

# Mountain Reflections

Rangeley Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 218 Rangeley, Maine

04970

February 2025

Vol. 32 Issue 1



Cyndy Egan

Brrrrrr, the weather has brought a bitter, cold introduction to 2025 here in the Rangeley area! Speaking of cold temperatures, it has been brought to Council's attention that we need to send out a reminder for folks to close interior doors (especially the door to the uninsulated Barn attic) and turn the thermostat down when you leave the Barn/East Room/Offices. It's the easiest way to save money and not waste heating fuel.

Council greatly appreciates our superstar worship team of Stan, Scott and Tony and our Deacons during Advent season. Folks truly enjoyed Lucy Simonds sharing her gifts with leading service on Christmas Eve- thank you Lucy. The F-Team will be leading a Congregational Family Gathering the last Sunday in February on the 23rd in place of a regular Sunday worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to take feedback on how things are going and to discuss long-term goals. We will email out a proposed Agenda and start at 10:30 rather than 10am and finish up by noon. Soups will be served so come and enjoy Fellowship with the F-Team!

Warm Blessings to All-

Cyndy Egan, Council Moderator





## Music Notes

Sue Downes-Borko

Thank you so much for all the assistance to make our Sips and Songs a success! Whether you created food with TLC, helped setup or clean up The Barn, contributed hymn suggestions, or brought your voice to the mix, it was a time of amazing food and wonderful fellowship.

If there is a special song on your mind, music requests are always welcome.



## Deacon News

Claire Chase

Lucy Simonds

So much has happened since the penning of our December contribution to the RCC newsletter. Friends and members of our church family have suffered through a variety of respiratory illnesses, surgeries, family emergencies, and the loss of loved ones. Such heavy burdens to carry. Yet, it is in those times that the strength of our faith and faith family helps us to carry the load.

The Deacons are grateful for the flexibility of our congregation as worship plans were upended and alternative worship services offered. Through it all we were still able to gather in community and prayer. Such gifts!

Last year, under the leadership of Pastor Scott Hatfield and Fr. Thom Rock, from Good Shepherd, we shared Palm Sunday worship. The Deacons will be having a conversation with Fr. Thom Rock in February to talk about ways that we might join in worship again this year.

Looking ahead RCC will still need to draw upon its patience, resilience, and flexibility as we worship together. The schedule provided below reflects our plans to date.

February 2 - Pastor Scott Hatfield

February 9 - Pastor Scott Hatfield

February 16 - Rev. Stan Wheeler

February 23 - F - Team

March 2 - Pastor Scott Hatfield

March 9, Pastor Scott Hatfield



March 16 - Rev. Stan Wheeler

March 23 - Rev. Stan Wheeler

March 30 - TBD



Nancy Zambraski

Women's Fellowship is taking a well-deserved break and will resume in May, but the Women's Winter Social is going strong. If you are interested in attending, please contact Marcia Baker ([marciambaker@gmail.com](mailto:marciambaker@gmail.com)) to get on the email list. You can participate in games, Mahjong, puzzles, knitting, fellowship and a soup lunch – something for everyone to warm the soul during these cold winter months. Gatherings occur on the second and fourth Fridays of the month from 10-12 and are held in the Barn. A big thanks to Marcia for organizing these meetings.

On January 18 we were honored to be involved in the celebration of life following the memorial service for Rev. Tony MacNaughton's beloved wife, Jane. Many thanks to all the women of our church and the community for making this a special remembrance for Rev. Tony and his family.

It's been decided that the Women's Fellowship meeting to distribute funds from the 2024 Festivals and Holly Fair will be held on May 9 th – our first meeting of the 2025 women's fellowship. More information will follow in the future.

Anyone in need of a prayer shawl, please let me know. If you have prayer shawls to donate, you can drop it off at the barn during Women's Winter Social. Please contact me with any questions. ([nzambraski@gmail.com](mailto:nzambraski@gmail.com)).

Be kind,

Nancy Zambraski (Co-chair)



## Buildings and Grounds Committee Rick Baker

I hate to say this but it's been rather uneventful. There have been multiple small snow events that did not need plowing but only clearing of ramps and sanding.

New ice-melt tubs have been placed at entrance to sanctuary and church office.

The December 2024 rains did not have any consequences for the church.

The Xmas Eve service demonstrated how much debris gets tracked into the sanctuary with 60+ people. It took a bit to pick it all up.

The Xmas tree was taken down by a small group of us just before New Year's Sunday.

Rick also reported that there have not been any mice trapped lately.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick B

### February/March

### 2025 Facilities and Events Highlights Calendar

Activity	Time/Day	February & March Dates
<b>WORSHIP</b> Sanctuary	10:00am, Sunday	Feb 2 – Pastor Scott Hatfield Feb 9 – Pastor Scott Hatfield Feb 16 – Rev. Stan Wheeler Feb 23 – F-Team Mtg (no worship) Mar 2 – Pastor Scott Hatfield Mar 9 – Pastor Scott Hatfield Mar 16 – Rev Stan Wheeler Mar 16 – Rev Stan Wheeler Mar 23 – Rev Stan Wheeler Mar 30 – TBD
<b>COFFEE HOUR</b> Barn	11:00am, Sunday	(see dates above)



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<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> East Room & Zoom	3:15pm, Monday	Feb 10	March 10
<b>COUNCIL COMMITTEE</b> East Room & Zoom	4:00pm, Monday	Feb 10	March 10
<b>DEACONS' MEETING</b> East Room & Zoom	4:00pm, Monday	Feb 17	March 17
<b>ECUMENICAL MAHJONG</b> Barn	1:00-3:00pm, 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays	Feb 3 & 17	March 3 & 17
<b>RANGELEY RINGERS REHEARSAL</b> Sanctuary	8-9:30am, Mondays	Feb & March	
<b>MOM/BABY SOCIAL HOUR</b> Barn	11:00am, Each Wednesday	Feb & March	
<b>PIANO/VOICE LESSONS</b> Sanctuary	3-5pm, Tues, Wed & Fri's.	Feb & March	
<b>WINTER WOMENS SOCIAL</b> Barn	10am-12pm , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri's.	Feb 14 & 28	March 14 & 28

