



The Window into the heart of

Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church
Volume 6, Number 1, Lent/Easter 2020

The Gathering Scene

by Rev. Scott Miller

The Gathering, the new modern worship service at Mt. Lebanon UMC, is off to a solid start! Held at 8:30am on Sunday mornings in Asbury Center, *The Gathering* features contemporary Christian music, along with updated and up-tempo versions of our United Methodist hymnal favorites. Communion is held every Sunday, so if anyone feels the need for communion, it is always available at the service (and gluten-free is available).

I try and make the sermons as relatable and useful as possible for the congregation: more of a relaxed conversation-style sermon. The atmosphere is casual and relaxed – there aren't too many pastors who say to go ahead and grab a drink and some snacks to have during the sermon! Speaking of snacks, there is gourmet coffee available, as well as a selection of teas and hot chocolate. I would also like to give a huge shout out to the volunteers who have been bringing the wonderful snacks each Sunday – thank you!

Going forward, there will be an email distribution every week with the coming Sunday's songs on it, along with a sneak peek of the sermon. For anyone unfamiliar with some of these newer songs, this should prove to be very helpful in improving your worship experience. Also, we hope to announce a surprise in the coming weeks about a new way to communicate with the congregation, which has been driven by our new contemporary service! So, watch for an announcement coming soon.

It has truly been a privilege to lead this new service. Making God's Word applicable to every day life in a casual way is a passion of mine, and it seems to have been very well-received. I would like to thank you if you've come and joined us at *The Gathering* – your participation and attendance is so appreciated. If you've not been there yet, I would encourage you to come and experience the worship service for yourself. And I would encourage everyone to spread the news and invite friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the fellowship, the music, the snacks, and the opportunity to worship God at *The Gathering*. Until next quarter, may God richly bless you.

-Rev. Scott

The Gatherer's View

The Gathering has its fans. It only takes a few weeks of attendance before one can see friends and familiar faces sitting in the same row of chairs as the week before. There's a comfortable feeling of being at home in worship that is settling in to Asbury Center.

Long time congregation members Sue and Steve Wesmiller are regulars at *The Gathering*. Sue says her love of contemporary services and music is a family thing, "Both of our children belong to churches where the services are contemporary. I think it started in Jumonville. . . I just love that music and my kids grew up listening to that music."

Then there's the Marshas. Marsha Resinol and Marsha Manke are church members who remember with fondness MLUMC's contemporary services of the 80's and 90's. Marsha Resinol appreciates the feel of *The Gathering*, "I like that it is informal. The message from Rev. Scott is very direct and the message from the music is clear and uplifting."

Marsha Manke adds her approval, "I love everything about this service. At the end, you just leave here with so much joy. At this service, you praise the Lord."



All are invited to the Lord's Table every Sunday at *The Gathering*.

The Meaning of Unity

"Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose." 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10, NRSV

The text above was the first verse in the Epistle lection that was prescribed in the Revised Common Lectionary for the third Sunday after Epiphany (January 26th, 2020). It sparked a rather lively debate among my clergy friends on Facebook on that Sunday afternoon. How interesting, we all admitted, that God would cause this reading to appear in the lectionary cycle at precisely the moment when our United Methodist denomination is so divided! If you have not yet heard the news, it appears that our 50-year-old denomination is on the verge of a split. Although the current debate pertains to the church's stance on human sexuality – will we perform same-gender marriage ceremonies, and will we ordain LGBTQIA+ persons as clergy – the divisions within our worldwide church are much deeper than just this one issue, important as it might be. At the root of this and other issues dividing our church, is a larger conversation concerning the four basic elements in Methodist decision-making (often referred to as Wesley's Quadrilateral) – scripture, tradition, experience, and reason. The question of how we should understand and interpret these various sources, and the interrelationship between them, is the foundational instability from which all the "cracks" in our denominational wall currently spread.

In the month of May, we will see what our denomination will do, as the General Conference meets in Minneapolis, MN. That conference might well authorize the formation of one or more new successor denominations to the United Methodist Church – at least one "traditionalist denomination" on the issue of human sexuality, and at least one denomination that is more progressive. It will ultimately be up to each local congregation to decide with which denomination it will align itself going forward. In most of the proposed plans, such a decision would be made by a vote of professing members at a local church conference, which would be called to make the decision.

