



After 65 years of organizational and spiritual experience, Rangeley Congregational Church continues to be a vibrant, active, open and affirming congregation within our community. Through laughter, fellowship and compassion, members and visitors seek to worship and grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. Our weekly musical offerings are central to our worship, tapping a wide variety of our congregants' talents including song, piano, accordion, horn and bells. Being guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live His teachings through our working, volunteering and giving in our community and the world.



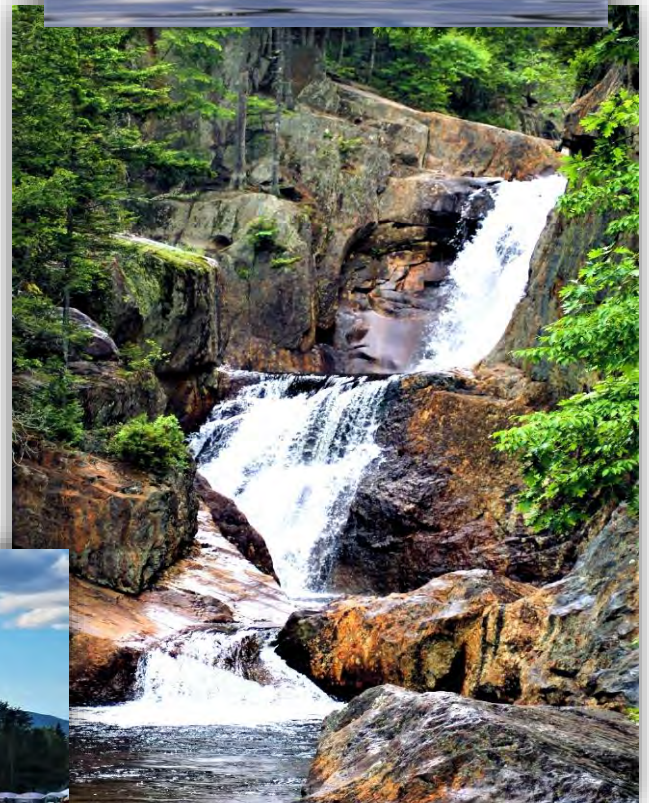


# Rangeley – A Great Place to Live

Nestled in the western mountains of Maine, Rangeley is a small rural community of approximately 2000 year-round residents whose population increases substantially in the summer as “snowbirds” return home and vacationers travel to our paradise. Rangeley has been named one of the Top 10 Winter Towns by Yankee Magazine and was voted the #1

Best Place to Live by Down East Magazine in 2016. Although small, Rangeley is filled with the amenities of a larger town including:

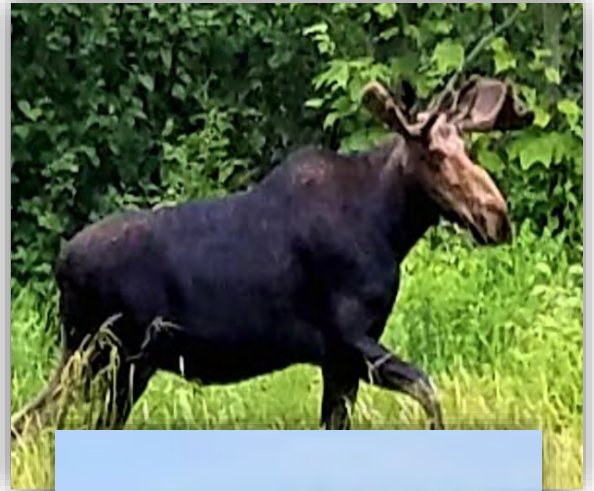
- Rangeley Health and Wellness Center - a facility encompassing family medicine, fitness center, physical therapy services, pickleball courts, heated therapy pool and massage therapists
- Local dental practice
- Rangeley Public Library
- Rangeley Lakes School with newly renovated and expanded facilities
- WRGY local radio station
- Four museums including award-winning Outdoor Heritage Museum, Maine Forestry Museum, Wilhelm Reich Museum and Rangeley History Museum
- Arts including movie theater, festivals, theatrical productions and dance studio
- Award winning dining
- Rangeley Lake State Park along with several private campgrounds
- Rangeley Town Park – beach, tennis and pickleball courts along with recently upgraded pavilion facilities and playground
- Award-winning bowling alley
- Two full-service marinas





