



# *The Window* into the heart of

*Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church*

Volume 5, Number 3, Fall 2019

## **New Worship** *A Proposed Worship Service*

Something new is in the air.

Those attending the 8:30 am Sanner Chapel service on August 18 sang hymns arranged and performed in a modern style, different from the church's more traditional music.



The hymns were led by singer and keyboardist B. J. Collins, and included Michelle Duralia on vocals and church member Keith Moorhouse on drums. It was a preview of the style of music proposed for a new MLUMC worship service, now in the planning stages. The worship will also feature a message delivered by Assistant to the Pastor Scott Miller.

The planned new service is not meant to be a distraction from the church's traditional 10:45 service, but is proposed to be an alternative experience, a non-traditional worship choice. The launch date and time slot for the weekly service are not yet selected.

You can help with the selection of the time slot. A brief opinion survey is located on the last page of this newsletter, page 12. Make your opinions count by filling out the survey and returning it to the church.

## **Those Whom Christ Commended** *A Communion Sunday Sermon Series*



We all appreciate a compliment – a kind word of affirmation for the manner in which we are doing our work or living our lives. Compliments encourage us to build upon our strengths, and to strengthen our weaknesses. They are essential in helping us to grow.

In the Bible, there are 11 recorded instances in which Christ intentionally speaks a word of compliment to an individual or a group. Beginning on World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2019, and continuing on each Communion Sunday into the year 2020, we will examine the lives of those whom Christ commended. What was it in their story that Jesus found so laudable? What lessons can we mine for our lives today? You won't want to miss a single communion sermon this coming year as we answer these questions together. We'll begin the series in this way:

### **World Communion Sunday    October 6, 2019**

*"Faith of the First Order"*    The Centurion in Luke 7:8

### **Thanksgiving Communion Sunday    November 3, 2019**

*"Sincerity is Not Enough"*    Nathanael (John 1:47)

### **Advent Communion Sunday    December 1, 2019**

*"Where Law Meets Love"*    John the Baptist (Matthew 11:11 & Luke 7:28)

*The Window* is published quarterly by  
Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church  
3319 W. Liberty Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216  
412-531-7131    [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org)

Monica Kao, Communications Coordinator

## Called by God - Gifted to Serve

*"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us."*

ROMANS 12:4-6a

Within the Christian community, some believers tend to emphasize the "personal gospel," while others emphasize the "social gospel." The first group likes to say that Christian faith is all about "me and Jesus –" their personal relationship with God. The second group says "Wait a minute! The gospel is really all about serving others and transforming society." To me, this has always seemed like a false dichotomy. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is neither exclusively "personal" or "social;" it is both personal and social! Our denomination's founder, John Wesley, said it best as he spoke about "the mark of a Methodist." A Methodist is a person who has "the love of God shed abroad in his heart." That love is expressed in works of piety (acts of personal religious devotion) and works of mercy (acts of compassion and justice). In this way, the personal and social gospels are inextricably linked. You cannot have one without the other. A vital personal faith will express itself in acts of social justice, without exception.

In his letter to the church at Rome, the Apostle Paul calls upon all followers of Jesus to present their lives as transformed, living sacrifices (Romans 12:1-2). Later we are called to "love without pretending." (Romans 12:9) The way to show genuine love to others is to use the gifts that God has given to us for the building up of his body, the church. Like each part of a physical body, all Christians are to work together for the strengthening of the church and its ministry in the world. We are called to engage in both works of piety and works of mercy as we use the spiritual gifts that have been entrusted to us.

How has God gifted you? Are you using those gifts to build up the Body of Christ in your own church, community, and world? Are you employing those gifts in acts of social justice, toward the goal of making our world a more equitable place for all? Join us in worship and in study this fall, as we consider the fact that we've been called by God, and gifted to serve!

Yours in service,

*Pastor Tom*

Thomas Q. Strandburg, Pastor

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## United Methodist Women

Tuesday, September 10, 6 pm Asbury Center  
UMW Legacy Fund



### The Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign

On Tuesday, September 10 at 6 pm in Asbury Center, you're invited to join the United Methodist Women as we gather to share a salad supper, kick off our new year and learn more about the UMW Legacy Fund. Our keynote speaker will be Diane Miller.

