

For the Love of Lilacs

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LAY LEADER

FROM YOUR PASTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE

PLANT SALE

AND MUCH MORE!

One of my very favorite signs of spring and the renewal of God's creation is the blossoming of lilacs. We have a few bushes near the front doors of the church and their fragrance is so wonderful when I walk near. A sprig or two may have made their way onto our dining room table a few times as well!

So, as we soon enjoy these bushes for another year, I found some interesting little-known facts that may help us adore them and give God thanks for the "Queen of Shrubs," as they are known, even more.

1. Lilacs Are In the Same Family as the Olive Tree

These shrubs belong to the Oleaceae family, which includes over 20 different plant species, including olives, ash, and jasmine. Within their species, there are more than 1,000 varieties of lilacs, including some trees. Lilac trees like the Peking and Japanese tree lilac can reach heights of more than 30 feet tall.

2. Lilac's History Is Rooted In Greek Mythology

For the ancient Greeks, lilacs were an integral part of the story of Pan, the god of forests and fields. It was said that Pan was in love with a nymph named Syringa. As he was chasing her through the forest one day, she turned herself into a lilac shrub to disguise herself because she was afraid of him. Pan found the shrub and used part of it to create the first panpipe.



MOXIE FESTIVAL

Plans are well underway for Lisbon's Moxie Festival with a parade, 5K, car show, entertainment as well as other activities being planned. The festival takes place on July 8th, 9th and 10th. With the construction taking place on Main St. things will certainly look different, but the festival committee is doing a great job dealing with those circumstances.

I'm happy to say that once again we will be a part of this fun weekend. While the town's committee has to make changes due to the construction we also will need to make changes due to the dwindling number of volunteers as well as the high cost of lobster. A Moxie meeting is planned for May 12th at 6:30. I urge everyone to attend as we decide how best we can still be part of this fun weekend while dealing with our own circumstances. I have a few ideas in mind but I would love to have input from others as well.

You may not be able to attend the meeting but there is a way that you can help. All organizations are able to sell Moxie beverages. After Moxie being gone from the store shelves earlier in the year, it's back. Grab a case or 2 the next time you're in the grocery store. We certainly would appreciate it.

Hope to see lots of you at the meeting on May 12th.

Trudy Duval

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends"

~John 15:13



WORDS OF THANKS

Many thanks to everyone in the church family for the flowers, food, cards, texts, and, most especially, prayers at the time of my recent surgery. Verne and I were comforted knowing that your love and concern was with us. Special thanks to our Lay Leader, Sue, for her assistance in my absence.

Love, Pastor Elizabeth

THANK YOU

LUMC Mission Statement:

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

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee has been in discussion about how we can raise money to pay our church bills. We have decided to bring out our giving tree with tags on it for specific purposes. Please take a tag, or if you are not in church, send your designated gift to the church. You can donate through our website, lisbonumchurch.org or via "snail mail" at 14 School St. Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252.

Here is the list of current needs:

Oil for altar candles

Sanding/cleaning of the parking lot-we have been paying this in installments and still owe about \$800.00

Custodial maintenance and supplies-i.e.mop heads, vacuum cleaner maintenance, sanitizer

Copy paper for bulletins and letters

Stamps for mailings

Church internet to continue to enable us to have a media presence

A video camera to expand our service to include the choir-this will be \$300-\$400

As you can see, there are a wide variety of items. You can donate any amount; part of the needed money or all, depending on your comfort and what is needed. The tags give partial suggested amounts. You can do more or less as you wish. Please note on your donation your name and the item you wish to support. Of course, you can give anonymously if you would like.

Thank you in advance,
Your Finance Committee

LACO NEWS

The LACO Food Pantry is still serving families in the parking lot on Wednesdays from 1:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. and on Saturdays from 7-10 A.M. The clothing bank is still closed. The food pantry served 4765 people from January through March. Items needed are cereal, crackers and mac and cheese.

The Car Show will be held at Shiloh Chapel on Saturday, June 4th, from 8-3. There will be a bake sale also if anyone can bake. Carol Day will be at the church from 2-3 on Friday, June 3rd if anyone wants to drop off baked goods.

Carol Day, Mary Duley and Pastor Elizabeth

3. Lilacs Had Different Meanings in Different Cultures

Lilacs have come to symbolize spring and renewal because they are early bloomers. These bushes have also held different meanings in different cultures throughout the centuries. The Celts saw lilacs as magical because of their sweet scent. During the Victorian age, lilacs were a symbol of an old love—widows often wore lilacs during this time. In Russia, holding a sprig of lilac over a newborn baby was thought to bring wisdom.

4. Each Lilac Color Has a Different Meaning

Although the species stands for renewal and confidence overall, each color of lilac has its own specific meaning. White lilacs represent purity and innocence, while purple lilacs symbolize spirituality. If the blooms edge more on the blue side of the color wheel, they symbolize happiness and tranquility. Magenta lilacs symbolize love and passion. The yellow variety of lilacs, 'Primrose', is not a common sight in American gardens, and was only introduced in 1949, so it's not known to carry any symbolic meaning.

5. Lilacs Were an Early Presidential Favorite

Lilacs originated in Eastern Europe and Asia and were brought over to America by colonists in the 17th century. Although they weren't native to the United States, they quickly became popular with Americans. Both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew these shrubs in their gardens, and lilacs were grown in America's first botanical gardens.

6. Lilacs Are Relics of Old Homesteads

Lilacs are known for their hardy nature and long lives—many lilac shrubs live to be more than 100 years old. Because of their life span, they often survive longer than the home of the gardener that planted them. So, if you're on a country road and see a few seemingly-random lilac bushes, there was most likely a house or farm there in the last century.

