



The Weathervane

RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

August, 2019

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From the Pastor...

Ten Things to Do on a Hot Summer Day

I don't know what the weather will be like when you read your Weathervane, but, you see, I am writing this column before I leave for our cottage in Canada in July. Today is one of those days that is very humid and set on being in the high 80's/low 90's.

It is a glimpse of what summer in Maine is likely to be in the years to come – similar to the weather in New Jersey when I grew up there – except my parents never owned a fan – and they would never have even considered purchasing an air conditioner.

All that being said, I thought it would be worthwhile to give some thought to what we might do to make those hot and humid days more enjoyable – or at least bearable.

So- - here are ten things to do on a summer day (in no particular order):

1. Sit in an air-conditioned movie theater and watch "Aladdin" or "The Lion King" with someone special.
2. Knit a prayer shawl in the evening when it cools off just a bit.
3. Take a bike ride, making a point to coast downhill, so you can feel a heavenly breeze on your face.
4. Take a swim in a nearby lake – and thank God that we will not run out of water here in Maine in the next 50 years as those who live in the Southwest are likely to.
5. Share a glass of cold lemonade with a friend.
6. Give a smile and a bottle of Gatorade to the homeless man or woman standing on a street corner in Portland. Because they are hot too.

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 . . .

August 3, 2019-	7:00 p.m. – RAA presents Randy Judkins
August 4, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
August 6, 2019-	11:00 a.m. – Age Friendly Raymond meeting
August 11, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
August 17, 2019-	5:00 p.m. – Pot Roast Supper
August 18, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
August 20, 2019-	12:00 p.m. – Community Friendship Luncheon
August 25, 2019-	10:00 a.m. - Worship

Please join us for the Fellowship Café on 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 on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

-Knitting Group is on Tuesday August 13 & August 27 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

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

-Qigong will start on Saturday August 3 through August 24, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Memory Board Hung in Library

Have you seen our new memory board with all the various plaques commemorating gifts made to the church over the years and those who made them? Thanks to Sheila Bourque for designing and constructing the Board!

We are hoping that YOU will share a story or a very brief reflection about any of the people whose names appear on the Board. It would be a nice touch to have a Memory Book with a page for each person named on the Board filled with thoughts and remembrances.

Please get in touch with Rev. Nancy if you have anything to share.

Help Make Our Altar Beautiful!

Thanks to everyone who has been bringing flowers for our altar each Sunday. We welcome anyone who would like to help with a bouquet, flower arrangement or something entirely your own creation.

From the Pastor, continued . . .

7. Set up the sprinkler, so your children or grandchildren - or even your dogs - can cool off – and maybe run through it with them a time or two.
8. Send a thinking of you card to a friend you have not seen in a while – or, better yet, give that friend a call to see how he or she is doing in the heat.
9. Sit quietly and make a list of everything you are thankful for in your life – and offer God a prayer of gratitude.
10. Smile as you remember that you complained in January about how cold it was...

Sunday Music in August

As always, we have a variety of musicians sharing their gifts with us during worship. What a wonderful way to engage a friend or neighbor and invite them to worship!

August 4 – Jake Cooper on guitar. Jake is a music student at USM. He plays a variety of songs, some of which he has composed himself.

August 11 – Katherine Rhoda on vocals and all sorts of traditional instruments – guitar, dulcimer, mandolin, etc. Katherine is a spirited and energetic musician. If you missed her in July, you owe it to yourself to experience her passion for music and worship.

August 18 – Molly Keane-Dreyer is scheduled to return to her home church and lend her trained voice to our worship.

August 25 – Aban Zirikly will be our musician, playing violin and piano. Aban has worshipped with us before and brings a deep and profound love for music.

Knitting & Crocheting - Are you a Knitter? A Crocheter? A Beginner? A Life Long Artist?

Would you like to join the company of others who enjoy this craft?

I have started a knitting group that meets at the Church on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. The dates for August are August 13th and August 27th. Please spread the word to your neighbors, families and friends, beginners or not. Everyone is invited. Please bring your own beverage. For more information, contact Brenda Olsen (bolsen001@maine.rr.com).

