



Although most Americans probably know that February is Black History Month, many may not know how that designation began February 7, 1926, when educator and historian Carter G. Woodson designated the second week as “Negro History Week.” The second week was chosen because it coincides with President Abraham Lincoln’s birthday on February 12 and Frederick Douglass’ birthday on February 14, both of whom are significant figures in black history. A vocal opponent of slavery, Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which took effect in 1863, and freed all of the slaves in the rebellious states not under federal control. A former slave, Douglass, a great orator, became a national leader of the abolitionist movement.

By the time Woodson died in 1950, Negro History Week was actively celebrated in America’s black communities and, as an educator, Woodson was advocating that black history be incorporated into the general social studies curriculum. In 1976, when America was celebrating its bicentennial, then-President Gerald Ford designated February as Black History Month. The president also encouraged citizens to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of black Americans in all aspects of history that had been too long forgotten.

Having begun a New Year and a new decade, people of good will who strive to achieve diversity, inclusion, and equity can hope that Mr. Woodson’s dream of Black History being incorporated into general social studies curricula will be realized.

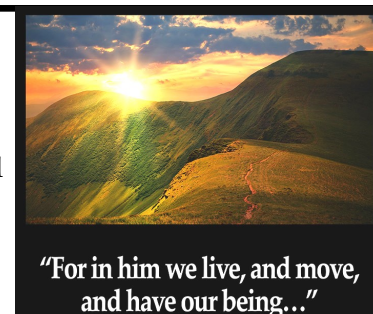
February 23, 2020

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME !** If you are a visitor or new to Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church — we’re glad you’re here. Please sign the attendance sheet in the pew. Worship at our church is a joyful, prayerful, music-filled, traditional experience. We worship to glorify God and build up the community of believers to live in this world as followers of Jesus Christ.

The **8:30 am traditional** service meets in Sanner Chapel, immediately inside the front entrance of the church. In Asbury Center, **The Gathering**, a modern service with contemporary music also meets at 8:30. The **10:45 am traditional** service is in our beautiful sanctuary. Kidz Praise, a special worship service for ages 3 through 3rd grade, takes place during our 10:45 Sunday service.

**For more information: [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org) or 412-531-7131.**



## TODAY All-Church Soup & Salad Luncheon

All are invited to join the UMW for a relaxing and fun soup & salad lunch after the 10:45 service **TODAY, Sunday, February 23 in Asbury Center.**

Two kinds of soup will be offered, including a vegetarian option. We’ll also serve a crisp salad, drinks and dessert, plus PB&J and chips for the children. This is a great time to socialize with members of your church family.

## Welcome Weekday Ministries at the 10:45 Service

Don’t miss our Weekday Ministries children singing, praying and hearing God’s word !

## Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church

OPEN HEARTS OPEN MINDS OPEN DOORS

3319 W. Liberty Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15216 412-531-7131 [mlumc.org](http://mlumc.org)

Reverend Thomas Q. Strandburg, Pastor [tstrandburg@mlumc.org](mailto:tstrandburg@mlumc.org)





## February 26, Ash Wednesday Services

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

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



Remember that  
you are dust  
and to dust you  
shall return



### Small Groups - Gifts of the Spirit

During Lent, the congregation will have two opportunities to join small groups that will learn more about Gifts of the Spirit, our church's theme for 2020.

One group, led by John Esaias, will meet on Wednesdays from 2 - 3:30 in Brookline Parlor on February 26, March 4, March 11 and April 1.

The other group, led by Clark Remington, will meet on Wednesdays from 7 - 8:30 in Brookline Parlor on February 26, March 4, March 11 and March 18.

There is no required reading, and it is fine if you are not able to commit to all four dates. Come when you can. All those who are interested are asked to sign up at the desk in the narthex.

## FRIDAY FISH FRY DINNERS @ 2 CHURCHES

Free and open to all. Donations gratefully accepted

Menus at both churches include baked and fried fish,  
mac & cheese, cole slaw, fries and an assortment of desserts

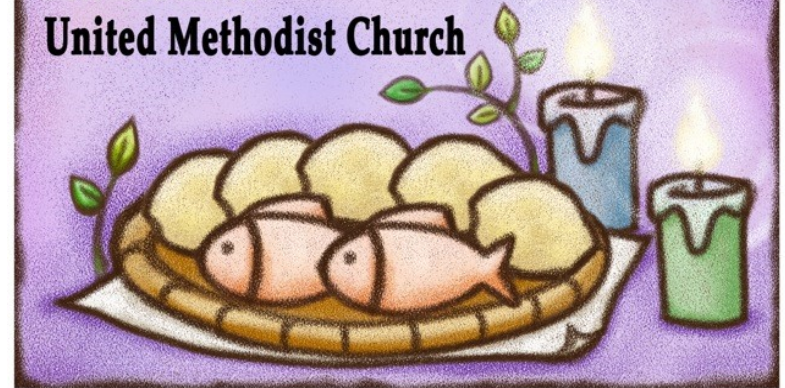
### MLUMC Community Fish Fry Dinners

Friday  
February 28  
& Good Friday  
April 10

4 -7 pm  
Asbury Center

Dine-in  
or Take-out

**Mt. Lebanon  
United Methodist Church**



### Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church



**Fridays: March 13, 20 & 27  
4pm to 7pm**

(Dine in or Take out is available)  
3104 West Liberty Ave, Dormont 15216  
FREE (although donations are accepted)  
Call 412-531-9363 for information

Serving Fried or Baked Fish, Mac and Cheese, Apple Sauce,  
Rolls, Clam Chowder, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Pierogies, and  
homemade desserts

## Youth Mission Trip Information Meeting

**Sun., March 1 11:45 am Wesley Hall**

All youth in grades 6 – 12 are invited to attend an informational meeting about the youth mission trip to Project Crossroads in Marion, Virginia from July 5 - 11.

