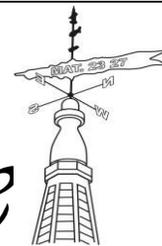


# The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

October, 2018

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## From the Pastor...

### Let's Be All that Jesus Stood For in 2019

Those of you who were in church a couple of weeks ago know that I shared with you the way that Fran Mains always ended her prayers. She would pray "in Jesus' name and for all he stood for".

I was always struck by the phrase – "for all he stood for" – for isn't that the challenge of our church? To come closer each day to reflecting "all that he stood for" – radical welcome, inclusion, non-violence, a deep connection and concern for the poor, justice-seeking? Moving out of our own little worlds and into the bigger world around us?

Our current worship series challenges us to move out of our own little world and to think about how our little church can come closer to reflecting "all that he stood for." Here's what we will be focusing on in the next couple of weeks:

#### October 14<sup>th</sup> - I Don't Want to Miss What Matters

What really matters? So many things seem to require our attention these days! Let's discover what really does matter in this life journey, especially in our lives as Christians where we are called to community with and for each other. What does Jesus teach us about the "bottom-line"?

#### October 21<sup>st</sup> - Give me Open Hands and Open Doors

What does it mean to open our hands and the doors of our churches to what God calls us? What are we as a church doing that answers the call of God to create a better world? Are we open to the surprising places that the Spirit might lead us – even if it means moving outside our own little world?

#### October 28<sup>th</sup> - I Wanna Be Reaching Out

What can one person do? What can one church do? How do we shift the focus from "Population me" to living "outside my own little

*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 – [cmmunson24@yahoo.com](mailto:cmmunson24@yahoo.com) – Thank you for reading our newsletter!

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

- October 6, 2018- 7:00 p.m. – RAA Jazz Poetry Project (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
- October 7, 2018- 10:00 a.m. – Worship
- October 10, 2018- 10:00 a.m. – Writers' Group  
6:30 p.m. – Council meeting
- October 11, 2018 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Church Office Drive By
- October 14, 2018- 10:00 a.m. – Worship  
Cumberland Association Meeting in S. Portland
- October 21, 2018- 10:00 a.m. – Worship
- October 28, 2018- 10:00 a.m. – Worship
- October 29, 2018- 10:00 a.m. – Pastoral Relations Committee
- October 31, 2018- Halloween Trick or Treating

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

Choir will rehearse on Thursday 10/4, 10/11 and 10/25 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

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. Last line dance class is on Friday October 12, 2018.

Boy Scout Troop 800 meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

world? Let's celebrate that when we share our individual and unique gifts, we discover that as a Body – the Body of Christ – we can offer much!

This worship series is so appropriate as we find ourselves in the midst of our annual stewardship campaign. You see, our church cannot continue its ministries and make a difference in the world without your financial support. It is through the help of each one of you that our church can move outside of its own little world – even as it encourages each one of us to do the same.

You will soon be receiving a pledge card in the mail – because the financial support of our church cannot be the responsibility of a few, but must be the responsibility of everyone if our church is to survive and thrive. An accompanying letter will not be persuading you or guilt-tripping you into pledging to the church.

It will simply outline some of the ministries that our church family engages in that take us outside our own little world and into the world that Jesus challenged us to move into in order to reflect “all that he stood for”. The letter will ask you simply to think about what you value in the ministries of our church and where in all your priorities sustaining these ministries lie – and to reflect that in your 2019 pledge. It will simply ask that you reflect on how important it is that our church affirm in intentional ways “all that he stood for.”

### **RVCC Grocery Card Fundraising – “That was easy”**

Everybody shops for food, but what if grocery shopping meant you could also help raise money for RVCC? We have Hannaford and Shaw's grocery cards for sale in **three** denominations - \$100; \$50 or \$25. The grocery cards offer dollar-for-dollar redemption. For example: when you spend \$50 to purchase a \$50 grocery card, you can use this card to buy \$50 in groceries in one or multiple shopping trips. If you haven't tried this program, we invite you stop by and pick up your grocery card(s) the next time you're in church. **Remember, for every \$100 card purchased from the RVCC program – the church gets \$5.**

Here's another reason to use this program... Are you worried about using your debit or credit card at the store and having your information stolen? Buy these gift cards with a check to RVCC and don't worry about it!

