



The Circuit Rider

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



Friends,

Members of the Simuliidae family have arrived in Lovell. Have you noticed them? They are just about everywhere. They're at our house. I ran into them at the transfer station and down at the Lovell Rec field (they are especially noticeable there!) If you haven't run into them then you have not stepped outside! The Simuliidae or better known as our friend, the black fly is back in full force. Black flies are just a fact of life here in the woods and lakes of western Maine. Part of the Spring ritual in Maine.

Everyone has their own way of dealing with these springtime visitors. Some opt for full body armor, taped cuffs and sleeves, many employ only a face net. Others apply liberal amounts of repellent, the higher the percentage of DEET the better for these folks (Please though, do not use DEET with infants and young children!) Others take a more environmentally safe approach using mint, eucalyptus, and cedarwood oils. When I was logging, I would put a liberal amount of Johnson's Baby Oil on my hard hat. The black flies would stick in the oil and not on my face. (I was also the most agreeable smelling woodman most people ever met!)

Black fly season and how we approach it might be seen as a metaphor for life. We have seasons where sometimes little things just seem to become overwhelming. We can try to completely avoid matters, cover ourselves from head to toe, holding the issues at a distance hoping to ignore them. We can use chemical solutions in the way of medications or other sorts of drugs seeking to repel the thoughts or growing aggravations. We can distract ourselves from what is going on, thinking they will bother someone else. Or, and this is the most likely reaction, we can just complain about them until they go away!

These solutions may work for black flies but not necessarily for those little annoyances in life. Unlike black flies which will go away, life's little frustrations will be there until we bring them forth and address them. Often if ignored they tend to fester and grow until they are more than just a minor irritations.

I don't have any easy fixes for how you might deal the matter of life's irritations other than finding the courage to deal with them, occasionally swatting a few of them away (there are some that aren't really yours to worry about), and perhaps like we do with black flies, find a friend to commiserate with, or better yet, find a way to bear with them while you work on a resolution.

As the author of Ecclesiastes wrote: *"Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help."* Ecc. 4:9-10

Yours patiently waiting the arrival of mosquitos and then those little "no-see-ums"!

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.

PANTRY PICK FOR LOVELL AND SWEDEN FOOD PANTRIES FOR June and July is Pasta, tomato sauce and mac n cheese— Support the Lovell and Sweden Area Food Pantries by dropping items at Lovell UCC in the Vestry on the wire rack left of the door.



Special Offering June 14

“The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. **By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.**”



To everyone for supporting the April Bake Sale and Drive-Up Lunch. \$385 was donated to Church World Service and \$750 was donated to Chris' Haven of Hope, a recovery home in Bryant Pond. We are all Christ's hands to those in need.



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!



TRUSTEES: The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met on May 11. As usual, this meeting included financial reports, old business and new business. Discussion and updates were reported on the Trustees' responsibilities outlined in the recent safety meeting which included parking safety, 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. Suggestions on possible grounds maintenance possibilities are also being checked into. Some Thrift Shop lighting has been updated and a new roof on one of the entrances has been completed. The "to do" list now includes installing a higher toilet and bars in one of the bathrooms, review of Standard Operating Procedures as well as discussing the pro and cons of the Parsonage's future. The next Trustee meeting is scheduled for June 8 at 7:00pm. For more information, contact Linda Libby 925-3661 or Jan Newhouse 928-3100



LADIES CIRCLE

The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteers are Sue DeWire for May and Pat Stearns for June. At the May 12 meeting, Linda Libby served refreshments. Hostesses for the June Luncheon will be Sue Clout and Sue DeWire. An invitation has been extended to the Thrift Shop volunteers to attend the luncheon which will take place on June 9 at The Olde Mill Tavern in Harrison at 12:00 noon. Ladies should be sure to sign up on the sheet available in the vestry. Carolyn Carter reported on Church World Service kits as well as the May 10 Blanket Sunday proceeds. The ladies voted to donate enough money to make the total \$1000. Carolyn also gave us an update on graduates who will be honored on Graduate Sunday at Lovell UCC. A really great program at our May meeting was by Sue Clout again answering technology questions. I think most of us could use another two or more sessions. Ladies should also save the date of July 14 as that is the date of our 22nd Annual Thrift Shop Fashion Show and Ice Cream Social. It's not too early to find that perfect Thrift Shop outfit to model. Linda Johnson will be hostess for the July 14 meeting and the program will be to set up for the 7:00 Fashion Show. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle so all are welcome to join the group as schedules allow. Contacts: Carolyn Carter 928-2080, cercarter1994@gmail.com or Linda Libby 925-3661, lindalibby12345@outlook.com



A very successful GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE HAS ENDED. A Court of Awards has been scheduled for all Lovell troops for Sunday, June 7, 2:00. at Lovell UCC. All GS and parents are encouraged to attend. Girls will be receiving earned badges and awards plus several of the girls will be bridging to the next level. All the troops are making plans to attend a Service Unit Event on June 17 in Poland at the "Mr. Drew and Animals too" site. Daisy Troop 146 is still collecting food items for Harvest Hills and plans are being made for a visit to deliver all the donations. Brownie Troop 58 continues to work on badges and try-its. On May 1-3, Troop 3149 camped at Pondicherry GS Camp including use of the ropes Challenge Course. Although a wet weekend, the troop had a great time including a night hike using candle lanterns, making egg sandwiches in a bag and cooking orange cakes over a fire. At the May 8 Apple Mountain Service Unit dinner, three of our Lovell troop leaders received the Volunteer of Excellence award. Jammie Graves, Andrea Walker and Andrea Goodwin were honored by receiving this award which is the highest award earned on the Service Unit level. For more information, contact Linda Libby, 925-3661 or lindalibby12345@outlook.com

Ongoing programs:



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 June 4th, 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

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

