

SEPTEMBER 2026

FROM YOUR PASTOR: A NEW SEASON TOGETHER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CRAFT FAIR

BLOOD DRIVE

LAY LEADER

NUTURE

AND MUCH MORE!

Greetings, Lisbon UMC Faith Family!

I hope you all had a restful August and enjoyed the beautiful gifts of summer. It is hard to believe September is already upon us!

By the time you read this, I will have been with you for two months. In some ways, that time has gone by in the blink of an eye. In others, it feels like we have already shared so much—through conversations around tables, worshiping together, serving at community events, and all those ordinary moments where relationships begin to take shape.

As we move into fall, our annual Church Conference is just ahead. For those who might be new to our tradition, a Church Conference is an annual gathering where we tend to the organizational health of our church—reviewing our ministries, electing leaders, and adopting budgets.

While it brings the usual reports and business, it is also a sacred chance to pause and look back.

This year, our conference will be unique and deeply meaningful because we are gathering in the company of our Androscoggin Cooperative Parish. Celebrating this holy connection together reminds us of our shared mission. As soon as the date, time, and location of the Many Waters District conferences are posted, I will share the details of ours with you.

Please know that all are welcome and encouraged to attend this gathering!

Whether you have been a member for decades or are brand new to our community, your presence and your voice matter as we shape our future.

As we prepare, I hope we can see this gathering as more than just another meeting on the calendar. Let it be a time to reflect:

- Where have we seen God at work in the life of our church, both during Pastor Elizabeth's time with you and now as we begin our new chapter together?
- What are we grateful for?

And most importantly, where do we sense God leading us next?

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FROM YOUR PASTOR, CONT.

That last question is one I have been holding close as I begin this new season of ministry with you: **Who is God calling us to be as a church here in Lisbon Falls?**

We won't find the answer all at once, but we can discover it by paying attention to our relationships—with one another, our neighbors, and surrounding churches.

I am especially looking forward to deepening our roots within the Androscoggin Cooperative Parish. The parish reminds us that even when our individual churches feel small, we are never alone. We walk alongside brothers and sisters in faith who face the same challenges and share the same dreams. Our Methodist Camp Revival was a beautiful example of this. We gathered, shared a meal, worshiped, and laughed together. I hope our July gathering was just the beginning of many more shared moments. Being part of the Cooperative Parish does not mean giving up who we are as Lisbon United Methodist Church. Quite the opposite. Supporting one another makes each of our congregations stronger, allowing us to accomplish things together that would be difficult to do alone.

At the same time, we must keep looking beyond our sanctuary walls toward Lisbon Falls and the surrounding community.

There are neighbors who may never walk through our church doors looking for a "church," but they are still searching for something. They are looking for community, a place where their gifts matter, and a safe space to belong.

Perhaps part of our calling as a faith community is to stop waiting for people to find us, and instead meet them exactly where they are. Sharing the love of Christ often looks less like an invitation to a Sunday service, and more like simply getting to know someone over a cup of coffee.

As we prepare for our Church Conference, let's take some time to dream. Here are a few questions I invite you to pray over this month:

- **What** is God asking of us right now?
- **What** unique gifts do we already have that God can use?
- **Who** around us needs a friend or a helping hand?
- **What** would it look like for Lisbon UMC to be a highly visible expression of Christ's love in our community?

Don't worry, LUMC! We do not have to figure everything out this fall. In fact, we aren't supposed to. But we *can* begin by asking the questions. We can listen, pray, and pay attention to where God is already moving.

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

~Lamentations 3:22-23

Continued on page 3

FROM YOUR PASTOR, CONT.

As soon as the date, time, and location of our Church Conference is published, I will let you know so we can plan accordingly.

I am deeply grateful to be on this journey with you. I do not know exactly where the road will lead, but I am excited to discover it together.

Blessings for a wonderful September,

Pastor Jen



West Cumberland United Methodist Church
Is looking for bakers to bake & donate
pies and cakes/cupcakes
for the Cumberland Fair Booth!
(Dates September 27- October 3)

List of Pies Need:

- Cherry
- Blueberry
- Strawberry Rhubarb
- Lime
- Lemon
- Apple
- Peach
- Sweet Potato
- Pumpkin
- Squash

**List of Cakes/
Cupcakes Need:**

- Cheesecakes
- Vanilla
- Chocolate
- Carrot
- Apple
- Pumpkin
- Coffee
- Upside Down
- Pineapple
- Red Velvet

Questions or More Info:
DM or Comment
Kassandra Reynolds
or
Text/ Call
Marsha Hawkes
207-572-2814

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
Lisbon United Methodist Church

14 School St.
Lisbon Falls, ME 04252

Thursday, September 10, 2026
12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Lisbon UMC to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®

**Give blood July 13 to 31 for a Fandango Movie Reward
by email to see a movie on us! rcblood.org/July**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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HOLIDAY FAIR AND SILENT AUCTION

And just like that – summer is just about over!!! Time to start thinking about stacking firewood, flannel shirts, raking leaves and cleaning up the gardens and most important, our annual Holiday Fair and Silent auction. This year's fair and silent auction will take place on Nov. 13th and 14th. This is always our biggest fundraiser of the year, but it takes all of us to make that happen.