In 2014, the Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign set a goal to raise \$60 million. The campaign is both historic and unprecedented, with the campaign's theme, *Together, we are building our legacy* celebrating the **legacy** of the courageous women who founded this mission movement. In addition, the theme lifts the **legacy** that today's members will leave for future generations of United Methodist women, to create their **legacy** to carry the mission of *faith, hope, love in action* forward in the world for years to come.

Bring a salad to share. We'll provide drinks and dessert.



## terrific TUESDAY

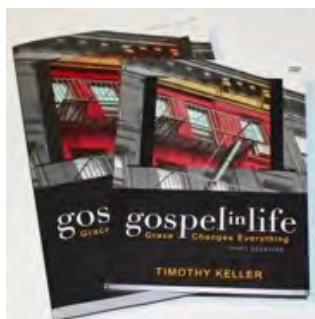
### Begins September 24

6 pm - Dinner in Asbury Center  
6:30 pm - Activity for all ages  
Children's Choir, Youth Discussion  
Groups, Adult Study and Discussion

Church family and community members of all ages are invited to Terrific Tuesday, from 6 to 7:30 pm on Tuesdays in Asbury Center. Participants share dinner, then children and youth depart for activities while adults engage in discussion. There's no cost, though freewill donations are accepted.

This Terrific Tuesday session begins September 24 and continues through December 10. There will be no Terrific Tuesday on Election Day, November 5, or November 26 during Thanksgiving week.

### Pastor Tom to lead Terrific Tuesday DVD and book discussion



### The Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything

Join Pastor Tom in this Terrific Tuesday eight-week video based study of the gospel. Author and pastor

Tim Keller discusses on video how to live out the gospel in everyday life.

### Blessing of the Animals Service October 5 10 am Church Place Park\*

St. Francis of Assisi was a lover of all God's creatures, and in remembrance of him churches often have a special service called The Blessing of the Animals near his feast day in early October. Mt Lebanon United Methodist Church invites you to participate in such a service with your leashed or crated pet. Those from all faith traditions are welcome. Please bring a blanket or folding chair for seating on the grass.

\*Church Place Park is located on Church Place behind Laughlin's Funeral Home. Please park in MLUMC's lot (3319 West Liberty Ave.) across from the funeral home. Cross West Liberty and access the park from Laughlin's parking lot. Questions? Contact Kim Rhoton at [krhoton@mlumc.org](mailto:krhoton@mlumc.org).



# Weekday Ministries Child Care Center

*by Mettelise Ziegler, WDM Director*

As autumn begins, so does a busy school year. As you already know, modern daycares are not babysitting services. They are learning centers that involve careful planning so that children learn about school even before entering kindergarten!

There will be a parent open house after Labor Day to kick off the year. Coffee and muffins help to set the tone for the kind of inter-personal environment we create for families each day.

Our two pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) classrooms will be preparing for lessons in handwriting, history, reading, math, art and science. Bernice Merchant, our faithful music teacher, will be planning musical experiences for the infants, toddlers and Pre-K kids. Lessons include hands-on instruments, puppets, dancing and singing.

Soccer Shots will once again be using Asbury Hall for weekly fun. Tricycles and Flintstone cars will drive all over Asbury on a daily basis. The courtyard will see climbing, sliding and running. The sprinkler will be stored away until next summer.

Rev. Tom Strandburg will teach weekly chapel lessons in Brookline Parlor so that the children will gain an appreciation for God's Word by experiencing church.

Three more infants will be added to our roster this fall. The first available opening is June 2020. There are no vacancies for other age groups at this time.

We need afternoon help! If you know of anyone who might want to join our team, please have him or her call us!



*Children learn about Yankee Doodle.*

## Sunday September 8 10:45 Worship in the Sanctuary Resumes

### Sun. September 15 - Christian Ed Sunday School Resumes 9:30 - 10:30 am Blessing of the backpacks @ both services

Sunday School will officially kick off on September 15. Parents and children may go directly to their classrooms on the 4th floor, and parents are asked to fill out a registration form with contact information. Don't forget there are lots of adult Sunday School opportunities as well! Visit one of the adult classes or the Coffee Café located in Brookline Parlor. Contact Kim Rhoton with questions: [krhoton@mlumc.org](mailto:krhoton@mlumc.org)

Also on September 15, we will have a special backpack blessing at both services. Children and adults are invited to bring school or work bags, or backpacks for an orphan you sponsor in Zimbabwe.

