

# the Voice parish newsletter

*Thanks be to God for our 100th Year!*



**Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church**  
975 Washington Road Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania 15228

*“... you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” –Genesis 3:19*

*See the morning sun ascending, radiant in the eastern sky; hear the angel voices blending in their praise to God on high! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high!* These soaring words are from the opening hymn sung on my wedding day. Barbara and I were married in Lent on March 16, 1991.

*When love is torn and trust betrayed, pray strength to love till torments fade, till lovers keep no score of wrong, but hear through pain love's Easter song.* These words are from the second hymn at our wedding. They're a confession of sin. All newlyweds go the way of Adam and Eve. They sin against God and each other. When we sang these words at our wedding, we were saying we would fall, but also that God would forgive. We were proclaiming God's new beginnings.

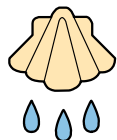
Easter falls on April 20 this year. In 1991, it fell on March 31. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent this year is March 16, marking for me 34 years of sharing life with Barbara; 34 years of sinning, forgiving, hearing love's Easter song, and looking ahead in hope. It's true we are dust and to dust we shall return, but God in Christ will raise us from the dust of death to everlasting life.

Return to God on Ash Wednesday. Attend all our Lenten season liturgies this year. Confess sin; look ahead in hope. On Sunday, March 16, join the church in this prayer: *God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God.*

We are loved; we are forgiven; no sin is too great for Christ to forgive. *See the morning sun ascending* during this Lenten season; *hear through pain love's Easter song.* New beginnings are possible; they happen every Sunday in church. No testing happens without God giving us a way out. Jesus Christ is our way out; the way forward. A blessed Lent to all. Best of all, God is with us. There is a life that truly is life—life with God; life lived by forgiveness; grace; hope; starting over.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Doug Heagy



**March, 2025**



# FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

## Ash Wednesday: Our Lenten wake-up call

For me, exactly one moment in the entire church year awakens me to the urgent imperative of our Christian walk of faith. That moment comes when the pastor takes a muddy thumb and swipes it twice across my forehead with the words, “Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Nothing else besides Ash Wednesday gives me that black-coffee slap-in-the-face of reality that aligns all my personal and professional priorities. I need to be reminded that I am mortal.

My mind regularly deceives me that I’ll be 25 forever (does yours?). But Ash Wednesday cattle prods me with the truth— I am more than twice 25. I think, “How is that even *possible*?” How quickly does our trickle of days join the rushing river of years that empties into the vast ocean of spent lifetimes.

Ash Wednesday reminds us there’s no time to lose; not a moment to waste. Now’s the time to love the Lord your God with everything you’ve got. Now’s the time to love your neighbor as yourself — even the neighbor you really can’t stand to be around.

Now’s the time to pray and read your Bible daily. Now’s the perfect moment to be the person you always wanted to be. Today’s the day to spread the gospel, hug your children, kiss your lover and send flowers to your parents.

Remember, you *are* dust, and to dust you shall return.

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# MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

## The Gospel of Mark

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

*This Bible study is a weekly group discussion of one chapter from Mark's gospel.*

March 3                      Mark 1

March 10                     Mark 2

March 17                    Mark 3

March 24                    Mark 4

March 31                    Mark 5

*Led by Pastor Heagy, we will discuss one chapter of Mark's gospel each week and related Bible passages with a view toward life applications and current events. All are welcome. This study will conclude June 16. Weekly attendance is optional; come when you can!*



# THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:00 am- 11:00 am

## THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Led by Pastor Heagy, we will discuss one Psalm each week, learning the setting and purpose of each Psalm and making applications for life today.

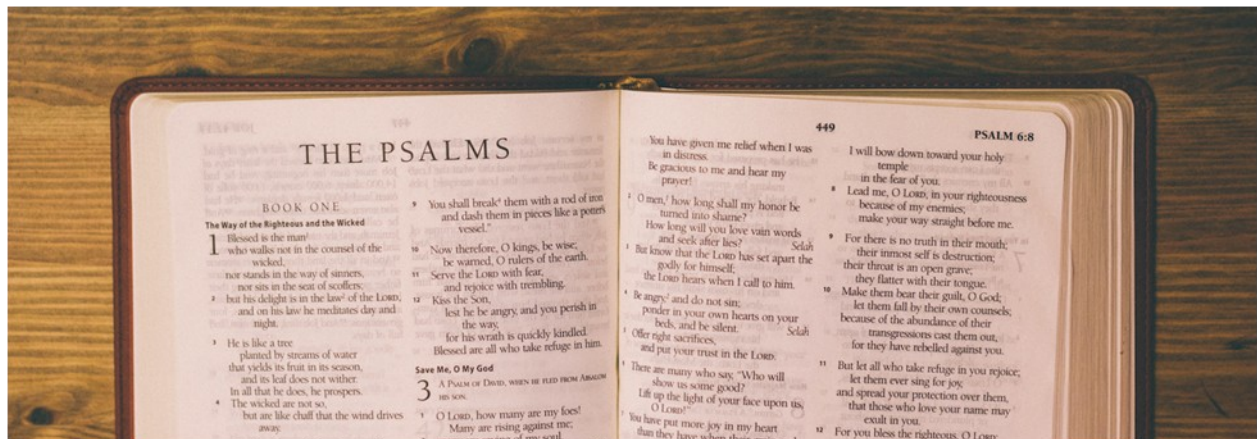
March 6 Psalm 1

March 13 Psalm 2

March 20 Psalm 3

March 27 Psalm 4

*Bibles will be provided or bring your own. All are welcome. This study is ongoing and could continue for 3 years. Weekly attendance is optional; come when you can!*





# The Importance of the role of an Acolyte/Crucifer



The acolyte/crucifer ministry has its roots in the Old Testament, where young Samuel is seen assisting Eli in the temple, and Elisha is seen assisting Elijah the Prophet. Acolytes serve as a companion to the pastor, performing a number of important duties before, during and at the close of the worship service. The word “acolyte” is derived from the Greek word *acolytos*, meaning companion, attendant or helper.

The responsibilities of an acolyte include leading the entrance, or processional, and exit, or recessional, helping to prepare and distribute the Eucharist, helping during special services throughout the year and preparing the church for worship as they light the altar candles.

Acolytes will find their perspective on worship altered dramatically. For example, did you know that the altar is the symbol of the meeting between God and His people and a place of God’s action? Bowing before the altar is an act of reverence and respect for the Lord. The altar candles are also symbolic. The right side is the “Epistle” side, and is lit first. The left side of the altar is the “Gospel” side. The Paschal candle is the large decorative candle used during Easter to show the presence of the risen Christ among His people. It is also, therefore, used at baptisms and funerals as a sign of the Christian’s dying and rising with Christ.

