

# Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St., Lovell, Maine



October 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,

As you will be reading this Circuit Rider we will be entering "that season" of the year here in western Maine. No, I'm not thinking of the fall foliage season with the "leaf peepers", nor am I thinking of the fall turkey hunting season or the upcoming moose and deer season. I am thinking about that season that is unique to this area, particularly the Lovell/Fryeburg area, **Fryeburg Fair week!**

I know that Fryeburg Fair and its associated difficulties and delights receives varied reviews and responses from folks. I know that for me when I lived away from this area, when the first week of October rolled around, I always felt a bit of nostalgia and homesickness! But now I'm back and I plan on partaking of all the fair has to offer. I may very well find that I will be cured of the fair frenzy by the time the week is over!

Coming home. What a wonderful sentiment. All of us need a place we think of as "home." This may be defined in different ways for different people but for most it is as much a feeling as a geographical area or the address of a house. Robert Frost defined "home" as:

'Home is the place where, when you have to go there,  
they have to take you in.' (The Death of a Hired Man)

This is one of the areas of ministry that I believe smaller churches are better at than the big "megachurches." We can provide a sense of "home." Not that we are places of "peaceful bliss"! We are not perfect. It was Joe Moody, who many of you will remember, who used to say to me, "If you find the perfect church, don't join it. You'll ruin it!"

No, the church is an imperfect organization because it is made up of imperfect people. But if anyone should stop by, we will be sure to take them in, for as we all know, this isn't an easy world in through which we are traveling. As I remind the congregation every Sunday morning:

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are always welcome here."

In the words of the theme song for the 1980s sitcom *Cheers*:

*Making your way in the world today takes everything you've got.  
Taking a break from all your worries, sure would help a lot.*

*Wouldn't you like to get away  
Sometimes you want to go  
Where everybody knows your name,  
and they're always glad you came.  
You wanna be where you can see,  
our troubles are all the same  
You wanna be where everybody knows  
Your name.*

For me it is good to be home!

*Pastor Neil*

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.

## Ladies Circle

The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteer for September is Donna Fowlie and Jacky Stearns is scheduled for October. On August 27 Jacky Stearns won the beautiful quilt which was donated by Elsa Newhouse. On Sept. 12, the ladies met at Sue Clout's home instead of at the church. A great time was had by all while enjoying the beautiful scenery and delicious refreshments prepared by Sue. The next regular business meeting is scheduled for Oct. 10 at 10:00 with Nancy Olmsted and Mary Heroux as hostesses. 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

Lovell troops had a wonderful time at the August 26 Outdoor Skills Day at Fryeburg Fairgrounds. Troop 3149 was in charge of the opening and closing flag ceremonies and did a great job. Daisy Troop 146 and Cadette/Brownie Troop 58 started meetings on Monday, Sept. 11, in the Art Room. Both of these troops are in need of another leader. A two-part on-line training is available, and a background check is required. Lovell Girl Scout Troops 146 and 58 for girls in grades K-2 are accepting girl registrations for the upcoming year. Troop 3149 for grades 3-6 is full but adding girls to a waiting list. For information, contact: Linda Libby, 925-3661, or [lindalibby12345@outlook.com](mailto:lindalibby12345@outlook.com)

## COMMITTEE NEWS

**TRUSTEES** The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met on Monday, Sept. 11, 7:00pm, in person and with ZOOM thanks to Kathy Dunham. This meeting included financial reports, investment reports, old business and new business items. Projects on the "to do" list include replacing the heating register in the left bathroom, clearing brush on the leach field, and replacing post coverings on the Vestry entryway. The board also continues to update The Lovell UCC Policies and Procedures Book. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm on October 9.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** **Bible Adventures will start again on October 15<sup>th</sup>. 9:00-10:00 am for children age 4 and up.** Call the church office for more information. Don't miss the annual Halloween Drive up Trick or Treat event sponsored by Christian Ed. Details can be found later in this newsletter. \* A donation box can be found in the church vestry if you would like to donate candy for this event.

**MISSIONS** We continue to support our local food pantries with donation boxes available in the church vestry. It's time to start planning our annual Christmas baskets. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a basket of holiday meal ingredients and a few gifts, please let us know. Later in this newsletter you will find information about our second annual Fall Bake Sale to benefit this project. During the month of October we will focus on one of our 5 for 5 Missions through the UCC, "Neighbors in Need".

JOIN US  
for  
LUNCH

**DRIVE-UP LUNCH**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th  
LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1174 MAIN ST., LOVELL, MAINE**

**10:00-1:00 (or until we sell out!)  
\$5 PER PERSON  
Reuben sandwich, chips, and a cookie**

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

**All proceeds from this lunch will be used by the  
LUCC Missions Committee. They support and  
provide assistance to a variety of programs such  
as: LUCC Christmas baskets, Lovell & Sweden food  
pantries, UCC Missions- local, national and  
worldwide, the Sunshine Backpack Food Program,  
disaster assistance, Church World Service, Heifer  
International, Good Shepherd Food Bank, Mother  
Seton House, local rescue services, Lovell  
Recreation and much more.**

**“God saw everything God made and behold; it was very good.” Genesis 1:31**

**Neighbors In Need (NIN) Special Mission Offering** of the United Church of Christ will be received in our church **throughout the month of October.** One third of the monies received from this offering supports The Council of American Indian Ministry and two thirds supports the Justice and Witness Ministries helping provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy, and direct service projects. This year’s focus is on environmental justice issues.

Please give as God leads you. Your offering may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday or mailed to the church. Thank you for your support of these ministries.

CABINET Monthly Cabinet reports are available upon request. Please email Mary Heroux, Clerk at [meheroux@gmail.com](mailto:meheroux@gmail.com).

## ONGOING PROGRAMS

### **CHILDREN**

Bible Adventure classes for children in grades K-6 are offered twice per month, October-May.

Call the church office for more information. **1<sup>st</sup> class for this year will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:00 am.**

### **EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

This group meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday 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 Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 and perform during worship monthly. 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*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP.**

## 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 November is October 15th.**



## Drive-up Trick or Treat

**October 29<sup>th</sup> 3:00-5:00 PM**  
**In the Lovell United Church of Christ**  
**parking lot and along Rte. 5**  
**Photo booth too at LUCC!**  
**All are welcome**

13+ business locations have signed up along with many residential stops.  
Watch for posters around town with more information.

*Sponsored by the Lovell United Church of Christ Board of Christian Education*



**At the Lovell United Church of Christ**

**1174 Main St.**

**Lovell, Maine**

**Saturday, October 21st**

**9:00-12:00**

**Assorted Fall treats for sale such as: pies, cakes, cookies,  
pumpkin bread, bars and much more!**

**All proceeds benefit the work of the Missions Committee to fill  
Christmas baskets for families in our community.**