

Weekly Friday Newsletter 9.8.23

Dear beloved community,

We seem to have switched back to full summer for this week. Sorry kids and teachers! Just as you head back to school it is a great week for the beach! We have had the hottest summer on record so maybe all that rain was a good thing as we consider our neighbors who had devastating fires. While we count our blessings, we also consider others and how we can help.

Our scripture this week reminds us to love our neighbor. Saint Paul, said, "Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." (Romans 13:8) You have heard it said more than once in our church that how we treat others is how we truly show our love for God. It is challenging to live out our faith every day. That is why we gather in community- to learn together, to support and encourage each other and to pass on the stories of our faith to those who come after us. We can also pool our resources to better serve our neighbors. We all have so much to learn and so much to share. I hope you will join us.

Hope to see you in worship!

Amanda

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.

Deacons News

The deacons are looking for people to be greeters and liturgists on Sundays. If you are interested, please sign up on the laminated board in the hallway. If you have any questions, speak to one of the deacons: Diane Adam, Linda Oidtman, Judi Strong, Susan Schwarz, Laurie Tostenson, Molly Bonhag, Nan Reed, Peter Simpson, Sam Strong, Earle Woodward or Nancy Simpson.



UPCOMING CALENDAR
WEST LEBANON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SEPT 7	Womens Fellowship 9am (every Thursday)
SEPT 10	Community Dinner 4pm
SEPT 12	Bell Choir Rehearsals Begin 6pm
SEPT 13	Grief Group 4:30pm
SEPT 14	Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Vocal Choir Rehearsals Begin 6:30pm
SEPT 17	Rally Day Sunday Service 10am Ecclesiastical council for Daniel Adam 2pm
SEPT 21	LISTEN Community Dinner 4:30-5:30pm (volunteers there 2:30-5:30pm)
SEPT 23	Takeout Chicken BBQ Dinner 5- 6:30pm (or sold out)
SEPT 24	Sunday School Begins Cabinet Meeting After Worship
SEPT 26	Hybrid Bible Study 6pm
SEPT 30	Karaoke Night 6pm

(Weight Watchers meets every Friday 9:30am-11am & Saturday 7:30am-9am in the Kilton Room)

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TWO MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Greetings from your Missions Group,

Fundraiser for Maui

Thank you so very much to all of you who donated to help the victims of the Maui fire. We will tally the grand total on Sunday, but it looks like you have been extremely generous!

Community Dinner

We are doing our monthly community dinner this Sunday at 4pm. Thank you for all who have signed up to help and/or bring a dish to share. Please, make sure you bring your dish by 4pm. We could use a bit more help to serve and clean up.

From now on, the community dinner will be every 2nd Sunday of the month.

You all help our church to become the missional church that we want to be... Thank you!!!

Cindy, Diane, Jackie, Dick, John and Christine



Ecclesiastical Council of Daniel Adam

Daniel Adam will be having his *ecclesiastical council here at WLCC on Sunday, September 17th at 2 PM. Daniel grew up in this church and is currently serving at the South Congregational Church in Newport, NH. His ordination paper is attached to this email. The paper is written in conversation with the UCC Statement of Faith. It shares his spiritual journey as it relates to his call to ministry in the UCC. Please take the time to read the paper, and any questions about it are welcome to be asked to Daniel during the Council. Come on September 17th to support Daniel Adam's continued journey in faith! The council will be in person and on Zoom.

*" **The Ecclesiastical Council** is the opportunity to hear and interview candidates for authorized ministry in and on behalf of the entire United Church of Christ. In collaboration with laity and clergy, you will discern if an individual has been called by God to ordained ministry."-- (UCC.org)

Handbells & Vocal Choir

If you are interested in joining our handbell and/or vocal choir, contact Aaron. The handbells will rehearse every Tuesday from 6-7pm; singers will rehearse every Thursday from 6:30-7:30pm. Join us to make joyful music!

WLCC MUSIC PROGRAM

NO MUSICAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!

WLCC CHOIR

Come Sing With Us!

The vocal choir rehearses every Thursday at 6:30 PM and sings every Sunday morning during Worship at 10:00 AM. Rehearsals Begin September 14



Come Ring With Us!

Handbells rehearse every Tuesday at 6:00 PM and play monthly during Sunday morning Worship at 10:00 AM. Rehearsals Begin September 12



If you would like to join our music program or have any questions Please contact our music director, Aaron

Email: westlebcongo@gmail.com

Phone: 603-298-8096

Takeout Chicken BBQ Dinner

Come by on Saturday, September 23 from 5:00 PM- 6:30 PM (or sold out) to pick up a delicious chicken BBQ dinner with coleslaw, potato salad, dinner roll and brownie for dessert. \$15 per dinner. No reservations needed.

Takeout Chicken BBQ Dinner

With Coleslaw, Potato Salad & Dinner Roll

Brownie for Dessert

\$15 Per Meal



Saturday, September 23

5:00 PM-6:30 PM (or sold out)

West Lebanon Congregational Church

18 Maple Street, West Lebanon, NH

Questions? Call 603-298-8096

Karaoke Night

Get ready to sing! We will be having a Karaoke Night in the sanctuary on September 30th at 6pm. All are welcome to join us for this fun free event. Come to just listen and cheer on the singers or get up and belt out your favorite song! Light refreshments will be available.



TIME TO CLEAN!

Dear committee members,

It's time to clean out the mailboxes in the administrative assistant's office. If each committee could have someone come in during office hours to clean out their mailboxes, this would go a long way to making the office a more inviting space for all. We are working to move other clutter out as well.

Thank you,

Nancy Simpson & Aaron Richter

Little Food Pantry

Some items that go quickly are peanut butter, cereal, ramen noodles and coffee, also shelf stable milk. **WHEN THE PANTRY IS FULL WE PUT THE EXTRA IN THE FOOD BIN IN THE SANCTUARY. THESE FOOD OFFERINGS ARE USED TO FILL THE LITTLE FOOD PANTRY AND SOMETIMES TAKEN TO THE HAVEN AND LISTEN.** Please pass the word on about the availability of food in the Little Food Pantry.

Christmas Bazaar News

Women's Fellowship will be holding its Christmas Bazaar, October 21 at which we will be selling hand crafted items, Christmas decor, food and candy, jewelry, and basket raffle. In order for this to be successful we will need **all** hands on deck! How can you help? If you make things or cook, please consider working on something that you would be willing to donate or fill a basket that we can have in our raffle. We will have a table set up with baskets of various sizes that you might choose from to fill and provide a return date for the filled basket. The women thank you in advance for your generosity. ***Thank you for the two baskets that were dropped off the Bazaar. One was a summer fun basket and the other was a pamper yourself basket. They are greatly appreciated! If you would like to create a basket for the basket raffle, we would happily receive it. Baskets are available in the Kilton Room for you to take and fill with items that would make a gift. The basket need to be back by Monday, October 16.***

Nancy Simpson for Women's Fellowship

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!

Hybrid Bible Study (in-person & online)

Our Bible study will be starting again on September 26 at 6pm. All are welcome to join.

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 collector Christine Kidd.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR OUR AREA

Information for lunches, fitness and activities for seniors: <https://www.bugbeecenter.org/>
<https://www.qcsc.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

Or for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, Call 988

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>*