

FROM YOUR PASTOR:

From the Green Bible Devotional: Dominion or Domination??

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

HOLIDAY
FAIR

NHN 5K
WALK/RUN

BLOOD
DRIVE

OUTREACH

AND MUCH
MORE!

In Genesis 1.28-30 we read: *God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.*

God created order doesn't revolve around humanity alone. Here, after giving human beings the command to have dominion over all other living things, God demonstrates what that dominion shall look like – and it doesn't look like domination or control.

God points out the provisions for human sustenance – the seeds for planting, the fruit for harvesting – then adds that the animals have been given food as well. God has created the earth to sustain human life and animal life so that they are not competing for resources. God has made it clear that caring for these creatures will mean understanding the interdependence that exists in the human/animal relationship. It is left to humans to maintain this delicate balance. Dominion, then, includes this element of care, of ensuring that the earth continues to provide for ALL living creatures.

Let us pray: Merciful God, we consume without consideration for the impact we have on those creatures we are called to care for. Forgive us for our recklessness in how we interact with your creation. Restore us to our place as caretakers of creation as we work to recalibrate the balance between human benefit and creation care.

May we give more prayerful thought to God's creation all around us and do our part to be caregivers of all that God entrusts to us.

God's blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth

EVENING CIRCLE

Thank you to all our church family for your support in the Back to School supply donations. They were delivered to LACO to help children in need. I will post a list of what was received on the Church bulletin board in the hallway at church.

We are ready to receive your recycled plastic dishes again in the kitchen, time to fill the shelves again.

Suppers will continue for October and November, taking a break as always in the month of December. Tickets are now purchased inside, as is pick up for take out, due to it now being heating season. Doesn't make sense to have the windows open while the heat is running.

Our next meeting will be held on October 9th.

Carolyn Jones
President 353-8691

*"Autumn leaves
don't fall, they fly.
They take their time
and wander on this
their only chance to
soar."*

~Delia Owens

JUST SENIORS

After taking the summer off 15 seniors gathered in the church dining room on Sept. 26th with a fun program all about apples. Margie Hansel, from Hansel's Orchard in North Yarmouth shared the history of the orchard as well as photos, tips on preserving apples, recipes and lots of facts regarding apples. Heidi Hayden, the assistant library director, provided materials for two different crafts for those who were interested. Refreshments, which included apple crisp, apple strudel bites and apple cider, were enjoyed by all who attended. Stay tuned for information regarding our next gathering.

OUTREACH

In July, we learned that the Lisbon Police Department found that the bags of non perishable food items and gas cards were helpful when they encountered folks in need. It was voted to again donate ten more bags and 3 more gas cards. These were delivered in late July. It was also voted again to collect gift cards for New Beginnings which will be delivered in December. Collection will start mid November. A list of where to purchase gift cards and when the collection will begin will be announced early November. We will also again partner with the local schools to provide food items for the families that need extra help for Christmas dinners.

Our next meeting will be October 3rd at 1:30.

Connie Earle, Chair

BLOOD DRIVE



LUMC Blood Drive

Thursday, October 13th

1:00pm - 5:30pm

Lisbon United Methodist Church

14 School Street

Lisbon Falls, ME 04252

Register online: redcrossblood.org

Sponsor Code: **Lisbon UMC**

or call: **1-800-RED-CROS**

Please reach out to Gwen Rioux (353-6814) if you'd like to register for this upcoming blood drive.

LOOKING AHEAD: ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our annual church conference will be held in person on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 with our DS, the Rev. Arlene Tully, leading our conference. Together we will worship, take a look back at the last year, and look ahead with hope to the year to come.

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee will meet with the DS at 6:00 pm in the Pastor's Study; the conference will begin in the Hunnewell Room at 7:00 pm.

*Please Note: If you are responsible for reports that need to be filed with the district office, they are due on November 1st. If you wish to have a report included in our church conference report booklet, it is due no later than November 13. Thanks!

SPECIAL OFFERING ON WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 2nd as we join with millions of Christians around the world in this sacred Sacrament. There will also be a basket available at the back of the sanctuary for your offering taken at this time each year.

According to the UMC website, "Your donations support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities. In 2021, World Communion Sunday offerings awarded 242 scholarships and grants. Your generosity continues to provide scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development.

Fifty percent of the offering provides scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. Thirty-five percent supports racial and ethnic scholarships for students pursuing ordained ministry (deacon or elder) and includes a mentoring program. Fifteen percent funds Ethnic-In-Service Training Grant for leadership development, recruitment, training, and retention of ethnic United Methodist persons in leadership positions in every level of the church and its ministry.

The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Now, perhaps more than ever, we are called to extend healing and hope which will guide us to becoming a new creation in Christ. Through our gifts and support, we can invest in talented, qualified students from around the globe to transform the world as witnesses for Christ!"

Thank you for the generous gifts you will give on October 2nd.

NEW ADDRESSES

The following individuals in our church family have new addresses.

