



The Circuit Rider 2025

Sunday worship 10:30 am Church office: (207)925-1321 Email: info@lovellucc.org



Dear Friends,

As the calendar page turns from May to June my thoughts turn to graduates and all the graduation ceremonies and parties that will be held around our community. What a wonderful time of the year. I like to imagine all the potential the future holds for graduates and their families.

All of us here at the Lovell United Church of Christ wish all our graduates the very best in fulfilling their hopes and dreams. For some it means moving to a new school, Fryeburg Academy (for the eighth graders), perhaps a technical school or college for others. Some will be graduating from their years of formal education and moving on to a vocation, perhaps military service.

But learning doesn't end when the last classroom bell rings or the textbooks are closed for the last time. In our fast-changing world it is important to stay current with the latest and best or we fall behind quickly. I don't know about you, but whether it's my physician or plumber I hope they are keeping up with the latest innovations in their respective fields!

I hope I am still learning and open to new ideas, options, and opportunities. Even as a pastor I know the skills and tools needed to lead a congregation today are not the same as they were when I first began 40 years ago! God may never change, and the Bible is still the Bible, but we have gained more in our understanding of the ancient text. We still present sermons, but the art of preaching has changed as our culture has become more visual and less auditory.

So, if I have any words of advice or encouragement from my years of education and experiences for our graduates it would be this: Your school years may be in your past, but your education isn't! Keep learning. Keep growing. Be curious! Stay open! Our world will need your fresh ideas, new innovations, your creative solutions to the many issues facing us today.

The refrain from a rock song during the years shortly after I graduated just came to mind:

*"Dream on, Dream on, Dream on,
Dream until your dreams come true"* ~Aerosmith *Dream On* 1976

Or in a more pastoral vein the prophet Jeremiah had these words to encourage the Israelites returning from exile,

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Jeremiah 29:11 New International Version

Pastor Neil Wilson



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! A HUGE Thank you to everyone who came together for Joyce Furtado's Benefit Dinner. Many hands make light work. Everyone's support is a blessing.



DRIVE-UP LUNCH
SATURDAY, JUNE 28
AT THE
LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1174 MAIN ST LOVELL, MAINE
10:00-12:00
\$5 PER PERSON

Salad with grilled chicken and strawberries, poppyseed dressing, homemade roll and a cookie

Just drop by or call Nancy at 925-1831 to reserve your meal

All proceeds from this lunch will benefit the Mission Fund



Strengthen the Church – One of the UCC 5 for 5 Offerings taken throughout the year.

“As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.” This Offering will be received throughout the month of June. Checks can be made payable to Lovell UCC with Strengthen the Church in the memo line and placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Envelopes will also be available at church. Thank you for your generosity.

DRIVE- UP LUNCH CHANGES – The Mission Committee would like everyone to know that Joyce Furtado needs to take time away from the Drive-Up Lunches to care for herself. Lunches will continue. Watch for posters with the menu in our monthly newsletter and on Facebook. The new contact to reserve your lunch is Nancy Olmsted 925-1831. (PLEASE DO NOT CALL JOYCE) You may leave a message on Nancy's answering machine. We appreciate everyone who supports this monthly ministry.

PANTRY PICK OF THE MONTH FOR JUNE/JULY – Cleaning supplies (dish soap, bottle or spray cleaners, sponges, paper towel etc.) These items will be given to the Lovell and Sweden Food Pantries.



Mark your calendars for July 2nd, 7:00 pm.

The Walsh Memorial Bell Choir from Morris Plains, New Jersey will perform a Handbell Concert at LUCC. Please join us!



TRUSTEES The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met Monday, May 12, 7:00pm. The May meeting included the usual financial reports, investment reports, old business and new business. Several items on the “to do” list have been completed. The Parsonage generator hook-up is done, parking lot sweeping was completed thanks to Pastor Neil and a new office Quickbook program has been installed. Checking into Parsonage electricity costs is still on the list as well as the Parsonage and grounds ready for VBS use.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Bible Adventures for Families will resume in October. Evening Bible Study will hold an annual Dinner and a Movie night soon. More information to come. Vacation Bible School will be held June 16-June 20 9:30-1:30. Information can be found on the back page of this newsletter.



LADIES CIRCLE

The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteer for June is Sue DeWire and Pat Stearns is responsible for July. Linda Libby was hostess at the May 13 meeting which included refreshments and a very enjoyable presentation by Karen McCarthy, an author who shared the story of her life including 23 years as a nun. Carolyn Carter coordinated the annual Church World Service project which ended May 11 with donations of almost \$1200. The Circle also sponsored a very successful RADA cutlery sale. Plans for the June 10 luncheon are being made with Linda Johnson as hostess. The luncheon will take place at the Olde Mill Tavern in Harrison again this year at 12:00 with a Hawaiian theme. Be sure to add your name to the sign-up form available in the church vestry. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle so all are welcome to join the group as schedules allow. Contacts: Carter 928-2080, cecarter1994@gmail.com. or Linda Libby 925-3661, lindalibby12345@outlook.com



All our Lovell Girl Scout troops are currently meeting. Daisy Troop 146 is finishing work on their last petal, and six girls and leaders will be attending the “Outdoor Skills Day” at Pondicherry on May 31 including lunch at McDonald’s. The May 15 meeting was a special treat. Heather Sawin brought her portable bee hive in and told the girls all about the life of bees. Watching the bees doing their work was really exciting. The cookie sale is officially finished, however, cookies are still available by either a message for Jammie at 603-452-8494 or e-mail Linda at lindalibby12345@outlook.com to place an order. Junior/Cadette Troop 3149 had a great time on their trip to Boston by Amtrak May 3 & 4 and will be traveling again in August to Vermont. A GS Bridging & Fly-up Ceremony will be held on June 8, 1:30-2:30, at Lovell UCC. Troops will then take a break until the Lovell Old Home Days in July and a GS Fun Day at Fryeburg Fairgrounds on Aug. 23. Several Lovell leaders attended the Apple Mountain Service Unit annual recognition dinner on May 9 at the Magic Lantern in Bridgton. Delicious food as well as receiving patches and t-shirts were included in the evening. Spring registrations for girls and adult volunteers at a reduced fee will be accepted until June 15 and camp registration is also still open but filling up fast. At least two leaders are required for a troop to meet. At this point two leaders are needed in order for all troops to continue. Registration, training and background checks are required. For more information, contact lindalibby12345@outlook.com or 925-3661

Ongoing programs:



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Bible Adventure classes for families are offered once per month, October-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.

KNITTING AND CRAFTING GROUP

Meets the first Thursday of each month in the vestry, 6:30 pm. Bring a project to work on and join the fun! All are welcome.

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 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



Follow us on Facebook

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stayCONNECTED

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

