



The Circuit Rider

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



Dear friends,

As I write this the calendar tells me that this is the last day of summer. Tomorrow the daylight hours will be eclipsed by those of the night. I also read in a New York Times online article that this was a year of the "longest unofficial summer." What is this you ask? Well, in 2026 we had the earliest possible Memorial Day and the latest possible Labor Day. This means we had a full 15 weeks between the two. Rainer Maria Rilke's poem "*Autumn Day*" declares: "Lord: it is time. The huge summer has gone by."

Lord, It is Time

Lord: it is time. The huge summer has gone by.
Now overlap the sundials with your shadows,
and on the meadows let the wind go free.

Command the fruits to swell on tree and vine;
grant them a few more warm transparent days,
urge them on to fulfillment then, and press
the final sweetness into the heavy wine.

Translated by Stephen Mitchell, "The Selected Poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke" (Random House)

The summer has gone by! Here in western Maine the signs are everywhere. That single maple tree a burst of red in an otherwise sea of green. Those days when there is a clarity in the air yet a slight haze softening the mountains.

The equinox is a precisely timed event. That second the sun crosses the celestial equator. But fall slides in more gradually: a bit of wood smoke one morning, the crunch of leaves on the walkway. Sweaters and vests start showing up.

To add to this, we change the clocks on the first Sunday of November, and this year that's Nov. 1, the earliest possible fall back and Daylight Saving Time won't start again until March 14, 2027, the latest spring forward for recent years. Making for a long (at least in our minds) winter.

I love this time of the year even with the loss of daylight and the frosty mornings. It is the season of agricultural fairs, harvest dinners, pumpkins, apples, cider and apple cider donuts! (But no pumpkin spice please!)

And rather than dreading the winter how about we use the time to try something new. Make some plans for some activities that might give some energy and enthusiasm to our weeks. Join a choir, take music lessons, try a new instrument or one for the first time. How about a new craft? An exercise group? Volunteer somewhere. Make an effort to bundle up and get outside every day. We need that vitamin D! Maybe it will be time to tackle that list of books you have always wanted to read.

I'm getting ahead of myself. It's still September (or at least as I write this.) There's still time to savor the season. There will be those days where the temps will remind us of summer days past, days of the longest summer.

Yours enjoying each day and season with whatever they bring us,

Pastor Neil Wilson

DRIVE-UP LUNCH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1174 MAIN ST LOVELL, MAINE

10:00-12:00

\$5 PER PERSON



Chili, cornbread and apple crisp

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

**All proceeds from this lunch will benefit the
The United Church of Christ Disaster Relief Fund. Recent disasters include Hawaii, Nepal,
Venezuela and numerous events in the US. Thank you for your support!**

News from our Boards, Committees and Sponsored Groups:

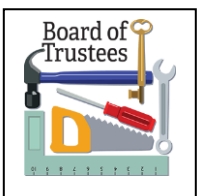


FOOD PANTRIES – Lovell UCC supports the Lovell Area Food Pantry and Sweden Food Pantry. "Pick of the Month" – Cleaning supplies, paper towel, toilet paper etc. PLEASE help us support these pantries by dropping items in the church vestry.

BLESSING SHELF – Located inside the entrance to the Thrift Shop. This shelf is operated as a take what you need and leave what you can. We request no items be left on the floor for fire hazard purposes. Shelf stable foods and other personal items. Thank you for your help.

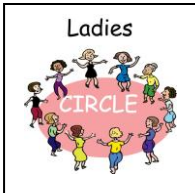
NIN (Neighbors In Need Offering) **October 4 will be World Communion Sunday and we will receive the NIN Offering.** The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC 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 – The Mission Committee is beginning preparations for this year's Christmas Basket distribution. **If you or your family could use a little additional help during the holidays please call the church office at (207-925-1321) and speak with Pastor Neil or Heather, Administrative Assistant. All names are confidential.**



The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees did not have a regular meeting in August, however, did have a special meeting on August 30 with Cabinet members for discussion about use of the Parsonage and extra parking. The regular Trustee meeting was held on Sept. 14.

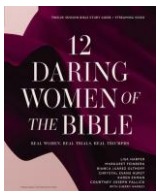
Some projects have been completed, but adding a smoke alarm in the sanctuary and confirmation of plowing, sanding and shoveling agreements for winter are still on the “to do” list. Review of the many Standard Operating Procedures has not been completed, however, the plan is to now divide them up between members, review and bring back to the next meeting on Oct. 12. For more information, contact Linda Libby 925-3661 or Jan Newhouse 928-3100.



The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteers are Lois Brown for September and Sue Clout for October. The Circle did not have a regular business meeting on August 11 but traveled to Newry to visit with Donna Fowlie that day. The 23rd Annual Thrift Shop Fashion Show and Ice Cream Social held on July 14th was a success again this year. Thank you to all who made it possible: Sue Mosca-Emcee, Lois Brown and Sue Clout – organizers, Linda Libby, Donna Wilson and Nancy Olmsted – Ice Cream Servers. The 5th Annual Pie Sale held on August 1 was also a success. There were only 40 pies donated but all pies sold resulting in \$885 being added to the Ladies Circle account. On Sept. 8 the Circle resumed regular meetings with Lois Brown as hostess and a program of “Show & Tell”. Sue Clout will be the hostess at the Oct. 13 meeting and the program will be a recipe swap. Ladies should bring a recipe and samples to share. 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 or Carolyn Carter 928-2080, carter1994@gmail.com



Troop 3149 traveled by train with other girl scouts and participated in the Boston GSME Amazing Race on August 14, toured the historical North End, sampled cannolis, visited the Harvard campus, experienced the acoustic effect of the famed whispering arch, and visited the Harvard Museum. Daisies visited Harvest Hills on Aug. 9 delivering the donations they had collected. Plans are also being made for the Sept. 26 Celebrate Camp event at Pondicherry GS Camp. Leaders for the 2026-27 year are Daisy Troop 146 (grades K-1) – Jammie Graves & Samantha Fox, Brownie/Junior Troop 58 (grades 2-5) – Vicki Royer & Linda Libby and Cadette/Senior Troop 3149 (grades 6 -12) - Andrea Walker & Andrea Goodwin. All our troops have openings, and girl registration can be done by contacting Girl Scouts of Maine at www.girlscoutsofmaine.org or 1-888-922-4763. Girl information and troop number will be requested as well as financial aid if needed. Troops may also have funds available to help with registration costs. Most troops resumed meetings the week of Sept. 14 and will be participating in the fall candy and nut sale which started Sept. 18. For more information, contact Linda Libby, 925-3661 or lindalibby12345@outlook.com



Mark your calendars for the return of our Evening Bible Study

Wednesday, Oct. 14 marks the return of the Evening Bible Study, ***12 Daring Women of the Bible***. The Study Guide (which includes a streaming video) is available through Amazon and Christian Bookstores, or you can request a copy by calling Vicki at 925-1444. The group started this study last spring. We will resume with Session 6, the study of ***Esther: Letting God Be in Control***. The Evening Bible Study Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 in the church vestry. Come Join Us.

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



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

**The next meeting will be October 1
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)



Follow us on Facebook

VISIT US ONLINE

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

