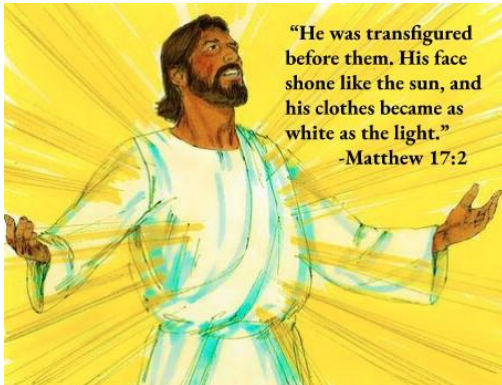


WLCC Weekly Newsletter 2.17.23

This Sunday, February 19th at 10am, We welcome Rev. Michael Caldwell to lead our worship service. His message titled: "Going Up and Coming Down: Contemplative Activism as Shining Discipleship," will be preceded by the reading of Exodus 24:12-18 & Matthew 17:1-9. We hope you can join us in the sanctuary or on Zoom!



Dear Fellow Travelers,

Here we are in the later stages of winter according to the weatherman. The weather is a seesaw ride up and down. Winter is not about to end soon, but our Lenten journey will begin next week on Ash Wednesday. Where will this journey bring you and us the Congregational Church in West Lebanon? The road to Easter provides us with the opportunity to reflect on our journey to be better followers of Christ. Who's with me?

Reminders: Masking is optional. We recommend wearing a mask. If you are entering the sanctuary, we ask you to practice physical distancing, use good hand hygiene and stay home if you are not feeling well. We thank you for your cooperation.

Calendar for February 17- February 24

February 19 - *Worship Service with Rev. Michael Caldwell* 10 AM

February 21 - *Handbell Rehearsal* 5:30 PM

February 22- *Ash Wednesday at Lebanon Methodist Church* 7 PM

February 23 -*Women's Fellowship* 9 AM
Vocal Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM

Upcoming Events

February 25- *Prepared to Serve, Pembroke Academy, 8 AM to 4 PM*
Reception to meet and chat with Rev. Amanda Swoyer 4 PM
Potluck Dinner 5:30 PM

February 26- *Worship Service with settled pastor candidate Rev. Amanda Swoyer* 10 AM and
Special Meeting after the service

March 11- *Movie Matinee* 3 PM

\$crip Cards Have Arrived

\$crip cards have arrived and are in the mailbox in the office. Pick them up Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm, or on Sunday mornings.

Settled pastor candidate weekend (February 25 and 26)

On Saturday, February 25, starting at 4pm, the search committee is organizing a meet and greet reception followed by a potluck dinner for everyone to be able to meet Rev Amanda Swoyer who is our prospective settled pastor.

There is a sign-up sheet at the entrance of the church if you would like to bring something for the potluck.

There will be rides available to those of you who would like to attend, but would prefer not to drive. If you would like a ride, please contact the office by Friday, February 24, 1pm.

Rev Swoyer will lead the service on Sunday, February 26, after which all members of the church will be asked to stay in the sanctuary to vote on her candidacy to be our settled pastor. The votes will be counted immediately. We will use paper ballots for the members present at church as well as electronic votes for the members on Zoom. If a majority of our members have voted in the affirmative, she will start her new job as our pastor on Monday February 27.

There will be a fellowship time in the Kilton room after the vote is concluded.

If you would like to hear Amanda delivering some sermons, go to the website of the North Pomfret UCC at: <https://www.vtnorthpomfretchurch.com/sermons>

Here is a video of Rev. Swoyer delivering a sermon:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuSQksB7B-c&t=1304s>

Thank you,

Your search committee.

Greetings from your Missions group

During the month of February, we are focusing on raising funds for Doctors without Borders.

In the light of the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria and all its aftershocks, the work of Doctors without Borders is even more important.

Thank you very much to all of you who have already given, we truly appreciate it.

Please, be as generous as you can, you can write MSF in the note section of your check or use the generic envelopes specifying MSF on them.

