



THE ANGELUS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LEBANON, PA

Volume 13 No. 4

Do Justice. Love Mercy. Walk humbly with God

April 2023

Rector's Corner: *The grace of God does not disappoint!*



Dear Friends in Christ,

Three years ago during these sacred days of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, a strange virus invaded our lives and turned our world upside down in a way that none of us had ever before experienced nor could have imagined. Life came to a standstill. Even our churches closed their doors as we looked to protect one another from the deadly grip of a disease we little understood.

As we confronted these obstacles, we held on to our faith and confronted the message of Good Friday and the Cross of Jesus like never before. We struggled to discover the blessings of Easter, even while pain, uncertainty, and fear gave way to the life and hope won for us through Christ's Resurrection. In that way, we had a personal experience of what these emotions that may have gripped those first disciples in those three days of anguished uncertainty.

Today, as we find ourselves emerging more fully from the darkness of a global pandemic, our world is still turned upside down as our brothers and sisters in Ukraine continue to suffer the ravages of war. This time, however, the source of our global concern is not an unknown virus. This war, and others like it, is an all too familiar scourge rooted in sin – in pride, envy, greed and the absence of any fear of God that has leads to a blatant disrespect for human life.

As we have done countless times before in the face of suffering and pain, these sacred days call us to turn to that place where our broken world can find forgiveness, healing, hope and peace: the Paschal Mystery – the Easter miracle – the promise won for us through the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus!

A few years ago, Pope Francis spoke to the struggles that confront our world in his Easter message:

In the midst of this complex reality, the Easter message speaks concisely of the event that gives us the hope that does not disappoint: 'Jesus who was crucified has risen.' It speaks to us not about angels or ghosts, but about a man, a man of flesh and bone, with a face and a name: Jesus. The Gospel testifies that this Jesus, crucified under Pontius Pilate for claiming he was the Christ, the Son of God, rose on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, just as he had foretold to his disciples ... In so doing, Jesus took upon himself our weakness, our infirmities, even our death. He endured our sufferings and bore the weight of our sins ... His wounds are the everlasting seal of his love for us. All those who experience a painful trial in body or spirit can find refuge in these wounds and, through them, receive the grace of the hope that does not disappoint.

The phrase that resonates most for me is a simple one: ***the grace of God does not disappoint!*** That grace abounds in the presence of the Risen Jesus as it dwells in the hearts of his disciples – in you who have been baptized into his life, death and resurrection. In so many ways, your openness to the love and mercy of God enables you to give hope to many – in the care that you have offer through your participation in our prayer circle, in your material support of those who suffer hunger and homelessness through LCCM, in your daily efforts to build up our parish and to proclaim the gospel message by your words and gestures of love and service.

One of the greatest signs of the grace of God at work in our world is the presence of those who respond to the Lord's call and continually open their hearts to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. As we publicly profess our faith in Christ and renew our baptismal promises at Easter we reaffirm our commitment to assume our place in Christ's body, the Church – and to assume our role in living out Christ's mission. As we become increasingly *Fit for Mission*, our lives and faith affirm the reality of the living God continually working in and through us, God's sons and daughters.

As our Holy Week begins on April 2, I pray that we will all come to appreciate more deeply that we are blessed in more ways than we might believe or imagine. May we trust in God's promise to sustain us and to dispel our deepest fears, no matter what their origin. May we all move forward in confidence and peace because we know that ***the grace of God does not disappoint!***

Happy Easter!

David +



Stewardship: *Our Baptismal Covenant as the Cornerstone of Episcopalian Mission*

The baptismal covenant is the cornerstone of Episcopalian self-identity, and it calls us into a far more missional understanding of the Church and our Christian vocation than we may realize. The covenant does this through its content: calling upon us to affirm our faith in the Apostles' Creed, to proclaim that faith in "word and example," and to embody that faith in our work for justice in the world, even as it recognizes the priority of God's acting in us to carry this out. The Creed's account of Christ's saving work comes first; each question is met with the response that with God's help the baptized will do so; and prayers are offered for our ability to carry out this calling.

