

# The Cornerstone-March 2020

Publisher: 2CCWM

Volume: No 3

Issue: No 3

A monthly publication compiled by the Second Congregational Church of Warren, Maine.

PO Box 206, 252 Main St., Warren, Maine 04864 ph. (207) 273-2338 E-mail churchoffice@secondcongregational.org

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## The 40 Days of Lent

The word Lent comes from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning spring season. Soon the March winds will blow away winter and the April showers will usher in spring and we will celebrate Easter. Lent is the 40 days, not including Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 26, and ending on Thursday, April 9. Easter day is Sunday, April 12 (this year). How did we arrive at that? In 2020 the full moon is on April 8, Easter is the first Sunday after the paschal (Passover) full moon. However it's not quite that simple, mathematical calculations come into play as well. The earliest Easter can be is March 22, and the latest is April 25, if that helps.

Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent we are replicating the 40 days Jesus fasts in the desert. When he emerges from the wilderness his ministry begins, a ministry which still impacts us today. His greatest commandment to us is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength", and the second is, "Love

your neighbor as yourself". (Mark 12:29-31)

Jesus' mission on earth was to empower us to live more productive and purposeful lives, according to God's plan for us. Our daily task of making a living and creating a home may not seem very exciting, but in doing so we contribute to the life of our whole society. Our lives have meaning even when our experiences and feelings seem to deny its worth. Perhaps during Lent we can sense God's presence more fully and find purpose for ourselves and those around us.

Throughout this season of Lent can we look beyond ourselves and find ways to make other lives better? Part of who we are as individuals is who we are as members of the human family. Offering compassion, fighting injustice, and enabling others to live intentional lives, fulfills not only our lives, but is what we are called to do. Jesus came to serve and we are asked to do the same by providing dignity, love and purpose to those around us.

So take this season of Lent and find new life and purpose. After the resurrection, Jesus stood before his disciples and said, "Peace be with you!" (John 20:26) Today Jesus stands before each one of us guiding us through life's joys and sorrows, offering the very same sentiment, "Peace is with you!"

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
2/02	\$1,399.21	60
2/09	\$ 952.25	38
2/16	\$ 972.00	45
2/23	\$1,303.00	51



## BIRTHDAYS

3/6	Patty Ames
3/7	Joan Day
3/8	Olivia Vanner
3/10	Betty Baker
3/15	Sterling Robinson
3/17	Craig Lear
3/19	Emily Knutson
3/22	Lydia Shook
3/29	Amber Hagin
3/31	Bob Jordan

## ANNIVERSARIES



3/1 Joe & Marcia Cifaldo (BIG 50!)

## A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE



Please remember to inform the office if you change any of your personal information. As far as our prayer list, please inform Susan if you want to add a name or a request a person to be taken off of the bulletin. When different committees use the office, please put the office back the way you found it. Also the door going out of the Fellowship Hall isn't being pulled shut all the way leaving the lock unlocked.

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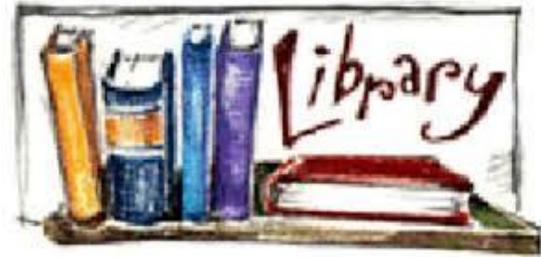
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Thank you to everybody who donated their bottles. The box has been collected \$100 for the Warren historic society, Thanks again. For the months of February, March, and April the money from the box will go towards Sadie Cohen's library project in Africa. If you have a large amount of bottles that need to be picked up please call us at 236-4585. Thanks again for your bottles and cans. Ken and Linda Lent

I just want to remind folks that the card in the back of the book is for you to fill out your name and the date you checked it out on. Also if you would like to donate some DVDs like veggie tales or something of that nature the library would be grateful.

-James the Wild Rover in the Library.

## FOOD PANTRY



Don't forget to join us for fellowship and interesting conversation in the upstairs dining room on Tuesdays at 9 a.m.. If anyone would like to bring some treats to go along with coffee, we'd love it.

**Come and enjoy!**

Hello and thanks to everybody who donated food for the month of February. The following is a list for March:

- 3/01 Spaghetti Sauce
- 3/08 Pancake Syrup
- 3/16 Baked Beans (no vegetarian)
- 3/23 Macaroni (plain, no wheat)
- 3/30 Saltine Crackers

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## BACKPACK PROGRAM



There is a snack box in the fellowship room on the table 'twixt the bathrooms. This box is for the M.V.H.S student backpack program. Sadly in Knox County, there is a high amount of food insecurity, so these backpacks assist to fill the nutritional need of the students and their families. Below is a list of food items that are requested for the backpacks.