Together with the clergy, choir, band, lay ministers and lay readers, acolytes are leaders of the liturgy. The acolyte’s role is to create the right space and mood for worship. They are visible leaders and, as such, can help other people to follow along with the service. The congregation depends on acolytes and appreciates this special ministry. This is why acolytes take their responsibility seriously and dress and act accordingly.

But while being an acolyte is a big responsibility, it’s also a joyous experience. Acolyting is a ministry that is especially suitable for young people. As youth begin to transition from childhood into adulthood, the church asks them to begin taking on new and greater responsibilities in the life of the congregation. Acolyting is a very spiritually-fulfilling opportunity, and all eligible youth are encouraged to participate. The acolytes serve based on a rotation from a list of active acolytes and depending on the number of youth available to acolyte for each style of service they serve once a month or so. The acolytes serve during the service time their family prefers.

Christ is our greatest example of being a servant to others, from what He taught and how He lived. Developing a servant heart is one way each of us can work on being more Christ-like. God gives believers of every age the means to accomplish his or her called upon duty by filling them with the Holy Spirit.

Reference: Alison Woodward 5/25/11

## SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE:

**March, 2025**

If you cannot serve as scheduled, please switch with another server. If you cannot get a substitute call the church office at 412-563-0300 or Pastor Doug at [412] 926-5440; or email the church at [mtleboluth@aol.com](mailto:mtleboluth@aol.com)

	8:30	10:00
March 2- Crucifer	Henry Keplar	Annaleigh Dwulit
March 5-Ash Wednesday Crucifer	11:00 am TBD	7:30 pm TBD
March 9- Crucifer	Ella Mayer	Quin O'Brien
March 16- Crucifer	Ewan Keplar	Madalena Provins
March 23- Crucifer	Sam Wetzell	Luke Frankovitch
March 30- Crucifer	Dylan Solomon	Gabriel Provins



The worship links to Facebook & You Tube can  
be found on our website:  
[www.mtlebanonlutheran.org](http://www.mtlebanonlutheran.org)

**Sunday's**  
**8:30 AM & 10:00 AM**  
*Virtual Worship 8:30 AM Facebook LIVE*  
*Posted later on our YouTube channel*

## **THE WORD of the LORD**

March 2 Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2  
Luke 9:28-36

March 5 Ash Wednesday  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

March 9 First Sunday in Lent  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

March 16 Second Sunday in Lent  
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17—4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

March 23 Third Sunday in Lent  
Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalm 63:1-8  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

March 30 Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalm 32  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sunday School 10:00 AM



## **The Transfiguration of Our Lord** **Sunday, March 2, 2025** **[The Last Sunday after the Epiphany]**

If you have ever struggled with a novel that takes you through countless plot twists and turns, and you have skipped ahead to read the final chapter in order to see more clearly where you are going, then you have a sense of how the Transfiguration works in the Gospel, and how Transfiguration Sunday works in the church's year of grace.

The Transfiguration of our Lord is not only the last of the manifestations [epiphanies] of Christ which we encounter on the Sundays after the Epiphany, it also offers a glimpse of the resurrected Christ in His glory. Peter and the disciples objected to His suffering and dying, to this turn in the plot of Jesus' life [as they perceived it], but now, at the Transfiguration, they see what is to become of Him.

In addition, this glimpse of the final chapter of Jesus' life will be our guide through the twists and turns of the wilderness of Lent, where we will end our journey, with the disciples, at the tree of life.

The Transfiguration is not only the story of Christ's life, it is also the story of our life as well, for "if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" [Saint Paul].

Transfiguration Sunday is also the day we return the Palm branches from last year so that they may be imposed on Ash Wednesday.



## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL OUR CONGREGATION**

If you have not already picked up your 2025 Church Offering Envelopes we ask that you please stop by the library before or after worship, or call the office to make arrangements for pick up Monday-Friday 9:00 am—1:00 pm. If you have decided to use our new **E-  
Offering Link**, please call the church office to let us know so we can set your box aside. Thank you for your stewardship.

## 2025 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL INSTALLATION MT. LEBANON UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH



Think of us in this way: as servants of Christ and  
stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required  
of stewards that they be found trustworthy.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2





## WE REMEMBER in our prayers:

**Lord of all Life, we are grateful for the wholeness of life and for the gift of good health. Aware of the unity of body and spirit, we affirm our constant need for their harmony. We are grateful for your gift of the marvels of medicine and for all those who possess a healing touch and practice the arts of healing. As we thank you for your son Jesus, who moved among us as both teacher and healer, we pray for the restoration to health for:**

Craig Elias; Andy Kelemen; Linda Larkin; Bill Young;

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for the April issue of the *Voice* are to be submitted by Sunday, March 16th. Articles may be left in the church office or email: [mtleboluth@aol.com](mailto:mtleboluth@aol.com).

### Could God be calling you to serve as an Usher or Lector?

If interested in serving God as a full-time or substitute usher or lector—please contact the church office at 412-563-0100. Training will be provided.

*"Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season;  
reprove, rebuke, and exhort,  
with complete patience and teaching."  
2 Timothy 4:2*



**Spring Forward!**  
**Daylight savings time begins**  
**March 9th**

**GLOBAL LINKS**  
*Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.*

**Tuesday, March 11 from 1:00-3:00 pm**  
**Saturday, March 22 from 10:00-12:00 noon**

Global Links is located at 700 Trumbell Drive, Greentree 15205. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex or feel free to call the church office or Allan Copenheaver (412-563-6865) for more information. Please join us as we pack medical supplies for countries in need across the globe.

**First Holy Communion....**For those second graders [and older children who have not yet been instructed], First Communion instruction dates are listed below. The children who receive instruction will celebrate their First Holy Communion at the **on Sunday, May 18**

Full participation in the Eucharistic life of the Church is a milestone in a young person's life for "at the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel."

Parish practices vary widely on the age and circumstances for full participation in the Lord's Supper. However, it was over 30 years ago that the Lutheran Church in America separated "confirmation" and the reception of Holy Communion. Since that time, congregations have continued to lower the age at which children are instructed and invited to commune.

**First Communion instruction in Eastertide 2025 will be offered on Saturday mornings, promptly at 10:00 AM, on April 26, May 3 and May 10. Classes will be one hour in length. Attendance is required! Parents of students are encouraged to attend.**

Questions with regard to communion practices and/or First Communion instruction are welcome and should be directed to the Pastor.