Like the denomination, our local church is profoundly divided on the issues at hand. What is the meaning of "unity" in the midst of such division? In the year 1786, Methodism's founder, John Wesley, preached a sermon entitled, On Schism. He spoke of church splits in blunt terms -- *"It is evil in itself,"* he preached. *"To separate ourselves from a body of living Christians, with whom we were before united, is a grievous breach of the law of love. ... It is only when our love grows cold, that we can think of separating from our brethren."* He was speaking of his own determination that the early Methodist movement should remain a part of the Church of England. However, in the same sermon, he also argues for when a church separation is not only acceptable but demanded by conscience – *"Suppose you could not remain in the Church of England without doing something which the word of God forbids, or omitting something which the word of God positively commands; if this were the case, (but blessed be God it is not) you ought to separate from the Church of England,"* he preached. On both sides of our current debate, persons of conscience believe that separation is regrettably necessary in this case. They might be right.

My concern for our denomination and for our local church runs much deeper than fear of separation. It is the soul-killing side effects of schism that Wesley also identified in his sermon over 230 years ago that really worry me:

"It opens a door to all unkind tempers, both in ourselves and others. It leads directly to a whole train of evil surmising, to severe and uncharitable judging of each other. It gives occasion to offense, to anger and resentment, perhaps in ourselves as well as in our brethren; which, if not presently stopped, may issue in bitterness, malice, and settled hatred; creating a present hell wherever they are found, as a prelude to hell eternal."

John Wesley, Sermon 75, "On Schism," [III]:11-12, in *Sermons III*, ed. Albert C. Outler, vol. 3 of *The Bicentennial Edition of the Works of John Wesley* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1976-), 64–65.

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Note that the real damage in schism is not to a structure or to an institution, but to the Christian character of those who participate in it. Love is replaced by bitterness, malice, and hatred, creating a kind of “hell on Earth.” Might this be what Paul the Apostle was contemplating as he warned the church at Corinth to “be united in the same mind and the same purpose?” Even if we do not all think alike, may we not all love alike? It is this sense of unity of mind and purpose that I hope will be maintained as we move through the challenges of this year together. You can help me in this endeavor in the following ways:

1. **Pray for our denomination and for our church.** May these early months of 2020 be viewed by all of us as a time of spiritual preparation for the important decisions which lay ahead.
2. **Attend the unity conversations that will be held in the coming months.** As you see these advertised in the announcements and newsletter, please make your attendance a priority. Wouldn't it be a shame if we were all called upon to cast a vote for our congregation's future, without ever having the opportunity to hear what is on the collective hearts of our people?
3. **Remember that Article IV of our United Methodist constitution affirms that “all persons are of sacred worth.”** Fulfilling the Great Commandment of Jesus to love God as we love our neighbor is not a “conservative issue” or a “progressive issue.” It is a Christian issue. It should be an issue around which all of us can rally, even despite our differences.

I'll see you in church,

Pastor Tom

Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

Do No Harm: A Reconciling Ministries Network Community

The *Do No Harm* group of Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church has become part of the Reconciling Ministries Network. *Do No Harm* is a community that believes in social justice and in actively applying the Golden Rule to all. It is a discussion group that grew out of concern and opposition to the denomination's LGBTQ ban.

The Reconciling Ministries Network is a national organization of United Methodist individuals, communities and churches who are answering a call to resist harm and reject the anti-LGBTQ legislation of the UMC denomination. Becoming a member of Reconciling Ministries required that *Do No Harm* compose a statement of its beliefs. Here is its statement affirming and welcoming all people:



We embrace, welcome and affirm all persons regardless of age, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, physical or mental ability into full participation in the life of this community of faith.

We believe that we are all made in God's image and God loves all people. Therefore, we celebrate all persons and work for the end of discrimination, including the ban on same-gender marriage.

We support the ordination of all persons, regardless of gender identity, who are called to serve, and oppose any punishment of clergy for officiating marriage between LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Church members and friends are invited and welcomed to attend a *Do No Harm* meeting. The discussion group meets twice a month on Sunday evenings in the Welcome Center. Look for details in the Sunday announcements.



United Methodist Women Events

March UMW Meeting

Lenten Call to Prayer and Self Denial

Thurs. March 12 11 am Wesley Hall

Join the UMW on Thursday, 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.)

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!

Asbury Bake Sale

Friday, March 13 Asbury Heights

Friday, March 13 is 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 12 or Friday morning March 13, directly at Asbury Heights on Bower Hill Road.

