



# *The Window* into the heart of

*Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church*

Volume 5, Number 1, Lent/Easter 2019

## **The Ruling** **The General Conference**

The delegates of the United Methodist General Conference 2019 passed a plan affirming the church's current bans on ordaining LGBTQ clergy and officiating at, or hosting same-sex marriage. Called **The Traditional Plan**, it also boosts penalties and accountability for transgressions of those bans. **The Plan** supports the denomination's teaching that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christianity. The General Conference, which met in St. Louis on February 23 through 26, passed the plan 438 to 384, after three days of intense debate.

Opponents of **The Traditional Plan** backed the **One Church Plan**, which would have ended the church's prohibitions and would have allowed individual congregations and clergy to determine their own policies concerning same-sex marriage. The **One Church Plan** would also have left questions of ordaining gays and lesbians up to conferences.

At this time, it is uncertain just how much of the new legislation will take effect. That's because the United Methodist's top court, the Judicial Council, must rule on the constitutionality of **The Traditional Plan**. The Judicial Council's next scheduled meeting is in April.

## **The Rule**

*By Pastor Thomas Q. Strandburg*

In my sermon last Sunday, I stated that on the eve of this special General Conference, we would do well to keep the words of Jesus in Luke 6:31 in mind - "*Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.*" I stand by these words of Jesus' Golden Rule as I write to you today. In many ways, our congregation is a microcosm of our denomination. Some of you were elated to hear of the General Conference's action, since you believe in your heart that it was both the right and biblical thing to do. Others of you are heartbroken and angry today, since you believe in your heart that the conference's action betrayed the essence of Christ's Great Commandment to love God and our neighbor, as we love ourselves. To all of you, I say "*Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.*" May we resist the temptation to demonize one another in the midst of these divisive times. Above all, let us continue to welcome **all persons** into our fellowship, and to affirm their sacred worth. God loves **all people**, and so do we. We must find a way to communicate to every person who walks through our church's doors that, no matter who they are, they are in a place where they will be honored, protected, and loved.

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## **General Conference Debriefing Session**

In W PA, the A Way Forward Task Force, the General Conference Delegation, Cabinet and Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi are conducting debriefing sessions for United Methodist laity and clergy. The purpose is to communicate accurate information about the decisions made at the special General Conference, and to discuss how the WPA Annual Conference will implement the new legislation.

The Pittsburgh District debriefing will be Sunday, March 24 at 2 pm at Salem UMC, 350 Manor Road, Wexford, PA 15090. The district invites laity and clergy to attend this session, to engage, ask questions and respond with the Bishop, delegates and the District Superintendent. Debriefing sessions will take place in each of the W PA ten districts, so those who wish to attend may go to any convenient session. The session locations and times are published on the conference website, [wpaumc.org](http://wpaumc.org).

## Membership Vows Get Us Back to Basics

If you've had the opportunity to be with us in worship in January or February, then you know that we've been trying to "get back to the basics" of our faith in 2019 by emphasizing the traditional vows of membership in the United Methodist Church – that we support the church through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. How much more fundamental can we get than to start with **prayers**? Throughout my ministry, I have often asked members to pray every day, with their church directory in hand, by name for every person listed over the course of the week. With a membership list that is as long as ours here at MLUMC, you might wonder if such a discipline would even be feasible. Praying for persons by name? In the past, this has become a powerful tool for the prayer ministry of my congregations." It took me a lot longer to do my prayers," said one member, "but, I liked it!" I have also prayed daily for groups of leaders and persons in need in the area, following a model from Richmond Hill ([www.richmondhillva.org](http://www.richmondhillva.org)) to consciously focus on ministries and needs beyond our walls.

Next, we considered what it means to pledge your **presence** to God and to the community of faith. This vow must mean more than attendance at worship and coming to committee meetings. Seeking to be attentive to God's presence in our midst and to Christ's presence in our neighbors, friends and family produces something qualitatively transformative. One person noted after focusing on this practice intentionally that there was a different awareness of God's peace and presence in the midst of receiving difficult news and in the face of troubling circumstances. Another commented on the simple joy of spending time reading a book with her spouse.

In the month of March, we will note two things about **gifts**: every person has three of the same ones — time, talent and treasure — and every follower of Jesus Christ, water-washed and spirit-born, has some spiritual gift God has given for the good of the person, for the well-being of the community of faith, and for the fulfilling of God's mission in the world. There is no room for saying "I'm not gifted!" when we have been fashioned in the likeness of a creating God, and when God has already breathed God's own Spirit into us! We can't help but be gifted and graced for loving God and neighbor... It's in our spiritual DNA!

