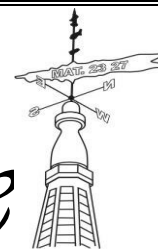


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# The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

October, 2019

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## *From the Pastor...*

### **“In the Community”**

I have come to realize over my years in ministry that the church is being the church when it is out in the community being the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. The mission of the church is not to maintain a building or even to fill the pews for Sunday morning worship. It is to be of service – as Jesus said time and again throughout the Gospels. It is to be a vital part of the community – whether that community is local, national, or global.

As a congregation, we have been trying to be more visible in the Raymond community – and as individuals, I know that some of you volunteer in a number of capacities. Just for fun, I tried to make a list of the ways I could think of we - as a church or as individuals - have been of hands on service. And so, in no particular order. ....

- Free Community Meals
- Window Dressers window insert project
- Repairing the front stoop of a drafty home here in Raymond
- Table of Plenty at Maine Seacoast Mission
- Fire Alarm Event
- Age Friendly Raymond
- CWS School and Hygiene Kits
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Food Pantry Volunteers
- Halloween Trick or Treating
- Be the Influence substance misuse education
- Advent Vespers
- Christmas Eve worship

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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 2, 2019-	6:45 p.m. – Council meeting
October 3, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Age Friendly Raymond meeting
October 6, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Worship – World Communion Sunday
October 8, 2019-	2:00 p.m. – Knitting group
October 9, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Writers group
October 13, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
October 17, 2019-	5:00 p.m. – Free Community Meal
October 20, 2019-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
October 22, 2019-	2:00 p.m. – Knitting group
October 24, 2019-	7:00 p.m. – RAA Joni Harris event
October 27, 2019-	10:00 a.m. - Worship

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

-Line Dancing is on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. (Last class is on October 18.)

-Scouts, BSA Troops 800 & 851 meet on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

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

-Qigong is on Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:15 – 9:15 a.m.

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

- Raymond Arts Alliance Events
- AARP Fraud Prevention Program
- SMART Family Services Foster Care Program
- Hunger Walk
- Advanced Care Planning Workshop
- Grace Street Ministry
- Ronald MacDonald House
- Random Acts of Kindness Grants

I know that individuals in our congregation have knitted and sewed and volunteered around town, so our list is really much longer.

We should be both proud of what we have accomplished as well as committed to continue and even expand the ways that we can BE THE CHURCH.

### **Happy Birthday!**

We wish the following people a happy October birthday!

October 1	Rolf Olsen
October 3	Brenda Olsen
October 4	Lori Lambert
October 12	Martha Morrison
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)

### **All Saints' Remembrances**

It is a tradition here at our church that on All-Saints' Sunday, which is the first Sunday in November (November 3<sup>rd</sup>), 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 25<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.

## Moderator Musings



Officially the calendar has turned to fall. To many, including myself this is the favorite time of year. Warm days and cooler nights. Crisp apples, fresh cider and time to pull the crock pot out from the cupboard. We prepare for this time of year over and over again. Yet somehow, we always feel we forgot to do something or will never get things done before the season changes again.

Make sure you remember to put the garden to bed for the winter, bring out the sweaters and long pants. Make the last-minute run for canning supplies and rake the leaves. Don't forget to clean the gutters and take care of the winter's firewood. (Safely I might add). And what about the holidays. They are coming faster than you know it.

We don't fret it. Do what you can. So, what if you didn't get it all done. Jesus did not come for the perfect situation; He came for the ones in need no matter what season they are ready for. He is ready for us at any time and in any situation,

All we need to do to prepare for this season of unconditional love is to accept him into our life. He does not keep score. He does not keep a checklist of who got things done for winter, who has the bigger house and who has the most children. NOPE. It is one size fits all.

He is there for us if we let him in. Remember that this

fall. *-Tom Wiley Moderator*

### World Communion Sunday on October 6<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.

Hope you will join us!

## Prayer Concerns



### Our prayers of concern go out to:

#### In our Church Family:

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

#### In our Extended Family:

Michael Cadotte, John Keimel

#### In our Community:

Janet Cairns, Tommy Keith, Bill N., Dan Tibbetts

### Komen Breast Cancer 3 Day Event

For the fourteenth 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. They have completed one of the events that was held in Boston and will be traveling to San Diego in November for their second event.

Rev. Nancy participates in these events in honor of her sister (a 15 year breast cancer survivor) as well as all those affected by this disease. To that end, she continues to fundraise for the Komen Foundation.

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.

