

The Church Chat Room

Newsletter of the Westmoreland United Church

Books Books Books

Puzzles and CD's

Looking for a new, used book, puzzle or CD for the long winter night?

There are a variety of books, puzzles and CD's on a table in the Brick Church on the Common

Westmoreland United Church

New items will be added regularly

The church is always open

Please wear a mask

Virtual Yard Sale

Check out our new items on our Facebook page at

“Virtual Yard Sale Westmoreland United Church”

Items are pick up only

Cash or check to “Westmoreland United Church”

Please wear a mask

The Church is the People

Moderator, Carol Austin

The 2021 Westmoreland United Church Annual Meeting is scheduled for **January 24, 2021**, following morning worship. At approximately 10:45 AM, on Zoom, the meeting includes elections and a proposed budget.

You are encouraged to attend from the comfort of your home with no need to travel through snow, ice, wind, or rain while enjoying a warm drink and snack! The meeting will not need to be cancelled unless the internet fails.

There are three ways or choices to access the meeting: via your free Zoom account using the emailed web address, via a telephone website address, or by a telephone call to another member. Votes will be taken as you raise your hand on your computer screen picture, or by speaking on your telephone – easy and quick! Every member should have a way to access the meeting.

Your leadership team of Governing Board and Ministry Groups have worked hard during this 2020 pandemic year to meet the needs of our church by meeting together on Zoom meetings to assure continuing programs, to assure the maintenance of church buildings and budget, and to preserve the safety of all.

Your questions, your ideas, your support, and your presence is requested. The church is all of its people and the decisions made at this meeting affect all of its members, friends, and community. Please try to be in attendance. Please call me at 399-4975 if you have any questions.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT EMAIL LIST

If you would like to be on the church email list to receive important church announcements, please email tinafletch55@gmail.com and I will add you to the list.

THANK YOU! *Tina Fletcher*

CHURCH WEBSITE...and NOW FACEBOOK

We are now on Facebook. Just click on the Facebook symbol at the bottom of the Church's home page to go to the Facebook page.

Our church website is www.westmorelandunitedchurch.org

If you no longer wish to receive The Church Chat Room, to unsubscribe email jrancourt3@myfairpoint.net or call 399-4828.

A Huge Thank You To All

By Karen LeDuc Inreach Ministry

A Thank you to everyone who donated items for Maplewood. The Activity Staff was delighted with our 6 bags of goodies.

Our Holiday cheer for Westmoreland families was very much appreciated by the school team who bought and wrapped gifts for 5 families. Thank you for your generosity.

The following is a thank you we received from the school:

"To the Westmoreland United Church and Westmoreland Community,

As often stated, 'true kindness lies within the act of giving'. This year, especially with the additional struggles of the pandemic, our families have been impacted in so many ways. With your generous contributions and donations to our school community, your church and town community provided gifts bringing joy to five families to include ten children. The gifts were delivered wrapped just in time for the holidays to enjoy, alleviating additional burdens to families during a demanding time. Thank-you for your kindness in giving to others who are so grateful for your provisions.

Sincerely,

Mark and the Westmoreland School"

Missions Ministry

by Judy Rancourt

The December special collection was for the Westmoreland United Church Fundraising Fund. We collected gifts for Maplewood and monetary gifts for the school children. We delivered food to Joan's Pantry and gifts and food to the family in East Westmoreland.

We have a table set up in the Church with books, puzzles and CD's that people can take and leave a donation.

There is a box in the Church labeled Joan's Pantry. Each month I take what food has been donated to Joan's Pantry in Chesterfield and also pick up food for a family in East Westmoreland.