## Confirmation Class Forming

A new confirmation class is forming for the 2019-2020 school year. This class is open to any student in 8th grade or older who has not already participated in confirmation. The class meets Sunday mornings during Sunday school hour (9:30-10:30) on the 4th floor of the education building, and participates in several field trips and retreats throughout the year. Anyone interested in joining the confirmation class is asked to contact Kim Rhoton [krhoton@mlumc.org](mailto:krhoton@mlumc.org).



### Sunday, September 8 Kick-Off

All youth in 6th through 12th grades are invited to the Fall Youth Kick-off on Sunday, September 8th from 5 until 6:30 pm. There will be food, games, and a short devotion. As always, friends are welcome.

### Sunday, September 15 Planning Meeting

The following Sunday we will have a planning meeting to help determine the activities for the youth group this upcoming year.

### Sunday, September 22 Parents Meeting

Parents, save the date for Sunday, September 22nd from 5 until 6:30 pm. A parents meeting will include a discussion on the year's calendar and ways that parents can be involved.



# Zwickau Update

Thirteen members of MLUMC's partner church, Friedenskirche in Zwickau, Germany, will arrive on Sunday, October 13, and stay until October 22. The Zwickau Committee's goal is for church members and friends to meet as many of the German guests as possible and to have great conversation and interactions.

The committee has been planning a variety of activities to show our guests our mission work, and to acquaint them with our church and Pittsburgh. In addition to the church picnic and Fall Festival (below) there are several other opportunities for church-wide participation: local mission work, Terrific Tuesdays supper with Zwickau discussion, Heinz Field tour, and a Hop On Hop Off bus tour of Pittsburgh. Sign-ups to begin soon.

For more information, contact Deanna Baird ([fraubaird@aol.com](mailto:fraubaird@aol.com)) or a committee member: Kathleen Amant, Dan & Lori Barr, Berni Bowes, Mary Garber, Betsy Harkins, Stephanie & Kirk Lowe, Mike & Mary Paine, Eric & Kim Palmer, and Pastor Tom & Kathy Strandburg.

## All American Picnic

Plan to join our German partners from Zwickau in festivities for several hours on a Sunday afternoon in October at South Park. Mingle with church friends and new friends. Particulars to follow — activities and games for all ages. Plan to join us!



## Fall Festival

Another opportunity to meet and greet our German friends is at this year's Fall Festival. It takes place Saturday, October 19, from 4 to 7 pm in Asbury Center, Wesley Hall and - weather permitting - the church parking lot. Sponsored by the Community Events and Outreach Committee, the Festival provides a mixture of food, fun, and quality time with family and friends.

Look for more details in upcoming church announcements. To volunteer for this event or for more information on the Community Events and Outreach Committee, contact Committee Chair Rob Spicher, [robert.spicher@pnc.com](mailto:robert.spicher@pnc.com) or 412-720-4589.

## Run-Up to the Fall Rummage Sale



## Saturday, November 2

Looking for a new home for the stuff you no longer use? It's Fall Rummage Sale time. Bring your housewares, clothing, toys, furniture, working electronics, collectibles and Christmas decorations to the alcove of Asbury Center, now through October 31. Call Michelle for delivery assistance at 412/531-7131.

In addition to donating stuff, contribute a couple of hours to help sort and set up, anytime Tuesday evening 10/29 through noon Friday 11/1.

Volunteer on Saturday 11/2 to set up, support or clean-up. All efforts help!

Rummage proceeds go to support the following MLUMC's mission activities :

- The Nyadire Connection in Zimbabwe;
- Hope Center in Latvia;
- Zwickau, Germany Friedenkirche Partnership;
- Youth Mission trip to Marion, VA;
- Western PA Family Promise
- Northside Reading and Lunch programs



## Call for Singers

We have choirs for everyone - adults, youth grades 6-12 and children in 5th grade and younger. The adult Chancel Choir begins rehearsals Thursday, September 5. If you are interested, contact Gretchen at [gfranz@mlumc.org](mailto:gfranz@mlumc.org) or 412-531-7131 ext. 116. The Youth Choir will begin Sunday, September 22, meeting for 30 minutes immediately following the 10:45 am service.

# One Body, One Spirit, Many Parts: A MLUMC Unity Conversation

Save the date and  
reserve your lunch.

