

MGUMC NEWS

A CHURCH FOR ALL SEASONS, ALL PEOPLE

JANUARY 2026

MOUNT GRETNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
(10:00 service includes children's message)



Welcome

We invite you to join us for worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Our mission is three-fold:

- To know Christ and make him known;
- To help people become—and grow as—followers of Christ;
- To relieve suffering in our community and beyond through our members' ministries.

WORSHIP IN JANUARY / FEBRUARY

In January and February, our worship theme is "Glory Revealed." On Jan. 4, we will celebrate the light that was given to the world in our Epiphany service. Then we will begin consideration of how to embrace the gift of light that is Jesus and what that light means for us.

Jan. 11: Power of Presence – We will look at Jesus' baptism, our baptisms and our baptismal identity as the Body of Christ.
Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9 & Matthew 3:13-17

Jan. 18: Power of Presence – We focus on how to love the substance of our faith in the day-to-day moments and happenings of our lives.
Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-7 & John 1: 29-42

Jan. 25: Carrying the Light – What does it mean to meet fear with love? How do we come together as a community in and with God?
Scripture: Psalm 27:1, 4-9 & Matthew 4:12-23

Feb. 1: What is Good – How are we aligned with God's call to live with justice, mercy and humility?
Scripture: Micah 6:1-8 & Matthew 5:1-12

Feb. 8: Call to Action – Confession is not a time for shaming one another but for truth-telling that leads us into living justly, mercifully and humbly together.
Scripture: Isaiah 58:1-9a(9b-12) & Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 15: Glory Revealed – The Feast of the Transfiguration is a foretaste of the glory of Resurrection.
Scripture: Exodus 24:12-18 & Matthew 17:1-9

Upcoming MGUMC Events

**SUNDAY
JAN 4**

Food Bank Sunday
Collection of food and personal care items to support Lebanon County Christian Ministries' Food Bank.

**TUESDAY
JAN 6**

Pastor's Bible Study
Meet in the library at 10 a.m. We are studying the Book of Acts.

**THURSDAY
JAN 8**

Zoom Prayer Group
Weekly online prayer group meets Thurs. at 7 p.m. Contact the church office for more information and to join.

**SUNDAY
JAN 11**

Discipleship Bible Study
6:00p.m-7:30 p.m. in the Ebenezer Room. Books available early Jan.

**TUESDAY
JAN 13**

Pastor's Bible Study
Meet in the library at 10 a.m. We are studying the Book of Acts.

**THURSDAY
JAN 15**

Zoom Prayer Group
Weekly online prayer group meets Thurs. at 7 p.m. Contact the church office for more information and to join.

**SUNDAY
JAN 18**

Discipleship Bible Study
6:00p.m-7:30 p.m. in the Ebenezer Room. Books available early Jan.

**TUESDAY
JAN 20**

Pastor's Bible Study
Meet in the library at 10 a.m. We are studying the Book of Acts.

**WEDNESDAY
JAN 21**

Gathering Place
Members, friends and neighbors are invited for lunch and fellowship at noon in Fellowship Hall. Gathering Place is supported by freewill donations. Volunteers are needed to help with set up, serving and clean up.

**THURSDAY
JAN 22**

Zoom Prayer Group
Weekly online prayer group meets Thurs. at 7 p.m. Contact the church office for more information and to join.

**SUNDAY
JAN 25**

Blanket Making for LCCM
Join the 5th Grade Sunday School Class in a blanket making project for LCCM. Meet in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:00 service.

**SUNDAY
JAN 25**

Discipleship Bible Study
6:00p.m-7:30 p.m. in the Ebenezer Room. Books available early Jan.

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MGUMC NEWS

MGUMC Events (continued from page 1)

**TUESDAY
JAN 27**

Pastor's Bible Study

Meet in the library at 10 a.m. We are studying the Book of Acts.

**THURSDAY
JAN 29**

Zoom Prayer Group

Weekly online prayer group meets Thurs. at 7 p.m. Contact the church office for more information and to join.

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Interested in exploring the Old Testament? Consider joining Pastor Andrea and others for Bible study through the well-known Disciple curriculum. Participants will explore the Bible through daily readings, watching commentaries and group discussions. The group will meet on Sundays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., beginning Sunday, Jan. 11. Books are \$20, available early January. There is still room— contact Pastor Andrea for information.

Addressing Food Insecurity

Estimates are that one in seven Americans daily experiences hunger due to cuts in federal food programs. Thanks to all for donations to **Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM)**, who provide ongoing food and nourishment to all those who are struggling with hunger.



MGUMC donations in December totaled 222 lbs. That's almost three times our typical monthly donation of 75-80 lbs. This past year, we donated **1,732 pounds** to LCCM and **\$3500**.

Caring for the Last, the Least and the Lost

December was marked by caring for the last, the least and the lost among us through generous donations and gifts. Our members stepped up to provide gifts for children of women incarcerated in the **Lebanon County Correctional Facility**.

In preparation for colder weather, we collected hats, scarves and gloves for **Make a Difference** organization in Lebanon, Pa. Our 5th grade Sunday School class made several blankets for clients of **Lebanon County Christian Ministries**. We are called to bless others. Let us continue to bear witness to Jesus' command to care for the last, the least and the lost.

On Sunday, January 25, join the 5th grade Sunday School class in making more blankets for clients of Lebanon County Christian Ministries. We will gather in Fellowship Hall after the 10 a.m. service.

Thank You . . .

Thanks to all those who decorated the sanctuary and those who made cookies to serve at the tree lighting on Dec. 6.

Thanks to all those who prepared for our children's Christmas program. Though we had to cancel the program, we hope to reschedule it. Stay tuned for a new date.

This year's Silent Auction raised \$550 for our Nursery School program. **Thanks** to Melissa Warner, Marcie Lloyd and Michelle Shuff for organizing this year's Silent Auction. And **thanks** to all who donated items.

WE COULD USE A HAND . . .

Consider Joining Our MGUMC Care Team

We frequently have members who are hospitalized or home-bound because of medical issues and would appreciate a visit, cards or a meal. Please prayerfully consider if you would be willing to be part of a **Care Team** that would be available to reach out to our members who might welcome a visit, a card or a meal.



Volunteer Soup Cooks & Helpers Needed

Help is needed to make soup and sell soup for our annual **Souper Bowl Soup-to-Go Sale** on Saturday, Feb. 7. Last year we sold 149 quarts of soup in an hour, raising almost \$1,200 for Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM). Forty cans of soup also were donated.

If you can make soup to sell or are able to help with the sale, please contact the office or Kristi Donahue at donahuekristiw@gmail.com or Margaret Hopkins at mah242@psu.edu.

We are not offering preorders this year. If you are not able to come on the day of the sale, feel free to ask a friend or church member to pick up soup for you that Saturday.

Thanks in advance.



MGUMC has a limited number of tickets available to see *Joshua* at Sight & Sound in Lancaster on Sat. April 18th at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$78.00/adult (ages 13+) and \$44.00/child (ages 2-12). If you would like to reserve tickets, contact Pastor Andrea. (<https://www.sight-sound.com/>)