For the next couple months we are **collecting items for Hundred Nights**, there will be a box in the Church to put items in. Their **Wish List...**

Hand Sanitizer, Disinfecting Wipes, spray bottles, Paper towel or handi-wipes

Ground Coffee, Powdered Creamer, Sugar, Hot Chocolate

Drink Mixes (lemonade, ice tea, tang)

Deodorant (men's and women's) razors (multiple blades) shaving cream

Shampoo & Condition (full size)

Snacks (Peanut butter Crackers, Fresh fruit, cheese-sticks, single serving packets of nuts and dried fruit)

Lunch Foods – canned soups and stews – vegetarian appreciated also

Backpacks, chap stick, medicated foot powder

Laundry soap, spray air freshener

Toothbrushes and tooth paste

Congratulations Carol

We want to share and congratulate one of Westmoreland's own, Carol Austin who recently was honored with the "Outstanding National Service Award" from Volunteernh.org for her work with Neighbors In Deed and America Reads. The awards ceremony was virtual. (Many of you with Kindergartners may know that she comes in and reads with your children.)

Below is the video from the ceremony. Her segment is at 29:20. The second video is just a portion of the interview. Ceremony <https://livestream.com/mfi/2020spiritofnh/videos/214655279>
Interview clip <https://volunteernh.org/award-recipients-2020-spirit>

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Newsletter of Westmoreland United Church

Reaching out to members and friends of

Westmoreland United Church

9 South Village Common

Westmoreland, NH 03467

603 399-4880

published 12 times +/-/year

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The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.
Website: WestmorelandUnitedChurch.org

Scripture readings of the Revised Common Lectionary for the Season of Epiphany, Year B, which you may also find at <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> where the text is included.

January 24, 2021, 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Psalms 62: 5-12

I Corinthians 7: 29-31

Mark 1: 14-20

January 31, 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Psalms 111

I Corinthians 8: 1-13

Mark 1: 21-28

February 7, 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Psalms 147: 1-11, 20c

I Corinthians 9: 16-23

Mark 1: 29-39

February 14, 2021

Transfiguration Sunday

II Kings 2: 1-12

Psalms 50: 1-6

II Corinthians 4: 3-6

Mark 9: 2-9

Pastoral Ponderings, January 16, 2021

Dear beloved community of Westmoreland United Church,

“Search me, O God, and know my heart;

Try me and know my anxious thoughts;

And see if there be any hurtful way in me,

And lead me in the everlasting way.” Psalm 139:23-24(NASB)

We are early in our journey of following Christ in this calendar year 2021. The pandemic and its effects on so many lives and daily life continues. Deeply seated divisions and fear in our nation are manifested by some through threats of and enacted violence.

We may find, as did the psalmist, that our thoughts are anxious as our hearts ache for healing of and an end to the wrongs, injustices, hungers, and hurts we witness in the world. We desire peace – God’s shalom - for our loved ones, our neighbors, ourselves, and sometimes even those we dislike/hate.

As God leads us in God’s everlasting way of mercy and justice each day, our hurtful ways are illuminated and we are reminded to entrust our anxious thoughts to God. We experienced the good news individually and collectively, as God’s body of Christ, as a “clean heart” is created. And then we find our aching hearts resonating with God’s aching heart that holds us and offers to us and to all love, mercy, and compassion greater than we can ask or imagine. We find ourselves connected in being the tender hearts, the listening ears, the hands that feed the hungry, the mouths that speak truth, as we live and move and have our being in this world as Christ’s body in our place and time. What a journey! Praise be to God!

Shalom,

Pastor Lynn

Westmoreland United Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 11 AM on Zoom with the option for telephone attendance and vote
(You do not need a computer to attend)

Agenda

1. Acceptance of Reports printed in the WUC Annual Report for 2020
2. Elections: 2021 Governing Board 2021 Nominating Committee 2021 Church Representatives 2021 Pastoral Relations Committee
3. Acceptance of the Proposed WUC 2021 Budget
4. Other Business Prior to the meeting,

Annual Reports will be emailed with an option for a printed copy.

The zoom link will be emailed before the meeting to our Church Announcement group.

If you know someone who would like this but does not receive the regular Sunday zoom invites, please let me know so I can make sure they get the zoom link for the annual meeting.

If you know someone without email, I will make other arrangements to get the phone # to them

Tina Fletcher, Church Clerk

603-313-9395

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