



July & August 2024 Circuit Rider

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

588 Exeter Road ~ P.O. Box 125
Lebanon, CT 06249
www.lebanonfirstcong.org

“We seek to demonstrate God’s Spirit through worship, witness, and ministry to the needs of the people in the church and the community.”

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Church Office Hours

Tuesday ~ 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Wednesday-Friday ~ 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Message from OUR CHURCH Moderator

This message has mixed emotions involved.

First of all, we have to say goodbye to Rev. Terry (Denise) as she moves on to a new career path. She will be missed. Denise did a lot to get us to this point in our church by being our interim minister. Denise has always, and always will, have the church's wellbeing at heart. She has prepared us for the transition from our past minister to the next. We wish her well with whatever direction God leads her.

On an exciting note, the church has voted to accept Pastor Amie McCarthy as our Fulltime Designated-Term Pastor. I believe Pastor Amie will be the right fit for Our Church. She is young, enthusiastic, and has many ideas to move us forward. As you may know, we had anticipated that Pastor Amie would not be able to join us until September 21st because of her commitment with her present church, but as it turns out she will be able to start on September 3rd. This is good because she will be with us to start our new church year. Welcome Pastor Amie.

It was great to see the turnout on June 23rd for both Pastor Amie's service, and for the Special Church Meeting that followed. And of course, the outcome of the vote.

The Church Council has set aside September 15th as Rally Sunday to kick off the new church year. We are anticipating that this Rally Sunday will be in a different format than in years past. It will be much more exciting with outside activities (weather permitting). I hope we can fill the church for this kickoff to the new year.

See you in church.

Art Wallace – Moderator
"Be Active, Join In!"



There will be an Open Mic on Sunday, July 14, 2024, from 4:00 - 7:00, at the First Congregational Church of Lebanon.

You can sign-up ahead of time by replying to Art Wallace at ajwopenmic@gmail.com, or sign-up at the door. There will be refreshments available.

Come and perform or just listen, but come and enjoy.

Art Wallace

Lebanon Fair July 26-28

We need hamburger flippers,
set-up crew, runners,
and clean-up crew!

If you would like to join in the fun,
call Tom Boisvert at 860-642-4404.



Holiday Fair Crafters
July 6th ~ 9:00 a.m.
August 3rd ~ 9:00 a.m.

Join us as we create more items for our Holiday Fair! If you have some ideas you would like to share with the group, please bring them.

July Birthdays



4th ~ Anna Dias
8th ~ Audra Holmes
11th ~ Julie Garceau
22nd ~ Tracy Kelley
29th ~ Vanessa Coutu

August Birthdays



5th ~ Elena Kuronya
5th ~ Sophia Kuronya
5th ~ Lynn Manning
6th ~ Ted Colwell
12th ~ Lyn Johnson
23rd ~ Mary Meli
26th ~ Nancy Magnuson
28th ~ Evelyn Grabber
28th ~ Phil Johnson

We've received a request from Ellen Clifford (Pastor Sharon Ledbetter's daughter). Ellen is participating in the Pan-Mass Challenge on August 3-4. The Pan-Mass Challenge is a bike ride of approximately 160 miles with the express focus of raising money for cancer research. Ellen and her husband have committed to raising \$12,000 for Dana-Farber Cancer Research. Cancer has touched many of us, as it did Pastor Sharon and her family. You can donate to the Pan-Mass Challenge online by going to pmc.org and entering Ellen Clifford's name, or you may send a check to: Ellen Clifford, 93 Leland Farm Rd., Ashland, MA 01721.

Hopefully we can help Ellen reach her goal.

If you have any questions,
please see a member of Outreach.



Thank you to all who participated in the Strawberry Festival to make it such a success. We will realize a profit of about \$4,000.

Room to Move donated their talents. Jim & Geri McCaw donated the tent and chairs for outside, as well as the whipped cream. The flowers were paid for by Linda Heatherly. Thank you to them for their generosity.

Thank you to all who ate, hulled, served, set up or took down tables, cleaned the dishes and the kitchen, sold tickets or filled takeout orders.

This would not happen without everyone working together. I am very thankful for all of you.

Dawn Drum
Organizer of Strawberry Festival



Created To Care VBS 2024

What Is It?
Open to **all children of all faiths!** Through crafts, stories, games, and more, we will explore how the Earth was created to care for us and how we were created to care for our Earth!

When and Where
 July 22-26, 9am - 12:30pm
 First Congregational Church
 Lebanon, Ct

Free for all youth!

Special Celebration, July 28 10am

Register by July 19
lebanonfirstcong.org



Please Join Us For An Afternoon Concert With Pastor Gem Gabriel

July 13th 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Redeemer Lutheran Church
 321 Village Hill Road
 Lebanon, CT

A free-will offering will be taken to help put a new roof on the Our Redeemer parsonage in New London. A wonderful time will be had by all!

FOR SOME, THE SIGHT OF A CARDINAL HOLDS A SPECIAL MEANING THAT IS BOTH EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL. THIS VIBRANT RED BIRD IS A HAPPY SIGN THAT THOSE WE HAVE LOST WILL LIVE FOREVER AS LONG AS WE KEEP THEIR MEMORY ALIVE IN OUR HEARTS. HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE EXPRESSION THAT WHEN "CARDINALS APPEAR ANGELS ARE NEAR"?

ROUND ROBIN WILL BE MAKING 4 CARDINAL WALLHANGINGS. PLEASE SET ASIDE SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 13TH, 9AM TO PERHAPS NOON. WE WILL MEET DOWNSTAIRS AT CHURCH IN THE ROUND ROBIN ROOM. WE NEED PEOPLE TO CUT, IRON AND SEW. THE CLOTH HAS BEEN SELECTED AND I HAVE ORDERED QUILT WIRE HANGERS FOR EACH. THE SEWING MACHINES ARE SET UP AND READY. WE'LL HEAT UP THE IRON AND GET THOSE CUTTERS READY. WE'LL HAVE COFFEE AND COOKIES FOR YOU. OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S HOLIDAY FAIR THE BIGGEST AND BEST YET. IF WE ARE FORTUNATE, WE JUST MIGHT CATCH A GLIMPSE OF A CARDINAL ON OUR WAY TO CHURCH.

FOR ROUND ROBIN ~
 DAWN DRUM & SANDY ROSE