Sunday, October 13  
Noon - 2 pm Asbury Center

Join us for lunch and a facilitated discussion led by District Superintendent Dawn Hand. It is a conversation meant to celebrate what we share, acknowledging our differences.

*All are welcome and  
encouraged to attend.*

## Do No Harm

*Do No Harm* is a group that believes in social justice, in actively applying the Golden Rule to all. Church members and friends are invited to attend this discussion group that grew out of concern and opposition to the denomination's LGBTQ ban on marriage and ordination.

*Do No Harm* meets approximately every other Sunday evening from 7 - 8:30 pm with the following activities anticipated:

**September 8, 7 pm Welcome Center** – Planning for lunch support on 10/13 and discussion on how to have grace-filled conversations. Sharing of recent UMC related news; Reconciling Ministries Network deliberation.

**September 22, 7 pm, Asbury Center** – Attend and support the Community Outreach Committee's program on veterans and suicide.

**October 6, 7 pm Welcome Center** – Possible training on difficult conversations and learning to listen.

**October 13, noon Asbury Center** – Unity Conversation Luncheon.

**October 27, 7 pm Welcome Center** – Discussion on what we learned during Unity Conversation.

For more information, contact Monica Kao:  
mkao@mlumc.org or 412-531-7131.

## An Important Community Conversation: Suicide Awareness and Prevention

**3-Session Series Focusing on At-Risk Populations** LGBTQ youth, military veterans, and individuals dealing with depression are populations at high risk for suicide. The Community Events and Outreach Committee recognizes the importance of our church and community having conversation about this, and so is sponsoring a 3-program series on suicide awareness and prevention among the high risk groups. The first program, *Suicide Among LGBTQ Youth*, was held in July.

### A Discussion of Suicide Among LGBTQ Youth - Sunday, July 21

*by Monica Kao*

This summer, a 15-year-old boy who lived in Allegheny County was struggling with his sexual orientation and rejection by his parents. He took his life. And in December of 2016, a 13-year-old Western Pennsylvania boy identifying as gay committed suicide. With these young boys' tragic stories, the keynote speaker of *A Discussion of Suicide Among LGBTQ Youth* brought home the reality of LGBTQ suicide.

The speaker, Mitchell R. Hortert MSW, is a community leader, advocate, and educator who currently serves as the President of PFLAG Pittsburgh, a non-profit organization that provides support, education and advocacy to families, friends, allies and members of the LGBTQ community. Mr. Hortert spoke and answered questions from the audience for over an hour. (Next page)



*Mitchell Hortert,  
speaker on LGBTQ  
suicide*



His review of the sobering statistics concerning the lack of well-being and the prevalence of suicide among young LGBTQ individuals was sprinkled with insight from his work with youth and families, as well as Mr. Hortert's own personal journey. He discussed the importance of "being there" for LGBTQ youth, that support from one adult can reduce the incidence of suicide and depression by 50%. "If we can get every kid, every LGBTQ kid to have one person who is supportive in their life, one positive role model, one person that they can talk to about their experiences, it cuts these numbers in half," he said. "That's huge. That's why I do what I do."



Approximately 80 people attended the event on July 21, sponsored by the Community Events and Outreach Committee. Many were parents of LGBTQ children. Others were LGBTQ individuals, friends, allies, and members of MLUMC and area churches. The subject of LGBTQ suicide was suggested to the Outreach Committee by church member Anne Picardi. "It is important for everyone, of every gender and every sexuality to have a safe space," Anne Picardi said at the event. "And the church should be able to be that safe space."



## A Discussion of Suicide Among Military Veterans Sunday, September 22 7 PM Asbury Center

The program on *Suicide Among Military Veterans*, to be held on Sunday, September 22. It will feature retired Colonel Thomas Stokes from Operation Strong Mind as the speaker. Colonel Stokes served as the Officer in Charge of a Combat Stress Clinic in Afghanistan, and will be able to provide first person accounts of the challenges facing veterans both on the battlefield and back at home.

Colonel Thomas Stokes

## A Discussion of Suicide Among Those Dealing with Depression Sunday, November 17 7 PM Asbury Center

The final program will be held on November 17 at 7 PM in Asbury Center. This program and *A Discussion on Suicide Among Military Veterans* will include social time with beverages and desserts, followed by remarks from the speaker and a period for questions and answers. Church members are encouraged to attend and bring their families and friends so that all can learn more about the challenges these at-risk groups face and what we as Christians can do to help.

