

We are happy to have you here!

The Lectionary is a group of four verses that Christians all over the world read each week. Here are this week's Lectionary readings:

Reading from the Old Testament: Exodus 1:8-20

Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 124

Reading from the Epistles: Romans 12:1-8

Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 16:13-20

Bells of Joy begins rehearsals on Friday, August 28 at 3:00 pm. Contact Karen James for more information.

Joy Choir will begin on Sunday, September 6 with rehearsal at 9:30 am. See Ann Reed for more information.

Bible Study. Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom. Contact the office or Pastor Tom for Zoom link.

Amount needed to keep RUMC going: **\$ 8,000 per month.**
Tithes and offerings so far in August: **\$ 3,499**

It's time for the 2nd Annual Bowling Fundraiser!
Go to rutlandneighbors.org or contact the office!



BOWL FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS.
CHANGE LIVES. ♥

Care 2 Spare

2026 BOWLING FUNDRAISER

— STRIKE UP HOPE. SPARE A LIFE. —

A fun-filled day of bowling, food, prizes and community spirit—
all to support Rutland Neighbors and our mission to
share meals, connect hearts and create hope.



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 4, 2026
11:30 AM & 2:30 PM



BOWLERAMA
RUTLAND, VT



TEAMS • PRIZES
RAFFLES • FOOD • FUN
MAKING AN IMPACT TOGETHER!



REGISTER
A TEAM
Gather your friends, coworkers



JOIN
A TEAM
Don't have a team?



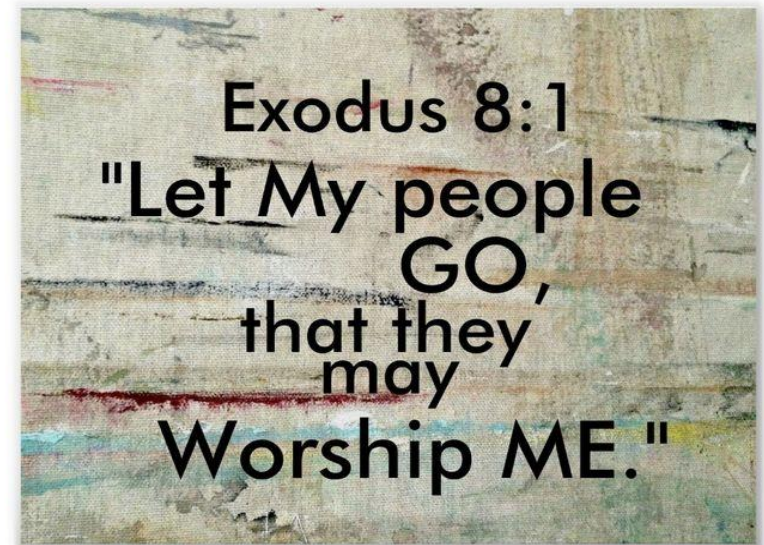
REGISTER AS
AN INDIVIDUAL
Register as an individual
and support our



DONATE
Choose a team member
or participant to donate to

RUTLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 23, 2026



Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tom Atkins

60 Strongs Avenue ~ Rutland, Vermont 05701

Office: 802.773.2460 ~ Email: rutlandumc@aol.com

Website: rutlandumc.com

Pastor Atkins ~ 802.645.0499 ~ tom@quarryhouse.us

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In a world where powerful people make decisions to lift themselves up and cast others aside, how does God teach us to use our power?

All: God teaches us to protect the vulnerable, resist the oppressors, and persist in doing good.

Leader: In a world where power means might, how does God show us what power means?

All: We follow Christ's example of power in love, in caring for one another.

Leader: Beloved, we gather to recognize our world as it is and to proclaim that God would have us be more. We gather to grow as disciples and imitators of Christ. So, how will you use your power today?

All: We will worship the God of love, side with the vulnerable, build community in the margins, and love with the exuberant and all-encompassing love of Christ. Amen.

HYMN *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* UMH 127

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

We come to your word and spirit, O God, that in your light we might see light, in your truth find wisdom and, in Your will, discover your peace and your power. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Let My People Go*

SCRIPTURE

**Exodus 5:1, Exodus 8:1,
Exodus 9:1, Exodus 10:3**

SERMON

Let My People Go

**HYMN *Go Down Moses*
Verses 1, 2, 10, 11**

UMH 448

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Faithful God, receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your way of life over the ways of death, of courage over control, of welcome over exclusion. Use what we offer to strengthen your church as a living witness to your grace, that through our sharing and our serving, others may discover the identity of Christ and the hope found in him. Amen.

OFFERTORY

How Great Thou Art

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand* UMH 724

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG *God is Good All the Time* W&S 3026

Piano: **Ann Reed**
Special Music: **Paul Whitney,**
Bill Gibson, Pastor Tom
Videographer: **Carol Wright**
Ushers: **Diane Sharrow, Craig Cota,**
Carl Wener, Paul Dunbar