### Daily Bread Ministries Meal / March 16th

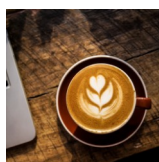
This month's menu will be: Aztec Cake (Mexican lasagna), salad, fruit cup and dessert. Please look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex for volunteers to help serve the meal.

Donations are now being accepted in the donation box in the Narthex. Or you can mail checks to Church office and mark memo line with the words, *'Daily Bread Ministries'* Thank you for remembering this much needed ministry.

**Please continue** to remember the ministry of the Food Bank at St. Michael and All Angels' Lutheran in Spring Garden on Pittsburgh's North-side and Dormont Free Pantry with your contributions of non-perishable food, cleaning and laundry products; and monetary donations. Items may be brought any Sunday and are taken to St. Michael's monthly. When making monetary donations, please make your check payable to *Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church* and designate your donation to Food Bank [Your donation will be recorded and then forwarded.] or to the ELCA World Hunger ministries using a *designated gift envelope* in your pew.

## *You're Invited...To the Sunday Morning Fellowship*

Each Sunday worshippers have the opportunity to greet one another and welcome visitors at our: **Sunday Morning Fellowship** in the Foyer. Join us in between the early and late Liturgies to share greetings and conversations with friends and visitors. Refreshments are available for all.



The Sunday Morning Fellowship also provides opportunities to volunteer:

\*Sponsor the Coffee Project of Lutheran World Relief, helping small growers, their families and communities through the fair trade of coffee.

\*Volunteer to set up and clean the Fellowship refreshments table. It's easy to do and a member of the Hospitality Committee will show you how. Also, written instructions are available.

\*Provide sweet (or healthy) treats for all to enjoy. (Gluten free and nut free treats are also welcomed)

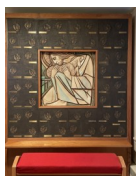
If you'd like to help you can sign up in the foyer or contact the church office to reserve a day.

## **COLUMBARIUM - South Chancel Wall**

Interment continues in the new columbarium and open to church members and extended families. The policy for the columbarium niches is available upon request from the church office.

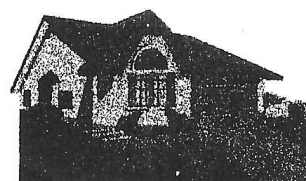
The cost of each niche is \$1,000 for interment of a single individual and \$1,500 for the interment of two.

**Please contact the church office to  
indicate your interest.**



*The South Chancel Wall  
Columbarium  
was completed July 2022*

## **Nurturing Faith in the Home**



It is in home that we ought truly to be able to be ourselves, because it is in the home that we sense our rootedness. And, therefore, we ought to be able to admit our failures, celebrate our joys, acknowledge our despair, and experience illness and even death.

It is in the home that we have the daily experiences of life — not text book examples — for the growing recognition of God at work in our own life and in and through the lives of others.

And therefore, the home should be a place of intentional, planned study and reflection in which we can articulate and experience faith and daily life.

For children especially, home is their primary world. And it is from the interactions in this setting, that the primary life stance of the child develops. While researchers vary in the exact age, they all agree that the major developmental tasks and primary values are established in the preschool years.

Without a doubt, it is in the home that the basic sense of love and trust are developed.

### **7 Goals For Nurturing Faith In The Home**

1. *Each person will be encouraged to know her/himself as a child of God who is forgiven and saved by the death of Jesus Christ and daily strengthened by the Holy Spirit.*

2. *We will regularly study the Scriptures and seek to apply this good news to our daily life.*

3. *We will learn to recognize and experience the love of God in members of our household. We will honor, love, and respect each member of our home.*

4. *We will grow in faith and relationship to one another as we learn to trust, resolve conflicts, forgive, work, and play together.*

5. *We will be a home of prayer and praise.*

6. *We will experience and care for our neighborhood and world. We will be advocates and workers for ethnic appreciation and solidarity, peace, justice, and the environment.*

7. *We will be willing, able and eager to share the good news of Jesus Christ.*

Our faith journey is never-ending, but we do go it alone. We are called and set in families of God.



# Images of Lent

The ashes of Ash Wednesday remind us that we are repenting in order to follow Jesus. So, what does God want from us? The answer comes in our Lenten Bible readings.

God wants more than our presence in worship. Lent is an invitation to a fast, but the kind God wants is not merely an abstinence from gluttony. Our fasting is to be a dedicated striving aimed at achieving justice for all God's children.

The prophet Isaiah told people they missed the point of repentance by their dramatic focus on personal suffering. Our focus should be on what's truly important: those who are poor, oppressed, hungry, and homeless. Sacrificing for others is a counter-cultural indictment of things the way they are.

The ashes of Lent remind us of our call to be servants, and lead us also to acknowledge that, no matter how hard we try, we cannot save ourselves.

In truth, the discipline of keeping Lent is intended to clear away what is extra so that we might focus on what is essential: our relationship with God. Lent invites us to fast because we do not live by bread alone. Lent calls us to give offerings in response to what God gives us in Christ. Lent reminds us to pray, not to get something from God, but because God is God and worthy of our prayers of thanksgiving.

Those who bear the cross know this truth. It is the truth we must not forget even though so much of the world is swept up in glib psychology. Isaiah knew the temptation to ignore the truth, and it is hard to resist that temptation, and difficult to do God's will, and painful to work for justice. But the faithful will follow God, empowered by their baptism, and marked with the cross of Christ.



**LENTEN MIDWEEK  
VIRTUAL DEVOTIONS**  
**Wednesday's during Lent**  
**7:30 pm**

## How to prepare for fasting...

Genuine, Spirit-filled fasting calls for intentional preparation. Such fasting calls for the following as a minimum:

- Examine your motives (Isa. 58:3-7)
- Surrender your life fully to Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior (Rom. 12:1-2)
- Ask God to reveal your sins to you (Ps. 19:12)
- Confess your sins (1 John 1:9)
- Seek forgiveness from those you have offended (Mark 11:25; Luke 17:3-4)
- Make restitution as the Holy Spirit leads (Matt. 5:23-26)
- Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18)
- consult with your physician before beginning a fast of any length.

## What to do while fasting...

- Pray (Dan. 9:3; Acts 14:23);
- Meditate on the Word of God (Ps. 1:1-2; Col. 3:16).
- Meditate on the attributes of God: love, grace, wisdom, compassion, sovereignty (Ps. 48:9, 10; 103:1-13).
- Expect God to bless you and reveal Himself to you (Heb. 11:6).
- Do not underestimate spiritual opposition (Gal. 5:16, 17)
- Refuse to yield to your worldly nature (Rom. 12:1-2).
- Exhibit an attitude of joy (Zech. 8:19; Matt. 6:17, 18).

