



The Weathervane

RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

July, 2022

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From the Pastor . . .

Summer has arrived in Maine. Our neighbor's peonies are in full bloom and smell so wonderful. Hopefully, you will have time to create many moments of respite for yourselves over the next few months.

Last week my sister-in-law shared with me that she would like to know more about one of my favorite authors, Barbara Brown Taylor. Since I read most of her books, I will send Cindy "An Altar in the World" It is a beautiful book about alerting us to God's Spirit in many matters of life. It gives spiritual practices for your faith life and food for your soul. That got me thinking about what you like to read. Is there a particular author you would like to recommend to us? Perhaps you could email me at:

petra@maine.rr.com

and give me your choices for publication in August's newsletter. I am sure it will be a nice compellation of different genres from friends and members of RVCC.

Also, we have a library in the church, and we encourage you to borrow books. Lori and I are in the church most Thursday mornings, and of course, you can look through the library on Sunday mornings.

On another note, we have exciting news from the Maine Conference announcing our next Maine Conference Minister. Below I have copied part of the letter sent from the Maine Conference:

Introducing The Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola!

Marisa will be coming to us from the Penn Central Conference, where she has been serving as Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Transitions. She has a great passion for partnering with churches to recognize and celebrate their gifts of ministry and mission and become "beacons of light" in their communities.

Marisa earned her Master of Divinity from Boston University School of Theology and brings a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and a Master of Music to her ministry. Marisa has pastored churches in Vermont and will be bringing to Maine her passion for affirming the vitality of churches of all sizes and helping all churches expand the reach of ministry beyond their four walls.

Continued next page . . .

The Weathervane is published monthly for distribution at the first of each month. Articles may be submitted as paper copy, electronically via disk or email by the 15th of each month preceding the issue for it to be included in. Computer files should be submitted as MSWord (.doc) or rich text format (.rtf). If you have any questions contact Debbie Feagans or Judy Munson. Articles can be dropped off at the church office, mailed or emailed to: Raymond Village Community Church, PO Box 285, Raymond, ME 04071- office@rvccme.org or to Judy Munson, 23 Lawn Ave., Gorham, ME 04038 - cmmunson24@yahoo.com - Thank you for reading our newsletter!

This Month at RVCC . . .

July 3, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
July 9, 2022-	5:00 p.m. – Drive Thru Pot Roast Supper
July 10, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
July 17, 2022-	10:00 a.m. - Worship
July 19, 2022-	5:30 p.m. – Council meeting
July 24, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
July 31, 2022-	10:00 a.m. - Worship

If you are unable to join us in person, services may be viewed on our YouTube channel at:

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

Only services for July 3 & July 31, 2022 will be recorded.

Line Dancing will be on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. beginning on June 2, 2022. Fridays are a low impact class.

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

The Knitting Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month (July 12 & July 26) from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

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



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Amanda, Sheila Bourque, Michael Cadotte,
Amy Downing, Louise Doyle, Polly Dyer,
Christine Eldridge, Linda Eldridge, Rick Emery,
Nate Rand, The family of Walt Read, Charlotte Rowe,
Dan Tibbetts, Janet Walker, Penny Warrikoff.

From the Pastor, continued . . .

Marisa has two grown daughters. Kristyn lives in Vermont, and Kathryn lives with her and her spouse. In her free time, Marisa loves to cook, read, garden, take walks with her dog, and spend time outdoors camping or just sitting on the back deck.

During the month of July, Marisa will be introduced more personally to members and friends of the Maine Conference through a series of "meet and greet" opportunities offered via Zoom. The dates and times for these gatherings will be as follows: Thursday, July 7 at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, July 12 at 10:00 am, and Saturday, July 16 at noon. The Zoom links will be sent out in the All-Conference Emails.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Conference office at 207.622.3100 or www.maineucc.org

Blessings on your summer,
Pastor Petra

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We wish everyone with a July birthday a very Happy Birthday!

July 5	Catherine Berry
July 12	Brenda Stevenson
July 14	Joan Morton
July 24	Nancy Yates
July 28	Kaleigh Leighton

Worship Updates

Petra's vacation is July 31 through mid-August.

During that time, we will have three different supply pastors:

July 31 – Pastor Jeff of Grace Street Ministry
August 7 (communion) – Rev. Joanne Painter
August 14 – Rev. Allison Curry

We hope you will take this opportunity to hear different voices & messages!