April UMW Meeting

Empowerment Pad Project

Thurs. April 9 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 cash or checks for underwear, which she can purchase online for less than 75¢ per pair.

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.

**SAVE
THE DATE!**

Spring Fundraiser

Mark your calendars now for our upcoming UMW spring fundraiser on Saturday, May 23. Look for more details in upcoming church bulletins.



*Last year's
spring
fundraiser
event!*



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 2018 actual financial results, 2019 budget, and 2019 actual financial results.

As the figures below indicate, 2019 revenues were not sufficient to cover expenses. The shortfall was covered by cash on hand and special gifts. Please note that, as was the case in 2018, the Church did not pay its Connectional Contribution in full. Given the on-going dialogue and debate as to the direction of the United Methodist Church, the Connectional Contributions came solely from unrestricted endowment interest and special gifts – neither cash on hand nor reserves were tapped to fund the gap. This decision was made by the Finance Committee with the knowledge and support of Church Council.

Notwithstanding the denominational uncertainty referenced above, the willingness of the congregation to continue financial support of staff, facilities, and programs through pledged and non-pledged giving is very much appreciated. It would be easy to be distracted by the events happening around us, but fortunately our attention continues to be on the work our Church is doing on a daily basis. Your continuing financial support will help to ensure that our Church stays true to its mission of making those whom it touches disciples of Jesus Christ.

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
	Actuals	Expenses	Budget	Expenses	Full Year Actuals	Expenses
Church Budget						
Revenue:	\$691,714	94.3%	\$705,490	89.4%	\$710,213	96.9%
Expenses:						
Personnel	\$389,985	53.2%	\$418,619	53.1%	\$418,369	57.1%
Programs & Facilities	160,067	21.8%	162,785	20.6%	153,145	20.9%
Utilities & Taxes	95,650	13.0%	98,223	12.5%	90,014	12.3%
Insurance	34,382	4.7%	36,953	4.7%	37,160	5.0%
Connectional Contribution to WPA UM Conference*	53,519	7.3%	72,157	9.1%	34,563	4.7%
Total Expenses	\$733,603	100%	\$788,737	100%	\$733,251	100%
Total Net Income (Loss)	(\$41,889)		(\$83,247)		(\$23,038)	

* \$70,071 requested in 2019; did not pay \$35,508;
2019 contribution has come from unrestricted endowment interest and special gifts.

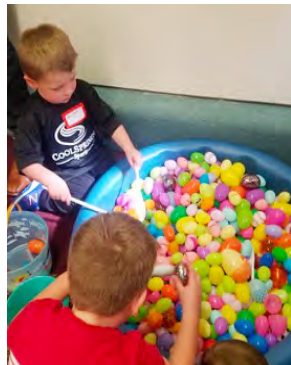
Net losses are covered by cash on hand and special gifts.

EGGstravaganza

by Kim Rhoton, Christian Ed Director

**Sat. April 4, 2020
10 am-Noon**

Come to the church for the annual Easter EGGstravaganza, a family-friendly event especially for 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) 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 in 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 March 22.

Youth Ministries

by Jim Lombardi, Director

The youth have gotten off to a great start in 2020! Our weekly gatherings, special events, and preparing for our summer mission trip have kept us very busy.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the youth ministries at the Super-Soup and Sandwich Lunch. These funds will go a long way to supporting the youth mission trip this summer to Marion, Virginia.

Over President's Day weekend, seven of our youth attended the Winter Blast retreat at Jumonville. The theme of the week was the Holy Spirit. The group enjoyed time growing closer to God, closer to each other, and also



got to know youth from across Western PA. Sledding, campfires, games, indoor rock climbing, worship, and devotions were all highlights of the weekend.

In the next few months we will continue our preparations for the summer mission trip. Both youth and adults will complete sensitivity training, tool training, and continue raising funds for the trip. Look for our pretzel sale on Palm Sunday and also a Terrific Tuesday meal that will be provided by the youth as a fundraiser.

Weekday Ministries Child Care Center by Mettelise Ziegler, Director

Kindergarten will be here before you know it! Most of our children enroll during infancy. We have 8 in a room with 4 loving staff members to care for their needs. At the age of 1 year, children move into one of two young toddler rooms. The sweethearts pictured below are in two classrooms with two teachers each. They are the future members of the Pre-K Class of 2025.

