

FROM YOUR PASTOR:

Temper Them with Prayer and Song...

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

CARDS FOR
HONOR
FLIGHT

NURTURE

BLOOD DRIVE

LAY
LEADER

AND MUCH
MORE!

As this holy season of Lent continues in the month of April, we continue to celebrate our Lenten theme: *Cultivating and Nurturing New Life*. As we watch our seeds, planted at the first of the season, mature and grow, and as we celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, the words of a beloved folk song written by Maine's own Dave Mallett come to mind:

Inch by inch, row by row. Gonna make this garden grow. All it takes is a rake and a hoe

And a piece of fertile ground

Inch by inch, row by row. Someone bless these seeds I sow. Someone warm them from below Till the rain comes tumblin' down

Rainful rain, sun and rain. Find my way in nature's chain. Tune my body and my brain

To the music from the land

Plant your rows straight and long. Temper them with prayer and song. Mother Earth will make you strong If you give her love and care

How fulfilling it has been to not only watch the growth of our sunflowers, marigolds, and tomatoes, but also the growth of our spiritual selves on this forty-day journey. Through reflection and repentance, we have thought about those ways that God nurtures us as we recognize and turn from our sinful ways and seek to make ourselves better, forgiven disciples for Jesus Christ.

Just as the process of growing a flower or veggie takes time, so does our growth as Christians. We are always on the journey of discovery; we are always in need of God's grace. However, as the lyrics remind us, with prayer and the strong presence of God and God's love and care, we can grow into the people God calls us to be: faithful, confident, generous, and compassionate followers of Jesus.

Continued on Page 8

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS IN APRIL

Our community of faith will celebrate two very special events for our church in April. On April 6 Jennifer Morgan will receive the Sacrament of Baptism and then on Palm Sunday, April 13, Jen will join our church. In addition, Mary Ann Breden, Melissa Conwell, and Judy Rathbun will transfer their memberships from their previous churches to LUMC.

Please be with us on both of these Sundays to give thanks to God who makes these celebrations possible and to officially welcome these dear women into our church family.

OUTREACH NEWS

The Outreach Committee has voted to do a collection of items suitable for children to purchase for family members at Christmas time at St. Matthews Episcopal Church's "The Children's Christmas Store". This is where children can come with a list of up to 10 family members that they would like to buy a Christmas gift for. The adult that comes with them waits in another room while the child goes into the store and picks out the items they want to purchase. The cost is \$1.00 per item that they pick out. Children then go to another room where the items are put in tissue paper and a bag. This year this will be a fundraiser for LACO. We decided to start this collection early because Christmas is so busy with other projects. We will have a list of suggested items available but most items can be found at the dollar stores. Gently used coffee mugs saying #1 Dad or Mom, and holiday mugs are also popular. For those of us who knit or crochet, dish towels or dish clothes can be used too. If you sew pot holders, they also make nice gifts. There will be a box in the narthex for donations. Collection will be from April 6th to sometime in June. Last year they had 79 children and had to turn away some, as they ran out of items. If you have any questions, they can be directed to Carol Day or myself.

Thank you in advance,

Connie Earle, Chairperson

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Living Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

~1Peter 1:3

LUMC Mission Statement:

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

EASTER FLOWERS

It will soon be time for our sanctuary to be decorated with beautiful spring flowers in memory of those you love. Gwen Rioux will once again graciously create our flower list for inclusion in the Easter bulletin on April 20. A copy of last year's list will be available in the coming weeks; please confirm if you wish to have flowers again this year; if you wish to change your listing, please contact Gwen directly ASAP by phone 353-6814 or by email at gwennerioux@gmail.com by April 17th.

If you are not attending in person but wish to have a plant in our sanctuary anyway, please contact Gwen as well.

NURTURE NEWS

The Nurture committee met yesterday, and we have decided to have a coffee fellowship prior to services on Easter Sunday. The Finance committee will be hosting, goodies will be available from 8:30-9:15. Hope you can all make it.