In case of a pastoral emergency, you can contact a Deacon or contact Rev. Allison Curry directly at Allisoncurry43@gmail.com and 207-730-3287 which is good for texting as well.

Summer Worship and taping the worship service

Summer is the time when many like to take vacation, including your Deacons. We will only be taping worship the first Sunday of the month and on 7/31 when we have Pastor Jeff from Grace Street Ministry.

COVID precautions – The CDC considers COVID community levels in Cumberland County to be "low" which means no masks are required at this time. We check with Maine CDC weekly and will adjust the advice as the levels change.

Pentecost Celebration

This year our church celebrated the beginning of Pentecost on Sunday June 5th. The church was decorated in red with balloons, banners and geraniums and many parishioners wore bright red clothing to celebrate the 50th day after Easter. But our annual event this year took on a special meaning as we also used that Sunday to celebrate our most recent high school graduates. On that day we honored the success of the following students in appreciation and recognition of all they have given to the church.

We were able to recognize and thank these young adults for all they have provided; Emily Feagans, Will Feagans, Meghan Messinger and Alice Morrison. Additionally, we were also able to recognize Ms. Alice Richards who has given these youth the strong faith based beliefs which she instilled in them through her leading their Sunday school experience. All consider her as not only a teacher, but a mentor and friend for what she has provided them.

Pastor Petra spoke of all the young adults have given to the church such as working suppers, yard sales, singing, helping with audio video needs as well as being Sunday school mentors to younger children. She also gave an insight into the future plans of each of the students.

All were presented with flowers and the students were presented with prayer shawls, hand crafted with love by fellow church members. Additionally, the students were presented with scholarships to help guide them in the next chapters of their lives. And Ms. Richards, was also presented with one of her favorite summertime treats, a gift certificate to the Mosquito Ice Cream Shop.

After the wonderful church service honoring all of these special servants, a group photo was taken of the entire church family (see photo on back page) and the day ended with a commemorative cake during the coffee hour. Truly a great day to celebrate all these individuals have given and to wish them well as they continue to grow and prosper into the future.

July Lectionary Lessons

July 3, 2022 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10, 2022 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17, 2022 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24, 2022 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)
Luke 11:1-13

July 31, 2022 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP

The knitting & crocheting group has been making hats & mittens for the past few months and now we are switching gears to squares. These are easy and fast and a good way to use some of those odd remnants. We have yarn and some patterns. You are welcome to join us for our group meetings if you would like some instruction or assistance.

We are meeting inside in the Sunday School room next to the furnace room but we will move outside as the weather improves. For those of you who are comfortable in doing so, please join us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Please let me know if you need anything or would like to help. Thanks! Brenda (bolsen001@maine.rr.com) or 207-838-0123

Summary of Tuesday, June 7, 2022 Coordinating Council/Deacons Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Tom Wiley. Present were Tom, Rolf, Caryl, Brenda, Nancy, Petra, and Judy.

Caryl offered a prayer of gratitude.

End time of 6:15 to 6:30 was set.

Treasurer: Brenda presented the May financials. Revenue for May looks good, expenses also look ok, but she continues to watch oil and electric bills. Also keeping an eye on cash balance, with expense of removal of thrift shop coming up. We are losing income without passing offering plate on Sundays. It is easy to walk past the yellow basket in the back. In the past two years, only a few people have switched to auto withdrawal.

Clerk: nothing to report

Trustees: The boy scouts have cleaned up outside, the tarp is up over the patio. We are waiting for demo of thrift shop, promised for sometime in June.

Missions: Caryl is very pleased with the contributions toward the ADA door for the Gregoire porch project. We have cut a check for \$2,000. Our mission for July will be collecting socks for Grace Street Ministry. In late July, the Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center will be hosting riders who are participating in the Seaside (coast of Oregon) to Sebago bike ride. RVCC will provide lunches for the group in July 29, Brenda Olsen and Nancy Yates will be leading this project.

Christian Education: Thanks were extended to Petra, Brenda, and Tom for arranging and participating in Sunday's recognition of our teens. Will took a picture of the congregation on the front steps after church, need to make sure to get this in the Weathervane. For the next Weathervane, Tom will do a write up on Pentecost.

Deacons: Caryl announced that Petra will be on vacation from July 31 through mid August. Pastor Jeff of Grace Street Ministry will preach on 7/31, Joanne Painter will preach on 8/7, and Allison Curry will preach on August 14. Allison will be on call for pastoral emergency. During the summer, the deacons will tape services only the first Sunday of each month, plus on 7/31, when Pastor Jeff is preaching. The deacons next meeting will be on August 16.

