

wierwille words

The Lord has yet more truth and light to break forth in the world.

John Robinson, American Pilgrim forebearer

Oh, the cyclical nature of events in our world! Maybe isn't merely coincidental that the earth rotates with daily sun and moon with annual revolution of planet seasons or our favorite athletic teams. I know that I would definitely vote for "nice weather" to linger 'ere forced changes of ice and snow befall us again, but *time waits for no(one)*. And the tone is set again for the 4-year politicization of economics, social policy and national ethos. It happens! Ours is a choice to be informed, invested, involved -- VOTE!

November's national election gives voice to the American electorate. Choices before us are often not clearly delineated and at times it might seem easier to make no choice or be cynical and think that *my vote probably won't make any difference anyway* in how things are conducted by the powers-that-be in DC or NYC. I believe however that the sun and moon will appear on Wed, Nov 5th and that each of our votes will offer a hue to how life will be conducted in our nation for another political season/electoral cycle.

We also have intentional choices to make as we move through our own WLCC 2009 annual budget process to determine the shape and color hue of our congregation's ministries. Some folk feel caught in the world economic turmoil and are pessimistic or even cynical. But I am optimistic and confident that West Lebanon Congregational Church UCC will continue to listen for God's words in our lives and know that caring, compassionate ministry will continue to emerge here in our faith family, ie, Robinson.

As we conclude this moment in history thinking *Thanksgiving* brings closure to November, we're reminded yet again that a new thing happens with the First Sunday of Advent, November 30th signaling God's immaculate intrusion into the national/political world some 2000 years ago in the extravagant gift of the birth of Christ and into our lives in this neighborhood in 2008. May God's Peace inform and energize all our decisions. Shalom, DW

November 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

Pastor's Office: Tues, Wed, Thurs a.m. or by appt.

ANNIVERSARIES
November 2008

3 Judy and Henry Leavitt

BIRTHDAYS
November 2008

3 Thomas Cooley
7 Nancy Simpson
10 Lilea Hanson
10 Molly Meagher
16 Carolyn Mitchell
19 Mickey Baker
29 James Burnhem
30 Wayne Bonhag

NEWS FROM THE NOMINATING

COMMITTEE

It's that time of the year when Nominating "comes out of its cocoon" and begins recruiting individuals to fill each WLCC committee's membership roster. Can you help and serve your church in this way?

Three-year term openings are for the following groups:

Christian Education, Growth, Delegates, Diaconate, Historical, Music, Missions, Pastoral Relations, Stewardship, and Trustees.

If interested in serving, please contact one of us.

Linda Maynard (chair), Dick Poirier, Bev Damren, Tom Zuttermeister, Karen Aldrich

Liz sez,

Remember that today is the first day of the rest of your life and enjoy every minute.

BE ALIVE TODAY

Keep right on swinging
and give hearty cheers
that you are still rambling
in spite of your years.
Look toward the future
and often look up.
Compared to many others,
you still have a full cup.
Your future is open.
Today will not last.
You can challenge tomorrow,
but you can't alter the past.
Yesterday is over.
Tomorrow is far away.
Live it up and remember
to enjoy your life today!

Strange how we always seem to search for more when what we have is sufficient. Thanksgiving dinner is blah without family and friends to share it. Today is a gift to live. Enjoy.

Happy Thanks Giving.

Sez Liz

November 2, 2008

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Matt Van Wagner will be joining us as our Guest Steward on Nov. 16. He will also be pouring coffee at the Soup & Chowder Supper the night before and would enjoy seeing you all there. Please join the Stewardship Committee in welcoming him back.

The word "steward" comes from the old English words "sigh" and "weard". The word sigh originally meant "sty" and evolved to mean "hall". The word "weard" meant "keeper".

The first use of the word steward in Gen 15.2 is translated in the New Revised Standard as "heir". The meaning, then, referred to taking care of one's own belongings. Further uses in the OT referred to caring for and/or managing the belongings of another.

