

The Circuit Rider



Lovell United Church of Christ PO Box 232 Lovell, ME 04051

www.lovellucc.org
March 2017

I wrote this poem two years ago. I share it with you now on Valentine's Day 2017. We are still cleaning up from about 12" of snowfall and are expecting 10-14" more tomorrow. Alas, spring is indeed coming. I love the seasons of the year. Each one is special and presents its own challenges and satisfaction.

A wish for all -- happy first day of spring.
Spring is such a nice time of year.
The cold is receding
Colorful crocus heads are peaking up out of the ground,
Little tree buds appear against the wonderful blue sky
And maple sap buckets are hanging.
This is a new and wonderful time of year.
At least, all of this is true somewhere.
I arose from my slumber this morning
eagerly awaiting this spring time of year.
I looked out over the kitchen sink
expecting maybe a robin or two
Alas, to no avail.
The night time snow had piled itself to the roof line.
I thought to myself, "No this can't be."
So I went to the dining room window
hoping to see a squirrel in the crab apple tree.
There was no tree
just snow piled high to the roof
keeping out the morning light.
Again I thought to myself, "No this cannot be."
Three to six inches was all the weatherman said there would be
So I quickly went to the porch
knowing for sure that the spring time I sought would be visible there.
I found only darkness
except for the early morning light sneaking in through the door window.
So in pajamas and slippers I opened that door
To smell the sweet air of spring
while gazing at fourteen inches of new snow
laying on top of the ground.

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I also encourage everyone to find a Bible and read Ecclesiastes 3. It is a familiar reading. It starts:

¹ *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...*

I am off to shovel snow and eagerly awaiting those first scents of spring.

May you know God's peace and God's love,
Pastor Lois

MISSION NEWS

We have started our Cooking Matters class with 13 participants of all ages! This is a fun class full of laughter and learning. If you get a chance to sign up next year, be sure to do so early; this session filled up fast. Thank you for your continuing support of our Mission projects.

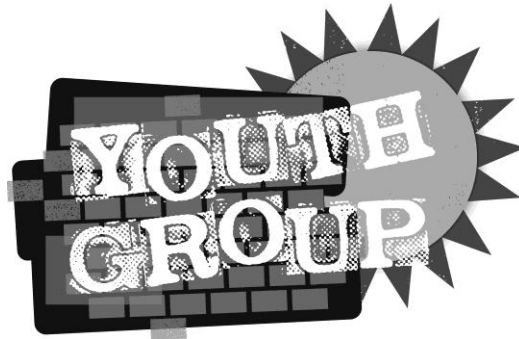
Missions Committee

**March**

- 10 Heather Sawin
- 15 John Carter
- 19 Pat Stearns
- 20 Evan Caracciolo
- 21 Ethel Hurst
- 23 Anna Williams
- 24 Ellen Bacchicocchi
- 26 Trish Stearns



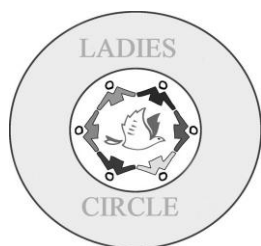
**Our Church Thrift Shop is open
Monday, Wednesday and Saturday
from 10:00-12:00
NO early birds, please!
\$2/Bag sale 2/20-25 and 4/17-22**



Our youth group has been meeting regularly on Sunday afternoons. Chaz Reed, the spiritual leader in our group, has engaged the teens in stories from the bible as well as popular songs that are sung every week. Chaz teaches the bible stories through four perspectives, (COMA): context, observation, meaning and application. He also teaches us how to pray using the acronym, ACCTS: adoration, complaint, confession, thanksgiving and supplication.

The youth group made and sold over 60 sandwiches for the community's Super Bowl parties. The money they raised will be going towards future trips. Places like Heifer International, Pilgrim Lodge and/or Relay for Life are all being considered.

On Sunday, February 19, the youth will be holding their annual lock-in. We'll bring our sleeping bags to the meeting and stay all night. Homemade pizza, card games and a murder mystery are all on the agenda.