Learn more about the mission of Project Crossroads, the work we will do, the minimal costs involved for each family, and the life-changing experiences we will have together.

This is a good opportunity for parents to learn more as well. Adult chaperones attending the trip will be there to answer your questions.

## Volunteers Needed – Please Reply

### Community Events and Outreach Committee Community Fish Fry Dinners Friday, February 28 & Good Friday, April 10

The Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church Community Events and Outreach Committee will be sponsoring two fish fry dinners this season and invites you to come join us. We are in our fifth year of providing a free fish fry to the surrounding community. We need help in the following areas. If you can make yourself available for either or both events, **please email** and let us know the date(s) and your work preference.

Food Plating	Fry Cook/Runner	Dessert Station
Bus Tables	Drink Station	Greeters/Hospitality
Clean Up	Event Setup (day prior)	

To volunteer or for more information, contact:

Liz DiPietro, [ldsups@aol.com](mailto:ldsups@aol.com) or Rob Spicher, [Robert.spicher@pnc.com](mailto:Robert.spicher@pnc.com)

## Youth Group Schedule

2/23	Youth Group, 5-6:30 pm Wesley Hall
3/1	Youth Mission Trip Informational Meeting, 11:45 am, Wesley Hall
3/1	Youth Group, 5-6:30 pm Wesley Hall
3/8	Youth Group, 5-6:30 pm Wesley Hall

## Charge Conference to Be Held March 2

All church leaders are reminded that a special session of the Charge Conference will be held on Monday, March 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall. The purpose of this very brief meeting will be to approve revised clergy salary levels for inclusion in our recently-approved church budget. The Church Council will begin its regular meeting at the conclusion of the charge conference.

### March UMW Meeting Lenten Call to Prayer and Self Denial Thursday, March 12 11 am Wesley Hall

Join the UMW on Thurs., March 12 at 11 am. in Wesley Hall for our monthly meeting and annual call to Prayer and Self-Denial.

At this meeting, we'll learn more about the many individuals who are served by our in-house food pantry under the leadership of **Liz DiPietro**. Please consider bringing a paper product or two to the meeting as a donation. Liz notes that paper products are popular with food pantry clients as that's something we don't supply (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)



United  
Methodist  
Women

After the program, 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.

## Asbury Bake Sale

### Asbury Heights Friday, March 13

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 causing allergies, such as eggs, nuts, peanut butter and chocolate, or specially made, such as "gluten-free" or "diabetic-friendly."

Baked goods can be dropped off in our church's Asbury kitchen on Thursday, March 12 or on Friday morning, March 13, directly at Asbury Heights .



## Do No Harm

**Meeting Tonight: Sunday, February 23  
7 pm The Welcome Center**

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

**Discussion will be on the reply cards submitted following the Unity Lunch with particular focus on areas identified for further exploration. Planning for next events and ways to continue learning are also on the agenda.**

**For more information, contact Monica Kao: [mkao@mlumc.org](mailto:mkao@mlumc.org) 412-531-7131.**

## Resources from The Unity Lunch

On Sunday, Feb. 9 at the Unity Lunch, Pastor Tom and church members talked about the denomination's current and proposed legislation on human sexuality to be discussed at the General Conference in May. Sunday's conversation also included interpretation of scripture often referenced in this legislation discussion. If you missed the conversation or would like to hear it again, you can listen to a podcast linked to our website. Handouts from the conversation are also available. For these resources, go to the MLUMC website: <https://www.mlumc.org/2020/unity-lunch-conversation>

*(Information Session continued)*

MLUMC will provide a carpool for this session, leaving from our parking lot on March 25 at 5:45 pm. To sign up for the carpool to the briefing, call Michelle at the church office, 412-531-7131. Also one must register with the WPA Conference online at

<https://wpa-reg.brtaapp.com/PreGeneralConference2020>

Discussion at the informational meeting will focus on the "Protocol of Separation Through Grace and Reconciliation" because those who signed it represent advocacy groups who proposed other plans, but now unanimously support the protocol. They have agreed to work together for passage of the Protocol at the May 5-15, 2020 General Conference.

There will be an opportunity for questions to provide clarification about the Protocol and how our Conference will respond if it is passed. Our Conference is creating a process for discernment regarding our future together in Christ. The WPA Delegation has been invited to attend to listen and prepare for their participation in the upcoming General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

## Informational Session

### on the Proposed Protocol for Denomination Separation

We are invited to an informational session on the proposal to split the United Methodist Church which will be discussed at the 2020 General Conference. The session is sponsored by our WPA United Methodist Conference. Participants in the session will include Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, the Rev. John R. Wilson, Conference Secretary; Donna Vizza, chair of the WPAUMC Connectional Leadership Table, and Rev. Alyce Weaver Dunn, Director of Connectional Ministries.

While there are five sessions scheduled, the session most convenient from our church takes place:

**Wednesday, March 25 @ Crossroads UMC in Oakdale from 6:30 pm – 9 pm**

*(continued next page)*



**Please  
donate  
peanut  
butter  
& jelly**



**Drop-off box near  
entrance to Food Pantry**

## Kerygma Adult Sunday School 9:30-10:30 am The Library

- 2/23 Don Cook, "Unfinished Business"
- 3/1 Monica Kao, Book Review, "The Bible Tells Me So: Why Defending Scripture Has Made Us Unable to Read It"
- 3/8 Monica Kao, Book Review, "Beauty Will Save the World"
- 3/15 Dave Seitz, Book Review, "The Universal Christ," by Richard Rohr