

the Voice parish newsletter

Thanks be to God for our 100th Year!

For by grace you have been saved... —Ephesians 2:8

David Cassidy died in November of 2017. When Bobby Sherman died last month, the other pillar of teenybopper music from my childhood fell.

Two songs were my favorites, Bobby Sherman's, *Hey, Mr. Sun*, and David Cassidy's, *I'll Meet You Halfway*. They express the human longing for friendship, intimacy, love. Finding relationships is difficult in postmodern life. In case you've forgotten the songs' lyrics, or don't know them, here's some of them...

*I've been running all my life now
in search of something I can't find;
and I've been chasing rainbows;
they're just visions in my mind.
There's a lot of lonely people
just like me who need someone.
Everybody needs a friend to walk
with and talk with sometimes, Mr. Sun.*
--Hey, Mr. Sun, 1970

*I'll meet you halfway;
that's better than no way,
there must be some way
to get us together.
And if there's some way,
I know that someday,
we just might work it out
forever.*
--I'll Meet You Halfway, 1971

There are two relationships that make for a meaningful life. The first is our relationship with God. The second are those we have with other people, including romance. Romance is often foremost in our minds, but a relationship with God is most important. Think of what happens when a parent-child relationship is broken. What's unresolved is carried painfully through life. Separation from God is akin to separation from parents. Everyone suffers.

Taking a cue from the teenybopper songs above, the message of our faith is that God does not *meet us halfway*. God comes *the whole way, completely* in Christ to create and sustain the loving relationship we long to have for all eternity. God knows *there's a lot of lonely people who need someone* and so becomes the one we can *walk with and talk with* daily, doing all that is necessary for life and salvation, saving us by grace. Let us take time this summer to walk and talk with Jesus. We will be blessed; we will find grace and love.

In Christ,

Pastor Doug Heagy



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



July, 2025

Anniversary Banquet Celebrates a Century of Blessings

Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Members and Friends Honor our First One Hundred Years

To commemorate 100 years of history, perseverance, and blessings, last month our church held a celebration banquet at the St. Clair Country Club.

The evening began with appetizers as members and guests exchanged greetings and stories of their years at Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran. We were honored to have Bishop Kurt Kusserow and his father Pastor Ralph Kusserow join the celebration. The assembled then took their seats in the ballroom and were welcomed by Council President Jody Lutz. After Jody shared a brief history of the region leading up to the formation of our congregation, Pastor Doug Heagy acknowledged our gathering on Juneteenth and offered the blessing. The delicious dinner included soup, salad, a variety of main courses, and dessert.



The formal program began with 100th Year Anniversary Committee Chair Alan Trivilino thanking those planned the evening's event. Our dear friend Bishop Kusserow addressed the audience with praise for the congregation's continued support of the work of the Lord. He also gave a special thanks to Pastor Doug for his leadership whenever asked to assist the Synod.



Pastor Doug read letters for congratulations received by Bishop-elect Melissa Stoller and retired Bishop Donald McCoid. All living pastors from our congregation were invited to the banquet, although they were unable to attend due to distance, health or other reasons. Most of the retired pastors sent greetings and those letters from Pastors John A. Swanson, Donald Green, and Gary Erdos were read. Pastor Heagy then invited Pastor Ralph Kusserow and Pastor Elizabeth Rheinfrank forward to address the audience.



Former staff members were invited as guests of the congregation. Marsha Weis and Don Megahan were in attendance and acknowledged. Myrna Weiss was unable to attend, and her heartfelt card was read. Pastor Heagy then thanked current staff and volunteers whose time and talents help make Mt. Lebanon Lutheran a vibrant church.

Deby Elias shared memories of her father, Pastor Charles A. Hackenberg, who led the Mt. Lebanon United flock from 1957 through 1971. All were moved by her words.

Anniversary Banquet Celebrates a Century of Blessings, *continued*

The final presentation of the evening was a brief video of that was produced by Ryan Solomon. Of special note is rare footage of confirmations, the steeple raising, and cornerstone laying (1955 – 1958). We are very fortunate that Virginia Fink Lively, now of Central Pennsylvania, shared her family's VHS (of super 8 film) with us. Ginny is worshiping with us via livestream (in addition to in-person at her home church) and reached out to the church offering this moving glimpse into our history. Our thanks to Ginny!



