

wierwille words

Fertile YES! "April Showers Bring May Flowers" Can't you see this had to happen? Lk24

April certainly is a "trying" month – sometimes tantalizing us with warm breeze and often biting us with chilling rains. We'd really like to see an end to this wintry siege ...enuf already! an end to slippery roads, frost heaves and mud season! April tantalizes us into thinking about gardening and outdoor plants but hold-on-to-your-britches just a little while longer – this is not yet the time to breakout the beachwear and crocs. Spring forces us into a mode of *patience!*

In our faith journey we now move into Eastertide and find our way toward a new entity – small groups of people talking about that *Jesus*: What had happened when he was still with them? how he had amazed all kinds of folks with miracles and unrelenting focus and grasp of God's realm. the joyous entrance parade into Jerusalem and intimate power of the Passover Meal in the upper room undone and crushed by authorities in political and religious courts and crucifying crowd. Why? What a shame! How sad and frustrating!

Wait, who is this man walking with us? fixing breakfast for us? does anyone see the love and grace of God right before us? our God who doesn't mightily retaliate, torture or seek vengeance, but opens up eyes to an "unfettered forgiveness" (D. Blye, *From Stone to Living Word.*) that cuts to the heart, an astonishing freedom to love one another earnestly, without judgment.

The real beauty of faithfulness is an abiding tolerance, even an appreciation of multiplicity and diversity of appearance or experience or belief. Too often and easily many in the Christian community fall victim to NOT seeing other perspectives as legitimate or valuable. It'd seem to me that in the complexities of modern-day living Christians might best be served to practice our composure and tolerance and cultivate *patience*. Realizing that this easiness with ourselves and others doesn't come without continual nurture let's lift and hold each other in prayer, walking gently with all God's creation ...*patiently!* RW

April 2008

Minister: Rev. Richard Wierwille

Worship Service: Sunday 10 AM

Church School: 10:00-11:15

Email: wlcc@valley.net

Web Site: www.westlebcc.org

Phone: 603-298-8096

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-3:30

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
APRIL 2008

MISSIONS AND SOCIAL ACTION
COMMITTEE

We thank you for helping make the cookie sale on March 16 a success. We raised \$120 thanks to your baking and purchasing efforts. These funds were used to buy tulip and daffodil plants that were given to some members of our WLCC family who are not always able to get to church. Thanks to all of you who delivered these plants and stayed to visit.

Included in the Steeple this month is a list of the non-profit agencies that received financial support from our church family in the past year. You will find the names of contact people, addresses and phone numbers as well. Throughout the year, we will be inviting representatives of these agencies to briefly share information about their work during morning worship. On April 13, we'll be welcoming a speaker from COVER. COVER completes more than 40 urgent home repair projects a year. Roof repairs, wheelchair ramps, structural floor repair and weatherization projects are examples of the type of jobs undertaken. The RECOVER store, located on South Main Street in White River Junction, accepts tax-deductible donations of quality used appliances, household items and building materials from area residents and contractors. The stated mission of COVER is "to foster hope and build community in the Upper Valley by bringing together volunteers and homeowners to complete urgently needed home repair projects and to facilitate the reuse of household goods and building materials."

3 Elmer & Dorothy Gattie
6 Jim & Maggie Pyer

7 Andrew Benson
9 Laura Morgan
12 Beverly Damren
14 Betty Abbott
16 Jon Holbrook
Chase Pyer
17 Daniel Ladue
23 Mike Farnsworth
24 Lisa Elder
Joan Allard
27 Garrett Dykstra
28 Rachel Rathburn
29 Mailee Bui

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

We meet on the last Monday of each month at 2:00. We encourage anyone with questions or interest in the history of our Church to join us or contact a member of the group.

We also ask that members be thinking about our forthcoming 160th Anniversary, in the fall of 2009! We solicit suggestions of how we can best celebrate this event and we also ask for your help.

Committee members: Pauline Gage, Nancy Pyer, and Millie Hubbard

Thoughts and Prayers are with the Montmagny Family at the loss of Susan's Mother,

Beverly A. Newell
(Grandmother Morning Dove)
2/24/1930 -- 3/18/2008

Liz sez,

Spring time and seed planting is here again.
It will never fail and its is so welcome.