Save the Date:  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**July 14-18, 2025**  
**9am-noon**  
**Ages 4 and older**

**VBS Volunteers Needed—Youth and Adults**

Volunteers are needed to help, some during VBS week, July 14-18, from 9am-noon. Other tasks can be done before or after VBS, in the evenings, weekends, or when convenient. Help is needed in Crafts, Bible Storytelling, Music, Science, Games, Snacks, and Decorating. For more information or to volunteer, please contact [MBTrivilino@verizon.net](mailto:MBTrivilino@verizon.net)

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**Cokesbury VBS Workshop**  
Virtual – Facebook Live  
Thursday, March 6 at 2:00 pm

This workshop provides an in-depth look at Cokesbury VBS, sampling various sessions such as crafts, science Bible stories, and more. It's a chance to network with other Churches using the same program, as well as learn ideas for VBS decorating. If you would like participate in the March 6<sup>th</sup> workshop, please email [MBTrivilino@verizon.net](mailto:MBTrivilino@verizon.net).

ASAP

**Sunday School Valentine Project Thank-You**

Many thanks to our Sunday School students for making Valentine crafts for our homebound members, and to Debbie Hazlett for coordinating this project.



**Lenten Devotions for All Ages**

We have Lenten Devotional booklets for all age groups:

**Adults:** *"The Way, the Truth, and the Life"*

Excerpts from Henri J.M. Nouwen's inspiring insights are paired with original reflections and prayers to help us experience more fully the path Jesus took for our eternal benefit. These will be available in the Narthex.

**Large Print:** *"A Season of Grace: Lenten Devotions for Seniors."* These daily devotions highlight the message and theme of God's grace. They encourage seniors to share this message of grace with younger generations. These will be sent to our home-bound parishioners and will also be available in the Narthex for those who would like large print devotions.

**Pocket Size:**

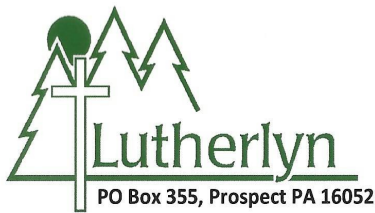
*"Behold the Lamb: Daily Prayers for Lent"* This pocket-size booklet of prayers focus on Jesus as the Lamb who sacrifices himself to take away the sins of the world. It's the perfect size for those on the go and will be available in the Narthex.

*"Life Renewed: Devotions for Lent"* These devotions from Augsburg Fortress include evocative images, Scripture texts, pastoral wisdom, reflections, and prayers to guide us through the Lenten season. Available in the Foyer.

**Children:** *"Stepping Stones through Lent"* Kids get to know Jesus a little better as they journey on the path towards Easter. Each stepping stone along the way includes Scripture about Jesus' life and a brief prayer. These booklets will be distributed during Sunday School.

**Teens/College:** *"Sent into Lent."* Throughout Scripture, God sends faithful servants to work, sharing the good news of salvation. Teens and young adults will learn about those sent servants, while finding encouragement to answer Christ's call to action in their lives. These booklets will be distributed in Catechetics and Youth Group and mailed to college students who provide their mailing address to the Church office.





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## You Are Invited to CampBlast!

**Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> 2025, 11am-4:30pm**

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer.

Campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, zipline, bouldering room, hiking, nature activities, hay rides, games, sports, LEGO room, tours, great food, and MORE!

The best part.... **EVERYTHING IS FREE!**

[www.lutherlyn.com/campblast](http://www.lutherlyn.com/campblast)

## \$100 off for FIRST-TIME campers!

This coupon entitles FIRST-TIME Lutherlyn campers to \$100 off the registration fee for Summer 2025. This applies to Lutherlyn's overnight week-long programs. Young Folks half-week programs get \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers. Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days.

Must be a FIRST-TIME summer camper.

No additional discounts may be combined with this offer.

Enter coupon code: **FIRST**

Register at [WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM](http://WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM).

(Please share this code with friends!)



## Registration Now Underway

Go to:

<https://www.lutherlyn.com/summer>  
for details.

Watch for more information in  
future  
Voice Newsletters

## Lutherlyn's 2025 Summer Camp Schedule

|                                   |                                                                                                    |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>June 15-20       | -Confirmation Camp<br>-Classic (Jr) (SH)<br>-Horse Camp (Jr)                                       | -Life in the Wild (JH)<br>-Adventurers (JH/SH)<br>-Staff-In-Training (SH)         |
| <b>Week 2</b><br>June 22-27       | -Classic (Jr) (JH)<br>-Horse Camp (JH/SH)<br>-Adventurers (JH/SH)<br>-Musical Theater (Jr/JH)      | -Young Folks (Sun-Wed)<br>-Small Fry Days (Th & Fri)<br>-Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri) |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>June 29-July 4   | -Family Camp<br>-On-Site Day Camp (1st-5th grade)<br>-Adventurers Outpost (SH)                     |                                                                                   |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>July 6-11        | -Classic (Jr) (JH) (SH)<br>-Life in the Wild (Jr)<br>-Horse Camp (JH/SH)<br>-Adventurers (JH & SH) | -Young Folks (Sun-Wed)<br>-Small Fry Days (Th & Fri)<br>-Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri) |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>July 13-18       | -Classic (Jr) (JH)<br>-Venture (SH)<br>-Horse Camp (Jr)                                            | -Adventurers (JH & SH)<br>-Arts Camp (Jr/JH)                                      |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>July 20-25       | -Classic (Jr) (JH) (SH)<br>-Horse Camp (Jr)<br>-Rocketry (JH/SH)                                   | -Camp Medley (JH)<br>-Junior Adventurers (Jr)                                     |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>July 27-August 1 | -Classic (Jr) (JH)<br>-Night Owls (JH/SH)<br>-Horse Camp (JH/SH)                                   | -Rocketry (Jr)<br>-Junior Adventurers (Jr)                                        |

"Young Folks" - campers enter grades 2-3, "Jr" - campers enter grades 4-6,  
"JH" - campers enter grades 7-9, "SH" - campers enter grades 10-12 or 2025 graduate

**Registration for 2025 starts on February 1.**  
**Camperships are available for all who need assistance.**  
**Visit [www.lutherlyn.com/summer](http://www.lutherlyn.com/summer) for details.**

**FROM THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE**  
**2025 Lenten Service Project**  
**Gift Card and Bedding Drive for Local Refugees**  
**Ash Wednesday (March 5) - Easter Sunday (April 20)**

*Global Refuge (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service)* is currently facing challenges due to federal funding changes. Support for refugees already lawfully resettled in the United States has been reduced, making necessary charitable giving from churches.