## Community Events & Outreach 2019 Updated Calendar

The Community Events and Outreach Committee is coordinating a number of 2019 events. Plan to attend and consider volunteering. To learn more about the events and volunteering, contact Rob Spicher, Chair, [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** – Community Fish Fry 4/19  
EECM Dinner 4/28

**June** – EECM Dinner 6/23

**July** – Suicide Awareness & Prevention:  
LGBTQIA Youth 7/21

**August** – Community Barbecue 8/17  
EECM Dinner 8/25

**Sept.** – Suicide Awareness & Prevention:  
Military Veterans 9/22

**Oct.** – Community Fall Festival 10/19  
EECM Dinner 10/27

**Nov.** – Suicide Awareness & Prevention:  
Depression 11/17  
Thanksgiving Meal 11/28

**December** – Christmas Caroling 12/15  
EECM Dinner 12/22  
Christmas Meal 12/25

\*EECM 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.

*The Nyadire Connection (TNC) is a multi-church, faith-based, nonprofit that supports the Methodist mission in Nyadire, Zimbabwe. The mission includes a school, teacher's college, hospital, farm, and orphanage.*

## New Girl Empowerment Pad (GEP) Sewing Sponsorship Program

Many generous people have given their time and talents to make the Girl Empowerment Pad program a success. (GEP seeks to prevent girls and women from missing school or work for lack of sanitary protection. GEP kits, assembled by volunteers, include pre-cut material and other items that women and girls can use to sew their own reusable cloth sanitary napkins.)

GEP programs are up and running at six schools and also at waiting mothers programs at the hospital and clinics in Nyadire, Zimbabwe served by The Nyadire Connection (TNC).

We also recently completed a pilot study at the Hearing Impaired School at Nyadire. Moving beyond pads, for an investment of 500 dollars, fabric was purchased, a tailor was hired, students learned how to lay out patterns, and assisted in the production of twenty four winter uniforms (shirt and pants) as well as many pairs of shorts and skirts. We are so proud of the students and teachers! **We would now like to build on the success of the pilot and are pleased to announce a sewing sponsorship program.**

Each 500 dollars raised will be used by a school to develop a sewing program. Recognizing that the needs at each school are different, we will ask our GEP leaders in Zimbabwe to write a brief proposal that details the approach they will take to advance the program. The challenges are many in Zimbabwe, but there is no lack of talent or determination on the part of our GEP teams. As the sewing sponsorship program evolves, we will continue to provide support via container shipments of sewing materials and GEP kits to make reusable cloth sanitary napkins.

Please consider a donation or a full sponsorship of \$500. We will provide full accountability and updates to let you know how your financial support has been used locally.

For more information, please contact Bonnie Lawson, GEP Program Coordinator, at [bonnielawson58@comcast.net](mailto:bonnielawson58@comcast.net).

## Sponsor a Nyadire Orphan's Education Through TNC

The Nyadire Home of Hope Orphanage houses anywhere from 17 to 26 children. For \$40/month, you can help cover Home of Hope food, clothing, home, medical and school fees for one child. Each child requires three sponsors.

For \$75-100/month, you can become a Home of Hope Outreach sponsor for a child who may live elsewhere but wants to attend school. All Home of Hope fees will be covered for the year. You will be able to send correspondence and receive a photo and letter from the sponsored child. In many case relationships are formed over several years of sponsorship.

Learn more at <http://www.nyadire.org/> or contact Louanne Baily 412/719-7063.

## Rotary Chicken BBQ Benefits The Nyadire Connection (TNC) Saturday Sept. 21 11 am - 7 pm Westminster Presbyterian Church

The annual Rotary Chicken BBQ dinner is on September 21 from 11 am to 7 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Upper Saint Clair. This annual dinner gives all proceeds to non-profit organizations, including TNC. The money that TNC raises through the dinner is used for "O-Level" exams, the graduation exams high school students must pass before receiving a diploma or going on to higher education. Fees for these exams are not included in the school fees paid by orphan sponsors, and total about \$100 per student.