No one is born a Christian. Instead, Christians are *made*, by the grace of God, through Christian formation. This locates our consideration of Christian formation within the great sweep of the biblical drama of transition: from death into life, from sin into righteousness, from alienation to reconciliation and adoption as God's children, into the kingdom of God's beloved Son. This is the aim of Christian initiation. This is what we celebrate at the Great Vigil of Easter!

However, for this to occur, *mission* must first occur. This understanding of our formation into the mission of Christ (baptism leading to Communion), helps us to remember that it is only as the outcome of the Church's mission that the Eucharist can be celebrated, for no one is a Christian by nature or birth, but only through the process of conversion.

The Church's mission aims more widely than merely individual conversion, even though conversions are the outcome of the Church's mission. Through this mission, women and men are brought to share in Christ's life: baptized into his death, sealed with his Holy Spirit, we are deputed to take part in the sacrament of the altar. This helps us to see that the church's total life is dependent upon its mission. Even if we are baptized as infants or young children, we need to be nurtured so as to take our part in this mission. If we really believe that by our baptism we share in Christ, we must also recognize that baptism is a baptism into missional responsibility, for *there is no sharing in Christ that is not also a sharing in his mission*. So the only way we are made fit for eternal life, is to be made Fit for Mission! How will we use the gifts showered upon us as a result of our baptism in the Spirit of God to further the mission of Christ in our parish? In our church? In our community? In our world?

Holy Week at St. Luke's

Palm Sunday, April 2

10:00 AM (Choral)

Holy Eucharist

Blessing, Distribution and Procession with Palms

Recitation of the Passion

Only One Service this weekend

Monday of Holy Week, April 3

12:05 PM—Holy Eucharist

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 4

12:05 PM—Holy Eucharist

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 5

10 AM Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

7 PM Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7:00 PM

Solemn Eucharist with Washing of Feet Procession to Chapel of Repose to follow.

Good Friday, April 7

12 Noon — Meditation Service: The Last Time Jesus Visited Jerusalem

7:00 PM — Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, April 8

Church remains open for prayer and meditation. All liturgical services will be webcast on our YouTube channel.

Easter at St. Luke's

THE GREAT VIGIL

Saturday, April 8, 7:00 PM

Blessing of Easter Fire

Proclamation of Easter Joy

Readings about the History of salvation

Solemn Eucharist

THE FEAST OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9

8:00 AM —Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM—Festival Choral Eucharist

Coffee Hour

by Eileen Sidelnick



Coffee Hour is being held on **SUNDAYS** in the **Fellowship Hall** from **9 AM to 10:30 AM**. If you would like to be a coffee host, please contact Lisa in the Parish Office (717.272.8251), Eileen Sidelnick (717.926.4238) or Matt Haag (717.273.6249). You can also sign up online in the weekly email announcements or on the sign up sheet by the parish office. If you need help making coffee, please contact Eileen or Matt and they would be happy to assist you. Thank you!

CSCC Update

by Laurie Funk



Activities at Chestnut Street Community Center are entering into a new phase. This winter plans were fully developed for a phased renovation of what has been known as the Education Building – the entrance doors are at the back of the courtyard.

Phase 1 is the installation of an elevator, which will service all three floors. The work will begin in April and be completed by the end of July.

Phase 2 will be an overhaul of the first and second floors of the building and will start in September. LCCM's Fresh Start Emergency Shelter will be a 24/7 space to fully serve people who require emergency housing from intake through connection to resources and include dorm style sleeping accommodations. We are in conversations with other potential community partners who are interested in occupying the first floor.

Construction causes disruption of activities and some adaptations will be required of our users throughout the process. As a start, the overnight component of Fresh Start has moved to the north side of the sanctuary building. It was strange at first to be in the sanctuary with the pews replaced with beds and partitions, but since the guests have settled into the space it is alive with a new purpose. The evening and morning conversations with and between the guests and volunteers now takes place from pews arranged in a small gathering space. This will be Fresh Start's overnight home until the space in the Education Building is ready in early 2024.