Following Pastor Heagy's benediction, the memorable evening concluded. Our thanks to Eric and Karen Pfeil who sponsored us with the St. Clair Country Club. Also, Karen Pfeil led the event with support from Maggie Frazier, Sandy Sarnicke, and Alan Trivilino.

Photographs by Amy Fisher, Visual Historian, Pawsburgh Photography.

100th Year Anniversary Celebration Events Save the Dates!

100th Year Anniversary "Super Celebration" on our Campus



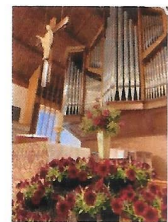
Rally Day **September 7, 2025**
101st Sunday School Year begins,
Social Ministries Project for all,
Special Activities, Food, and Surprises
Additional information will be announced in August.



A Centennial Concert of Vocal & Instrumental Music Celebrating 100 years of Faith & Outreach in Mt. Lebanon, the Region, and Beyond



Sunday **September 28, 2025** – 4:30 pm
In our Sanctuary – With Special Guests
Details will be announced after July 4th.



Anniversary Celebratory Liturgy

Reformation **Sunday October 26th.**
Additional Information to be Announced.

Share Your Story with the Next Generations

We want to share oral and written stories with the congregation of today and those who will worship at our church in the future. The purpose is to strengthen relationships, reaffirm each other's faith, and help future generations of worshippers to understand what makes our congregation so special.

We are inviting the congregation to tell "their story" of what our congregational family means to you and why you worship here.

You can help encourage full participation by providing examples from your faith journey here at Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran. Here's one outline that you could use. (Some or all of the questions)

- Hello, my name is _____
- I joined this congregation in ____ Year ____
- Were you baptized, confirmed, married, etc. here? How about family members?
- How you came to Mt. Lebanon Lutheran: Did your family worship here? Did you move within the region to the South Hills? Did you move here from out of state?
- My earliest memory is _____
- A meaningful experience with our church was when _____
- Mt. Lebanon Lutheran is special to me because _____
- 50 or 100 years from now, I want the members of Mt. Lebanon Lutheran to know that _____.

Please consider one (or two) of the following ways to share your story:

- Written - send us your story in writing for inclusion in a document that will be added to the congregation's archives.
- You can reply to this email or you can write or key it on a page and drop it off at the church office.
- Oral - tell us your story if you don't want to write it down.
- We can record your story at a time and place that's convenient for you.
- You can share your story one Sunday morning prior to worship. (You can choose if you want to do that during the livestream or "off camera".)

Join us in creating this special history for future generations. Please contact the church office to participate or if you have any questions.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Faithfulness: The Stewardship Standard

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.” --1 Corinthians 4:2

What is the standard to which a steward is held? Ask the average person, and they might talk about percentages, tithes, and commitments. Too often, the default mode of measuring stewards is by how much and how frequently they give. This is not helpful. Measuring activity without any connection to baptism is a recipe for disaster. It can either breed a sense of superiority and self-righteousness or create despair. Neither outcome is helpful.

This is not to say that stewardship should be regarded as "no big deal." St. Paul set a standard of accountability for the steward: faithfulness. This removes any sense of superiority and dispels despair. When stewards truly manage what the Lord has entrusted to them, their focus is not on how much or how frequently they give, but faithfulness.

This standard reflects the stewardship portrayed in the Gospels where Jesus entrusts varying amounts. The commended stewards were recognized for their faithfulness, not the amounts they managed. Conversely, the condemned stewards were not castigated for their lack of performance but for their lack of faithfulness.

What does this mean for us in the pews? The Lord has entrusted us with various things. Luther captures them in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer. Food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals and all possessions are the Lord's, entrusted to us for the Lord's purpose. This trust given to us to manage what is God's brings an active realization of thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving, living gratefully, is our stewardship. It can be distilled into two questions that all stewards regularly needs to answer: 1. How has God blessed me? 2. How is He calling me to respond? The first question is simple to answer. The second question is more challenging to measure; it is not about percentages and charts. Instead, it is about a life of thanksgiving that flows from the mercies of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

The standard, then, is faithfulness. Faithfulness flows from eyes focused on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. It does not come from our efforts but through the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It begins in worship but extends into the world — to the workplace, classroom, to all we do. The mercy of God, freely given in Jesus, leads us to faithfulness that reveals to others the same mercy we have received in Jesus.

