

**FROM YOUR PASTOR:**

***And Yet.....***

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

**LENT**

“And yet....” has long been one of my favorite phrases – not only from the Biblical stories that form and sustain our faith but just in life in general.

For me this phrase is filled with hope, with opportunity, with the basic belief of the Christian faith that, with God, all things are possible.

Here are just a few ways that this phrase is used in the narratives of Scripture:

From Exodus 3.2 when Moses sees the burning bush - “he looked and the bush was blazing, and yet it was not consumed.”

**FINANCE**

From Matthew 6.26 in Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount – “Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet our heavenly God feeds them.”

**BREAKFAST  
WITH THE  
BUNNY**

From 2 Corinthians 6.10, 11 when Paul explains how followers of Jesus are perceived – “We are treated as sorrowful, and yet always rejoicing; as poor, and yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.”

**LAY  
LEADER**

Can you hear the hopefulness in these sentences? That’s what the Christian faith is all about. As we celebrate the season of Lent, historically known as a time of reflection and repentance, we will hear phrases in the gospel readings that fulfill this “and yet....” way of thinking. This journey will bring us to the ultimate “and yet” of the Christian faith: Christ was crucified.....and yet, he lives again! God’s gift of hope for, in God, all things are possible.

**AND MUCH  
MORE!**

I hope you will find relevance and meaning for your own lives of faith as we consider the wondrous works of God in the Lenten days which culminate in the joyous celebration of Easter and the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. May God abide with you during the holy Lenten season.



God’s blessings,

*Pastor Elizabeth*

## MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION: SAVE THIS IMPORTANT DATE!

On Sunday, April 21 we will celebrate those beloved individuals in our church family who have been members of LUMC for 50 plus years. In addition, it is the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our church. Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Arlene Tully, will be with us to share the sermon that day.

Please join us for worship with a special brunch to follow to celebrate and give thanks for these persons whose faithful love for God and our church helps us be the church we are today!

*"No act of kindness,  
no matter how  
small, is ever  
wasted."*

*~Unknown*

## LACO SOUP AND CHILI SUPPER



A soup and chili fundraiser supper will be held on Saturday, February 17 at the MTM community center from 4:00 to 6:30 pm; tickets are \$13 ahead of time/ \$14 at the door. Please come and have something warm on a cold winter evening to support our local food pantry and clothing bank in the essential ministry they provide our community.

## BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Mark your calendars! The Easter Bunny will be back on March 16<sup>th</sup> for the annual Breakfast with the Bunny. Pancakes and sausage will be served from 8:30-10:00. This is a fun, free, family event for all ages. Donations of complete pancake mix and candy would be greatly appreciated. More information will be in the March newsletter.



### ***LUMC Mission Statement:***

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

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**Lisbon United Methodist Church**

14 School Street, Lisbon Falls

**Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Noon – 4:30pm**

**Sponsor Code: Lisbon UMC**

**FINANCE INFORMATION**

| <u><b>Newsletter Finance Information - as of Jan 2024</b></u> |    |            |
|---|----|------------|
| Annual Budget Amount for Operating Expenses                   | \$ | 139,560.63 |
| Monthly Budget Amount for Operating Expenses                  | \$ | 11,630.05  |
| Total Jan 2024 Income   | \$ | 4,144.77   |
| Total Jan 2024 Expenses                                       | \$ | 8,515.60   |
| Total YTD Income  | \$ | 4,144.77   |
| Total YTD Expense   | \$ | 8,515.60   |

## GREETINGS FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

As I write this, the January deep freeze seems to be ending. Hurrah! January always seems to be a tough month to get through-long and cold. Starting February and the season of Lent seems like a good way to move forward.

If you spent January in the doldrums, consider this story of hope:

You may be familiar with the show “Maine Cabin Masters” on the magnolia network. The cast of the show are down home local folk who rebuild, design, and repair cabins that need some TLC. They do this with humor and with caring for the owners of the cabins.

The January 22 episode told the story of the building of a tiny home for homeless teens in the Farmington area. Bonita Lehigh, the director of The Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, asked the Cabin Masters to help build a tiny home to help the teens have a home to live in while they learn to support themselves in the world.

The Cabin Master team donated their labor and used their connections with local businesses to get the home completed with little cost to the CES group. Also, Bonita Lehigh reached out to the community and got many things donated.

The tiny home is a beginning project that will provide a safe, comfortable place for teens to live. This project, and others taken on by the Cabin Masters, shows what a little caring and community outreach can do. It is a great example of God’s gifts being used for the greater good.

Now, for some silliness and cheer:

Where does a polar bear keep his money? .....In a snow bank!

Why couldn’t the skeleton go to the party?.....He had no body to go with!

Snowman: If you could be anything you wanted, what would it be?

Snowwoman: Warm

Chilly: I have to take my computer in to get fixed.

Willy: Why?

Chilly: It’s frozen.

Snowman: Is your brother coming?

Snowwoman: No, he’s a flake

Snowman: What do you want to be when you grow up?