The remaining two vows will be addressed in April and May, pledging **service** to the church and our **witness** (which was added Jan. 1, 2009), seem to be essentially knit to one another, and bound to the previous four. The quality of service we offer in Jesus' name becomes our witness, and the sincerity of our witness is authenticated by the character of our service. Service without a connection to our witness moves us toward a type of "works righteousness," or thinking we get to heaven by a multitude of good works. Witness, without service and behaviors consistent with the message, is like the "wah-wah" sound of the voice of Charlie Brown's teacher in the "Peanuts" TV specials: Words are unintelligible — just so much more static in a noisy world. **Prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness** — these basics are not simply for getting through 40 days of Lent. These vows help us develop strong and healthy practices for nurturing faith, for sharing faith every day. If we can live into a fuller and fuller experience of God's presence through them, we will begin to know even more of what it means to live as Easter People, actively engaged in God's mission in the world.

Yours in Christ,  
**Pastor Tom**  
Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg



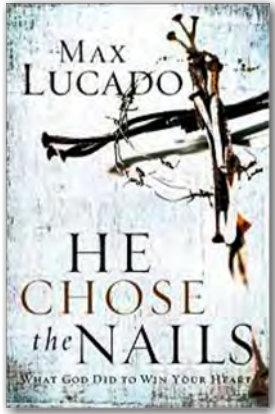
*Honoring the vow of prayer, a small group, led by Cindy Biery, met to discuss the book, "Practicing the Presence of God," by Brother Lawrence.*



## March 6 Ash Wednesday Services

6:30-9:00 am Sanctuary at your convenience,  
silent Communion, ashes available

7 pm Sanner Chapel, Communion service,  
imposition of ashes



Book/DVD Study with Pastor Tom Strandburg

### He Chose the Nails, What God Did to Win Your Heart

What are the gifts that Christ gave to us at his crucifix? Pastor Tom is leading a study answering this question, based on Max Lucado's book and DVD, *He Chose the Nails, What God Did to Win your Heart*. In four Terrific Tuesday sessions, the adult discussion will examine not only the gift of the cross, but also the gift of the thorns, the nails and the empty tomb.

Join us for this Lenten study on the following Terrific Tuesdays:  
March 19 & 26 and April 2 & 9

April 9 will be the final Terrific Tuesday until fall. Terrific Tuesdays include dinner and are from 6 to 7:30 pm in Asbury Center.

## Corner Stories

### *Lenten Story Tellers and Listeners*

We've all heard stories on the radio: the hurricane survivors; persons faced with a difficult or humorous life situation. Some of us are even guilty of sitting with the car radio on, just to hear the story end. In fact, we all have those stories in our lives. Come join us, as a story teller or a listener, in a new Lenten program "Corner Stories."

For this new program, we are requesting people select a Bible passage with special meaning, and in story form, share the events that magnified that verse in their life, disclosing how the Bible served as a guide.

Story tellers and listeners are invited for 4 Sunday evenings, March 10, 17, 24 and 31, to meet in the Welcome Center, 7-8 pm. Each week 2 people will share their 15-20 minute story, followed by a social time to informally discuss the experiences and reflect on the highlighted Bible verses.

If you would like to participate as a story teller, contact Francie Robb at 412-343-5456 or [fcrobb@comcast.net](mailto:fcrobb@comcast.net) or Joanne Dempe at 412-980-5046 or [jdempe@verizon.net](mailto:jdempe@verizon.net). We will follow up with final arrangements.

We are excited to create a new opportunity to share our lives with each other and God during the upcoming Lenten season. Join us, once, twice or whatever fits your schedule.



## The Light Shines in the Darkness,

*and the darkness has not overcome it.*

The Trustees of MLUMC have made a change of biblical proportions. Many folks had noticed the parking lot getting darker toward the end of 2018. This fact did not go unnoticed by the Trustees, it's just that they were working on a bigger picture.

