



# WESTERN MOUNTAINS BAPTIST CHURCH

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## REST



Rest. It is one of the most important things we can do to make sure we are operating at our best. The experts tell us to get eight hours of sleep every night. We see Jesus, in the Gospels, go off by Himself to rest, and to spend one-on-one time with His Heavenly Father.

When your car battery is in trouble, the best thing you can do for it is to recharge it.

Starting at the end of our Closing Program for Vacation Bible School, Betsy and I will begin our first Sabbatical. What does that mean? Well, there are many physical, emotional, and spiritual demands imposed upon a Pastor (and often upon his family as well). These demands can take their toll. A Sabbatical is intended to provide an extended period to Rest, Recreate, Relax, Rejuvenate, Revive, Renew, and Refocus.

Betsy and I will be away from the church and the work associated with the church from July 1, until I return to the pulpit on August 18.

I believe I am leaving you in very capable hands with our current Elders and their wives, namely Dean and Annette Stanley, along with Jean and Windy Boucher. Their contact information, as always, can be found on the back of the bulletin. If neither one of them is available, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Deacons, starting with the Deacon of the Month. For July, the Deacon of the Month is Chuck Gallup, along with his wife, Christine. For August, the Deacon of the Month is Jim Cockerham, alongside his wife Brenna.

The other two Deacons you may call are Bryan Fitch and his wife Crystal, and David Fletcher and his wife Nicole. These couples have all faithfully served God and this church collectively for decades, and all desire to help in any way they can. I know this is a "First" for our church. It should not be the last. Yes, this is a trial, but it is a trial that I believe will help strengthen us as a body of believers.

May this opportunity before us help us each see and understand our place, our role in the Body of Christ at Western Mountains Baptist Church.

## Ladies Brunch "Can We Trust God"

I returned from Florida just in time to attend the "Ladies Spring Brunch" at WMBC. Twenty five of us gathered for fellowship and to hear the answer to the question: "Can we trust God?"

When I mentioned that this was the topic of the brunch to my sister, she said: "Of course we can trust God "

After a time of Bible trivia led by Pat Sanders, the organizer of the event, Jean Sawtell shared with us her experiences concerning putting her trust in God. She stated that there was a time when she and her husband went about life giving no thought to trusting God with their daily life. God showed them, many times, how their lives could be better by putting their trust in Him. Jean and Carter have learned by experience that God can be trusted in ALL things. Rather than asking God to help when they are in trouble, they are learning to seek Him first.

Thank you Pat and Jean for giving of your time to share God's word with us.

—George Woodford



Jean Sawtell



Pat Sanders



Dot Lambert



**"The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart exalts, and with my song I shall thank Him." Psalm 28:7**

### Walk For Life

The "In His Footsteps" team from WMBC at the Resolve Life Center Walk for Life on May 18 in Waterville. The team raised \$500.

Thank you to all who prayed, participated or donated.



Left to Right: Cindy and Larry Dunphy, Chuck and Chris Gallup, Skylar Love, Janet Scolerio, Karin and Summer Love.

——Chris Gallup

### Scholarship Recipients



Congratulations to Trey Reed, a senior at Mount Abram Regional High School, for winning the WMBC 2024 Community Scholarship! Trey plans to attend Central Maine Community College to study Political Science.

We wish Trey all the best in his future endeavors.

The following seniors received a \$500.00 scholarship each: Emma Junkins, Kayliy Falco, Bella Dereszynski and Devyn DeLeonardis, Congratulations to our seniors!



Kayliy Falco

Enna Junkins

——Jim Cockerham

### Richie Schobel



In November 2019 Richie Schobel was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. He was told he had less than six months to live if he didn't have chemotherapy. If he did have chemotherapy, he might have a year. He knew that he had to get right with the Lord, so he started praying daily. He stopped by Jordan Lumber one day and spoke with Joe Davenport. He shared his diagnosis with Joe and also that he wanted to get right with the Lord. Joe invited him to come to church at WMBC, and Richie did. The first time he came to WMBC they offered to do a group prayer for Richie. They laid hands on him and prayed for his healing and recovery. He had never experienced anything like that. He was welcomed at WMBC with open arms. Richie has gone through 4 years of extensive chemotherapy and a little radiation as well. To say that it was tough is putting it mildly but here we are 4 1/2 years later.

Approximately 6 months ago Richie went in for a CT scan and blood work to see how the tumors on his pancreas and liver were responding to the treatments, and if any cancer could be detected in his blood. They found NOTHING! No tumors on his pancreas and no tumors on his liver. The blood work came back clear as well. No signs of cancer. It was a miracle! Pastor Tom was among one of the first people he contacted. Joy, Richie's wife, and his daughter Jesse and son Mark have also been there for Richie from the beginning and he is extremely grateful for all of them.

