



# The Weathervane

RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

June, 2021

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## *From the Pastor . . .*

Dear RVCC Family and Friends,

It is Saturday, May 22nd, 2021 as I write this newsletter piece. I am so excited because in one day, on Pentecost Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> we will back in our sanctuary.

It has been five months since we have been able to worship together in person.

How fun to see several of you this past week as you prepared and decorated the sanctuary.

We will continue to follow CDC guidelines and closely follow their recommendations and adjust accordingly. We know that the pandemic is not over and that it will be a long time before this virus disappears around the world.

However, for today I invite us, as a congregation, to take a moment to catch our breath, to celebrate that we are able to be together in one place. At home, allow yourself to be fully present and when you have a few quiet moments, sit back, breathe, and notice three things that feel alive to you.

It has been a challenging year but also a year when we experienced resiliency, oodles of learning as well as surprising ourselves that we are capable of being God’s servants in a way we never thought we would be able to do. Sometimes we held our breath, sometimes we breathed a sigh of relief, sometimes we purposely took a deep breath. Today, I am sighing a breath of relief because we are able to gather once again as a congregation.

Let me leave you with this question to ponder as your read a part of Psalm 104:

How can your breath remind you of your place in this rhythm of creation?

*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 . . .***

- June 6, 2021- 10:00 a.m. – Worship  
2:00 p.m. – Deacon’s meeting on Zoom
- June 12, 2021- 5:00 p.m. – Drive Thru Pot Roast Supper
- June 13, 2021- 10:00 a.m. – Worship
- June 15, 2021- 5:00 p.m. – Council meeting on Zoom
- June 20, 2021- 10:00 a.m. – Worship
- June 27, 2021- 10:00 a.m. – Worship

**If you are unable to join us in the Sanctuary, services will be recorded and may be viewed on our YouTube channel at:**

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc1hBkBTar\\_nZF-H4O7YN5ew](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc1hBkBTar_nZF-H4O7YN5ew)**

**Please join us for Coffee Hour outside under the awning after Worship!**

The Line Dance group will be meeting on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. under the awning, starting June 3.

The Knitting Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

A meal is prepared in the Vestry for the food pantry on the second Thursday of the month.

Scouts, BSA Troop 800 meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

AA meets in the Vestry every Friday at 7:00 p.m.



*Please keep the following people in your prayers:*

Amanda, Michael Cadotte, Louise Doyle,  
Polly Dyer, Christine Eldridge, Linda Eldridge,  
Anne Hodgman, Cherie Moore, Walt Read,  
Charlotte Rowe, Frank Sullivan, Dan Tibbetts,  
Penny Warrikoff, Janet Walker, Adma Willis

*From the Pastor, continued . . .*

Psalm 104:24,29-30

*O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.*

*When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.*

*When you send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the ground.*

**Blessings and Joy,**

**Pastor Petra**

***June Lectionary Lessons***

***June 6, 2021 – Second Sunday after Pentecost***

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)

Psalm 138

Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

***June 13, 2021 – Third Sunday after Pentecost***

1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13

Psalm 20

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17

Mark 4:26-34

***June 20, 2021 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost***

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49

Psalm 9:9-20 *or* 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16

Psalm 133

Job 38:1-11

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

***June 27, 2021 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost***

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Psalm 130

Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 *or*

*Lamentations 3:22-33*

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

## **RVCC Pot Roast Suppers Continue!**



**Our next supper is:**

**June 12, 2021**

**Same good food, pot roast and gravy, potatoes, green beans, carrots, a roll, and a brownie for \$12. (Cash or checks only. No credit cards.) Meals are take out only. We are taking orders for meals for pick up between 5:00 and 6:30PM that Saturday. They will be hot and ready to take home! Please order in advance! We will likely NOT have extra meals available.**

**To order your meals please call the RVCC office at 655-7749 and leave a message with your name, number of meals and time you will pick up. Or if you prefer you can send an e-mail to [office@rvccme.org](mailto:office@rvccme.org) with the information.**

**We will continue to have monthly “take out” suppers,  
so save the following dates:**

**July 10, 2021  
August 14, 2021  
September 11, 2021  
October 9, 2021**

## Missions Corner

### June Mission – Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center

RVCC is a founding member of the Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center (SLRFC). It has been a while since we've talked about this as Fuller Center endeavors were severely limited by COVID last year. As a reminder, Fuller Center

*We believe every senior should be able to stay safe and secure in their home. We believe in a helping hand. We believe that your financial situation should not prevent you from being safe in your home. We believe that together we can make a difference.*

On Sunday, June 13, we will be playing a video of a sermon by SLRFC president, Diane Dutton Bruni. She will explain the origination of Fuller Center and how the Sebago Lakes Region branch came to be.