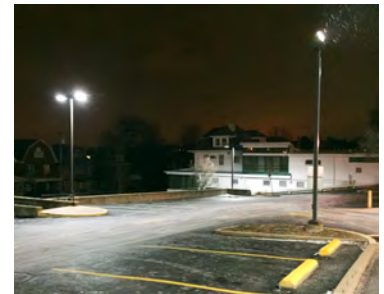
LED technology has a cost effective replacement for most of the bulbs around the church building, but the Trustees needed to experiment to find the correct color bulb to replace the 290 watt metal halide bulbs in the parking lot and on the building.

Finally in late 2018, they converted to the bright light of LEDs. They replaced 14 old bulbs

with 56 watt LED bulbs paid for mostly by donations, with the balance from the Trustees. Kirk Lowe and Alan Chesleigh donated the labor.

The energy savings from the use of the LED bulbs should be more than \$1000 per year. The life expectancy of the LEDs is around 10 years, saving about \$1000 per year in labor costs.

The Trustees have decided to spend some of the "saved energy" on additional lighting around the exterior of the church. If you are in the neighborhood after dark, take a look at the breezeway along Scott Road or the light shining on the front or parking lot side of the building.





# United Methodist Women Events

## Asbury Bake Sale

Friday, March 8 Asbury Heights

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 7 or Friday morning March 8, directly at Asbury Heights on Bower Hill Road.

## March UMW Meeting

### Lenten Call to Prayer and Self Denial

Thurs. March 14 11 am Wesley Hall

Join the UMW on Thursday, March 14 at 11 am in Wesley Hall for our monthly meeting and annual call to Prayer and Self-Denial.

This year, our theme is "Building a Thriving Generation of Children and Youth Worldwide." At the meeting, we'll reflect on the gospel of Christ, pray together and make an offering to mission with women, children and youth in response to God's love and grace.

After the program, please plan to stay for a light lunch. Cost for the lunch is \$6. Make your reservation by calling the church office at 412.531.7131. Drop-ins are welcome, too!

## Help us celebrate the UMW's 150th Birthday!

Sunday, April 7 Noon Asbury Center



On Sunday, April 7 after the 10:45 service, please join the UMW in Asbury Center and help us celebrate the UMW's 150th birthday.

Enjoy cake, punch and a look back on 150 years of service to women, children and youth.

## April UMW Meeting

### Empowerment Pad Project

Thurs. April 11 11 am Asbury Center

Join our leader Bonnie Lawson for a hands-on project making hygiene kits that will benefit young women in Zimbabwe as part of the Empowerment Pad Project.

If you'd like to make a donation, Bonnie will happily accept any size and brand of bar soap, as well as new washcloths (any color).

Please bring a brown-bag lunch and we'll dine together after we finish making the kits. Women of all ages are welcome — and encouraged — to attend this informal and fun event.

## Spring Tea Fundraiser

**SAVE  
THE DATE!**

Mark your calendars now for our upcoming UMW Spring Tea on Saturday, May 4. Look for more details in upcoming church bulletins.



*Last year's Spring Tea and some fancy hats.*





# Church Financial Information

*by Rob Spicher, Finance Committee Chair*

One of the recommendations in early 2017 from our Church stewardship consultant, Scott McKenzie, was more transparency regarding financial matters. The Finance Committee implemented this recommendation in early 2018, and began to share quarterly financial information in The Window. To continue this information sharing, summarized below are the Church's 2017 actual financial results, 2018 budget, and 2018 actual financial results.

As the figures below indicate, 2018 results were much improved over 2017. The bulk of this improvement was due to reduced personnel costs, which occurred primarily as a result of the year-end 2017 restructuring of the custodial/maintenance staff. Revenues remained relatively the same. Notwithstanding the improved financial performance, our Church was unable (for the second year in a row) to pay the full Connectional Contribution apportioned to us by the Western PA Annual Conference. However, unlike the past few years where the majority of the funds to fully (2015, 2016) or partially (2017) pay the Connectional Contribution came from a single donor, funds generated in 2018 came from a variety of sources. These sources included donations from groups such as the Missions Committee and the United Methodist Women and interest from an endowment specifically formed to support the Connectional Contribution. The Finance Committee will continue efforts to regularly educate the congregation on the Connectional Contribution and the many missions, programs, and initiatives that it supports in the hope of getting back to full payment of our apportioned amount in 2019.

