

The Circuit Rider



Lovell United Church of Christ PO Box 232 Lovell, ME 04051 www.lovellucc.org

February 2017

I always think that when we reach February, spring is just around the corner. True or not, that thought always makes me feel good even though the cold wind is still whipping across the field.

Down on the farm all the animals stay snug in their shelters and all have long fuzzy fur and extra hay to keep them warm. I continue to wheel the wheel barrow from the barn to the ever-growing pile, but now there is more daylight at the end of the day and I usually stop and listen to the quiet stillness. Never in a million years, did I imagine that a “poop” pile would become a quiet place to pray; to stand in the silence.

Into the silence
I slowly drift
Into the hands of God
Into the silence
Where did it go?
Where there is fear
Where the unknown looms large.
Where there are feelings
I do not want to feel.
Into the silence,
To the place of uncertainty
Where grief has no shape or form
Comes the wall of profound loss
So unknown, so mysterious, so completely sad and desolate.
Into the silence
Where there I find no energy
A profound inner fatigue that clings onto life.
Into the silence,
Where there is twisting and turning
Where hopes and dreams have been dashed.
Where there is no focus
Activity filling the spaces keeping sight a blur.
Into the silence,
Where there is curiosity and memory
Where there is letting go and taking hold.
Where blindness falls away
And Jesus says, “Let it be so.”
Into the silence,
To a new sense of faith
To new creativity and visions of hope.
Into the silence
To be filled with new strength, to fly on new wings
To rest in the stillness of God.

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Pastor Lois

MISSION NEWS

Many thanks to everyone who helped put together our annual Christmas baskets. The LUCC Youth Group did a fantastic job purchasing and wrapping toys for all the children. We are now getting ready for a Cooking Matters class beginning in February. See the flyer in this newsletter FMI.

Missions Committee



February

- 1 Arden Johnson
- 8 Lawrence Fox
- 9 Kimberlee Therrien
- 10 Richard Dunham
- 18 Brud McCabe
- 19 Nancy Gardner
- 20 Bob Wilson
- 22 Carey Fleming
- 27 Virginia Weeks



**Our Church Thrift Shop is open
Monday, Wednesday and Saturday
from 10:00-12:00
NO early birds, please!**



**Girl Scout Flea Market &
Ladies Circle Bake Sale**

Flea Market

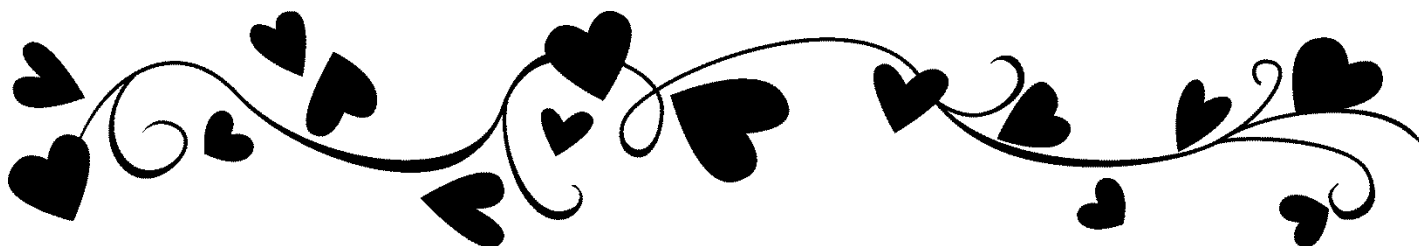


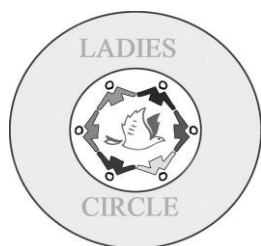
**Saturday, March 11th
9:00-1:30**



**at the Lovell United Church of Christ
Proceeds benefit the Lovell Girl Scouts and
LUCC Ladies Circle**

**To rent a table, contact Linda Libby at 925-3661
email: trout@fairpoint.net**





- Jan. 25 Lunch 12:00 at Clipper Merchant Teahouse
 Jan. 28-29 Fruit Basket Delivery
 Feb. 14 Business Meeting 12:30 & Valentine Making