Additional information is available on the website at <https://www.sebagofullerhousing.org/>.

### Raymond Food Pantry

Our latest conversation with the Food Pantry says patronage is down in Raymond and other food pantries. The best thing we can do for the Pantry right now is what is already being done – delivering hot meals once a month. Meatloaf in May we much appreciated.... we all said HOORAY!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We wish everyone with a birthday in June a very happy birthday!

June 17	Walt Read
June 18	Kyle Sullivan
June 22	Andy Morrison
June 24	Chan Roach
June 28	Sarah Allen
June 29	Tucker Olsen



## HANNAFORD GROCERY CARDS

We have Hannaford shopping cards available for purchase in denominations of \$100 and \$50. Every \$100 you purchase means RVCC gets \$5. You buy the card for \$100, you buy \$100 worth of groceries and RVCC gets \$5!!! How great is that? I am available to get cards to you. Just send me an e-mail ([bolsen001@maine.rr.com](mailto:bolsen001@maine.rr.com)) or give me a call (207-838-0123). Thanks! Brenda

## *HOORAY for IN-PERSON Worship starting May 23!*

### *A Special Theme each Sunday for the first month:*

#### **May 30th Memorial Day**

- Theme: Remembering people who have died. Meshing traditional Memorial Day (honoring people who died serving this country) AND what is present to us these past months with people dying from COVID.

#### **June 6th - Communion**

- Theme: June is busting out all over! Flowers everywhere – bring your flowers (cut flowers and/or potted flowers) to fill the sanctuary

#### **June 13th - Missions Sunday**

- Theme: Serving others in multiple ways

#### **June 20th - Father's Day**

- Theme: Recognizing Dads

AND, Coffee Hour outdoors each Sunday! **Please see page 7 for our current COVID re-opening guidelines.**

## Moderator Musings



Have you ever stopped and wondered “What If.....” ?

.....Jack’s mother didn’t throw those measly beans out of the window. Instead, she put them in a junk drawer or a basket on the counter which is something we would probably do today. The beans stay in their original state and would have never been able to sprout. And the sprouting never led to growing of a giant bean stalk for Jack to explore and to ultimately overcome many fears and find the family possessions previously taken by the giant, including the golden goose.

.....The little engine couldn’t . There would be no story of giving it your best and to keep trying. That little engine would have been another attempt ending in failure. No overcoming adversity or fears. Pieces of steel forged together which would ultimately end up as nothing more than metal in the scrap heap of life.

..... The other Jack wasn’t nimble or quick. What if he got burned along the way? Would that have led to early development of today’s cast of settlement attorneys? “Were you ever injured, maimed or know a family member hurt while jumping over a candle? Then you must call now, 1-800-HOT-BUNS. Lawyers are standing by to begin the process of recovering from this tragic event. Call now. Let’s end the embarrassment with no more suffering.

..... All the king’s horses and all the king’s men, could put Humpty together again. Would we not have all the safety devices and regulations we have in today’s modern world. Perhaps OSHA would have never come to being. Would we have ever needed to create crazy glue? And would horses be the stars of all the medical dramas and doctor advice shows?

.....Casey hadn’t struck out. What if he hit a game winning home run? Would the Mudville nine be as famous as some of the other pennant winning and historic baseball teams of all time. Instead, the team goes down in history as loveable losers. Would Casey have been known as one of the all-time, one named baseball stars such as Babe, Hank, Jackie, Ty or even Mickey?

.....The “man in black” was never stuck in Folsom Prison. Or Elvis had never checked into the Heartbreak Hotel? Would there have been no stories or songs about the hard times of life and the lessons learned and penalties

*Continued next column . . .*

## Knitting & Crocheting Group

Our knitting and crocheting group has been meeting in the re-painted Sunday School room next to the furnace room. As the weather grows warmer, we will meet outside if possible. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. We will continue to follow all necessary COVID protocols to keep everyone safe. We ask everyone to use the entrance under the patio, rather than walking through or gathering in the vestry. Here are some other instructions

- Please bring your own folding chair.
- Please always wear a mask once you are inside.
- Please keep a safe social distance.
- Bathrooms in the Vestry will be available.
- Please stay home if you are not feeling well or have been in contact with someone who has the coronavirus.