Funding for refugees has been frozen amid adjustments in national priorities. Many individuals are in need of humanitarian support. The dislocation of people is a global issue requiring action at local levels. Refugees rely on help in the forms of housing, food, heat, clothing, English classes, and job placement to name just a few. These goods and services help people achieve self-sufficiency.

During Lent, the Social Ministry committee is requesting the following gifts from church members to help those in need: **(1) Gift Cards from Aldi, Walmart, and UBER (\$25-\$50); and (2) New Bedding (sheets, pillows, and towels).** Please contact Allan Copenheaver with questions: (412-563-6865); [allancope@yahoo.com](mailto:allancope@yahoo.com); or see him in church. Place your gifts on the designated table in the church narthex as you enter the sanctuary.

We are grateful for *Global Refugee (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service)*. We are pleased to do our part as a church. *Global Refuge (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service)* is a nonprofit, serving people seeking safety, support, and a new beginning in America. For 85 years, it has welcomed those seeking refuge, upholding a legacy of compassion and grace. We walk alongside individuals, families, and children as they begin their new lives in the United States. To date, we have served over 750,000 people from around the globe. At Global Refuge, welcoming newcomers isn't just our duty—it's an inherent part of our identity, rooted in our Lutheran heritage.

Thank you for your support by these gifts during the season of Lent.

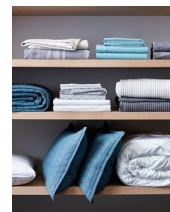
**Gift Cards (\$25-\$50)**

Aldi  
Walmart  
UBER



**Bedding (NEW)**

Sheets  
Pillows  
Towels







# ONLINE GIVING

*Is now available in association with*

 myEoffering

[www.mtlebanonlutheran.org](http://www.mtlebanonlutheran.org)

## WHAT IS myEoffering?

myEoffering is a service we've teamed up with to give you the ability to send your offerings online in the same way that many of you already pay bills and purchase products. We chose to use myEoffering because they are part of a trusted, Christian family-owned company, who have been serving the needs of churches for nearly 100 years. Their product is solid, secure, easy, and convenient.

## WHY SHOULD I USE myEoffering?

Many of you already pay for most of your purchases electronically, whether online or with a credit or debit card. So we have decided to offer this service as a convenience to you - you can stop writing checks or having to remember to bring cash every Sunday. Simply log in to our service and set up your offering. You can set the donations to match your pay periods, and even send your one-time donations to the special offerings we may have from time-to-time. This new service allows you to give any amount, at any time, from home or on the road, with your computer or even your mobile device. Now you can control how and when you give your tithes.

## HOW DOES IT HELP?

Online giving is the future. In the lifetime of our young people, we will see electronic payments overshadow traditional methods of paper payments. In order to position ourselves to continue doing the work of God in the future and to make it as convenient as possible to be a cheerful giver to God's work, we have decided to offer online giving to you. In addition to easier access to giving and more engagement with young stewards, online offering has many benefits for the church. It allows us to more easily track contributions for budgeting. It saves us from manually tracking those contributions every week. It saves us from large fees on check processing and allows us to more accurately forecast expenditures and needs.

## HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Signing up is as simple as going to our church website listed above and look for the green computer mouse icon. That button will take you to the myEoffering page for our church. Simply sign up and begin giving online today! Or scan the code to the right with your mobile device to get started now.



SCAN THIS  
CODE WITH  
YOUR MOBILE  
DEVICE NOW





## Lenten Reflection Garden Returns

Visit the **Lenten Reflection Garden** located in the Foyer Café **starting on Sunday, March 9**. Last year was the first year of this initiative and it was suggested that this Lenten event return this year. Follow Jesus' journey to the cross through photos and artwork of the masters. See how artists have interpreted the *Passion of Christ*. Read inspirational texts. This journey is meant to be reflective possibly even meditative. Fill out a "Reflection Form" and leave it in the bowl. Responses to this Lenten initiative appeared in an issue of the VOICE.

Our hope is that this experience will deepen your Lenten faith journey,  
Melodie Frankovitch and Julia Nelson

### 2025 TACKLE HUNGER Souper Bowl of Caring

Our Congregation participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring event on Super Bowl Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. We collected monetary and food donations to help alleviate hunger in our local area. SUPER THANKS to all who made it a great success for the Dormont Free Pantry and St. Michaels Food Pantry! Youth collected monetary donations after each worship service to total \$682.28! And we collected over 150 cans of soup! Many thanks to Leao and Milo Bucher, Annabelle and Grant Kegel, Edith Koval, Taylor Larson, Maddie Nichols, and Kyle Timmons who helped with collections after worship on Feb. 9. Thanks to the entire Congregation for your support! Special thanks to Dave Hazlett and Mary Beth Trivilino for their help over the years.

Give us today our daily bread.  
Matthew 6:11



**Don't Give Up Something for Lent...  
Give Out Something Special!  
Pick up a LOVE NOTE in the Library!**

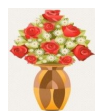


**Share God's LOVE with someone.  
Surprise them!  
Look for books on God's love in the library.  
Make your Lenten journey more  
meaningful by reading.  
Coloring sheets are also available  
to inspire you.**



**FLOWER CHART AND WORSHIP BULLETINS  
STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE 2025 YEAR.**

Please see the signup sheets in the Narthex. Or call the church office for available dates.



## Easter Flowers and Tributes

Easter Flowers are symbols of the Resurrection and the new life we have in Christ, and they are used to adorn our Sanctuary for Easter Day celebrations.

In lieu of, or in addition to flowers, Easter Memorial or Tribute gifts may be made. Gifts of flowers and tributes will be acknowledged in a worship folder insert. **The deadline for contributing flowers, memorials and tributes is Sunday 4/6/25.**

*Please indicate which flowering plants and quantity you wish to contribute.*

# \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily [6 1/2" pot] at \$11.00

# \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth [6 1/2" pot] at \$9.50  
(white, pink, blue-3 plants per pot)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip [6 1/2" pot] at \$9.50  
(assorted colors)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Mums [6 1/2" pot] at \$9.00  
(white, yellow, purple)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Hydrangeas [6 1/2" pot] at \$19.00  
(pink, blue)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Azaleas [6 1/2" pot] at \$19.00  
(white, pink, red-pink)

# \_\_\_\_\_ 10 " pot Large Lilies \$32.50



**In addition to, or in lieu of flowers, I/We wish to present an Easter Memorial and Tribute Gift designated to:**

*Suggested Funds:* Fine Arts, Memorial, Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Endowment, Stir Into Flame, ELCA World Hunger, Lutherlyn, SHIM, Daily Bread Ministries, St. Michael's Food Bank; Global Refuge Services; Roof Fund.

