

## wierwille words

*Wisdom is often times nearer when we stoop than when we soar.*

Wm Wordsworth, 1798

It seems like lots of work to ready a garden for planting and all the preparation often “poses” one’s posture closely to the earth that Wordsworth alludes to in his ruminations about *weeding the garden*. The toil of tilling and planting gives rise to visions of beautiful vegetables and fruits pictured on the seed packets and the satisfaction of more manageable grocery bills come bountiful harvest time. Tending the garden also brings certainty of “weeds” in the midst of it all, weather issues of too much or not enuf water in a timely manner and blazing sun or frigid night, hungry neighborhood varmints of various sizes! It might be wiser – most certainly less toilsome – to just shop down the block at the produce wholesalers☺ I believe there’s something religious and poetic that happens when one gets their hands dirty in the soil of life.

40 years ago as I graduated from college and headed out into the reality of the big cruel world, there were lots of troublesome issues of political, social unrest in our nation -- terrible incidents of injustice and economic inequality -- RFK was assassinated during the Presidential primaries in June of 1968. I’m not sure if we’ve gotten any wiser with the 10 electoral campaigns: embedded in war that’s rapidly bankrupting us and has seeped the life-blood out of many courageous youth and tens of thousands of enemies and families and neighbors, a housing and financial crisis that boggles even our brightest capitalists, hollow vacant urban ghettos where its impossible to live healthy.

I believe it is time for each of us to engage in sharing what makes life real and healthy and sacred -- to speak and listen actively to each other in ways that lift everyone to a level of dignity, equality, shared vision and courage to act on it. Is this something we could commit to as a congregation? Is there a time, place or means for us to engage with each other in powerful and meaningful ways that would help us grow in wisdom and in love for all God’s creation? Shalom.

**June 2008**

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**Minister: Rev. Richard Wierwille**  
**Worship Service: Sunday 10 AM**  
**Church School: 10:00-11:15**  
**Email: [wlcc@valley.net](mailto:wlcc@valley.net)**  
**Web Site: [www.westlebcc.org](http://www.westlebcc.org)**  
**Phone: 603-298-8096**  
**Church Office Hours:**  
    **Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-3:30**  
    **Wednesday 9:00-12:00**

*June 15, 2008*

**ANNIVERSARY**  
**June 2008**

22 Mike and Marge Farnsworth

**BIRTHDAYS**

3 Cynthia Maynard  
4 Linda Maynard  
6 Dorothy Gattie  
Rosemary DalPra  
7 Sarah Montuori  
8 Bethany Adam  
Jacob Koehler  
10 Heather Hansen  
11 Andrew Schwarz  
15 Kay Wright  
Jack Whitaker  
20 Kurt Akers  
25 Nicholas Acker  
Hannah Morgan  
26 Andrea Burnham  
Sandy Tisdale  
29 Dominick Montuori  
Rachael Loseby  
Katie Whitaker  
Kristoffer Hansen  
30 Jaz Greiss

**EMERGENCY NEEDS**

THE DIACONATE IS WORKING TO COMPOSE A LIST OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE WILLING, IN AN EMERGENCY, TO PROVIDE MEALS, VISITATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION TO MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY IN NEED. PLEASE CALL JOANN ALLAN TO BE PUT ON THE CALL LIST AT 802-296-770.

**Liz sez,**

**Children's Day reminds us  
how precious each of our  
children is.**

TODDLER'S SIZE

Precious gifts, parent's pride,

sweet angel tots---

whose smiles kindle our insides

and tie our hearts in knots,

capture us with engaging charms,

lure us with trusting eyes,

amaze us that they fit our arms

and each child is a perfect size.

**Did you hug your child today? Give them  
a happy children's day every day.**

Sez Liz

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**CALL FOR HELP !!**

**Current openings are as follows:**

Christian Ed (2), Delegates (3),  
Missions (1), Stewardship (1).

Each of these committees meet monthly.

Please direct all inquiries to Linda Maynard (chair), Dick Poirier, Bev Damren, Tom Zuttermeister or Karen Aldrich, if you have questions or interest in serving.

God blesses each of us with multiple gifts with the expectation that we will share them with others.

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### **The Church in Every Moment**

The rhythm of our lives often changes during the summer, which is a good thing. It's wonderful if we're able to slow down and enjoy the beautiful outdoors, to stop and smell the flowers, and perhaps even to take a little vacation. But the rhythm of life in the church rarely skips a beat, even though some congregations may experience a few empty pews on Sunday mornings as folks travel and "take a Sunday off."

Our churches know that the regular work of the gospel goes on, day in and day out, in every season. The worship and pastoral needs of the local church, the justice work in the broader community, and the wider mission of the United Church all go on, even in August, and they are supported by the faithful giving of the people in the pews, whose generosity never takes a vacation.

Thank you for remembering to give generously in support of your church's ministry, even on Sundays when you are away from your own local congregation. Thank you for sharing the abundance with which you have been blessed so that the church, in every moment, can continue to be a sign of God's healing and tender mercies in a beautiful but broken world.

### **God is still speaking,**

Our sincere thanks to those who sent cards, phoned, visited, and to Dick, our Pastor, for being there when we needed his prayers and his presence when each of us was in a separate hospital. WLCC is a remarkable family!

## FROM THE HISTORICAL ROOM

The following was taken from "Christmas Potpourri 1976". The message is always worth remembering.

### Prayer for the Middle-Aged

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will one day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends left.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details--give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by--I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tale of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory, but for growing humility and lessening cocksuredness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet! I do not want to be a saint, some of them are so hard to live with, but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the Devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. Give me the grace to tell them so. \*Thank you. Amen.