Kitchen clean-up volunteer signed up for January is Pat Stearns and February volunteer is Phyllis Gregson. On Dec. 13, the ladies enjoyed a business meeting, Christmas party with exchange of gifts and the usual delicious lunch at AJ's in Stoneham. The New Year's Eve Gathering held at Nancy and Lou Olmsted's home was enjoyed by all with a special thanks going to Pastor Lois for her guitar playing and song leading. The Circle's January calendar included a Business Meeting on Jan. 10, Lunch at the Clipper Merchant Teahouse in Bridgton on Jan. 25 and Fruit Basket Deliveries Jan. 28-29. An election of officers was held at the January meeting with the following returning to office: Linda Libby and Carolyn Carter – Co-Presidents, Ruth Mitchell – Treasurer, Pat Stearns and Mary Heroux – Co-Secretaries, Carolyn Carter – Devotions, and Nancy Olmsted – Sunshine Lady. The Feb. 14 meeting will include a business meeting followed by making Valentines for delivery to the Healthcare Center. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle, so please feel free to attend business meetings, work meetings or other activities as your time allows. Contact: Linda Libby, 925-3661, trout@fairpoint.net or Carolyn Carter, 928-2080, cecarter1994@gmail.com

Lovell Girl Scouts

***Returnable Bottle/Can Collection to
Benefit Girl Scouts.
Please place empties in the container
available at Lovell U.C.C.***

The annual Girl Scout initial cookie sale started on Jan. 7 and will end on Jan. 29. The troops attended a Cookie Rally at Lake Region High School on Jan. 7 and received a participation patch as well as completed most of the cookie pin requirements. A stop at McDonald's in Bridgton on the way home was enjoyed by all. Registrations are still being accepted for the Girl Scout 2017 year with openings in all the troops. Contact Girl Scouts of Maine for registration information. On Dec. 6, all the troops participated in a Girl Scout Court of Awards, Investiture and Rededication Ceremony. Girls repeated the Girl Scout Promise and received their pins as well as badges/patches they had earned. The next Girl Scout event is the Thinking Day Event to be held Feb. 18 at Lake Region High School. Troops will be choosing a country to learn about and make a display/presentation at the event. Troop 58 is still raising money for their April trip to NY. They will be serving lunch at the March 11th Flea Market. Jade Blood and Alanna Nataluk are planning this activity as a requirement for their Cadette Silver Award, the highest award in Cadette Girl Scouts. Troop 3149 Brownies have also been busy working on several Try-It patches. These girls met two times at Lovell UCC. The Dec. meeting was to make and decorate Christmas cookies and the Jan. meeting included work on cookie patch requirements and making vegetable people and smoothies. After reading "The Incredible Journey", Troop 208 Jr. Girl Scouts attended training on Dec. 15 with the White Mountain National Forest staff learning safety, outdoor skills, map reading, and much more. The Scouts still continue their returnable bottle and can collection (*please be sure containers are returnable*) at Lovell UCC, or donations may be left at Woitko's Redemption Center on McNeil Road. Just ask that the Girl Scout account be credited. Contact Linda Libby, Lovell Organizer/ Recruiter, 925-3661, for local and service unit information.



Does Cooking Matter to You?



Learn how to prepare healthy, delicious meals and stretch your food dollars from a real chef!

Sign up now for a Cooking Matters nutrition and cooking education class!

Topics covered include:

- Cooking tips and techniques
- Tips for proper food safety, storage and sanitation
- Nutrition information to keep your family healthy
- Budgeting—Stretch your food \$\$ and *maximize* your resources!!
- Tips to get your family to try new foods
- Shopping Smart tips

- A bag of FREE groceries for one of the lesson's recipe each week for you to prepare the meal at home.
- Lessons feature hands-on learning and include group discussion with instructors.
- Graduation certificate, recipe book and other freebies provided upon completion of the program.
- **FOOD** —prepared by the chef and you...the class participants!

Class Meets:

Wednesdays 2/8-3/15

5:30-7:30 pm

Lovell United Church of Christ

1174 Main St.

Lovell, ME 04051

*For more information, or to enroll,
please contact:
207-925-1321*

This free program is brought to you by:



**Good Shepherd
Food-Bank**
Feeding Maine's Hungry



SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S
**COOKING
MATTERS™**
NO KID HUNGRY

Cooking Matters is open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

**Childcare provided including dinner for the children*

Space is limited, enroll today!