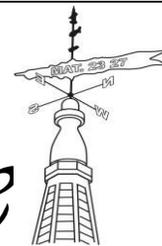


# The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

August, 2018

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## *From the Pastor...*

### **Loving Your Church**

I have often thought that defining what the church is and should be is a lot like the story of the blind men describing an elephant. One said that an elephant was long and like a thick snake. Another said that an elephant was like a piece of rope. The first one, of course, had only touched the elephant's trunk while the second has handled the elephant's tail. Others described various parts of the elephant as well, but no one had been able to visualize the elephant in its entirety.

It's like the church. If you have been touched by a pastoral visit or hospital call, then perhaps you understand the role of the church to be visitation and prayer-filled calling. If you only come to worship, you may presume the church is only a place for worship. If you come to all the pot roast suppers, you may see the church as a place for fellowship and good food. And so on and so on.

The point is that the church is all of these experiences – and many more. However, most individuals see only parts of the life of the church and seldom experience the church in all its glorious breadth and depth. In addition, it is easy to generalize about the church, especially if we do not like one part of it.

One person does not support the church because he or she does not like the window panels. Someone else may not come to church because he or she did not like the music last week. We tend to forget that what we may have disliked is likely just what another person really needed in his or life. You get the point....

It is so easy to go down the rabbit hole of generalized negativity. However, your Visioning Team hopes this fall to challenge all of us to move away from the negative (what we don't like about church) and focus instead on the positive (what we like about and value in our church).

*Continued next page . . .*

The Weathervane is published monthly for distribution at the first of each month. Articles may be submitted as paper copy, electronically via disk or email by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month preceding the issue for it to be included in. Computer files should be submitted as MSWord (.doc) or rich text format (.rtf). If you have any questions contact Debbie Feagans or Judy Munson. Articles can be dropped off at the church office, mailed or emailed to: Raymond Village Community Church, PO Box 285, Raymond, ME 04071- [office@rvccme.org](mailto:office@rvccme.org) or to Judy Munson, 23 Lawn Ave., Gorham, ME 04038 – [cmunson24@yahoo.com](mailto:cmunson24@yahoo.com) – Thank you for reading our newsletter!

### *This Month at RVCC . . .*

August 2, 2018-	7:00 p.m. – Adult Book Study
August 5, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Cynthia Priem
August 8, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Writer’s Group 6:30 p.m. – Council meeting
August 12, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Alyssa Lodewick
August 18, 2018-	5:00 p.m. – Pot Roast Supper
August 19, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Chan Roach
August 26, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship with Sharon Rankin

**Please join us for the Fellowship Café Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. August is an open month for the Café. Please feel free to bring some goodies to share.**

Line Dancing is every Monday and Thursday from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. A beginner low impact class is on Fridays from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

A.A. meeting is every Friday at 7:00 p.m.

### *From the Pastor, continued . . .*

So – be thinking about that! What do you love about our church? What are its strengths? What are the positive experiences you have had in our church? Why do you come to our church?

If we can focus on the positive, then surely we can define a vision for our church that respects our past but does not limit our future to only what has been, a vision that encourages us in new and vibrant ways to do the work of Jesus seven days a week.

### **Will there be a Christmas Fair this year? It’s up to you!**

Caryl Gilman is willing to coordinate the fair again this year. At a minimum, two things are needed for the Christmas Fair to be a “go”.

1. Hand-made Products to sell: baked goods, cookies, crafts and gifts. At this time Caryl is only aware of one person making items (Bev is knitting mittens).
2. Volunteers to “run with” each of the areas listed below

If you are willing to help, please contact Caryl at 627-5073 or [carylgilman@gmail.com](mailto:carylgilman@gmail.com) and/or please attend a brief meeting after church on Sunday 9/9. A decision will be made on that date about whether there will be a Christmas Fair this year on Saturday Nov 17.

Caryl will host centerpiece making session and obtain vendors. Areas needing leaders

- Cookie Walk – get cookies, set up, sell and clean up
- Bake Table – get items, set-up, sell, clean up
- Kitchen for breakfast/lunch – determine menu, get food, prepare as needed, sell, clean-up
- Silent Auction – obtain items or gift cert. Set up sheets for each, determine who wins and contact
- Raffle – need an item, make tickets, sell, draw
- Wreaths – order, obtain decorations, decorate, sell, clean-up
- Santa with Candy Canes
- White elephant table if we want it (in vestry)

## Prayer Concerns



**Our prayers of concern go out to:**

### **In our Church Family:**

The Family of Nancy Buzzell, Pauline Cadotte, Polly Dyer, Carol Hall, Arthur & Deborah Lafond, Craig Messinger, Frank Sullivan

