

Tower Tidings

Congregational Church of Laconia United Church of Christ
18 Veterans Square Laconia, New Hampshire 03246

August 2022

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- Pumpkin Festival
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www.laconiaucc.org

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Dear Friends,

“Summertime and the livin’ is easy”

So, Clara sings to her infant in Gershwin’s “Porgy and Bess.” It became a national hit when Billie Holliday recorded her version of it. I don’t know why but I often find myself singing this song to myself in August! But if we know the story line of the musical (Actually Gershwin meant for it to be an opera!) we know that for Bess the livin’ wasn’t easy.

Here in the church office, we hear many such stories where the livin’ ain’t easy. These conversations may be outside by the Free Little Food Pantry, in the Medical Supply room, with an attendee of one of the recovery meetings or someone who walks in off the street and says to me “*Pastor I don’t know why I’m here I was just walking by and felt compelled to come in.*”

It is through the generosity of so many of you that we can become a paragraph or maybe even a chapter in some of these stories. The woman’s deep sigh and smile when she realizes that with the items she had found in the Medical Supply room, her husband will be able to come home, and they can be together. Or the homeless fellow who come to the pantry every so often and stopped to say, “Thank you.”

Or the fellow sitting on the stone bench in the Peace Garden who tells me that if it wasn’t for the church being open to all the recovery meetings he doesn’t know where he would be today.

We in the office hear these comments and thanks you’s regularly; I wanted to share them with you as a way to say thank you, for while we hear them, it’s your support of the church and these outreach ministries that make it happen.

Through the Dorcas Fund, Free Little Food Pantry, Medical Supply Room, the Parish House meeting spaces, Belknap House Meals, Hazel Duke Thanksgiving Dinner, and so many more ways you make it possible for a few of our neighbors to sing the second verse of “Summertime”!

*One of these mornings
You’re going to rise up singing
Then you’ll spread your wings
And you’ll take the sky
But ‘til that morning*

*There's a'nothing can harm you
With daddy and mammy standing by*

Blessed to be a blessing!

Pastor Neil Wilson

Faith Formation Families-

FAITH FORMATION
will be happening on the
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH!
See you next time on **August 14TH!!**

Invite a Friend!

Youth Summer Outreach

On Thursday, Josh and Caleb enthusiastically helped to prepare dinner for the families of Belknap House. We had fun together while playing games and cooking in the Parish House kitchen. We got drenched, but we cheerfully delivered the food on behalf of our Church. Thanks to Angel for her assistance and food prep knowledge!

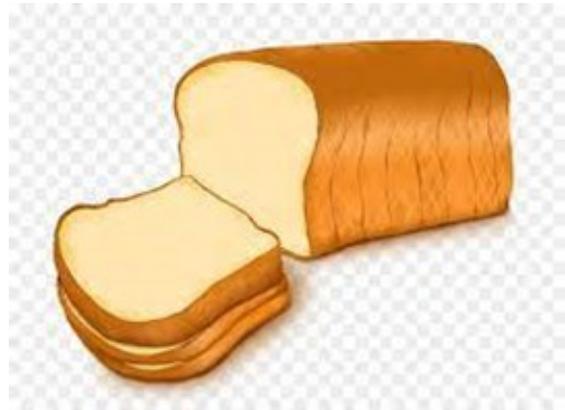
If you'd like to prepare a Thursday night dinner for Belknap House, contact Diane

Tinkham tinkhams@metrocast.net and help make a difference in our local community.



Little Free Food Pantry

Thank you for continuing to help our community with items for the Free Little Food Pantry.



With this month, the Outreach Ministries Committee will begin talking about sponsoring a food booth for the Pumpkin Festival .

Our hope is to have many of the same food items we have had in past years.

Pumpkin Rolls, frito pie, corn chowder, chili, cider, hot dogs, and more.

More details are forthcoming and we will be asking for donations to make this a success just like before.

This year's Pumpkin Festival will be only one day, October 29th, from Noon until 9:00 PM.

Please remember to share items of church interest with the office. We want to share in the good things happening in your life.



Mission Possible!

This year we will be able to make another mission work week trip to the Housing Program of the Maine Seacoast Mission based out of Cherryfield, Maine! In 2019, 12 members of our congregation made the first trip. We scraped, primed and painted a house for a wonderful older couple. The work ours and other groups did made it possible for their home to qualify for further improvements.

We are leaving on August 21st with a return on the 26th. (Sunday afternoon through Friday) and we have invited the Sanbornton church to join us. For more information you can go to this website <https://seacoastmission.org/downeast/>

If you have not already signed up to go, please reach out to the Church Office.

We can use all sorts of people not just those with painting or construction skills. Donna will need help with the meal preparation and while we are there that may be other tasks we can do to volunteer in the work of Mission's down-east campus.

It is not all work. Weather permitting we may have evening campfires, we'll take an afternoon to explore some of the region's interesting, quirky and yummy sites! (Those of you who went before remember *Monica's Chocolates* and the giant blueberry!) There is a \$175.00 per person fee for the Mission we will share the cost of the meals.

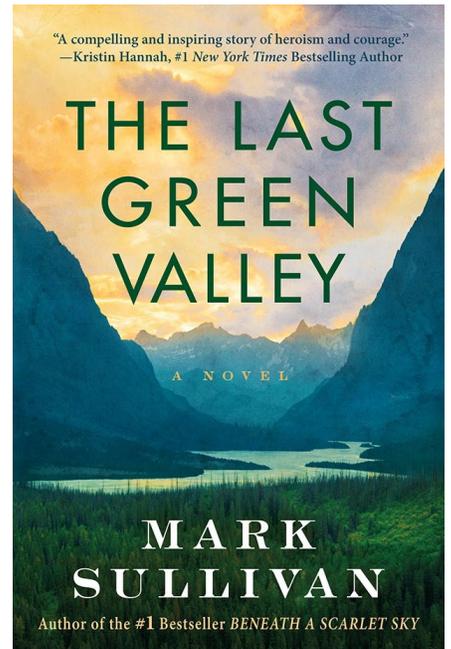
If you might be interested in joining us, contact Pastor Neil neil@laconiaucc.org 603-524-0668.

BOOK DISCUSSION

All are welcome to join the discussion on Wednesday, August 17th at noon in the Beane Parlor.

Join us for the discussion of *Last Green Valley* by Mark Sullivan

The Last Green Valley is a work of historical fiction, **inspired by a true story.**



On Sunday, July 24, 2022, Andrew and Stephanie Onguaka along with their three boys, Jonathan, Peter and Boaz from Kenya, visited with us and talked about their great program of One Life Africa.

Our church has sponsored children for several years, helping these young people continue their education.

Thank you for being with us.

August BIRTHDAYS



08/02	Nicolas Austin
08/07	Elvena Anderson
08/10	Brad Geltz
08/11	Connor Sullivan
08/13	Judith Nelson
08/15	Hollis Thompson
08/16	Darlene Sellars
08/17	Linda Swenson
08/17	Christine Evans
08/19	Karen Mussen
08/19	Caragh Smith
08/22	Jaylene Bengtson
08/25	Janet Simmon
08/28	Shannon Sullivan
08/31	Pamela Kyle