May 16th we will be showing the movie "Lost on a Mountain in Maine" in the Hunnewell room at 6:00 p.m. We'll provide popcorn and water. You may bring other snacks if you'd like. I hear it's a great movie about a 12 year old boy who was lost on Mt. Katahdin for 12 days.

On June 1st we will plan to have another potluck brunch. Stay tuned for details!

Happy Spring & Happy Easter,

Your Nurture Committee

MOXIE NEWS

Plans for the 2025 Moxie Festival are officially underway! Mark your calendars for July 11th and 12th and join us in one of our biggest fundraisers of the year.

Even though the Town has moved some of the festival to the high school, we have decided to "stay put" and sell hotdogs, strawberry shortcake and Moxie floats at the church like we have in years past. We feel that we are an established location, and folks know they can get an affordable meal at the church. We have also decided to bring back the Moxie yard sale. At this time we are NOT looking for yard sale donations. We have been very blessed to receive donations of NEW merchandise from a local retailer. We are however looking for large sheets of cardboard, for signage. If you have any large cardboard please bring it to the church. We are also looking for books and puzzles in good condition. Please no outdated manuals, encyclopedias or moldy books.

Consider joining us at our next planning meeting on Tuesday, May 20th, 6:30 in the Hunnewell Room!

GREETINGS FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Greetings!

Now that we are deep in the season of Lent, I hope this finds you seeking ways to nurture and cultivate your life and your spiritual journey. Along those lines, I propose that you take some time to make a Lenten resolution. Many times you may find that it is recommended that you give up something for Lent. I suggest you give up listening to negative input. What I mean is the nasty commentary on social media or the negative editorials in the paper or on the news. Instead, try to add some positivity, kindness, love and caring in your life. One way to do that is to read uplifting books. I just finished a book called "Let's Roll" by Lisa Beamer. It is the sad but faith filled experience of the crash of flight 93 on September 11. You may shed a few tears, but also understand how God takes care of us and guides our lives. I received my copy from Sue Ramsay. I will leave it in the church dining room for any of you to share.

Another thing that I do is get a newsletter from CNN called 5 Good Things. It lists things that may or may not have made the regular news that are uplifting. The March 22nd issue talked about how the world is kinder than we think. A Gallop poll found that 70% of the world's population did at least one kind thing in the last month. We are often surprised by the kindness of others in the face of trying times. Doing kind deeds for someone has been shown to make both parties happier. We can change the world for the better.

A grandmother from China has visited 12 countries by bike! She says she's a wild wolf-free, fearless, and independent.

Do you watch Survivor? Usually reality tv has a negative connotation, but this season there are two people who are getting positive attention and support. One contestant has a stutter, and another is autistic. Both are treated with kindness and understanding by the other contestants, and Mitch, the stutterer, is an elementary PE teacher. He hopes to show his students that anyone can speak confidently.

Other ways to bring positivity into your life are to do things that bring you joy. You could spend time with a child, or hold a baby. You could enjoy nature. You could listen to beautiful music. You could look at a beautiful painting. (By the way, all these things will increase your dopamine, improving your brain health.)

So Lent doesn't have to be all doom and gloom. It can be a time of positive growth, just like our plants that you are nurturing!

May God's Peace and Love be With You,

Sue White

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

Spring is certainly in the air!! Just a reminder that our annual Spring Fling is planned for Saturday May 17th.

We will be selling dessert pies, the pie plates will be provided, this will make the pies appear more uniform. Pies will be boxed up for selling. There will be a sign up sheet circulating shortly. For more information please see Carolyn Jones.

Once plants appear for sale in our local greenhouses and gardening supply stores we will be soliciting for donations. If you have any plants, household or garden, please let me know and we can add them to our plans.