The Community Garden will be back this summer. Our first workday will be April 15 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. We'll be preparing the soil, setting up the raised beds and planting spring flowers and vegetables. Laurie will be working in the garden every Wednesday afternoon in preparation for the Wednesday Summer Market. We are working on a partnership with a local farm with the hope of providing fresh produce and a location for neighbors to redeem FMNP vouchers, Farm Market Nutrition Program. More details to come!

A recent building improvement project is the cleaning and painting of the social hall beneath the sanctuary. It has been an exercise of breaking things down to create space for something new. Old items that were no longer being used and in disrepair were removed, the walls washed and fresh paint applied. New possibilities for the refreshed space are being imagined and it is open for use by the community for group meetings and one-off events. If you are interested, contact Laurie Funk at (717) 507-6108, LRCFunk@comcast.net.



Gather is the Diocese of Bethlehem's annual formation event and *Gather 23 – Piece by Piece* will be held on **May 20, 2023**, at Split Rock Resort in Lake Harmony. This year's keynote speakers are The Rev. Dr. Tricia Lyons and Dr. Lisa Kimball, both from Virginia Theological Seminary.

The *Gather 23 – Piece by Piece* website launched recently with an overview, schedule, keynote speaker information, and other details. The site will be updated in the future with session details and online registration. Be sure to bookmark this page and return to it for the latest information about *Gather 23 – Piece by Piece*: <https://diobeth.org/gather23>.

This is the second year for this diocesan wide event. Last year, Father Zwifka and Mother Kisner attended. There were many workshops of interest covering various aspects of parish life. The focus of this year's event is all about spreading the good news – a key focus of our effort to become *Fit for Mission!* It would be wonderful to have several members of our parish in attendance. Please consider being part of a delegation to this special event where you can meet other people from across the diocese who are just like us, trying to live the life of discipleship set out for us by Jesus.

The Last Time Jesus Visited Jerusalem

A Meditation Service for Good Friday



Using a map of the city of Jerusalem, we will witness the many events of Holy Week. We will start with Jesus' triumphal entry into the city, followed by several events in the beginning of that week - visits to the Temple, Jesus challenging the Jewish leaders and they challenging him, casting out the moneychangers, and Jesus weeping over the fate that will soon befall Jerusalem.

The events of the Last Supper and His Passion will follow, ending with his death and entombment.

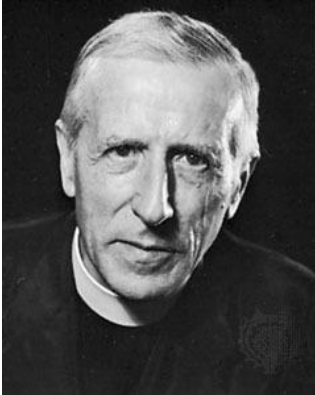
Our meditations will include many of the readings from the Gospels which mention these events. The locations for each will be highlighted on the map as we hear about them. Models of the various sites will help us to visualize the solemn events as they unfold in the scriptures.

Christian Formation

by Mother Mary Kisner

Real People

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin April 10



Pierre Teilhard de Chardin was a ground-breaking paleontologist and Christian mystic whose vision encompassed the evolution of all matter toward a final goal in which material and spiritual shall coincide and God shall be all in all.

Teilhard was born in 1881. In 1899, he entered the Jesuit novitiate, moving to England in 1902 when French law nationalized the properties of religious orders. After taking a degree in

literature in 1902, he went to Egypt to teach chemistry in the Jesuit College in Cairo. There he fell in love with the east. Teilhard moved back to England in 1908 and began to synthesize his already vast knowledge of evolution, philosophy and theology. He was ordained priest in 1911.

Teilhard did research at the Natural History Museum in Paris, and completed his doctorate in paleontology. He went to China where, with other researchers, he made public the famous "Peking Man" hominid in 1926. Teilhard developed a vision of creation which held that evolution was the process by which matter inexorably arranges itself toward greater complexity until recognizable consciousness emerges. For Teilhard, this described a continuing process of human evolution that moves toward a new level of consciousness in which the universe will come to perfect unity and find itself one with God. God, then, is the highest point of pure consciousness, always "pulling" the evolutionary process towards its promised destiny, which he called the "Omega Point."

