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LAY LEADER

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NEWS

AND MUCH
MORE!



Verne and I wish each of you God's richest blessings in this time of giving thanks and always!

Love and Prayers, *Pastor Elizabeth*

LAITY SUNDAY THANKS

Words of gratitude are expressed to those who participated in our Laity Sunday service of worship on October 19. Many thanks to our Lay Leader, Sue White, who organized the service and preached for us as well as to Verne Smith, Ella Mae Packard, Judy Rathbun, Debbie Crosman and, as always, to our organist, Debbie, and to Bob Packard, who offered a very touching piece of special music for us.

LUMC wouldn't be the active, vibrant church it is without the dedication of ALL of our lay persons. Well done, good and faithful servants!

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another."

~John 13:34

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS/EPIPHANY DECORATING

It will soon be time once again to decorate our sanctuary for the holy times of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.

Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 25th at 1:00 pm. With the many hands of those who are able to gather mid-day, we'll be finished in no time. Join us for the fun!

WHAT IS YLAT?

YLAT stands for Youth Leadership Advisory Team. YLAT is a joint project between Maine's Youth in Foster Care, The Maine Department of Health and Human Services, and the Muskie School at University of Southern Maine. YLAT is committed to improving the short-term and long-term outcomes for youth who are or have been in foster care.

In September our church began providing meeting space for this important organization. They meet monthly in our Hunnewell Room generally on the third Tuesday from 4:00-6:00 pm (with the exception of January and February).

We are pleased to share our space with this group who is making a difference in the lives of youth in Maine.

LUMC Mission Statement:

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

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 either from Cokesbury or Amazon.

This is the Zoom link for your use:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84731145475?pwd=U1JHpWnKqB0CaX6rUhckg4KSvM3fTJ.1>

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



GREETINGS FROM YOUR LAY LEADER!

I read this article from my daily devotion from Father Richard Rohr. I hope it will inspire you when you are celebrating Thanksgiving this year.

Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman (1899–1981) offers a vision of life as a shared harvest. He reminds us that our lives are part of a communal process of sowing, ripening, and reaping together:

This is the season of gathering in, the season of the harvest in nature. Many things that were started in the spring and early summer have grown to fruition and are now ready for reaping. Great and significant as is the harvest in nature, the most pertinent kind of in-gathering for the human spirit is what I call "the harvest of the heart." Long ago, Jesus said that [people] should not lay up for themselves treasure on earth, where moths corrupt and thieves break in and steal, but that [people] should lay up for themselves treasures in heaven [Matthew 6:19–20]. This insight suggests that life consists of planting and harvesting, of sowing and reaping. We are always in the midst of the harvest and always in the midst of the planting.... Living is a shared process. Even as I am conscious of things growing in me planted by others, which things are always ripening, so others are conscious of things growing in them planted by me, which are always ripening. Inasmuch as I do not live or die unto myself, it is of the essence of wisdom for me conscientiously to live and die in the profound awareness of other people. The statement, "Know thyself," has been taken mystically from the statement, "Thou has seen thy brother, thou hast seen thy God." [2]

Sue White, Lay Leader

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

My favorite activity of the year is fast approaching – Breakfast with Santa will be held on Dec. 6th from 8:30-10am. Santa has marked his calendar and is getting ready to make his appearance. Our first breakfast with Santa was held in 2015 with 73 attendees; last year we had between 150-160 attendees enjoying a free pancake breakfast. The breakfast has grown so much that we will be working on a different layout of the dining room for better traffic flow. If you'd like more information please come speak with me. This is absolutely the best way to get into the Christmas spirit!

Thanks, Trudy Duval



NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS!



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

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

1th- George Morgan, Jr	20th- Jackson White
5th- Sean Moore	23rd- Harvey White, III
7th- Dean Logan	26th- Dawn King
8th- Candy Mills	Edra Nelson
15th- Trudy Duval	29th- Clyde Cavender

Happy Anniversary to the following couples celebrating in November!

6th- Verne and Elizabeth Smith	25th- Monica & John McCusker
22nd- Hilary & Chris Hall	

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Newsletter Finance Info - as of October 24, 2025		
2025 Annual Budget Amount	\$	143,009.53
September		
Income		
Budgeted	\$	6,362.52
Actual	\$	8,726.26
Expenses		
Budgeted	\$	8,912.41
Actual	\$	13,305.76
October		
Income		
Budgeted	\$	6,362.52
Actual	\$	4,692.46
Expenses		
Budgeted	\$	8,912.41
Actual	\$	5,945.45

EXCITING NEWS FROM YOUR WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Team has been planning for the upcoming months. Here are some things that you won't want to miss:

November 2: All Saints Day, The Sacrament of Holy Communion, Special Music from Ella Mae Packard.

November 9: A Puppet Show!

November 16: Special music from Jen Farrin

November 23: Music Sunday with special music from Toby Williams.

Tuesday November 25: Decorate the church for Christmas at **1 p.m.** All are welcome to help.

