

FROM YOUR PASTOR:

To Everything There Is A Season

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

LAY LEADER

CHRISTMAS
FAIR

ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

BLOOD DRIVE

AND MUCH
MORE!

When I was in my second semester as a first-year seminarian, the District Superintendent in my southern Maine district asked if I would consider serving Evergreen United Methodist Church out on Long Island in Casco Bay beginning on Palm Sunday that year. Since every seminary student needed “field education” – that is, work in some capacity in a church – I jumped at the chance. Those very kind and tolerant island parishioners listened to me try out all of the big theological words I was learning with great patience and grace. One of them, a dear woman by the name of Dolly, insisted after the very first sermon that, if I had something I wanted to preach to her, I’d better be looking at her. That lesson in maintaining eye contact with those in the congregation has stuck with me ever since!

Could I ever have imagined that spring back in 1982 that forty-three years later I would still be blessed with the privilege of serving and leading congregations? No way! But these ensuing years have indeed been a blessing as I have served churches in Mechanic Falls and Minot, North Anson and Madison, Gardiner, a church in Massachusetts, and then with all of you here in Lisbon Falls. The time has flown by in many respects as hundreds of people in these churches and their communities have helped shape the pastor I am today.

Now, as I turn sixty-six this month (and wonder how that happened!?!), the words of the Old Testament author of Ecclesiastes who reminds us that “to everything there is a season” come to my mind. For Verne and I, it is the season for retirement. It is our hope to do so on June 30, 2026 as he completes his work with Western Maine Transportation and as I celebrate forty-four years of full-time ministry for Christ and his church. While leaving this life of ministry (his as well as mine) will be difficult for both of us, we are ready to rest and relax in our Winthrop home and “goof off” after decades of meaningful work. As grateful as we were to enter this appointment in 2015 and come back home to Maine and to all of you, we are also grateful that you, dear friends, will be the ones to help us say farewell and make this transition.

Continued on page 2

EVENING CIRCLE

What comes next for LUMC will be determined by our local church and our District Superintendent, Arlene Tully, in conjunction with our Bishop, Thomas Bickerton, and the Cabinet. The process will be handled by a transition team consisting of Monica McCusker (church council chair), Martha Palmer (SPRC chair), Dean Logan (Trustee chair), Trudy Duval (Finance chair), and Sue White, our Lay Leader; however, the input of each of you will be invaluable

and you will be offered opportunities to share your thoughts about the future of LUMC's ministry.

In the meantime, we still have eight months to enjoy together; Verne and I are counting on it to be a time of God's continued love and grace with each of you who are daily in our prayers.



God's blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth

SPECIAL OFFERING ON WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 5th as we join with millions of Christians around the world in this sacred Sacrament. There will be a special offering envelope available for your gifts for the 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."

Thank you for the generous gifts you will give on October 5th.

"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith."

~1 John 5:4



HOLIDAY FAIR AND SILENT AUCTION

Our annual Holiday Fair and Silent Auction is right around the corner. Our well attended fair/auction will take place on Friday, Nov. 7th from 5-7pm and Saturday, Nov. 8th from 9am-2pm. To make this our most successful fundraiser of the year we need everyone's help. Crafts are needed to fill the tables. Gift cards to restaurants or grocery stores are always popular bidding items on the silent auction tables. If you would like to donate an auction item, please let me know by Nov. 1st. Auction items will not be accepted after that date. Breads, pies, whoopie pies, cinnamon rolls, donuts and muffins are always in great demand. If you have unwanted Christmas decorations we'd love to have them for our Recycled Christmas room – NOTHING but Christmas decorations will be accepted. If you aren't "crafty" put together a gift basket which have proven very popular in recent years. We introduced to-go soups and chowders last year and nearly sold out on Friday night, so we'd love to be able to offer more this year. We'll provide the containers so if you would be willing to make either a soup or chowder let me know. And of course, we'll need lots of volunteers to help set up, price, man tables, etc. We have some wonderful cashiers so no one manning a table needs to collect any money.

On Thursday, Oct. 2nd at 10am we'll have a planning meeting, which might just turn into a "mini craft session". I'd love to see lots of you there. And of course, should you have any questions at all, please let me know.