Moderator: Tom thanked Brenda and Nancy for preparing Stewardship letters and statements.

Pastor: Petra announced that Walt Read had passed away last week. There will be a service for him on June 25, at 2 PM. Michael will play the piano, Nancy Yates will be the Deacon. Petra announced that we were not selected to

participate in the program, by BTS, Building, the Resilient Church. She has been in touch with Allen Ewing-Merrill, their Executive Director, however, and those on our committee will be able to go to their Convocation in October, at no charge to us, and Allen will be willing to come and preach to us on the theme. Petra and her committee of Chan Roach, Bob Yates, and Alice Oldford, with help from Caryl, will proceed with process of exploring the future of RVCC. The timing of when Alan comes to preach at RVCC should be planned by the committee.

Old Business: covered earlier in the meeting.

New Business: Petra will be preaching at the chapel on June 19, so may be later than usual arriving at RVCC. Deadline for Weathervane will be Thursday, June 23, will probably print on the 28th. Our next meeting will be July 19, at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Munson, Clerk

LINE DANCING RETURNS!

Line dancing is ongoing this summer in the vestry at the Raymond Village Community Church. There will be 2 classes each week, Advanced Beginner to Low Intermediate on Thursdays from 10 to 11:30, and a Beginner/Low Impact class on Fridays, from 10 to 11:30. We have small classes, and lots of fun!! If you have ever wanted to try line dancing this is the place and the time. Line Dancing is great exercise for the body and the mind. We are a fun and loving group of people. Our classes are ongoing, so join us whenever you can. We welcome new dancers at any time. Masks are not required, but use at your own discretion. Cost is \$5.00 per class.

For more information, contact instructor Rachel Knights at rachelcountryhearts@yahoo.com, or call 207-232-1172 (cell) or 207-655-4284 (land).

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) or give me a call (207-838-0123). Thanks! Brenda



We will have monthly “take out” suppers, the following dates:

July 9
August 13
September 10

Pot roast and gravy, potatoes, green beans, carrots, a roll, and a brownie for \$12.

(Cash or checks only. No credit cards.)

Meals are takeout only. We are taking orders for pick up Saturday.

Pick up time is between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.

They will be hot and ready to take home!

You must order in advance!

CUT OFF time to order is Noon on Saturday so that we can ensure everyone receives a great quality meal.

Sorry, We will 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 with the information.



Raymond Village Community Church

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Raymond, ME 04071
(207) 655-7749*



Thanks to Will Feagans for taking the photo!

MISSIONS CORNER

May Mission Results – Gregoire ADA Door

Thank you so much for your generosity! You all contributed \$898. We cut a check for \$2000 for the Gregoire porch project ADA door. You have helped make a difference for John & Linda Gregoire!

June Mission – Strengthen the Church offering

Thank for your contributions totaling \$75!

July Mission – SOCKS! SOCKS! SOCKS!

Each year we collect socks for **Grace Street Ministry** – A compassionate outreach ministry to homeless and marginalized in downtown Portland Maine offering support through Presence, Prayer and Advocacy. At any time of year, there is nothing like being able to put on a clean pair of socks! We often take this for granted. If you are living on the street, this simple act can make all the difference in the condition and comfort of your feet. This year we ask that you bring white socks – tube socks or diabetic socks and warm socks. We will collect throughout the month of July. On Sunday, July 31, Pastor Jeff of Grace Street Ministry will be leading worship and we can deliver the socks in person! Questions? Contact Caryl Gilman at carylgilman@gmail.com

July 29th Mission - Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center for Housing (SLRFC)

Nationally, Fuller Center for Housing raises funds through bike rides annually. This year many people are participating in the Seaside to Sebago bike adventure for 10 weeks. The ride crosses 14 states in America's northern tier – from the coast of Oregon to Glacier National Park, all 5 Great Lakes, Niagara Falls and finishing in Windham Maine. The ride features 7 “build” days. The final build day is on 7/29 for SLRFC. Riders and other volunteers will work on 9 different projects located in Windham and Standish. The riders sleep at North Windham Union Church and will be fed by multiple churches. RVCC will provide bag lunches on the morning of 7/29. Brenda Olsen and Nancy Yates will be leading this effort.