

## WEEKLY NEWS - September 17, 2025



***Please keep  
the following people  
in your prayers***

**Congregation & Community:** Sheila Babcock (Pet Pantry patron), David and Michelle Bickford, Terri Bickford, Candy Burgess, Carol Davis, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Linda Lambrides, Blanche Mays, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanellen Stearns, Nancy White

**Wider World:** United Church of Christ, General Synod; People recovering from disasters in Texas, No. Carolina, So. California, and elsewhere; Black Mountain Orphanage; Peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere.

### Street Ministry Update

Our ministry to the unhoused Portland community is going to continue, but it might look a little different. We are going to make an effort to get warm, dry and clean cold weather clothing to them. We are going to take these items to State Street UCC in town. They have a clothes closet open the first 3 Wednesdays every month. The unhoused and immigrants are free to "shop" for their needs. SOOOOO...how can you, if you wish, help us to support and continue this needful ministry? Cold weather clothing, warm socks, underwear, hats, gloves and personal care items are at the top of the list. Items can be left on the steps by Lyn's office and I'll take them from there.

We are going to help financially support the Grace Street Ministry program. They are very tuned in to the needs of this very delicate population and do so much as advocates for them.

Many of you have been such strong supporters of our mission and we hope you are able and willing to continue this support.

Thank you so much for any and all!

P.S. Don't forget how much they like the Reese's Peanut butter cups!

-Jeanne

### From the Office

Monday - Thursday

8:00-12:00 pm

**Rentals / Usage**

**Fellowship Hall**

Saturday, September 27

Celebration of Life - 1-3pm

Saturday, October 11

Baby Shower - 11am-3pm

## From the Desk of Pastor Paul



### A Maze or a Labyrinth?

For the fourth year in a row, the Treworgy family farm in Maine has the best corn maze in the country. Corn mazes have proliferated in recent years. They are fun and attract many visitors, helping to sustain family farms.

In October the Maine Conference Annual Meeting will be held at Pilgrim Lodge. A few years ago PL added a Labyrinth on its grounds.

Mazes & Labyrinths are often used interchangeably, but they are actually two different things. A Maze has multiple pathways; part of the challenge of a Maze is to navigate the various options to find the exit. A Labyrinth has a single pathway leading to the center. Its serpentine course is designed to slow one down, providing time for reflection, prayer, and meditation, both on the way to the center and the way back out.

At times life seems like a Maze. Navigating the various options is challenging, often frustrating. We easily become anxious, and may lose our way.

The Labyrinth provides a model for staying on track through taking time for reflection, prayer, and meditation. The path is not straight and easy, sometimes moving toward the center and other times leading away. But ultimately we encounter God at the center.

Yet, we cannot remain in the center. Christ sends us back out into the world, and again the path is not straight or simple.

On September 28, we observe Faith Formation Sunday, celebrating our program of Christian education for children and youth, and exploring the opportunities of spiritual growth for adults. Following the path of Discipleship is for all ages!

Lord, grant us discernment as we navigate Life's Maze, and patience as we walk the Labyrinth of faith/trust in you. Amen.

Grace & peace,

Pastor Paul  
Rev. Dr. Paul A. Day  
revpaulday@gmail.com  
207 712-9896

## Bean Supper?

Our friends from the New Gloucester church have asked us if we would like to jointly sponsor a public baked bean supper this fall for the benefit of both of our churches. The Church Council has discussed this idea and will support it if we can get some dedicated volunteers to work on a committee with the New Gloucester Church.

Please reach out to any member of the Church Council if you would like to volunteer. We would like to begin joint planning for this event during September.

Thank you,  
Jeff Shorey

## The Fair Is Here!

Stop in and see us at the Men's Club booth at the Cumberland Fair next week, September 21-27. We will have breakfast sandwiches, burgers, hot dogs, hot cider, homemade goodies and much more! We will be open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. every day. All proceeds from this booth benefit the Men's Club, which provides assistance to church programs and members of the broader community. We hope to see you there!

