

# Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St., Lovell, Maine



March 2023

## The Circuit Rider

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



*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here...*



Dear friends,

It has been an odd winter hasn't it! (If you can call it "winter"! ) Many days found the thermometer reading above 32 degrees and then that two-day blast meteorologists were calling a generational level of cold. As New Englanders we are always a bit skeptical and perhaps pessimistic when it comes to mild winter weather. We just know that eventually we will "pay for it" probably with a big snow late in April or a hard freeze after the seedlings are in!

Yet, we persevere and keep on keeping on. In a way this is faith in its simplest yet perhaps most profound form: to continue on, trusting that ultimately the force, energy, power behind our experiences of this life is a benevolent one and in the end all will be okay.

There is a line from the movie "The Exotic Marigold Hotel". Sonny Kapoor the hotel's manager says, "Everything will be all right in the end... if it's not all right then it's not yet the end." While I may not hold this on the same level as Scripture there is perhaps something here.

Part of what makes exercising such faith as trust a bit easier is to have a community surrounding us as we travel this journey through the cold snaps and warm days, cloudy days of pessimism and sunny days of hope. For me this is why being part of a church is important. While I can sense God's presence on a solitary walk in the forest, when it comes to a difficult stretch of the path it is good to have companions to walk with me.

I hope that you can find such a community to surround, support and travel with you. I have found the church to be such a place for me, perhaps you might as well.

To quote the wisdom of Red Green (yes, the fellow from the Red Green Show PBS) he would close the mid-life musings segment of his program saying:

*"Remember, I'm pulling for you. We're all in this together."*

Yours on the journey,

Pastor Neil

### Looking ahead to Holy Week:

**Maunder Thursday Service** April 6 6:00 p.m. We will gather in the church vestry for a simple meal of soup and bread and around the tables hear the account of Jesus' Last Supper according to John's Gospel with celebration of Holy Communion and the extinguishing of the candles (Tenebrae). All that will be necessary for the meal will be provided. Join us!

### **Easter Worship April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

Watch for more Holy Week information in the next Circuit Rider.

## Ladies Circle

Our Sunshine Lady, Nancy Olmsted, continues to send cards where there is a need. The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteer for February is Linda Libby and Mary Heroux is scheduled for March. Thanks go to all who helped deliver Fruit Baskets the weekend of Jan. 21-22 to those listed on our Community Care List. Also, thank you to Pastor Neil and grandson, Grady, for putting the new advertising sign together. The February 14 Valentine Tea coordinated by Sue Clout and Sue DeWire was a huge success with over 25 people attending. Music by "Touch of Ukes" was enjoyed by all. The gentlemen servers did a wonderful job serving different kinds of tea, small sandwiches, scones and desserts. Everything was delicious. The ladies looked lovely in their special hats. Stay tuned for photos. There was no business meeting in February, however, the March 14 meeting will be back on schedule at 10:00am. The program will be presented by Elsa Newhouse on her recent trip with Jan across the country. Jacky Stearns will be hostess. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle so all are welcome to join the group as schedules allow. Contacts: Carolyn Carter 928-2080, [cecarter1994@gmail.com](mailto:cecarter1994@gmail.com) or Linda Libby 925-3661, [lindalibby12345@outlook.com](mailto:lindalibby12345@outlook.com)

## Lovell Girl Scouts

Daisy Troop 146 continues to meet each Monday, 2:30-4:00, at New Suncook School in the Art Room. On Jan. 21, the girls enjoyed their first Girl Scouts of Maine VIRTUAL "Camp Inside-Out" event at Lovell UCC. Many thanks go to Vicki Royer and Heather Sawin for making sure the WIFI was available and the large screen and projector was working. The troop attended a Cookie Rally at Lake Region HS on Jan. 28 then had a Court of Awards Rededication Ceremony at the end of their Jan. 30 meeting. On Feb. 13, the girls' meeting had a Valentine theme with refreshments and a Valentine craft. Brownie/Junior Troop 3149 also continues meeting on each Tuesday, 2:30-4:00, in the New Suncook School Community Room. This troop also attended the Jan. 21 GSME "Camp Inside-Out" ZOOM event, held a Court of Awards before the event then stayed overnight. This troop also attended the Jan. 28 Cookie Rally at Lake Region High School. Both of these troops would like to thank Lovell UCC for their sponsorship and for allowing the troops to use the church building. Troop 58 for girls in grades 6-12 with leaders Tabitha Blood and Linda Libby has still not started meetings hopefully once a month meetings with pizza. Dates tba. All Lovell Girl Scout troops are still accepting registrations for the upcoming year and will be selling Girl Scout cookies until Feb. 28. Contact any Girl Scout or leaders to place an order.