November 30: The First Day of Advent with a family lighting the Advent Wreath. There will be a children's story telling. There will be a group sing of the Maine Christmas Song.

December 7: Holy Communion, a family wreath lighting, *and* a puppet show.

December 14: A family wreath lighting and special music from Ella Mae Packard and Scott Ramsay.

December 21: A family wreath lighting and a piano/organ duet from Debbie Greim and Judy Rathbun.

December 24: The Christmas Eve Service will be at 6p.m. with candles and Holy Communion. There will be a trio from Debbie Greim, Jen Farrin, and Sue White.

December 28: There will be a children's story and a celebration of the 12 Days of Christmas.

January 4: Epiphany with the celebration of Holy Communion. Monica McCusker will be providing special music.

Tuesday January 6: We will be undecorating the church at 1p.m. All hands on deck!

January 11: We will renew our baptisms.

We hope that all of you can join us, either in person or online on our Facebook page. This will be a joyous time to celebrate together.

Sue White, Worship Chair



SPRC

Hello everyone,

I hope you have been able to read and question the packet we shared with you about Pastor Elizabeth's pending retirement. The timeline is advancing and upcoming dates are approaching.

October 29: SPRC meets to compose our Pastoral Appointment recommendation to the Church Council.

November 2: Church (Administrative) Council meet to hear, discuss and vote on the SPRC's pastoral appointment proposal.

November 9: Annual Church Conference- At the Brunswick UMC 3:00-5:00PM. This is the normal annual church conference (it doesn't have anything to do with the pastoral appointment process).

November 16: Special Church Conference with our DS-Arlene Tully. This takes place directly after our regular church service. This meeting will be the final discussion and vote by ALL members/constituents on the recommendation for Pastoral Appointment beginning July 1, 2026. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us and vote with the congregation on this important decision for our church.

In closing may we remember to pray for the Bishop and the Cabinet. They will be gathering to assess our church needs and our community needs and choose a pastor to lead and guide us into the future for LUMC.

Blessings,

Martha

HOLIDAY FAIR & SILENT AUCTION

We are just days away from our annual Holiday Fair and Silent Auction. We need everyone to help us make this our largest fundraiser of the year. Crafts and baked goods are needed. If donating any crafts, please price them yourself, as you are the only one who knows the value of the craft. All craft items, baked goods, silent auction items and soups and chowders needs to be at the church by 3pm on Friday, Nov. 7th. If you can volunteer a couple hours of your time, we can certainly find a place for you on either Friday or Saturday. Any questions, please give me a call at 353-8579.

Trudy Duval, Event Chairperson



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

November and December are busy months for the Outreach Committee. We will again partner with the Lisbon School Department for 12 Christmas meals for families that they identify. Again this year, we voted to collect gift cards for the homeless that frequent the Drop In Center in Auburn. The collection will begin November 23rd and close December 14th. The following cards would be appreciated:

McDonald's	Hannaford	Dunkin Donuts
Dollar Tree	Burger King	

Phase II of the Children's Christmas for gift bags and tissue paper ends November 9th. There will be a box in the Narthex for donations. Items you may want to donate or unfinished items that didn't make the last collection can also be added.

Thank you all in advance for your help with these projects. Our next meeting is November 3rd at 1:00 p.m.

Connie Earle

FINANCE SECRETARY REPORT

Thank you to everyone for all of your contributions to the church this year. As we near the end of the year, I'm sending this reminder of the importance of maintaining your pledge donations. The expense/income chart published by the Treasurer in the monthly newsletter illustrates the shortages being faced when essential bills must be paid.

If you are unsure whether you might have missed one (or two), please let me know and I will be happy to print a statement for you so you can catch-up any missing gifts.

Yours in Faith,

Monica McCusker
Finance Secretary

BLOOD DRIVE

Blood Drive

Lisbon United Methodist Church

14 School St, Lisbon Falls

Friday, November 14th

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.



Please call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule an appointment or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code: TracySautter

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

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2-Worship in person & virtually w/ Holy Communion & All Saints' Day, 9:30 a.m.	3-Outreach Committee, 1:00 p.m.	4	5	6	7-Holiday Fair & Silent Auction, 5-7 p.m.	8-Holiday & Silent Auction 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
9-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 w/ Veterans' Prayer Annual Conf. @ Brunswick UMC, 3:00 p.m	10	11-Veterans' Day Holiday	12	13	14-Red Cross blood drive, 12-5 p.m.	15
16-Worship in person & virtually, 9:30 Spec. Conf. following coffee hour	17	18-LACO Board meeting @ St. Matthew's, 9:00 a.m.	19	20	21	22-Dine In/ Take Out Bean Supper, 4:30 p.m.
23-Music Sunday in person & virtually, 9:30 a.m. Finance, 11am	24	25-Advent/ Christmas/ Epiphany decoration, 1:00 Zoom Advent Study, 7:00 p.m.	26	27-Happy Thanksgiving	28	29
30-1st Sunday of Advent, Worship in person & virtually, 9:30						

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

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