\*Added by members of Historical Committee.

## NEW CHURCH MEMBERS

Anyone interested in joining our church is invited to contact Rev. Wierwille. There will be an orientation and information about being a member at the West Lebanon United Church of Christ. A reception of new members is planned soon and this is an opportunity to learn about the organization and history of our church.

Please contact Rev. Wierwille with any questions.

## TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees met on May 8, 2008 and discussed the following projects and issues. The Drake Room water issue was discussed and Wayne will meet with Dan Nash, a civil engineer to review our options to correct this leak. Kurt Akers volunteered to paint the trim on the parsonage porch. Oil prices and options for the fall were discussed. The Trustees also adopted and signed a conflict of interest statement.

The Edith Chapman/Dr. Royal & Mary Whitney Scholarship will be awarded on Children's Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Trustees are hosting the Chicken Barbeque on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Their next meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2008.

Debra Ford  
Co-Secretary

## PROJECT SUITCASE 2008

**Project Suitcase is now completed. In 2007 we completed 42 Suitcase kits for the Foster Children's Program based thru Child and Family Services in The West Lebanon, NH Office. In 2008 we completed another 13 Kits using up the donations received from many church members as well as other friends outside our church community. We wish to Thank all of you who contributed homemade quilts, fabrics, stuffed animals, fleece blankets and hygiene products. Child and Family Services appreciated our efforts and we enjoyed doing it. Thanks again to All involved.**

**In Christian Fellowship,  
Lorinda Poirier**

## MISSION NEWS

### **Mission News**

On May 18th, **Habitat for Humanity** broke ground at a new site for a home being built with "*ecumenical efforts*". This is a group project for several churches in our area. The missions committee has made a donation of **\$500 as a challenge grant for the congregation.**

Our goal is to jointly raise \$1000 (\$500 in addition to missions donation). We are also looking for people interested in volunteering to help build the house. It's a great opportunity to give back and meet new people! The Habitat house is located at 49 Starlake Lane in Norwich.

Please see the missions board for more information and a committee member if you would like to volunteer.

**• Directions to the Habitat House Site: 49 Starlake Lane, Norwich 5<sup>th</sup> site on left. North on Rte 5 from Ledyard Bridge, 4.2 miles to Farrel Farm Rd. on left. ¾ miles up the hill, Starlake Lane on right.**

*Thank you! \$484 was raised for One Great Hour of Sharing.*

*Thank you for your donations on Blanket Sunday and for Tools for Hope, two Church World Service programs.*

**Myanmar Assistance:** If you would like to help those affected by the cyclone and flooding, please write checks to WLCC with memo for Myanmar response. The UCC is directing these funds to the appropriate groups. Donations may go in the offering plate.

Our sincere thanks for your continuous support,  
*The Missions Committee*

## PASTORAL RELATIONS

The committee continues to act as a sounding board between the congregation and the minister. Meeting every 3-4 months with Dick, we welcome comments from the congregation. Returning members are Mark Pageau, John Cooley, Elmer Gattie, & Linda Maynard (chair) who are joined by new members JoAnn Allan & Linda Poirier. Please feel free to speak to any of us directly or anonymously. We welcome all feedback. Our next meeting with the minister is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **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.

## JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**      **10 a.m. Holy Communion/Church School Sunday/Strengthen The Church**  
Scripture:      Genesis 6-8; Matthew7:21-29; Psalm 46  
Message:      *Courage To Hear: break the cycle of violence now!*  
Hymns:      *O God Who Teaches Us to Live, God of the Sparrow, Take My Life & Let It B (R)*
- Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**      **10 a.m. Music Sunday Celebration**  
Scripture:      Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26; Psalm 33:1-12, Romans 4:13-26  
Message:      *Hoping Against Hope: not what it has been, but what it can be!*  
Hymns:      *Sing Praise to God (6), Let Us Hope When Hope Seems, Sing Praise to God (22)*
- Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**      **8:30 (eSmBrief Worship) & 10 a.m. Summer Schedule/Fathers Day**  
--an early Sunday morning Brief Worship for early risers or those trying to extend Sabbath a bit  
Scripture:      Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 9:35-10:8  
Message:      *Servants Entrance: called to carry on urgent work!*  
Hymns:      *Let Us Talents & Tongues Employ, Here I Am, Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant*
- Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>**      **8:30 (eSmBrief Worship) & 10 a.m. Summer Schedule/Outdoor Worship**  
--both services will meet on the outside corner of the church weather permitting, or inside if not  
Scripture:      Genesis 21:8-21; Matthew 10:24-39; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1-11  
Message:      *Moving Out: daring disciples called to trust in God!*  
Hymns:      *Cong'l Choice, God's Eye Is On the Sparrow, I'll Shout the Name of Christ*
- Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**      **8:30 (eSmBrief Worship) & 10 a.m. Receive New Members/Food Bin Sunday**  
Scripture:      Genesis 22:1-14; Matthew 10:40-42  
Message:      *Extravagant Hospitality: welcoming and tending in compassion and grace!*  
Hymns:      *Where Cross (R), Jesu Jesu Fill Us With Your Love, Cong'l Choice*

Early Sunday Morning Brief Worship gathers 8:30 - 9 a.m. as we move into Summer Worship Schedule. (eSmBrief Worship) includes opening liturgy, prayer, hymn, scripture, message, blessing & communion. Everyone's welcome to attend either worship service; consider your choice and invite friends to join you. Diaconate will consider whether to continue to offer (eSmBrief Worship) for rest of the summer months.