Canned ravioli  
Granola bars  
Fruit snacks  
Nutri-grain snack bars  
Microwave popcorn  
Snack crackers peanut butter and cheese  
Mac 'n cheese  
Apple sauce cups  
Pudding cups  
Jell-O  
Boxes of pasta

FMI contact Niva Poland

## ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER AND AUCTION



The annual Soup supper and Auction is March 15, 2020. New and gently used items are requested for the auction and in the church Library there is an empty banana box to place your donations in. For more information contact Carolyn Robinson or Patty Overlock.

## SOME FUN HISTORY ABOUT THE LADIES SOCIAL CIRCLE



The Ladies Social Circle was first known as the "Ladies Sewing Circle" and was formed in 1880. The name was changed in 1887 and the written secretary's reports date from October 1888 to the present time. The "Mission Circle" was a separate organization at that time and in September 1959, the mission Circle and the Ladies Circle merged into one group.

In the early days the ladies purchased a communion tablecloth for \$1.65. A supper profit was \$6.11 and an oyster

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supper netted \$12.25. Officers were: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. They had "four directors" whose duty was to look out for the work of the circle.

The early meetings were held every two months on a Thursday afternoon and members enjoyed a picnic supper after the meetings. Any lady who paid 25 cents could become a member. In 1919, it was voted to meet the second Thursday of each month. At the early meetings each lady paid 5 cents to the treasurer. Also at the early meetings, a committee of two was appointed to make arrangements for the next meeting.

In February 1887, it was voted that gentlemen could become members by paying a 25 cent fee. (Don't know how that played out). At an 1887 meeting, the president announced that she would like the meeting to be carried out in an orderly manner and she would like to be addressed as "Mrs. President" when offering any remarks.

Membership in 1903 was 39 and grew to 54 in 1931 and 64 in 1949 with 6 honorary members. Membership decreased in 1978/1982 to 29 members and about 15 in 2004, which is about what we have at the present.

Committees were appointed each month to clean the church.

-Carole Starr, Ladies Social Circle  
President



On "Souper Bowl" weekend our church did great! We Collected **131** cans of soup and left the Baptist Church behind in a cloud of dust! Great Job all!



On Saturday, **March 7th, from 8:30-noon**, you are invited to come out and work on a Habitat home located on Philbrick Ave. in Rockland. Philbrick Commons will be a 12 small house affordable pocket neighborhood, targeting a diverse demographic of veterans, elderly, middle-aged singles/couples and small families. I assure you this day will be a meaningful experience and includes fun, food and a 2020 Women's Build t-shirt. Please let Irene know if you are planning on participating and even though it's a Women's Build, men are also welcome.

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Dear members and friends of the Second Congregational Church of Warren,

I can't thank you enough for the support and fundraising efforts for the Go! Malawi Library Project. To everyone who donated or helped spread the word. I would like you to know how much of an impact it has, and will have, on the children of Mpamila Village. I'm incredibly thankful for all that you have done for them, for me, and for this project. -Sincerely, Sadie Cohen



THE GREAT CROSSING – 1620 TO  
2020  
NACCC ANNUAL MEETING AND  
CONFERENCE

Saturday, 6/27 thru Tuesday, 6/30/2020

This is just *highlighted* information. Please go to: [NACCC.com](http://NACCC.com) for *all* of the important information.

**Place:**

Holiday Inn by the Bay, Spring Street, Portland, Me.

**Rooms:**

\$179-\$199 per night (share a room)

**Parking:**

\$10 a day (inside)

\$5 a day (outside) those coming for the day.

**Registration:**

\$120 per day (by May 1<sup>st</sup>)

\$130 per day (after May 1<sup>st</sup>)

\$150 per day (after June 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Includes:**

All day meetings, workshops, etc. and lunch every day.

**Not Included:**

3 special dinners and 2 trips which cost extra.

The bible lecture is by Rev. Gregory Mobley, Associate professor at Andover Newton Theological School. He will speak 3 times.

The Congregation lecturer is Rev. Dr. Mary E. Biedron, Sr. Minister at North Congregational Church in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She will speak once.

There are 16 workshops available to attend. There are usually 2 opportunities each day to attend. You can check the schedule on line.

I know this is a lot of information, but please consider attending. At his point, we have 6 members attending. Thank you for considering attending and reading the information on line.

