a common question in United Methodist churches, posed by many a congregant to his or her pastor, "Why do we pay apportionments, again?" Many local congregations simply dislike the apportionment system because it requires paying money from their accounts for programs that appear to produce little for them directly. At best, people simply don't know what causes they are supporting. Some United Methodists know but don't approve of some of the programs that are being funded. These programs, however, are those that the broader church approved at the Annual, Jurisdictional, or General Conference levels.

At worst, many United Methodists express concern that our boards and agencies are failing to hold themselves accountable. While I believe the general boards and agencies follow carefully the directives given to them, the perception of unaccountability still surfaces, caused in part by those rare instances when misappropriation does occur. Like many other things in our world, these are what make headlines, while well-managed and worthwhile projects go unreported.

Jesus is recorded in the Bible as saying in a variety of ways that the first shall be last and the last shall be first. The apportionment process encourages local churches to become involved in ministries to the least and the last, through ministries that extend beyond the local church. Congregations often desire to be first or even the greatest, forgetting that being the greatest means being a servant to others. Congregations I have served during my ministry are among the guilty. I can say, however, that we made progress in each church and I currently serve a congregation that has a long history of being faithful in paying their apportionments.

Bishop Paul Leeland of the Alabama-West Florida Conference prefers the term "missional giving" over "apportionments." Bishop Leeland is much closer to true the meaning of the concept, and reminds us of a powerful fact when he says, "So much of our missional giving—retirement homes, children's homes, colleges, camping ministry, evangelism, and retiree support—come through our local churches. I don't see any one church that could do all this for our conference by itself." Consider the following benefits of apportionments: Your congregation's apportionments help pay the cost for our United Methodist colleges and universities, with the hope that our students will become better educated and perhaps become faithful pastors and leaders within our churches. My own children received scholarships to

attend a United Methodist college. That's missional giving!

Your apportionments help to afford care and support for children with AIDS, and to speak out against violence in the Middle East that is creating a new generation of orphans. Your apportionments are paying for teachers, pastors, and missionaries around the world—in Russia, Korea, and Africa, to name a few. The United Methodist Church is the only Protestant denomination allowed to maintain a permanent presence in Russia. The General Board of Discipleship's Upper Room division hosted the first ever Emmaus Walk in Russia in 2008. That's missional giving!

Africa and Korea are the fastest growing Christian communities in the world and the United Methodist Church has an active and visible presence in both of those locations. KumNon Methodist Church in South Korea is the largest Methodist congregation in the world with 112,000 members. This effort began thirteen short years ago, funded by World Service apportionments. Our funds to the World Methodist Council have made it possible for Wesleyan churches to be established in 132 countries. That's missional giving!

United Methodists gave \$20.8 million to support victims of the 9/11 attacks. To date, 99% of the funds collected have been distributed with no administrative fees. The funds raised for Hurricane Katrina relief have aided 120,000 families. The 2004 tsunami relief effort was the largest ever by the United Methodist Church. That's missional giving!

When Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, FEMA realized that they were not prepared to deal with the on going process. They asked (first time in history) UMCOR to take over operations within Alabama because the United Methodist Church was the only denomination with the structure and resources to take on the task. That's missional giving! And that's why we pay apportionments!

Perhaps there is a better system than apportionment for the United Methodist Church, but I stand in awe at how God has used our denomination. Together, let's work to improve it and do everything in faith that God will continue to inspire and empower our Church.

*Dr. Bob McKibben presently serves as Senior Pastor of the Marianna First United Methodist Church in Marianna, Florida.*



# Help for Haiti Sunday: February 21

Through a generous endowment left by Herald Heard for mission efforts in Haiti, Mt. Lebanon UM Church is sponsoring a mission trip to Haiti. Members of Christ UMC of North Huntingdon and Ellwood City First UMC are joining us. Under the Methodist umbrella organization, Thomas Food Project, our team will travel on March 19-25. We will be assigned two schools in the Thomas Arcahaie area of Haiti. Some team members will work with the children, some will teach first aid to teachers and a computer person will evaluate the second hand computers available to students. All team members will be making sand filters and working on water purification.



