



## THE WEEKDAY MESSENGER



Weekday Ministries  
Child Care Center

Mettelise Ziegler, M.S.  
Director

# April 2020

### Easter Blessings to You!

What is happening to Easter? No egg hunts, new dresses or hats; no gatherings; no massive church services.

I was thinking about a favorite book/movie, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Remember what the Grinch said? "Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store!"

Neither do the blessings of Easter!

*We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.* Romans 6:4

Because Jesus conquered sin, death and the devil, so can we. We do not live in fear and despair. We live life!

I am grateful for the generosity of our families towards our staff. I have thanked you all, but feel the need to do so again. Your giving means more than money. It encourages and motivates us to work even harder when we return.

Cailyn's mom, Beth, sent out a few images through email which inspired me to start a private Facebook page. Thank you, Beth. The page is certainly a blessing to many. It is helping us to stay connected and provides much needed laughter, activity ideas and inspiration.

Thanks to Carol and Robin for feeding our fish! God's creatures demonstrate how God loves and provides for us. (Matthew 6:26).

Our local parks are a treasure! I appreciate the tax dollars that go towards preservation of natural spaces. They do our minds and bodies so much good.

The medical community is stellar. Thank you all!

Local churches are a necessity! MLUMC's video presentations have been inspirational to me and I recommend them to you.

Live life this Easter! I hope to see you all soon afterwards.  
Mettelise

### A Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Our church building is too quiet right now, without the sights and sounds of your beautiful children in our midst! They all are missed! I pray that all of your families are doing well during these extraordinary times. In particular, I thank God for those of you who are working on the front lines of the pandemic response, as first responders, medical personnel, and employees of essential services and business. Thanks for the work that you are doing on our behalf!

Our church is also continuing to serve, within the guidelines of proper physical distancing. We are providing regular online worship resources in place of Sunday in-person worship. I would encourage you to check our website [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org) frequently for these resources. Your children might be particularly interested in the 4-minute video that I posted to our YouTube channel this past week, containing a message for our children, that features our black cat, Sophie - <https://tinyurl.com/MLUMC1>.

Others in our church are also regularly posting resources online. If you would like to keep up with my regular updates to the congregation throughout this emergency period, we would love to add your e-mail address to our church distribution list. Please e-mail our church secretary, Michelle Rizzo ([churchsecretary@mlumc.org](mailto:churchsecretary@mlumc.org)), and she will add you to the list.

Thanks for your recent expressions of support for our Weekday Ministries program! I have been deeply moved on more than one occasion, as I have heard of your gracious words and actions. May God bless you all!

Yours in Service,

Pastor Tom Strandburg



## Thank You from the MLUMC Congregation

Dear Parents,

We are in the midst of unprecedented times. As parents of young children, we know you are very concerned about their well being as well as your beloved child care center. The leadership of Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church wants you to know that Weekday Ministries is a vital part of our ministry, and we want it to remain strong despite this difficult situation.

For that reason, Mettelise asked those families who are financially able to help us pay the staff for two weeks as well as pay a fee to keep the center functioning on a minimal basis while it is closed to children. It is with deep appreciation that we thank the families who were able to make this sacrificial financial payment. Our church was able to cover some of the costs, but we needed families to help us. With worship services cancelled indefinitely, you can imagine how steeply our offerings have declined.

By working together, we can be assured that our child care center will remain operable, and it will be ready to welcome your children with open arms when this health problem ends. Again, we thank you for your generosity, your continued financial support and your prayers.

Blessings,

John Esaias, Church Council Chair

## Important Reminders

1. When the state says we can open, we will open immediately. A message through the Remind app will be sent.
2. Unfortunately, our teaching staff is currently unemployed. Anything they do is an act of love and service on their part, since they are not being compensated. Thank you! This is what makes our center so special...people like you.
3. Our state inspection will occur when we return. Keep up with your Child Health Reports if possible. No child under 2 can have a report on file that is more than six months old. For older kids, reports expire at 12 months.

## Special Dates

Please see our website. You will find the tuition rates, Health Form, handbook and newsletter posted. [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org)

April

10<sup>th</sup> Good Friday

12<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday

The PA Primary Election has been rescheduled for June 2. We will no longer need to close on April 28 (if we are open by then.)

From Mettelise:

Currently, I am not supposed to be at the office and do not have full access to files. Please email me at [mziegler@mlumc.org](mailto:mziegler@mlumc.org). You can also contact me through the Remind app or Facebook page.



Children:	Christian P.	4/4	3 years
	Gracie O.	4/16	5 years
	Harry M.	4/17	1 year
	Cecilia C.	4/19	4 years
	Jane O.	4/19	1 year
	Camille K.	4/20	3 years
	Maeve V.	4/20	1 year
	Philip S.	4/26	3 years
Teachers:	Miss Suzette	4/9	
	Miss Mettelise	4/23	