

Mountain Reflections

Rangeley Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 218 Rangeley, Maine

04970

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Cyndy Egan

Happy Summer Everyone!

We held our Annual Meeting on July 9th with a total of 21 voting members present. This year's Annual Report was dedicated to Liz Volckening as a way to show our appreciation for her love and generosity to our Church over the years. The changes to our Church's By-Laws was approved unanimously. These changes make it easier for our Board/Committees to do their business by doing away with term limits and decreasing the minimum number of members and quorum requirements. We also have two new Living Water Association Delegates with Sue Downes-Borko and Janice Bredeau. Lucy Simonds will be a Maine Conference Delegate, a second delegate slot is still open so please let Council know if you are interested.

At our July 10th Council meeting Cyndy Egan was voted in again as Moderator, Millie Hoekstra as Vice-Moderator for the coming year. Council will work on placing a framed photo of Rev. Leslie on our Minister's recognition wall in the East Room.

The Red Cross Blood Drive held in The Barn on July 5th went very well on our end as the event host thanks to Sue Downes-Borko who volunteered to be the coordinator. Though the blood donor schedule was fully booked some folks had to cancel because the RC ran into transportation issues and was an hour late starting. Also a big thank you to those who baked goodies for folks to enjoy after donating- the treats were a hit!

Linda Caspar announced she will need to step down as Coffee Hour Coordinator Extraordinaire at the end of August. Sarah Johnson has kindly stepped up and will be taking over this role- thank you Sarah. We appreciate all Linda has done to keep coffee hour alive and well for the post-service fellowship we love!



It looks like the Deacons have a nice assortment of folks lined up for pulpit supply over the next couple of months- we are truly thankful for all the time and effort they put in. Our Maine UCC Council Minister Rev. Marisa Laviola will preach on September 10th. After the service the Visioning Committee/Sustainability Team will have a congregational meeting with Marisa to discuss our next steps as a church going forward: Do we want an Interim Minister or continue with pulpit supply? (we've done both transitional approaches in the past). What is the availability of part-time ministers or is a shared minister the way to go? We are looking forward to a broad discussion with Marisa and hope many of you can join us- Zoom will be available.

Council also greatly appreciates the time and effort from our Buildings and Grounds crew. New paint on the Church steps and ramp, roof repairs to the Annex and Barn, the flowers are looking lovely this summer and of course the ongoing struggle with Fidium- we will eventually have upgraded internet, God willing!

I also want to mention Council's heartfelt thanks to Dave Walker and all he has done to make our Zoom services and meetings happen these past 3 years. Dave is no longer able to attend our Sunday services, as he will be enjoying services delivered by Becky at the churches she now serves.

Blessings to you All!
Cyndy Egan, Moderator



Buildings and Grounds Committee Rick Baker

Tim Haley finished the new shingles over the East Room and its entry. New sheet rock was placed over the sinks in LMS by him. We will need a volunteer to paint it by early August.

Tim will do the shingle work over LMS soon.

We are waiting for parts to repair the toilet in LMS.

Some bushes have been trimmed to stop the mess they were creating on our steps and ramp into sanctuary.



In mid-September a Sunday service will be focused on doing various maintenance on / in the church and Barn.

Members: Bob Silva, Don Chase, Fred Dubay, Kirby Holcombe

Respectfully submitted, Rick Baker



Nancy Zambraski

Summer is in full swing here in Rangeley. Women's Fellowship participated in the Annual Strawberry Festival held on July 13th in Oquossoc. Even though it seems it has rained every day this summer, the rain held out and our spirits were joyful. Many thanks to all who helped with set-up, work the booth, break-down **AND** those who contributed by making jams, breads, and crafts. All our efforts paid off as we made over \$2,700 for our mission of giving to charities. What a joy to work with you all!

Our next endeavor will be the Blueberry Festival held in Rangeley on August, 17th. ***YIKES! That's right around the corner!*** There will be a sign-up sheet in the barn to work the festival. We will need lots of bakers and jam makers. We will be concentrating on anything BLUEBERRY! If you can help (or bake), just let me know.

Our prayer shawl group has continued this summer also. There have been several requests which are being filled and sent out. If you know of anyone who is in need of a shawl, either for celebration or comfort, please contact me. Thanks to all who help continue this great and caring tradition.

As always, the Women's Fellowship and Prayer Shawl group meet the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month from 10 am to 12 noon in the barn. All are welcome to come and knit, craft or just enjoy fellowship time.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Zambraski, WF/PS co-chair





Mission Board

Sue Downes-Borko

Don Miller

Our Mission crew recently presented a skit to bring attention to our ongoing offering: One Great Hour of Sharing. 95% of our donations for the OGHS offering will be used through the UCC to help address refugee and asylum issues, migration, disasters, and assisting those most in need and vulnerable among us.

Wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and flooding have ravaged communities in the United States and worldwide, leaving families and communities in desperate need of assistance.

If you wish to give, please make out a check to our church with OGHS in the memo line. Thank you!



Deacon News

Claire Chase

Lucy Simonds

Well, summer appears to have arrived! The Deacons have been focused on making sure that worship and service continues at RCC. In July we were pleased to have Rev. Doug Dunlap lead us in a worship service focused on small churches and how to look not to the past but to the future. He encouraged us to always remember, as a congregation, what Rangeley Congregational Church is called to be and do. We look forward to discovering new ways to worship and serve.

Looking ahead we have a variety of worship services planned.

- August 6 - Worship and Communion offered by Rev. Jack Zappulla a retired UCC minister from Connecticut
- August 13 - Worship led by Stan Wheeler
- August 20 - Worship led by Scott Hatfield
- August 27 - A service of song hosted by Sue Downes-Borko



- September 3 - Worship led by Scott Hatfield
- September 10 - Rev. Marisa Laviola, Maine Conference Minister, will be offering worship
- September 17 - TBD
- September 24 - Worship led by Rev. Dick Waddell

Otherwise, Claire Chase and Lucy Simonds have been learning how to offer a Zoom service and will offer this whenever possible, barring scheduling challenges.



Music Notes

Sue Downes-Borko

June and July have been interesting months for music, as we reconnected with old friends and welcomed new ones. What a great joy to have our Hopeful Gospel group together on the same week that Rev. Bill Carter was here! Derek and Linda Wendelken and Tim Wallace joined Kit Caspar and I for some old hymns and folk tunes.

The Rangeley Ringers handbell choir finished out their season by playing for a Baptist church service and are taking a break for summer.

It has been a treat to work with such a variety of ministers, who each bring a different perspective and preaching style to us. Each one has worked smoothly with me to build a service where the music and word are coordinated and support each other.

August 27 will be filled with folk music and hymns. Please share your requests with me!

Blessings,
Sue



August - September
Facilities and Events Highlights Calendar

Activity	Day	Aug. Dates	Sept. Dates	Time	Place
Worship	Sunday	Aug. 6 Aug. 13 Aug. 20 Aug. 27	Sept. 3 Sept. 10 Sept. 17 Sept. 24	10:00am	Sanctuary
Coffee Hour	Sundays			11:00am	Barn
Finance Committee	Monday	Aug 14	Sept 11	2:45pm	East Room/Zoom
Church Council	Monday	Aug. 14	Sept. 11	4:00pm	East Room/Zoom
Women's Fellowship	Friday	Aug. 11	Sept. 25	10:00am-12pm	Barn
Deacons	Monday	Aug. 21	Sept. 18	4:00pm	East Room/Zoom
Piano Lessons w/ Erin S.	Tuesdays	Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	Sept.	11:30am-3:00pm	East Room