### Free Community Dinners Begin Again

Mark your calendar for Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. and join us for a free community dinner! By then the weather will be frosty and autumn-like, so we plan to serve a hearty beef stew. As always, there will be a yummy dessert and, better yet, a chance to visit with neighbors, meet new folks, and enjoy some good conversation. Probably best of all is that someone else will be doing the cooking - and cleaning up!

Please spread the word - and plan to join us for this wonderful community event!

## Summary of September 11, 2019 Coordinating Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Brenda, Rev. Nancy, and Judy. Caryl Gilman and Sheila Bourque were also present. Tom offered the opening prayer, a reflection on 9/11. Rolf made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 15 meeting, seconded by Brenda, and passed. Sheila had joined the council to try and address questions in the quote for paving the driveway. Shamos Paving had been recommended by the Town of Raymond. She clarified with Shamos that it will cost about \$10,000, but there are still questions to be answered. It was agreed that Rolf will take over at this point, and will contact Shamos and try to get some issues clarified. Because the church does not own all of what is currently considered driveway, we can only pave to the property line.

Caryl Gilman joined the council to talk about a suggested change to our By Laws which she feels should come to the congregation at our annual meeting in January. Currently, a portion of Article XI reads "In the event the R.V.C.C. and the corporation should dissolve, the ownership of the physical property and real estate of the church shall pass to the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ." Caryl has spoken to people at the conference office, they are not interested in having churches leave their property to them. Therefore, she feels it should read "In the event the R.V.C.C and the corporation should dissolve, the ownership of the physical property and real estate of the church shall pass to an organization legally considered a non-profit organization. In no instance shall any property, real or otherwise, pass to any private individual or individuals nor to any "for profit" organization. The council agreed this should be on the warrant for the annual meeting in January 2020.

Caryl also reported that the local Lions Club have offered to help improve the gardens at the front of the church. This sounded like a good idea to the council. Caryl will check with the Metz family, Bob Metz had had some of these plantings done in memory of his wife Gloria. Caryl also reported on recent **Mission** activity, the meal at Maine Seacoast Mission, and the items collected for Ronald McDonald House and Grace Street Ministry. Caryl and Rev. Nancy presented plans for a series of worship services in late September and October designed to facilitate discussion of where our church goes from here. One of the services would feature a speaker from a local church which has recently gone through this same process. Dates need to be clarified, but the council is in favor of the process.

**Treasurer's Report:** Concern was expressed that donations for siding project are not coming in as we had hoped. It was suggested that since people see the project happening, they may assume that we have the money to do it, this needs to be clarified. Brenda presented the August financial report. Contributions were \$5242.50 for the month in the general fund. Less than budget by \$251, but still ahead year to date by \$461. Fundraisers income was \$340 less than budget for the month, and \$1161 under budget for the year. Total income of \$6648 was under budget by \$601 for the month. After adjusting for the American Fund valuation increases, total income is \$4.52 less than budget for the year to date. Total expenses of \$8,544 were over budget by \$1,179 for the month. Most of this due to extra payroll period in August which had not been budgeted for. This will be made up later in the year. Total contributions for the month to PP&E were \$2,065, \$965 to Fran Mains' Memorial and \$1,100 to siding project. Total in Fran Mains account is now \$1,140, total in vinyl siding project is \$4,327, less than one quarter of our goal of \$20,000. Bottom line, if you exclude adjustment for stock increase, we are very close to budget for the year, which is a deficit. A motion was made by Tom, seconded by Rolf, and passed, to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to year end review.

**Trustees:** Rolf reported that a new router has solved some of the computer problems in the office. The computer which Lori uses now is 6 or 7 years old, and uses Windows 7. We need a new computer and need to update to Windows 10. Power Church will work with Windows 10. Rev. Nancy made a motion, seconded by Brenda, and approved, to spend up to \$600 for new computer and upgrade to Windows 10. Rolf will contact scouts about fall clean up, after siding is completed. There will be a lot of painting jobs to be done, windows, doors, etc. after the siding project is completed.

**Missions:** reported earlier

**Christian Education:** Rev. Nancy has not had enough people willing to help, so the Sunday School in a box program will not be happening.

**Deacons:** Have not met in a while. Tentative plan to meet on September 29.

**Moderator:** nothing more to report

**Pastor:** Rev. Nancy reported that about 30 people had attended the community luncheon in August. She has performed two weddings recently, and has been working with the Lum family for a memorial service for Marian, scheduled for 9/21. She and Patrick are working on special music. During Advent focus will be on "Joy to

*Continued next page . . .*



### ***Mission Corner***

Thanks to everyone who brought items to give to **Ronald McDonald House**. Caryl delivered a package to them on September 3 that contained:

- 33 snack packets
- 16 juice boxes
- 36 toothbrushes
- 12 toothpaste
- 24 combs
- 64 floss/pic packets – *impressive!*
- 38 shampoo/personal product
- 30 tall kitchen trash bags

They were very grateful – everything can be used! If you are in church, check out the Missions bulletin board to see the number of people Ronald McDonald house serves.