The ever so popular CHICKEN BBQ will also be part of the Spring Fling!! We are looking for donations of Chicken legs and chicken thighs or money donations. The need will be approximately enough to sell 50 meals with one thigh and one leg. We also need cornbread and potato salad donated to complete the meal. If you have any questions or are interested in providing the chicken donations please see Vern.

If you have any questions please see Peggy or Greg Shaw or call 207-375-8645.

God's Blessings,

Peggy & Greg

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Come and enjoy a free pancake and sausage breakfast with the Easter Bunny on April 5th from 8:30-10am. Kids of all ages have enjoyed this event since our first visit from the Easter Bunny in 2016! We could use one or two more volunteers if you would like to help, (and no, you won't have to be the bunny!) Hope to see you on the 5th!

Trudy Duval



FROM YOUR PASTOR, CONT.

As we gather on Easter morning on April 20th to celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior, may we rejoice with one another in the new life that God, our good Gardener, offers to us each day, long after we have enjoyed our flowers and vegetables that are a part, just as we are, of “nature’s chain.”

May the unfolding of spring and the warmth of God’s nurturing find you living lives filled with peace and hope.

God’s blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth



HONOR FLIGHT MAINE

The first Honor Flight of 2025 will take place from April 25-27th. Let’s fill the basket found in the Narthax with cards and notes that will be given to the veterans on their return flight home. The veterans enjoy receiving the cards and notes and it’s a small way that we can thank them for their service.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Lisbon United Methodist Church

14 School Street, Lisbon Falls

Monday, April 14th

12:30pm – 5pm

Sponsor Code: Lisbon UMC

Questions? Call Gwen at 353-6814

FINANCE INFORMATION

Newsletter Finance Information - as of 03/26/2025

2025 Annual Budget Amount for Operating	\$	143,009.53
Income March		
Budgeted	\$	6,362.52
Actual	\$	7,664.51
Expenses March		
Budgeted	\$	8,912.41
Actual	\$	10,562.67

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

Addison Soiett

5th: Lana Hower

Greg Shaw

Jessica Wile

8th: Carol Day

9th Carolyn Jones

10th: Larry Baldiga

14th: Bob Packard

22nd: Paul Belmain

32rd: Rick Rioux

24th: Debbie Greim

Hilary Hall

27th: Susan Wile



April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1-Lenten study, 10:00 a.m.	2-Choir rehearsal, 2:30 p.m.	3	4	5-Breakfast w/ the Bunny, 8:30 a.m.
6-5th Sunday in Lent, worship w/ communion and baptism, online & virtually, 9:30 a.m.	7	8-Lenten study, 10:00 a.m.	9-Choir rehearsal, 2:30 p.m.	10	11	12
13-Palm Sunday, worship w/ membership celebration, in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Evening Circle, 11:00 a.m.	14-Red Cross blood drive, 12:30-5:00 p.m.	15-Lenten Bible study, 10:00 a.m.	16-Choir rehearsal, 2:30 p.m.	17-Maundy Thursday w/ Holy Communion in person and virtually, 7:00 p.m.	18	19
20-Easter Sunday w/ coffee @ 8:30, worship in person & virtual 9:30	21-Patriot's Day Holiday	22	23-Choir rehearsal, 2:30	24	25	26-Dine In/ Take Out bean supper, 4:30 p.m.
27-Service of worship, in person & virtual, 9:30 Finance Comm. 11:00	28	29	30-Choir rehearsal, 2:30 p.m.			

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

Office Hours: Monday 9:00 am-noon at Pastor's Home, Thursday 1:00-3:00 pm

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: Monday 9:00-12 noon at Home

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

Other times available by appointment

Friday is the Pastor's Sabbath day

Important Contacts:

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith
pastor@lisbonumchurch.org

Organist & Choir Director: Debbie Greim
576-8527 dmusicnote@myfairpoint.net

Lay Leader: Sue White

sdwhite071154@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Erica Soiett

212-3713 esoiett@roadrunner.com

Public Relations & Web Info: Monica McCusker

754-9569 mainefyfer@yahoo.com