### **In our Extended Family:**

Michael Cadotte, Jeffrey Lambert, Brenda McMackin

### **In our Community:**

Wendy Bretton, Janet & Gary Cairns, Gary & Deb Cassidy, Irene Doughty, Tommy Keith, Dan Tibbetts

## Pilgrim Lodge Campers

Emily and Will Feagans and Chloe and Robbie Sullivan will all be attending week-long sessions at Pilgrim Lodge this summer. They are all going to Destination Hogwarts to spend a week immersed in Harry Potter lore. Their camp week is from August 5-11. If you would like to send them a note or card (Campers love to get mail!), here's the address:

Camper Name  
Pilgrim Lodge  
103 Pilgrim Lodge Road  
West Gardiner, ME 04345

## Happy Birthday To You!

Happy Birthday to everyone in our church family with a birthday in August:

August 5	Deb Feagans
August 5	Judy Munson
August 7	Angela St. Pierre
August 16	Aubrey Grindel
August 17	Polly Dyer
August 17	Linda Eldridge
August 21	Bob Metz
August 31	Stacey Grindel

## Lectionary Lessons for August

A good way to learn more about the Bible is to read the Sunday lectionary lessons. Here they are for August. The focus lesson is in **bold**.

August 5<sup>th</sup> – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:1

Psalms 51:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-16

**John 6:24-35**

August 12<sup>th</sup> – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalms 130

**Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2**

John 6:35, 41-51

August 19<sup>th</sup> – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14**

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

August 26<sup>th</sup> – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43

**Psalms 84**

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69



## More Wonderful Music During Worship

Our varied music for worship will continue during August. Here is what you can look forward to:

**August 5<sup>th</sup>** – Cherie Moore will be on piano as she accompanies Cynthia Priem on violin. Cynthia is a recently retired UCC pastor from First Congregational Church of Fryeburg and is an accomplished violinist.

**August 12<sup>th</sup>** – Patrick will be on piano for our hymns and responses while Katherine Rhoda will be offering special music. Katherine is a vocalist and also plays With voice, [Marxophone](#) and [violin-guitar](#) (play-by-number American [fretless zithers](#) sold door to door in the early 1900s), [harpeleik](#), [accordion](#), Lithuanian kankles, and more. She does a blend of originals, traditional music, and off-the-beaten-path covers.

**August 19<sup>th</sup>** – Brenda Olsen has graciously agreed to lead our hymns and responses and also to work with our own Very Occasional Men's Choir that will do a couple of special music pieces.

**August 26<sup>th</sup>** – Patrick will be back on the piano with Gary Wittner playing his jazz guitar.

Hope you will join us for these special worship times!



## Moderator Musings

Well we are in the midst of summer. Many of our seasonal visitors are here to worship with us. We will also see the occasional drop in from just someone who is in the area. In the halfway point of summer I suspect we all have a list of chores we want to finish and places we want to visit. But don't forget about your church. There is always room there to join us on Sunday, or during the week for Line dancing and Adult bible study too. The church is always there for you.

Matter of fact one of the coolest places to be during the hot weather is the church vestry. It is always much cooler there than any other part of the church. Vestry comes from the latin form of vestiarius which has to do with clothing and vestments are holy robes. The vestry was an area of preparing for worship. In olden days it was for the leader to put on their vestments. But now, It is for us all to share our fellowship in, including the nice cooler temperatures. Have you joined us for coffee before or after worship? There is always room for you to show off your baking skills. Come and let's prepare and celebrate worship together, either before or after service, in the vestry.

A couple of volunteers I would like to mention this month Bill Feagans and Bob Yates. They are always available to serve the needs of the church through their position as Deacon Assistants. They are always ones who have the windows opened, doors unlocked, attendance taken, sound system ready to go, and in this hot and sticky weather, they see that the fans are already on. Thank you Gentlemen!!

*Tom Wiley*

### VNA Home Health Hospice is offering an open grief support meeting on:

**August 13, Monday, 6:00 – 7:30 PM  
(second Monday)**

**North Windham Union Church  
723 Roosevelt Trail,  
Rt. 302, Windham, ME  
FMI Linda Hopkins**

**Bereavement Support Coordinator  
VNA Home Health Hospice at 400-8714**

Sponsored by North Windham Union Church UCC

### Congratulations to our Graduates!

Our congratulations and best wishes to Kyle Sullivan and Owen Sullivan, both of whom graduated from high school in June. Kyle graduated from Windham High School and is currently apprenticing at a car dealership to learn to be a first rate auto mechanic. Owen graduated from South Portland High School and will be going to the University of Maine at Farmington this fall. His particular interests are music and technology.

## Summary of July 11, 2018 Coordinating Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM, on Wednesday, July 11, 2018, by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Judy, Brenda O, and Rev. Nancy. Bob Yates and Lori Lambert joined us for the beginning of the meeting to give us an update on the Visioning Project.