Here they are for your use when sending thoughts and prayers and words of encouragement.

Lilyette Cornish Coastal Shores 142 Neptune Drive, Room 1128 in
Brunswick 04011

Breanna Soiett Eastern Maine Community College Kineo Hall
354 Hogan Road Bangor 04401

INSTALLATION FOR OUR NEW DS

Our new Many Waters District Superintendent, the Rev. Arlene Tully, will be installed in a special time of worship on Sunday, October 23 at 1:00 pm at the Brunswick UMC.

Please consider being present for this service as we give Arlene a warm welcome to our district.

LUMC Mission Statement:

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

HOLIDAY FAIR AND SILENT AUCTION

With Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations beginning to fill the shelves in the stores it's time to once again start thinking about our holiday fair. Our Moxie Day activities were much different from past years for several reasons and as we begin making plans for the fair we have also decided to make some changes. I recently came across the following quote that I really like; "If you do not create change, change will create you." The author is unknown but I think it speaks to us as volunteers. If we resist or avoid making changes because of the "we've always done it this way", we'll see unwelcomed changes which could lead to no longer being able to have this fun event. Embracing planned changes brings new life to old ideas.

With that being said, we have had two productive fair committee meetings. The decision was made not to sell wreaths or greenery at the fair. I'd like to thank Connie Earle for her many years of leadership in decorating wreaths, making arrangements and cemetery baskets.

Another decision was made to only sell hot dogs for lunch. We all know the cost of fresh vegetables and meat have sky rocketed over the past few months. And as we think about our fair attendees, many don't want to have a sit down meal. Thank you Ginny Barden for your dedication over the years in making the stew and running the kitchen.

So what does this all mean? This means that without soliciting for veggies for the stew we're hoping to expand our bake sale! Everyone knows Methodists are great cooks as we hear it every month at the bean suppers. We'll be looking for more pies, desserts such as apple crisp and bread pudding, yeast breads, donuts, cinnamon rolls, jams, jellies, pickles, etc. Now's the time to get your cook books out and find that great recipe that you could share with others! As we attempt to target the "younger people" we'll be selling flavored coffees to go and goodies in the morning; donuts, jumbo muffins, cinnamon rolls.

Without the wreaths and luncheon tables we will have empty space which we are planning to rent to vendors. If you know of anyone who may be interested please let them know that for \$20 they can rent a 6 foot table which includes both Friday evening and Saturday.

Of course we'll still have our craft tables, an entire room dedicated to books and our very popular silent auction. If you need any ideas or materials for craft making, let me know! I have lots of ideas and materials and little time!!! If you're not a crafter consider donating an item for our silent auction. We have obtained some great items this year which includes a family membership to Maine Narrow Gauge Railway, a Portland Discovery Harbor Lights and Sights Cruise, gift cards to Cantrell's, the Red Barn, a many others.

We're excited as we move forward with these changes which enables us to still continue the long tradition of having a fair at LUMC! If you have any questions at all please let me know.

Trudy Duval, Chairperson

LAY LEADER REPORT

I hope this finds you all in good spirits. Not only is this greeting a Halloween reference, but it is an invitation to examine your spiritual life. How is it going? Do you still feel isolated and discouraged? Please know that our church is there for you. We have your back. We can share our worries with each other.

I recently attended a webinar given by the United Women of Faith. The speaker was Rebecca Simon-Peter. She spoke with care and enthusiastic energy about her book, *Forging a New Path*. I have not read it yet, but I intend to.

Ms. Simon-Peter's scriptural reference is Ezekiel 37:1-10. This is when the Lord commands the dry bones to rise. She also points to historic events such as the bubonic plague. During that time the isolation period was thirty days! When that happened the isolation was given a sort of Lenten context.

Ms. Simon-Peter pointed out that positive things happened during the pandemic; we rediscovered creativity and generosity, we discovered our gratitude for people, we discovered how much we need one another. When the world slowed down, pollution was reduced and wildlife reemerged. We found that some meetings were unnecessary. We developed relationships in the church and with our neighbors.

Ms. Simon-Peter talked about what to do with our anger and the continuing conflicts around politics. She said we should focus on the church and ethics. We should concentrate on human kindness. We should learn to be careful with our language. We should obey the golden rule and what she calls the platinum rule. Treat others as we would like to be treated and find out how people would like to be treated. In this way we can use our spirituality to become more inclusive, drawing people in from the margins. Like Ezekiel, we can allow God to breathe life into those dry bones. We can let the spirit be the divine light within us.

I just finished a book called [The Virtual Body of Christ in a Suffering World](#) by Deanna Thompson. To be honest, I wasn't sure I wanted to learn more about the virtual church, but I found this book to be very enlightening. Ms. Thompson leads the reader through her own resistance to the use of virtual connections to her acceptance of what these connections can give us.