On Sunday, Feb. 21 our church will culminate a week of collections from church members. We are calling this initiative, "Help for Haiti." Vitamins are a much needed source of nourishment for poorly fed people. Multi -vitamins of any sort, other than gummy, are needed. Additionally, see the list below of other items we have been asked to bring. We will place these items in old suitcases that will be taken to Haiti by team. We hope that individuals and families in our church will bring one or more items on Feb. 21 for us to take to Haiti. Questions? Clark Remington, corkrem@verizon.net .

## NEEDED SUPPLIES

Toothbrushes, tooth paste, floss  
Ibuprofen is always needed  
Aspirin  
Flu and cold medicine  
Deodorant

Soap  
Lotions  
Roloids  
Pepto Bismol  
Vitamins

Flashlights  
Dictionaries  
Children's Underwear  
T-Shirts All sizes  
Shorts All sizes  
School supplies-paper, pens, rulers

## Thomas Food Project helps 6 Haiti Schools go Solar

*by Kathy L. Gilbert for United Methodist News*

Six schools in Thomas, Haiti, have solar power plants, computers and water purifiers, thanks to a five-year effort by volunteer-in-mission teams led by Warren McGuffin and supported by the United Methodist California-Nevada Conference. The schools, in turn, now serve 10,000 lunches each month, lunches that pay expenses for the school.

**McGuffin**, who calls himself a "humanitarian capitalist," has taken a holistic approach in Haiti aimed at nurturing the body, mind and soul. Volunteer teams who share their gifts and talents benefit the whole Thomas community, not just the students and faculty, he said.



United Methodist Volunteers in Mission have provided assistance, he said. A group of United Methodist Women made more than 1,000 dresses and shorts for the students.

McGuffin's stake in technology is firmly planted. "The installations of the computer labs are now able to deliver 21st century educational tools for the poorest schools in our hemisphere," he said. "The water-purification equipment installed builds a healthier environment. The solar street lights provide not only a safer place for students to study but also allow evening social activity."

# Mission Committee Report: 2015

*by Hazel Cope*

During the last year, the varied missions supported by MLUMC were able to make life a little easier for many needy people around the world. Those good works were made possible by the efforts of all of us who helped to make our two Rummage Sales such a success. We broke the record of net receipts from the June and November Sales, and together raised almost \$20,000. Smaller fundraisers added over \$1,000. The total has been disbursed to both ongoing and new mission projects. The goals of our Mission Committee include making disciples of Jesus Christ; strengthening, developing and renewing Christian congregations and communities; alleviating human suffering; and seeking justice, freedom and peace.

In Africa, THE NYADARI CONNECTION is a beacon of hope in the misruled nation of Zimbabwe. This amazing mission community trains nurses, provides homes and education to orphans, grows food, and sponsors meaningful work projects. The W. PA United Methodist Conference has provided support here for many years, and last year MLUMC gave them \$3,000, in addition to other gifts. One of the "work projects" will utilize the many sewing machines rebuilt by our own Bonnie Lawson, children received backpacks filled with school supplies and their education was funded by individual sponsors. Recreation at the mission will be enhanced by our gift of several One World Futbols - durable soccer balls which don't puncture. We co-operated with Brother's Brother Foundation, here in Pittsburgh, to ensure that everything was shipped and arrived safely.

The UM CHURCH IN EASTERN EUROPE stayed alive during the years of communist rule, and is now growing. MLUMC has partnered with a Methodist Church in Zwickau, in the former E. Germany, for over 20 years. We worked with that church to help establish UM Churches in the former communist nations of Latvia and Lithuania. In Lithuania the Church is creating a camp where United Methodists can come together for recreation and worship. We have been able to help with a donation of \$3,500, and also provided \$500 for hymnals in Lithuanian.

Who can forget the time spent with our guests from Zwickau and Lithuania who visited here last summer, staying with our church families and worshipping with us? MLUMC provided \$1,500 in 2015 towards the costs of the visitors. Come join the group which will visit there in 2017!

In response to the tragic refugee crisis, the small town of Zwickau has accepted over 1,000 refugees who have fled their war-torn and drought devastated homes. Because of the extra efforts MLUMC put into our Rummage Sales, we raised \$3,043 more than the money needed to cover our commitments and that entire sum was sent to Zwickau UMC to furnish a play area and other needs at that church for the refugee children. In addition, our own Grace Killian, recently returned from mission work in Palestine where she learned Arabic, will go to help refugees in Zwickau and the surrounding area.

