

From Your Pastor:

Attitude

One of the members of our Thursday morning Bible study group shared this writing by Charles Swindoll with us:

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts.

It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past, we cannot change the fact that people will act in certain ways. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude.

I am convinced that life is ten percent what happens to me and ninety percent how I react to it. And so it is with you. We are in charge of our attitudes."

Jesus modeled the attitude of sacrifice, of service. As Holy Week approaches, we remember that he died on the cross for each one of us, fully obedient to the will of God. On Easter morning, he rose in order to give us the gift of new life. What will our attitude be in grateful response to this gift? Surely we are blessed to be a blessing for others and our attitude reflects how we live that out in our lives and in our church. We have a choice about our attitude EVERY day. What will your choice be?

Verne and I look forward to sharing the Day of Resurrection with each of you. Happy Easter! Happy Spring!

God's blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth



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And MUCH
more!

L A C O

We wish you all a blessed Easter. It is wonderful to see the ice and snow melting.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the fundraisers at Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union. The members and staff of the credit union raised \$15,000 for hunger prevention last year.

LACO received a check for \$11,250 at the annual meeting on March 3rd. St. Mary's Food Pantry in Lewiston received \$3,750. The credit union money helps to run the summer vacation food replacement bags that replace the breakfasts, snacks, and lunches students are not getting at school during summer vacation and school vacations throughout the year.

We will have our spring bake sale, food drive, and bottle drive at Food City on Friday, May 3rd, from 8-6 and on Saturday, May 4th, from 8-3. If you are able to bake something for either day, it can be brought to the food pantry on Thursday from 10-12 or at Food City either day. If anyone would like to work for two hours either day, call Bert Levesque at 216-3460.

We welcome our Liberty Mutual volunteers on May 2nd and May 9th. We also appreciate the hours the Lisbon Falls Christian Academy high school students volunteer the second Thursday of each month. We have also had the Durham and Lisbon Boy Scouts volunteering the last month.

LACO is open Wednesday from 6-8, Thursdays from 10-12, and Saturdays from 8-10. You must live in Lisbon, Durham, or Bowdoin to get food and must show a photo ID and a current bill with your address. Families may come 2 times each month. We deliver to 12-17 elderly or ill people from all three towns who meet the qualifications for delivery.

Thank you for everything you do to support the pantry and clothing bank. Items needed at the pantry include peanut butter, mac and cheese, crackers, granola bars, and juice.

Pastor Elizabeth, Carol, Dottie, and Jim

And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 24:2-3

FINANCE INFORMATION

<u>Newsletter Finance Information - as of March 2019</u>		
Annual Budget Amount for Operating Expenses	\$	124,888.34
Monthly Budget Amount for Operating Expenses	\$	10,407.36
Total March Income	\$	6,217.40
Total March Expense	\$	8,205.80
Total YTD Income	\$	18,218.27
Total YTD Expense	\$	26,554.50

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Sorry I didn't get an article in the March Newsletter. We want everyone to know our Souper Bowl project in February was a great success! 19 folks received home made soup, crackers, and home made cookies. We had help from many outside our committee. Thank you all very much. Now we are helping to plan the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny April 6th, and the Easter Sunday breakfast before church service starting at 8:30. There will be a sign-up sheet going around for help with that. Thank you in advance. Remember we still have prayer shawls if you know anyone who would like one. Our church ladies have made some beautiful shawls. Thank you for continuing to fill the donation cup for coffee Hour and thank you to Lola for supplying us with paper plates & napkins. Thank you to Mary Duley for getting the coffee cups from Hannaford. It all helps and is appreciated. Hope to see you all at our up-coming breakfasts and at church services during this Easter Season.

God Bless,

The Nurture Committee

AFTERNOON CIRCLE

In March we had a large gathering at Angelo's for lunch, great to see so many attending. Our April lunch will be at Uncle Moe's Diner in Sabattus. If you wish to carpool, please be at the church by 11:30. Please, again, let me know if you wish to attend, so I can make a reservation. All are invited to join us.

Carolyn Jones
353-8691

EVENING CIRCLE

Again this month, Evening Circle will be on Sunday, April 7th at 11:00. Starting in May, we will resume our first Tuesday of the month meeting date, when I hope to have a guest speaker.

Carolyn Jones
President

LACO NEEDS

Several LACO-supporting churches choose one item per month for the church family to bring to worship in support of those items most needed by LACO. We'll give this a try at LUMC and begin by highlighting JUICE for the month April. Donations can be left in the LACO box in the Narthex. Thank you!

GENEROSITY EGGS

The generosity tree has been temporarily replaced with generosity eggs!! These eggs will be available through the month of April. We appreciate your extra gifts given through the generosity tree. (All eggs are \$15 and under.)

FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Becoming Co-Laborers With God

In our work with Rick McKinley, the Discovering the Possibilities Team has encountered a few frustrations. We are asking the questions: What should the mission of the church be? What kind of work should we be doing? When can we begin this work?