This faithfulness cannot be measured by statistics. It is simply allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us for the glory of God and the benefit of our neighbor. Weekly. Daily. Faithfully.



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE: JULY, 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 email the church at mtleboluth@aol.com

July 6-Crucifer

8:30 TBD

10:00 Madalena Provins

July 13-Crucifer

8:30 Dylan Solomon

10:00 Annaleigh Dwulit

July 20- Crucifer

8:30 Ewan Keplar

10:00 Delaney Graybill

July 27-Crucifer

8:30 Paige Gentzel

10:00 Xavier Graybill

"SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP"

All are invited for a time of fellowship between worship liturgies. Enjoy food, beverage, and conversing with each other in the Foyer.

Hope to see you there.

The Evangelism Committee is looking for volunteers to host on a Sunday. Hosting involves preparing (and cleaning up) beverages and healthy and/or sweet treats. Friendly experienced hosts can assist first timers. Please sign up on the chart in the Foyer or contact the Church Office. Thank you.



Mt. Lebanon Farmers' Market

[sponsored by the Lions' Club]
Wednesdays 4:00—7:00 PM
in our parking lot.



Summer Camp continues this summer at Camp Lutherlyn!

Check out all the programs, schedules, events & registration info at <https://www.lutherlyn.com/>



Third Quarter Editions of Christ in Our Home, our congregational family's daily devotional, are available in the Narthex. You are invited to take a copy for personal use and encouraged to use it daily in your prayer life.



The worship links to Facebook & You Tube
can be found on our website:
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

July 6 Time after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13 Time after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 20 Time after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 27 Time after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 11:1-13

VBS
July 14-18, 2025
9:00 am—noon

Church Members: Spread the Word!

Please invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to register their children for our Vacation Bible School by July 7. Feel free to take a few flyers from the Narthex to use as your invitations.

Register:

<https://mtlebanonlutheranchurch.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



WE REMEMBER in our prayers:

Oh Christ, bless and uphold all who are in pain or sickness this day.

Teach us how to be alongside them and to share in their distress deeply in our prayers. Make us open to them and give us courage to suffer with them, that in so doing, we share with you the suffering of the world. Especially bring healing into the lives of:

Craig Elias; Andy Kelemen; Linda Larkin; Bill Young;
Shari Ehrlich; Dave Young; Robert Hordage;

Please call the church office with any changes to the prayer list. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month, unless a request has been made to add, delete, or keep the names as listed. All you need do is call the church office and let us know.

Congratulations 2025 Graduates!

Jack Jones graduated from Robert Morris University with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering.

We will continue to publish graduate news in the July and August newsletter.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for the August issue of the August *Voice* are to be submitted by **Sunday, July 13th**. Articles may be left in the church or emailed to Mtleboluth@aol.com

Please remember while shopping during these hot summer days, 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. When making monetary donations, please make your check payable to *Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church* and designate your donation for St. Michael's & Dormont Food Pantry [Your donation will be recorded and then forwarded.] or to the ELCA World Hunger ministries using a *designated gift envelope* in your pew. Items may be brought any Sunday. Thank you.

Your Place. Your Passion.



Valparaiso University consistently receives national recognition
as one of the best in the Midwest.

5 UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES:

ARTS & SCIENCES • BUSINESS • ENGINEERING • NURSING & HEALTH PROFESSIONS
• CHRIST COLLEGE — THE HONORS COLLEGE

EXPERIENCE LIFE AT VALPO

70+

MAJORS

100+

STUDENT
ORGANIZATIONS

21

DIVISION I
ATHLETICS PROGRAMS

100+

ARTS PERFORMANCES
ANNUALLY

50+

STUDY ABROAD
PROGRAMS

VALPARAISO  **UNIVERSITY**

valpo.edu

Valparaiso University is an independent **Lutheran** institution in Valparaiso, Indiana, an hour's drive southeast of Chicago. Founded in 1859, Valparaiso offers a thorough grounding in the liberal arts as well as professional training and graduate study. Contact Pastor Heagy for more information.

Is There A Summer Season?

To speak of the Sundays after Pentecost as “the summer season” is, admittedly, an artificial construction. The Church Year does not have a “summer” season, yet many of the lectionary images, festivals and liturgical texts of summer contain images that correspond with these months as they are experienced in the Northern Hemisphere.

