

Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St., Lovell, Maine



March 2021

The Circuit Rider

PO Box 232 Lovell, ME 04051 www.lovellucc.org Office:925-1321 email:info@lovellucc.org



Greetings everyone,

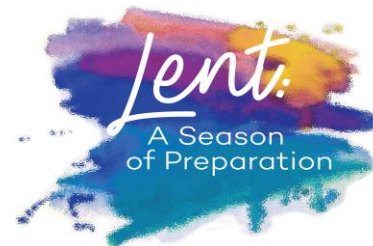
Have you noticed how much warmer the sun feels? I was driving home the other day and the sun was shining in the window and the mountains were clear. It was so nice. I watch the animals venture out to the field as if saying all is OK. The sun is warmer. These things remind me why I live here and to thank God for all God's gifts, especially that of creation.

Then, and I don't know about you, but I am tired of this Covid business, mask wearing, six feet apart, not having friends over for dinner, not having our worship service gatherings, etc. You know what I mean. It is easy to feel down, frustrated, and angry. We have had enough! I pray for more patience and for the strength to do what is necessary for health's safety. I hope everyone is able to stay healthy. What we can do, is to pray for each other in God's love.

This is the March newsletter, and we are now in the church season of Lent. Traditionally, I think of Lent as giving something up. You know - give up chocolate for Lent! However, I am trying this out instead of giving something up. I am trying to explore the nature of prayer and the part it plays in my life. This might be something for you too.

I have been reading a book, Jesus: 21 Days that can Change the Way You Pray by Toby Lofton. Lofton is examining the way Jesus prayed. The seven key elements are:

1. Praying anywhere.
2. Blessing others.
3. Thanking God for revealing Godself.
4. Praying for God's guidance, God's will.
5. Asking God to not forsake us.
6. Asking God to help us not to fail.
7. Asking God to help strengthen our brothers and sisters in Christ.



I would add praying is not doing anything but sitting in God's presence, being wrapped in God's love. Mother Teresa wrote, "It is very hard to pray if one does not know how. We must help ourselves to learn. The most important thing is silence. Souls of prayer are souls of deep silence. We cannot place ourselves directly in God's presence without imposing upon ourselves interior and exterior silence..."

May this Lenten season bring you great blessings of God. May this time of Covid isolation give you time to find the silence. Then as spring approaches we will be ready to embrace the symphony of sound that surrounds us in the singing of birds and rustling of leaves.

God be with you,

Pastor Lois

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAYS

9:00-2:00 Secretary's hours

9:00-12:00 Pastor's Hours

WEDNESDAYS

9:00-2:00 Secretary's hours

9:00-12:00 Pastor's Hours

SATURDAYS

AA meetings via Zoom

Call Pastor Lois FMI

SUNDAYS

3/14 & 3/28 4:00 PM

Vesper Service in the Church parking lot

SUNDAY, 3/14

Deacon's meeting 11:45

MONDAY, 3/15

Missions mtg. 10:30 am

Trustees meeting 7:00

pm

Christian Ed Meeting

6:00 pm

MONDAY, 3/22

Cabinet meeting 7:00

THURSDAY, 3/25

Circuit Rider 9:00



LIMITED REOPENING SATURDAYS 10:00-2:00

We are limited to 5 customers at a time and face coverings need to be worn. We continue to receive LOTS of great merchandise. Stop by and see!

**\$2 Bag Sale on the last Saturday
of each month**

Help needed.

Please call the church office if you can help
925-1321.

Upcoming services and events:

- March 14 Vesper service in the church parking lot at 4:00 pm. Masks and social distancing required.
- March 21 Sunday School via Zoom. Call the church office to register your child.
- March 28 Palm Sunday. Vesper service in the church parking lot at 4:00 pm. Masks and social distancing required.
- April 4 Easter sunrise service in the church parking lot. 6:30 am, masks and social distancing required.
Easter worship at 10:30 am. Masks and social distancing required.
- April 10 Take Out Turkey Dinner 5:00-6:30 pm
- April 18 Sunday School via Zoom. Call the church office to register your child.



Lovell Girl Scouts

The Lovell Girl Scouts continue their collection of returnable bottles and cans. Please be sure they are returnable and place them in the receptacles outside at LUCC. As Maine is now Code Green, Girl Scout troops are allowed to meet using all safety precautions such as masks, distancing and hand sanitizers. The Daisy troop 146 and Senior troop 58 resumed meetings on Monday, Feb. 22 at Lovell UCC. Brownie troop 3149 and Junior troop 208 will be resuming meetings soon. The Girl Scout cookie sale will end on Feb. 28. Please contact any Girl Scout or leader to place an order or contact Linda Libby, 925-3661 or trout@fairpoint.net.

COMMITTEE NEWS

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Many thanks for the generous contributions of frozen meals. If you, or someone you know, is in need of a meal please call the church office. We are happy to help!
We continue our ongoing food collection for the local pantries; donations of non-perishable food are always welcome. Donations bins are located in the church vestry.

Ongoing Programs

Most ongoing programs are
ON HOLD FOR NOW!



CHILDREN (PreK- Grade 5)

Childcare is provided during worship every Sunday if needed. Sunday School classes for all ages are offered every week from 9:00-10:00 am. All are welcome to join any time September-May. **Via Zoom monthly for now.**

YOUTH GROUP (Middle School & High School)

This group meets September-May and is open to all youth in grades 5-12. FMI contact the church office.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

This group meets at Vicki Royer's home on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month (Oct-June). 6:30-9:00 pm. FMI contact Vicki at 925-1444.

MUSIC-CHOIR

Choir rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm and the choir participates in worship every Sunday. Handbells rehearse at 10:00 am.

LADIES CIRCLE

This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month for a business meeting and throughout the year for special programs and events. All ladies are welcome to come as their schedule permits. FMI contact Linda Libby at 925-3661 or Carolyn Carter at 928-2080.

Our Senior Fellowship, *The Gathering Place*, meets on Thursdays from 10:00-2:00. This is **FREE and open to any senior who wishes to drop in**. Bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and snacks are provided. A hot meal is provided on the first Thursday of each month. This is a time for fellowship, games, art and special events. Call the church for more information 925-1321.

STAY IN TOUCH

COME SEE US

1174 Main St.
PO Box 232
Lovell, ME 04051

CALL US

(207)925-1321 (office)



Follow us on Facebook

VISIT US ONLINE

www.lovellucc.org

Email:

info@lovellucc.org

**The Circuit Rider submission deadline for April is
March 14th**

Take-Out Turkey Dinner

Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St., Lovell, Maine

Saturday, April 10th

5:00-6:30 pm

\$10.00 Adults

\$5.00 children under 12



Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, cranberry sauce, rolls, and dessert!

To reserve your dinner, please call Elsa at 928-3100

*All proceeds benefit the work of the
Lovell United Church of Christ*

