



# Western Mountains Baptist Church News

## Pastor Tom's Corner

Autumn is my favorite season in Maine. The mosquitos, black flies and horse flies are all gone. The weather is perfect – cool nights and warm days. The grass has stopped growing, for the most part. The golf courses are also in the best shape of the season.

But one of the things that seems to draw people to Maine in the Fall is the foliage. There are some years where the colors are simply breathtaking in their vividness. Betsy and I usually make the trek to the Fryeburg Fair, and this is a time when the leaves seem to be at peak color. It sure makes the long ride go quickly, as we enjoy the spectacular views.

For me, this display of color is yet another reminder of the awesomeness and creativity of our Creator God. Each of these leaves is so unique all on its own. And then we see them combined across a whole hillside, and the results are stunning. God did that!

It makes me think of our own uniqueness within the body of Christ. God made each one of us with certain talents, abilities, and Spiritual Gifts, so that, when put together, the results would be stunning; spectacular; powerful; life changing.

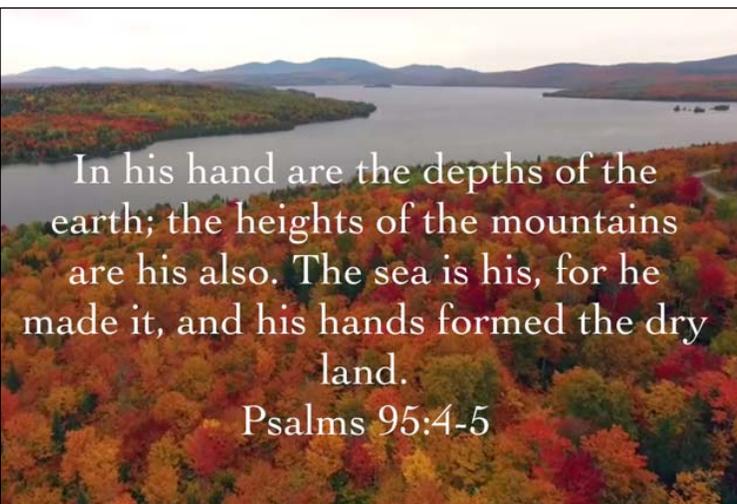
1 Corinthians 12, verses 4-7 put it this way.

- 4 *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.*
- 5 *And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.*
- 6 *There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.*
- 7 *But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*



God is not creative just to be creative. He has a Plan and a Purpose. This passage tells us that the purpose of creating men and women with these many gifts and talents is so that we would use them for the common good.

We do not all look alike. We do not all think alike. We do not all act alike, and that is part of God's Plan! But when you put us all together, what God intends is something that looks, thinks, and acts in ways that generate a common good for the body, and for all mankind. What are you doing to fulfill your role in this beautiful display?



## Trustees

What is the job of a trustee? What are they responsible for? I recently sat down with one of our trustees, Jeff Lecander, and asked these questions and a few more. Jeff explained that he's a rookie with less than a year experience. So, he answered my questions the best he could.

**Q.** What are your primary duties as a trustee? **A.** The financial duties of the trustee board involve making sure that the church can meet its annual financial goals. Trustees are consulted before the church enters into a financial contract. They are responsible for the building, maintenance and improvements.

**Q.** How many different ways are monies offered to this church? **A.** People can give donations through regular offerings, through a retirement account (Continued on page 3)

## Thank You For Being A Partner Church!

This month we would like to highlight the **New Hope Women's Shelter** in Solon Maine. On August 17<sup>th</sup>, Shelter Director, Rebecca Philpot, shared with our congregation, God's miraculous work through the shelter by helping women change their lives and the lives of their children. The shelter is open to women and their children who are homeless and need various types of support to get back into society. There is a case manager and a Christian life coach that help each woman work on immediate and future goals including housing, education, medical, financial and social. Throughout the week, groups are offered (and mandatory) to address job readiness, parenting, nutrition, substance abuse, healthy relationships, boundaries, domestic violence prevention and Bible classes. All operational expenses are funded entirely by donations from concerned individuals, churches and organizations. To be able to operate as a Christian based program no state or federal funds are used. The Mission statement for the **New Hope Women's Shelter** is this: ... "To serve the homeless and to reach out to women where they are, and in practical ways extend God's love and hope for the future through a personal relationship with Christ."

In addition to giving 1% of the weekly offerings to New Hope, our Women's Fellowship group supplies hats, mittens, personal care items, cards, etc. to the women at the shelter.

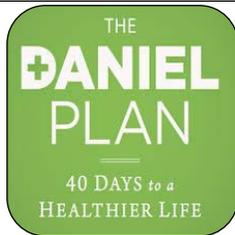


*"For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me." Matthew 25: 35-36*

To learn more about **New Hope** visit their website at [www.newhopeshelter.com](http://www.newhopeshelter.com). To find out how you can offer continued support as part of WMBC, see Pat Sanders, **Women's Ministry leader**.

Plans for Christmas donations are being formulated now.

This summer we took a break from Daniel Plan classes, but some of us got together for an outing in June and another in July. We shared a healthy potluck meal of healthy options and outdoor activities. Putting the five Daniel Plan essentials into practice we shared tasty and healthy food, enjoyed fellowship as we shared our stories and strengthened our focus as we talked about making intentional choices rather than letting schedules and time pressures lure us to fast food.



Although we had rather windy days, we were able to do a little walking, canoeing and kayaking as part of our fitness essential. As we encouraged each other, we felt strengthened in our faith and began to share how we see God working in our lives.