And as the summer progresses, the harvests take many forms. By paying attention to the natural growth cycle, we are attached to the changes of nature and can also anticipate the life of the liturgical cycle.

And while “paying attention” is part of reading the signs of the times, it may appear merely mechanical. But much of this year’s lectionary connects what is happening in nature with what is happening [or supposed to be happening] in our hearts.

As the Torah calls for the sacrifice of the first fruits, why don’t we acknowledge the various harvests [snow peas, berries, corn, squash, watermelon] that trace across the summer? Even the most urban of our parishes are not far removed from agriculture, even if the agriculture is micro-farming in window boxes.

In short, the environment of this season is ourselves and our watching the change of life in our midst. Our festal cycle has a list of heroes and heroines during the summer—evangelists Mark and Matthew and apostles Philip and James, Peter and Paul, and Bartholomew. We remember the early followers: Barnabas and Mary Magdalene, as well as the birth of John the Baptist and Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

While the experience of the first half of the church’s year of grace has been intensely an experience of becoming, the “green season” after Pentecost [summer] [ordinary time] is a season to be aware of just who we have become.

And in remembering who we have become and how we have come to gather in God’s House and Who has guided us, we are to remember how we should live as God’s children.



Daily Bread Outreach Meal

July 20



The meal with the poor in July will be a cookout including grilled hamburgers, brats, chips, watermelon & beverage. Monetary donations are being accepted. Volunteers will be needed to serve the meal. Please see sign up sheet in the Narthex.. Thank you for your support.

GLOBAL LINKS
Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.

Tuesday, July 8

1-3:00 pm

**Volunteers Needed To Help Pack Surplus
Medical Supply for those in need.**

Sign-up sheets have been placed in the narthex or if you are interested in volunteering. Please contact Allan Copenheaver or the Church office with any questions.

Bible Verses about Gardening

Isaiah 35:1-2

Isaiah 28:23-29

Genesis 2:8, 15

Matthew 6:28-30

Luke 21:29-32

Mark 13:28-30

Psalms 104:14-16

Ezekiel 4:9

Ezekiel 47:19

Exodus 30:34

Isaiah 38:21

Luke 13:18





ONLINE GIVING

Is now available in association with



myEoffering

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



Vacation Bible School - July 14-18, 2025

9am-12pm



VBS Volunteers Needed in Specific Roles:

During VBS week, July 15-19, we need:

Bible Storyteller (*Monday, Tuesday & Friday*)

Setup/Take-down Traffic Barriers (*before and after VBS each morning*)

Prior to VBS week we need:

Church members: Please invite your friends, neighbors & relatives to register their children for VBS by July 7.

Distribute VBS promo flyers at Farmers Market – July 2 & 9, and July 4 on our front lawn-during fireworks.

Help with decorating & setup

Monday, July 7 – 6 pm - 8 pm

Tuesday, July 8 – 10 am - 1 pm

Wednesday, July 9 – 6 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, July 12 – 10 am - 2 pm

Sunday, July 13 – 11 am - 1 pm (or later if necessary)

Contact Julia Nelson: jmnelson25@comcast.net

Last minute setup tasks on July 13, following the late Worship Liturgy.

After VBS week:

Help breakdown set & cleanup, flexible time shifts—*let us know your available dates.*

Note: Teens can earn up to 15 hours of Community Service! Plus, it's a lot of fun!

To volunteer: contact MBTrivilino@verizon.net or call the church office at 412-563-0300.

VBS Road Trip Supplies Needed

VBS Items to Borrow: Need by July 6

Old car tires

Soccer Ball

VBS Decorating Items to Donate: Need by July 6

Large yellow duct tape

White duct tape

Large cardboard, at least 36" in both directions

Any paint (acrylic or tempera)

Large brushes (1-3 inches)

Old maps

Yellow caution signs (i.e., for "slippery floor", "kids playing", etc.

VBS CRAFT items to donate: Need by July 6

Crayola fabric markers for kids

Legos: need some wheels, steering wheels, auto parts

Folding travel maps (*new or like-new*)

VBS SCIENCE items to donate: Need by July 6

Bubble Wrap

Empty Paper Towel Tubes

Dry Ice

5 Tennis Balls

3-oz paper cups

Round Balloons, regular shape, pack of 12

1 bottle of Glycerin

1 bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide

Please place items in the CRAFT DONATIONS box in the Narthex. Larger items can be brought to the Middle Grades Classroom (across from Choir Room). Thank you!