Prayer Concerns



Our prayers of concern go out to:

In our Church Family:

Pauline Cadotte, Louise Doyle, Polly Dyer, Lori & Dan Lambert on the passing of their son Jeffrey, Craig Messinger, Joan Morton, Frank Sullivan, Tom Wiley, Adma Willis

In our Extended Family:

Michael Cadotte

In our Community:

Janet Cairns, Tommy Keith, Dan Tibbetts

Children's Books Arrive in Argentina

The children's books we sent to Villa Carmela/Hands-on English School in Northern Argentina arrived safely and were greatly appreciated. Prof. Gonzalo Diaz sent this email:

Dear Rev Nancy
I have received the books!
They are marvelous!!!
We really appreciate your efforts!!!
I'll send you some pictures of a few students since we are in winter break.
Can't thank you enough for your help!
Hugs from Tucuman,
Gonzalo

Here's a photo of some of the children and youth:



Fran's Fundraiser for Handicapped Accessibility

As you know, Fran's Mains' daughter, Diana, set up a GoFundMe page to raise money in memory of Fran to put toward handicapped accessibility at the church. Though the page has been taken down now, you can still contribute to the project by writing a check payable to "RVCC" and indicating "Handicapped Accessibility" in the memo line.

Sunday School in a Box

We are looking for a couple of volunteers who would agree to be "on call" one Sunday every 4-6 weeks to lead a Sunday School lesson for any child who might be in church. If we want our church to be attractive to young families, we need to be prepared to offer something for children during worship. Your commitment is to be in church on the Sundays you have chosen – and teach a lesson if a child comes.

Here's how Sunday School in a Box would work:

1. A lesson with materials would be all prepared and at the back of the church.
2. If you are on call, and a child shows up, you would take the lesson box and teach after the Youth Message. We would urge you to acquaint yourself with it in advance.
3. If no child comes, then you would remain in church and worship as you always do.

If you can help out, please be in touch with Rev. Nancy by email (nancy1@maine.rr.com) or phone (655-7749 and leave a message in the church office) or talking directly with her.

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!



**It's
that
time
again!!!!**



We have begun our annual series of **Pot Roast Suppers**. 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 dinners were in May, June & July. Thanks to all who helped and who came to enjoy a delicious meal.

Our upcoming suppers are on:

August 17th
September 21st

Join us from 5-6 p.m.

Not only spread the word with your friends and neighbors but also we look to our church family 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 put your names on the sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the vestry and sign up to help out!

Mission Corner

Thanks to everyone who brought items to give to **Grace Street ministry**. Caryl Gilman will package them up and deliver in early August.

For the month of August, we will be collecting items for Ronald McDonald House **Project L.O.V.E.** (*Lots of Varying Essentials*). *Project L.O.V.E.* is an easy way for schools, churches, businesses and individuals to help support Ronald McDonald House by collecting a specific item the House needs. Please add some of these items to your shopping list and drop them off in the box provided starting August 4. Thank you!!

- Single packaged adult & child toothbrushes
- Travel-sized shampoo and conditioner
- Juice boxes
- Individually wrapped snacks such as Cheez-its, goldfish, pretzels, granola bars, apple sauce, popcorn, chips, animal crackers, fruit snacks and cookies
- Standard size box of tissues
- 13-gallon trash bags

Quick preview for early September: **Seacoast Mission Table of Plenty**: We continue RVCC connection with Cherryfield by supporting 3 people cooking/serving a meal for the Cherryfield community on Sunday Sept 8. Marie Guerin, Caryl Gilman and Caryl's sister Anne will be RVCC emissaries. We'll learn the news of the area and let you know what we find out. How can you support this mission? We will be asking all of you to contribute breads/rolls and dessert. More details in the next issue.

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 17	Polly Dyer
August 17	Linda Eldridge
August 21	Bob Metz

LINE DANCING CONTINUES!

Rachel began teaching line dancing again in June. Classes continue to be offered on Monday and Thursdays from 10 until 11:30. In addition, there will be a Friday class also at 10 a.m. This Friday class is ideal for anyone needing/wanting slower music and modified steps, and for those with no dance experience. Come and join the group!

Prayer Shawls Always Available

Rev. Nancy and the Deacons have a supply of prayer shawls for anyone who needs one – or would like to give one away. People in our church knit and crochet them, and they are free to anyone who wants one. Prayer shawls are a wonderful and personal way to tell someone that you remember them or a special event in their lives, are concerned about their healing or are just thinking of them. Talk to Rev. Nancy or a Deacon if you would like a prayer shawl.

