

The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

August, 2022

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From the Pastor . . .

When you receive this newsletter, I have entered my vacation time. It is with gratitude I say thank you to Rev. Alison Curry for covering pastoral emergencies while we are on Cape Cod visiting family. I will be returning on August 13th refreshed and renewed, and I look forward to seeing you.

Some of you have already had a hectic summer with traveling, hosting guests, attending weddings, and participating in family reunions and celebrations of your loved ones. There is a danger in not taking time off and consciously slowing down to be a "human being" and not a "human doing." In Maine, we can count on two hands how many weekends we will be blessed with being able to swim, boat, waterski, kayak, sunbathe, and not worry about being cold. I encourage each of you to practice Sabbath in your lives. Remember that Jesus disappeared many times to have some quiet to restore his energy. May you renew your spirits in a way that feeds you best.

Let me leave you with exciting news from the Maine Conference posted below:

With abundant joy, deep hope, and overflowing gratitude for the stirrings of the Holy Spirit, the Board of Directors of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ voted on June 16th, 2022, to wholeheartedly affirm the discernment of the Conference Search Committee, and to recommend the Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola be presented to delegates of the Maine Conference for their vote to elect and call her as our next Conference Minister. Accordingly, a Special Meeting of the Conference has been called for this purpose for Saturday, August 6th, 2022, at 1:00 pm at First Parish Church in Brunswick.

You will be able to cast your vote in person or via Zoom. Please look for the zoom invitation on the Maine Conference webpage, which is:

www.maineucc.org

Summer Blessings,

Rev. Petra Smyth

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 7, 2022- 10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Joanne Painter
- August 13, 2022- 5:00 p.m. – Drive Thru Pot Roast Supper
- August 14, 2022- 10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Allison Curry
- August 16, 2022- 4:30 p.m. – Deacon’s meet in Vestry.
- August 21, 2022- 10:00 a.m. - Worship
- August 23, 2022- 4:30 p.m. – Council & Deacon’s gathering at Tom & Bonnie’s.
- August 28, 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 the service on August 7 , 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 (August 9th & August 23rd) from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

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

August Lectionary Lessons

August 7, 2022 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 14, 2022 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 21, 2022 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 28, 2022 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Sirach 10:12-18 *or Proverbs 25:6-7*
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14



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 Frank Morrison,
Charlotte Rowe, Dan Tibbetts, Janet Walker,
Penny Warrikoff

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.

MISSIONS CORNER

July Missions – Grace Street Ministry – SOCKS, SOCKS AND MORE SOCKS!

On July 31, when Pastor Jeff is leading worship, we will hand him the socks we have collected. As of July 24, we have 218 pairs of socks to hand him along with 10-\$10 Dunkin gift cards. Thank you so much! Here are the socks as of July 24th:



August Missions

Raymond Food Pantry needs your help with personal care products

While the Pantry provides food on a regular basis, they generally provide personal care products when they are donated. The supply of personal products is low now, so this is our opportunity to help! In the month of August, please bring in any of the following:

Tooth brush	Disposable razor	Q tips
Tooth paste	Shaving cream – men’s & women’s	Deodorant
Dental floss	Bar bath soap	Mouth Wash
Rotapoints	Shampoo	Room air freshener

Please no nail polish or cosmetics or hairbrush/comb - the Pantry cannot accept these.

Seeds of Peace

Seeds of Peace is dedicated to the pursuit of peaceful change in communities divided by conflict. Seeds of Peace develops courageous leaders. Their network now includes 7,300 alumni throughout the Middle East, South Asia, Europe, and the United States who are uniquely positioned to lead change. They pursue peaceful change in communities divided by conflict. An excerpt of their values is provided below from their website at <https://www.seedsofpeace.org/our-values/>

We recognize that there are many possible paths to peace. We do not prescribe or advocate for particular political solutions, nor are we affiliated with any political party or religious institution.

Our Seeds and Educators are at the heart of everything we do, as it is their realities and futures that are most affected by the conflicts that define their lives. They hold a wide range of beliefs and opinions on how to end the conflicts within and between their societies. Their common ground, however, is the belief in and commitment to dialogue and informed leadership as the basis for meaningful economic, social, and political change and the most effective tools in the pursuit of peace.

As an organization, we affirm our opposition to dynamics, institutions, and structures that are obstacles to peace, including Racism, Sexism, Classism, Political Violence, Colonialism, Military Occupation, anti-Semitism, and Islamophobia. We support our alumni as they work to end these obstacles.

The Mission fund will contribute \$500 to Seeds of Peace.

Summary of Tuesday, July 19, 2022 Coordinating Council/Deacons Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Tom Wiley. Present were Brenda, Rolf, Nancy, Judy, Tom, and Deb. Petra was unable to join zoom meeting due to power outage. Rolf offered the opening prayer, relaxing video and music to "All Things Bright and Beautiful". Tom reviewed the agenda, set end time of 6:15 to 6:30.

Treasurer's Report: Brenda presented a summary of financials for the second quarter of 2022. Total income of \$14,316, was under budget by \$4,690 for the quarter. This includes the loss of \$5,427 in the American Funds. Total income, year to date is \$32,891, under budget by \$4,671, including loss of \$8,279 in the American Funds. Total expenses for the quarter of \$24,401 are under budget by \$124, but over budget by \$1,173 year to date. Most of the losses during the quarter are due to a loss of \$15,000 in the American Funds. She has moved any high risk funds to minimize any future losses. Some of them are sitting in a no risk money market account within the American Funds, the rest have been transferred to our cash account. Her other concern for the rest of 2022 is the cost of heating oil. It was suggested that we might look into a budget plan with the oil company, cost per gallon could be capped at a certain amount. Brenda still believes that the church has the funds to make another 2 to 2 ½ years.

