

FROM YOUR PASTOR:

Faithful Messengers

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ISSUE:

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FALL
FUNDRAISER

BLOOD
DRIVE

AND MUCH
MORE!

Our annual conference sends out a daily prayer from our Cabinet members. The following was written by our own DS in August. May you pray these words giving thought to how God calls you to bring good news to others.

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15b)

Holy God, empower me to be a faithful messenger
of the good news of your love and grace.

Help my feet to bring me to places of need
where I might not willingly go without your prodding.

Help my eyes to gaze upon everyone I see with Christlike compassion,
so that I may recognize their sacred beauty.

Help my arms to embrace each person
as a beloved child of yours and sibling of mine.

Help my hands to reach out in reconciliation
to those who have hurt me,
and in contrition to those I have hurt.

Help my heart to love the unloved and unlovely
as genuinely and unconditionally as you love me.



Form me into a worthy ambassador for your kingdom.
so that my words and actions always point to Jesus,
revealing "a light so lovely" that others
want with all their hearts to know the source of it.¹
Make my feet beautiful.

Written by Rev. Arlene Tully, Many Waters District Superintendent

¹ "We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it." (Madeleine L'Engle, *Walking on Water*, p.172)

EVENING CIRCLE

We have completed our Back to School Supplies drive and a big thank you to all our church family for once again donating to help these kids out. This morning, we packed up the items and got them over to LACO for distribution. Thanks to Martha Palmer and Randy Jones for their part in helping with the move and counting out the items. Here is a list of what was collected for this year.

6 boxes of washable markers	7 pkg of notebook paper
12 glue sticks	3 composition books
8 highlighters	1 steno book
2 calculators	1 pkg. dividers
12 boxes of colored pencils	18 two pocket folders
1 pencil sharpener with erasers	1 spiral notebook
1 pencil bag	16 notebooks
2 rulers	6 lunch bags
5 24pkg of pencils	1 pair socks
3 10 pkg of pencils	18 backpacks (thanks Jane and Don)
6 12 pkg of pencils	6 8 pkg of pencils

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

~C.S. Lewis

In other news, Sunday, August 20 we had a good-bye coffee for Edra Nelson who is relocating to Massachusetts to live with family. We presented her with a basket of cards with well wishes and we all enjoyed cake and coffee. We will miss her, as she was quite active with our group as well as with our church.

Carolyn Jones
President

Edra's new address:

Edra Nelson
142 Avery Street
East Longmeadow,
MA
01028



BLOOD DRIVE



LUMC Blood Drive
Monday, October 9th
11:30am-4pm

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.

SAVE THE DATE



Holiday Fair & Silent Auction

November 10th and 11th

More information to come!



LAY LEADER REPORT

Greetings! I hope you are ready for September. The church is gearing up with a few activities; The Neighbors Helping Neighbors 5K, a church yard and book sale, and lots of meetings. Soon the choir will be joining us in worship.

Please give some thought to getting together for a Bible Study Group. I welcome your input as to what type of study you would like and when would be a good time-morning, afternoon, evening-what day of the week, etc. Do you want to use a book as a guide, or would you like to dig deeper into Sunday's scripture? I have a Faith and Facts resource from the Church and Society group that has discussion ideas. I will bring it to church for you to look at.

May was Asian and Pacific Islanders heritage month. I didn't get a chance to write about it, because of New England Annual Conference. I attended a zoom group generated at Rolling Ridge featuring Rep. Tram Nguyen of Massachusetts. He spoke about the Asian immigration to work on the construction of the railroad in 1843. He also talked of his own experience as a Vietnamese immigrant. His family, along with many others, were political refugees. He came to the US and settled in Boston in 1992. They lived in public housing in Lawrence, MA and were sponsored by a host family. There were many challenges, especially language and culture. When Tram began first grade, he didn't speak English. Tram's father valued education highly, feeling that education is the key to success. (You may have noticed this value as part of Vietnamese culture.) Tram was bullied and teased and felt ashamed. His father taught him not to let his power be taken away. His parents were hard workers, with multiple jobs and long hours. Tram was motivated to become a lawyer with good pay, in order to help his family. In law school Tram learned of the power of policy, leading him to run for state representative. In Massachusetts, most Vietnamese live in Dorchester. They use the power of community to work for their rights, such as bilingual education.

Vietnamese cuisine includes Pho, a noodle soup, fresh vegetables and herbs, rice, seafood, and egg rolls.

Tram spoke about the current immigration situation. He talked about the sacrifices made, and separation from family. He called this the long goodbye. He described how people left unlivable circumstances to come to a new country for a better life. He advocates for a welcoming country. He pointed out that the investment is in people, with humanity getting much in return, such as skills and intellect. Tram talked about the Asian Hate Movement which uses violence and abuse toward Asian people. He has worked with community leaders and sponsored hate crime legislation. He advocates for schools teaching inclusivity, teaching about stories and value instead of racism. He spoke about lack of housing, (we in Maine are well aware of this issue and the placement of asylum seekers as they wait the six months before they can attain work visas.)