CHEER-UP, ITS SPRING

March winds linger and skies are overcast.

Lent and Easter have come and past.

Has the sun forgotten to glow?

We long for the season of flowering leas
with the caressing, warm summer breeze
that tickles the blue lake below.

Bare branches tremble, bend and sway
above dirty snow where dead leaves lay.
A heavy mist teases the frosted ground.
Sugar shacks spew forth sweet maple steam.
Icy floes float down the rushing stream.
Suddenly there is familiar sound!

Its the welcome harbinger of spring
floating down on eager brown wings
demanding the winter must clear up
and make way for both aged and young
to celebrate that spring is sprung
with its feisty, "Cheer-up! CHEER-UP!"

The robin is back. Spring is here!
Get out and enjoy nature's promise and
beauty. CHEER -UP!

sez Liz

CREATING A POSITIVE MARRIAGE

Seminar series led by Jill Fischer, LICSW, couples therapist. Hosted by the Ecumenical Clergy Assoc.

Sundays, April 6, 20 & 27

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Lebanon United Methodist Church, 18 School Street
Anyone who has been married or in an intimate partnership knows that the road can be bumpy at times in even the best of marriages. It's not easy being in a close, day-to-day relationship with another person, given two personality types, two sets of needs, and potentially two sets of values and backgrounds. Add parenting styles to the mix and the challenges become even greater! Finding ways to deal with differences in a positive way is an integral aspect of living our Christian faith, and dealing with differences in a marital relationship is no exception. In fact, we often find ourselves feeling and responding in what may feel like particularly "un-Christian" ways with the ones we love the most!

This evening workshop series is an opportunity to learn about how to create and maintain a positive marriage. It will introduce the work of John Gottman, PhD, the writer of the New York Times bestseller, "Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work." Gottman's research of both happily and unhappily married couples has analyzed the difference between the two and what it takes to build a good marriage. This is an educational workshop where you will be learning about these concepts and will not be asked to share about your relationship. It is suggested that both members of a couple attend.

For more information, contact the church office at 603 448-5478 or lebanonumc@verizon.net.

Special thanks to everyone for the cards,
Prayers, kind thoughts and food. Your
kindness was very much appreciated.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Bill Macnab, Ellen Patterson & family, Katie Chaffee,
Dean & Sandra Hutchinson, Paul Audette, Jerry Damren,
Hillarie St. Pierre, Mike Foote, Darrell Turner, Sue
Moretti, Linda Rogers Nash, Randy Perkins, Rosemarie
Wick, Tiah Luciana Elanos, Donna Hoyt, Hope
Dauphinais, Marian Carr, Dick Abbott, Mary Ann
Hambleton, Tom McGonis, Bev Newell, Brianni Beland,
Ellen Burke, Ethan & Ada Warren, Cole Timlake, Bruce
Johnson, and Jim Gove.

APRIL WORSHIP

- 5th **Saturday 5:30p.m.** **S.A.T. (Spiritual Awesome Time) Service**
1st & 3rd Sat Short Spiritually Satisfying Worship
- 6th **Sunday 10:00a.m.** **Communion/Diaconate Envelopes**
Luke 24:13-35; Psalm 116
Natural Rx for Heartburn – RW
BH386, BH342, BH246
Sunday 3:30p.m. **WLCC Leads Worship at APD/ECU**
- 13th **Sunday 10:00a.m.** **4th Sunday of Easter/Spring Break**
Psalm 23; Acts 2:42-47
Central Hinge Point of Faith – RW
BH248, RH327, BH503
Sunday 3:30p.m. **WLCC Leads Worship at APD/ECU**
- 19th **Saturday 5:30p.m.** **S.A.T. Worship Service**
1st & 3rd Sat Short Spiritually Satisfying Worship
- 20th **Sunday 10:00a.m.** **5th Sunday of Easter/Integrity of Creation**
Psalm 31; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14
A Sacred Safe Space – RW
BH72, BH32, BH400
Sunday 3:30p.m. **WLCC Leads Worship at APD/ECU**
- 27th **Sunday 10:00a.m.** **6th Sunday of Easter/Food Bin Sunday**
1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21
The Exercise of Love – RW
BH473, RH242, BH294
Sunday 3:30p.m. **WLCC Leads Worship at APD/ECU**