

**The Congregational Church of Rupert  
1786 Meeting House  
January 04, 2026**



*Everyone is Welcome Here*

**Mission of the Congregational Church of Rupert**

The mission of CCR is to seek to follow Jesus' teachings in his Sermon on the Mount, and to practice the words of Micah by living justly, by being kind and compassionate while walking with God in all humility

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Organist

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*\*signifies you should stand if you are able, **bold** signifies congregation speaks in unison.*

Prelude

Jeff Linebeck

*Welcome to the Historic 1786 Rupert Meeting House:*

Announcements

**Call to Worship**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

**People: Praise the Lord**

The Lords name be praised!

**\*Hymn #1 (New Century Hymnal - Black)** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Contemporary Epistle

*Though sometimes we may feel we are lost, and though there are always many parts of this old world that are hurting and appear to be in deep darkness, we must remember that the Light is always present, all around and within us. It is up to us to turn, just slightly, and find that all-encompassing Light within ourselves. When we do, we find also that we can see it without... We are called to be Light-bearers.*

## **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

*Pastoral Prayer* (In your mercy. **Lord, hear our prayer**)

*Please keep the following in Prayer: Wanda, Elizabeth, John, Carolyn B., Loretta R., Diane L., Tracy and family, Don L., Chris Steel, Jack Westrate, Jessica, Oliver, John Jahanian, Ed B., Alex and Setsu Carter, Andy and Ginny, Yacov Afiley, Carol Jean, Barbara Goldsmith. Those suffering with cancer and other diseases. Those who have lost loved ones in 2025. We thank God for hearing our prayers and for granting us and those for whom we pray peace. Amen*

## **December Birthdays**

**Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen.**

## *Offertory*

**Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above, Ye Heavenly Host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*(Tune: Old Hundredth from "Genevan Psalter", 1551)*

## *Dedication*

## *Scripture*

**Ephesians 1:3-14** (The Message) The God of Glory

<sup>3-6</sup>How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son. <sup>7-10</sup>Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. *Abundantly* free! He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth. <sup>11-12</sup>It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone. <sup>13-14</sup>It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This down



# Calendar

## January

1 New Year's Day

6 Epiphany

19 Martin Luther King, Jr Day

## February

2 Groundhog Day

Tu B'shvat

14 Valentines' Day

16 Presidents' Day

17 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Lunch & Abundant Harvest Sharing Shelf

## News

In 2026 the Congregational Church of Rupert will be celebrating its **240<sup>th</sup>** year of existence. For some years we have been working to revitalize this historic 1786 Rupert Meetinghouse –the oldest meetinghouse in Vermont in continuous operation. We are raising funds to update our kitchen and to make our restrooms ADA compliant. Our mission is to be a healthy place for all people in our community and surrounding area. We are deeply grateful to all of you who have contributed to help us keep our doors open. Donations are accepted, with great thanks, for our Abundant Harvest Sharing Shelf Program of healthy food distribution, our Warming Fund to keep people warm for the winter and, our CSA, which supports our community, with healthy produce from the Shed Light Farm, Yoder Family Farm, The Larson Family Farm, Someday Farm, Earth-Sky-Time Farm, and other local farms.

**Please help us continue our ministry by making a gift to the Congregational Church of Rupert, Vermont**

Scan the QR Code or enter the website address below to be taken to a website where you can make a donation. Your gift also helps us keep Vermont's oldest continuously operating Meetinghouse going and enable us to meet our renovation goals. **Thank you!**



[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=YLMN3FCHGXP2Y&source=qr](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=YLMN3FCHGXP2Y&source=qr)

*Check out - Things Hidden: The Life and Legacy of Rene Girard [www.youtube.com@thingshiddenmovie](http://www.youtube.com@thingshiddenmovie) . Steve Berry, Associate Producer. There is also a conversation with director Sam Sorich, Steve Berry and host Jamie Gage produced at GNAT early this year*