

WLCC Weekly Newsletter 5.12.23

Dear beloved community,

These beautiful days of sunshine are good for the soul. The hills are changing color by the minute as more blossoms open and leaf buds unfurl. The silence of winter has been broken for weeks now with the sound of rushing brooks, peepers and bird songs, and it is warm enough to have the windows open some of the time so we can enjoy it even more. We are so blessed! Sunday is Mother's Day which has become an opportunity to celebrate mothers, mentors and nurturers who matter to us. We will talk a little about the history of Mother's Day and perhaps be inspired by the strong women associated with this day. If you would like to hear a wonderful song, Holy Mother, by Eric Clapton and Luciano Pavarotti <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9uYu4R2nk8> enjoy this.

May is also national mental health awareness month. Did you know that 3 out of 10 people in the US have issues with mental health, drugs or alcohol? For more helpful information <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-support> In a crisis? call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 988 It is good to know where to find help when you need it. Pass this information along to others. You just never know who might need it.

Sunday our sermon title is, "If you love me...you won't keep me in the church."

Hope to see you in worship!

Amanda

Dear fellow travelers,

Sunday is Mother's Day. It is the day we set aside to honor our mothers or those who mothered us but should it be just one day? Shouldn't it be every day? We give thanks to all those mothers with us and those who are waiting with God for us to join them.

Since the health emergency has been dropped, there will no longer be a reminder in this newsletter about masks, hand hygiene or staying home but it is hoped that you will continue to make good choices.

Rev. Amanda's Office Hours

Rev. Amanda will have drop-in office hours at the church Thursdays from 9am to 1pm or other times at church, or at your home, by appointment.

Upcoming Events

May 14- *Worship* 10 AM

May 16- *Zoom Bible Study* 6:30 PM (link & info in newsletter)

May 18- *Women's Fellowship* 9:00 AM
LISTEN Community Dinner 2:30-5:30 PM

May 20- *Italian Dinner* 5:00 PM -6:30 PM
Cover project in Lebanon starting at 9:00 AM

Italian Dinner



Drive Thru/ Take Out Only

*Spaghetti with homemade red sauce & meatballs,
sweet sausage, salad and brownies!*

All are welcome!

May 20, 2023 @ 5:00pm- 6:30pm

\$15 Per Meal



**West Lebanon Congregational Church
18 Maple Street**

Missions

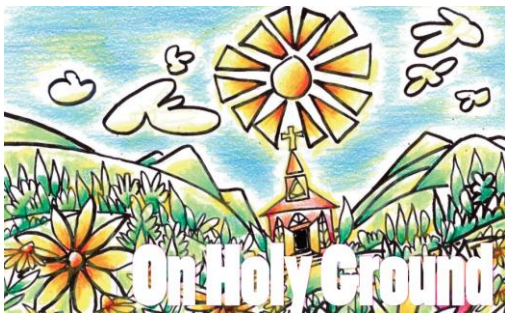
Greetings from your Missions group,

We are continuing the month-long fundraiser for Strengthen the Church (STC).

The theme this year is "On Holy Ground". STC supports the work of the conference and the national UCC to become a multi-racial and multi-cultural church, open to all. The funds raised go toward leadership development, youth and young adult ministries and help new or renewing congregations.

Special envelopes are available beside the Sunday bulletins, in the rear of the church.

As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Thank you,

Cindy, Jackie, Diane, Dick, John and Christine

Cover Mural Painting

Hi all -

With the wall primed, we are ready to start painting on the wall. How exciting!

Assuming that the weather behaves, we are looking forward to starting the painting on Tuesday, May 9th. We are planning on painting happening through Thursday, May 18th. Painting will be happening from 8 am to 7 pm. On each day, we have multiple 2-hour shifts for folks to choose from and expect up to 10 people can be working on the wall at one time. If you can only come for part of a shift, no problem. Just email me so I am aware. Also, when you sign up, please provide your name, email address, and phone number so we can contact you in the case that rain derails our plans. If you have any questions, please let me know.

We are asking anyone who works on the mural to fill out our volunteer registration form (attached) if you haven't previously. You can print it out and bring it with you or you can send it to me ahead of time.

Best,
Jeff Dumont of COVER

The **Chapman/Whitney Scholarship Application** is attached to this email and will be available starting May 2, 2023 from the Church office. The Chapman/Whitney Scholarship is awarded to someone who is seeking to further his/her secondary education, either at a two-year or four-year college, vocational school, or graduate program, and one who has been actively involved in the life of the church. The Trustees will be accepting Applications during the month of May. Please submit your completed Application no later than **May 28, 2023**. The lucky recipient(s) will be recognized and awarded on Church School Sunday in June, date to be announced. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of the Trustees.