### *Summer Music – more to celebrate!*

Patrick Martin will be joining us for the majority of the summer starting May 30. He is a talented pianist and singer and formerly was our choir director. We are excited for his return!

This summer we have three other musicians joining us for a Sunday or two. All of these musicians have been with us in prior years

- Gary Witner will share his musical gifts on guitar
- Sigrid Sibley will sing and play the guitar and/or mandolin
- Katherine Rhoda will sing and play any of Marxophone, violin, guitar, harpeleik or surprise us with another instrument

Please welcome our musicians as they join us.

### *Moderator Musings, continued . . .*

paid. Would there have been no stories of love gone awry? And what if Patsy Cline, simply, only just “shed a tear”? Where would we all be now?

**Now it’s your turn..... “What if” .....**

*Tom Wiley, Moderator*



## Summary of Monday, April 28, 2021 Coordinating Council and Deacons Meeting

A joint meeting of the Coordinating Council and Deacons was called to order via zoom, on Monday, April 28, 2021, at 5:00 PM, by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Brenda, Caryl, Deb, Nancy, Petra, and Judy.

The opening prayer was offered by Rolf.

The agenda was reviewed, finish time of 6:30 was set if possible.

Caryl made a motion, seconded by Rolf to accept the minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2021.

**Treasurer's Report:** Brenda presented the report for March 2021. Current contributions were \$5,120 for the month in the general fund, this was more than budget by \$653 for the month, and more than budget, year to date, by \$1,056. We also recorded a non budgeted increase in our American Funds for the first quarter of \$2,497. Total income of \$9,203 was over budget by \$3,244 for the month, and \$3,852 year to date. Total expenses of \$8,958 was over budget for the month by \$1,161 but under budget year to date by \$775. Caryl made a motion, seconded by Nancy, to accept the treasurer's report subject to year end review.

### Reports of the Coordinators:

**Clerk:** nothing to report

**Trustees:** Rolf reported that we had received a \$5,000 "resourcing the local church" grant from the Cumberland Association of the UCC, the maximum amount of this grant. We will have to spend that money and then get reimbursed by them. He is working on scheduling professionals for certain parts of the project, but there will be plenty of ways to involve members of the congregation and to generate excitement about this handicap accessible project. Rolf also announced that he has done the annual filings which need to be done with the state each year.

**Missions:** Judy announced that school and hygiene kits need to be delivered to local collection site by May 6. We have materials for school kits, and are working on collecting completed hygiene kits. Caryl announced that we will focus on the Fuller Center in June. They are now finally able to do more, are educating people about what they do, and actively looking for volunteers.

**Christian Education:** Petra reported that Lenten book study had gone well. People seemed to enjoy doing it on zoom, might continue to use that format, even post Covid.

**Stewardship:** First pot roast supper is coming up on May 8, Craig does need help.

**Deacons:** have been focused on reopening to in person worship.

**Moderator:** Tom emphasized once again that we are a good team, and are doing a good job together.

**Pastor:** Petra announced that she will be involved in the Empower ME wellness fair on May 16, at St. Ann's church in Windham. She will also attend, via zoom, a Threshold conference on the art and science of dying. She needs to do this for continuing education credit. She also reported that she, Lori, and Dan have been preparing walls in upstairs hallway for painting. Caryl volunteered to help with painting.

**Old Business:** Caryl reported that a lot of church stuff is on her google drive, and needs to be removed. She and Brenda will get together and make this happen.

**New Business – plans for reopening:** Tom, Judy, and Petra reported on key points from the Cumberland Association Workshop on reopening. We need to find new ways to go about it, celebrate with a splash, have a special event each week. We want to start with Pentecost, which in itself can be a splashy event. We also need to celebrate what we missed most about worshipping together. We have money in our budget for special music, we talked about holding coffee hour outside. The Deacons will meet this Sunday to start planning the first four Sundays in person, which will begin on May 23.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 11, at 5:00 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Munson, Clerk

### Strengthen the Church

For many years, Raymond Village Community Church has taken pride in being a 5 for 5 church, that is we support all 5 of the special offerings of the United Church of Christ. Strengthen the Church offering helps to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. It supports leadership for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC does not have a strong presence. It also provides support for new initiatives in existing churches.

