

Lovell United Church of Christ
PO Box 232
Lovell, ME 4051

The Circuit Rider

March 2024



Sunday worship 10:30 am Church office: (207)925-131 Email: info@lovellucc.org

Dear friends,

March can be a dreary month. Winter still wants to hang on while Spring is working at making a showing with the occasional hint of warmth. Usually though, March just brings us more snow and rain and in general, drab days. March is that month when, as the old timer said to me, "When the weather is nice, we say, 'Well, you know, it is March already.' And the next day when it reverts to winter again, we say 'Well, it's still only March.'"

March does have its days. Town meeting on the first Saturday in March. (Get your seat early! And don't forget the Church is offering Drive-up lunch that day, Fish chowder and a dessert!) Daylight Savings time begins on the 10th this year. (Lose an hour of sleep!) St. Patrick's Day (get your green out!) The Spring Equinox, this year March 19th, 11:06 p.m. (Yea! More daylight than dark!)

And this year Easter falls in March! Alleluia, if the weather doesn't buoy our spirits the thought of this might. While for pastors, Easter coming early doesn't give us as many weeks to recoup from the Advent/Christmas busyness, but there is something about the week after Easter that, again whether the temperatures indicate it or not, we can tell ourselves, "Okay, *Spring is here.*"

Easter with its Easter Egg hunts, family dinners, Sunrise services, sanctuaries adorned with lilies and spring flowers of optimistic colors, shouts of Alleluia! And He is risen! A more hopeful sign of Spring than the calendars on our walls!

But of course, this year the day after Easter is April Fool's Day! And I have to wonder what mischief old Mother Nature will be up to this year!

Yours in the hope and joy of Easter!

Pastor Neil Wilson



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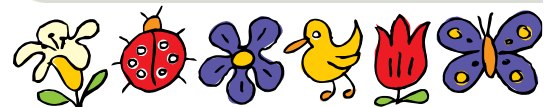
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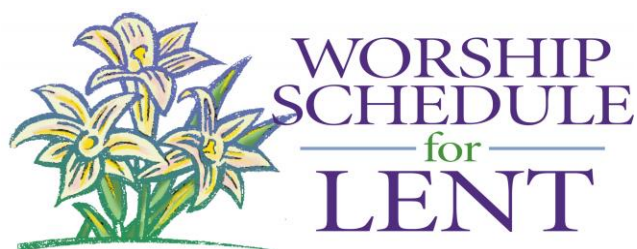
Ways to keep in touch!





“One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.”

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received throughout the month of March.



3/3 Worship at 10:30 am

3/10 Worship at 10:30 am
Girl Scout Sunday

3/17 Worship at 10:30 am

3/24 Palm Sunday
Worship at 10:30 am

3/28 Maundy Thursday
6:00 pm service with Tenebrae

3/29 Prayer Vigil 9:00 am-9:00 pm.
Call the church office to sign up for a time slot.

3/31 Easter Sunday
Sunrise service 6:30 am at 38 Hartman Rd., Lovell.
10:30 am worship at LUCC.



DRIVE-UP LUNCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

AT THE

**LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

1174 MAIN ST., LOVELL, MAINE

10:00-1:00

\$5 PER PERSON

**Fish chowder, crackers and
brownie/bar**

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

**All proceeds from this lunch will
be donated to the Hamalainen
Family of Fryeburg injured in the
events of 1/30.**

Thank you for your support!

***This is also Lovell Town Meeting
day. Why not stop by for lunch
after the meeting?**



MISSIONS

January Drive Up Lunch benefited the Lovell and Sweden Food Pantries. March 2 lunch will benefit the Hamalainen Family. (accident in Fryeburg) The Mission Committee also sent money to support the Maine School of Ministry (MESOM) which focuses on theological education for the life of the church through the Maine Conference of the UCC.

TRUSTEES The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met on Monday, Feb. 12, 7:00pm, in person and with ZOOM thanks to Kathy Dunham and Pastor Neil. This meeting included financial reports, investment reports, old business and new business items. Projects taken off the “to do” list included replacing the heating register in the left bathroom (thank you John Bacchiocchi), purchasing a new laptop, curtains for the vestry to help with the sound issue, water dispenser to help with water issues, purchase of a snowblower, snow shoveling schedule and Thrift Shop lighting. Items remaining on the “to do” list were: generator (tabled until May), ZOOM for meetings and updating The Lovell UCC Policies and Procedures Book. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm on March 11.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Bible Adventures for March will be held on the 17th from 9:00-10:00 am for children age 4 and up. Call the church office for more information.