### **Komen Breast Cancer 3 Day Event**

For the thirteenth year, Rev. Nancy and Joe will be participating in the Susan G. Komen 60 mile Breast Cancer Walk. Once again, they will be on the volunteer route safety crew, riding bicycles for the 60 mile route (and more) in order to support the walkers in a variety of ways.

Participating in order to honor her sister (a 14 year breast cancer survivor) as well as all those affected by this disease, Rev. Nancy is once again fundraising for the event. She is so close to her goal – and would be deeply grateful for your contribution. Checks can be payable to “Susan G. Komen 3 Day”, or you can go online to donate at [www.the3day.org](http://www.the3day.org) and follow the instructions.

## Prayer Concerns



Our prayers of concern go out to:

### In our Church Family:

The Family of Richard Allen, Pauline Cadotte,  
Polly Dyer, The Foran Family, Carol Hall,  
Arthur & Deborah Lafond, Craig Messinger,  
Gwen Roach, Frank Sullivan

### In our Extended Family:

Michael Cadotte, Jeffrey Lambert,  
Brenda McMackin

### In our Community:

Wendy Bretton, Janet & Gary Cairns,  
Arthur "Artie" Davis, Irene Doughty,  
Tommy Keith, Dan Tibbetts

## Happy Birthday!

We wish the following people a happy October birthday!

October 1	Rolf Olsen
October 3	Brenda Olsen
October 4	Lori Lambert
October 10	Fran Mains
October 12	Martha Morrison
October 14	Scott Gordan
October 16	Adma Willis
October 17	Bonnie Wiley
October 22	Carol Hall
October 24	Joe Foran
October 27	Cora Sullivan

P.S. If you have an October birthday but did not see your name, then we do not have a record of it in the office! Be in touch and tell us: 655-7749 or [office@rvccme.org](mailto:office@rvccme.org).

## Lectionary Lessons for October

The focus lessons this month are all from the gospel of Mark – and on some level deal with things we do not always like to talk about: failed marriages, money, who's great and who isn't, and poor health. You will find them below in **bold**.

### October 7<sup>th</sup> – World Communion Sunday

Job 1:1, 2:1-10  
Psalm 26  
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12  
**Mark 10: 2-16**

### October 14<sup>th</sup> – Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17  
Psalm 22:1-15  
Hebrews 4:12-16  
Mark 10: 17-31

### October 21<sup>st</sup> - Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7, 34-41  
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
**Mark 10: 35-45**

### October 28<sup>th</sup> – Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Job 42:1-6, 10-17  
Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
**Mark 10: 46-52**



## Come Join the Choir!

All are encouraged and welcome to join the RVCC choir for our October Services. Below are the list of rehearsals. Email Patrick at [patrick.martin1210@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.martin1210@gmail.com) with questions or to show interest or feel free to show up at the first rehearsal. We really need voices and would love to have you!

**For Service October 21:** Thursday October 11<sup>th</sup> - 6-7; After Service October 14<sup>th</sup>; Before Service October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**For the service October 28:** Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup> - 6-7:30; Thursday October 11<sup>th</sup> - 7-8; After the Service October 21<sup>st</sup>; Thursday October 25<sup>th</sup> - 6-7:30; Before the service October 28<sup>th</sup>.

## Music in October

Here's a heads up about music on Sundays during October:

**October 7<sup>th</sup>** – Patrick Martin will be accompanying Cynthia Priem as she returns to once again play her violin

**October 14<sup>th</sup>** – Patrick makes his debut directing the Very Occasional Men's Choir

**October 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>** – Patrick will be accompanying and directing our Adult Choir

It's a big month of choral music! Hope to see you in church!

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

**October 8, 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.

This is a free community outreach service.