Our crafting group took the summer off, but will start up again on Sept. 17th at 10 am. Everyone is welcomed to join us. You don't need to be "crafty"; there's always something that we can find for you to do. If you can't join us but would still like to help donations of craft materials are always welcomed. I'd be happy to provide a list of needed craft material for anyone that's interested.

Our Recycled Christmas room has always done well. If you have any holiday items that you don't need anymore, we'd love to have them for this room.

The Silent Auction has proven to be a great addition to the fair. If you know of a business or individual that may like to donate an item, let me know or reach out to them yourself. I'll have a donation request letter available soon.

To make this event successful will take lots of planning; in the next couple of weeks we'll be having our first planning meeting. Watch for the date!

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Trudy Duval, Event chairperson

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Hello Folks,

As another summer month comes to an end, I wanted to share a few updates.

This month, Nurture joined the Evening Circle for a combined meeting. Our discussion centered on the possibility of hosting more combined meetings and exploring interest in worship support.

Additionally, we had a generous collection of school backpacks provided by Martha Palmer, along with school supplies from the congregation to support our local schools.

Looking ahead, on September 20 after worship, there will be a history sharing session about our church, followed by a potluck luncheon.

Best regards,

Peggy Shaw

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



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

1-	Barbara Grinder	24-	Sylvia Doughy
7-	Verne Smith	25-	Melissa Conwell
10-	Marie Duley	28-	Denise Knight
23-	Eric Gillett		Peggy Shaw

FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Hello. For my daily devotion I have been using a book called “ Speak, My Soul; Listening to the Divine with Holy Purpose” by Marsha Crockett.

The book covers seven paths from the soul to God: Discernment, Discipline, Abiding, Wilderness, Identity, Community, and Contemplation.

While working through this book, I was happy to find the use of one of my favorite Psalms, #63. I first fell in love with the first three verses when I sang them in a piece with the chorale that I sing with. The music uses breath sounds to imitate the dry land. The notes almost create a wailing sound, especially during the words that say I seek you, my soul thirsts for you.

As you read this, I invite you to put your own breaths and crying out as you long for God, behold God, and finally praise God.

O God, you are my God; I seek you;

My soul thirsts for you;

My flesh faints for you,

As in a dry land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,

Beholding your power and your glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life,

My lips will praise you.

Psalm 63:1-3

Peace be with you,

Sue White

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Newsletter Finance Info - as of 08-24-2026

2026 Annual Budget Amount for Operating		\$ 148,470.81
July		
Income		
Budgeted	\$	10,147.37
Actual	\$	6,457.40
Expenses		
Budgeted	\$	9,213.45
Actual	\$	5,550.79
August		
Income		
Budgeted	\$	6,440.23
Actual	\$	7,538.80
Expenses		
Budgeted	\$	10,140.20
Actual	\$	3,591.18



**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).

CHURCH POTLUCK

Join Us for a Church History Potluck on Sunday, September 20th

As we continue to navigate this season of pastoral transition, leadership may change, but the core of who we are and our faith together remains constant and true. To honor our shared past and look ahead to our next chapter together, you are warmly invited to a Church History Potluck on **Sunday, September 20th**, immediately following our worship service.

This gathering will be a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship over a shared meal while reflecting on our history.

Please bring a favorite potluck dish to share, along with any old photographs, stories, or mementos of how Lisbon UMC has touched your life over the years.

During lunch, we plan to construct a historical timeline of our church family.

We encourage everyone to bring or write down significant dates, events, and people that have shaped us—including milestones within our church doors as well as major events in the wider community.

Together, we will reflect on a few guiding questions:

- **Where have we seen God at work** in the life of this church?
- **What have been and are our strengths** as a congregation?
- **What have been and are our challenges** over the years?
- **What is our trajectory into the future**, and what is God's dream for this church?

Please join us for good food, warm fellowship, and a chance to celebrate our legacy as we prepare to follow Christ into this next season together. Final details are coming soon; however, begin collecting your memories and stories to share now!

LUMC Mission Statement:

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

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6-Worship online and in person, 9:30 w/ Holy Com- munion	7	8	9-Finance Meeting, 5:00 p.m.	10-Blood Drive, 12-4:30 p.m.	11	12
13-Worship online and in person, 9:30	14	15	16	17-Crafting Group, 10:00 a.m.	18	19
20-Worship online and in person, 9:30 Nurture Meet- ing, following worship	21	22	23	24	25	26
27-Worship online and in person, 9:30	28	29	30			

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:

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