



## **The Circuit Rider 2025**

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

Dear friends,



Churches and their congregations are notorious for being institutions that embrace change reluctantly, if at all! This is both a good and not so good trait. At its best the church can serve as a constant in the uncertainty of a rapidly changing world. It doesn't serve the church well when we find ourselves "stuck" in a by-gone era, in an outmoded way of thinking and functioning.

I sound like I'm picking on the church, and I guess I am, after all I am a pastor, and this is the institution I know best. But I know that this is not just a church issue. It is one that many organizations face if they carry much of a history and tradition.

Here at the Lovell United Church of Christ, in an effort to find our place and our future within our cultural and geographical context we will be doing some planning and visioning work.

Some of the questions we will be working with are the usual, "Where will we be in 5 years...10 years?" But also questions like, "For whom do we exist?"

"How will we see ourselves- our church, the structure of our committees and boards?"

"What does the Lovell UCC offer to our community?" "Who are the people we serve?"

"And while the message of the Gospel is consistent, how will we share this message in a manner that is both meaningful and relevant to our current cultural setting?"

We hope to follow this envisioning and purpose shaping process with some "big idea"; "dreaming" work as well.

Having grown up in Lovell and in Lovell UCC, I am aware that this church in the past played a significant role in this community. Everything from church suppers to funerals and weddings, and hosting community meetings. This has changed over the years, (this is very noticeable to me having been away for 35 years) but I believe this church still has a role in the greater good of our community and beyond. As the pastor I want to be accessible not only to the church membership but to the community in whatever manner seems practical and positive in our 21<sup>st</sup> century reality.

To this end I would love to hear your thoughts. Especially from you who have the unique position of viewing the church from outside our membership. I have found that my perception of things is all too often that of an "insider", so I need to hear from those who see the church from a different perspective. A term we use in church/cultural studies is to try to get a view of the church "from the balcony."

So, yes, I would love to hear from you! I encourage you to send me your thoughts and comments, your "balcony view" of the Lovell UCC its ministry past and current, its role in our greater community, current and future, you can reach me via email [pastor@lovellucc.org](mailto:pastor@lovellucc.org) or through the church office 207-925-1321 Please leave a message I will return your call when I'm in back in the office.

Yours in service to others,

*Pastor Neil Wilson*



At the Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St.

Lovell, Maine

Saturday, October 25

10:00-12:00

Enjoy Fall baked items-pies, quiche, cookies, breads, etc.

Drive-up lunch will include Joyce's Chili, breadstick and cookies for \$5. (PLEASE contact Nancy at (207)925-1831 to reserve a meal)

*All proceeds benefit the Lovell UCC Mission Fund and Community Christmas baskets.*



Drive-up Trick or Treat

## Lovell United Church of Christ's Annual town-wide Halloween Event

October 26<sup>th</sup> 3:00-5:00 PM

**\*Start at LUCC and receive a FREE trick or treat bag, treats & goodies, enjoy our photo booth, and pick up a map of all the area participants.**

**All are welcome!**

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

The following businesses and organizations will be participating, as well as some residences.

Please feel free to join in the fun if you wish to set up in your own yard along the route!

Kezar Realty

Harvest Gold Gallery

Fly Away Farm

Lovell Volunteer Fire Dept.

Greater Lovell Land Trust

Lovell Rec (at the town office)

Micklon Tree Service & Landscaping

Oxford County Sheriff (at the fire station)

Kezar Lake Country Club

Lovell Historical Society

Firefly Vintage

Designs by Diana

Jordan's Carpentry

Charlotte Hobbs Library

Lovell Hardware

Delta Masonic Lodge #153

Cold River Health Center

Cricket Country Store

Wentworth's 925 Auto

Molloy Energy

Center Lovell Market



**TRUSTEES** The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees did not meet in August but resumed meetings on Sept. 9. This meeting included the usual financial reports, old business and new business. Plans for snow shoveling and plowing were discussed as well as how to eliminate the water problem in the basement each time it rains. No progress was made on plans for a possible Medical Supply Closet and "Dream" items were still included on the agenda. All boards and committees are reminded that budget requests must be submitted to the Trustees by their Nov. 10 meeting. Next Trustee meeting is scheduled for Oct. 13 For more information, contact Linda Libby 925-3661 or Farwell Sawin, Jr, 925-1517.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** The Parables of Jesus for All Ages (a monthly Sunday School program for families) will resume in November. The Evening Bible Study focused on "The Chosen" will resume on October 8 at 6:30 pm. See the back page of this newsletter for more information. All are welcome!