Questions regarding Craft donations: Contact Deb at drhazlett@verizon.net

VBS Decorating Dates – Volunteers Needed

Join the fun in helping to decorate for Road Trip VBS! No experience needed. Bring a friend!

Monday, July 7 – 6 pm - 8 pm

Tuesday, July 8 – 10 am - 1 pm

Wednesday, July 9 – 6 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, July 12 – 10 am - 2 pm

Sunday, July 13 – 11 am - 1 pm (or later if necessary)

Please contact Decorating Leader Julia Nelson if you would like to help:
Text (814) 574-5689

VBS Bible Story Teller Needed

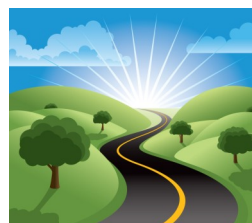
Monday, Tuesday & Friday mornings
July 14, 15 & 18.

Contact MBTrivilino@verizon.net to apply.

Church Members: Spread the Word! Please invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to register their children for our Vacation Bible School by July 7. Feel free to take a few flyers from the Narthex to use as your invitations.

Register:

<https://mtlebanonlutheranchurch.mycokesburyvbs.com/>





Vacation Bible School

Ages: 4 and older

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church

Monday - Friday, 9:00 - noon

July 14-18, 2025

Suggested donation: \$10.00/child or \$20/family*

REGISTRATION

Family Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone: _____

Persons authorized to pick up children: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

My children have my permission to attend & participate in MLULC VBS per Terms on page 2

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

I would like to help with VBS (adults & teens age 12 & up) _____

Please also sign the back side of this page.

For registration purposes: Age Group/ Crew: _____ Amount: _____

**Scholarships available if needed.*

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School

July 14-18, 2025

Registration Form, *Continued from page 1*

Participation Agreement:

	YES	NO
My children have my permission to attend VBS at MLULC	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
VBS staff are permitted to provide First Aid to my kids if needed	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
My kids have my permission to be photographed for the church slide show & bulletin board:	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
I grant permission to take photos/videos of my children and to use and to use these images in church newsletter and website. I understand that photos and videos will not be accompanied by captions or tags that include names or other identifying information.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Please note: We will follow health and safety guidelines and practices of our Church Council.

Please read and sign below:

Parents/guardians agree not to send their children to VBS if the children are sick or have fever.

LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church allowing child(ren) listed on this 2-page form to participate in Vacation Bible School activities, I, the undersigned, do hereby release, forever discharge, and agree to hold harmless Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church, its directors, employees, volunteers, and agents from any and all liability, claims or demands for accidental personal injury, sickness or death, as well as property damage and expenses, of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the undersigned and the above child(ren) while involved in Vacation Bible School. Furthermore, on behalf of my minor child(ren), I hereby assume all risk of accidental personal injury, sickness, death, damage, and expense as a result of participation in activities involved therein. As well as releasing the child(ren), if necessary, for transportation to and from the Vacation Bible School location, I, the undersigned, do hereby release, forever discharge, and agree to hold harmless Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church, its directors, employees, volunteers, and agents from any and all liability, claims or demands for accidental personal injury in the process of transportation.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Food Drive for Dormont Free Pantry

Our VBS and all Congregation Mission Project is to collect much needed food items for the Dormont Free Pantry. Please bring donations to the Narthex or Giving Market through July 20.

Suggestions include kid-friendly snacks, but any nonperishable food items are appreciated. No Glass, please! Thank you for your donations.

- Juice boxes/Capri
- Crackers
- Pretzels
- Snack bars
- Breakfast bars/Pop Tarts
- Cereal
- Fruit cups//Pouches
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Small bags of chips
- Macaroni and Cheese



Sunday School Classes resume on Rally day, September 7, 2025

Look for the Sunday School registration form in the August *Voice Newsletter*.

Sunday School Teachers & Substitutes Needed

We are recruiting additional Sunday School Teachers and Substitutes for the fall. Specific needs are for Teachers in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class and for substitutes in the Elementary class. Adults and teens age 16 and older are eligible to teach.