## September Meetings

### October Meetings

**Diaconate - Sunday, October 5th following worship**

**Missions - October 13 at 7pm via Zoom**  
**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82389724356?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82389724356?pwd=bHEzZy9HR2FCZ3EzY2Z3RTV3ZmNYQT09)**  
**[pwd=bHEzZy9HR2FCZ3EzY2Z3RTV3ZmNYQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82389724356?pwd=bHEzZy9HR2FCZ3EzY2Z3RTV3ZmNYQT09)**

**Trustees - Tuesday, October 14 at 6pm**

**Council - Thursday, October 16 at 6:30 pm**

**Choir - Rehearsal on Wednesdays at 6:30pm and on Sundays from 8:30-9:00 am in the sanctuary.**

**Pet Pantry is open on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00-10:00 a.m.**

**Men's Club meets on the third Saturday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at Toddy Brook.**

**Tuesday Gals meet at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.**

## Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair this year is set for November 22 and Women's Fellowship is looking for donations for the Silent Auction table. If you have items, gift certificates, etc. that you would like to donate, please see Gail Strattard or Kathy Whittier.

## Official Call to the Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference, United Church of Christ

The 94th Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ (successor to the Congregational Christian Conference of Maine); it being the 114th Anniversary of the Congregational Conference and Missionary Society of Maine; the 200th Anniversary of the State Conference, the 215th Anniversary of the Maine Missionary Society, the 193rd Anniversary of the Maine Congregational Ministerial Relief Society, and the 55th Anniversary of the Maine Conference as a Conference of the United Church of Christ), will: Convene in person at Pilgrim Lodge and via Zoom at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, October 18, 2025.

Connection details to be provided pending registration.

Items to be voted on at this year's meeting will be:

Proposed 2026 Conference Budget

Slate of Officers Elect and Committee Appointments

2026 Clergy Compensation Guidelines

Proposed changes to the Bylaws

Susan E. Burgess, Conference Clerk




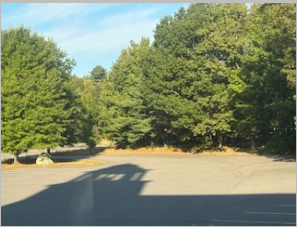
Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ

### **New Carpeting**

The church was the beneficiary of a very generous gift this summer. Mark Heath, Cathy Bunton and Dixie Hayes pooled together and donated new carpeting for the staircase going to the basement, church office and the upper room(financial office and meeting space). The carpet was installed several weeks ago and looks very nice. Unused furniture and part of an old organ were removed by the Trustees to make the installation easier. The changes have made this space much cleaner and brighter. Our thanks go out to the Trustees for helping with this project and Cathy Bunton who supervised the installation. Please thank these people for this generous gift when you see them.

~Jeff Shorey

# ~ September 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Office Hours</b> <b>10am-12pm</b> <b>9/2-9/18</b>	<b>1</b> Labor Day Office Closed	<b>2</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	<b>3</b> 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Items coming into FH for 9/6 Rental	<b>6</b> 7p Bridal Shower rental in Fellowship Hall
<b>7</b> 9:30a Worship  11a Diaconate Meeting	<b>8</b>  7p Missions Meeting via Zoom	<b>9</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group 6p Trustees	<b>10</b> 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	<b>11</b> Patriot Day 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9a Pet Place Pantry 
<b>14</b> 9:30a Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	<b>17</b> 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	<b>18</b> 6:30p Council	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)
<b>21</b> Home Coming Choir – 8:30-9a 9:30a Worship Worship returns to the Sanctuary	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	<b>24</b> 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Choir 8:30-9a 9:30a Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group				



# ~ October 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor Paul will be on vacation from Oct. 2-15			1  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	2	3	4 9a Church Garden Cleanup
5 8:30a Choir  9:30a Worship  Guest Pastor Rev. Deborah Loomis Lafond  11a Diaconate Meeting	6	7 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group	8  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	9	10	11 9a Pet Place Pantry  11a Rohman Baby Shower (Fellowship Hall)
12 8:30a Choir  9:30a Worship  Guest Pastor Rev. John Fiscus	13 Indigenous People's Day  Church Closed 7p Missions via Zoom	14 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group 6p Trustees	15  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	16   6:30p Council	17	18 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)
19 8:30a Choir  9:30a Worship	20	21 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group	22  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	23	24	25
26 8:30a Choir  9:30a Worship	27	28 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group	29  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	30	31 Halloween 	