March 11	Girl Scout Flea Market & Ladies Circle Bake Sale 9:00-1:30
March 14	Business Meeting 12:30
April 11	Business Meeting 12:30

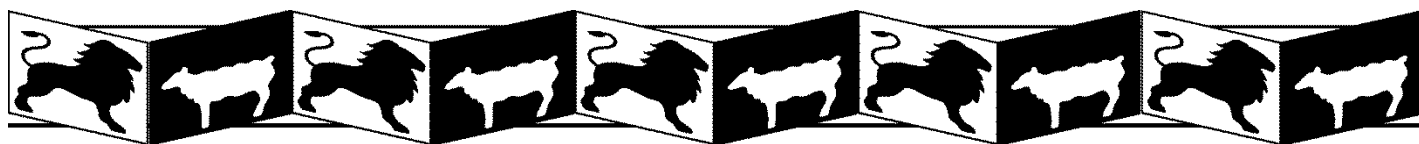
Kitchen clean-up volunteer signed up for February is Phyllis Gregson and March volunteer is Mary Heroux. The Circle's January calendar included a Business Meeting on Jan. 10 with a fun program of Bingo, Lunch at the Clipper Merchant Teahouse in Bridgton on Jan. 25 and Fruit Basket Deliveries Jan. 28-29. The Feb. 14 meeting included a business meeting followed by making Valentines for delivery to the Fryeburg Healthcare Center. Hope everyone has marked March 11, 9:00-1:30, on their calendars. This is the date of the Girl Scout Flea Market and Ladies Circle Bake Sale. There are still two tables available to rent at \$10 each. Call Linda Libby for further information or to rent a table. 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

The annual Girl Scout initial cookie sale ended on Jan. 29, and delivery will hopefully be on Feb. 25. There will be Girl Scout cookies available at the March 11 Flea Market & Bake Sale if you didn't get a chance to order any. 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. The most recent Girl Scout event was the Apple Mountain Service Unit Thinking Day Event which was held Feb. 18 at Lake Region High School. Brownie Troop 3149 chose Russia and Junior Troop 208 chose Egypt to learn about and make a display/presentation at the event. Troop 58 is still raising money for their April trip to NY. Cadette/Senior Troop 58 will be serving lunch at the Flea Market & Bake Sale on March 11, and Brownie Troop 3149 will receive proceeds from the table rental fees. Cadettes, Jade Blood and Alanna Nataluk, are in charge of the sale as part of the requirements on their Silver Award, the highest award in Cadette Girl Scouting. The money from the sale of flea market items will be used to purchase items for "Birthday Bags" to donate to the food pantries. Troop 3149 Brownies have also been busy working on the Snacks and Meet Your Neighbor Try-It patches. Some girls have earned their Cookie Sale pins as well. This troop will also be spending an overnight at Lovell UCC Feb. 23-24. On March 12, Scout Sunday at Lovell UCC will be observed during the 10:30am service. Scouts will be supplying and serving refreshments during coffee time. They will also be participating in the service. Girls and families are encouraged to attend the Lovell UCC service or their home churches. The Scouts still continue their returnables 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.

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





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



Don't miss all the Egg-Citement at LUCC!

Saturday, April 8th 10:00-11:30 am

Stories, games, crafts, egg hunt and refreshments

FREE and open to all children grade 5 and younger



Annual Easter Bake Sale

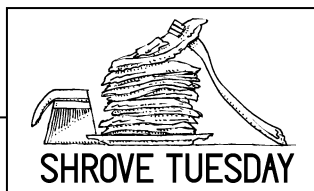
All proceeds benefit summer camperships for local children

Saturday, April 15th

9:00-12:00

at the Lovell United Church of Christ

Filled Easter baskets, stuffed animals, candy, cookies, cakes and more!



Pancake Dinner
February 28th

to celebrate the beginning of Lent which starts
on Ash Wednesday, March 1

5:30 pm

~All are welcome