HELP FOR HAITI was provided a \$1,125 grant to assist a rural church's outreach to scattered communities. This was less than committed for because the outreach did not continue successfully, and thus we were able to help the victims of a local disaster in Washington PA. (see below).

Our LOCAL NEEDS have not been forgotten. Grants totaling over \$600 were made to help the meals taken monthly to a food kitchen at a Northside UMC Church and the weekly program of volunteer tutors from MLUMC who help students one-on-one at a Northside school. \$1,500 was donated to the Pittsburgh branch of Family Promise, which helps temporarily homeless families. The expenses incurred when the families are guests at our church are covered by the hosts and other donations made for that purpose. When the premises of our neighbors at Washington City Mission were devastated by a fire, we immediately donated \$1,000, plus provided a breakfast for all their clients.

THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH go on a Mission Trip each year, to help needy communities with rebuilding work which they could not otherwise afford. \$2,000 was granted towards the expenses of their travel and materials. In addition, \$1,000 was granted to a young leader from the youth group, Julia Michael, who will be working at a Christian Mission outreach organization.

Of course, these missions are only part of the full mission work of our church. We, the members of the Mission Committee have prayerfully and seriously considered the above disbursements and we hope that you will feel we have fulfilled our Church's goals as well as possible. We invite you to consider joining our Committee.

**For more information contact Louanne Bailly,  
[lbailly0@gmail.com](mailto:lbailly0@gmail.com).**

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

# 2016 February

10

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
6:30 AM Silent Communion  
9:30 AM Lenten Bible  
Study  
6:30 PM Wolf Cub Scout  
7 PM Ash Wed Service  
7 PM Education  
7 PM Finance

11

11 AM UMW Project  
6:30 PM Promise Bells  
6:30 PM Webelos I  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

12

9:30 AM Women's Bible  
Study  
1:30 PM Memoirs Group  
6:30 Cub Scouts Bear  
Den

13

14

**BOY SCOUT SUNDAY**  
8:30 AM Worship Sanner  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 AM Worship  
Sanctuary

15

7 PM Chapel Bells  
Rehearsal

16

6 PM Terrific Tues  
7 PM BSA #23

17

9:30 AM Bishop's Lenten  
Bible Study  
7 PM Cub Scout  
7 PM Christian Ed  
7 PM Kolonia UMW  
Circle

18

9:30 AM UMW Circle  
Faith Circle  
6:30 PM Promise Bells  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

19

9:30 AM Women's Bible  
Study

20

10 AM Food Pantry

21

**HELP FOR HAITI SUN.**  
8:30 AM Worship Sanner  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 AM Worship Sanct  
5 PM Youth Group  
6:30 PM BSA Review

22

7 PM Chapel Bells  
Rehearsal

23

6 PM Terrific Tues  
7 PM BSA #23  
7 PM BSA Reviews

24

9:30 AM Bishop's Lenten  
Bible Study  
6:30 PM Wolf Cub  
Scouts

25

9:30 AM Hands & Heart  
6:30 PM Webelos  
6:30 PM Promise Bells  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

26

9:30 AM Women's Bible  
Study  
6:30 PM Cub Scouts  
Bear Den

27

28

8:30 AM Worship Sanner  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 AM Worship Sanct.  
11:30 UMW All Church  
Lunch  
7 PM BSA Leaders  
6 PM Kerygma East End  
Shelter Dinner

29

7 PM Chapel Bells  
Rehearsal

1

2

3

4

5

## Lenten / Holy Week Readings

### February 14 1st Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (UMH 810)  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

### March 6 4th Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalm 32 (UMH 766)  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

### March 24 Maunday Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (UMH 837)  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### February 21 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27 (UMH 758)  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

### March 13 5th Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Psalm 126 (UMH 847)  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8

### March 25 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Psalm 22 (UMH 752)  
Hebrews 10:16-25  
John 18:1-19:42

### February 28 3rd Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalm 63:1-8 (UMH 788)  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

### March 20 Passion/Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms  
Luke 19:28-40  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)  
Liturgy of the Passion

### March 27 Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12





**Palm Sunday, March 20**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanner Chapel  
 10:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

**Maunday Thursday, March 24**  
 7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae  
 with Holy Communion  
 in the Sanctuary