Our Church's 2018 generosity/stewardship campaign was closed out in early January. An emphasis of this campaign was the fulfilling of our vows as United Methodists, including the vow of gifts. The financial gifts that are made by you pay our staff, maintain our facilities, and support our ministries and programs. Although all financial gifts are appreciated, pledged gifts are extremely helpful. A pledged gift is a commitment to contribute a specific amount of money at defined intervals over a calendar year. Given the historically high level of payment on pledged gifts, they remain critical to our annual budgeting and planning processes. If you have not yet pledged or made some other financial commitment to our Church for 2019, please consider doing so. It is never too late to put your financial resources to use to further God's work!

Any questions regarding the actual and budget information shown below should be directed to Rob Spicher (Finance Committee Chair) or Virginia Katinsky (Business Administrator and Treasurer). Both can be reached by calling the Church office (412-531-7131).

	<b>2017</b>	<b>% of</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>% of</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>% of</b>
<b>Church Budget</b>	<b><u>Actuals</u></b>	<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>Actuals</u></b>	<b><u>Expenses</u></b>
<b>Revenue:</b>	\$689,741	83.2%	\$690,000	87.3%	\$691,714	94.4%
<b>Expenses:</b>						
Personnel	\$457,739	55.2%	\$417,774	52.8%	\$389,985	53.2%
Programs & Facilities	175,228	21.1%	160,415	20.3%	160,067	21.8%
Utilities & Taxes	101,647	12.3%	99,954	12.7%	95,650	13.1%
Insurance	34,352	4.1%	37,200	4.7%	34,382	4.7%
Connectional Contribution to WPA UM Conference*	60,369	7.3%	75,296	9.5%	52,519	7.2%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$829,335</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$790,639</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$732,603</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>(\$139,594)</b>		<b>(\$100,639)</b>		<b>(\$40,889)</b>	

\* \$87,518 requested in 2017; did not pay \$27,149

\* \$75,296 requested in 2018; did not pay \$22,777

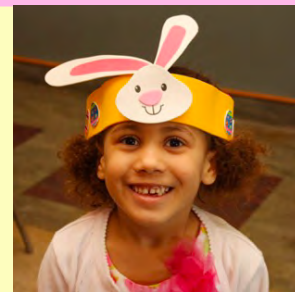
Net losses are covered by cash on hand, special gifts received, and reserves.



# EGGstravaganza

**Saturday, April 13, 2019 10 am-Noon**

**Come to the church for the annual Easter EGGstravaganza, a family-friendly event geared especially to children 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. A light lunch will be served from 11:30 to noon. Volunteer to help make this year's EGGstravaganza a success! We need adult and teen help with food donations, rotation helpers, station leaders, set up Friday and Saturday, kitchen crew, and clean up. **Contact Kim Rhoton ([krhoton@mlumc.org](mailto:krhoton@mlumc.org)) or watch for a sign-up sheet in the bulletin to help.**

Can't be there the day of the event? Consider donating small individually wrapped candies. The Koinonia Circle will place the candies into plastic eggs to be used for the EGGstravaganza egg hunt. Candy can be dropped off in the church office or in the box outside Kim Rhoton's office no later than April 7. Thank you!

## Children's Choir Collecting Pocket Change for Haiti

During Lent the Children's Choir is collecting change and bills in their yearly drive to benefit the La Croix New Testament Mission in Haiti. The La Croix Mission provides a school system for 3500 students from 7 villages, preschool through 12th grade. Sponsorship for one child is \$240 annually, and includes education, school supplies, breakfast and lunch daily, and a uniform.

You can donate by putting cash or checks in the small bottle each children's choir member will carry, in the large collection jar in the Narthex or during our "noisy" offering on March 24 when we host the children's choirs from Westminster and Southminster Presbyterian churches. The money collected by all three choirs will be combined and sent to La Croix Mission. This yearly ecumenical mission project teaches us that even little children can make a big difference in the world! For more info about La Croix, go to <https://www.facebook.com/Lacroix-Haiti-New-Testament--Mission-136243273644/>.

## Weekday Ministries Child Care Center

*by Mettelise Ziegler, WDM Director*

**The Halfway Point** I used to write about two separate programs. The first was a "nursery school" or "Pre-K" for children ages 3 to 5 during the school year. The second was our full year daycare program. About this time last year, we considered folding our Pre-K program into the daycare. The goal was to be able to serve more children who needed daily care while providing an improved pre-kindergarten experience.

We are now halfway through the school year. I am happy to say that the hybrid program has exceeded our expectations. The changes have been implemented smoothly, without any financial distress or logistical issues. The biggest change has been that our 3 and 4 year old children are in two separate classes for the entire day. Although the total age group is larger, separating them into two groups has been beneficial, providing learning activities all day in a relaxed, age-specific way.