Currently, there are thirteen children who will be graduating from Pre-K on May 21 at 4:30 PM. They will be entering



kindergarten in the fall. It will be a joy to present brand new Bibles and diplomas to them in Brookline Chapel. The congregation is invited to attend, so **SAVE THE DATE!**

Music Director Gretchen Franz to Retire

MLUMC's Music Director and Organist, Dr. Gretchen Franz is retiring in September. Her musical passion and work have gifted the church for 5 decades, including 39 years with our congregation.

"I have many fond memories from my years at MLUMC - crazy musicals with the senior high, zany secular programs with the Chancel Choir, a spectacular Easter opera, joint concerts with neighboring churches," recalls Gretchen. "At my center is always the music offered each Sunday and the singers of all ages who make those weekly offerings possible. Undergirding our music and this church are the contributors to the Friends of Music Fund, the congregation, the staff, and the many volunteers who keep MLUMC alive and well. Thank you for supporting me for all these years. I look forward to observing my successor's new ideas and fresh enthusiasm."

Let's take time in the next few months to thank Gretchen for her hard work and inspiration, and for the difference she's made in our lives and the life of our church.



Lenten/Easter Musical Highlights

Sunday, March 1, the Chancel Choir will be accompanied by a string quartet at the 10:45 service.

Sunday, March 29, saxophonist Milt Barney will accompany the church's handbells and the chancel choir.

Easter Sunday, April 12, our music will be enhanced by a brass quintet.



BERRIES 'N' BELLS

Friday, May 1 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. Once again we will feature Milt Barney on saxophone. We'll also have a sing-a-long and some Rock 'n' Roll!

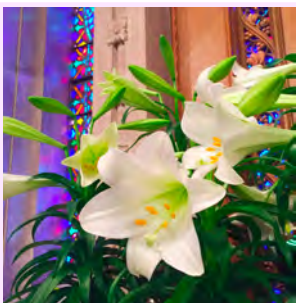
Call the church office after Easter to make reservations or email me anytime at Lutzbelz@aol.com. No tickets, pay at the door. Childcare available with advance reservation. Proceeds benefit the Handbell Ministry.



Three Rivers Ringers

Pittsburgh's premier handbell ensemble will once again be in concert this spring at MLUMC! Mark your calendars now so you do not miss this wonderful musical experience. SUNDAY, MAY 17 is the day and 6 PM is the time. Join these outstanding musicians under the direction of Interim Artistic Director Linda Boice and our own Rick Minnotte, Associate Conductor. There's a rumor that Artistic Director Emerita Nancy Lutz will make an appearance!

Concert is free and open to the public, donations accepted. A reception will follow.



2020 Easter Memorials

It's just about the time of year for church members and friends to purchase flowers in honor or memory of friends or loved ones. The opportunity to order lilies, tulips, mums, hyacinths and pansy baskets will soon be available, but our florist has not yet determined the flower prices. Check the Sunday announcements or call the church office for updates on flower orders.

Achtung! Heads Up

It isn't too early to plan ahead to join the MLUMC team traveling to Germany in the early summer of 2021. We have been visiting our Zwickau church partners since 1996 as an intergenerational team that does work projects in Zwickau, tours the area, and, most importantly perhaps, connects with our partners in a meaningful way. Many members of our team have actually gone more than once! Pastor Tom, for example, will go for the second time; he will be the fifth pastor from MLUMC to make the journey!



Our traditional travel procedure is to fly together and spend our first night or two in a town between the airport and Zwickau, allowing us to "recover" a bit as tourists. Our stay in Zwickau is about 10 days and includes a homestay. Our host church and host families show us around the area and include at least one other town. Zwickau is not far from Dresden, Leipzig, and

the nutcracker regions. When we leave Zwickau, we tour a different area of Germany for one or two days. Most people fly back together although a few choose to stay longer.

Many thanks from the Zwickau Committee to all those who attended and supported January's German Schnitzel lunch. Although the Mission Commission and the German lunch funds help support the youth and the total group's transportation costs, it is not too early to consider this trip and start to save as early as possible. The team will begin meeting this fall to plan the trip with participants' needs in mind. So think ahead. This is a great mission, culture, and travel experience. Questions? Ask Deanna Baird at fraubaird@aol.com or ask Pastor Tom.