**Seacoast Mission – Downeast Table of Plenty** – Marie Guerin, Caryl Gilman and Caryl’s sister, Anne, as emissaries of RVCC, brought the food and cooked a turkey dinner for 65 in the Cherryfield community on Sunday September 8. At the last minute we learned there were a number of people who are vegetarian, so we cooked vegetarian chili too. Comments on the meal were: “This is the best meal we’ve had all year!” “Thanks for the vegetarian options!” “Thanks for driving so far to provide a delicious meal.” “Yummy home baked goods!” What we learned is that RVCC provided a “real meal” when most other Sunday meals are casseroles and baked goods donated from Hannaford.

Caryl talked to Scott to ask the news of the Housing Rehab program. They are still working on 17-25 homes a season, however now the projects are more about weatherizing. The York Association arrived September 8 to replace 9 windows in houses and do other weatherizing. Their new project, providing tiny houses, is underway and the first one built in MA should arrive in Cherryfield this fall – check the news for the “parade” up Rt 95.

**Getting ready for School Kits in the spring:** Thank you to everyone who brought in 70 page spiral notebooks. We collected 45 which is enough for 15 school kits.

***We are the people of God serving the community!***

### ***Sprucing up the gardens at RVCC***

We have an opportunity to spruce up the gardens in the front of the church and beside the patio. The Raymond Lions have offered to provide the labor to redo the front gardens (either side of the center granite stairs) in the spring. We will be seeking plant donations at that time.

***Starting this fall***, Caryl is looking for people who would like to work on rejuvenating the side patio garden in memory of Rita Gerry - designing, digging, providing plants, planting. If you are interested in any portion, please contact Caryl by October 15, in church, by phone (627-5073) or email: [carylgilman@gmail.com](mailto:carylgilman@gmail.com).

### **Special Music in October**

Our choir is already rehearsing for October, and we will have a variety of guest musicians as well. Here’s the line up so far:

**October 6<sup>th</sup>** – Gary Wittner on jazz guitar

**October 13<sup>th</sup>** – Our Choir

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** – Aban Zirikly on piano and violin

**October 27<sup>th</sup>** – Sigrid Sibley on guitar and mandolin with vocals

Hope to see you in church!

### ***Council Minutes, continued . . .***

the World” which was composed 300 years ago. On Christmas Eve, they will do “Amahl and the Night Visitor”.

**Old Business:** nothing additional

**New Business:** Rolf to follow up on paving. Caryl to follow up on any other possible by law changes. Caryl and Rev. Nancy to follow up with council on confirmed dates for special services late September and October. Caryl suggested and it was agreed that RVCC will be a sponsor for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the Library. We will donate lights to decorate the gazebo. There was discussion on what needs to be in the October Weathervane. The next meeting will be October 2 at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Judith Munson, Clerk

### **Monthly Church Office Social**

Lori Lambert and Rev. Nancy would love to have a chance just to chat with you! And so they invite any and all to stop by the Church Office on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> any time from about 10:00 to 11:30. You bring your coffee or tea, and they will provide a yummy treat! No agenda – just a chance to get together and visit for however long you want to stay.

So – when you drive by the Church on October 17<sup>th</sup>, stop in and say hello!

## *Upcoming Raymond Arts Alliance Events . . .*

Watch for details in your weekly church e-mail, announcements and the bulletin for two events in October sponsored by the Raymond Arts Alliance that will take place at the church.

**Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup> – Joni Harms** – Cowgirl, Singer, Songwriter and nationally recorded artist will share her Country/Western style music from 7-9 PM. She will be accompanied by her daughter Olivia, Fiddler Don Roy (Side By Each and 2018 National Endowment recipient) and Bassist Jay Young.

**Zapion** - a Middle Eastern band that has played here before on our International night last year will be performing sometime in November. The music is enchanting and nothing like you will hear anywhere else this side of Portland.