Teilhard struggled with the Roman Church that was suspicious of his seemingly radical and heterodox writings. He was forbidden to teach and had to defend himself against charges of heresy. Teilhard remained loyal.

After his death, many came to recognize his vision as a deeply Christian one that sought to reconcile the Biblical vision of God's final triumph over sin and disunity with the undeniable discoveries of evolutionary science.

Shortly before he died, he prayed: "O God, if in my life I have not been wrong, allow me to die on Easter Sunday." He died on April 10, 1955: Easter Sunday.

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Christian Formation Website

www.journeyinfaith-stlukeslebanon.org

We continue to post new resources and information for our spiritual growth on our website, dedicated to Christian formation. There are access links to podcasts, recordings of our [weekly Bible study](#), a recommended reading list and more!

Bible Study

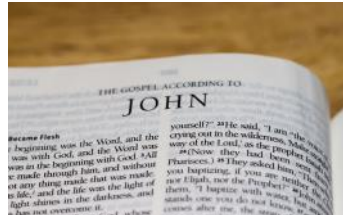
10 AM Thursdays in our ZOOM room at

<https://zoom.us/j/190727051>

Find the readings for each Sunday at

<http://www.journeyinfaith-stlukeslebanon.org/lectionary-texts-for-this-sunday.html>

Thanks to our Lenten Gospel Readers



Many thanks to all who participated in presenting our Gospels during Lent!

What a treat it has been to hear conversations from our Gospels being read by so many! We heard conversa-

tions between Jesus and such various persons as Satan, Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the community of people who witnessed the healing of the blind man, and the wonderful story of faith in the raising of Lazarus.

A hearty thank you goes out to young and old who graced us with their participation in presenting this lively expression of the Scriptures.

A Different Easter Egg Hunt

After the 10:30 service on Easter Day.

Open to the public.



This year we will again hold an Easter Egg Hunt, but with a twist. Instead of all the eggs being filled with candy and trinkets, they will be filled with "Saint Luke's Bucks." The Bucks are meant to go toward any (or all) of three non-profit children's ministries.

Large containers will be available with the names of these ministries on them. Each child will collect all their Bucks and they can then decide into which container they will put their Bucks. They can divide them up however they wish.

We will be asking parishioners to donate "real" dollars to the cause. Then enough "Saint Luke's Bucks" will be made up to cover that amount we will put in the children's eggs. At the end of the hunt when all the "bucks" are given to the ministries, each child will receive a bag of Easter treats.

We hope you will be generous in making this both fun and meaningful for our children and the ministries we will be supporting. Specially marked *Children's Egg Hunt donation envelopes* can be found in the Narthex. Envelope donations should include your name (for tax purposes) and may be dropped in the collection plate or mailed directly to the church.

ECW Meeting

April 11, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Mother Mary will tell how she worked to conserve a beloved vestment - the Pelican Chasuble.



Many decades ago a beautiful chasuble was gifted to St. Luke's. It features exquisite embroidery which was hand crafted by one (or several) skilled artisans. Since it's origin is unknown at this point, we can only guess at the

age of the vestment, who the makers were, and how it came to be given to St. Luke's.

Since the background color of the damask is a light cream color, the chasuble has been used for solemn celebrations and feast days, especially Easter Day, which is especially appropriate, given the major symbol embroidered at the center of the back - a pelican. The pelican is an ancient symbol for Christ. It was thought that a mother pelican would pluck at her own breast to feed her nestlings if she could not find other food for them. In similar manner Christ shed his own blood for us.

Over the years the garment has experienced some wear and tear, and it was in desperate need of attention so as to preserve it for use now and in the future.

Mother Mary took on the project and worked through several steps to ensure that the vestment will be available for future celebrations. She will tell the details of what she discovered along the way and how she worked to conserve this beautiful piece.




Vacation Bible School
is scheduled for
June 12 through 15.
More details soon!

Wednesday Healing Services

10 am in Holy Trinity Chapel

Mother Mary will be leading these services while Fr. David is on sabbatical.

She will be offering short reflections during the Communion service each week on the various aspects of Christian healing.