Online Bible Study

Information for the study on Tuesday May 9th at 6:30pm

focus on the scriptures in bold

Ascension of the Lord - May 21, 2023

Acts 1 1-11 -- -

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Grief Group

Our next grief group will be on Wednesday, June 7th at 4:30pm in the Kilton Room.

WLCC Church Parsonage Information

Since Pastor Amanda will continue to live in her Cornish NH residence, to help begin the WLCC's discussion on how to best use the parsonage the attached memo summarizes information gathered by the Trustees.

Please contact any Trustee or Pastor Amanda with your questions, ideas, and opinions. Please provide your input by Sunday May 7th so that we can discuss them at the next Trustee meeting on May 11th.

Your Trustees,

Chair Amy Stebbins, Peter Bickford, Tracy Bickford, Dave Donley, Phil Gomez, Tom Kahl, Linda Maynard, Dana Michalovic,

May 20th WLCC Cover Work Day

Thanks to the nine men and women who have volunteered to help with the **Cover Home Repair Project on Saturday May 20**. It will be installing insulation and new skirting around the bottom of a trailer in

Lebanon. It's low skill on the ground work that does not involve any heavy lifting, and is close by. Some of the work does involve bending and getting on your knees similar to gardening.

We will meet either at the WLCC at 8:30 am and carpool/caravan to the site or folks can go directly to the site by 9 am. Next week we will find out details such as the address that we will circulate to all the volunteers. Also the women's fellowship is going to provide a lunch, and you can contact Judy Alger or Nancy Simpson if you are interested in contributing.

Thanks for considering this mission to serve our neighbors.

Community Fair

Growth, Amanda and Missions Committees held a meeting to collaborate on the June 10th event. It will be called a Community Fair. Hours will be 10am to 3pm. Thank you, Amanda and Missions!

It will include a carry in, carry out yard sale where church members can rent a table for \$20 to sell their own goods. This will help Growth Committee offset event cost.

There will be lawn games, Mac's Maple Creamees, the Gerrymanders, musical duo, lunch prepared by Missions, face painting and (hopefully) historical tours of the church and/or parsonage.

Over the next couple of weeks, there will be sign ups on the bulletin board. Thank you, in advance, for your participation!

Growth Committee

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship meets at 9 AM on Thursday mornings. We will be doing a bake sale during the Community Fair from 10- noon. 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. As spring is here we can again bring can and jar food for our outside food pantry. 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 Sharron Smardon.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR OUR AREA

Information for lunches, fitness and activities for seniors: <https://www.bugbeecenter.org/>
<https://www.gcsc.org/upper-valley>

DHMC Aging Resources Center offers many courses relevant to Seniors and Caregivers- virtual now- check them out - <https://events.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/>

HELPFUL Covid19 INFORMATION: To stay up to date on information and recommendations regarding the coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Food

The Upper Valley Haven Food Shelf is open to anyone in need of groceries. It doesn't matter where you live or how much money your household earns. It is available as a one-time resource or for longer periods of time.

Transportation

Local Bus schedule: <https://advancetransit.com/routes/red/>

Other info:

- **Turning Point Recovery Center** Wilder 802-295-5206 Springfield 802-885-4678
- **VT Recovery Telephone Support Service (VTRSS)** 802-888-8077
- **Women's Informational Services (WISE)** Tel: 603-448-5922, Domestic and sexual abuse 24 hour crisis line: 866-348-9473

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Call (800) 273-8255, Chat with Lifeline

Disaster Distress Helpline, Call (800) 985-5990, Text TalkWithUs to 66746

National Domestic Violence Hotline: Call (800) 799-7233

- **StrongHearts Native Helpline: Call 1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)**
- **Veteran's Hotline: Call (800) 273-8255 or text to 838255**
- **Crisis Text line to talk in any crisis- Text TALK to 741741**
- **NAMI, The National Alliance on Mental Health has a 24-hour helpline: 1-800-950-6264.**

* **Call the local mental health crisis line. Details at**

<http://www.claramartin.org> or <https://www.hcrs.org/crisis-services.php>

* **Health Care and Rehabilitation Services: (HCRS) <https://www.hcrs.org/crisis-services.php> and 1-800-622-4235**

* **Text VT to 741741 to talk with someone at the Crisis Text Line**

* **For local providers visit <https://www.mtascutneyhospital.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/mah21-mental-health-directory.pdf>**

Faithfully
Nancy Simpson
for WLCC