Now that summer is over, we plan to regroup and continue our Daniel plan DVD lessons starting in October. On September 30, we will run an introductory DVD after church in the prayer room for all those interested in starting the program. On Monday, October 7, we will begin a new series of sessions on the five essentials of faith, food, focus, fitness and fellowship at 6 pm in the prayer room. New people as well as all from Friday and Monday groups are welcome. We will all learn together and make healthy life style changes.

FMI: call Jean Sawtell @ 207-628-3331

*Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing. — 2 Thessalonians 1:3*

### Did You Know?

For many years, Dottie Stone oversaw WMBC's **Card Ministry**. Such a blessing she was, and always faithful to send those Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, and Thinking of You cards! In June, Dottie went home to be with her Savior. With big shoes to fill, an avid Red Sox fan - Tammy Dunphy - stepped up to see the **Cards Ministry** continue. If you know of folks who may



need some encouragement due to health issues, have experienced a recent loss, or have not joined us in church for a while; if you know of someone who would appreciate knowing we are thinking of them, please pass that information on to Tammy. You can connect with her at church (middle section, on the left - 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> row from the front). Currently, Tammy mails 15-20 cards each month. She is open to adding more to her list so be sure our "Red Sox Lady" has your address and birthday month. If you miss her at church, feel free to call her at home, 207-628-4692.

*So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. — 1 Thessalonians 5:11*



### “Children’s Time”



God helps us when we hurt on the inside.

If you were to fall and scrape your knee or cut your finger, all you would have to do is ask your mommy or daddy to put a bandage on your hurt place. Of course, adding a special kiss is always a great help. With a kiss and a bandage, before you know it your hurt place will feel much, much better.

As nice as bandages are for hurt places like a scrape on the knee or a cut on the finger, they are really not much help for some other kinds of hurt. For example, suppose someone says some really unkind words to you such as “I don’t like you” or “You are dumb” or “I think you are ugly.” That can really hurt, but it’s different from the hurt we feel when we cut or scratch ourselves. The hurt we feel comes from the sadness inside us. There are other times when we feel sad. Can you remember feeling sad when a friend you loved very much moved away, or your pet was hit by a car? That can really hurt by making us feel especially sad on the inside.



When we hurt on the inside, God can really help. Like a bandage that Mommy or Daddy gives you to feel better, God gives you his love to help you feel better. One of the best things about God is that no matter how much we hurt on the inside, his love can make us feel much, much better.



When you use a bandage to help a hurt you feel on the outside, remember how God helps you when you feel a hurt on the inside.

Remember when “Life is Sad – God is Good”  
— Georgie Woodford



Congratulations to three of our congregation for entering the Waters of Baptism! Robbie T., Meagan F., Krystal D.

*Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
—Matthew 28:19*

### Bridging the Gap was

established to provide a hot meal monthly, to the elderly and disabled in our community. When WMBC originally took over running the program, we delivered approximately 35 meals each month in Kingfield. The program has expanded to the surrounding communities of New Portland, Salem and Freeman, adding an additional 30 meals each month. We have 14 volunteers who assist in preparing and delivering the meals on the last Saturday of each month. We are looking for additional volunteers to make casseroles or fill in as a delivery driver. For more information, see Jeff Smith or Cathy Haines. Cathy can be reached @ 207-678-2442.



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distribution, and can also bequeath money to the church in their will. We receive donations in the mail, during our regular Sunday service and also online through PayPal on the church’s website: [www.westernmountainchurch.org](http://www.westernmountainchurch.org).

**Q.** How can the members and visitors at the church be assured that there are safeguards in place to insure that the money donated will be handled properly? **A.** One safeguard is that with the weekly offering, there are always two people in the office while the money is being counted, prior to being deposited. Another safeguard is that decisions are not made by one person alone, the trustees as a group make decisions.

Our trustees oversee the financial aspects of operating this church. They also act as liaisons between the members of the church and church leaders. Trustees are appointed and serve a three-year term. If you have any additional questions about what our trustees do, please don’t hesitate to ask one of them.  
— Interview by Pat Pray



Left to Right: Jim Cockerham, Jeff Lecander, Jeff Smith, Jean Boucher, John Chestnut

## How to Stay Connected During the Week

### **Small Group Bible Studies**

#### Sunday:

6pm—"A Beautiful Design" Bible Study

Childcare provided

#### Monday:

6pm—The Daniel Plan

6:30pm—Men's Bible Study

#### Tuesday:

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 5:30pm—Ladies Bible Study & Fellowship

#### Wednesday:

9am—Ladies Bible Study

#### Thursday:

6:30pm—Bible Study

6pm—7:30pm Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

(FMI: 207-446-8082)

#### Saturday:

6pm Intercessory Prayer Meeting

## What's Happening @ WMBC

### October

1st—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

5th—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

5th-Maine Baptist Association Annual Meeting

6th—Lord's Supper

6th—"A Beautiful Design" 9-wk Bible Study begins

15th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

19th—Family Fair @ Thorndike Farm, Tory Hill, Phillips

26th—Bridging the Gap

### November

2nd—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

3rd—Lord's Supper

5th—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

19th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

23rd—Bridging the Gap

24th—Thanksgiving Potluck after church

28th—Happy Thanksgiving!

### December

1st—Lord's Supper

3rd—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

7th—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

17th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

25th—Merry Christmas!

28th—Bridging the Gap

The heavens declare the glory of  
God; the skies proclaim the  
work of his hands.  
Psalms 19:1

Photo by Janet Scolerio



We are looking for contributions & ideas for future newsletters. If you have ideas to share, please contact the Newsletter production team of Crystal Fitch, Pat Pray or Luci Milewski or email: [newsletter@westernmountainchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@westernmountainchurch.org)

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