LAY LEADER REPORT, CONT.

Tram spoke of other issues such as trafficking, access to unemployment, minimum wage, and workers compensation. He also works on water quality, animal protection, mental health, and the opioid crisis. He advocates for diversity and inclusion, listening to voices speak for themselves. Many immigrants have a fear of the government, and Tram is working to dispel that. Tram also works for the environment, working toward more green spaces, outdoor activities, camps, and activities at Rolling Ridge.

He encourages more people of color and diverse backgrounds to work in and with the state government.

I am just finishing a book by Celeste Ng (Little Fires Everywhere, Everything I Never Told You). It is called Our Missing Hearts. I highly recommend it. It is one of those “what if” books. The premise is that there is an economic crisis, and Asians are blamed. Racism becomes government policy. The book tells the tale of a family and how they are affected. No spoilers!

Books I have read over the summer:

The Intersectional Environmentalist by Leah Thomas

The Seven Deadly Sins of White Nationalism by Carter Heyward

Forging a New Path by Rebekah Simon-Peter

I hope that as we enter the fall (my favorite) season, we find the strength of the spirit to continue to do God’s work.

Peace,

Sue White

FALL FUNDRAISER

This year the Finance committee is holding a yard sale, chicken barbeque, and book sale on September 30th from 8 to 2 (please note the change of date from the August newsletter). The chicken barbeque will start at 11:00. If you have items you’d like to donate for the yard sale, they can be dropped off Sunday September 24th from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. If you're not able to drop off at this time, please contact Dean Logan or Sue White to schedule a drop off time. Please make sure your items are not broken, are usable and in good working condition. Please reach out with any questions.

Shane Soiett

Finance Chair

LUMC Mission Statement:

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

FINANCE INFORMATION

Newsletter Finance Information - as of August 2023

Annual Budget Amount for Operating Expenses	\$	138,160.00
Monthly Budget Amount for Operating Expenses	\$	11,513.33
Total August 2023 Income	\$	6,743.41
Total August 2023 Expenses	\$	7,530.04
Total YTD Income	\$	100,030.64
Total YTD Expense	\$	79,353.12

THANK YOU!

The church received a thank you note from Omari, for their contribution in helping him attend Mechuwana this past summer.

Thank you for paying for Mechuwana
I liked play sports like football
and basketball baseball



Thank You

BIRTHDAY WISHES



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

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

1st- Barbara Grinder

7th- Verne Smith

10th- Mary Duley

11th- Barbara Underwood

19th- Sylvia White

21st- Emily White

24th- Sylvia Doughty

25th- Stacey Strople

27th- Jane Wile

28th- Peggy Shaw

FINANCE COMMITTEE

"The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."-John Maxwell

As I read this quote, I think about our church and think about the direction our church is going. If we are not willing to change with the times and we continue to do the same thing year after year, we will no longer exist. We need to embrace new changes in order to survive. With that being said, we need new ideas for fundraising in order to supplement our budget. Committees should work together not against each other in order to sustain our church. If you have any fundraising ideas, or ways that we could grow our church, please reach out to any one of the finance committee members. The more we resist to change, the more we will lose.

Shane Soiett

Finance Chair

PRAYER LIST REVIEW

Our time of prayer during worship in addition to the occasional email prayer requests and updates we share with each other are a very important part of our life together as the Body of Christ. You are always encouraged to be in touch with Pastor Elizabeth to make those requests known.

At present our printed prayer list is quite long. We are happy to keep names on the list for those who need our ongoing prayers. However, if you added a name some time ago and that person or persons can now be removed, please contact Pastor Elizabeth to let her know IN WRITING either via email or by giving her a note with the information. Thank you!

NUTURE COMMITTEE

The Nurture Committee will meet on Sept. 24th after coffee fellowship to discuss upcoming events.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS 5K RUN/WALK

Join our annual 5k Run/Walk to benefit The Tedford Housing's "Warm They Neighbor", a heating assistant program. For more information and to register, go to our website:

www.lisbonumcurch.org

\$25 Adults/\$15 Students

Register by August 30th to get a t shirt at check in.

Check in/Registration time, 7:30-8:15 a.m.

Race Time: 8:30 a.m.

Walk-ons are welcome!



September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3-Worship in person & Virtually w/ Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m.	4-Labor Day Holiday	5-Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	6	7	8	9-Neighbors Helping Neighbors 5k Run/Walk, 7:30 a.m.
10-Worship in person & Virtually, 9:30 Evening Circle following coffee	11-Widows' Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.	12-Choir	13	14	15	16
17-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Silver Sunday Finance Comm, 11am	18	19-Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	20	21	22	23-Dine In/ Take Out Bean Supper, 4:30
24-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Nurture Comm after coffee	25	26-Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.	27	28	29	30-Yard & Book Sale, Chicken BBQ, 8:00 a.m.

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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