



July/August, 2025

THE IN-SPIRE

The Rutland United Methodist Church Newsletter

"Mark Your Calendar"

Sundays at 11:15 am: **Worship** (in person, by Zoom and live on Facebook).

Sunday, July 13: **Outdoor Worship** at the home of Kristen Jarvi with potluck to follow. Contact the office for directions.

Sunday, July 20 at 2 pm: **Tour of 71 Williams Street.**

Monday, July 21 at 6 pm: **Leadership Team** Meeting via Zoom.

Friday, July 25: **Bowling Fundraiser** for CIW. See below.

Saturday, August 16 at 1 pm: **Summer Fun & Games** afternoon at the Godnick Senior Center.

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



Message from Pastor Tom

Whew? What happened to June?

Summer is often a slow down time for churches. And we do slow a couple of things down each year. Joy Choir, Bells of Joy and Sunday School take the summer off. But everything else stays going full speed.

We had our ice cream social and a baptism. We have an outside worship in a couple of weeks. We have a game day going. Ann has to hustle to get us music each week without a choir or bell choir to call on. We are looking to rearrange some of our back rooms. We have another person coming up to join our church. We are fielding a team for the bowling fundraiser at the end of July (We still need three bowlers - let me know if you want to be a part.). We have....well you get the picture.

There is always work to be done. And we are blessed that so many of our members step up to do that work. But the one thing I never want us to do is get so involved in our to-do list that we forget to stop and connect with God.

"Be still and know I am God" says the psalmist in Psalm 46. Finding, hearing, experiencing and connecting to God happens in the quiet. In the stillness. When we wait and listen to the whisper.

Enjoy the summer. Do the stuff. But make sure to slow down to make room for the one who makes it all possible, for the one who loves you more completely, for the one who powers us through the good times and bad. God is waiting on us. Make sure we take the time to wait on him in stillness.

Be well, Tom

"TOUR" of 71 Williams Street

On **Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 pm** all are invited to take a "tour" of 71 Williams Street to help us decide if we want to pursue the possibility of returning to the building. We will meet Pastor Braden Etcheson there at that time to go through the Church.



Financial FYI

For January through June, we received \$37,422 in identified and loose plate tithes and offerings, which averages \$6,237 per month. This is just short of our budgeted (anticipated) amount of \$79,500 for the year. Keep in mind that we need an average of \$6,625 monthly to keep up with expenses. We honor the Lord by helping RUMC sustain its good work in serving. Thank you for your generosity and continued faithfulness!



Thank you, Pastor Tom for one year (already!) at RUMC, serving the Lord and nurturing the people. We look forward to many more!

“Care2Spare” Fundraiser

Do you like to bowl? Companions in Wholeness is hosting a bowling fundraiser at Bowlerama on the morning of **Friday, July 25**. Rutland UMC is putting together a team of four, and you can be a part of this fun time!

SCHEDULE FOR THE MORNING

- 8:00 – 8:15 AM Welcome & Team Check-In; Coffee/Juice & Treats
Get your lane, warm up, and meet other teams ...
- 8:56 AM — “3, 2, 1, ... First Throw”
Two Strings which will include a variety of contests and challenges
- 10:30 AM — Award, Group Photo, Brief Announcements
Last String Challenge — To Be Announced
- 11:45 AM — Lunch & Prizes

Care2Spare — July 25, 2025 at the Rutland Bowlerama



32 Teams

Sponsoring business, group, organization, or agency

Team Fee:

Choose a Tier — \$500 / \$375 / \$250

All funds will help Rutland Neighbors to meet the need of neighbors who are homeless/housing insecure, who are hungry, or who are otherwise struggling with poverty.

Teams: 4 Members

Members find supporters — “Can you help with just \$10 or more?”

Team Cheerleaders: No Limit

The team members and cheerleaders arrive to Rutland Bowlerama on July 25 at 8:15 for check-in. Team Spirit matters!

The first throw is at 8:56 AM. The event will come to a close shortly after 12 Noon.

Care and Connect Team

Life is short; eat dessert first! Which is what we did for our third annual **Ice Cream Social**. Thanks to Stewart's generous donation of ice cream, toppings and sprinkles, we enjoyed ice cream sundaes after worship on June 22. Attendance was good, which we were hoping for.

On July 13, we will **worship outdoors** at Kristin Jarvi's place, followed by a potluck lunch with a “Summer Favorites” theme. Bring a chair and a summer entree, dessert, treat or beverage. Ann will surprise us with appropriate worship music and if we are lucky, Wilson will accompany us!

On August 16 we will meet at the Godnick Senior center for an **afternoon of outdoor games**. Bring a chair, game, beverage and snack if you wish. There is a covered picnic area and new walking trails and restrooms.

Looking for September inspiration, and a few volunteers for these events, if you can help us.

Irene Goebel, Care & Connect Team



Outdoor Worship 2024



Fun and Games Afternoon 2023



The day-to-day remains much the same at Companions in Wholeness - BUSY. In the month of May, there was an average of 123 breakfasts and 110 lunches served per day. June will see similar numbers. Everyone is thankful that the cold has finally moved along but unfortunately, the heat can be equally oppressive. We see an increase in the number of neighbors on the hot, humid days as they enjoy the air-conditioned space.

The requests for items such as sleeping bags, tents, blankets, tarps, and clothing continue. So many of our neighbors are street homeless and struggling to find a safe, dry place to sleep. Our neighbors need **battery packs, tarps, tents, extreme weather sleeping bags, and sturdy but lightweight duffel bags or backpacks**. If you're able to help, please let us know.