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Fund Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Please print the bulletin acknowledgement you desire:

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## 2025 – Celebrating our Past and Proclaiming God’s Word into the Future

### Establishing a Church: The Early Years

Throughout 2025 we are sharing the history of our congregation. This month’s article is based on the work of Dr. Jean Hunter, a former member and retired History Professor at Duquesne University and archival materials of our church.

#### Key Events and Dates

##### 1924

- The Liberty Tunnel opens as the then-longest vehicular tunnel in the U.S. The South Hills experiences rapid development and huge population growth.

##### 1925

- First church service held in Washington School – 15 worshippers are present.
- Sunday School began with 3 classes.
- First congregational meetings held to organize the church and adopt the name: Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran.
- Property was purchased at Academy Avenue and Washington Road.
- Reverend Harvey E. Harman was installed as the Senior Pastor.
- *In October the Pittsburgh Pirates defeat the Washington Senators in the World Series.*

##### 1926

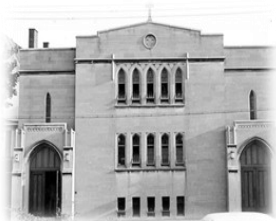
- Pastor Harman died at age 51 on May 2 after a short illness.
- Pastor Elbert E. Oney was installed as pastor on August 8.
- The congregation voted to build a sanctuary “...at a cost of no more than \$45,000”.

##### 1927

- Ground is broken for the first unit on Academy Avenue
- *Charles Lindbergh flew the first solo transatlantic New York-Paris nonstop flight.*
- The Congregation worshipped for the first time in the basement of the new building. Only the education unit was built at this point.
- *The Pirates win the pennant but lose to the Yankees in the World Series.*

##### 1929

- *What happened with our first building, our third Pastor, and the Stock Market? Read all about it in the April edition of The Voice!*



**LEFT:** Our original church home on Washington Road and Academy Avenue. (Photo courtesy of the Mt. Lebanon Historical Society)

**RIGHT:** The first two pastors of Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church. (Photos from Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church archival documents)



HARVEY E. HARMON  
January 1, 1925 — May 2, 1926



ELBERT E. ONEY  
August 1, 1926 — March 31, 1929

## A CALL TO A VIGIL OF PRAYER AROUND-THE-CLOCK DAILY THROUGHOUT HOLY WEEK



*Because prayer is grounded in God; because prayer is answered; because prayer has  
no substitute; because prayer is power;*

*and*

*Paul asked for prayer without ceasing,*

*and*

*Peter asked for a watch of prayer,*

*and never forgetting that*

*Jesus commanded*

*“Watch therefore, and pray always”*



The 156 hours from the close of worship of Passion [Palm] Sunday until the faithful gather for Easter is one of the most important weeks in our congregation's life.

Pastor Doug is participating and invites you to join with your congregational family members in the Holy Week Vigil of Prayer. Around-the-clock, prayers of confession, adoration, thanksgiving, intercession and petition will be brought before our Heavenly Father's throne of grace.

Each prayer participant will select one or more hours in the Holy Week schedule during which they will maintain the Vigil. A sign-up poster board is located in the Narthex for those attending sanctuary worship. Those who worship virtually and all others who wish to join in the vigil must call the church office to reserve vigil times (412-563-0300).

A guidebook listing congregational members, missionaries, church leaders, governmental officials, the afflicted and homebound, as well as many others in need of prayer, will be provided to all participants. In the guidebook you will find suggestions for opening and closing your hour of prayer. Common prayers in the booklet, hymnal, and other prayerbooks may assist you. *You may find the hour to pass very quickly! God will bless your service.*

All participants will pray at home or in the sanctuary during office hours. Participation of homebound and out-of-town members is encouraged.

God has appointed prayer for conferring blessings we all need, whether spiritual or temporal, and has ordained prayer as a joyous occasion of divine-human fellowship.

Please join fellow members in these great hours of prayer. Scripture exhorts us to “pray without ceasing.” The Holy Week vigil is a way we participate in the unceasing prayers of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church.







## myEoffering

I would like you to consider participating in our online giving designed to simplify weekly giving in our congregation.

Electronic giving will enable every household or individual to make their church offering using electronic funds transfer or credit card. You may already be using online bill pay for your mortgage, car payment, or insurance premium through an automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account. Many of you also have used your credit cards to purchase goods online through Amazon, eBay, or a number of other sites.

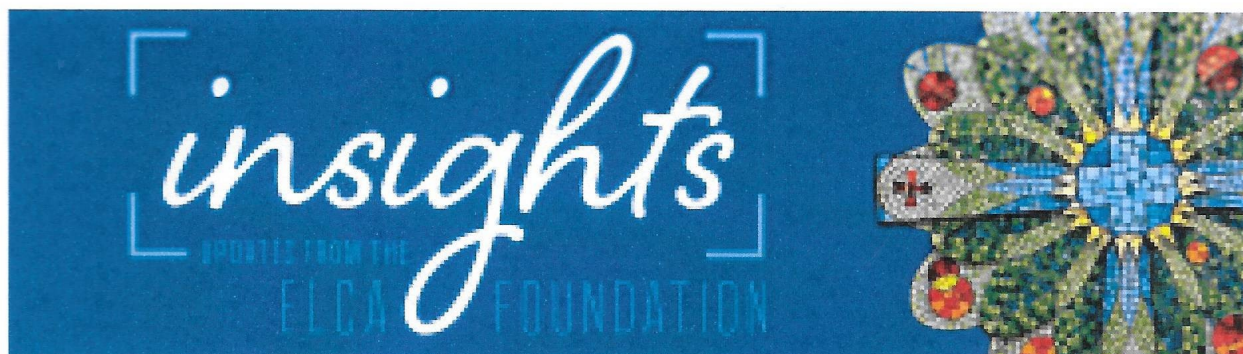
We have teamed up with myEoffering to enable you to use the same process to give your offering electronically from your bank account, credit or debit cards.

There is no cost to you for this new giving option. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue uninterrupted.

You can participate in the electronic giving program immediately. Just visit our church website and look for the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you for considering this new giving opportunity.





A new year brings new possibilities, and I'm excited for what's ahead, both for you and for the ELCA Foundation. As we continue to grow and expand our ability to serve ELCA members and ministries, we're here to help you make the most of your generosity.

With tax season here, now is a great time to explore smart, tax-advantaged ways to support the ministries you love. In this newsletter, you'll find creative giving strategies that can maximize your impact while offering meaningful financial benefits.

