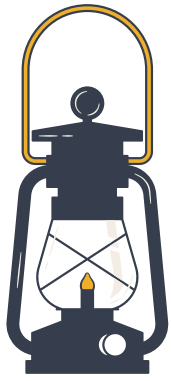


MAY/JUNE 2023



# The Lantern

NEWSLETTER OF MT. LEBANON UMC  
EST. 1812

## Dates to Remember

**MAY 25:**

7PM: PRE-ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
BRIEFING - ZOOM MEETING

**MAY 28:**

11AM: PENTECOST SUNDAY  
WEAR YOUR RED!

**MAY 29:**

10:30AM: MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE  
OF WORSHIP AND  
REMEMBERANCE @  
CHESTER BETHEL  
THRIFT SHOP

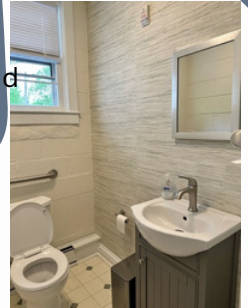
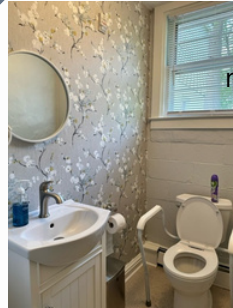
**JUNE 10:**

5PM; RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE  
DINNER - PREP BEGINS AT 3:30PM

**\*\*KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR EMAILS  
REGARDING ANY FUTURE EVENTS!**

## UPDATES

Our bathroom  
renovations are  
complete! The  
updates were  
much needed and  
are much  
appreciated.



The exterior of the  
church has been  
power washed in  
memory of Gene  
Ainsworth!

A big "THANK  
YOU" to everyone  
who helped during  
our Church  
Beautification  
Work Day!

**JOIN US IN SUPPORT OF  
OUR MILITARY!  
July 2 • 4pm - 7pm**



**Stars & Stripes Sunday**



**GAMES, FOOD,  
MUSIC & MORE!**

# A Moment for Missions

A hearty “thank you” to all of you who made our Easter Egg Hunt on April 1 so very special. Under the amazing leadership of Melissa Schuibbeo, we were blessed with 25 children and almost as many adults. All activities had to be inside because of lots of rain, but the atmosphere inside was sunny, start to finish. A big thank you to Bill Carrier from We Kids Rock who led the children in singing, dancing and games. There was an abundance of crafts including cookie decorating with much taste testing. The actual egg hunt concluded the event with all eggs found. This was the first egg hunt since 2019 because of the pandemic and praise God for the blessings of such special joy and fellowship.

Our April 30th event to pack individual bags of cookies with notes of encouragement for our Sunday and Wednesday evening N.A. guests resulted in forty bags of delicious cookies thanks to your generosity. Not one crumb was found following their meetings. The next event will be on July 23.

Invitations are being extended to Sojourners Place and the Salvation Army to provide information about their organization during Moments for Missions at worship services. Again, the invitation goes out to each of you to share the names of organizations that you would like to visit us during worship services.

Our preparation of dinner for families at the Ronald McDonald House on June 10 is fast approaching. We gather at 3:30 to prepare dinner for serving at 5:30. The sign-up sheet is available in Fellowship Hall.

Our conversations with Chester Bethel UMC and Aldersgate UMC have continued about ways to partner to expand current mission outreach and seek new opportunities. Please watch for details in future emails and Sunday bulletins.

Please mark your calendar for July 2 for our Stars and Stripes Sunday event in support of our military personnel, specifically Eric Lindsay and Thomas Godfrey, who are serving in the U.S. Army. Donations made at the event will fund care packages for Eric, Thomas and their units.

Please see details on the front page.



**NEXT MEETING:**  
Wednesday, July 19 @ 7pm

# From the Desk of Pastor Kelly

So far since Easter, we have been celebrating the resurrection in the Easter “liturgical season” – the yearly timeline of worship. All throughout the season of Easter, we decorate our altar in white, and the pastor’s stole is white – commemorating the holiest of holy seasons, when the resurrection is fresh and new, and we are invited to follow after Jesus. But soon, on the Sunday of May 28, we will change those colors to RED, for Pentecost!

What is Pentecost, and why do we celebrate it?

*From the UMC website:*

On Pentecost Sunday, we remember the day the disciples received the Holy Spirit in a special way. The story in Acts 2 describes a powerful wind and tongues of fire as the Holy Spirit was poured out on people from all over the world who came to Jerusalem to celebrate a Jewish feast. At the first Pentecost over 3000 people were baptized, creating the first church. This is why Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Christian church. The word Pentecost comes from a Greek word meaning fiftieth...The Christian festival of Pentecost falls on the 50th day after the resurrection of Jesus. Pentecost for Christians culminates the celebration and work of the church begun on Easter Day. ...

Two colors are historically associated with Pentecost. Red is a visual reminder of the “tongues of fire” that empowered the apostles and others to proclaim the good news of Christ’s resurrection in many languages to the crowds of pilgrims from many lands (Acts 2:3). White was used in some places, including England, where Pentecost had also become a day for baptisms by the Middle Ages. Whether it happened at Easter or Pentecost or at some other time, those being baptized were given new white robes to wear as a sign they had taken off the world, died to sin, and were raised with the risen Christ to new life. This is why Pentecost may also be referred to in English as “Whitsunday” or “White Sunday.”

The Season after Pentecost is the time of the church year to support new disciples and the whole congregation in living out the gifts we have been given in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

I invite us to come to worship on May 28th, Pentecost Sunday, in our flashiest red clothing and accessories! Let’s celebrate with fun and joy the “birthday of the Church”!

With great love and steadfastness,

Rev. Kelly Conner, MDiv, ThM

Pastor of Mt. Lebanon and Chester Bethel UMCs, Wilmington, DE