One of the answers has come in the form of learn, listen, have patience. If you are anything like me, all of these answers are challenging. As I was reading my devotions, I came across some help from John Wesley (yes, him again). His writing in his work, *Christian Perfection*, gave me guidance and inspiration.

(Wesley speaks of enthusiasm. By this he means believing things not inspired by God.)

“One general inlet to enthusiasm is **expecting the end without the means**: expecting knowledge, for instance, without searching the scriptures and consulting with the people of God, or expecting spiritual strength without constant prayer and steady watchfulness, or expecting God to bless you without hearing the word of God at every opportunity.”

To put it another way, perhaps we are putting the cart before the horse. We need to rely on God to reveal answers in God’s own time. To be open to God’s guidance we need to find ways to listen. We need to strengthen our own spirituality. Here are some “exercises” to strengthen our spiritual muscles:

1. Be active. Do all the good you possibly can. Notice the small opportunities that present themselves. Listen to someone’s problems, donate to LACO, help someone walking on an icy patch, make a phone call, thank someone, see the face of Christ in someone....
2. Make an effort to listen with love to someone you disagree with. Work together to share the love of God.
3. Develop a habit of reading scripture and set aside a quiet time for prayer. Some ways to help you get started on this are: attend the Lenten Soup and Bread get togethers on Wednesdays, read the Upper Room magazine for daily devotions, take the bulletin insert home and pray for those on the list, begin a prayer journal, if you like to use the internet or an app, find a daily devotion. Bible Gateway has a reading plan you can use.
4. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 on a regular basis. Live your life saturated in God’s love. God loves you and will help you find a way to develop your spiritual life. I believe that if we do this as a congregation, we will be able to hear God’s answers to our questions and feel God’s guidance as we discover what our mission is as a church.

I offer this to you in love and and share the joy that Jesus is the Fountain of Life.

Sue White

LUMC Mission Statement:

“The Lisbon United Methodist Church welcomes, nurtures, and serves all people with the love of Christ.”

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The weather finally cooperated and we were able to have our first meeting of 2019 in February. The committee welcomed Kay Richard and Lois Wills as new members. We reviewed our projects of December and discussed what worked and what didn't. We will look at making some changes for next December. We set March 31st for the UMCOR special officering. It was voted to donate \$100 to the Tedford House for the Warm The Neighbor Program. The program provides fuel assistance to some of our area citizens. It was voted to give \$50 to the Evening Circle's project "Days for Girls", which will help purchase needed supplies.

We did not meet in the month of March due to snow. We are in hopes that April's weather may cooperate a little better!

Connie Earle,
Chairperson

NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

Just before the first of the year the Trustees were informed that our insurance company offered a free program for churches that provides sensors for heat and water. These sensors will alert us by telephone if we lose heat in the building or have water in the basement. We applied for the program and have installed the system in the church. The water sensor is on the floor in the basement and the heat sensor is in the church office. We can now prevent extensive water damage to the building and pipes from freezing. We will also receive a \$100 incentive for participating in the program.

LENTEN BREAD AND SOUP

Our Lenten bread and soup gatherings continue in the month of April. We will gather at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, April 3 and 10 and Thursday, April 18. We will share thoughts on the Scriptures we have read on the previous Sunday in worship. On April 18 we will go upstairs after our meal for the Maundy Thursday service of worship which begins at 7:00 pm. Remember: No cooking, no reading in preparation, no in-depth Biblical knowledge required for this time together! This is an informal time for fellowship and conversation. Please come!

GENERAL CONCERENCE 2019

Information explaining the actions taken at the recent UMC General Conference is available for your reading, including the specific legislation that was passed.

The next step in this process is for our Judicial Council (the Supreme Court of the UMC) to review the actions taken; they will meet April 23-26.

Another district-wide meeting will be held following this meeting to explain the decisions of the Council. More information will be available as the gathering date draws near.

Please continue to keep our UMC in prayer. Only by God's grace will we find our way forward. In the meantime, LUMC remains committed to our ministry of sharing God's love here in our own community.

Please speak with Pastor Elizabeth or our Lay Leader, Sue White, if you have questions or concerns.

JESUS, THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE

Our Lenten worship theme of Jesus, the Fountain of Life who washes away our sins and cleanses us before our celebration of Easter Day continues in April. As the psalmist reminds us in Psalm 36: "How precious is your steadfast love, O God....For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light." For the remainder of this holy season, we will hear the following gospel lessons:

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 7: John 12.1-8 *Generosity*

Palm Sunday, April 14: Luke 19:28-40 *Blessed is the King*

Easter Sunday, April 21: Luke 24.1-12 *No Idle Tale*

We have a visual reminder of Jesus as the fountain of life with an actual fountain in our sanctuary during Lent. Please feel free to come to the fountain prior to worship and write on one of the stones provided. Share your trespasses, your confessions, your need for God and place the stone within the fountain as a symbol of the sinfulness which Jesus will wash away.