Thank you,

Christine (for your Missions group: Cindy, Jackie, Diane, John and Dick).



Ash Wednesday Service at LUMC

February 22 at 7:00 pm at Lebanon United Methodist Church, 18 School St.

Ecumenical service in conjunction with the first Congregational Church of Lebanon

Please join with our neighbors in this annual service to initiate the holy season of Lent

Valentine's Arts and Crafts

A fun time was had by all last Saturday during The Valentine's Arts and Crafts.



WLCC Game Night

Join us on the **second and fourth Mondays each month** when we'll informally get together at **5:30 pm in the Kilton Room** and play games for an hour or two. Some will be playing cribbage, but it's not restricted only to cribbage, and folks are encouraged to also bring other card or board games that they enjoy.

The next Game Night will be on **Monday, February 27 at 5:30 pm in the Kilton Room**. Feel free to bring any snacks or drinks to share, the only requirements are to bring yourself and a sense of humor.



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF
PLAYING CARD GAMES

+ BOARD GAMES!

BRING A GAME TO SHARE!

2ND + 4TH MONDAYS
OF EVERY MONTH
5:30PM

WEST LEBANON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
18 MAPLE STREET, WEST LEBANON, NH 03784

Movie Matinee

Join us for our "Movie Matinee" on March 11th from 3pm-6pm. This is a free event with refreshments and pizza provided. The movie will be announced at a later date.



Neighborhood Party

The **Growth Committee** is organizing a neighborhood (and beyond) party on June 10th. We are hoping other committees will share our enthusiasm for this event!

In order for this event to be a success, we will need participation from lots of folks! We envision some combination of segments be included that individual or multiple committees will oversee.

We are open to your ideas! Following have been suggested:

Food

Entertainment

Games

Yard sale

Church/parsonage open house tours with historical education (maybe on the hour for a couple of hours).

Please discuss with your committees and let someone on Growth Committee know if there is an "activity" from this list or something different your committee is interested in hosting.

Thank you,

Your Growth Committee

Donna
Meghan
Sarah
Jackie
Justine

From Your Collector's Desk

I will send an acknowledgement to all of you who have pledged for 2023, as well as the giving statements for 2022. This will take me a little bit of time and I am sorry for any inconvenience this might create for you.

Thank you,
Christine (collector)

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship meets at 9 AM on Thursday mornings. . Come join us for coffee and conversation! Save **October 21, 2023** for our Christmas Bazaar!

Little Food Pantry

Thank you to all who have contributed food, but we are still in urgent need of food for our pantry! Some items that go quickly are peanut butter, cereal, ramen noodles and coffee, also shelf stable milk. Now that the temperature can be below freezing, we are only accepting items that are not in jars or cans for placement outside. Food can also be put inside the Food Bin in the sanctuary which is taken to the Haven or LISTEN. Thank you to all who have contributed. Please pass the word on about the availability of food in the Little Food Pantry.

WLCC Giving Options

We have instituted several new electronic (credit/debit/ACH) giving options. Note that these are in addition to the conventional giving methods. **If you are comfortable with the giving method you currently use there is no need to change.** The intent of adding these electronic options is to make giving more convenient, which will hopefully increase our revenue. Note that the church is charged a nominal processing fee with each electronic transaction, so please consider covering that fee if you use an electronic option. The electronic options will allow you to specify where you would like your

gift to go (e.g. general fund, memorial gift, missions, etc.). You can access these options by going to the WLCC home webpage (<https://westlebcc.org/> and clicking on the "Give" tab along the top, or go directly to the Giving page <https://westlebcc.org/give/>. If you have any questions or problems, please see Aaron in the WLCC office or our co-collectors Christine Kidd or Laurie Tostenson.

New Traffic Pattern

Please be aware there is a new traffic pattern. We will enter the sanctuary through the rear door, that way people can get out of the cold as they make their way to a seat in the sanctuary. The guest book, collection plate and bulletin will be inside the rear door on a table just as up front. This will keep the warmth inside the sanctuary.

Faithfully
Nancy Simpson
for WLCC