**LADIES CIRCLE** The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteers are Lois Brown for September and Nancy Olmsted for October. A very successful 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pie Sale took place on Saturday, August 2 with over 50 pies sold. On August 12, the Circle did not have a regular business meeting but traveled to Newry to have a delicious lunch and good fellowship time with Donna Fowlie. The 2026 visit date has already been added to the Ladies Circle calendar. Hostesses for the Sept. 9 meeting were Sue Campo and Lois Brown. The ladies voted to hold another RADA Cutlery sale starting in October and also voted to donate \$263.75 to cover the cost of five GS Daisy tunics and insignia. It was also decided to change the Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, meeting date to Nov. 4. The Show & Tell program that followed the meeting is was enjoyed by all. Hostesses for the October 14 meeting will be Nancy Olmsted and Donna Wilson with a program of flower arranging by Sarah Sawin Whiton. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle so all are welcome to join the group as schedules allow. Contacts: Linda Libby 925-3661, [lindalibby12345@outlook.com](mailto:lindalibby12345@outlook.com) or Carolyn Carter 928-2080, [cecarter1994@gmail.com](mailto:cecarter1994@gmail.com)



All our Lovell Girl Scout troops are now meeting. Daisy Troop 146 with leaders Jammie Graves and Linda Libby meets on Thursdays and Brownie/Jr. Troop 58 with leaders Vicki Royer and Andrea Walker meets on Mondays both at New Suncook School. Troop 3149 for girls in grades 6 and older with leaders Andrea Walker and Andrea Goodwin meets at Molly Ockett Middle School on Fridays. Four new girls in Daisy Troop 146 attended the Apple-Mountain Service Unit August 23<sup>rd</sup> GS Fun Event at Fryeburg Fair Grounds. They tie-dyed t-shirts, made slime and other very messy fun activities. These girls also attended the August 14 Ice Cream Social at the Lovell Rec. Field sponsored by Troop 3149. All troops will be participating in the fall sale of nuts and candy which begins on Sept. 19. For more information, contact Linda Libby, 925-3661 or [lindalibby12345@outlook.com](mailto:lindalibby12345@outlook.com)

**Mission News: NEIGHBORS IN NEED SPECIAL OFFERING to be received throughout the month of October.** NIN offering supports ministries and compassion for the Council for American Indians and other justice programs of the UCC. In 2025 Neighbors and Need has supported 26 grant recipients who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. Please place your gifts marked NIN in the offering plate at church or mail to Lovell UCC, PO Box 232, Lovell, Me. 04051

**CHRISTMAS BASKETS** – Each year Lovell UCC prepares Christmas Baskets for anyone who might need additional support during the holidays. Each basket includes items for Christmas Dinner and a gift. If you could use a Christmas Basket or know someone who could this season, please contact Lovell UCC 207-925-1321 and speak with Pastor Neil or Heather. All names are confidential.

# Ongoing programs:



## **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

"The Parables of Jesus for all Ages" classes 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.

## **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.



Do you love to knit, cross stitch, sew, etc.? Would you like to be inspired to try something new? Come join this group of like-minded friends on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. All are welcome, come when you can, bring your own project to work on, and join the fun!

The NEXT meeting will be October 2nd in the vestry, here at LUCC.

**Maybe it's time to get started on your holiday gift crafting? What better way to get going than to join others doing the same thing!**

## **Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Pastor**

### **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

### **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](mailto:info@lovellucc.org)

### **Dan Moore, Director of Music**

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)



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### **VISIT US ONLINE**

[www.lovellucc.org](http://www.lovellucc.org)

Email: [info@lovellucc.org](mailto:info@lovellucc.org)

# stayCONNECTED

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

