

The Circuit Rider



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

www.lovellucc.org

February 2018



The Gathering Place

Lovell United Church of Christ Senior Fellowship

Thursdays 10:00-2:00

BEGINNING FEBRUARY 8TH!

In the church vestry of the Lovell United Church of Christ
1174 Main St. Lovell, Maine

**NEW
Program!**

All are welcome

Free

Please bring your own lunch

Coffee and tea are provided

**NEW
Program!**

Join us for a social time of friendship and support

What you'll find here:

Friendship

Puzzles

Board games

Arts and Crafts

Music

Visiting guests

Baking

Pastoral care

Bible study

Resource connections and help with enrollment

***All activities will be planned based on the interest of attendees**

We can also help with transportation

For more information contact the church during office hours:

Monday 9:00-3:00

Thursday 9:00-1:00

(207) 925-1321



Good morning all or evening or afternoon. I happen to be writing in the morning. Down of the farm the animals are all happily munching away on their hay. Some are lounging chewing their cud. It is always fascinating to watch how calmly my animal friends eat their meals. There is no hurry and very little squabbling because they all know that there will be enough. (My friend, Marty, a grey tiger cat just joined me. He likes to sit and cuddle under my chin.) This is an interesting image – sitting and being held by God – resting in the arms of God.

I read a good blog post today from A Concord Pastor Comments. It caught my attention because so many of us communicate by texting – that brief phrase sent to another and answer by another very brief phrase. I text with my son in Nevada quite often. It is how we keep in touch. So, I will share with you “Texting with God” from the blog post.

- **Pause for Prayer: Texting with God 1/17**

●●●○ AT&T 5:06 AM 50%

• < Messages GOD Contact

I need to learn to put more trust in you.

I see that, but tell me, in your own words what you mean by that...

Well, some problem or concern or work comes along, and I get all distressed and worried about how it's all going to turn out, and if I'll get through whatever it is, and whether or not I'm up to the task at hand.

And you forget...

And I forget that you're always with me, right by my side, guiding me and helping me and giving me strength.

Anything else you "forget"

Yes. I forget that I have a life-long history of your helping me get through things (big things and little things) and that although you sometimes don't work on my schedule, you always come through for me in your own good time.

Anything else you need to remember?

I need to remember that even when things don't work out the way I wish they had, you're still there to help me pick up the pieces, move on and start again.

That's great! You know exactly what you need to remember to help you place more trust in me.

Just help me remember all this the next time something comes along that stresses me out!

Will do!

And thanks...thanks for helping me this past week make my way through some tough spots and rough patches.

As always, I love it when we work together!

Amen!

Enjoy your walk with God,
Pastor Lois



MISSION NEWS

Many thanks to everyone who donated, wrapped, shopped and assembled the 21 Christmas baskets we put together this year.

Check out the front page of this newsletter to see an exciting new program supported by our Mission Committee, "The Gathering Room". FMI contact the church office.

We continue to collect non-perishable food for the local pantries in Brownfield and Sweden, single serve food for the Sunshine Backpack program, ink cartridges to recycle and used eyeglasses. Stop by the vestry anytime and place your donations in the appropriate box on the rolling carts. As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

~LUCC Missions Committee
Missions Committee



- 1 Arden Johnson
- 8 Larry Fox
- 9 Kimberlee Therrien
- 10 Richard Dunham
- 18 Brud McCabe
- 19 Nancy Gardner
- 20 Bob Wilson
- 22 Cary Fleming
Henry Lowell
Luke Lowell
- 27 Virginia Weeks

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop had over 200 patrons most months in 2017 and an income of over \$10,000 for the year. A busy mission for our church and community. Several of our staff are down south and who could blame them! So we need workers for Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Especially Saturday. Call Pat Stearns at 925-6536; or Peg Mason at 935-7528 if you would like to help. Sandy Bell re-painted our sign and it looks like new. Thanks, Sandy!