1Cor 4.1 speaks of Christians as "stewards of God's mysteries".

1Peter 4.10-11 declares, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

This, then, is the stewardship to which we are called as children of God - to share all of the gifts that have been given to us by God - whether they be gifts of time, talents or money. Let us be generous with the gifts our God has bestowed upon us.

There will be an Open House Coffee Hour at the Parsonage following worship on Sunday, November 9th. All are invited. Please join us.

2008 Christmas Bazaar

The chill air is upon us, Christmas is on the horizon and many people at WLUCC are getting ready for the Christmas Bazaar. The Bazaar will take place, as usual, on the first Saturday in December. Please mark your calendars and join in the festivities this year.

The Bazaar depends upon the help of many people. Please consider volunteering in one of the following ways:

- Meet on Thursday mornings from 9am-11am to work on crafts items. Please join us, if you are working on something bring it along or we can provide some projects for you.
- Once again we will be offering pies, cookies, breads, jams & jellies, relishes and homemade baked beans. If you have other special foods you have canned, we'd love to offer those items as well.
- Save your books and jewelry- for the sale - those tables have been very popular.
- We also need items for the following tables: wood, gifts, knit/crochet, Christmas decorations, garden, and candy.
- We will be decorating wreaths on Monday December 1st in the Drake room, please join us as many hands make light work!
- Ron Montmagny has agreed to be our chef again this year. Ron puts in a long day on Friday before the bazaar and help will be needed both with set up and purchasing menu ingredients (look for a sign-up list soon)
- A volunteer sign up sheet is on the back entrance bulletin board; there are many areas in which we need your help.
- If you have questions about the bazaar, please contact Amy Stebbins, Grace Dickerson or Nancy Simpson

**Save the Date: Saturday, December 6, 2008
9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

NOTES FROM PASTORAL RELATIONS

Since the “new” church year kicked off, the committee has met with Dick once and has another session scheduled for early November. In addition, our group welcomed an opportunity to meet separately with a few church members who we felt would benefit from sharing their thoughts, concerns, and ideas with us. Our talks with RW have been well received by him and, we think, beneficial to all parties. The pastor’s morning office hours have been included in the weekly Bulletins and posted on the office door. Other specific times to meet with him can also be arranged.

Again, we welcome any thoughts, comments or concerns from the church family and look forward to sharing an enriched spiritual fulfillment as we enter the Advent season.

Blessings and Peace.

Joann Allan
John Cooley
Elmer Gattie
Mark Pageau
Lorinda Poirier
Linda Maynard

Cameron O’Connor – Born Sept. 18, 2008

Great-Great Grandmother: Mayola Beard
Great Grandmother: Betty Beard Shaw
Grandmother: Susan McLaughlin
Parents: Shannon & Matthew O’Connor

TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

Sometimes we feel as though the sky is falling and sometimes the roof is really falling. The trustees have recently discovered that the steeple has a significant leak and is creating a soaked ceiling in the balcony. We will act as quickly as possible to make a temporary repair to get us through the wind, rain and snow of the next several months. While we get a stop gap measure in place, assess the extent of the damage and try to mitigate existing moisture problems, we will also be researching and getting quotes from steeple repair companies. A casual glance from the sidewalk makes us think that this may be a very large project. As we know more, we will pass along the information.

The trustees have also begun the annual task of beginning to craft our church budget for 2009. In order to give the trustees enough time to be thoughtful, budget projections must be submitted by mid-November. If your committee has not yet given us your thoughts for the upcoming year, please do so now. We are looking forward to entering into conversations with all church committees as we look to present a balanced budget for the upcoming year.