### Church Office Drive By

Lori Lambert and Rev. Nancy invite any and all to stop by the Church Office on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> any time from about 10:00 to 11:30. You bring your coffee or tea, and we'll provide a yummy treat! No agenda – just a chance to get together and visit for however long you want to stay.

And if you cannot make it on the 11<sup>th</sup>, we plan to do the same thing on the second Thursday of each month.

So – when you **drive by** the Church on October 11<sup>th</sup>, stop in and say hello!



## Moderator Musings

As the seasons begin to change, we also begin that transition to ourselves as well. We will begin to use the crockpot a little more and the grill a little bit less. The shorts and sandals give way to jeans and sweaters. We will begin the slow transition to winter sooner than we want to. We will also be coming aware of the shorter days and longer nights.

Some of us love the change of seasons and some of us hate them. There are those who would just rather keep things as they are.

Besides the changing of our eating habits and clothing styles, we will also be surveying our surrounding and assessing our love for each other and this church.

Did you happen to catch Reverend Deborah Blood when she spoke concerning the 500 year rummage sale? That too is truly a huge change that we are experiencing. The church is re identifying itself in each and every community. While reflecting on this with a fellow council member, they felt that we had been changing and moving along on this new trail for quite some time now. We have tried many new programs and projects over the years. We don't do things because, that's the way we always did. We do them because we want too. Thank you for continuing to support the many ways our church has changed "through the seasons".

I would like to call out attention and give thanks to our summer friends who join us in the spring and then head "home" as the seasons change. While they are always members of our church wherever they hang their hat, we need to thank them for what they bring to our summer. They lead us in scripture, bible study, and teach us about public speaking. They share their musical talents with us. They attend weekly worship and participate in the Line Dancing classes. These people help work on the supper and or attend the pot roast suppers. They surely enhance the summer season in the lakes region special.

Thank you summer friends and snow birds. We'll keep moving this church along while you're away. See you soon.

*-Tom Wiley*

## Summary of September 12, 2018 Coordinating Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Brenda, Rev. Nancy, and Judy.

Judy offered the opening prayer.

Rolf moved and Brenda seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15 meeting. The motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Brenda presented the Treasurer's Report for August. Current contributions were \$5,622, for the month, under budget by \$736 for the month, but over budget by \$5,355 for year to date. Income for the August supper was \$1,074, but no expenses had been submitted against this. Fund Raisers are under budget, year to date by \$287. The shortfall is primarily from Grocery Cards. Brenda Stevenson, however, has reported that she has reconciled the earnings, and will post another \$575 in September. Total income of \$7,762 is under budget by \$495 for the month. Expenses of \$8087 were over budget by \$201 for the month. Not unexpected since August was a 3 payroll month, and since we had expenses for supply pastors in August. Year to date loss is only \$258, Rolf made a motion, seconded by Tom, and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Brenda expressed concern that there will be a cash flow shortfall before the end of the year.

Brenda also noted that an adjustment was made to the PPE Fund to move the Ray Neal Memorial Fund money from a liability and correct the fund balance. Rev. Nancy reminded us that the council decided that the first priority for the Ray Neal gift when received was for handicap accessible projects.

**Clerk:** nothing to report

**Trustees:** Rolf reported that the lights in the office will be replaced soon. He has asked the scouts for possible date for fall clean up. He still has some projects to do at the parsonage.

**Missions:** Rev. Nancy, Caryl, and Judy had met to discuss several mission projects. Concerning the Random Acts of Kindness program, Nancy, Caryl, and Judy will review any submissions as they come in. Caryl had brought several other programs to the attention of Judy and Nancy. Through Americorp and the Maine Partnership for Environmental Stewardship, there is an initiative happening in Raymond to provide five insulating window inserts to 20 families in Raymond. Question was raised whether we would consider sponsoring a family if there were more than 20 families qualified and interested in the program. This will be pursued further. Another program involves reading in the local schools. Students

can earn points by reading, the points turn into dollars for a gift from the school to Heifer Project. The local Lions Club has pledged \$200. We agreed to do the same. The Music Department at Jordan Small Middle School is trying to raise funds to bring music instruction to small groups of students to help them be better prepared when they get to high school. Council had some questions before they committed to providing financial support for this program. The final program which Caryl suggested for our support was the Maine Seacoast Mission Christmas Wish List. Caryl is willing to take on this project. There was discussion among council members that we would not want to do this along with our traditional Mitten Tree project which supports local families at Christmas. It was agreed, however, to go with the Maine Seacoast Mission project for this year.