By September of this year, 12 children will leave for kindergarten, most attending the Mt. Lebanon School District. We are confident our graduates will be well prepared for the next step in their academic lives.



Even more importantly, our future kindergartners will have experienced character formation! Daily devotions, prayers and Bible lessons are introducing the children to God who created us, loves us and sent Jesus to pay the penalty for our sins. They will have learned how to respect the rights and opinions of others while understanding that God's Word is the ultimate authority over their lives.

# MLUMC Welcomes Youth Ministry Director Charles Sledge



Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church has a new youth ministry director. Charles Sledge says he's been a leader and participant in youth ministry since the age of 16, when his pastor asked him to guide his own church's youth ministry. His teaching method includes what he calls, thinking outside the box. "I like to get kids to think," says Charles. "For instance, how does the Super Bowl correlate to Christianity? Do you need to practice every day? How about applying a playbook to your life?"

Charles' own life is quite busy. He divides his time among a family life that includes three children, full time employment and our church's youth. According to Charles, youth ministry is his calling.



"I'm a nobody," he says, "I'm just Charles, who is lead by God. Whatever he tells me to do, I obey. At the end of the day, I know that I am called to this. I am committed to kids learning and growing, not only as Christians, but in aspects of their whole life."

A Sunday evening with youth ministry director Charles Sledge, volunteer Kirk Lowe and the youth group

## 2019 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, April 21, 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.

*\*Due to a fluctuating flower market, prices may change. Check weekly bulletin for price update.*

### 2019 EASTER MEMORIALS ORDER DEADLINE - March 31

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 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tulips (5 plants) @ \$7.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Mums @ \$9.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths (3 plants) @ \$7.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Begonias (6" pot) @ \$10.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 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





# Mission Committee News and Opportunities

Thanks to YOU, 2018 funds raised for Missions exceeded \$22,000! Clark Remington's Talent Show was a great hit with all who participated and attended, while generating awareness of Missions and contributing around \$3,000. Everyone's hard work, especially Nancy Marshall's, contributed to our two Rummage Sales with more than \$16,000 of proceeds. Kim Palmer's yummy German Lunch contributed to our Zwickau partnership with the Friedenskirche. Last but not least, interest from the H. Pat Albright Fund is directed for missions and was kindly oriented by Betty Lou Albright.

Uses of funds generated in 2018:

Africa's The Nyadire Connection	Pittsburgh's Northside Lunch Program
Latvia's Home of Hope	Family Promise of Southwest PA
Zwickau, Germany's Friedenskirche/MLUMC Partnership	Manchester Elementary School reading supplies
Haiti via The Thomas Food Project	MLUMC's Food Lift
Central America via Alliance for International Reforestation	MLUMC's Youth Mission Trip to Marion, VA

And, the Mission Committee tithed earned funds (not gifts from individuals) to MLUMC's apportionment.

How would you like to contribute this year? Though not all of the options available to you, here are some MLUMC mission opportunities. Call L. Baily at 412/571-1784 for more details:

- Join TNC on one of their Mission trips to Zimbabwe (summer 2019)
- Host visitors from Latvia (spring 2019) &/or Zwickau (fall 2019)
- Contribute goods, provide nourishment, &/or work the Rummage (first Saturday in June AND November)
- Read with the Tuesday Northside group at Manchester Elementary School on the Northside
- Cook for & serve people experiencing homelessness throughout the year (this includes the Northside Luncheon program, Family Promise of Southwest PA and the Outreach Committee's EECM)
- Pick up and deliver food for Don Langston's Food Lift
- Direct a financial gift to MLUMC, with "Mission Committee" noted

## Outreach Coordinator Summit

For a number of years, our church has "partnered" with Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church on the Community Thanksgiving meal and Castle Shannon Presbyterian Church on the Community Christmas meal. We also have coordinated with Bethany Evangelical on the scheduling of our respective fish fries to maximize the opportunities for both food and fellowship.



Recently, the outreach leaders from the three churches met over lunch to compare notes on our "partnered" events and discuss ways that we can continue to work together. Much was accomplished during the lunch – look for updates in the coming months.