Peace,

Dana Michalovic
Secretary, for the Trustees

The West Lebanon Congregational UCC will host an Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service at **7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 26th**

Please mark this on your calendar and plan to attend.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- We are looking for people to make some delicious chowder, soups, or stews for **Chowderfest** on November 15th. If you could bring your food in a crock pot that would be great so we can keep it warm. There will also be a signup sheet for rolls, milk, and a few other things on the bulletin board. Dessert will be brownies sundaes so bring your appetite.
- The **youth group** had their first meeting and discussed all sorts of activities they would like to do this year. John and Laurie Tostenson are once again the leaders and for more information on meeting/activity times please contact them.
- The annual **Christmas Pageant** is approaching and anyone interested in lending a hand is more than welcome. This year's story is based on the Crippled Lamb by Max Lucado.
- There will be **no Sunday School** on November 30th and pageant practice will begin on December 7th during service.
- **Camper registration** will be here in no time and if your child is interested in attending camp please let Adam DalPra or Diane Adam know so they can give you materials when they come out.
- Anyone interested in **joining CE**, we have two open spots, please let the nominating committee know.

Confirmation Classes will be held on Sundays, November 9th and 23rd, after Worship Service for young people in grades 7 and up who are interested in learning about and joining the Church.

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.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The holiday season will soon be here. Our church family will once again have the opportunity to be Listen Holiday Basket Helpers. We are in touch with the Listen Center, and expect to be provided with Christmas wish lists for children and adults soon.

On November 30, we will be welcoming Joie Finley Morris from 10 Bricks Homeless Programs. She will speak briefly during the service and stay afterwards for coffee hour and to answer any questions. 10 Bricks states: ***Our mission is to make sure that every resident of New Hampshire's North Country and Vermont's Upper Valley have access to programs that can prevent an episode of homelessness or find shelter should homelessness come to pass.***

The Missions Committee

Come and Enjoy the Soup and Chowder Fest Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm At the WLCC!

Enjoy the Homemade Pies and the Fellowship.

Adults - \$8.00 / Seniors - \$7.00

Children 6 to 12 - \$5.00 / Under 6 – Free.

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.

November 2008 Worship

Sunday, Nov 2nd **10 a.m. Holy Communion Worship/Daylight Saving Time ends** **Message** *The Hypotenuse Is*
Congruent To The Angle Between Word and Deed **Scripture** Psalm 107:1-7 (Brandt); 1 Thessalonians 2:11-13; Matthew 23:1-12
NCH 294, NCH 539, NCH 495

2:30 p.m. Lebanon Genesis Healthcare Center Chapel Service

Sunday, Nov 9th **10 a.m. Veterans Holiday Worship/Parsonage OpenHouse Coffee Hour** **Message** *The Lord Has Yet Mo*
and Light to Break Forth **Scripture** Joshua 24:1-3,14-25; Matthew 25:1-13
PH 375, PH 218, NCH 588

2:30 p.m. Lebanon Genesis Healthcare Center Chapel Service

Sunday, Nov 16th **10 a.m. Stewardship Sunday Worship after 8-9:30 All-Church Breakfast** **Message** *Extravagant Opp*
– Guest Steward, Matt Van Wagner **Scripture** Matthew 25:14-30
Hymns PH 443, PH 366, NCH 25

2:30 p.m. Lebanon Genesis Healthcare Center Chapel Service

Sunday, Nov 23rd **10 a.m. Gratitude Sunday Worship** **Message** *How To Be Church: seek th*
bind up the injured, strengthen the weak **Scripture** Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:11-16; Matthew 25:31-46
NCH 31, PH 322, NCH 475

2:30 p.m. Lebanon Genesis Healthcare Center Chapel Service

Wednesday, November 26th **7:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service at WLCC**

Sunday, Nov 30th **10 a.m. First Sunday of Advent/Food Bin Sunday** **Message** *There's a Restless, Forwar*
Looking Posture To Christianity **Scripture** Psalm 80; Isaiah 64, Mark 13:24-37
PH 108, PH 109, NCH 112

2:30 p.m. Lebanon Genesis Healthcare Center Chapel Service