Pat Stearns

**Monday, Wednesday and Saturday
from 10:00-12:00
NO early birds, please!**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

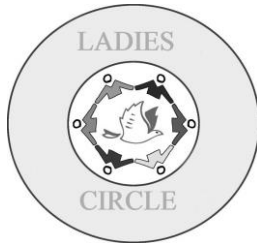
Our annual Secret Angel program has begun- pairing children with adults in the congregation as secret pals. This is always a lot of fun for the young and "young at heart" participants! It is never too late to join our Sunday School classes for children age 3 and up or our Youth Group for those in grades 5-12. FMI contact Carolyn Carter at 928-2080 or the church office.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
February 13, 2018
the Lovell United Church of Christ
5:30 pm
All are welcome!
FREE

(donations gratefully accepted)
Pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice and fruit

Please join us!



Jan. 27-28 Fruit Basket Delivery
Jan. 30 Lunch at Rosie's 12:00
Feb. 13 Business Meeting 12:30

The Circle gathered at AJ's in Stoneham for a business meeting, lunch and Christmas party on Dec. 12. The celebration of Phyllis Gregson's 90th birthday was an important part of the day. The New Year's Eve Gathering held at the Olmsted's home was attended by nineteen people. The food was great, and Pastor Lois' song leadership and guitar playing made the evening very special. At the Jan. 9 meeting, the following officers were elected: Co-Presidents – Linda Libby and Carolyn Carter; Co-Secretaries – Pat Stearns and Mary Heroux; Co-Treasurers – Ruth Mitchell and Linda Libby; Sunshine Lady – Nancy Olmsted and Devotions – Carolyn Carter. Fruit baskets will be put together and delivered to those on the LUCC Care List Jan. 27-28. The ladies will be having lunch at Rosie's on Jan. 30. The next regular meeting will be held Feb. 13 with a program of making valentines to deliver to the Fryeburg Healthcare Center. The Kitchen clean up volunteer for January is Mary Heroux, and Nancy Olmsted has volunteered for February. 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. Contacts: Linda Libby, 925-3661, trout@fairpoint.net or Carolyn Carter, 928-2080, cecarter1994@gmail.com

Lovell Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout cookie sale ends on Jan. 28 with delivery scheduled for Feb. 24. Troops will have some extra cookies and will be holding booth sales after March 2. Registration for the 2018 Girl Scout year continues, and all

Lovell troops have openings. Contact Linda Libby or your GS troop's leader for registration information for girls in grades K-12. Currently needed is a co-leader for the Daisy troop (grades K & 1) to work with leader, Trish Stearns, and a co-leader for the Junior troop (grades 4-5) to work with leader, Chaz Reed. Daisies and Brownies are meeting on Thursdays 2:30-4:00 at New Suncook School; Juniors and Cadettes are meeting on Thursdays 3:00-4:30 at the Lovell Library. Troop 58 for older girls is meeting 1st and 3rd Monday nights in Fryeburg at the Congregational Church. Troop 58 Cadette, Hannah Reed, has started work on her Silver Award project of replacing the swim shed at the Bridgton town beach; and Cadettes, Jade Blood and Alanna Nataluk, are finishing up work on their Silver Award project of "Birthday Bags". They are still collecting items and sewing bags to make children's birthdays more enjoyable. There is a collection box and list of needed items available in the Lovell UCC Vestry. Completed bags are being donated to area food pantries. A Girl Scout Court of Awards, Investiture and Rededication Ceremony, was held on an icy Tuesday night, Dec. 19, 6:30, at the Lovell United Church of Christ. Girls were invested or rededicated and received earned badges. Thinking Day is on Feb. 22, and most of the Lovell troops are in the process of picking a country to represent. Displays, food, crafts, etc. will be shared that day. Three girls from Cadette Troop 67 attended a GSME event called Mall Madness at the Maine Mall on Jan. 20. Leaders and girls decided the "Madness" name was appropriate. There were 17 different challenges with two hours to complete. We all survived and then had a wonderful meal at The Great Wall. These girls are now looking forward to another GSME event called Fiber Dying on Feb. 3 in Westbrook. Scouts still continue their returnable bottle/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, trout@fairpoint.net, or 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.***