We have a team-teaching system in which volunteers teach every other week or every 3 weeks, depending on their availability. The curriculum is very easy to use, and the children are a lot of fun! For more information or to volunteer, please call the Church office or contact Mary Beth at

MBTrivilino@verizon.net

“A Century of Community” Tours were a Success

Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Shines During Architectural Tour and Open House

Three Mt. Lebanon churches celebrating 100th year anniversaries invited the community to Open Houses and Architectural Tours on June 29, 2025. Mt. Lebanon Lutheran was well represented during this ecumenical event. We partnered with Southminster Presbyterian Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church to celebrate the community of faith shared among our congregations during the past 100 years.

Parishioners and members of the community traversed the six tenths of a mile to visit the three centennial churches on Washington Road. Feedback from visitors was very favorable. Many commented on the beauty of our sanctuary and asked questions that ranged from our congregation's history to the significance of religious symbols in the paraments and building's architectural features. After touring the sanctuary and reviewing the video, photographs, and artifacts on display, guests were invited to the Foyer for delicious refreshments.



Members of our congregation served as docents, greeters, and hosts. Our thanks to Cindy Brown, Neil Bucher, Tom Dougherty, Eric Keplar, Jody Lutz, Jim Needles, Amy Stabenow, Alan Trivilino, and Carol Vogeley for greeting and leading tours. Special thanks to Karen

Pfeil for preparing and hosting homemade baked items and a delicious punch. We appreciate Pastor Heagy's guidance and counsel in preparing the tour script as well as his presence at the Open House.

Many of the historic photographs from our former Academy Avenue location and the construction of our current church home will remain on display in the Narthex for worshippers to review before and after Sunday liturgies.



Photographs:

Left: A tour group learns about the Altar area renovation and Organ installation while other visitors enjoy refreshments in the Foyer.

Right: Tour Guide Neil Bucher and a guest review the symbolic cement work above the entry, as seen through the etched glass of the front door.

Photos courtesy of Amy Fisher



I would like you to consider participating in a 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.



July 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 ESL 12-2:30	2 9-2:30 ESL 4:00 Farmer's Market	3 12-2:30 ESL	4 Happy 4th July Office Closed 	5
6 Pentecost 4 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship	7 9-2:30 ESL 6:00-8:00 pm VBS Setup	8 ESL 12-2:30 10:00-1:00 pm VBS Setup	9 9-2:30 ESL 1:00 Global Links 4:00 Farmer's Market 6:00-8:00 pm VBS Setup	10 12-2:30 ESL VBS Setup	11 VBS Setup	12 10:00-2:00 VBS Setup
13 Pentecost 5 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am-1:00 pm VBS Setup	14 Vacation Bible School 9:00-12:00 	15 Vacation Bible School 9:00-12:00 	16 Vacation Bible School 9:00-12:00  4:00 Farmer's Market	17 Vacation Bible School 9:00-12:00 	18 Vacation Bible School 9:00-12:00 	19
20 Pentecost 6 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 2:00 Daily Bread Meal	21 9-2:30 ESL	22 12-2:30 ESL	23 9-2:30 ESL 4:00 Farmer's Market	24 12-2:30 ESL	25	26
27 Pentecost 7 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:15 Council Meeting	28 9-2:30 ESL	29 ESL 12-2:30	30 9-2:30 ESL 4:00 Farmer's Market	31 12-2:30 ESL		





1 Remember in prayer congregations, synods and outdoor ministries that have applied for an ELCA Disability Ministry grant. These grants support projects and programs that identify and prepare people with disabilities for leadership positions and equip members of congregations to welcome them to full participation in the life of the church.

2 Nothing is impossible for God. Our sins, fears, demons and eccentricities are no match for God's power to forgive, heal and renew us. Give thanks to God for surrounding us with siblings in Christ who extend to us their mercy and love.

3 Our church has missionaries in 35 countries, and its Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program covers six countries/territories. Pray that God will bless these missionaries as they serve alongside companion churches in education, evangelism, administration, parish ministry, leadership development, justice and health.

4 *Independence Day* Give thanks for the freedom we enjoy in our country.

5 "Insofar as a Christian is free, no works are necessary. Insofar as a Christian is a servant, all kinds of works are done" (Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*). Praise God for freeing us from sin through the redeeming love of Jesus Christ. Ask the Spirit to inspire our service, our acts of kindness and mercy, and our praise for God, the true source of absolute freedom.

6 God sends us into the world equipped to share the gospel, care for neighbors in need, inspire hope and strive for justice and healing. Give thanks for the strength and encouragement we receive from our church, our faith communities and our siblings in Christ.