Blessed to call this amazing place our home, we live in a four seasons paradise filled with breath-taking vistas, abundant wildlife and a myriad of outdoor adventure opportunities including:

- Hiking, including nearby access to the acclaimed Appalachian Trail that runs from Georgia to Katahdin
- Nordic skiing with 60 miles of trails, snowshoeing, ice skating, curling and down-hill skiing at nearby Sugarloaf or Black Mountain Resorts
- Two public golf courses with gorgeous vistas
- Over 100 lakes and ponds in the region
- World renowned fishing, especially fly-fishing, on miles of unspoiled lakes and streams
- Boating, sailing, kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, windsurfing, and jet skiing
- Maine Audubon approved bird-watching trail
- Wildlife watching and photography including loons, bald eagles, moose, deer, ermine, wild turkeys, bears, osprey, beavers, otters, mink, foxes and partridge



- Snowmobiling with 190 miles of groomed trails maintained by the Rangeley Lakes Snowmobile Club
- Abundant hunting and fishing





# Extravagant Welcome – Joyful Worship



Our weekly worship is the cornerstone of our church life, filling and renewing us for the week ahead. Our style tends to be less formal, a “come as you are” from sportcoat to hiking shorts. The sanctuary is filled with joyful laughter, hugging and excited conversation; but when the church bell rings, we quiet and center ourselves for worship. We have an exceptional musical congregation led and inspired by our gifted Minister of Music. We seek to deepen our

faith by embracing sermons that connect scripture to our daily lives. Most weeks our congregant prayers include people in the greater community as well as our church family. Although our youth attendance is sporadic, all are invited to participate in the service through weekly Children’s Moment, Sunday school and the extinguishing of altar candles. Our young people serve as liturgists when they are home in the area, especially at the Christmas Eve service.



# Fellowship with One Another



We meet throughout the week in a variety of ways both in and outside of our church. Fellowship opportunities within our church include Coffee Hour, Men’s Breakfast, Women’s Fellowship, Spiritual Discernment groups, various Bible study series, choral groups, Bell Ringers, Turkey Dinner, Congregational Events, Church Council and Boards, and Prayer Shawl.

# Caring for Each Other



As a loving, caring congregation we look after one another through life's ups and downs, celebrating the highs together and supporting each other through the lows. If you are recovering from surgery or illness, our Women's Fellowship will likely be knocking on your door with delicious home-cooked meals and a hug. As you recover, wrapped in your handmade Prayer Shawl, you will know God's love shown to you by this amazing congregation. Birthdays are celebrated during worship announcements and afterwards at coffee hour.

## "Walking the Walk" in Outreach and Service

Our service and outreach to others is a very large part of who we are as a congregation. We are passionate and committed in demonstrating God's love through service to our community. Church sponsored programs include:

- Deacon's Relief Fund provides emergency fuel, food and other types of assistance
- Mission Board creatively promotes awareness and understanding of important local and national needs using Harold the Heifer. We continue to be a UCC 5 for 5 Church thanks to the generous support of our congregation. Our annual Turkey Dinner served over 100 meals last year and raised \$1500 for local charities.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry has sent over 1560 handmade shawls throughout the world to celebrate joys and comfort those experiencing difficult medical or emotional times.
- Scholarship Committee distributes academic scholarships to deserving students of all ages.
- Our Barn, a multi-purpose facility, is well utilized by our congregation for coffee hour, Church Council meetings, congregational events, Turkey Dinner, Women's Fellowship and Prayer Shawl. It is also used by our community's various charitable organizations, Girl Scouts, yoga classes, and as an indoor play area for the Little Mountain School.
- Little Mountain School, a preschool and daycare, is supported via rent-free space







- Women's Fellowship meets for fellowship and to create crafts to sell at fairs including our 26-year-old Holly Fair with all proceeds donated to charities. Last year over \$6800 was given to local, national and international organizations.