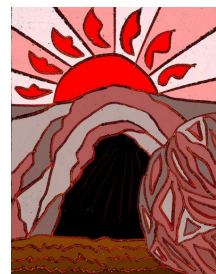
**Good Friday, March 25**  
 12 to 1 p.m. Community Worship  
 in the Sanctuary

**Easter Sunday, March 27**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
 10:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2016</b>  <b>March</b>		<b>1</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Parents	<b>2</b> 6:30 AM N. Side Lunch Prep 9:30 AM Bishop's Lenten Bible Study 6 PM Homebuilders' Picnic	<b>3</b> 8:30 AM N.Side Lunch Preps 9:30 AM Hands & Heart Noon TNT Asbury Hights 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	<b>5</b> 8 M UMW Soup Preps 10 AM Food Pantry 10 AM New Member Orientation
	<b>6</b> 8:30 AM Worship Sanner 930 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Sanctuary 5 PM Youth Group	<b>7</b> 6:30 Tiger Cub Scouts 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>8</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews 7 PM Cub Scout Planning 7:30 Church Council	<b>9</b> 9:30 AM Bishop's Lenten Bible Study 6:30 PM Wolf Cub Scout 7 PM Education 7:30 Finance	<b>10</b> 11 AM UMW 6:30 PM Promise Bells 6:30 Webelo I Scouts 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 1:30 PM Memoirs Group 6:30 Cub Scouts Bear Den
	<b>13</b> New Member Sunday 8:30 AM Worship Sanner 930 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Sanctuary	<b>14</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells Rehearsal	<b>15</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	<b>16</b> 9:30 AM Bishop's Lenten Bible Study 7 PM Cub Scout 7 PM Christian Ed 7 PM Koinonia UMW Circle	<b>17</b> 9:30 AM UMW Combined Circle 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study
	<b>20</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 8:30 AM Worship Sanner 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Sanct. Network Brunch 5 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM BSA Reviews	<b>21</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells Rehearsal	<b>22</b> 7 PM BSA #23	<b>23</b> 9:30 AM Bishop's Lenten Bible Study 6:30 PM Wolf Cub Scout	<b>24</b> <b>MAUNDAY THURSDAY</b> 6:30 Webelos 7:30 PM Tenebrae Service	<b>25</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study Noon Office Closes Noon Community Worship 6:30 PM Cub Scouts

**27**  
**Easter**  
**Sunday**

*Christ is Risen.*  
 8:30 and 10:45 am  
 Worship in the Sanctuary



**Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church**

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## MLUMC'S Wholistic Health Outreach Ministry on Vision

*"Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in distress."* Psalm 31:9 NIV More than 1 million Americans at or over age 40 are currently blind, and vision impairment affects an additional 2.4 million. As Baby Boomers age, these numbers are expected to double. Blindness and visual impairment from many eye diseases and disorders can be reduced when detected and treated early. The leading causes of vision blindness and visual impairment include:

- **Diabetic Retinopathy:** This common complication of diabetes affects and impairs vision in nearly half of all diabetics. Blood vessels of the retina can break down, become blocked or leak. Effective treatment includes laser surgery and medications. Diabetics require annual dilated eye exams.
- **Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD):** AMD is the most common cause of legal blindness and vision impairment in older Americans because it damages central vision. There is no generally accepted treatment, but laser therapies may reduce the risk of further vision loss.
- **Cataract:** This is the clouding of the lens of the eye and usually appears with advancing age but can be linked to smoking, diabetes and excessive exposure to sunlight. Surgical treatment can eliminate vision loss by replacing the eye's lens.
- **Glaucoma:** Vision loss is caused by gradual damage to the optic nerve which carries visual information from the eye to the brain. Vision loss is not noticed until significant nerve damage has occurred so screenings are important for early diagnosis when it can be controlled. Any vision loss cannot be restored.

We have a responsibility to care for our eyesight. In I Corinthians 3:16 Paul tells us, "You yourselves are God's temple and ...God's spirit lives in you." In verse 9 he says, "You are God's field, God's building." By seeing our eye doctor regularly for vision exams and following advice, we become good stewards of our bodies and use the resources God has given us to become the extraordinary servants He intends us to be. (Source: American Foundation for the Blind [www.afb.org](http://www.afb.org))