Richie completely understands that only God can perform a miracle like this. He gives God all the praise and glory. He is aware that the cancer can return, but he is grateful to God for the health he has right now. He said, "a positive attitude was important". He didn't want to just give up. He had to fight. It was a tough battle but he put his trust in God. He is very grateful for his WMBC family as well. His favorite Scripture is from **Psalm 23: 4** "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

——Pat Pray

### Baby Bottle Collection Campaign

We collected \$474.67 in our Spring baby bottle campaign. The funds are forwarded to the Resolve Life Center in Waterville. Thank you to all who donated.



## Vacation Bible School (VBS)

This year the WMBC Vacation Bible School program held the last week of June was titled SCUBA. Over 40 children from surrounding towns and visitors from as far away as Florida shared in this week-long adventure all about diving deep into a relationship with God and discovering He can be a friend. Each day children learned about God through music, hands-on activities, Bible stories, theme-related snacks and outdoor games. The children traveled in small groups with a crew leader to guide them to various activity stations where they learned more about the daily themes and working together in a small group. Bible stories about Elijah, Jonah, Jesus and His disciples, the apostle Paul, and Lydia of Macedonia were introduced. Each story illustrated the daily theme: God is a friend who is real, God is a friend who loves, God is a friend who can be trusted, God is a friend forever and God is a friend for everyone.

Throughout the week there were lots of opportunities to help children connect the daily lessons with real life. Jonah may have thought the peoples of Nineveh, known as the worst terrorists of their day, didn't deserve God's mercy, but God loves all people. His mercy extends to all who admit their faults and ask Him to forgive them and help them change. The children also learned that it was because Jesus, God's one and only begotten son, died on the cross that the whole world has a chance to be God's forever friend. When Jesus died for the sins of the world once and for all, He gave those who believe in Him a chance to be forgiven. When Jesus came back from the dead, kids learned that His death wasn't the end. It was the beginning of a friendship with God that will last forever into eternity. When the apostle Paul sailed to new lands beyond Judea, teaching about Jesus's life, death and resurrection, the children learned that it doesn't matter what country you live in, what language you speak or what color your skin is, no one should be left out of God's loving friendship.

The week-long adventure came to a climax on Sunday with a video-style slide show and a special presentation by the children. After the service, there was a potluck cookout for all the children and their families as well as the WMBC congregation. Each year we are so gratified to see how many volunteers join in the months-long preparation for this special opportunity for learning and fellowship. The week flew by with great enthusiasm and camaraderie, children formed new friendships and an awareness that God can be a forever friend. From the teen crew leaders to the young parents and retirees in all aspects of the program, we thank everyone who pitched in to make the program a success.

—Jean Sawtell



## Weekly Meetings @ WMBC

Sunday @ 9am—Sunday School—all ages

Sunday @ 10am—Church Service

Sundays @ 6:30pm—Youth Group

Mondays @ 9am—Strong Bones Exercise for Seniors  
@ 6:30pm—Men's Bible Study

Tuesday @ 9:00am—Ladies Sewing Class

Wednesdays @ 9:00am—Ladies Bible Study  
@ 3:00pm—Adult Bible Study (Freeman Twp)

@ 6:15pm—Discipleship Studies

Thursdays @ 9am—Strong Bones Exercise for Seniors

Saturday @ 6:00pm—Prayer Meeting

## Church Renewal Summit April 2024



WMBC folks that attended: Betsy DuBois, Pat Pray, BJ Smith, Carol Thomas. Not pictured are Pastor Tom, Crystal and Bryan Fitch. We were encouraged and challenged to take a look at what we as a church are getting right, potential pitfalls to stay away from, and warned of ideals to not hold on to. My take away: maintain close relationships outside of WMBC - especially within our local communities.

— Crystal Fitch



## Western Mountains Baptist Church

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## What's Happening @ WMBC

### July

2nd—Church Leadership Meeting @6:30pm

6th— Men's Breakfast @ 8am

7th— Lord's Supper

9th—Women's Fellowship Meeting @ 1pm

9th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

20th—WMBC at Kingfield Festival Days

21st—WMBC Annual Kennebec River Rafting after church

23rd—Women's Fellowship Meeting @1:00pm

23rd—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

27th—Bridging the Gap Picnic

### August

3rd —Men's Breakfast @ 8am

4th — Lord's Supper

6th—Church Leadership Meeting @ 6:30pm

12th—Mother's Day

13th—Women's Fellowship Meeting @1pm

13th —Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

15th— SOS (Serving Our Seniors) Meeting @ 10am

22nd—Serving Our Seniors Special Event @ 10:30am

25th— Baptisms after church

28th—Women's Fellowship Meeting @ 1pm

28th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

31st—Bridging The Gap ~ meals delivered to the elderly

### September

1st—Lord's Supper

3rd—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

7th—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

10th—Women's Fellowship Meeting @ 1pm

10th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

19th—SOS (Serving Our Seniors) Meeting @ 10am

24th— Women's Fellowship Meeting @1pm

24th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30

28th—Bridging the Gap ~ Meals delivered to elderly