



The Circuit Rider

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



Dear friends,

Were you, like me, watching as the Artemis 2 lifted off for its fly-by flight around the Moon? And then over the next 10 days followed their journey in the Orion spacecraft *Integrity* watching as the parachutes opened and the crew of four safely splashed down in the Pacific Ocean. It took me back to the 14-year-old boy glued to the black and white television watching the grainy image of Neil Armstrong descending the ladder of LM Eagle to those now famous words. *"One small step..."*

Whether we marvel at the technology and gifted minds that makes such travel to the moon and back possible or just the wonder of space itself (that same 14-year-old boy would scan the heavens with his Meade 2.5 inch refractor telescope and ponder the vastness). The vastness of space does bring one to a place of contemplation.

And of course, from about the same age in television you may recall the words:

"Space: the final frontier. These are the voyages of the starship Enterprise. Its five-year mission: to explore strange new worlds; to seek out new life and new civilizations; to boldly go where no [man] has gone before!"

Humankind has been exploring the "final" frontier perhaps since the first of our ancestors began walking upright. It almost seems to be part of an evolutionary drive. Unfortunately, we have done so often in some rather ignoble ways.

I would suggest that there are other "frontiers" we need to explore further. The frontier of human relationships, cultural differences, economic disparities, geo-political differences. If we can succeed in these frontiers perhaps we as a human race will have something to take to the frontiers of space.

Listening to an NPR program shortly after the return of *Integrity*, I learned that through the United Nations there is an "Outer Space Treaty." One of the resolutions adopted in this treaty states: *"Outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means."* It also states: *"The exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind."*

May it be so. May we treat "Space" more humanely than we sometimes have our earthly neighbors. In the meantime, while we are exploring Space let us also continue to work on closing the distances between us as human beings that we may truly explore new frontiers for the benefit of all including any we may find in our explorations!

As Kasey Kasem would say at the end of his American Top 40 radio program, *"Keep your feet on the ground, and keep reaching for the stars."*

Pastor Neil Wilson

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION -Lovell UCC supports the Lovell Area Food Pantry and Sweden Food Pantry monthly with a collection of needed items. At this time the need is great and Food Pantry resources are being used to purchase food staples. The **“Pantry Pick of the Month for April and May”** is applesauce (cups or jars), fruit (canned or cups) and dried fruit (raisins, craisins, etc.). Please drop your items in the church vestry in the bins marked Food Pantry. Thank you for your support!

NO Drive up lunch in May. Mark your calendars for June:



DRIVE-UP LUNCH
SATURDAY, June 27
AT THE
LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1174 MAIN ST LOVELL, MAINE
10:00-12:00
\$5 PER PERSON

Strawberry grilled chicken salad with poppyseed dressing, muffin & a brownie
Just drop by or call Nancy at 925-1831 to reserve your meal

All proceeds from this lunch will benefit the
The LUCC Mission Fund for ongoing Mission needs
Thank you for your support!



As we all look forward to warmer spring weather, the Thrift Shop staff are busy switching from winter to summer merchandise. It's a lot of stuff to move! Please help us out by not dropping off more winter clothing or holiday decorations at this time. If you're able to hold that until fall, we'd really appreciate it! Many thanks.



TRUSTEES: The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met on April 13. As usual, this meeting included financial reports, old business and new business. Since there is a need for a Large Gathering Standard Operating Procedure, a joint meeting was held on March 26 with the Board of Diaconate. The Trustees' responsibilities will include parking safety, determining maximum capacity of all areas of the church building and looking into improving the sound systems to include live-streaming to the Vestry and Halford Room overflow areas. Trash removal has been arranged and grounds maintenance is being checked into. The fire extinguishers have been inspected and Thrift Shop lighting is on the "to do" list as well as reroofing the Vestry and Thrift Shop entrances. The next Trustee meeting is scheduled for May 11 at 7:00pm. For more information, contact Linda Libby 925-3661 or Jan Newhouse 928-3100



LADIES CIRCLE The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteers are Nancy Olmsted for April and Sue DeWire for May. At the April 14 meeting, Nancy Olmsted was hostess and served delicious refreshments. Carolyn Carter will be overseeing the Church World Service program again this year April 23 to May 3 with the CWS Blanket Sunday scheduled for Mother's Day, May 10. Linda Libby will be hostess at the May 12 meeting and the program will be by Sue Clout again answering technology questions. Ladies are requested to write their questions down and e-mail them to Sue prior to the meeting. The ladies had so many questions at the April meeting, it was decided to have the same program again in May. June 9 will be the date of our annual luncheon and all Thrift Shop volunteers will be invited again this year. Location tba. Ladies should also save the date of July 14 as that is the date of our 22nd Annual Thrift Shop Fashion Show. It's not too early to find that perfect Thrift Shop outfit to model. 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 SCOUT COOKIE SALE WILL END ON May 1! Daisy Troop 146 has held several cookie booth sales and is now collecting items to donate to Harvest Hills as a service project. Brownie Troop 58 had a fun overnight at Lovell UCC on March 21 and recently completed their Games badge. Multi Troop 3149 is still VERY busy. This troop visited the Long Shores Aquarium and also interviewed the school janitor earning part of the requirements of the Night Owl badge. For their New Cuisines badge, the girls prepared and served dinner at Lovell UCC. This troop as well as the other Lovell troops wish to thank Lovell UCC for their sponsorship and use of the facilities. On May 1-3, Troop 3149 will be camping at Pondicherry GS Camp including use of the ropes Challenge Course. Troop leaders were required to complete training for the girls to use this course. For more information, contact Linda Libby, 925-3661 or lindalibby12345@outlook.com

Ongoing programs:



STORIES IN THE WIND

Sunday morning adult bible study held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9:00 am. The theme is The Parables of Jesus. All are welcome! ENDING May 10th.

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.



Open to all crafters who wish to join us for fellowship, help with a craft, inspiration and fun!

The next meeting will be **May 7th, 6:30 PM in the vestry here at LUCC.** Come join us! 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

Email: 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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www.lovellucc.org

Email: info@lovellucc.org

stayCONNECTED

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