The Rotary gives a bonus to the non-profit that sells the most advance tickets. For the last 4 years, TNC has won the bonus, earning a total of about \$5,000 each year. Help us reach this goal again by contacting Kim Rhoton at [krhoton@mlumc.org](mailto:krhoton@mlumc.org) for advance tickets to be credited to TNC. The \$12 ticket includes a ½ BBQ chicken, sides, dessert, and a drink. Eat your meal at Westminster, or use the drive-thru! You can also donate the cost of a ticket to a family served by the SHIM food pantry.





# Church Financial Information

*by Rob Spicher, Finance Committee Chair*

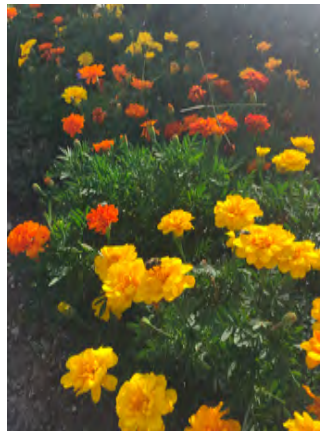
One of the recommendations from our Church stewardship consultant, Scott McKenzie, is more transparency regarding financial matters. The Finance Committee implemented this recommendation in early 2018, and began to share quarterly financial information in *The Window*. To continue this information sharing, summarized below are the Church's 2018 actual financial results, 2019 budget, and 2019 second quarter actual financial results.

As the figures below indicate, 2019 revenues through June 30th were not sufficient to cover expenses. The shortfall, however, remained essentially the same as had existed through March 31st. Significant Easter contributions in April helped the June 30th numbers. Revenues during the month of July were down, and August will likely reflect the same. Although not unusual, these summer revenue shortfalls strain cash flow and challenge timely payment of all bills. Please try to keep your giving current, even when you are not physically in the pews on a given Sunday. Also of note is the status of our Connectional Contribution giving. Although ahead of what had been given last year at this time, we are well short of where we need to be to meet the Conference's ask. The Finance Committee will continue to discuss ways to address this matter within the context of the Church's overall financial position.

It has been some time since the Church finances were put through an internal review, let alone an external audit. Both will occur in 2019. The Finance Committee, with the help of a Conference resource, put together a work set for an internal financial review which is nearing completion. Once this review is completed and recommendations from such are addressed, an external audit will take place. Although the financial systems, controls, and procedures in place appear to have the appropriate checks and balances, independent internal and external validation of such will be critical. Look for a detailed update on the internal financial review in the next edition of *The Window*.

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).

	2018	% of	2019	% of	2019	% of
Church Budget	<u>Actuals</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Q Actuals</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
<b>Revenue:</b>	\$691,714	94.3%	\$705,490	89.4%	\$359,462	93.6%
<b>Expenses:</b>						
Personnel	\$389,985	53.2%	\$418,619	53.1%	\$213,433	55.6%
Programs & Facilities	160,067	21.8%	162,785	20.6%	88,878	23.2%
Utilities & Taxes	95,650	13.0%	98,223	12.5%	51,551	13.4%
Insurance	34,382	4.7%	36,953	4.7%	20,154	5.2%
Connectional Contribution to WPA UM Conference*	53,519	7.3%	72,157	9.1%	9,983	2.6%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$733,603</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$788,737</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$383,999</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>(\$41,889)</b>		<b>(\$83,247)</b>		<b>(\$24,537)</b>	
* \$75,296 requested in 2018; did not pay \$21,777						
Net losses are covered by cash on hand, special gifts received, and reserves.						



Thanks to the following people who planted flowers, watered and weeded the flower beds all summer at the church: Scott Bowes, Boy Scouts from Troop 23 and leaders, Donna and Alan Chesleigh, Caryl and Michael Drabick, Sarann Fisher, Betsy Harkins, Linda Hoover, Kathy Michael, Jan and Jon Rutter, Eric Schmidt, Bradly, Emily and Evan Shoff and Lynne Young. Thanks also to all those who stop by to weed and who pull a weed or two on their way in and out of the church.

Thanks to you all, the flowers look great! - *Tom Michael*



## **Gloria & Russ Barber: 65 Years *Together and in Service to the Church***

In May, Gloria and Russ Barber celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. In July, the congregation joined in the anniversary celebration and also honored the Barbers for another milestone - they have attended Faith for Today for all of its 65 years of existence.