Trudy Duval, Chairperson

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Newsletter Finance Info - as of September 24, 2025		
2025 Annual Budget Amount for Operating	\$	143,009.53
Income September		
Budgeted	\$	6,362.52
Actual	\$	7,925.70
Expenses September		
Budgeted	\$	8,912.41
Actual	\$	5,709.90

Please note the change in the date of our Fall blood drive.

This is a very special blood drive in memory of our friend, Tracy Sautter. ❤️

Donate Blood In Memory of **Tracy Sautter**

Tracy worked as an Account Manager for Biomedical Services of the American Red Cross. She was passionate about her work and understood that one pint of blood could mean a chance at survival for a patient in need. In a twist of fate, being diagnosed with Leukemia, Tracy required frequent blood transfusions. Ultimately losing her battle to the disease, blood donations truly gave her a chance at survival. Tracy was not alone in needing blood products and the need extends to thousands of individuals across the nation and across the globe. Every pint matters!



Blood Drive

Lisbon United Methodist Church

14 School Street, Lisbon Falls, ME

Friday, November 14, 2025

12:00PM – 5:00PM

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule an appointment,
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: **TracySautter**



Scan to be directed
to RapidPass



Thanks for giving blood! All who come to give Oct. 20-Nov. 16 get a \$10 e-gift card to choice of merchant PLUS a chance to win one of three \$5,000 prizes! See rcblood.org/harvest for details.



Scan to schedule
an appointment



American Red Cross

Please reach out to Gwen with any questions at 353-6814.



Mechuwana's annual
HARVEST MEAL

Sunday, Nov 2, 12-3PM

\$5/meal & donations welcome



RSVP by Oct 24 to reserve your meals & let us know if you
will eat at camp or take your meal to go
mechuwana@fairpoint.net or 207.377.2924



LUMC Mission Statement:

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

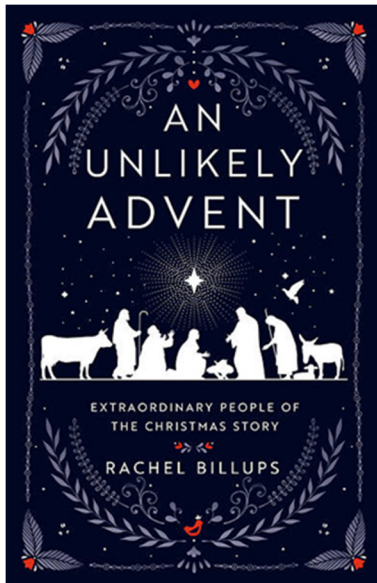
ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our annual church conference will be held on **Sunday, November 9th from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm at the Brunswick UMC**. Once again this year our District Superintendent, the Rev. Arlene Tully, will go to a church where various churches will come to her; we hosted this gathering last year so it's our turn to travel this year. Folks from our new Androscoggin Cooperative Parish: LUMC, Brunswick UMC, Lewiston/Auburn UMC, Minot, and West Cumberland will gather together.

Please make plans to join us as we celebrate the year that has passed and look forward to the year to come!

ANDROSCOGGIN COOPERATIVE PARISH: ADVENT STUDY

The clergy in our new Androscoggin Cooperative Parish (comprised of LUMC, Brunswick UMC, Auburn/Lewiston UMC, Minot UMC, and the West Cumberland UMC) have organized a study for the Advent season. It will be held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm and will be based on the book by Rachel Billups entitled *An Unlikely Advent: Extraordinary People of the Christmas Story*. Here is the proposed schedule:



Nov 25: Session 1 "What If I Missed It?", led by Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith

Dec 2: Session 2 "Playing the Villain," led by Rev. Alicia Valez Stewart

Dec 9: Session 3, "A Curious People," led by Rev. Pat Miller Fernandes & Rev. Andrea Harvey

Dec 16: Session 4 "When God Shows Up," led by Rev. Steve Bascom

Here is a link to the study book: <https://www.cokesbury.com/An-Unlikely-Advent> which should be purchased for your use – either with Cokesbury or Amazon. The Zoom link will be shared in the November newsletter.