In addition to the above programs, our congregation invests in our community by serving in the following organizations:

- Rangeley Health and Wellness
- Ecumenical Food Pantry including holiday food baskets
- Rangeley Region Guides' and Sportsmen's Association
- Rangeley Friends of the Arts
- Rangeley Historical Society
- H.E.L.P. – Helping Elders Live in Place
  - Neighbors Calling Neighbors
  - Neighbors Driving neighbors
  - HARC Help Adult Respite Care Program
  - Informational EXPO
  - Winter Senior Social



# Our Location and Facilities



Rangeley is located on the eastern shore of Rangeley Lake in the Western Maine Mountains, 90 miles north of the Maine Turnpike, 125 miles from Portland, ME and 230 miles from Boston. Our Church building, dedicated on September 9, 1979, is a wooden structure, seating about 100. The adjacent Barn and Annex building were gifted to the Church in 1984. We are a debt-free congregation, owning both our buildings and the land on which they sit. The Barn, remodeled by the members of the church in 1995, is an 1800 square foot multipurpose center with a full kitchen, handicap accessible restroom and administrative offices. The Annex building attached to the Barn houses the Little Mountain School. We do not have a parsonage, but there are a variety of housing options available in Rangeley to either rent or own.

## Gifts and Skills of Our New Minister

Our new minister should be “Rangeley ready” for the rural lifestyle that we value and embrace. While we do not have Starbucks, McDonalds or Home Depot, we do have our own wonderful local dining and shopping. We also have a faithful, God-seeking, hard-working, well-organized congregation looking for our next minister to walk with us on our faith journey. Our new minister will enjoy fresh mountain balsam-scented air, bald eagles flying to their nests, pristine lakes and streams, gorgeous sunsets over snow-capped mountains, and the haunting call of the loon across the water. We are looking for a person filled with joy seeking to serve others as we do. We need someone who is comfortable with collaborative decision-making and work. We look forward to sharing with you the areas of service in which we are involved and serving. In any organization helping people in our community, chances are excellent you will already find one of us there volunteering!

We are a very diverse congregation, theologically, professionally, economically and politically. Having spent this past year with our Interim Minister working to understand, appreciate, respect and value these differences, we seek a minister who will do the same; unifying us in our love of Christ. Biblically-based sermons should be relevant and applicable to our daily lives, helping us to grow in our faith while nourishing us spiritually.

Might you be the minister we seek? Are you looking for schedule flexibility? Would you like living in an outdoor mecca where people will greet you by name in the grocery store, post office or fitness center? Would you enjoy lively discussion with very diverse viewpoints during Bible studies, embracing each of us where we are on our faith journey? Would you like a supportive congregation with a well-organized Church Council and Boards? Please contact us to discuss the opportunity that may await you as the new Minister of Rangeley Congregational Church UCC.



# Helpful Websites:

Rangeley Congregational Church - <http://www.rangeleyucc.org/>

10 Best Winter Towns in New England - <https://newengland.com/yankee-magazine/seasons/winter/10-best-winter-towns-in-new-england/>

10 Best Places to Live in Maine - <https://downeast.com/best-places-to-live-in-maine-2016/>

21 of the Most Scenic East Coast Cities - <https://viewfinder.expedia.com/21-scenic-east-coast-cities/>

7 of Maine's Most Beautiful Lakes - <https://mainetoday.com/maine-travel/7-maines-beautiful-lakes/>

Rangeley Health and Wellness - <https://rrhwp.org/>

Rangeley Lakes School District - <http://www.rangeleyschool.org/>

Rangeley Friends of the Arts - <https://rangeleyarts.org/>

Rangeley Chamber of Commerce - <https://www.rangeleymaine.com/>

Rangeley Lake State Park - [https://www.stateparks.com/rangeley\\_lake\\_state\\_park\\_in\\_maine.html](https://www.stateparks.com/rangeley_lake_state_park_in_maine.html)

Rangeley Lakes Historical Society - <http://www.rangeleyhistoricalsociety.org/>

Rangeley Lakes Trails Center - <https://rangeleylakestrailscenter.org/>

Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust (Ecoventure) - <http://www.rlht.org/>

Rangeley Snowmobile Club - <http://www.rangeleysnowmobile.com/>

Rangeley Region Guides' and Sportsmen's Assoc. - <https://rangeleyoutdoors.org/>

Maine Trail Finder - <https://www.mainetrailfinder.com/trails/trail/mingo-springs-trail-and-bird-walk>

All Trails - Snowshoeing - <https://www.alltrails.com/us/maine/rangeley/snowshoeing>

Town of Rangeley - <https://www.townofrangeley.com/>

Morton and Furbish Real Estate - <https://www.morton-furbish.com/>

Noyes Real Estate Agency - <https://noyesrealty.com/>