One of the things that became evident to Ms. Thompson showed the wideness of the church through virtual reality. She experienced a severe illness-stage four breast cancer-and as she reached out to her church and support groups she made connections across the globe. People shared her need on social media, and the number of people praying for her was astonishing. She also pointed out that people who are ill may not want to see others face to face. The person may be embarrassed about showing weakness or feel that they do not look dignified.

LAY LEADER REPORT, CONT.

The person may be undergoing treatments that have uncomfortable side effects. (We all are aware of covid and the restrictions on visiting those who are ill. Virtual church can serve as an alternative.) Use of the internet can cross those boundaries and still offer comfort and care.

This is another dimension of Christ and culture.

Ms. Thompson points to the letters of Paul as an example of communication that was distinctive and innovative. Paul sent messengers with letters to the people he was pastoring. He reached out to members of the body of Christ remotely. (I find this akin to a large zoom call.) In this way Christ is present virtually to the followers of Paul, just as we allow Christ to be present through our Facebook posts and our Sunday morning live stream. If you check out our

Facebook page and look to the morning services, you can see how many views there have been. I noticed that the longer the service is posted, the more views there are. **For example, at this writing, last Sunday's views were 57 and August 28th had 63 views. Then, on August 21st, there were 82 views! It's exciting to think that we have reached out to that many people, not to mention the people attending church in person.**

Ms. Thompson uses the story of Blind Bartimaeus to show how Jesus stops and attends to a person needing care, comfort, and healing. Jesus allows himself to be interrupted to care for a person outside of his usual circle. Bartimaeus is a person who is not considered worthy of attention. Jesus refused to abide by the prevailing sentiment and responded to Bartimaeus.

Ms. Thompson's point is that we are often interrupted by digital communications. It is up to us to notice a person in need. All of God's children are worthy of attention.

I found both of these books and their authors very affirming. We are a church that is on the right track! We have found creative ways to reach out to people using virtual church. We are the body of Christ doing God's work in our church, community, and the world. Although we don't use it much in worship, the Apostle's Creed states:

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church, (note the small c indicating the church universal)
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body
And the life everlasting. Amen.

May the Lord give you peace and hope on your spiritual journey,
Sue White

BIRTHDAY WISHES



Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrate a birthday in October!

2nd: Sean Wile

6th: Alex Hall

10th: Elizabeth J Bachelder Smith

1th: Caliyah Duncan

30th: Art Stambach

31st: Chad Cornish

NHN 5K RUN/WALK

The weather for the NHN 5K was perfect. Thank you to all who volunteered their time to help with the 5K - it couldn't have been done without you! There were 20 participants ranging in age from 11 to 91 (although, there was a wee one who joined us in a stroller!) who came from local towns and cross-country! A woman from California was visiting her parents who live locally and decided to participate in our event. She shared her wonderful story with me after the race that I wish to share with you: She told me that it was her first race in several years after sustaining an injury to one of her knees. The doctors, at the time, told her they'd done what they could to repair the damage so she could walk, but would never be able to run again. This was devastating news for her as she had been a competitive runner for many years. Well, after going through physical therapy and self-rehab, she was able to run in our event! Her enthusiasm was infectious and she was so proud of her accomplishment in proving the doctors wrong. I was moved by her story and awarded her an extra medal that I had so that she would always remember us and mark the day she ran a race again. One could tell that God was working with her every step of the way and leading her to our event to share her good news!

Other runners complimented us on the fact that all of the proceeds go to the charitable organization, ("Warm Thy Neighbor") and not shared with some professional event management company. Several also offered additional donations because of that fact. We thanked them at the time and I thank all of you who donated money to the event and, ultimately, to our neighbors in need. A total of the donation to Tedford Housing has yet to be determined (possibly near \$1,800), but I wanted to share this story of how our small event can impact the participants as well as the recipients, and, again, express, on behalf of the 5K team, our appreciation for your support of this event.

God's blessings,

Monica McCusker

LOOKING FOR STORAGE SPACE

Does anyone have any storage space that they would be willing to store some small furniture; end tables, coffee table, etc? These items would make great yard sale items in the spring but they need to be moved. No one person needs to store everything. Contact Dawn King at 207-353-2242 if you can help. Thank you

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2-Worship in person & virtually w/ Holy Communion for World Communion Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	3-Widows' fellowship, 11:30 a.m.	4	5-Discovering the Possibilities, 6:30 p.m.	6	7	8
9-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Evening Circle, 10:45 a.m.	10-Indigenous Peoples' Holiday	11	12-Worship Committee, 6:30 p.m.	13-Red Cross Blood Drive, 1:00-5:30 p.m.	14	15
16-Laity Sunday worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Silver Sunday	17	18	19-Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m.	20	21	22-Dine in/ Take out supper, 4:30 p.m.
23-Worship in person & virtually 9:30 a.m. New DS Instal, BUMC 1:00	24	25	26	27	28	29
30-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m.	31					

NOTE: All meetings are held in the Hunnewell Room, unless otherwise noted

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

(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

Important Contacts:

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