Your year round delegate, Marcia Cifaldo

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## **IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ THIS AND GET BACK TO ME ASAP!!**

Each month, I get an informational email from NACCC. Included in the email are 3 questions for each church to answer and report to NACCC.

This month I took the questions to our council meeting and their suggestion was to put them in the newsletter and ask for members to report back to me. So, please get back to me ASAP. Thanks you so much for your help. It not only helps our church, it helps the NACCC help other churches.

1. What is the service that the NACCC should add to its portfolio of services that would have the greatest impact for our member churches?
2. Can you share a service that your church or a neighboring congregation received from the NACCC?
3. Beyond your congregation borders, what do you feel is the most vital service that the NACCC provides for its member churches?

Your year round delicate,  
Marcia Cifaldo  
273-2525  
[cifaldos@tds.net](mailto:cifaldos@tds.net)

One of the goals of Missions this year is to learn more about our NACCC sponsored missions and to pass that information on to the congregation. We presently make donations to some of these ministries and sponsor 2 children to go to school, one to Pan-American Institute/Mexico and the other to NACC Congregational Churches/Philippines. Our main focus is local missions and that isn't going to change, but with the NACCC meeting in Portland in June and the opportunity to meet some of these folks we are making an effort to expand our giving.

We have chosen 2 missions of the NACCC to receive our Lent offering, a national, Morgan Scott Project/Tennessee, and an international, Happy Life Children's Home/Kenya.

Morgan Scott Project - Morgan and Scott are some of the most poverty stricken counties in Tennessee. Since 1972 the Morgan Scott Project for Cooperative Christian Concerns has formed a base from which the needs of low income families in Morgan and Scott counties in rural Tennessee can be addressed. Morgan Scott Project functions as both a social services agency and as a community development organization. For more info go to [morganscottproject.org](http://morganscottproject.org)

Happy Life Children's Home/Kenya is a three-fold ministry: providing the abandoned children with a home and a hope for adoption; providing the children with a quality Christian education and a

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trade to prepare them for future employment; and providing the children with quality medical care, Currently Happy Life Christian School has over 380 students in preschool through 8th grade. Since 2002 Happy Life has arranged 300 adoptions. For more info go to [happylifechildrenshome.com](http://happylifechildrenshome.com)

Please consider making a generous donation to these ministries. On March 1st you will find an insert and Mission envelope in your bulletin. You can make your donation any Sunday through Easter Sunday, April 12.

As always, thank you for supporting the work of your Mission board, Irene, Sharon, Pat, Marcia and Gayle



Left to right is Pat Weaver, Walter Kaler, Peggy Libby, Linda Lent, Hope Creighton and Wes Ames. The winners of a jar of candy donated by the Board of Ed.

## HAPPY 192<sup>ND</sup> BIRTHDAY!



This is our beautiful birthday cake donated by the Caring & Sharing Sisters. Thank you so much.



Patty and Susie Overlock hosting our birthday party.

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Thanks to everyone who brought gifts for the church birthday party. The following is a list of all the presents that were received.

- 1 Walmart gift card
- 1 Staples gift card
- 1 package of small envelopes
- 5 packages of toilet paper
- 2 packages of forks
- 3 packages of plates
- 3 packages of purple trash bags
- 1 package of spoons
- 1 package of big paper plates
- 4 packages cups
- 4 packages clear trash bags
- 2 packages of tall kitchen trash bags
- 4 containers of liquid hand soap
- 2 bottles of Murphy oil soap
- 1 package of industrial sized tin foil
- 2 packages of bowls
- 1 big box of coffee stirrers
- 5 packages of paper towels
- 5 containers of disinfectant wipes
- 1 bottle of toilet bowl cleaner
- 1 package of pencils
- 1 package of post it notes
- 7 packages of copy paper
- 4 packages of bulletin paper
- 1 package of scot brite scrubbies
- 1 bucket of cleaning supplies
- The contents of the bucket are
  - 1 bottle of Lysol cleaner
  - 1 bottle Windex
  - 1 bottle Clorox bathroom cleaner
  - 1 package of Ajax dish soap

Mr. clean magic eraser

Also thanks to everyone who donated money to the church birthday.. -Sincerely  
Linda Lent

## NO EXCUSE SUNDAY



To make it possible for everyone to attend church next Sunday, we are going to have a special "No Excuse Sunday."

Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say "Sunday is my only day to sleep in."

There will be a special section with lounge chairs for those who feel that our pews are too hard.

We will have steel helmets for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church."

Relatives and friends will be in attendance for those who can't go to church and cook dinner too.

Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday.

The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church without them.