Summer Community Friendship Luncheon - Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at Noon in the Raymond Village Community Church Vestry

Join us for a salad smorgasbord at noon in the RVCC Vestry. Choose from ham, tuna, and egg salad, cole slaw, potato salad, tomato/cucumber/lettuce, jello squares, deviled eggs, and cottage cheese accompanied by assorted breads for sandwich making, and ice cream treats for dessert.

Free and open to the public although we gratefully accept love offerings to support our Friendship Meal Ministry that will resume in October.

For more information about how you can help, please contact Deborah Loomis Lafond 655-7557.

Summary of July 7, 2019 Coordinating Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 A.M. on Sunday, July 7, 2019 by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Brenda, Rev. Nancy, and Judy.

Judy offered the opening prayer.

Rolf made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 9th meeting, seconded by Brenda, and passed.

Sheila Bourque joined the meeting to give us an update on handicap grant/donation status. She reported that unfortunately we will not be receiving the large AARP grant. She suggested that we break what was in that grant into smaller pieces, and try for funding for smaller pieces. Her recommendation is that we start with the project of improving, paving, and lining the driveway to allow access to the existing ramp into the sanctuary. She feels that of all the projects, the driveway will be the most visible one, and hopefully will help us with future funding for future projects. The siding project, due to start shortly, will also call attention to the fact that we are focusing on improving our facility. Smaller grants could be available from the Maine Community Foundation, and the Stephen King Foundation, as well as other sources. Funding could also be available from our own resources. Sheila will go ahead and get estimates for the paving project.

Treasurer's Report: Brenda presented the May 2019 Treasurer's Report. Current Contributions were \$4,771 for the month in the general fund, about where we expected. Year to date contributions are \$1039 better than budget in the general fund. Net supper income is \$142, but it does include purchases of food to be used at future suppers this year. Yard Sale profit to date is about \$1600 or \$1700, she projects total income will be about \$2,000. Total expenses are \$6,949 for the month, under budget by \$2,273. Rolf is still looking for a handyman to do some work in the parsonage, which accounts for \$1500 of this. Current month Net Loss of \$794 was less than budgeted loss of \$3,067. Year to date, our loss is \$7,614 versus the budget of \$14,688, or a positive variance of \$7,075. Excluding the adjustment for stock increase, which was not budgeted, our positive variance is \$2,056.

In Missions for May, contributions were \$404. This included \$157 for community meal donations. Expenses for missions included a number of donations and totaled \$859. Year to date our mission contributions exceed expenses by \$1,556.

To date, we have received \$3,228 in pledges for the siding project. The Go Fund Me event in memory of Fran Mains has raised \$250, and we have received a couple of donations by check. Judy made a motion, seconded by Rev. Nancy to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to year end review.

RAA Reports: Brenda presented a report of RAA events planned for July through December. She reported that a check to the church for \$328 is in process. Projected income from RAA to the church for 2019 will likely fall slightly below budget. Brenda did explain that, for various reasons, some RAA events held at the church may yield no proceeds to the church.

Reports of the Coordinators:

Clerk: nothing to report

Trustees: Rolf reported that he will clean up the caulking under the door to the vestry, and will try to install a heating element to avoid ice clogging the drain and causing water to get into the vestry. He is trying to find a handyman to replace slider in the parsonage. Also needs to install a new railing there.

Missions: Rev. Nancy reported that she sent the books to Ingles Villa Carmela, and has received thanks for them. A check for \$500 was sent in support of Asylum Seekers. We are in the process of collecting items for Grace Street Ministry, as requested by Jessica Moore. Strengthen the Church special offering was collected on June 9, no report of how much at this time.

Christian Education: Rev. Nancy reported that Walt Read will lead a late summer/early fall adult book study. In the fall, we will have prepared "Sunday School in a Box" for any kids who may be in attendance. Two people have volunteered to cover a Sunday each month, we need a couple more volunteers. We also need to have snacks available.

Stewardship: Brenda reported that it is time for another quarterly letter and statement of pledges to be sent out. We should also include update on funding for siding project.

Deacons: have not met recently, nothing to report.

