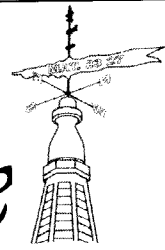


The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

July, 2018

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From the Pastor...

New Summer Worship Series

During the month of July, we will be exploring “creation spirituality” in a new worship series entitled “Sacred Earth, Sacred Work”. Creation Spirituality is a way of living that acknowledges and rejoices in the goodness of all creation. It presupposes that we as humans are meant to live in community and maintain a connection with the earth and all that is within it.

What if we lived life truly connected to the origins of Creation and the Creator? What would it mean to affirm in our daily lives the words that begin our Bible: that in the beginning God created all things and called them “good”? Would we live life differently if we believed in “original blessing” rather than “original sin”?

In this series, we will explore five essential ideas found in Creation Spirituality and reflect on just how to live within the community of earth in a way that deepens our reverence for life, participates in the creativity of the whole cosmos, and develops our passion for justice and human transformation. Might we be compelled to lead lives of spiritual inquiry, creativity, and prophetic action as we live into our sacred work in the world?

Here is what we will focus on each Sunday in July:

July 1st – Creation as Blessing

The Universe, and all life within it, is fundamentally a blessing. It is fundamentally good and created to flourish – including us. This does not prevent hardship and difficulties, however, but it does strengthen us as we go through tough times. It allows us to deepen our faith and spirituality without fear. Life in all its joys and struggles is a blessing – which means, it is something worth sharing. How might we live day

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 15th 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 or to Judy Munson, 23 Lawn Ave., Gorham, ME 04038 - cmmunson24@yahoo.com - Thank you for reading our newsletter!

This Month at RVCC . . .

July 1, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
	11:15 a.m. – Deacon's Meeting
July 8, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
July 11, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Writer's Group
	6:30 p.m. – Council meeting
July 15, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
July 21, 2018-	5:00 p.m. – Pot Roast Supper
July 22, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
July 26, 2018-	6:30 p.m. – RAA Open Mic Night
July 29, 2018-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
	4:00 p.m. – DA/Deacon BBQ at Adma Willis' home

Please join us for the Fellowship Café Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. July 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.

Qigong is every Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

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

Raymond Arts Alliance presents The New England Jazz Band

Raymond Arts Alliance is hosting a fundraiser on July 21st at Hackers Hill in Casco. This event will feature live music performed by the New England Jazz Band beginning at 4 P.M. This event is in cooperation with Loon Echo Trust which cares for Hackers Hill, located 2 miles south of Route 11 on the Quaker Ridge Road. This is a great outdoor setting with panoramic views of the Sebago Lakes area. The access road is open all day until dusk. Bring a picnic and a lawn chair and enjoy the day. Suggested donations of \$10/adult and \$3/children. There will be prize drawings and a 50/50 raffle.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.raymondvillagelibrary.org/Raymond-arts-alliance/>

From the Pastor, continued . . .

to day recognizing goodness and blessing as ways to transform our experience of life?

July 8th - Spirit of Compassion

Living life as a blessing does not come easily, and it is something that we cannot do alone. It is through the work of spiritual practice that we move beyond fear into compassion and so discover our true selves. Engaging in spiritual practices – whether typically religious (like praying) or not (like walking) – are at their core intentional. This intentionality draws us closer to the Creator and encourages us to see just what we were created to be—free and compassionate beings. What practices in your life draw you closer to your true self and closer to compassion for others?

July 15th - The Paths of Life

The spiritual journey moves us in and out of four paths: awe and wonder; letting go; creativity; compassion and justice. These "cycles of life" remind us that there is a time for everything and that the sometimes puzzling movement of the spirit is part of being human. Can we accept this sacred invitation to move fully into all the rhythms of life?

July 22nd - Sacred Creative Vocation

Made in the image of the Creator, every one of us carries within us the capacity to be an agent for positive change. It is our responsibility to say (as the prophet Isaiah said) "here I am, send me" and to nurture our capacity to be transformative and a benefit to the earth and all its creatures. What are we creating in this world that will cause positive ripples into the future?

July 29th - Healing Relationships

We live in sacred relationship with every other living thing. Our food, our health, our homes, our vocations are all part of an interconnected community. We are part of a sacred web. Creation hangs in the balance when we forget this connection. Today we must acknowledge that our species and the entire earth community depend upon the healing of harm already done, moving toward sustainability for the future, and harmonious coexistence for all and with all. Can we embrace our responsibility to care? Now is the time, if we want a future.

Prayer Concerns



Our prayers of concern go out to:

In our Church Family:

Pauline Cadotte, Polly Dyer, Carol Hall, Arthur & Deborah Lafond, Craig Messinger, Frank Sullivan

In our Extended Family:

Richard Allen, 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. 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

All four will be attending the "Destination Hogwarts" session from August 5 – 11.

Happy Birthday To You!

