

Reeds Mill Church

“The Church in the Wildwood”

C/O Ginni Robie 956 Reeds Mill Road, Madrid, ME 04966
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Mission Statement:

To maintain the structure currently known as Reeds Mill Church in order to provide a house of Christian worship in Madrid Township, Maine, for all who seek or have chosen Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

June 2024

Greetings from Reeds Mill Church!

Last year we received a note about our newsletter. “I love the stories mixed in with business.” Which is what it should be. We’re not *just* about the business of running/maintaining a church. We’re also about the people and their stories – how they found us and why they stayed. Thank you for being those people!

Here’s the annual update of what’s been going on...

2023 Our summer services were joyful and uplifting as was the September Hymn Sing! It’s such a great tradition, to sing the old hymns under the glow of the kerosene lamps.

We were successful with deterring deer from eating the Hosta in our Memorial Garden thanks to Irish Spring soap. But there were no blooms! Perhaps because the deer ate the Hosta to the ground in 2022....We shall see what happens this year!

In September, the Sandy River Ramblers delivered an outstanding concert (as usual!). The church always appreciates the generosity of the Ramblers and the audience. This year they perform September 22nd, 2:00 PM.



Andrea Bailey and Ward Bredeau from Phillips were joined together in holy matrimony on November 1, witnessed by their sons, Dawson and Quin. Best wishes to this new family!

Tony Bachelder, one of our trustees, led our Thanksgiving worship service. He is particularly thankful for Reeds Mill Church! We all felt so blessed. Our voices rang out with hymns of praise and thanksgiving. We tried to introduce our new wireless microphone during this service, but there are still some kinks to work out. Another “we shall see.”

Over 100 people attended The Christmas Candlelight Service on December 17. It felt like the pandemic really is over! The message was about being an instrument for God, based on St. Francis of Assisi’s “Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace”. We enjoyed a rather exhilarating, though a little off key, performance of The Orchestra Song. I encourage you to listen to this song on line. Even better...listen to the service on the church website.



2024 We were very sad to learn Malcolm Webber, long-time lover of Reeds Mill Church, passed away March 14. Malcom was always up for a hug! When he’d come to service, he’d remove his cap and hang it on a certain hook, often forgetting to pick it up on his way out. We will be dedicating that hook to his memory with one of his caps. Family and friends will be gathering at Evergreen Cemetery, Phillips, on June 29

at 3:00. We also lost a neighbor, Betsy Squibb, who traditionally attended the Thanksgiving & Candlelight services. Her Celebration of Life was May 26.

We had to push a good amount of snow out of the way for parking and access to the building for Easter Sunday. But we did it! We celebrated all of Holy Week on Easter with Doug Dunlap and Ginni Robie leading worship.

Nancy Ludwig, one of our summer worship leaders, and her husband, Robert, who would occasionally play the organ for us, moved to Vermont. We wish them well, but we sure will miss them! Another worship leader, Fr. Thom from Rangeley, had to decline this year. He is caretaking his partner. Prayers appreciated.

This year's summer schedule...

<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
7 – Doug Dunlap	4 – Tony Bachelder	1– Steve Mitchell, Dean Olmstead
14 – Phyllis Blackstone	11 – Lorrie Aikens	8 – Ben Witherill
21 – Don Nelson	18 – Ginni Robie	15 - Tom Saviello
28 - John Lockaby	25 - Laura Church -Old Home Sunday (Potluck Noon, Worship 1:00)	

At our annual 2024 meeting we decided to start services June 1st next year. Mark that down NOW!

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

- *The Annual Hymn Sing - September 8, 7:00 PM (bring a flashlight)
- *Sandy River Ramblers - September 22, 2:00 PM
- *Thanksgiving morning - November 28, 10:00 AM.
- *Christmas Candlelight Service - December 22, 3:00 PM

ETC....

Clock – Our beloved clock has stopped tick-tocking. Perhaps it just needs a good cleaning? If you or someone you know might be able to make the pendulum swing again, please let us know.

Ladies Sewing Circle -The Circle continues to support the church by creating and selling their beautiful hand made quilts and other sewn items. They currently have quilts for sale and will do custom orders. The group meets the first and third Thursdays each month at Marie Bubier's home in Phillips. If you would like to join (no previous sewing experience necessary) or want to order a quilt, call Circle President, Terri Plog, 207-639-3276.

Maintenance - Our mission, as stated above, is about maintaining this beautiful, old place to keep it available to anyone who wants to come...for a really long time. We can use help with scraping and painting. This is a good opportunity for community service. We also appreciate someone to read scripture during services and providing flowers for the altar is always welcome. Maybe you or someone you know would love to lead a service here? And, although there are a few services when someone will play the organ, we'd love to hear it regularly. Let us know if you can help.

Trustees - Special thanks to our Trustees: Pam Searles, Naomi Henderson, Steve Mitchell, Sheryl Mosher, Sherry Nelson and Tony Bachelder. Dean Gray is replacing Mike Malesky this year. Thank you, Dean! Mike has a huge heart of this church, but he is no longer able to offer assistance and felt it was time to let someone else take his reigns. If you have the opportunity, please thank your trustees for their service to the church.

Our website, www.reedsmillchurch.org, has all the info you need about Reeds Mill Church: Services/events with dates/times; Worship Leaders; recordings of services; history of the church; past newsletters and Sewing Circle info. If you have ANY questions please don't hesitate to email or call.

May you be blessed with good health, safety, and uplifted spirits!

We appreciate the option of snail mail, but if you have an email you would share, we would send newsletters that way. Send your email to vrobie@live.com. Church information is all you will receive via email. Let us know if you'd prefer to be off the mailing list.