Evensong

featuring
St. Luke's Festival Choir

April 16, 2023

(Second Sunday of Easter)

A Service of Easter Lessons and Carols

6:00 PM



The Lebanon County Choral Society

YOUTH CHORUS CONCERT



FRIDAY, MAY 5
6:00 PM
ST. LUKE'S
AUDITORIUM

SACRED SONGS,
SILLY SONGS,
AND BOOMWHACKERS

FREE AND
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PART OF THE FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK
SPONSORED BY THE LEBANON VALLEY
COUNCIL ON THE ARTS






ECW News

Coming Soon from ECW: Flower Bulb Sale



ECW will be holding a spring/ summer canna bulb sale!

Bulbs planted after Mother's Day in a full sun location, will yield 4-5ft tall, large red blossomed tropical plants. Plant in clumps for a stunning "show" in your summer/fall garden!

These easy-to-grow plants, come with instructions, in a box for gift giving. They will be available for

sale at the April ECW Meeting and all Sunday morning coffee hours.

These would make a thoughtful, unique gift for Earth Day, May Day or Mother's Day!

Hope Hill Field Trip Scheduled



Tickets are NOW available for the July 8th trip to Hope Hill Lavender Farm for a visit and for a lavender wand making class. There are a limited number of tickets available (20 only) for \$20. per ticket, which includes a private class just for our group.

Tickets can be purchased from Lynn Heisey at every Sunday

Coffee Hour, or by phoning Lynn at 717-865-6015.

A ticket for this event would make a lovely gift for that "someone special" in your life!

Mother's Day is just around the corner!

About this event:

Lavender Wand Class at Hope Hill Lavender Farm, 2375 Panther Valley Road Pottsville, PA 17901

Barbara & Lynn will be teaching the two-hour class and will supply the lavender, lavender ice tea and cookies. Barbara will share her skill and knowledge and ribbon while teaching you to make a pretty lavender wand...or maybe even two if you master lavender wand making. Cost \$20.00. Recommended for adults, may be frustrating for children.

***A lavender wand is a small bouquet of lavender flowers weaved together in a technique that encases the flowers and buds of the lavender stem. The lavender wand can be used as a fragrant and beautiful decorative piece.

Come Join the Fun Palm Sunday, April 2nd



Adult Indoor Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon in the Auditorium, immediately following the combined Eucharist service celebrating the Passion of Christ.

2 grand prize EASTER BASKETS
Luncheon to follow, provided by Olga Ortiz and friends!

Donations will be accepted for Mother Mary's children's egg hunt to be held on Easter Sunday.

Easter Candy Sale Pickup

*APRIL 1st and 2nd
9 AM - 12 noon
Fellowship Hall*



Looking Ahead for ECW

by Laurie Daub

Tuesday April 11th

Regular ECW meeting 6:30PM, Fellowship Hall

Speaker—Mother Mary Kisner

“Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness”

Tuesday May 9th

Ladies’ Tea Party

JUNE—No Regular ECW Meeting

Saturday June 10th

10 am Scherenschnitte class

JULY—No Regular ECW Meeting

Saturday July 8th

Field trip and lavender wand-making class at Hope Hill Lavender Farm

Ladies Tea Party

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, 6:00pm to 7:30pm



What is the theme for this year's party? **Children Books**. This is in support of the Harding Elementary School's goal to place one brand new story-book into the hands of **EVERY** Harding student... "A **Book for Every Child**". What a wonderful charity so near and dear to our church!

Tickets for the event will go on sale **Wednesday, April 12th to Wednesday, May 3rd**. You can call Beth Yocum (717-273-0347) or see her in church on Sundays and at Coffee Hour. The church office (717-272-8251) will also take ticket requests. The **ticket price is \$10** to go towards this designated charity. Included in the high tea meal are savories and sweets, as well as 2 original St. Luke's tea blends. There will be raffles that will also go towards the charity, and door prizes. Our guest speaker is Lauren Williams. Lauren was a teacher at Harding Elementary for 12 years. Her new title is Technology Integration Coach for the District.

If you would like to be a hostess for the party contact Beth Yocum for a list of your priorities. The TEA PARTY is meant to honor the volunteer women of St. Luke's church and their guests.

