

The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

September, 2022

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Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola

From the Pastor . . .

As you may know, Pastor Petra is in Germany with her mother through the end of September. Caryl Gilman has written the pastor column this month.

In the past two Weathervanes, Petra wrote about the results of the search for a settle Maine Conference minister. I attended the special meeting on August 6th, that voted to call Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola beginning October 25. I thought you might want to know something about her – specifically what she is saying on a few topics.

Rev Marisa spoke about her vocational journey as a series of “knocks” from God and her answers. Revelations 3:20 – “Look, I am knocking at the door. If you let me in, I stay with you and you with me. “

Rev. Marisa’s experience of God is Jesus. She realizes everyone experiences God differently. Her journey began in small Christian college for 5 years. God knocked - you are going to a new leg of your journey at a Methodist church in the south where she became lay preacher and earned her PHD in Psychology Counseling. She was a psychologist for 20 years, yet she realized much earlier that the Methodist Church did not work for her or her spouse Carol, so they shifted to UCC. They adopted 2 kids and, while raising them, God knocked again and said “Time to become an ordained minister”. She earned her Master of Divinity from Boston University School of Theology then chose to serve a church in Vermont. It was not long before she was asked to consider helping more than one congregation to become alive and thrive. She became an Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Transitions in the Penn Central Conference just before the pandemic. When she saw the posting for Maine Conference Minister, she felt called to nurture small churches who are the hands and feet of Jesus. She has a great passion for partnering with churches to recognize and celebrate their gifts of ministry and mission and to become “beacons of light” in their communities.

During her talk before the vote, she said “If you choose to have me go on the path with you, know that I lead with relationship and partnership and building trusting connections.” When asked about aging congregations she

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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 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 . . .

- September 4, 2022- 10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Joanne Painter
- September 10, 2022- 5:00 p.m. – Drive Thru Pot Roast Supper
- September 11, 2022- 10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Joanne Painter
- September 12, 2022- 4:30 p.m. – Deacon’s meeting in Vestry.
- September 18, 2022- 10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Joanne Painter
- September 25, 2022- 10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Joanne Painter

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 the service on September 4 , 2022 will be recorded.

Line Dancing will be on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.. Fridays are a low impact class. Line dance classes are on a break until September 8th.

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

The Knitting Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month (September 13th and September 27th) 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, Michael Cadotte, Louise Doyle,
Polly Dyer, Christine Eldridge, Linda Eldridge,
Rick Emery, Nate Rand, Charlotte Rowe,
Petra Smyth, Penny Warrikoff.

September Lectionary Lessons

September 4, 2022 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1
Philemon 1:1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 11, 2022 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

September 18, 2022 - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Psalm 79:1-9
Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

September 25, 2022 - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

From the Pastor, continued . . .

talked about aging in all denominations. Churches have had to mourn that there are not as many children and families. Maybe we need to start looking at a different cohort – the 40s, 50s.....80s. If you don't have families and children, it does not mean your church cannot be vital/alive – you can! She would like to help churches to realize that they are good enough and they are deeply blessed regardless of size...particularly small churches. The wave of the future is the small church! 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.

MISSIONS CORNER

Gregoire Front Porch Update

The August Weathervane provided a “before” picture and a sketch of the finished deck. Before the build began, Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center went all out to raise the money for the project. By 7/29, Bike Adventure Build Day, all the money we thought was needed to build the deck was raised, some of it through deep discounts from suppliers. ***You were a part of that!***

On 7/29, locals and Fuller Center bike riders converged on the Gregoire’s. By the end of the day, there was a deck in place that John could roll out the door onto the deck, with Linda by his side. She wrote a heartfelt note to us all thanking us for this treasured gift for herself and John – to be outside!



For news coverage on that day – click this link to Channel 6 <https://www.newscentermaine.com/watch>

I hope to show you pictures of a finished porch, and the ADA door, in the next Weathervane.

August Missions - Raymond Food Pantry - personal care products

As of this writing, on 8/21, we have collected 40 personal care items. We have extended the collection timeframe through Sunday, September 4.

September Mission – School Kits

We would normally be taking advantage of “Back to School” sales to gather items for school kits. Due to generous donations in previous years, we have plenty of school kit supplies. We will collect hygiene kit items in the Spring and send in both hygiene kits and school kits to Church World Services sometime in June.

Worship Updates

Petra will be in Germany until September 30. During that time, Rev Joanne Painter will be our supply pastor for September. We are grateful she can be with us and lead worship! On October 2, Rev Jonna Jensen will join us and help Pastor Petra with transition back into the pulpit. 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.

September Worship and taping the worship service

For the month of September, we will continue taping only the first Sunday of the month which is communion.

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 on Friday morning and will adjust the advice as the levels change.

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 outside as the weather permits. 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

September 1	Bryce Sullivan
September 2	Roy Lindell
September 7	Emily & Will Feagans
September 10	Tracie Morris
September 13	Robin Morrison

LINE DANCING RETURNS!

Line dancing has been on a brief break due to illness. Classes will resume on September 8, 2022 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 rachelscountryhearts@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



Moses parting his hair



Don't miss our final "take out" Pot Roast Supper of the year:

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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