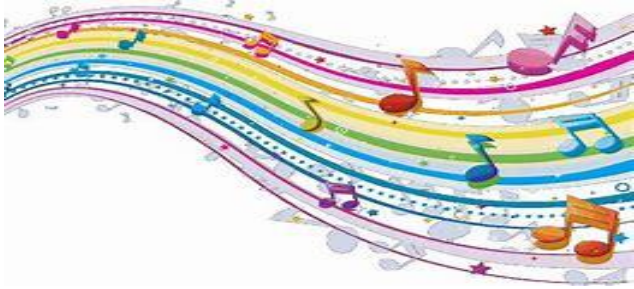
Thank you to all who made the "Colin's Run" fundraiser a great success! Throughout the month of May, CIW raised over \$17,000 in unrestricted funds. This has allowed us to continue feeding and supporting our neighbors.

On July 25, CIW is hosting "Care2Spare," a bowling fundraiser to support our important work. Thirty-two teams will come together to support the vital work of feeding and caring for our neighbors here in Rutland who are housing and food insecure. Whether you're a pro bowler or just in it for laughs, Care2Spare is a chance to have fun and make a difference. Grab your friends, family, coworkers—or go solo—and help us strike out hunger and homelessness in Rutland. To learn more and register, visit www.companionsinwholeness.org/care.

CIW is so incredibly grateful to the many volunteers who generously give their time. It simply could not happen without their support. We continue to need volunteers to come in later on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday around 10:45 to assist with serving lunch and cleaning up. Any help is truly appreciated. This is great opportunity to get to know our neighbors.

Book Group has started again. They are currently reading **Encampment by Maggie Helwig** and meeting each Friday at 10 a.m. at RUMC.

Jennifer Yakunovich, President, CIW and **Ellie McGarry**, Director, CIW
companionsinwholeness@gmail.com or 802-236-3136



Music Notes and Worship Team Update

The month of June was a busy month for the music ministry. The Bells of Joy had a joint concert with the Grace church's Tintinnabula Handbell choir. The Grace Sanctuary Choir and Children's Choir also sang at this Pentecost concert. It was enjoyed by all.

Several members of Bells of Joy attended the Area 1 Conference in Worcester Massachusetts from June 26 - June 29. We practiced and formed a massed handbell choir with other bell choirs across New England. We had a concert on the last day. It was a great experience. The classes were very informative and the conductors were wonderful.

On Monday, June 23 the Worship committee met and talked about special music and worship for the Summer. We also chose a closing song for July and August. We will sing *May You Run and Not Be Weary*. Please let Ann Reed know if you would like to share music during the summer.

The Joy Choir **will resume practice and will sing in Church on Sunday, September 7.**

Ann Reed, Music Director



Rutland UMC's Bells of Joy

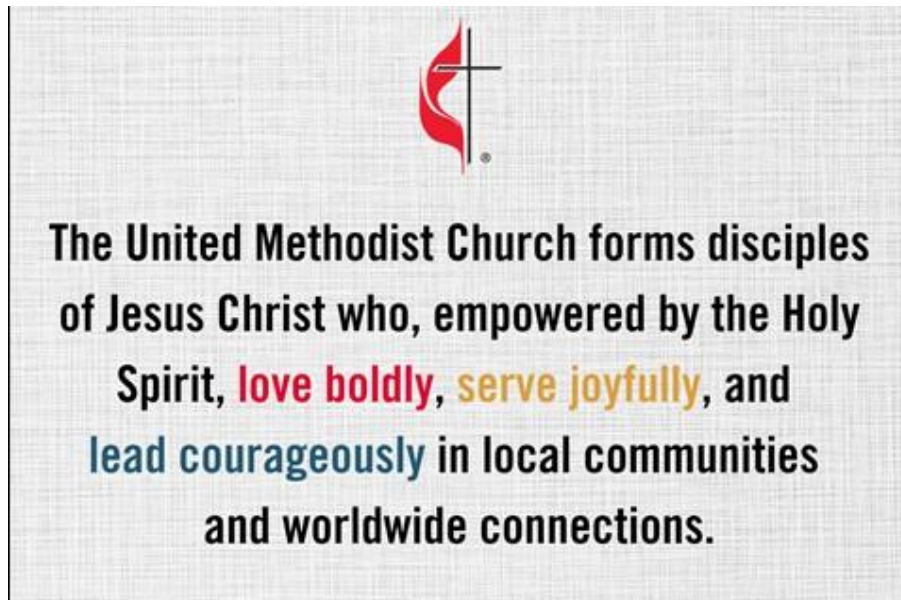
July & August Birthdays & Anniversaries

JULY		AUGUST	
2	Allyson Stoodley	2	Isabella O'Connor
7	Don & Lexi Moore ♥	3	Debbie Stone
8	Linda Allen	7	Ed & Daphne Hemmer ♥
10	Christopher Whitney	7	Trudy Billings
11	Pam Allen	18	Blanche Kelley
11	Lorraine Dotson	18	Peter Colomb, Sr.
15	Vikki Colomb	22	John & Dianne Anderson ♥
18	Katelyn O'Connor	26	Danielle Wakker Yango
18	Jackie Gauthier	28	Kristen Jarvi
22	Joan Cota	30	Peter and Stacy Colomb ♥
24	Pastor Tom Atkins		
27	Don Moore		
27	Catherine Ricketts		

Did we forget anyone? Please email the office if you wish to add someone to the list!

Rutland United Methodist Church

60 Strongs Avenue ~ Rutland, Vermont 05701
 802.773.2460 ~ Fax: 802.773.8491 ~ Email: rutlandumc@aol.com
 Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tom Atkins ~ 802.645.0499 ~ tom@quarryhouse.us



Love - No Exceptions