Clerk: nothing to report

Trustees: nothing to report

Christian Education: nothing to report

Stewardship: We have two more pot roast suppers, one in August, the last in September.

Deacons: They have met, and are all set with schedules for the next two months.

Moderator: Tom and Bonnie would like to do a pool party again this summer for deacons and council members, and spouses. Dates were discussed, possibly on Tuesday, August 23, combined with a brief business meeting.

Pastor: In Petra's absence, Tom reported that Frank Morrison had passed away on Saturday evening at Gosnell Hospice. No plans for a service have been made at this time. The Imagine Group (Chan Roach, Bob Yates, Alice Oldford, and Petra) will meet again this Thursday. Petra leaves for vacation after service this Sunday. Pastor Jeff of Grace Street Ministry will preach on July 31, Joanne Painter, on August 7, and Allison Curry will preach on August 14. Allison will also cover pastoral emergencies.

Old Business: Rolf reported that the thrift shop is gone, and the driveway has been redone. Brenda and Nancy Yates will prepare 40 lunches for the Fuller Center on July 29.

New Business: The Weathervane will be printed on July 26. The Deacons will meet next on August 16, and there will be a joint council/deacons meeting on August 23.

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 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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

August 5	Deb Feagans
August 5	Judy Munson
August 7	Angela St. Pierre
August 17	Polly Dyer
August 17	Linda Eldridge



Moderator Musings

I know it has been a while since I have taken the time to put the keyboard in action for an article for the Weathervane. Many folks have commented that they have missed the musings. For those that do not know I got a promotion in October.

As I learn my new job and role, I have been working long hours. Thus, I have not yearned to do any writing. But alas, here is a Moderator Musings for your enjoyment. These thoughts indeed came about as a result of my new job, and I put the thoughts down to share.

I want to write about the maturity of summer vacation. As a youngster I would recall summer vacation always meant staying at our family camp. There really were only two rules. Always wear a life preserver and the proverbial "You can't go swimming until a half hour after you have eaten." I remember the countdown dearly.

But other than that, summer vacation used to be a time to be carefree. Constant fishing, berry picking, going for walks up and down the camp road and swimming. There was nothing like summer vacation.

As I got older there were new adventures added but summer vacation still provoked memories of being carefree. My father bought a camper, and we spent many trips traveling to New Hampshire or the down east coast of Maine. As a young teenager we would travel to fairs in Bangor and Skowhegan during the summer. Add playing in the Babe Ruth League of Little League baseball and you have all a young boy could ever dream of. And the highlight of the Little League season was always a trip to Fenway Park to end the season.

During high school, many days in summer were spent doing a variety of the things mentioned earlier but also some new priorities came along. Namely I would begin to become a responsible adult and mow a few lawns for an income stream and then ultimately took drivers education one summer.

After high school, summer vacation always meant catching up with former classmates on camping trips. We used these trips to hang onto our youth and discover the complexities of adulthood and having to be even more responsible. Little did we know.

The next level of summer vacation camping trips would even include girlfriends, which then led to families and then a new type of summer vacation. That would be making sure

we took our children to the summertime theme parks, beaches, and always getting ice cream. Being carefree had gone away at this time. Now I would need to be responsible for others.

As the children aged, my summer vacations would change again. I spent many weeks of my summer vacation at scout camp as a leader. I even had the pleasure of taking my daughter with me to a scout camp in Albuquerque. I spent the day in training, and she spent her day with other youth and exploring the mountains and wildlife of the area.

The next generation of my summer vacation involved two trips to the Boy scout National Jamboree as a leader and staff member.

The importance of summer vacation changed again as I became involved with the church mission trips to Cherryfield. This was to assist with the housing rehabilitation programs of the Maine Seacoast Mission.

After spending time with the mission and my camping with scouts ended, I anticipated the next version of summer vacation, I was looking forward to just relaxing and enjoying summer again. I could get back to my youth. Fishing, swimming, berry picking and being carefree. Well, it sounded like a good plan.

But the reality is that the next version of my summer vacation changed again and has required me to be a responsible boss in my new job. After years of only having to worry about my family's schedule for vacation, now I must pay attention to that of my staff. I need to ensure that we have proper coverage for three departments. If one of the foremen is off, then I must provide direct supervision to that group while the foreman is away. Then I must make sure that all the shifts are covered.

By the time I get this figured out, **I will really need a summer vacation.**

But I'll always have my memories.....

Tom Wiley Moderator

A Remembrance for Frank Morrison

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Morrison family. A remembrance will be held in the fall at the Cumberland Congregational Church.

Condolences and tributes may be shared with Frank's family at:

<http://www.halfuneralhome.net>

Thank you!

*Our Altar looks beautiful every Sunday thanks to
Chan Roach and Anita Holmquist!*



*Altar on Sunday July 17 - Anita's flowers on the left and flowers from
Chan in the center and right.*



*Beautiful arrangement from Anita Holmquist on July 24 with colors in
honor of Ukraine.*



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

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.



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Gregoire Front Porch Update

Site work has begun. And the frame of the deck built. On 7/29, volunteers will converge on the worksite and build the deck flooring. After that is complete the builder will return to put on the roof and finish up. Next month, hopefully we can show you a picture of the ADA door. This month, here is the “before” picture and a drawing of the finished deck.