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### **Our Vinyl Siding Project is in need of funding.**

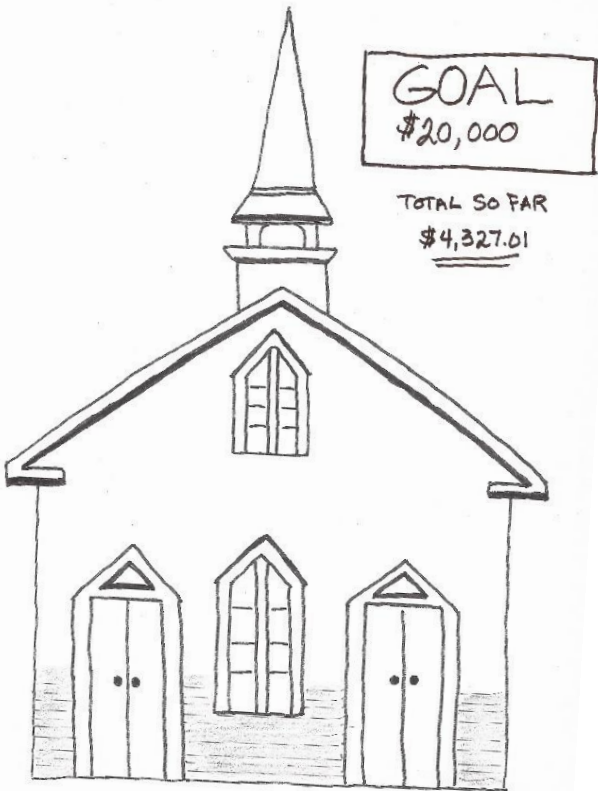
Donations can be made directly to the church P.O. Box 285, Raymond, Me. 04071) or through the GoFundMe page (<https://www.gofundme.com/raymond-village-community-church-renovation>).

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!

#### ***Why do we need to help fund this project?***

At the beginning of the year, the balance of funds we had to use for Building Repair & Maintenance was \$40,916. The Vinyl Siding Project itself is projected to cost \$39,000, which essentially would have taken up the entire fund and left nothing for future maintenance or handicap accessibility projects. We were able to negotiate a financing arrangement so that we could move forward with this project as soon as the

contractor was ready and not have to wait for funds to be raised. We need to continue to seek additional funding in order to pay down the bank note and replenish our Building, Repair & Maintenance fund.





***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. Here are the items we are collecting this year. Donated food can be dropped off in the church vestry.

**October 27<sup>th</sup>** - Gravy, Cranberry sauce, Stuffing

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Canned veggies, Pie filling, Pie crust

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** - Mints, Bread mixes

**November 17<sup>th</sup>** - Napkins, White or Sweet potatoes (canned or fresh)

**November 24<sup>th</sup>** - Fresh produce to be added to the baskets.

**If shopping for food is difficult, please won't you consider a cash donation instead? Cash donations will be used to purchase last minute items and gift cards which are provided to recipients so that they can purchase a turkey.**

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

**The Times They Are a Changin'**

Rev. Nancy and Caryl Gilman are excited about sharing all they learned at a Conference earlier this year about change and churches in transition. They will be leading worship on October 6<sup>th</sup> and will be engaging the congregation in thinking about these important issues and how they will affect our church and our ministries. On October 13, Lorraine Glowczak from Faith Lutheran Church will be sharing the journey toward change that her church has been engaged in.

It is important that **EVERYONE** be a part of these important conversations, so please mark your calendar and plan to come to worship on those days!

**Maine Conference Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ will be held October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at First Parish Church in Saco. In addition to the business meeting, there will be workshops on a variety of topics from anti-racism to spirituality and mindfulness.

Talk with Rev. Nancy if you are interested in attending all or part of the meeting.

**Neighbors in Need Offering – October 6**

Neighbors in Need is the UCC's annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. The other third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries. Currently there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations. Neighbors in Need helps make A Just World for All possible.

**Halloween is Coming!**

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 welcome those in our community who are out trick or treating.

The church will be a warm respite for those who may be cold, want to rest or need a restroom. We are excited 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 to purchase additional candy and cider to serve to those visiting.

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*

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. The dates for October are October 8<sup>th</sup> and October 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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](mailto:bolsen001@maine.rr.com)).

### **Cumberland Association Fall Meeting**

The Cumberland Association Fall Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 4:30 P.M. at the Standish Congregational Church. In addition to the business meeting, there will be a special program and refreshments.

Anyone is welcome to attend. Please let rev. Nancy know if you want more information.

### **LINE DANCING**

Another successful season of line dancing is drawing to a close. The last class of the year will be on Friday, October 18. Line Dancing is great fun, great exercise, and it brings new faces into the church each year. We wish Rachel and Angela safe travels as they head to Florida for the winter. Look for information next spring as classes resume in early June.