To recognize this wonderful act of faithfulness, they were honored at a July Faith for Today program. Pastor Tom read a letter from the congregation thanking this dedicated couple for their many years of service to the congregation, as well as for the remarkable record of 65 years of attending Faith for Today. Pictured in the background, as Pastor Tom honors them, is their 1954 wedding photo in the then newly remodeled chancel.

Well done good and faithful servants, Gloria and Russ!



# Happenings

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - *Called by God - Gifted to Serve* Pastor Tom leads a special combined adult Sunday school class from 9:30 - 10:30 am in Asbury Center.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 - 10:45 worship resumes in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 - Sunday school for all ages resumes

## September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 Adult Sun. School 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Blood Pressure	<b>2</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>3</b> 7 PM BSA #23	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:30 AM N Side Lunch Prep 9:AM Hands & Hearts 12 Noon TNT 6 PM Choir Potluck 7:30 PM Choir	<b>6</b> 5:30 PM Albright Society Dinner	<b>7</b> 10 AM Food Pantry Food Lift Free Mkt.
<b>8</b> <b>SANCTUARY</b> <b>WORSHIP RESUMES</b> 8:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Worship 5 PM Fall Youth Kick-off 7 PM Do No Harm	<b>9</b> 7 PM Church Council	<b>10</b> 6 PM UMW 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews 7 PM Cub Scout Planning	<b>11</b> 7 PM Bear, Lion, Webelos, Tiger, Wolf Den 7 PM Finance	<b>12</b> 7 PM Education 7:30 PM Choir	<b>13</b> 7 PM Arrow of Light	<b>14</b> 8 AM It's A Guy Thing
<b>15</b> <b>SUNDAY</b> <b>SCHOOL RESUMES</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM BSA Eagle Brd Reviews	<b>16</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells 7:30 PM Community Events & Outreach	<b>17</b> 7 PM BSA #23	<b>18</b> 7 PM Cub Scout 7 PM Trustees	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 AM Food Pantry Food Lift Free Mkt.
<b>22</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Parents 7 PM Discussion on Military Vets Suicide	<b>23</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>24</b> <b>TERRIFIC</b> <b>TUESDAY RESUMES</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Brd Reviews	<b>25</b> 7 PM Bear-Tiger-Wolf Den Meetings	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

## October 2019

<b>29</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group 7 PM BSA #23 Leadership	<b>30</b> 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>1</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:30 AM N Side Lunch Prep 9 AM Hands & Hearts 12 Noon TNT 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10 AM Blessing of the Animals 10 AM Food Pantry Food Lift Free Mkt
<b>6</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 12 PM Blood Pressure 5 PM Youth Group 7 PM Do No Harm	<b>7</b> 5 PM Faith for Today Meeting 7 PM Church Council 7 PM Chapel Bells	<b>8</b> 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews 7 PM Cub Scout Planning	<b>9</b> 7 PM Bear, Lion, Webelos, Tiger, Wolf Den Meetings 7 PM Finance	<b>10</b> 9:30 AM UMW Exec 11 AM UMW 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7 PM Education 7:30 PM Choir	<b>11</b> 7 PM Arrow of Light	<b>12</b> 8 AM It's a Guy Thing

**Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church**  
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## A Message from MLUMC'S Wholistic Health Outreach Ministry

**Browsing the internet for specific medical information?** It is recommended using the National Library of Medicine medline <https://medlineplus.gov/> rather than commercial sites like WebMD.

The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) is the largest biomedical library in the world and plays a pivotal role in translating biomedical research into practice. NLM is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in Bethesda, Maryland, tracing its roots to the founding of the Library of the U.S. Army Surgeon General in 1836.

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## Proposed Worship Service Opinion Survey

The church welcomes the congregation's opinions of a proposed new service and a time slot. Complete the brief opinion survey below and return it in the offering plate on a Sunday, drop it off at the church office, or mail it in (address above in left corner). Your opinion is important to the church.

What time do you prefer for the proposed new service?

\_\_\_ 8:30 - 9:30 am, in Sanner Chapel, in place of the existing 8:30 traditional service

\_\_\_ 9:30 - 10:30 am, in Asbury Center, running concurrently with children's and adult Sunday school

Do you have other concerns about the proposed new worship service, its time and/or location ?