7 Pray for the ELCA Domestic Mission unit and its renewal team, which help synods to equip congregations for engaging in renewal ministry and for growing as vibrant and diverse communities of faith.

8 Give thanks for community gardens that feed our neighbors, and pray for the people who tend them with love and purpose.

9 Pray for people traveling this summer, that they will be enriched by their experiences, filled with awe at creation, and inspired to share the good news of Jesus Christ everywhere they go.

10 Pray for the ELCA stewardship leaders network, which grows well-equipped mission interpreters, stewardship key leaders, ventures steward leaders and stewardship coaches to serve as resources for congregations and nurture generosity across the church.

11 "Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith" (Galatians 6:9-10). Pray for our nation, that we will be renewed in our resolve to uplift neighbors who are excluded, forgotten or ignored.

12 Stewardship and generosity are daily expressions of how we respond to God's immeasurable grace. Pray that the Spirit will nurture within us a lively spirit of generosity to respond to the needs of others, do God's work in the world and grow the church.

13 Pray for the compassion to care for our neighbors in need, just as the good Samaritan stopped to assist a stranger robbed, beaten and left for dead.

14 "Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that began creation; listen even if you don't understand" (*ACS* 974). May we be open and attentive to how God speaks to us, reaching into our souls every day to stir our faith, knowledge and wisdom.

15 Praise God that in baptism we are marked as forgiven and freed from the grip of sin and death; empowered to act with love, kindness and mercy; and welcomed into a vast community of siblings in Christ.

16 Ask God to help us advocate for and improve access to public spaces for older adults and people with disabilities.

17 Pray for congregations and special ministries that work for wholeness, peace and justice in your community, across our country and throughout the world.

18 Promise to love and serve our neighbors in need with the same boundless grace and concern that God has shown us, unhindered by suspicion, prejudice, exclusion or the belief that someone must work or suffer as we have to earn our respect.

19 We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world — together! Companion synod relationships of the ELCA connect our synods and congregations with Lutheran churches throughout the world. Praise God that this program nurtures all involved for life and ministry through prayer, study, communication, exchange of visitors and sharing of resources.

20 What have you witnessed or learned that reminds you of God's presence and activity in the world? Lift up prayers of joy and thanksgiving!

21 Pray for voting members, church leaders and congregation observers as they prepare for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Ariz. Ask the Spirit to fill them with enthusiasm for the church's mission and guide their discernment of how we should do God's work in a changing and challenging world.

22 Ask the Spirit to renew the energy of staff serving in summer camps and outdoor ministries. Pray that they will be enriched by their ministry experiences and inspired to pursue vocations of service in the church and society.

23 "When all our words seem frail and hollow, God heeds the prayers within our tears" (*ACS* 1050). Praise God for hearing and grasping the depth of our prayers and lamentations, especially when they feel clumsy, inadequate and incoherent.

24 Praise God for gathering us in a church that welcomes all, strives to be faithful to the gospel and equips us to serve in a world of complexity, tension and ambiguity.

25 Give thanks for the Spirit, who strengthens our trust in the steadfast love of God and calms our disbelief and anxiety when we question how anyone can truly love us as we are.

26 Pray for children, youth and young adults in your congregation, that their faith will be nurtured, that their gifts will be valued and used, and that they will be included in every aspect of the church's mission.

27 Thank God for Jesus Christ, "from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God" (Colossians 2:19).

28 Pray for the voting members, church leaders and volunteers gathering at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Ariz., for decision-making and spiritual discernment on behalf of the entire church.

29 Ask the Spirit to grant us humility and courage, that we might recognize and repent for our legacy of injustice, false history and mistreatment of Indigenous people, which persist today. Pray that our church and society will work toward truth, repentance, healing and unity — God's work of reconciliation in the world.

30 *International Day of Friendship* Promise to build bridges between individuals, countries and cultures, stirring empathy, inspiring peace and promoting mutual understanding and respect for diversity.

31 Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the Reformed Church in America, a full communion partner since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

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

Parish Secretary

Vacation Bible School

Come join us this summer for:



“The Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9b

July 14-18, 2025

9:00 am—noon

For ages 4 and older

A week filled with Bible stories, games, crafts, and much more!

Register at the Church or online at

<https://mtlebanonlutheranchurch.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Registration Deadline July 7

Spread the Word!