Happy Birthday to Everyone in our Church Family with a birthday in July:

July 5	Catherine Berry
July 12	Brenda Stevenson
July 17	Pauline Cadotte
July 23	Betty Shively
July 24	Nancy Foran
July 24	Nancy Yates



Lectionary Lessons for July

The focus lessons (in **bold**) from the Gospels focus on several miracles of Jesus while the Old Testament focus lessons are stories of the great King David.

July 1 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-17

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

July 8th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

July 15th – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12-19

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

July 22nd – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 7:1-14

Psalm 89:20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29th – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-5

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21



Sunday Music in July

We are continuing to invite local and area musicians to share their musical gifts at our Sunday worship services. Here is the schedule for July:

- July 1st – Lori Lambert (vocal and guitar)
- July 8th – Gary Wittner (guitar)
- July 15th – Our choir (see below)
- July 22nd – Women Only Choir
- July 29th – Adrienne Milics (vocal)

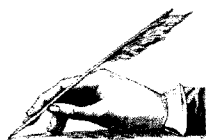
Patrick Martin will be our accompanist on the first four Sundays, and Cherie Moore will be playing piano on July 29th

Throughout the summer, Patrick will be directing our choir on pieces from "Frostiana". Here's what Patrick has to say about these wonderful musical selections: "To ring in the beauty of summer, the Raymond Village Community Church Choir will be singing selections from Randall Thompson's "Frostiana". This set of seven country songs, set to text by the famed poet Robert Frost, was commissioned in 1959 for the bicentennial celebration of the incorporation of Amherst, Massachusetts.

In June we sang the keystone song The Road Not Taken, composed on the famous lines "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood and I... I took the one less traveled by". The pastoral theme was set with a singing of the piece The Pasture. This song ends with the lines "You come too", initiating the theme of coming and going that is seen in many of the other pieces in this work.

Continuing on this theme is The Telephone where the protagonist listens intently to a flower and hears it say "Come". From here we enter the forest, following the call of the wood thrush and not knowing whether going forward will lead to a happy ending or not.

Finally we sing The Girls Garden a comedic retelling of a girl's request for a farm and the lessons learned from this adventure. The RVCC choir hopes you enjoy this beautiful music."



Moderator Musings

I have been thinking of doing something regularly for a while now. Let's see how long I can keep it going. I would like to start the first Musing article by thanking two special ladies within our congregation. Both of these ladies are longtime supporters of the church and continue to find time to give more of themselves.

I am speaking of Caryl Gilman and Brenda Olsen. Prior to and during the annual meeting, Caryl filled in on an emergency basis to assist our treasurer Chuck Waldron. She continued on in the duties of our treasurer until June 1st. At that time, the duties were passed off to Brenda Olsen. (In all fairness to Brenda, she volunteered to take this function on the day of the annual meeting, but not to become effective until June 1st.)

Thank you again Caryl and Brenda. They continue to see a need and step forward to fill the needs.

-Tom Wiley

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

**July 9, 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
Mission Committee.

Congratulations!

Congratulations are in store for Alice Morrison! Alice is the latest member of RVCC selected for the Windham Chamber Singers. Meghan Messinger is also a member of the Chamber Singers. Alice will be a first year student at Windham High School in September! Hurray for Alice!

Summary of June 13, 2018 Coordinating Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM, on Wednesday, June 13, 2018 by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Judy, Brenda O., and Rev. Nancy.

Judy offered the opening prayer.

Rolf moved and Rev. Nancy seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 23 meeting as printed. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Brenda Olsen presented the Treasurer's Report for May. Having just taken over the position of Treasurer from Caryl, Brenda still needs time to become familiar with our system and reports. She is open to suggestions from us as to what we may want to see in monthly reports. She reported that pledges were under budget by \$1,625 for the month. Net income for the May supper was \$183, which is not bad for the first supper. There were no earnings for grocery cards, and rental income seemed low. Total income was under budget by \$2,642. For expenses, trustee's expenses were up, but not out of line. Snow removal was over budget for the month, the final bill for winter plowing was received and paid in May. Cleaning fees were also up, due to cleaning of carpet in the sanctuary. There had been a donation toward this, however. Net income – current month loss of \$3,422 was greater than budgeted, but year to date loss of \$4,793 was less than budgeted loss of \$9,100. A Missions report was also presented. Rolf made a motion, seconded by Rev. Nancy, and the Treasurer's Report was accepted subject to audit.

A question was raised about income from Raymond Arts Alliance for the use of our building. Brenda reported that they will meet in July to summarize their income year to date. The agreement between us calls for them to send us a donation twice a year based on revenue from events held in the church. Rev. Nancy will get a copy of the agreement to Brenda.

Trustees: Rolf reported that he had had another painter look at our job, he decided the job was too big for him. He is still waiting for the painter who looked at the job in the fall to confirm his estimate. The lighting in the office needs some work. Some deck boards and railings need to be replaced on the front and side of the building.

Missions: Rev. Nancy reported on the Mission trip, it went well. The clients were very much part of the process, and a good relationship was built between them and the mission team.

Christian Education: Rev. Nancy reported that the Reformation Study is due to start this week, June 17. Walt Read's study will start late summer. Nancy also reported that Becky Sullivan raised over \$500 in a bottle drive for the scholarship.