**Christian Education:** Walt Read's book study is ongoing, 6 to 8 people are participating. The Sunday School in a Box program is ready to start. Brenda has put together materials for the first lesson, Rev. Nancy has 5 people who have agreed to be available to teach. She will contact them to work out details.

**Stewardship:** Details need to be worked out concerning sending out a third quarterly statement and letter, and a fall stewardship campaign letter. We are fast approaching Stewardship Campaign time of year. The final pot roast supper is this Saturday, the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Deacons:** The Deacons will meet next week. There is a supply pastor set for October 7. Rev. Nancy's son is getting married that week-end.

**Moderator:** nothing further to report

**Pastor:** Rev. Nancy was on vacation for the month of August.

**Old Business:** The Visioning Committee is in the process of getting quotes for work to put in handicap accessible bathroom. Rolf reported that the Vinyl Siding project will start mid November. He is working on a Go Fund Me page, publicity, Weathervane article, and an update about it for our web site. It was pointed out that the timing of the fundraising effort for this with our pledge campaign is critical. We may want to appeal for funding from townspeople first.

**New Business:** There was discussion about next steps to be taken after the visit on September 9 from Rev. Deborah Blood. There was discussion about procedures for 2019 budget.

There was discussion on items to be included in the next Weathervane. There was discussion of to do items, and closing thoughts around the table. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Judith Munson, Clerk

### All Saints' Remembrances

It is a tradition here at our church that on All-Saints' Sunday, which is the first Sunday in November, we remember those in our church family and in our own individual families who have died during the previous year.

If you have a family member that you would like to include in these remembrances, please contact Rev. Nancy no later than Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Because she speaks briefly about each person, it is extremely helpful if you write a few sentences about what you remember and cherish about your loved one.

### Neighbors in Need Special Offering

**Neighbors in Need (NIN)** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. We will collect the Neighbors in Need offering at RVCC on October 7, 2018.

### World Communion Sunday on October 7<sup>th</sup>

World Communion Sunday is traditionally the first Sunday in October. At that time, we will join with Christians all over the world - rich and poor, progressive and conservative, from big and small churches regardless of their usual communion schedule -to celebrate the sacrament together that day and to affirm that we are all indeed the Body of Christ in the world. World Communion Sunday is a day when we can truly feel that we are part of something bigger than our own little church and that we are in solidarity with Christians all over the world.

## Help make this a Happy Thanksgiving for those in need



Once again, RVCC will be helping to provide food for local families in need during Thanksgiving. When you are shopping for your own groceries, please take a moment to add a few items to your basket for others that could use some help at this time of year. Donated food can be dropped off in the church vestry.

We will be assembling the baskets on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and distributing them Monday November 19<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm if you are interested in volunteering.

**October 21<sup>st</sup>** - Gravy, Cranberry sauce, Stuffing

**October 28<sup>th</sup>** - Canned veggies, Pie filling, Pie crust

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** - Mints, Bread mixes, Margarine

**November 11<sup>th</sup>** - Napkins, Sweet potatoes (canned or fresh), Celery

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** - Oranges, apples, bananas, Turkeys, Homemade baked goods

**We also accept donations for help in purchasing the turkeys. If shopping for food is difficult, please won't you consider a cash donation instead?**

If you know of anyone who is facing a difficult time and should receive one of the Thanksgiving baskets, please contact a Deacon or the Church office with their name, address and phone number. Thank you for your support with this important mission project.

### Thank You

*Thank you for all the kind thoughts and prayers over the past few weeks when my Dad was receiving hospice care. His passing on September 19<sup>th</sup> was peaceful with my mother close by. I could not have asked for more.*

- Rev. Nancy

## YES! There will be a Christmas Fair on Sat Nov 17, 8am-2pm

Thanks to all who stepped forward on Sunday 9/9!