MOXIE DAYS

Mark your calendars now for Lisbon's annual Moxie Day event. This year the event will be held on July 12th, 13th and 14th. We are very excited to learn that local non-profits will not be asked to pay a vendor fee this year! Paperwork has been submitted for a location on Main Street. We also learned that we will also be able to sell Moxie beverages on Main Street. And the price we are paying for lobster this year, is \$2.00 less a pound than what we paid last year! With all this good news, let's make this our best Moxie event ever. Lots of volunteers will be needed so be thinking about how you can help us out. More information will be in next month's newsletter.

EASTER FLOWERS

It's almost that time once again when fragrant lilies and other spring flowers will adorn our sanctuary for Easter. Please share your plants with us Easter Sunday, April 21 service of worship. If you would like your flowers in memory of or in celebration of loved ones, please complete the form below PRIOR TO April 17. Thanks !

Yes, I will be bringing flowers to worship for Easter Sunday, April 21.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are looking for volunteers to help the Nutrition Program of the Lisbon School Department. We recently learned that many of the students' lunch accounts at our local schools are in arrears. There is no "food shaming" at any of the schools and every student is provided a healthy meal. Unfortunately, this is causing a severe deficit within the program. I have spoken with the Nutrition Director, Allison Leavitt, to see how we may be able to help. Allison believes there are between 100-200 students who may qualify for free or reduced lunches but they have not submitted the completed paperwork. This is where we can help. Allison would like to have volunteers at each school's open house in the fall to assist parents in completing the paperwork. Training will be provided by the school department. If this is something that you might like to do, please speak to Trudy Duval. Allison is very grateful for our willingness to help out.

PLANT SALE

Mark your calendars now for our annual plant sale which will be held on May 11th. We'll soon be able to get out into our own gardens and start the clean-up after a long, cold winter. If you are thinning any plants, we'd love to have them for our sale. Indoor plants as well. If you need plant pots, please let me know. There are many pots available in various sizes. A bake sale will also be held during the sale. If this fundraiser is something you'd like to help with, please let me know.



BIRTHDAY WISHES

Happy Birthday to the following church members celebrating a birthday in April!!
(f you know someone to be added to our list please let Erica Soiett know)



2nd:	Sam Cornish	13th:	Stephanie Dupal
	Addison Soiett	14th:	Bob Packard
3rd:	David Blethen	18th:	Abbie Valente
5th:	Lana Hower	22nd:	April White
	Greg Shaw	23rd:	Rick Rioux
	Jessica Wile	24th:	Debbie Greim
8th:	Carol Day		Hilary Hall
9th:	Carolyn Jones	27th:	Susan Wile
	Mason Morgan		
10th:	Larry Baldiga		

Get To Know Your Congregation

Name: Breanna Soiett

How do you define your family: mom, dad, step mom, 1 brother, 2 sisters, 3 dogs, 5 cats and a rabbit

Occupation: Freshman at Gardiner Area High School

Interest/hobbies: Reading, music

Favorite way to spend free time: Reading or talking with friends

What is the best vacation you have ever taken: New York City with my Girl Scout troop

Where is your happy place? Anywhere with my family and pets

What is one thing about you that surprises people? My maturity



April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1-Widows' Group, 12 noon Outreach, 1:30 SPRC 6:30p.m.	2-LACO @ Durham Friends, 9:00a.m Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	3-Lenten Soup & Bread, 6:00 p.m.	4-Bible study @ Pam Wolfe's, 10:00 a.m.	5	6-Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, 8:30 a.m.
7-5th Sunday of Lent, w/ Communion Membership Celebration Evening Circle, 11:00 a.m.	8-Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m.	9-Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	10-Bible study @ Pam Wolfe's, 10:00 a.m. Lenten Soup & Bread, 6:00 p.m.	11-District Clergy gathering, Mechuwana, 9:30 a.m.	12	13
14-Palm Sunday	15-Discovering the Possibilities, 6:30 p.m.	16-Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	17-Afternoon circle, 11:30 a.m.	18-Bible Study @ Pam Wolfe's, 10:00 Lenten Soup & Bread, 6:00 Maundy Thurs. Worship, 7:00	19-Good Friday Sanctuary open 12 noon -3:00 p.m.	20
21-Easter Sunday	22	23-DTP Coaching Call, 12:30 p.m. Choir, 6:30 p.m.	24	25-Bible study @ Pam Wolfe's 10:00 a.m.	26	27-Bean Supper, 5-6:00 p.m.
28-Morning Worship	29-Pastor Elizabeth on vacation & training event	30-Pastor Elizabeth on vacation and training event				

Office Hours:
 Monday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
 Thursday 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
 Friday is the Pastor's Sabbath Day
 Other times available by appointment

**Lisbon United
Methodist Church**

14 School Street
Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252
(207)353-4982

Sunday Worship Service

Sunday Worship and Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

*Experienced people are ready to provide nursery
care for infants.*

Please speak with a greeter.

Office Hours: Monday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Thursday 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Other times available by appointment

Friday is the Pastor's Sabbath day

Office Phone Number: 353-4982

Parsonage Phone Number: 407-4406

Important Contacts:

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