Rolf offered the opening prayer.

Rolf moved and Brenda seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13 meeting as printed. The motion was passed.

**Update on Visioning Project:** A Visioning Team has been meeting for a couple of months to develop a framework by which we might, as a congregation, discover the identity of RVCC. Their purpose is to review the past, examine the present, and look to the future in order to decide what God is asking us to do so that we can do Jesus' work and spread Christ's love seven days a week. Members of the team are Lori Lambert, Bob Yates, Brenda Olsen, Bill Feagans, Deborah Lafond, and Rev. Nancy. Although they have not reached the point of presenting ideas to the congregation yet, they have come up with an area where they feel action could be taken now. They propose a re-model of the current vestry bathrooms to create a unisex, handicapped accessible bathroom. This would include, but not be limited to new sink area, comfort height toilet, ceiling, floor, paint, etc. They have received an estimate of \$10,000 to \$12,000. Discussion ensued. Floor tiles are asbestos, removing them could add to cost. Do we need an exhaust fan, another extra cost. There was discussion of various sources of grants and funding for this project. Committee will pursue update on price before our next meeting.

**Update of Church Webpage:** Rev. Nancy reported that Sheila Bourque has taken on the project of updating and maintaining our webpage. She has been doing a great job. Question on having a calendar on the web page, in what format, for what purpose, and how it would be kept up to date needs to be explored further.

**Treasurer's Report:** Brenda Olsen presented the Treasurer's Report for June. Current pledges are at \$5,216.50, under budget by \$191.33 for the month. \$694.17 was received in net income for June supper, \$121.43 for grocery cards, and \$2,291.37 for the yard sale. Fund Raisers total for the month was \$3,106.97, versus a budget of \$3,403.17. Yard sale was under budget. Total income of \$11,653.27 was over budget by \$345.60. Total

expenses were under budget by \$638.44. Year to date loss of \$680.95, less than budgeted loss of \$6,324. A Missions report was presented. Scholarship contributions from the bottle drive and bake sale totaled \$662.90. A motion was made and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

**Clerk:** nothing to report

**Trustees:** Rolf reported that he had looked again at the quote which he received a year ago for painting. Keeping in mind that painting needs to be done again every 5 to 10 years, he now wonders if we should consider vinyl siding, with vinyl cladding on wood trim. He has a quote for about \$40,000 to do that, which is about \$10,000 above painting, and we would not need to paint again. Product he is looking at has a 50 year guarantee. Again discussion on sources of grants, how to finance etc. Rolf will look into another quote, and references.

**Missions:** Rev. Nancy mentioned Random Acts of Kindness, our newest mission initiative offering \$50 grants to people in the congregation who have an idea for spreading kindness.

**Christian Education:** Walt Read's study on the book "Unafraid" will begin on August 2. There will be 5 sessions, although they will not be consecutive. The Reformation study which Rev. Nancy and Deborah Lafond have been trying to do will be put off until October.

**Stewardship:** Tom reported that Sue Dexter is getting quarterly Stewardship letter and statements in the mail shortly. Tom reported that Caryl Gilman has expressed concerns to him about not having enough help for the holiday fair. She will be putting something in the Weathervane.

**Deacons:** Tom reported that the Deacons met on July 1. They have schedules completed through August. They are planning their dinner with the deacons assistants, and are working on updating duties of deacons. Andy will do a deacons article for the Weathervane.

**Moderator:** Tom reported that he continues to have a lot on his plate. Report on hiring new music director is later in these minutes. He is trying to do an article for the Weathervane each month, entitled Moderator Musings.

**Pastor:** Rev. Nancy has been busy helping update the website. She reported that we had had good publicity in the Windham Eagle recently. She also reported that Nancy Buzzell had passed away earlier in the week. Rev.

*Continued next page . . .*

### Sharing Your Garden's Wealth

Look for the large basket in the Vestry where **you can share your garden's wealth** every Sunday. Everyone who has a garden is encouraged to share a row with your church family. Bring in some of your produce each week and leave it in the basket, so that **ANYONE** can take some home to enjoy! Contributions of flowers, herbs, and seedlings are welcome as well!

**Bring what you can – and take what you need!**

### Music Search Committee Update

It gives me great pleasure to announce our committee has found our new Music Coordinator.

**DRUM ROLL PLEASE.....** Our new Music Coordinator is Patrick Martin.

If you have been in church any time during the last 4 months you have witnessed firsthand (or Ear, if you will) his talents. It is no surprise that his talents have been appreciated by our church members and visitors alike.