If you don't have them in your garden already, give lilacs a try. Not only will they come back year after year, but they will also give you a show for the senses with colorful blooms and sweet scents. There's a lot to love about lilacs, and knowing their history shows just how special these plants are.

Enjoy!

God's blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth

SPECIAL INVITATION

**You are invited to Bishop Devadhar's visit
to the Many Waters District**

May 5th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

Cape Elizabeth UMC
280 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth

Please join the Bishop and the Many Waters
District in person for an informal conversation.

Light refreshments will be available



PLANT SALE

PLANT SALE

Lisbon United Methodist Church

Featuring:

Perennials, annuals,
vegetable seedlings, houseplants, garden crafts, baked goods and

RADA

May 21, 2022 Time 9-1

14 School St, Lisbon Falls

FMI Call:

Dawn King 383-2242



FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Greetings and Happy May! Summer is coming! Happy Mother's Day! For all those who are mothers or act as mothers to God's children, we honor you.

Mother's Day celebrations in church began in 1907 at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. A Methodist laywoman, Anna Jarvis, advocated for all mothers to be honored. In 1912 The Methodist Episcopal Church raised Mother's Day to its national agenda. You may have heard that Julia Ward Howe started the Mother's Day movement. She actually introduced Mother's Day for Peace in 1872.

Here is a prayer for our mothers:

For our mothers, who have given us life and love,
That we may show them reverence and love,
We pray to the Lord...
For mothers who have lost a child through death,
That their faith may give them hope,
And their family and friends support and console them,
We pray to the Lord...
For women, though without children of their own,
Who like mothers have nurtured and cared for us,
We pray to the Lord...
For mothers, who have been unable to be a source of strength,
Who have not responded to their children
And have not sustained their families,
We pray to the Lord...
Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children,
So you watch over your Church.
Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
May honor them always with a spirit of profound respect.
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen. *Book of Blessings, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt*

Mother's Day brings up a multitude of emotions: gratitude, love, and respect along with grief and pain. If these emotions become overwhelming to you, I propose an alternative celebration. We can celebrate Mother Earth. Mother Earth gives us many blessings that we can be grateful for.

Here is a prayer for Mother Earth:

Hail Mother, who art the earth, hallowed be thy soil, rocks and flora that nourish and support all life. Blessed be thy wind that gives us breath and thy waters that quench, bathe and refresh all living things. Holy Earth--as one--we praise your majesty, grace and wonder.

Bill Faherty

FROM YOUR LAY LEADER, CONT.

To honor our Mother Earth we can show respect by doing the following:

- Drive less (walk, bike, and carpool) and drive fuel efficient cars
- Conserve energy at home-turn down the thermostat and lower the temperature on your water heater
- Open windows instead of using AC
- Install water saving shower heads and take shorter showers
- Add insulation to your attic
- Caulk around windows
- When replacing appliances, buy energy efficient ones
- Use a clothesline or clothes rack
- Turn off lights when not needed
- Eat locally grown food from farmers' markets
- Use solar energy by installing solar panels or joining a solar farm
- Collect water to water plants and gardens
- Do not use chemical fertilizers
- Recycle and reuse
- Save paper by printing on both sides
- No styrofoam-bring your own water bottle or coffee cup
- Do not buy bottled water-use tap water

Even the small things we do will make a difference. I went to a United Women of Faith Webinar where we learned about fossil fuels and climate justice. There were over 300 people in attendance. We were encouraged to do things to help the environment on our own and were sent a link to let our senators and representatives know that we care for the earth. That's how doing small things can have a great effect. The link is <https://p2a.co/fpd9ujd>. If you are interested in learning more, let me know and I can forward the email from The Office of Economic and Environmental Justice to you.

Thank you all for reading this letter. Please take time out for yourselves, breathe, rest, and enjoy God's good earth.

Peace,

Sue White

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

On April 2nd we once again were able to hold our Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. 44 children along with their parents, friends and grandparents attended and enjoyed pancakes and sausage. Special moments were captured in photos and each boy and girl received a goodie bag filled with eggs from the bunny as well as a goodie bag that included a picture frame, water bottle and a coupon for a free kids' meal curtesy of the Texas Roadhouse, as they were leaving. Word has it that the Easter bunny had a great time and will be back next year. One sweet little girl even brought the bunny a carrot. We're grateful for all those who helped make this fun, free community event possible.



BIRTHDAY WISHES

Happy Birthday to the following church members celebrating a birthday in May!!

(f you know someone to be added to our list please let Erica Soiett know)



7th: Gwen Rioux

8th: Ralph Day

10th: Chris Hall

17: Harry Grinder

18th: Bobby Jean Logan

Piper Logan Charpentier

19th: Debbie Crosman

29th: Stephanie Stambach

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1-Worship in person & virtually w/ Holy Communion, 9:30 Evening Circle after coffee fellowship	2-Widows' Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.	3	4	5-Bishop's visit on the District, Cape Elizabeth UMC, 6:00 p.m.	6	7
8-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 Mother's Day	9	10	11-Just for Seniors, 1:00 p.m.	12	13	14
15-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Stewardship Consecration	16	17	18	19	20	21-Annual plant sale, 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m
22-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 w/ the Sacrament of Baptism	23	24	25-Newsletter articles due Just for Seniors, 1:00 p.m. Finance, 6:30	26	27	28-Drive thru public supper, 4:30 p.m.
29-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m.	30-Memorial Day Holiday	31				

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



**LISBON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

14 School Street

Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252

(207)353-4982

Sunday Worship Service

Sunday Worship

(In Person and Live Stream on Facebook)

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

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