A poster for the Global Mission Revival. At the top, the words "GLOBAL MISSION" are in red, arched letters, and "REVIVAL" is in large, bold, blue letters. Below this is a globe graphic. The text "GLOBAL MISSION REVIVAL" is repeated in large, bold, blue letters. Below that, the date "MARCH 14, 2020" and time "9:00-3:30" are listed. The location is "CROSSROADS UMC, NORTH FAYETTE CAMPUS, 1000 CROSSROADS DRIVE, OAKDALE, PA 15071". Guest speakers are "REV. RON AND BONNIE HIPWELL". At the bottom, there is a logo for the Western PA Conference of The United Methodist Church.

GLOBAL MISSION REVIVAL
MARCH 14, 2020
9:00-3:30
CROSSROADS UMC, NORTH FAYETTE CAMPUS
1000 CROSSROADS DRIVE, OAKDALE, PA 15071
GUEST SPEAKERS: REV. RON AND BONNIE HIPWELL

Western PA Conference
The United Methodist Church

Cost \$10 per person, lunch included
Register online at wpaumc.org
or by calling Jessica Speer 724-699-4885.

WPAUMC's Global Mission Network will host this opportunity to learn more about our Conference's various global partnerships, explore the importance and impact of our global connections, and consider how God might be calling churches and individuals to get more involved.

Questions? Contact jessicaspeer83@gmail.com or Sandra Matoushaya, Mission Engagement Coordinator at sandra.matoushaya@wpaumc.org or 724-776-2300, ext. 249.

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 22 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/>.



Fish, Fish & More Fish - Coming Soon



The Community Events and Outreach Committee will again be hosting two Fish Fries during Lent, on February 28, the first Friday of Lent and April 10, Good Friday. In 2019, over 900 meals were served at the Fish Fries, through a combination of eat-ins, take-outs, and deliveries to those in need. Assuming Mother Nature cooperates, the number could go even higher in 2020. Both Fish Fries will run from 4 to 7pm in Asbury Center, and will offer a great opportunity in Christian fellowship for attendees and volunteers.

The Fish Fry meals are served free of charge, with Free Will donations accepted. Thanks to the generosity of those who are able to donate, past Fish Fries have been able to cover costs, ensuring that anyone unable to pay is still able to eat.

The Food Lift™ will provide breads, pastries, fruits and vegetables at the Fish Fries, offering a free market for those in need. Communion will also be offered at the April 10 Good Friday fish fry.

Plan to attend the events if you can, and consider volunteering. For more info, contact Rob Spicher, Community Events and Outreach Committee Chair, at robert.spicher@pnc.com or 412-720-4589.



Community Events & Outreach Committee: 2019 Review, 2020 Plans

The Community Events and Outreach Committee had a very active 2019. The committee coordinated 16 events, ranging from Fish Fries, a series on Suicide Awareness/Prevention to Thanksgiving meal deliveries. Dinners fed over 2,000 people, the majority of whom were visitors to MLUMC or guests of church members. Free will donations covered costs and enabled all meals to be free, ensuring that those unable to pay were still able to eat and enjoy Christian fellowship. The Committee's work also covered other parts of the local community, through the serving of meals on a regular basis at East End Cooperative Ministries in East Liberty.

The Committee's tentative 2020 schedule, listed below, includes helping to support Family Promise at various times throughout the year in its hosting of families in transition.

February – EECM Dinner, 2/23
Community Fish Fry, 2/28

April – Community Fish Fry, 4/10
EECM Dinner, 4/26

June – Community Barbecue, 6/27
EECM Dinner, 6/28

August – EECM Dinner, 8/23

October – Community Fall Festival, 10/10
EECM Dinner, 10/25

November – Thanksgiving Meal, 11/26

December – Christmas Caroling, 12/13
Christmas Meal, 12/25
EECM Dinner, 12/27

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.

The Coffee Café – A Place Where Everyone Knows Your Name

The Coffee Café is open for business every Sunday morning at 9:30 am during the Sunday School year, from September through May. Tasty treats and personal conversations are its “calling cards.” Church members and visitors are always welcome to the place where everyone “knows your name.”

The Café is hosted by individuals and Sunday School classes on a rotating basis. The hosts provide the tasty treats for the Café and for Asbury Center at 8:15am prior to “The Gathering” worship service. Classes host the 4th Sunday of each month and have “carte blanche” as to programming. If you are not a member of a class but would like to experience it, plan to visit the Café on those Sundays.