The theme will be “Soup, it warms the body and soul!” We will have soup for sale at the bake table (frozen) and in the kitchen for consumption that day – Minestrone, Chicken, Beef, and more!

- RVCC items in vestry only:
  - Wreaths: Judy Munson & Deb Feagans
  - Centerpieces: Caryl
  - Craft table: Polly
  - Cookie walk: Tracie Morris
  - Bake Table and SOUP: Alice Richards
  - Silent Auction: Catherine Berry and Kathleen Bent
  - White Elephant table: Brenda Olsen
  - Kitchen: Brenda Stevenson
- Vendors on the second floor

We still need people to:

- Make centerpieces and cemetery baskets for sale - Mark your calendars for Centerpiece making workshop on Friday, November 16 in the church vestry 9am-11am
- Work the day of the fair at the cookie walk, bake table and white elephant table.

### DEACONS CORNER

The neighborhood around the church will come alive with princesses, pirates and policeman on the night of October 31<sup>st</sup>. Main Street, Raymond Maine will be the place to be.

As has been a tradition for many years the church will be open that evening to help those out in our community trick or treating that evening.



If you have never been around that evening, you miss out all of the fun and adventure that a community will have in celebrating. The church will be a warm respite for those who may be cold or those who just need to set a spell. Having the church open and the availability of restrooms is always a welcome sight for many of the families too. We are grateful to once again participate in this event. But we need your help. You can help the church by donating wrapped Halloween candy. The Deacons will be collecting candy each and every Sunday in October. Also they will accept cash donations which will be used to supplement that which your friends and fellow parishioners have donated. Let's keep this neighborhood tradition going strong. After all, it even says “Village and Community” in our name. LET'S BRING IN THOSE CANDY TREATS.



*Raymond Village Community Church*

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

**RAK Grants**

That's a Random Act of Kindness Grant, our newest mission initiative. It's a \$50.00 grant from our Missions designated fund to do a random act of kindness. This is an idea that grew out of our reflecting on "creative compassion" during our summer Creation Spirituality worship series. RAK grants will be given to up to 10 church family folks (members and non-members are encouraged to apply as individuals or groups).

How would you make the world (or one small part of it) a better place? How would you spend \$50.00 to do a random act of kindness?

The brief RAK Grant application form can be found on our church website ([www.rvccme.org](http://www.rvccme.org)) or can be requested by contacting the Church Office ([office@rvccme.org](mailto:office@rvccme.org), 655-7749). Applications may be submitted on a rolling basis.

**Jazz Poetry Project**

Raymond Arts Alliance presents, Jazz Poetry Project, featuring Betsy Sholl, former Maine Poet Laureate. This performance includes Gary Wittner (guitar) and Jim Cameron (saxophone). This trio has created interactive arrangements of Sholl's poetry in which music and text are thematically and rhythmically connected. Please join us, Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 PM. Doors open at 6:30PM. Refreshments will be served during an intermission. Suggested Donation \$10. Raymond Village Community Church, 27 Main St., Raymond

**Cumberland Association Fall Meeting**

Rev. Nancy and our RVCC delegates (Martha Morrison and Deborah Lafond) will be attending the Cumberland Association Fall Meeting on Sunday afternoon, October 14<sup>th</sup> at the South Portland Congregation Church.

In addition to Association business and a time of worship, there will be a program entitled:

"Building on Solid Rock in Shifting Sands"  
(referencing Matthew 7:24-28)

The sands of culture and religious climate have shifted, so how can we build on solid rock in the winds of change?

Rev. Dr. Brittany Longdsdorf, the Multifaith Chaplain at Bates College, will speak about generational changes that are being felt in all institutions, and Rev. Emily Goodnow, Pastor of First Congregational, UCC in Bridgton, ME, will help us look for signposts of the spirit in these new conditions.

Anyone who would like to attend the meeting and program is welcome. Let Rev. Nancy know, and perhaps we can all carpool.