Moderator: Tom reported back on the excessive water bill which we had a few months back. The credit which they were going to allow us was only going to be \$31. Water customers can only receive an excessive use credit once every five years. Tom decided not to take the \$31 credit, and keep the option open in case we had a problem in the next five years. *Continued next page . . .*

Four GREAT Raymond Arts Alliance events to enjoy this summer!

The New England Jazz Band performs at Hacker's Hill in Casco Maine on Sunday, July 28th from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. Bring a picnic, lawn chair and enjoy the beautiful sunset and great music. There will be a 50/50 raffle and prize drawings. Proceeds support the Raymond Arts Alliance. [facebook.com/raymondartsalliance](https://www.facebook.com/raymondartsalliance) for more information

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS! Raymond Arts Alliance presents **"How's Your Laugh Life?" with Randy Judkins**, a nationally renowned entertainer of comedy, magic and juggling. This is a great family event! Saturday, August 3rd at 7 PM. Raymond Village Community Church, 27 Main St. Suggested donation \$10. Light refreshments after the show.

"Prompt!" – A writing workshop. As a verb, to prompt means to cue to get going. As a noun, a writing prompt is a suggestion of what to write about. In this workshop, "Prompt!" will be both. Come enjoy what happens when the same prompt activates the very unique ideas and stories of multiple people. We will have writing time for 4 - 6 prompts. This fun and inspiring workshop with Diana Altman has been so enjoyed these past two summers, we're aspiring to making it annual! This year, as time allows, there will be some feedback to writers re their "Prompt" creations! Sunday, August 18th, 2-4 PM at The Hawthorne House, Hawthorne Road, Raymond. Registration required 712-6200. Suggested donation \$7.

The Raymond Arts Alliance presents two **exceptional ecopractitioners: Deborah Gideon** (herbalist and beekeeper) and **David Home** (professional ecological landscaper and permaculture designer). We will spend the morning exploring the historical and contemporary life of bees, their role in ancient history, art and our lives, the truly magical aspect of their lives, such as life extension and colony structure, how their offerings can help us stay healthy, and the pleasures of beekeeping! After sampling Deborah's delightful Bee Blossom creations, we will transition to a talk by David, highlighting the many facets, practices, and benefits of Permaculture. August 17th, 11 AM – 3 PM at The Hawthorne House, Hawthorne Road, Raymond. Registration required 712-6200. Suggested donation \$5. Light refreshments will be served.

Council Minutes, continued . . .

Pastor: Rev. Nancy reported that the Fuller Center project will be going ahead, they now have the five covenant partners, and are proceeding with putting together a Board. She is working with Deborah Lafond on a free senior luncheon to be held on August 20. She also reported that the memory board has been completed.

Old Business: Brenda and Rolf are working on how and where to get started on the bathroom project. Brenda reported that RAA has requested that they be allowed to put a permanent vinyl banner under our signs in the front of the church. It would read Raymond Arts Alliance, 27 Main St. After discussion it was suggested that they have banner out only when an event is happening. Concern was raised that others who use the church could also ask for a permanent sign. This did raise the issue, however, that we do not have our address on the property. We will look into this when the siding project is completed. The siding project is now scheduled to begin on August 1.

New Business: Tom reported on vacation coverage for Sundays starting July 14, they will be Nancy Johnston, Cynthia Priem, and David Butler for July 28 and August 4. Rev. Nancy will be off through the first Sunday in August. Sally Colegrove will be providing emergency coverage. Rolf will change the message on the answering machine. Rolf reported problems with doors being left open and unlocked. Also a problem with someone renting the vestry, but using more space. We may need to amend our space rental agreement to make it clear that if renting a certain space, only that space can be used, and that the building needs to be left as it was.

There was discussion on what needs to be in the August Weathervane. The next meeting will be Thursday, August 15, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Munson, Clerk



*Raymond Village
Community Church
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Raymond, ME 04071
(207) 655-7749*



Our Vinyl Siding Project is in need of funding.

Donations can be made directly to the church (P.O. Box 285, Raymond, Me. 04071) or through the GoFundMe page (<https://www.gofundme.com/raymond-village-community-church-renovation>).

Watch our progress towards our goal of \$20,000, in your monthly Weathervane! Tell your friends and neighbors too, that they can help support the renovation of this historical community building.