Stewardship: The second supper of the season is this Saturday.

Deacons: Tom reported that the deacons met on Sunday June 3. They have set up their schedule for June and July. The Deacon Assistant appreciation dinner will be held on 7/29. Tom and Nancy will work together for coverage during the month of August when she is away.

Moderator: Tom reported he is busy with lots of hats to wear at this point.

Pastor: Rev. Nancy also has been busy, away on the mission trip, then a Celebration of Life service for Lou Nerren, and graveside service for Rita Gerry the day after she returned. She is working on a service for the dedication of the window panels to be held on June 24.

Old Business: Tom reported on the progress of the Music Director search. At this point, we have two candidates, the process is continuing and nearing completion. Tom also reported that paperwork has been filed with the bank naming Brenda Olsen as our new Treasurer.

There was no new business. There was discussion on what needs to be included in the July issue of the Weathervane: pictures of mission trip, music director update, preliminary report on profits from yard sale, thanks to Caryl, something on the Robert Frost poems set to music that the choir will be doing, deacon/D.A. dinner etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 11.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Munson, Clerk

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

The Music Search Committee (MSC) has continued to meet pretty regularly throughout the spring. Among the regular duties of the committee we have created a church music profile, written both a job advertisement and job description. A set of interview questions has been also created.

We have posted ads, received resumes, and are in the process of preparing for interviews. We appreciate all the patience of the church members as we work through this process. We hope to be able to report back to you soon as the process moves along

-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). The only requirement is that you commit to remembering those for whom special prayers have been requested.

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 July! 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!



Deacon Assistant Appreciation Dinner

On behalf of the entire board of deacons, we cannot express enough our thanks for the support and dedication we receive from this small but worthy group. Each week they fill in all the holes and do many things behind the scenes to keep our church service flowing smoothly.

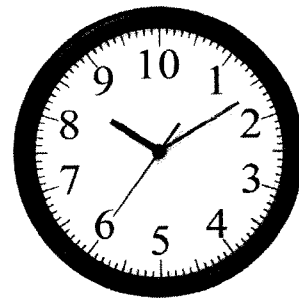
For about five years, we have hosted a DA appreciation dinner about midwinter to show our appreciation. However this winter, the scheduling did not line up. But fear not, we will still be having a Deacon Assistant Appreciation event. It is just be on the shores of Sebago Lake. We can guarantee there will be no winter weather at least.

We invite all deacon assistants to join us on July 29th at 4 pm. at Adma Willis' as we enjoy the fellowship and friendship of our team.

Raymond Arts Alliance Open Mic Night

Raymond Arts Alliance is starting a monthly Open Mic Night for performers of all levels. If you want to share music, written word, a story, a skit, etc. please join us on Thursday, July 26 at the Raymond Village Community Church (27 Main St., Raymond) starting at 6pm. Pizza and light refreshments will be available. There is no cover charge but donations are greatly appreciated. All levels of experience and expertise are welcome.

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 two 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.

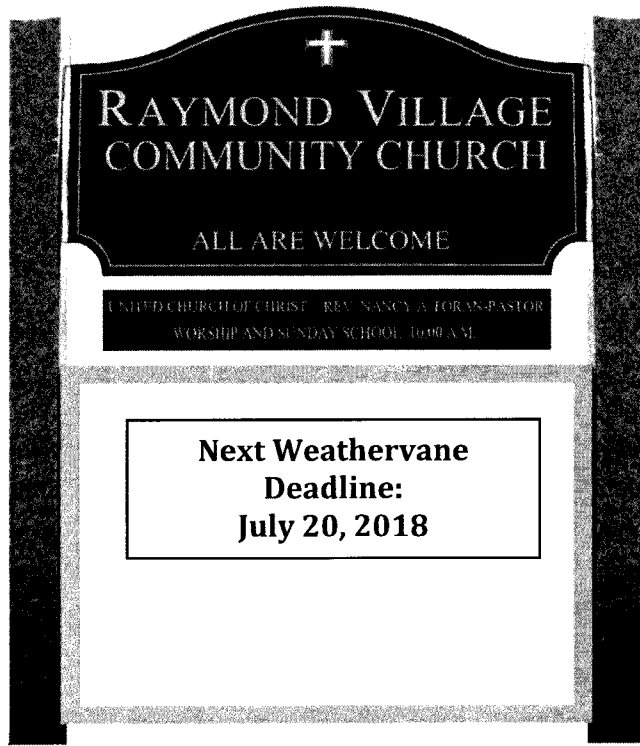
Join us from 5-6 p.m.
Upcoming dates are:

July 21st
August 18th
September 15th

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



Congratulations! WE reached \$2,300+ proceeds from the Yard Sale.

I say **WE** because it was all of us that made this happen. Remember that I told you **WE NEED YOU?** Well **YOU** did it, with donations, baked goods, plants, silent auction items, table rentals, publicity, signs, pricing, sorting, planning, arranging, grilling, serving, helping customers, packing and unpacking. This is a fine example of how our church family works and **YOU** should all give yourself a pat a back!!