*From left: Bethany Evangelical's leaders, Anna and Jim Williams; MLUMC's Liz DiPietro and Don Langston; Castle Shannon Presbyterian's George and Roxanne Libby; and Rob Spicher of MLUMC*





# Fish, Fish & More Fish!



The Community Events and Outreach Committee will be hosting two Community Fish Fries at our Church during the upcoming Lenten season. The first will be on Friday, March 8th, the first Friday of Lent and the second will be on Friday, April 19th, Good Friday. As has been the case in prior years, there will be no charge for these fish fries, although free will donations to support our food pantry will be accepted. Both Community Fish Fries will run from 4 pm to 7 pm, and will feature baked and fried fish, numerous side items, beverages and an assortment of tasty desserts. Our Food Lift will also provide a "Free Market" with many items, including breads, pastries, and produce available for those who need them, also at no charge.

In addition, the Committee will be hosting a Lenten Luncheon on Saturday, April 6th. The lunch will include a program along with....surprise, surprise....fish!!! Please watch for details on this lunch during the month of March.

The two Community Fish Fries and the Lenten Luncheon will provide an opportunity for food and fellowship during the Lenten season, so mark your calendar. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to assist with these events, contact Rob Spicher, Committee Chair at [robert.spicher@pnc.com](mailto:robert.spicher@pnc.com) or 412-720-4589.

## Community Events & Outreach Committee 2019 Events

The Community Events and Outreach Committee is organizing a number of 2019 events. Plan to attend, and if you wish, volunteer for as many events as you can. To learn more about the Community Events and Outreach Committee or to volunteer for an event, contact Rob Spicher, Chair at [robert.spicher@pnc.com](mailto:robert.spicher@pnc.com) or 412-720-4589.

\*EECM = East End Cooperative Ministries

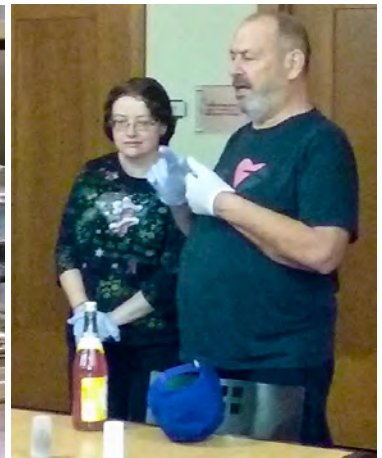
**February** – \*EECM Dinner (2/24)  
**March** – Community Fish Fry (3/8)  
**April** – Lenten Luncheon (4/6)  
 Community Fish Fry (4/19)  
 \*EECM Dinner (4/28)

**June** – \*EECM Dinner (6/23)  
 Community Barbecue (6/29)  
**August** – \*EECM Dinner (8/25)  
**October** – Community Fall Festival (10/19)  
 \*EECM Dinner (10/27)

**November** – Thanksgiving Meal (11/28)  
**December** – Christmas Caroling (12/15)  
 \*EECM Dinner (12/22)  
 Christmas Meal (12/25)

\*EECM, East End Cooperative Ministries dinners are served on site at their East Liberty location, across the street from the Home Depot; the Christmas Dinner is served on-site at Castle Shannon Presbyterian Church; all other events originate on site at MLUMC.

*MLUMC members & friends donating dinner and time, serving at the East End Cooperative Ministries*



# March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 12 PM Blood Pressure 5 PM Youth Group	<b>4</b> 7 PM Church Council 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>5</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	<b>6</b> <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 6:30 AM Silent Communion 7:30 AM N.Side Lunch Prep 7 PM Ash Wed Service	<b>7</b> 8:30 AM N.Side Lunch Preps 9 AM Hands & Heart Noon TNT Asbury Hghts 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>8</b> <b>4 PM Fish Fry</b> 7 PM Arrow of Light	<b>9</b> 8 AM It's a Guy Thing 12:30 PM Eagle Court
<b>10</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group 7 PM Corner Stories	<b>11</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>12</b> 10 AM Weekday Ministries Chapel 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews 7 PM Cub Scout Plan	<b>13</b> 1 PM Small Group 7 PM Finance 7 PM Bear, Tiger, Wolf, Lion, Webelos	<b>14</b> 9:30 AM UMW Brd. 11 AM UMW 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7 PM Education 7:30 PM Choir		<b>16</b> 10 AM Food Pantry Food Lift Free Mkt
<b>17</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group 6:30 BSA Reviews 7 PM Corner Stories	<b>18</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells 7:30 PM Community Events & Outreach	<b>19</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	<b>20</b> 7 PM Trustees 7 PM Cub Scout	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Pocket Change 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group 7 PM Corner Stories	<b>25</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>26</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews	<b>27</b> 7 PM Bear,Tiger,Wolf	<b>28</b> 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group 7 PM Corner Stories 7 PM BSA #23						

## Lenten Events

**Wed. Mar. 6** *Ash Wednesday* - 6:30-9:00 am -Sanctuary at your convenience, Communion and ashes available;  
7 pm Sanner Chapel, Communion service with ashes.