## COMMITTEE NEWS

### TRUSTEES

The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees meets the second Monday of each month. At the Feb. 13 meeting, officers were elected and job descriptions reviewed. Financial reports were received and accepted. As the solar energy project was approved at the Feb. 5 LUCC Annual Meeting, contracts are being signed and deposits paid. Stay tuned for more information.



### DRIVE-UP LUNCH

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25**

**LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**1174 MAIN ST., LOVELL, MAINE**

**10:00-1:00**

**\$5 PER PERSON**

**Fish chowder, oyster crackers &  
whoopie pies**

**Just drop by or call Joyce at  
928-3132 to reserve your meal**

***All proceeds from this lunch will  
benefit the work of the Mission  
Committee***



Bible Adventures will happen next on Sunday, March 12th. Children ages K-6 are invited to join us at 9:00 am. Classes will be held once a month through May. For more information, call the church office at 925-1321.

MISSIONS

**Easter Bake Sale April 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00-12:00.** All proceeds will benefit the work of the Mission Committee Please stop by!



**ONGOING PROGRAMS**

CHILDREN

Bible Adventure classes for children in grades K-6 are offered once per month, October-May. Call the church office for more information.

EVENING BIBLE STUDY

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

MUSIC-CHOIR

Choir rehearsals are held Sunday mornings at 9:30 am followed by the choir's participation in worship.

MUSIC-HANDBELLS

Handbells rehearse Mondays from 9:00-10:00 am. Bell Ringers wanted! Call the church FMI 925-1321.

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.

Pastor's office hours:

Monday 9:00-1:00  
Wednesday 9:00-1:00  
Email: [pastor@lovellucc.org](mailto:pastor@lovellucc.org)  
Call or text (260)849-1512

Office Administrator's hours:

**Monday 9:00-2:00**  
**Wednesday 9:00-2:00**  
Office 925-1321

**LUCC Thrift Shop**  
**OPEN WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
**10:00-2:00**  
We continue to receive LOTS of great merchandise. Stop by and see!  
\$2/Bag sale the last Wednesday and Saturday of each month. Follow us on Facebook for additional sales.  
**Thrift Shop Lovell United Church of Christ**

**STAY IN TOUCH**

 Follow us on Facebook  
**VISIT US ONLINE**  
[www.lovellucc.org](http://www.lovellucc.org)  
**Email:**  
[info@lovellucc.org](mailto:info@lovellucc.org)

**COME SEE US**  
1174 Main St.  
PO Box 232  
Lovell, ME 04051  
**CALL US**  
(207)925-1321 (office)

**Lovell United Church of Christ**  
**Sunday Worship 10:30 am**  
[www.lovellucc.org](http://www.lovellucc.org)  
**Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Pastor**  
**Dan Moore, Director of Music**  
**Heather Sawin, Office Administrator**

**The Circuit Rider submission deadline for April is March 12th.**

**NEW!** You can watch a replay of our Sunday Sermons on our website. [www.lovellucc.org](http://www.lovellucc.org). Just click on the Sunday Sermons tab.



**4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Thanksgiving in Spring"  
Take-Out Turkey Dinner  
Saturday, March 11, 2023  
5:00-6:00 pm**

**Turkey with all the fixins':  
stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, cranberry  
sauce, rolls and whoopie pies.**

**\$12.00 per person**

**Call Elsa at 928-3100 to reserve yours!**

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