

Newsletter 10.9.2020

Dear Fellow Travelers,

There is no sign this week. Maybe the weather is our sign this week with a cloudless blue sky and colorful trees dotting the landscape. Shorter days and some cooler temperatures remind us that seasons are changing and how important it is to stop and enjoy the beauty of where we live.

This Sunday we will look at this interesting parable found in Matthew 22: 1:14. It challenges us to look at how we judge, how we live, and how we respond to grace. Looking forward to seeing you.



There have been a couple meetings this past week, one in person and one online with another upcoming meeting on Saturday. The Women's Fellowship met this past Thursday which has been doing a short Bible study of women in the Bible. This past week we talked about Mary, sister of Martha, and will look at Mary Magdalene next week. We are shortening our meetings to about an hour give or take a few minutes for visiting.

Last night the trustees and deacons met virtually. We discussed in-person worship at length and how do we get back to offering a live worship experience for those who are not comfortable coming inside the church. We are looking at how we can make it happen and want to make a wise investment as well as ways to provide good air inside the church as the temperatures drop.

A few reminders about inside worship were made and they were to make sure we are **socially distancing**, 6 foot distances are marked out both outside and inside, and that visiting needs to take place **outside** before or after worship.

We also discussed closing the church again. Please be advised that beside the case that we have a case within those who have attended our church that would require a deep clean of our church, we are prepared to stop in-person worship and return to virtual worship if the percent of infection rises to **4%**. Presently the rate of infection in Grafton county is 2.4% and in Windsor county it is 2.1%.

The trustees and deacons then held separate meetings. The deacons discussed coverage of Sunday responsibilities. The deacons are working on a pantry box to be erected on the church lawn similar to the Little Library boxes. We are working on plans

to celebrate our Octogenarians at the end of the month as we have had a luncheon that will not be taking place this year in person.

We also talked about the take out Harvest Dinner that Growth is offering on November 7. Laurie Tostenson expressed a need for turkeys from the congregation. Cooked ones would be dropped on the Friday, but uncooked would need to be at the church on Monday November 2 to insure they were defrosted enough to be cooked on the Friday. More details to follow.

Thanks to Earle Woodward

Now that fall is here the Trustees would like to thank Earle Woodward for his diligence in faithfully taking care of the church grounds this year. In addition to mowing the lawn Earle built new flower pedestals and kept the exterior of our church in tip top condition throughout the summer. Thank you Earle.

-- **WLCC Trustees**

The Men's Group

The men will be gathering on October 10 for a breakfast meeting followed by a work time around the church, and they have offered their services to those who may need assistance this fall. See the notice below:

Missions Message

Dear friends,

Who could have imagined just a year ago what 2020 would bring? That we would be worshipping at social-distancing services and through the wonder of Zoom gatherings held from our couches and kitchen tables? And yet through it all we carry on, united by pure gusto and an unflinching sense that we still have work to do to make this world a better place.

Right now the UCC has another wonderful opportunity to unite us together for a great cause. Now through October 26, please give to [Neighbors in Need \(NIN\)](#), a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Many of us care deeply about this subject, so this is a great way to help.

To give, make checks out to WLCC and put NIN in the memo line. Mail to: West Lebanon Congregational Church, 18 Maple St, West Lebanon, NH 03784. Or you can also leave your gift clearly labeled in the offertory plate at church.

Thank you for your support, and we'll see you in church or on Zoom!

- WLCC Missions Committee

Chicken & Biscuit Dinner

Scott Allan and Lisa George have again agreed to help us host a Chicken & Biscuit Dinner, which will be take-out only, on **Saturday, October 17th, from 5:00-6:30 (or until sold out!)**. Any leftovers can be sold after church on Sunday.

\$12 regular
\$10 Senior
Children 6-12 \$6
\$25 family

Faithfully
Nancy Simpson
for WLCC