Snowchild: An avalanche.

Mr. Cool: Is everything ok?

Frosty: Yes. Why?

Mr. Cool: You seem a little cold lately.

I hope that as the world spins into what seems like chaos, we can remember God’s love and the gift of humor.

Peace,

Sue White

## THE SEASON OF LENT 2024

This new year seems to be moving right along and we will have an early beginning to the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup>. This means that we will celebrate Easter Sunday on March 31<sup>st</sup> when we may still have snow on the ground in our northern state!

As their gift to you for this holy season, Lay Leader Sue and Pastor Elizabeth will be sharing a small devotional booklet with each of you,

*The Sanctuary for Lent 2024*. Each booklet contains brief readings for each day in Lent from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday with a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a short prayer – all based on the Scripture readings we will be hearing each Sunday in worship. This gift will help each of us faithfully journey through Lent and prepare to experience the joy of the Easter resurrection.

As we have for the past few years, we will also have a “take home” liturgy and small bag of ashes available at worship on February 11 for your use on Ash Wednesday, February 14. You are encouraged to use this service to begin this holy season in reflection and prayer.

Then, on February 18, we will begin our services of worship for the five Sundays of Lent before Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week:

Lent 1, February 18: Mark 1.9-15 *Tempted.....And, Yet...*

Lent 2, February 25: Mark 8.31-38 *Losing Life....And, Yet...*

Lent 3, March 3: John 2.13-22 *Destroyed.....And, Yet...*

Lent 4, March 10: John 3.14-21 *Judged.....And, Yet...*

Lent 5, March 17: John 12.20-33 *Died.....And, Yet...*

More on the series we will consider can be found on the Pastor’s Page on the front page of this newsletter.

## NURTURE COMMITTEE NEWS

*Pot Luck Brunch ~February 11th- Sunday- starts at 11:00 (after worship service) -*

*Come one, come all!*

*Bring something to share, if you wish to, and/or just come and join everyone, for food, fun and fellowship. A great way to kick off the new year!*

*There will be a trivia game, some prizes and a great time together. Hope to see everyone there! Betsy E.M. Crowell, Chairperson (home 737-8000).*

## BIRTHDAY WISHES



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

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

|     |                     |     |                |
|-----|---------------------|-----|----------------|
| 4-  | Kadie Palmer-Foster | 18- | Pat Cavender   |
| 7-  | Carolyn Belmain     |     | Martha Palmer  |
| 8 - | Mark A. Stambach    | 20- | Shane Soiett   |
|     | Cathy Strople       |     | Rosalie White  |
|     | Lola Carlson        | 21- | Caroline White |
| 15- | Win Smith           | 22- | Dot Brooks     |
| 16- | Brenda Rogers       | 23- | Joan Stambach  |
| 17- | Karli Rogers        | 28- | Elania Rioux   |

## AND SAVE THESE IMPORTANT DATES, TOO!

Our church family will have two additional times to worship and give thanks this spring into the summer with the visits of two special guests.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 19, the Rev. Wesley Palmer, the executive director of the Preacher's Aid Society, will be present with us to share the ministry of the PAS with us. He goes out regularly to churches in our conference and asked if he could join us this spring.

Then, on Sunday, June 30, our Bishop, the Rev. Peggy Johnson, will be with us to share worship and preach. Our Membership Celebration Committee invited Bishop Peggy to join us on April 21<sup>st</sup> but, since she will already be at the General Conference session, she asked if she could come at another time to worship with us.

Please put these dates on your calendar and join us to give both Rev. Wes and Bishop Peggy a grateful Lisbon UMC welcome!



# February 2024

| Sun  | Mon                        | Tue | Wed   | Thu | Fri | Sat  |
|--|----------------------------|-----|---|-----|-----|--|
|  |                            |     |   | 1   | 2   | 3  |
| 4-Worship w/<br>Holy communion in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m.                          | 5                          | 6   | 7-Choir rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.                      | 8   | 9   | 10   |
| 11-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30<br>Potluck brunch after worship                   | 12                         | 13  | 14-Ash<br>Wednesday<br>Choir rehearsal, 6:45 p.m. | 15  | 16  | 17-LACO Soup & Chili supper, 4-6:30 @ MTM      |
| 18-1st Sunday of Lent Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m.                           | 19-Presidents' Day Holiday | 20  | 21-Choir rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.                     | 22  | 23  | 24-Dine In/<br>Take Out Bean Supper, 4:30 p.m. |
| 25-2nd Sunday of Lent<br>Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m.<br>Finance, 11:00 a.m. | 26                         | 27  | 28-Choir rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.                     | 29  |     |  |



**NOTE: All meetings are held in the Hunnewell Room, unless otherwise noted**  
**Office Hours: Wednesday: Times Vary, Thursday 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.,**  
**Friday is the Pastor's Sabbath Day**  
**Other times available by appointment**  
**Every Thursday: Girl Scouts, Hunnewell Room, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

**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: Wednesday: Times Vary*

*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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