The Café meets in the Brookline Parlor adjacent to the Narthex and the Scott Road entrance. Plan to stop in soon! To add your time and talent to the Café as a host, please contact Rob Spicher at robert.spicher@pnc.com or 412-720-4589

February 26 Ash Wednesday Services

6:30-9 am Sanctuary at your convenience, silent Communion, ashes available
7 pm Sanner Chapel, Communion service, imposition of ashes

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & THE GATHERING 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 12 PM UMW Luncheon 5 PM Youth Group 7 PM Do No Harm	24 7 PM Chapel Bells	25 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews	26 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:30 AM Silent Communion 2 PM & 7 PM Small Groups, Gifts of the Spirit 7 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Ash Wed Service	27 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	28 4 PM Fish Fry	29

March 2020

1 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & THE GATHERING 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 11:45 Mission Trip Info 5 PM Youth Group	2 7 PM Church Council 7 PM Chapel Bells	3 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	4 2 PM & 7 PM Small Groups, Gifts of the Spirit	5 8:30 AM N.Side Lunch Preps 9 AM Hands & Heart 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	6	7 Food Pantry & Food Lift Free Mkt.
8 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & THE GATHERING 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group	9 7 PM Chapel Bells	10 10 AM Weekday Ministries Chapel 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews 7 PM Cub Scouts	11 2 PM & 7 PM Small Groups, Gifts of the Spirit 7 PM Finance 7 PM Cub Scouts	12 9:30 AM UMW Brd. 11 AM UMW 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7 PM Education 7:30 PM Choir	13 7 PM Cub Scouts	14 Youth Group tour St. Michael's Millvale

Holy Week Services

Maunday Thursday, April 9
7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae with Holy Communion, Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 10
12 p.m. Community Worship, Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 12
8:30 a.m. Traditional, Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Modern, *The Gathering*, Asbury Center
10:45 a.m. Traditional, Sanctuary

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & <i>THE GATHERING</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group 6:30 BSA Reviews	16 7 PM Chapel Bells 7:30 PM Community Events & Outreach	17 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	18 2 PM Small Group, Gifts of the Spirit 7 PM Trustees 7 PM Cub Scouts	19 7 PM Promise Bells 7 PM Choir	20	21 10 AM Food Pantry & Food Lift Free Mkt 10 AM BSA Eagle Court of Honor

22 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & <i>THE GATHERING</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 5 PM Youth Group	23 7 PM Chapel Bells	24 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23 7 PM BSA Reviews	25 7 PM Cub Scouts	26 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	27	28
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April 2020

29 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & <i>THE GATHERING</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 PM Youth Choir 4 PM Youth Group Pretzel Making	30 7 PM Chapel Bells	31 6 PM Terrific Tues 7 PM BSA #23	1 2 PM Small Groups, Gifts of the Spirit	2 8:30 AM N.Side Lunch Preps 9 AM Hands & Heart 6:30 PM Promise Bells 7:30 PM Choir	3	4 10 AM EGGSTRAVAGANZA
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5 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 AM Worship Sanner & <i>THE GATHERING</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:45 Youth Choir	6 7 PM Church Council 7 PM Chapel Bells	7 7 PM BSA #23	8 7 PM Cub Scout Meetings	9 9:30 AM UMW Brd. 11 AM UMW MAUNDAY THURSDAY 7:30 PM Tenebrae	10 GOOD FRIDAY 12:30 PM Office Closes 12 PM Community Worship 4 PM Fish Fry	11 10 AM Food Pantry & Food Lift Free Mkt Scouting for Food
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April 12 Easter Sunday Services

RISEN

8:30 am Traditional, The Sanctuary
9:30 am Modern, *The Gathering*, Asbury Center
10:45 am Traditional, The Sanctuary

Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church

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MLUMC'S Wholistic Health Outreach Ministry on Managing Your Vision

"Turn and answer me, O Lord my God! Restore the sparkle of my eyes..." Psalm 13:3 NIV

Your vision naturally changes as you age but medical conditions can cause additional vision losses at various times of your life. Your vision loss may be a difficulty with either the central or peripheral vision fields. It might be blurred vision, light sensitivity, night blindness, or even a hazy vision. Visit an eye care professional if you have difficulty with: close-up work or reading, determining colors, recognizing friends, reading signs, difficulty completing daily activities. It is important to determine if your problem can be treated with a pair of glasses or if it is disease related requiring surveillance and additional treatment. An early diagnosis of glaucoma, cataracts, macular degeneration or diabetic retinopathy will make a huge difference in managing your vision.

The Window
is published quarterly by
Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church
3319 W. Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
412-531-7131 www.mlumc.org

Monica Kao, Communications Coordinator