

AUGUST 2026

## FROM YOUR PASTOR: "A Time to Exhale"

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There is something about August that invites us to slow down.

The pace of summer begins to shift. The days are still warm, but the evenings hint that another season is on the horizon. Gardens are bursting with veggies and flowers, families squeeze in one last road trip before school resumes, and we find ourselves taking a deep breath before the familiar rhythms of fall return.

As people of faith, we would do well to accept this invitation. The 2026 spring and summer seasons have been full for us folks here at Lisbon UMC—not just with activity, but with opportunities to share God's love in our community.

One of the highlights for me was attending my very first Moxie Festival. As someone new to this tradition, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. What I discovered was far more than a community celebration. I experienced neighbors gathering, stories being shared, hearty greetings, and laughter echoing down the street, and a wonderful opportunity for our church to engage our neighbors near and far.

It was a joy to spend time on the church front lawn, welcoming visitors, serving hot dogs, and sharing conversations with friends both old and new. Sometimes ministry doesn't happen inside the sanctuary. Sometimes it happens over a simple meal and a cold can of Moxie. These moments of hospitality remind us that the Church is at its best when our doors—and our hearts—are open wide.

As I write this, I am looking forward to another anticipated blessing this summer. It is hosting the first Androscoggin Cooperative Parish Methodist Camp Revival at the end of July. What a gift it will be to gather with sisters and brothers from across our Cooperative Parish for worship, music, fellowship, and the proclamation of God's Word! The positive energy and encouragement experienced at the planning meetings with representatives from the other 4 churches has been a reminder that we are part of something much larger than any one congregation. We are connected in Christ, strengthened by one another, and called together to share the Good News.

As wonderful as these events are, August offers us something equally important: the opportunity to rest.

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## PRAYER LIST UPDATE

In recent committee meetings, several people have expressed a desire to refresh the church prayer list that is shared each week in our worship bulletin. Beginning in August, we will be updating the prayer list to ensure it reflects our current prayer concerns.

The revised list will continue to include the names Pastor Elizabeth shared with me beginning in May, as well as those we have added since my appointment on July 1. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please write their name down and give it to me directly or to a member of the Nurture Committee.

Our Nurture Committee members are Margaret Logan, Peggy Shaw, Gwen Rioux, Jennifer Morgan, and Carolyn Jones.

In the future, we will refresh the prayer list every three months. This will help us keep our prayers current while continuing to care for those in need of our love and support. Thank you for helping us maintain this important ministry of prayer.

Peace, Pastor Jen

## NUTURE COMMITTEE

Dear Nurture Committee Members,

It is hard to believe we are already nearing the end of July. Although it has been a while since the Nurture committee last met, we have been involved in several key activities this month.

The Moxie Festival was a wonderful time spent with our church family. We sold fresh baked goods, a traditional hot dog meal, delicious strawberry shortcakes, and a few plants. The weather was spectacular and cooperative.

Going forward, the Nurture committee will assist Pastor Jen with supporting those in need. There are a few responsibilities we will pitch in to help with when Pastor Jen is unavailable.

Additionally, our Cooperative Parish will be hosting a Camp Revival at LUMC on July 26th. The Nurture committee will help support this great event, and we hope to meet new members of the Parish there.

Best regards,

Peggy Shaw

*"We're not just a nation, we're not an ethnicity. WE are a dream of justice that people have had for a thousand years."*

*~Craig Ferguson*

THANK YOU!

Thank You  
  
for your Kindness



Kevin and I would like to thank  
you all for your generosity in  
Spirit and for welcoming us to  
LUMC. The cakes were delicious!  
**Pastor Jen**

**BEAN SUPPER HELPERS NEEDED!**

We have a few local bean supper customers who have had their meals delivered to them each month. If you're interested in assisting with these meal deliveries or would like more information on how you can help, please let Gwen know.