Finally, as we navigate a changing landscape — including a new U.S. president and evolving regulations — you don't have to figure it out alone. I'm here to help! Let's talk about how you can align your generosity with your financial goals. Reach out anytime — I'd love to connect.

**Ryan A. Ebner**  
[ryan.ebner@elca.org](mailto:ryan.ebner@elca.org)  
(814) 823-3285



## TAX-SAVVY WAYS TO SUPPORT MINISTRY

Gifts of non-cash assets and other tax-advantaged giving strategies can maximize your impact on the ELCA ministries you care about while offering significant financial benefits. Here are some options to discuss with your CPA or other allied professionals in the coming weeks:

- **Appreciated Securities**: Donating appreciated securities, especially with markets at an all-time high, can help you avoid capital gains taxes, provide an income tax deduction, and help with rebalancing your investment portfolio – advantages that, in combination, a cash donation cannot offer. Use our [calculator](#) to explore your potential savings.
- **Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)**: If you're 70½ or older, you can give directly from your traditional IRA to charity, reducing your taxable income while supporting ministry. A QCD gift may also help reduce your Medicare premiums.
- **Donor Advised Funds (DAFs)** : Simplify your giving by contributing to a DAF. You'll receive an immediate tax deduction while supporting multiple organizations over time. A DAF is also an excellent way to involve family members in your philanthropy and express shared values.
- **Real Estate**: Donating property can be a highly impactful way to give, often eliminating capital gains taxes and providing a substantial charitable deduction.
- **Beneficiary Designations**: Naming an ELCA ministry as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement plan is an easy way to leave a lasting legacy.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs)**: These trusts allow you to receive income during your lifetime while leaving the remainder to the ministries you love.

Align your financial goals with your giving goals while enjoying powerful tax advantages. Your regional gift planner is ready to help you maximize your generosity and create a lasting impact.





**REMINDER TO CHURCH MEMBERS WITH  
THRIVENT ACCOUNTS:**

The March 31 deadline is approaching to direct your  
“Choice Dollars” to our Church. Thank you.

**Thrivent Choice®**

# Strengthening communities. Changing lives.

By directing Choice Dollars® through the Thrivent Choice program, eligible Thrivent clients with membership can influence where Thrivent distributes some of its outreach funding each year.

**Making a measurable difference**

Since its inception in 2010, Thrivent has provided more than \$458 million in charitable outreach funds through Thrivent Choice, to help support the initiatives of churches, educational institutions and other nonprofit organizations, including:

**Mount Lebanon United Lutheran Church**

Please consider directing Choice Dollars to us. We will use Thrivent Choice funding to:

*Support the General Fund  
Support the Stir into Flame Fund  
Support our Christian Education & Youth Ministries*

**Help make a difference**

For more information about the Thrivent Choice program and Choice Dollars:

- Visit [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice).
- Call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” when prompted.
- Contact your Thrivent financial professional.

The Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program engages Thrivent clients with membership and Thrivent Member Networks in providing grants that support charitable activities, furthering Thrivent's mission and its purposes under state law. All grant decisions, including grant recipients and amounts, are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent. Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

Thrivent is the marketing name for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Insurance products issued by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Not available in all states. Securities and investment advisory services offered through Thrivent Investment Management Inc., a registered investment adviser, member FINRA and SIPC, and a subsidiary of Thrivent. Licensed agent/producer of Thrivent. Registered representative of Thrivent Investment Management Inc. Advisory services available through investment adviser representatives only. [thrivent.com/disclosures](http://thrivent.com/disclosures).



**About Thrivent**

Thrivent is membership-owned fraternal organization, as well as a holistic financial services organization, providing financial advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs to help people make the most of all they've been given.

Thrivent Choice is one of many membership programs available to help clients make a meaningful impact in their communities. To learn more, visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) today.



# MARCH 2025

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                 | Mon                                            | Tue                                                  | Wed                                                                                                       | Thu                                                                  | Fri       | Sat                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| <b>2 Transfiguration of Our Lord</b><br>8:30 & 10:00 Worship<br>8:30 Live Virtual Worship<br>9:30 Coffee Fellowship<br>10:00 Sunday School                          | <b>3</b><br>9:00-2:30 ESL<br>7:00 Bible Study  | <b>4</b><br>3:30 Catechetics 1                       | <b>5 Ash Wednesday</b><br>11:00 & 7:30 Worship                                                            | <b>6</b><br>10:00 Bible Study<br>2:00 pm VBS Online Virtual Workshop |           | <b>1</b>                           |
| <b>9 First Sunday in Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00 Worship<br>8:30 Live Virtual Worship<br>9:30 Coffee Fellowship<br>10:00 Sunday School                                 | <b>10</b><br>9:00-2:30 ESL<br>7:00 Bible Study | <b>11</b><br>1:00 Global Links<br>3:30 Catechetics 1 | <b>12</b><br>3:30 Catechetics 2<br>6:00 Bell Choir<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:30 Virtual Lenten Midweek Devotions | <b>13</b><br>10:00 Bible Study                                       | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>                          |
| <b>16 Second Sunday in Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00 Live Worship<br>8:30 Live Virtual Worship<br>9:30 Coffee Fellowship<br>10:00 Sunday School<br>2:00 Daily Bread Meal | <b>17</b><br>9:00-2:30 ESL<br>7:00 Bible Study | <b>18</b><br>3:30 Catechetics 1                      | <b>19</b><br>3:30 Catechetics 2<br>6:00 Bell Choir<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:30 Virtual Lenten Midweek Devotions | <b>20</b><br>10:00 Bible Study                                       | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>10:00 am Global Links |
| <b>23 Third Sunday in Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00 Worship<br>8:30 Live Virtual Worship<br>9:30 Coffee Fellowship<br>10:00 Sunday School<br>11:15 Council Meeting       | <b>24</b><br>9:00-2:30 ESL<br>7:00 Bible Study | <b>25</b><br>3:30 Catechetics 1                      | <b>26</b><br>3:30 Catechetics 2<br>6:00 Bell Choir<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:30 Virtual Lenten Midweek Devotions | <b>27</b><br>10:00 Bible Study                                       | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                          |
| <b>30 Fourth Sunday in Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00 Worship<br>8:30 Live Virtual Worship<br>9:30 Coffee Fellowship<br>10:00 Sunday School                               | <b>31</b><br>9:00-2:30 ESL<br>7:00 Bible Study |                                                      |                                                                                                           |                                                                      |           |                                    |

# Looking Ahead...

## Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday



April 13

**Festive Sanctuary Worship 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM**

**Virtual Worship Live Stream on Facebook: 8:30 AM**

Palm Sunday is celebrated by the blessing and distribution of palm branches, representing the palm branches that the crowd scattered before Christ as he rode into Jerusalem

## The Great and Holy Week

**Holy Thursday— Festive Sanctuary Worship & Live stream on Face book**

**April 17 at 7:30 pm**



Holy Thursday marks the institution of the Lord's Supper and a call to heed Jesus' two commandments: "*Love one another as I have loved you;*" and "*Do this in remembrance of me.*" The Altar will be stripped to signify Jesus' betrayal, as he was stripped of glory and placed into the hands of his captors.