I would like to thank the members of the search committee for their commitment as we worked through the process. Thank you to: Nancy Foran, Scott Gordan, Cherie Moore, Tracie Morris, Rolf Olsen, Chan Roach, and Brenda Stevenson who joined me in this process.

Well done folks. Thank you.

**AND WELCOME ABOARD PATRICK!!!**

Submitted by Tom Wiley on behalf of the MSC.

### Prayer Chain

Please remember that the Deacons and few other interested individuals maintain a Prayer Chain here at church.

If there is someone that you would like prayers for during the week, simply call or e-mail Rev. Nancy with whatever information you care to share. Rev. Nancy will notify those on the Prayer Chain, who will remember the people YOU care about in their individual prayers.

If you would like to be part of the Prayer Chain, please contact Rev. Nancy (655-7749 or [revnancy@rvccme.org](mailto:revnancy@rvccme.org)). The only requirement is that you commit to remembering those for whom special prayers have been requested.

### July Council Minutes, continued . . .

Nancy will be away the month of August. In addition to pastoral coverage for Sunday services, there will also be emergency coverage. Nancy will put a message on her mail box on the church phone with instructions for people on who to contact while she is away.

**Old Business:** Tom reported on the search process for a music director. The Search Committee has unanimously and enthusiastically selected Patrick Martin, who has served as our interim director, as their choice for our new music director. He wants to be hired as an independent contractor. There was some discussion on details of that. He will do three Sundays out of four each month. Tom and Rolf have been working on a contract with him, it should be signed soon. Brenda O. reported that we should be receiving a check shortly for the use of our building by the Raymond Arts Alliance through the month of May.

There was no new business. There was discussion on what needed to be included in the August issue of the Weathervane.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Munson, Clerk

### Get Ready, dust off those dance shoes and mark your calendars!!!!

Line dancing with Rachel continues at the Raymond Village Church during the month of August! Monday and Thursday are Improver to low intermediate classes and Friday class is basic beginner to Improver as well as low impact. All classes take place from 10:00 – 11:30 am. All classes are still just drop in and \$5.00 per class.

Remember new people are always welcome so feel free to tell all your friends and bring them with you.

Hope to see you on the dance floor! Until then, keep those feet tapping!



It's  
that  
time  
again!!!!



Our annual series of Pot Roast Suppers continues this summer. Many seasonal folks mark their calendars to rotate through our supper schedule each and every season.

This year will be no exception.



Our first three suppers have been successful!

Thanks to all who helped and who came to enjoy the dinner!

Dinners will continue on the third Saturday of each month through September.

Join us from 5-6 p.m.  
Upcoming dates are:

August 18<sup>th</sup>  
September 15<sup>th</sup>

We look to our church family to not only spread the word to your friends and neighbors but also to help in this endeavor.

Can you cook a roast,? Cook brownies?  
Serve potatoes or vegetables?  
Serve gravy or dessert? Help with Set Up?  
Help in the kitchen? Help with Clean Up?  
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are JOBS for EVERYONE.  
Please talk with Tom or Bonnie Wiley if you can help.



*Raymond Village Community Church*

*27 Main Street, P.O. Box 285,  
Raymond, ME 04071  
(207) 655-7749*

**Next Weathervane  
Deadline:  
August 20, 2018**

### **Deacon's Corner**

As you read this in August the event has come and gone, but as Judy and Deb put this month's edition of *The Weathervane* to press the annual Deacons Assistants celebration is well into its planning stages. Each year we like to take time out of our busy schedules to say a hearty **THANK YOU** to those who help us to make our weekly worship services run so smoothly. Without our small but **AWESOME** group of deacons assistants we just couldn't get it done!

This year we are gathering at Adma's beautiful lakeside refuge to break bread (or bar-b-que) and share in the past year's success. Dinner on the grill with awesome salads and desert will be on the menu, along with the inevitable stories that are always present when we all get together. The braver souls may even dip their toes in the water! A great time is guaranteed to be had by all.

If this sounds like a good time to you and you think you would like to join the fun for next year, we would love to talk to you about what is involved in becoming a deacon or deacons assistant. Let any one of us know and we'd be happy to tell you all about it! Until then, have a great rest of your summer and we'll see you on Sunday!  
-Submitted by Andy Morrison

### **Summer Book Study**

**UNAFRAID**  
by Adam Hamilton

Fear- Anxiety – Worry. These are emotions we, or ones we know, all have experienced. Sometimes we may have dealt with them better and sometimes worse.

*UNAFRAID* is a down to earth book/study about dealing with these concerns.

“For anyone struggling with fear or wondering how families and communities can thrive in troubled times, *UNAFRAID* offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions.

It is a 5 session study with the first session on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The sessions will not be consecutive. Each session has a video to go along with it.

If interested sign up in the Vestry or call the Church Office at 655-7749!