Ladies Circle The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteer job for February is Sue Clout and for March is Linda Libby. No business meeting was held in February, however, an excellent Winter Tea was held instead. Thanks to Sue Clout and Sue DeWire, over 30 ladies enjoyed an afternoon of tea, delicious refreshments and great entertainment by Sue Clout. A special thanks also goes to the men who did the serving. January treasury balance was \$3294.79. The next regular meeting will be on March 12 and hostesses will be Carolyn Carter and Nancy Olmsted. The refreshments will be made by ladies using original recipes used in a 1976 church cookbook. Fruit Baskets were put together by Nancy Olmsted and Sue DeWire and delivered by church members the weekend of Jan. 20-21. On Jan. 23, six ladies met in Fryeburg for an enjoyable lunch. 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 or Linda Libby 925-3661, lindalibby12345@outlook.com



Girl Scouts Daisy Girl Scout Troop 146 and Brownie Troop 58 have been very busy since returning from Christmas break to their regular Monday, 2:30-4:00, meetings in the Art Room at New Suncook School. Because their Christmas party was cancelled in Dec., the girls celebrated on Jan. 8 with gifts, games and refreshments. On Jan. 27, the girls traveled to Lake Region HS to join girls from over 14 other troops for a “Cookie Rally”. This event kicked off the 2024 Cookie Sale with activities to help the girls have a safe and fun cookie sale. On Jan. 29, a mini Court of Awards was held. Girls received uniforms, pins, and badges. Daisies officially joined GS, receiving their Beginning Certificates; and Brownies were rededicated and recognized for bridging from Daisies to Brownies. Leader, Andrea Walker is both troop’s Cookie Sale Volunteer and attended the Feb. 5, meeting to help the girls learn more about the cookies available to sell plus several fun activities. The Feb. 12 meeting included a Valentine party. Girls created Valentines for special friends, enjoyed Valentine themed refreshments and games. During all these fun activities, the girls will be completing requirements on several badges. Troop 3149 for girls in grades 4-7 continues to meet on Fridays, 2:30-4:00, in the Art Room. These girls also attended the “Cookie Rally”, are selling cookies and are planning an overnight at Lovell UCC in March. Badge work is also part of their weekly meetings. Registrations are still being accepted. For more information, contact Linda Libby, 925-3661 or lindalibby12345@outlook.com. Join us for worship at LUCC on March 10th for Girl Scout Sunday!

Ongoing programs:



CHILDREN

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

Call the church office for more information.

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.

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.



OPEN WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS

10:00-2:00

\$2/Bag sale the last Wednesday and Saturday of each month. Follow us on Facebook for additional sales.

HELP WANTED

**Do you ever have an hour or so to spare?
Want to meet new people, and make new friends while getting a bit of exercise (as much or as little as you want)?
Drop by the church almost any Tuesday or Thursday morning between 8-10 or so, and join in the fun. And we do have fun!
The task is sorting the generous donations which come in daily to the Thrift Shop donation shed. Many are priceless treasures; some things we never do figure out! The Thrift Shop is a huge community outreach project which grows continually, as well as being a major source of church funding. Projects are available both indoors and outdoors, sitting or standing or doing the stairs.
All are welcome!**

Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Pastor

Pastor's office hours:

Monday 9:00-1:00

Wednesday 9:00-1:00

Email: pastor@lovellucc.org

Call or text (260)849-1512

Heather Sawin, Office Administrator

Office Administrator's hours:

Monday 9:00-2:00

Wednesday 9:00-2:00

Office 925-1321

Email: info@lovellucc.org

Dan Moore, Director of Music

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Follow us on Facebook

VISIT US ONLINE

www.lovellucc.org

Email: info@lovellucc.org

stayCONNECTED

Don't miss our 5th annual Spring Turkey Dinner! Details on the back page of this newsletter.

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