**Good Friday-Festive Sanctuary Worship & Live stream on Facebook**

**April 18 at 7:30 pm**

Our Tenebrae Liturgy is an adaptation of the ancient office of light dimming used to impress upon the hearts and minds of believers the awful consequences of sin and magnitude of our Savior's sacrifice. The liturgy includes hymns [sung without accompaniment]; readings which trace the experience of our Lord from His trial before Pilate to his crucifixion, death and burial; and prayers. Worshipers sense the grueling ordeal of Jesus' passion.



## Easter Sunday Sunday, April 20

**Festive Sanctuary Worship 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM**

**Virtual Worship Live Stream on Facebook: 8:30 AM**





## ASH WEDNESDAY

Generous God, provide bread for people who are hungry, shelter for people who are homeless and protection for people who are vulnerable. Listen to the cries of all who are abused or imprisoned or who suffer due to pain, anxiety or illness. **Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

5 WEB

6 THU

Today would be a good day to set a goal for your giving to ELCA World Hunger during Lent. Write it down and refer back to it throughout the season.

7 FRI

"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ... For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him" (Romans 10:8-12).

8 SAT

"Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way; your hope burns through the terrors, your love sustains the day. We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound; together we are seeking the road where faith is found" ("Bless Now, O God, the Journey," ELW 326).

## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Read and reflect on Luke 4:1-13.

**Question for reflection:** When have you and your community been lost in the wilderness?

9 SUN

10 MON

Begin ELCA World Hunger's Lent study guide by reading the Week 1 materials.

11 TUE

Transform us by your greatness, O God. Send us down the mountain to share joy with all people. Make us agents of change, confident that your hope will vanquish despair and your goodness will conquer evil. **Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

12 WEB

Around the world, up to 783 million people are hungry, and each of them has a story to tell. **You can make a significant impact on someone's life with a gift of \$2 a day.** Throughout the season, consider setting aside that amount to donate to ELCA World Hunger.

13 THU

"When we are tested and wrestle alone, famished for bread when the world offers stone, nourish us, God, by your word and your way, food that sustains us by night and by day" ("When We Are Tested," ACS 922).

"You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.'" (Psalm 91:1-2).

14 FRI

15 SAT

Yun lives with her husband and three daughters in Cambodia. When her husband got sick and was unable to work, she wasn't sure how she would provide for her family. With support from your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, she received chickens and training on how to raise them. The income from the chickens has helped Yun build a more secure future, and she has also begun sharing her new knowledge with her neighbors. "I am committed to using my skills and knowledge to help others," she says, "and I hope to inspire other women to get involved in our communities."



16 SUN

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**Read and reflect on Luke 13:31-35.**  
**Question for reflection:** What are the "foxes" in your community that obscure the gospel from view and help maintain unjust and inequitable systems?

17 MON

Read the Week 2 materials in ELCA World Hunger's Lent study guide.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ. **Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

18 TUE

19 WEB

Lack of access to safe water is one of the biggest challenges to overcoming poverty. With the gift of a share of a safe-water project (\$250), you can give a community the powerful opportunity to create change. As many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water with a simple water well, spring box or other water point. Visit [goodgifts.elca.org](http://goodgifts.elca.org) for this gift and many more.



20 THU

"Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! Come, my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, Lord, do I seek" (Psalm 27:7-8).

21 FRI

Your generosity has helped provide safe drinking water to over 100 households in a village in Sierra Leone. Community members used to fetch water from a local stream that was contaminated with household waste, causing serious health issues. Thanks to support from donors such as you, a well has been constructed to provide clean water for everyone in the village.



## WORLD WATER DAY

This World Water Day, set aside time to pray for neighbors near and far facing water scarcity and water injustice, and give thanks for the local leaders whose tireless efforts inspire us with hope. Read more about World Water Day on the ELCA World Hunger blog.

22 SAT



23 SUN

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**Read and reflect on Luke 13:1-9.**  
**Question for reflection:** What do you need to "cut down" in your life to help you work more effectively on behalf of others?

24 MON

Read the Week 3 materials in ELCA World Hunger's Lent study guide.

25 TUE

"Hear, everyone who thirsts: come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! ... Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food" (Isaiah 55:1-2).

26 WEB

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives. **Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

27 THU

A woman might have the dream and skills to start her own small business, but with little savings or access to credit, getting started can be a challenge. **A gift of \$125 can fund a microloan,** which can be just what a woman needs to start her business, creating a steady source of income and helping her family overcome poverty.

28 FRI

"Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love, teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove" ("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," ELW 807).

29 SAT

Like many rural communities, a significant number of residents of Floyd County in Virginia live more than 10 miles away from the closest supermarket. Your generosity helps these people get the food they need. Plenty! — an ELCA World Hunger grant partner — provides pantry services daily to about 10% of residents in Floyd County. Last year about 2,000 of its neighbors were served through a food



30 SUN

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**Read and reflect on Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.**  
**Question for reflection:** When have you been afraid to walk alongside a prodigal son? How has that caused you to hesitate to support your neighbors in need?

31 MON

Read the Week 4 materials in ELCA World Hunger's Lent study guide.



## Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church

975 Washington Road

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Church Telephone: [412] 563-0300

email: mtleboluth@aol.com

www.mtlebanonlutheran.org

www.facebook.com/MtLebanonlutheran



**The Reverend Elizabeth A. Eaton**

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**The Reverend Kurt Kusserow**

Bishop

Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

**The Reverend Douglas M. Heagy**

Senior Pastor

**Dr. Christopher Keenan, DMA**

Director of Music and Organist

**Mr. Larry Allen**

Director of Music and Organist Emeritus

**Mrs. Kris Malia**

## The Transfiguration of Our Lord

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday, March 2, 2025

[Last Sunday after Epiphany]



A solemn day of the Church Year

## Ash Wednesday

11:00 AM & 7:30 PM

March 5, 2025



Sealing of the alleluia, confession, imposition of ashes  
and a restrained celebration of the Lord's Supper  
to begin our Lenten journey of turning away from sin  
to be faithful to the Gospel in Jesus Christ.

*God said to Adam, remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return.*