**Fri. March 8** *Fish Fry* - 4 pm Asbury Center

**Sun. April 7** Chancel Choir sings jazz settings of the communion liturgy -  
10:45 service, accompanied by bass, piano and drums.

**Sat. April 13** *EGGstravaganza* 10 am Asbury Center

**Fri. April 19** *Fish Fry* - 4 pm Asbury Center



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Monica Kao, Communications Coordinator





## Holy Week Services

**Palm Sunday, April 14**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanner Chapel  
 10:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

**Maunday Thursday, April 18**  
 7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae  
 with Holy Communion  
 in the Sanctuary

**Good Friday, April 19**  
 12 pm Community Worship  
 in the Sanctuary

**Easter Sunday, April 21**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
 10:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

## April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:30 PM Annual Conf. Prayer Initiative 7 PM Church Council 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>2</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	<b>3</b> 7:30 AM N.Side Lunch Prep	<b>4</b> 8:30 AM N.Side Lunch Preps 9 AM Hands & Heart Noon TNT Asbury Hghts 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10 AM Food Pantry & Food Lift Free Mkt 11:30 AM Community Lenten Lunch
<b>7</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 12 PM Blood Pr. Screen 12 PM UMW Reception 5 PM Youth Group	<b>8</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>9</b> 10 AM Weekday Ministries Chapel 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews 7 PM Cub Scout Planning	<b>10</b> 7 PM Finance 7 PM Bear, Tiger, Wolf, Lion, Webelos	<b>11</b> 9:30 AM UMW Brd. 11 AM UMW 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7 PM Education 7:30 PM Choir	<b>12</b> 1:30 PM Memoirs Group 7 PM Arrow of Light Cub Scouts	<b>13</b> 10 AM <b>EGGSTRAVAGANZA</b>
<b>14</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Group	<b>15</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells 7:30 PM Community Events & Outreach	<b>16</b> 7 PM BSA #23	<b>17</b> 7 PM Trustees 7 PM Cub Scouts	<b>18</b> <b>MAUNDAY THURSDAY</b> 7:30 PM Tenebrae Service	<b>19</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 12:30 PM Office Closes 12 PM Community Worship 4 PM Fish Fry	<b>20</b> 10 AM Food Pantry

**21**  
**Easter**  
**Sunday**

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



**Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church**

3319 West Liberty Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15216

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## Musical Highlights

**Sunday, April 7**, the Chancel Choir will offer jazz settings of the communion liturgy. The music was created by the delightful Englishman, Bob Chillcott. Joy Crummie will join us on piano; Brian Stahurski on bass, and Rick Minotte on drums.

**Easter Sunday, April 21**, the Chancel Choir will sing a moving setting of "Amazing Grace" for bagpipes, brass, timpani and organ. The arrangement is by Mack Wilberg, the conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Gretchen's classmate at the University of Southern California. Our piper will be George Balderose, prominent Pittsburgh piper.



**Opera star Marianne Cornetti** may sing with us in March. A Pittsburgher, Ms. Cornetti sings in Europe for much of the year, but returns to sing with Pittsburgh Opera, most recently as the Witch in *Hansel and Gretel*, and to visit family.



### **BERRIES 'N' BELLS**

**Friday, May 3 7:30 pm Asbury Center**

**Mark your calendars for the annual family friendly handbell-concert-with-dessert extravaganza Berries 'n' Bells!**

Scrumptious pie à la mode from The Springhouse AND a fabulous, fun concert, all for a mere \$10 a person. Children 10 and under half price. As always, there will be a sugar-free pie.

Chapel Bells and Promise Bells are rehearsing weekly to prepare music not only for worship but also for the concert. Three concert selections will feature Milt Barney on clarinet and sax.

Call the church office after Easter to make reservations or email [Lutzbelz@aol.com](mailto:Lutzbelz@aol.com). No tickets, pay at the door. Childcare available with advance reservation.