We hope you will join us for this new opportunity as area UM Churches!

FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Greetings to you all. We are settling into the business of the fall season. We are planning worship, getting ready for the November Christmas Fair, making repairs to get ready for winter, and undertaking the challenge of preparing for our annual Church Conference.

During this hectic time, I was reminded in my daily devotional written by Richard Rohr to take time for contemplation as well as action.

As the United Methodist Church, serving our community and preaching the word of God, we can reflect on why we do all this work. We are sharing the love of Jesus with one another, our church, and our community.

We are seeing the work we do through the eyes of love. Quaker songwriter Carrie Newcomer says, "Our first job is to pay attention and then to take in what we see with a certain kind of spirit, and a certain kind of love. It's a practice and the more you practice it, the more you see."

Richard Rohr says, "Love is not only what we do; it's how we do it. When we stand in the state of love that Jesus offers, we live inside of a different energy."

John Dear says, "There's nothing passive about love. Love is active, creative, and daring."

Joanna Macy says, "When we come from gratitude, we become more present to the wonder of being alive in this amazing world, to the many gifts we receive, to the beauty and mystery it offers."

And my favorite quote by Gregory Boyle: "Cherishing is love with its sleeves rolled up."

Insert any action we do as the Lisbon UMC for the word cherishing, and you find out what we are about as a church. Worshipping is love...Feeding the community at our bean suppers is love...Gathering school supplies is love...Sharing our space with the Angolan immigrants is love...

If we think in terms of the love of God, the busy times become a time of giving and sharing instead of a burden of a time crunch.

God's Peace and Love be with You All,

Sue White



THANK YOU FROM THE DOYLES

On Sunday August 24th our community of faith said goodbye to Liz and Barry Doyle who have been faithful members of our church family for the last several years. With a shower of cards and this beautiful cake created by Ella Mae Packard, we bid them farewell with our love and prayers.

This is the text of the thank you note that they sent to us from their new home (42 Lee Drive, Albion, Maine 04910):

"We so appreciated the sweet delicious send off you gave us. When we walked into the Lisbon United Methodist Church it immediately felt like home. We enjoyed the many fun activities and how the church worked to help the surrounding community.

We will miss everyone and hope to visit often. Will keep in touch through your Facebook page for sure.

We hope our next church family is as comfortable but you set the bar high. With the grace of God we'll find a comfy spot.

You're always in our hearts and in his wondrous name we pray our adventure is as fulfilling as our last one was!



Barry and Liz Doyle

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Happy Birthday to the following church members celebrating a birthday or anniversary in October!!

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

2nd:	Dana Morgan	10th:	Elizabeth Batchelder-Smith
	Sean Wile	11th:	Caliyah Duncan
5th:	Jessica Millson	15th:	Chuck Maletich
	Noelle Stambach	22nd:	Corinne Goss
6th:	Linda Cummings	24th:	Devin Knight
	Alexander Hall	30th:	Art Stambach
8th:	Donald Knight		Gail Twigg

Also Happy Anniversary to the following couples celebrating in October:

7th:	Harvey & Sue White	10th:	Jackson & Sylvia White
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October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2-Christmas Fair/Auction planning meeting, 10:00 a.m	3-LACO Bake Sale @ Food City, 8-6	4-LACO bake sale @ Food City 8-3
5-Worship in person & virtually w/ Holy Communion for Worl Communion Sunday Worship Comm-11am	6	7-Outreach Committee, 10:00 a.m. SPRC Zoom w/ District Superintendent, 5:00 a.m.	8	9-Nominating Committee, 1:00 a.m.	10	11
12-Worship in person & virtually 9:30 Evening Circle, 11:00 a.m.	13-Indigenous Peoples' Day Holiday	14	15	16	17	18
19-Worship in person & Virtual for Laity Sunday, 9:30	20	21	22	23	24	25-Dine in/ Take out bean supper, 4:30 p.m.
26-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 Finance 11:00	27	28-YLAT meeting 4-5:30 p.m.	29	30	31	

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:

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