We will be collecting this offering through the middle of June. If you are in church on Sunday morning, you may leave a check in the offering basket in the back of the church. Or you may send your check to RVCC, P.O. Box 285, Raymond, ME 04071. Please write Strengthen the Church on the memo line of your check.

## Summary of Tuesday, May 11, 2021 Coordinating Council and Deacons Meeting

A joint meeting of coordinating council and deacons was called to order via zoom on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 5:00 PM, by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Deb, Judy, Rolf, Brenda, Caryl, Petra and Nancy.

The agenda was reviewed, an end time was set.

Caryl made a motion, seconded by Nancy Yates, and approved to accept the minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Brenda presented the financial report for April. She is pleased and hopeful by the numbers. Contributions were \$5,275 for the month in the general fund. This was over budget by \$808. Year to date contributions are over budget by \$1868. Total income of \$6,687 is over budget by \$879 for the month, and over budget by \$4,730 year to date. This includes the gain of \$2,498 in the American Funds. Expenses of \$7,153 was under budget by \$2,694 for the month, and under budget by \$3,468 year to date. Brenda reported that she does expect, however to need to withdraw \$10,000 in May for cash flow purposes. Caryl made a motion, seconded by Nancy Yates, and approved to accept the treasurer's report subject to year end review.

**Clerk:** nothing to report

**Trustees:** Rolf reported that cleaning in the sanctuary will occur before the opening on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. He is repairing some broken windows. He has sent a message to the scouts to try and get the parking lot cleaned.

**Missions:** We will focus on the Fuller Center in June. Focus on the food pantry will be later in the year.

**Moderator:** nothing to report at this point.

**Pastor:** A friend of Petra's (nick's mother) does mediations. She has asked if she could use space in our building on May 22, from 1 – 4:30. Council approved of this. This Sunday is the Wellness Fair at St. Ann's Church in Windham, from 10:00 until 1:00. Petra will leave as soon as service is over to attend. Catherine Berry has been making phone calls to remind people that we are back worshipping in person on May 23. Petra, the deacons, and Will will meet at the church on May 19, at 3 to go over plans and technical things for reopening. Will has been out and checked out the microphones.

**Stewardship:** At our first pot roast supper, 84 meals were served, \$960 collected. We cleared over \$700.

**Old Business:** Brenda presented a request from RAA, they want to do live stream show in sanctuary in June, no

firm date, no audience, and no masks for performers. This was approved.

**New Business:** Final plans for reopening on May 23 were discussed. Guidelines will be similar to what they were last fall. We need to appoint a new committee to search for a pianist. Suggestions were made to ask Craig, Caryl, Lori, and Alice Oldford. We need to make sure we have a leader for the group. It was suggested we could work with other churches, possibly Casco and Windham on music needs.

The deacons will meet again on June 6, at 2 PM. Council again on June 15, at 5 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Munson, Clerk

## ***COVID Guidelines and Reopening of Our Church*** ***Date: May 26, 2021***

*The council has continued to have discussions in regards to reopening. We want to inform all of you that our intent is move slowly to ensure safety for all. Despite what CDC and Maine guidelines say, we will adopt the following for the next 3 weeks. We will be singing, doing responsive prayers and readings. Because of that we will be requiring masks for all when they are inside the building with the exceptions below.*

*The Deacon, Pastor and any soloists will be able to remove their mask while reading or performing, provided they are safely spaced.*

*We hope that you will continue to provide feedback to the council as we move through this process. These items regarding masks as well as items on space restrictions and removing of signage will be reviewed again at the June 15 council meeting. Please reach out to a council member if you wish to discuss these items or more.*

*These services will now be taped and will be distributed through the church's you tube channel:*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc1hBkBTarnZF-H4O7YN5ew>

*We will not set up any zoom or live streaming at this time. Most of the folks who have joined us on zoom were actually in attendance this past week. Also, it will allow council and deacons some time to recharge our batteries as we continue to serve.*

*I want to assure you that we are slowly returning to a familiar feeling each and every week. Thank you for your understanding and please let us know of any questions or feedback you may have.*

*Yours in Christ Service,*

***Thomas L Wiley, Moderator***



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