Luncheon for Father David and Bill Claxton



ECW is organizing a luncheon on Sunday, April 16 after the 10:30 service for Fr. David before he leaves for sabbatical and for Bill Claxton's retirement. ECW/Church will provide a vegetable tray, a fruit tray and a cake.

We are asking parishioners to donate finger sandwiches, meat and or cheese trays, individual snack bags and finger desserts. We also need help with plating and transporting food to the auditorium, and clean up. Coffee, tea and punch will also be provided. Please sign up on the office bulletin board. Contact Eileen Sidelnick (717-926-4238) if you have any questions. Thank you for your help!

Please pray for our Homebound

Barbara Bross, Fran Bova, Betty Gill, Joe Dowhower, David Hargrove, George Shaak, Anne Shemeta, Jeff Imboden, Cindy Wenger, Sue Ann Richards



Happy Birthday to . . .

Youth

Benjamin Baker	April 7
Braylee Leshner	April 7
Jane Herzing	April 14
Declan Daubert	April 17

Adults

Dale Bashore	April 1
Marilyn Galebach	April 4
Lexie Keffer	April 6
Ethan Gragson	April 10
Susan LeBaron-Tonini	April 11
Bette Gill	April 15
Joseph Mesics	April 15
Robert Nunemacher	April 19
Jordan Moyer	April 20
John Thomas	April 22
Leslie King	April 23
Zachary Yocum	April 23
Leonid Aguilar	April 24
James Joseph Gates	April 26
Ethan Jones	April 26
Linda Clawser	April 27
Francene Gates	April 27
Betsy Barnhart	April 28
Thomas Buzby	April 29
William Drexel	April 29
Sarah Groh	April 29
Cole Haldeman	April 30
Julia Nunemacher	April 30



Happy Anniversary to...

Wiley & Jackie Parker	April 20
James & Julie Keller	April 22
Robert & Susan Tonini	April 26

Schedule of Responsibilities

April 2023

	8:00 AM		10:30 AM
<i>Apr. 2 Palm Sunday</i>	ONE SERVICE 10:00 AM		
LECTOR	Emily Williams		
CRUCIFER			
TORCH/ACOLYTE	Ryan Schies		
TORCH/ACOLYTE	*		
VERGER	Bryan Bowser		
<i>Apr. 9 Easter</i>			
LECTOR	Diana Hynson		Rob Box
CRUCIFER	Wiley Parker		William W. Claxton
TORCH/ACOLYTE			David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE			Ryan Schies
		THURIFER	Hailey Ditzler
<i>Apr. 16</i>		VERGER	Bryan Bowser
	ONE SERVICE 10:00 AM		
LECTOR	John Feather, Jr.		
CRUCIFER	Ryan Schies		
TORCH/ACOLYTE	David Dowhower		
TORCH/ACOLYTE	*		
<i>EVENSONG</i>			
THURIFER	Bryan Bowser		
CRUCIFER	*		
TORCH BEARER			
TORCH BEARER			
TORCH/ACOLYTE			
<i>Apr. 23</i>			
LECTOR	Pam Weaner		Katherine Hoopes
CRUCIFER	Wiley Parker		Bryan Bowser
TORCH/ACOLYTE			David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE			Ryan Schies
<i>Apr. 30</i>			
LECTOR	Wiley Parker		The Sidelnick Family
CRUCIFER	Bryan Bowser		David Dowhower
TORCH/ACOLYTE			Ryan Schies
TORCH/ACOLYTE			*
			* Need Acolyte

Do You Know All the Places You Can Find St. Luke's Online?

Our main website: www.stlukeslebanon.org

Our spiritual formation website: www.journeyinfaith-stlukeslebanon.org

Facebook: [StLukesLebanonPA](https://www.facebook.com/StLukesLebanonPA)

Youtube: The Episcopal Church of Saint Luke's Lebanon, [theepiscopalchurchofsaintl2272](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC12272)

Instagram: [stlukeslebanonpa](https://www.instagram.com/stlukeslebanonpa)

Twitter: [StLukesLebanon](https://twitter.com/StLukesLebanon)