***LUMC Mission Statement:***

***"The Lisbon United Methodist Church welcomes, nurtures, and serves all  
people with the love of Christ."***

## FROM YOUR PASTOR CONTINUED

Even Jesus stepped away from the crowds to pray, to be still, and to be renewed. Rest is not something we earn after we've worked hard enough; it is a gift God gives us so that we may continue serving with joy.

Before the calendars begin to fill with committee meetings, worship planning, and all the wonderful ministries that come in the fall, I encourage you to make time to simply exhale.

Take a walk. Sit on the porch. Watch a sunset. Open your Bible beneath the shade of a tree. Spend time with family and friends. Worship faithfully, but also allow yourself to receive the peace that Christ so freely offers.

When September arrives, I hope that we will come together rested and refreshed —ready to continue the work God has placed before us with grateful hearts and renewed energy.

Again, Kevin and I want to thank you all for your warm welcome to LUMC. Thank you for making the month of July such a joyful season of ministry. Whether serving hot dogs during the Moxie Festival, worshipping together at the Camp Revival, or quietly encouraging one another in countless unseen ways, you continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in this community.

May God grant each of you a peaceful August filled with rest, renewal, and the blessed assurance of His presence.

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Jen*

## BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

Our Summer Blood Drive on July 16 was a success. We collected 23 life-saving units of blood. Thank you to those in our church family who continue to come out and support this very important mission. The next blood drive will be held at the MTM Center on Saturday, November 14th, in memory of Tracy Sautter.



**THANK YOU  
FOR BLOOD GIVING**

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Newsletter Finance Info - as of 07-23-2026

2026 Annual Budget  
Amount for Operating  
Expenses

\$ 148,470.81

#### **June**

Income

Budgeted \$ 13,100.00

Actual \$ 5,868.68

Expenses

Budgeted \$ 13,214.00

Actual \$ 13,518.08

#### **July**

Income

Budgeted \$ 10,147.37

Actual \$ 5,023.17

Expenses

Budgeted \$ 9,213.45

Actual \$ 3,199.44

## ANDROSCOGGIN CO-OPERATIVE PARISH NEWS

The West Cumberland UMC runs a food booth at the annual Cumberland County Fair and, as a small congregation, is seeking volunteers to help with working shifts and/or baking. The fair runs Sept. 27th thru Oct. 3rd. Work shifts are: 7:00am - 11:00am \* 11:00am - 3:30pm \* 3:30pm - 8:00pm every day.

If you can help by baking something, they are in need of PIES (Apple, Strawberry-Rhubarb, Pumpkin, Sweet Potato), Muffins, Scones, Biscuits. As a sister-church of the Parish, this presents an opportunity for us to help out another church with their major fundraising event.

For more details or to set up a work shift, contact Marsha Hawkes: 207-572-2814 or Nancy Latham: 207-572-8086.

Thank you.

Monica McCusker

Lay member, Androscoggin Co-op Parish Council

## AUGUST CELEBRATIONS!

Happy Birthday to the following church members  
celebrating a birthday in August!!



|     |                |     |                 |
|-----|----------------|-----|-----------------|
| 3-  | Chris Crosman  | 12- | Jennifer Farrin |
| 5-  | Griffin Earle  |     | Liz Sawyer      |
| 8-  | Marjorie Maloy | 13- | Dean H. Logan   |
| 10- | Donald Wile    | 21- | Audrey Rioux    |
| 11- | Ginny Barden   | 24- | Judy Rathburn   |
|     | Lois Wills     | 25- | Tristen Wile    |

Happy Anniversary to those celebrating in August!

|     |                          |     |                      |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| 1-  | Chris & Debbie Crosman   | 12- | David & Susan Wile   |
|     | Geroge & Donna Morgan    | 13- | Mark & Brenda Rogers |
| 10- | Ryan & Erica Moore       | 22- | Greg & Peggy Shaw    |
| 11- | Geroge & Jennifer Morgan | 23- | Ralph & Carol Day    |

**Pastor Jen will be  
in Lisbon on  
Wednesdays**



**Community Engagement**

**9:30 AM -11:30 AM**

**Office Hours**

**12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

To schedule an appointment, please  
call or text (207-242-2840).

## FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Greetings!

Firstly, I want to thank all of you for your support and prayers. Harvey and I would never be able to get through each day without God's help that comes through all of you. Your words of encouragement, loving greetings, and physical help mean a lot to both of us.

I have been reading a daily devotional curated by Rev. Richard Rohr called CAC Daily Meditations. I highly recommend this online publication. It is short, to the point, and can be applied to our daily lives. You can find it at [meditations@cac.org](mailto:meditations@cac.org).

Recently Rev. Rohr has been interpreting the beatitudes. In the July 17th issue, there is an article by Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber. Here is her version of the beatitudes:

Blessed are the poor in spirit. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.

Blessed are they for whom death is not an abstraction.

Blessed are they who have buried their loved ones, for whom tears could fill an ocean.

Blessed are they who have loved enough to know what loss feels like.

Blessed are the mothers of the miscarried.

Blessed are they who don't have the luxury of taking things for granted anymore.

Blessed are they who can't fall apart because they have to keep it together for everyone else.

Blessed are the motherless, the alone, the ones from whom so much has been taken....

Blessed are those who no one else notices. The kids who sit alone at middle-school lunch tables. The laundry guys at the hospital. The sex workers and the night-shift street sweepers.

Blessed are the losers and the babies and the parts of ourselves that don't want to make eye contact with a world that loves only the winners.

Blessed are the forgotten.

Blessed are the closeted.

Blessed are the unemployed, the unimpressive, the underrepresented.

Did you find yourself somewhere on this list? I know I did. I am thankful that I know that Jesus loves me, and Jesus loves you too. This was his message on the hillside that day. We are surrounded by love.

God's peace be with you,

Sue White



## MOXIE THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all who helped to make this year's Moxie Festival another successful event! It was great to have Pastor Jen with us for our first event since her appointment on July 1st.

With the move of the town festivities to the high school campus we were unsure on what sort of crowds we would see. The beautiful sunny skies certainly helped to bring people downtown. Our profits are just shy of \$1,000.



### Pastor Jen's Weekly Planner

Sunday: Worship @ LUMC

Monday: Worship Design

Tuesday: Sermon Prep

Wednesday: Lisbon community  
and office hours

Thursday: Administrative tasks

Friday: Sabbath day

Saturday: Follow-ups as needed



# August 2026

| Sun                                       | Mon | Tue | Wed                  | Thu | Fri | Sat                       |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|
|                                           |     |     |                      |     |     | 1                         |
| 2-Worship,<br>9:30-online &<br>virtually  | 3   | 4   | 5-Finance<br>Meeting | 6   | 7   | 8                         |
| 9-Worship,<br>9:30-online &<br>virtually  | 10  | 11  | 12                   | 13  | 14  | 15                        |
| 16-Worship,<br>9:30-online &<br>virtually | 17  | 18  | 19                   | 20  | 21  | 22-Bean Sup-<br>per, 4:30 |
| 23-Worship,<br>9:30-online &<br>virtually | 24  | 25  | 26                   | 27  | 28  | 29                        |
| 30-Worship,<br>9:30-online &<br>virtually | 31  |     |                      |     |     |                           |

**NOTE:** All meetings are held in the Hunnewell Room, unless otherwise noted

**Office Hours:** Wednesday-12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Friday is the Pastor's Sabbath Day**

**Other times available by appointment, call or text 207-242-2840**

**LISBON UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

14 School Street

Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252

(207)353-4982

**Sunday Worship Service**

Sunday Worship

(In Person and Live Stream on Facebook)

9:30 a.m.

*Experienced people are ready to provide nursery  
care for infants.*

*Please speak with a greeter.*

*Community Engagement Hours: Wednesday-*

*9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.*

*Office Hours: Wednesday-12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.*

***Please call or text 242-2840 for an appt.***

*Friday is the Pastor's Sabbath day*

**Important Contacts:**

Pastor: Jen Reed

[pastorjen@lisbonumchurch.org](mailto:pastorjen@lisbonumchurch.org)

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