

Lovell United Church of Christ
PO Box 232
Lovell, ME 4051

The Circuit Rider

June 2024



Sunday worship 10:30 am Church office: (207)925-131 Email: info@lovellucc.org

Dear friends,

For many years I have been a fan of the Old Farmers Almanac. As a youngster and a budding astronomer, the OFA was my source for determining planetary movements, their rising and setting, conjunctions and oppositions, the location of evening and morning stars (which as you may know are often not stars but planets.)

Among the things found in OFA that have fascinated me are the names given to the monthly full moons. There is the Full Hunter's Moon, Sturgeon Moon, Cold Moon and of course Harvest Moon. The full moon that occurs in June is known as the Full Strawberry Moon. Not because of any pink or reddish hue it may have when rising (there is a Full Pink Moon) but because for the northeastern Native American tribes it came during the time of "June-bearing" wild strawberries.

Sadly, with our store-bought berries available year-round, many of us have lost touch with the natural rhythms of the world around us. That young version of me with his eyes peering through the lens of a telescope at the rings of Saturn and the moons of Jupiter has lost something as well. I am working to regain a sense of that awe and amazement. Just because science has helped us better understand many of the phenomena in nature doesn't make them any less a wonder.

Not that I am advocating following the OFA suggestions of the "best days for" which in some cases borders on superstition, but as I open my OFA and look through the monthly almanac pages, I find myself more in touch with the movement of life around me, from wandering about the heavens of the distant planets to the arrival of spring peepers and produce of the gardens.



INSIDE this Issue

A note from the Pastor

Focus on Missions

Upcoming Drive-up lunch

Committee News

Updates from Ladies Circle & Girl Scouts

Ongoing programs

Thrift Shop information

Ways to keep in touch!

Vacation Bible School information on the back page

Ecclesiastes 3:1 *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...*

There is I believe something to be said for living in sync with the seasonal changes around us. For me, to become more aware, and thereby appreciative, of the natural world around us is one way for us to praise and worship the one who is the Creator of Creation.

It was Job was said,

*“But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you;
or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you.*

Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this?

In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. (Job 12:7-10)

Seeking with you to live more in the season and learn more of the Creator through Creation,

Pastor Neil Wilson

P.S. Just in case you are interested, the best day this June to for egg setting will be 14,15, 23-25. Unfortunately, I’ve already missed the best day in 2024 to begin a diet to lose weight. It was May 24th. It will just have to wait till next year!

June Highlighted Mission – Helping Others



The Mexico Congregational Church (Green Church) a vital part of the Mexico/Rumford area, suffered extensive damage in the December 2023 flood. The church had limited insurance for this damage which was mostly the basement dining and kitchen area. Members have worked diligently to remove the damage and are ready to begin the rebuilding. In June the Mission Committee invites you to help with a special gift for the Mexico Church. You may send gifts to Lovell UCC marked “Green Church” or place a gift in the small church in the front of the sanctuary.

“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”
2Corinthians 9:12

JOIN US
for
LUNCH

DRIVE-UP LUNCH
SATURDAY, JUNE 29

AT THE
LOVELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1174 MAIN ST., LOVELL, MAINE
10:00-12:00
\$5 PER PERSON

Chicken salad wrap, chips, choice of a watermelon slice or a banana parfait

Just drop by or call Joyce at 928-3132 to reserve your meal

All proceeds from this lunch will be donated to the LUCC Mission Committee funds

Thank you for your support!



TRUSTEES The Lovell UCC Board of Trustees met Tuesday, May 13, 7:00pm, in person. ZOOM if needed is available for meetings. This meeting included financial reports, pastor's report, investment reports, old business and new business. The small balance in the Blackwood Music Fund will be transferred to the Choir Music Fund. In the future, the Choir Music Fund will be named the Music Fund. Items remaining on the May "to do" list are: how to fund two generators & details, new commercial stove information as well as ideas for funding, and final updating of The Lovell UCC Policies and Procedures Book. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm on June 10.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION On May 26 we recognized area graduates during worship. In collaboration with the Ladies Circle and the Mission Committee, we collected a donation of over \$1,300 to purchase hygiene, school, and menstrual kits, clean up buckets and blankets to be sent to Church World Service. Thank you to everyone that contributed to this project. Plans for Vacation Bible School are coming together quickly. Don't miss your chance to sign up or get involved! See the back page of this newsletter for more information.



Ladies Circle The Kitchen Clean-Up volunteer for May is Pat Stearns, and Sue DeWire is responsible for June. At the May 14 meeting, the hostess was Sue Clout. After the business meeting, the ladies enjoyed delicious Hawaiian Coconut cake for refreshments supplied by Sue as well as great decorations. The program of photos from Sue's trip were beautiful. The only item on our project list is attaching the name plates to chairs in the vestry. Also, if you have any Ladies Circle photos, please see that Linda receives them so our albums can be updated. The CWS collection has ended with over \$1300 donated so far. Cards, bibles and a \$25 gift card will be given to five 2024 graduates. The next meeting will be very brief at the June 11 annual luncheon which will be held at the Olde Mill Tavern in Harrison. The group has invited Thrift Shop volunteers to the luncheon as a "thank you" for all the many hours and work they have contributed. A sign-up sheet for the luncheon is available in the vestry. There are no membership requirements for Ladies Circle so all are welcome to join the group as schedules allow. Contacts: Carolyn Carter 928-2080, cecarter1994@gmail.com or Linda Libby 925-3661, lindalibby12345@outlook.com



Girl Scouts Daisy Girl Scout Troop 146 and Brownie Troop 58 will soon be ending their regular Monday, 2:30-4:00, meetings in the Art Room at New Suncook School. The Daisies are working on their last petal and Brownies are working on some science badges. Troop 3149 for girls in grades 4-7 continues to meet on Fridays, 2:30-4:00, in the Art Room. Two dates on the GS calendar that involve all our troops are the June 1 – Court of Awards-Bridging & Fly-up Ceremony 2:30 at Lovell UCC and June 8 – Outdoor Skills Day at Pondicherry GS site 9-4. Registrations for girls age 5, but not starting school until fall, are currently being accepted for Daisy Troop 146. For more information, contact lindalibby12345@outlook.com. or 925-3661.

Ongoing programs:



CHILDREN

Bible Adventure classes for children in grades K-6 are offered once per month, November-May.

Call the church office for more information.

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.

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.

HELP WANTED

Do you ever have an hour or so to spare? Want to meet new people, and make new friends while getting a bit of exercise (as much or as little as you want)? Drop by the church almost any Tuesday or Thursday morning between 8-10, or so, and join in the fun. And we do have fun! The task is sorting the generous donations which come in daily to the Thrift Shop donation shed. Many are priceless treasures; some things we never do figure out! The Thrift Shop is a huge community outreach project which grows continually, as well as being a major source of church funding. Projects are available both indoors and outdoors, sitting or standing or doing the stairs. 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

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

**Don't miss our
annual Vacation Bible School
Details on the back page of this
newsletter.**

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

