

WEEKLY NEWS - February 11, 2026



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

We hope you are planning to attend the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper next Tuesday, February 17th from 5:30 – 7:00pm. We suggest wearing PJs and bring a dish to share!

We will also be making ashes on Shrove Tuesday, that will be used during our Ash Wednesday service on February 18th at 5:30 pm.

Trustees News

The Trustees held their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 10. Gary Davis was elected as chair. Construction on the shed continues, weather permitting. The Trustees approved the expense to tie the kitchen fire suppression system to the fire alarm system to improve safety. The Trustees also discussed options for marketing our spaces available for rent, including potential uses for the space under the Fellowship Hall. Discussions on this topic will continue next month and we welcome the input of the congregation.

Congregation & Community: Sheila Babcock (Pet Pantry patron), Terri Bickford, David and Michelle Bickford, Candy Burgess, Carol Davis, Jean and Butch Goff, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Blanche Mays, The Moon Family, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanellen Stearns, Nancy White

*Prayers for Daniel Pruett and his family. Dan has been diagnosed with lymphoma.

Wider World: People recovering from disasters in Texas, No. Carolina, So. California, and elsewhere; Black Mountain Orphanage; Peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere.



There will be an Ash Wednesday service held at NYCC on Wednesday, February 18th at 5:30 pm. The Gray and New Gloucester UCC churches have been invited to join us.

February Meetings

Faith Formation - Sunday, February 15th following worship

Council - Thursday, February 19th at 6:30 pm

Discipleship - Thursdays at 1pm in the Gathering Space

Choir - Rehearsal on Wednesdays at 6:30pm and on Sundays from 8:30-9:00am in the sanctuary.

Pet Pantry is open on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Men's Club meets on the third Saturday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at Toddy Brook.

Tuesday Gals meet at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00-12:00 pm

The Church will be closed on Monday, February 16th in observance of Presidents Day.

Rentals / Usage Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 23rd 5-9pm
Greely Girls Hockey Banquet

Saturday, February 28th 9:30-11:30am
Girls Scouts of Maine, Nidoba Service Unit

From the Desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar

This coming Sunday, February 15, is known as "Transfiguration Sunday" in churches that follow the Lectionary. All four of the Gospels include the story of Jesus' transfiguration, when three of his disciples see him transformed into a shining Being talking with the embodied spirits of Moses and Elijah (also shining). We are currently in "Year A," and will be looking at the story from Matthew's perspective (Matthew 17:1-9).

In this story, Jesus, along with the three disciples who are closest to him, Peter, James, and John, have gone on a kind of retreat on a mountainside and the disciples experience a vision of Jesus' transformation, foreshadowing his Resurrection. The involvement of Moses and Elijah, the two most respected Old Testament prophets and spiritual leaders, connects Jesus directly with Old Testament prophecies about the coming of a Messiah, a Savior.

Of course the three disciples are overwhelmed and frightened, and Peter suggests that they build three "dwellings" for Elijah, Moses, and Jesus. Just then, a cloud comes upon them, everything is obscured, and the disciples hear a Voice saying, "This is my beloved Son, with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" The disciples are so scared that they fall to the ground. When Jesus comes and touches them, they know he is real—and he tells them to get up and not to be afraid. When the disciples look up, only Jesus with them, looking and sounding like himself. He asks them not to tell anyone about the Vision.

And they all have to come down from the mountain, from this Mountaintop experience where they have experienced the Presence of God.

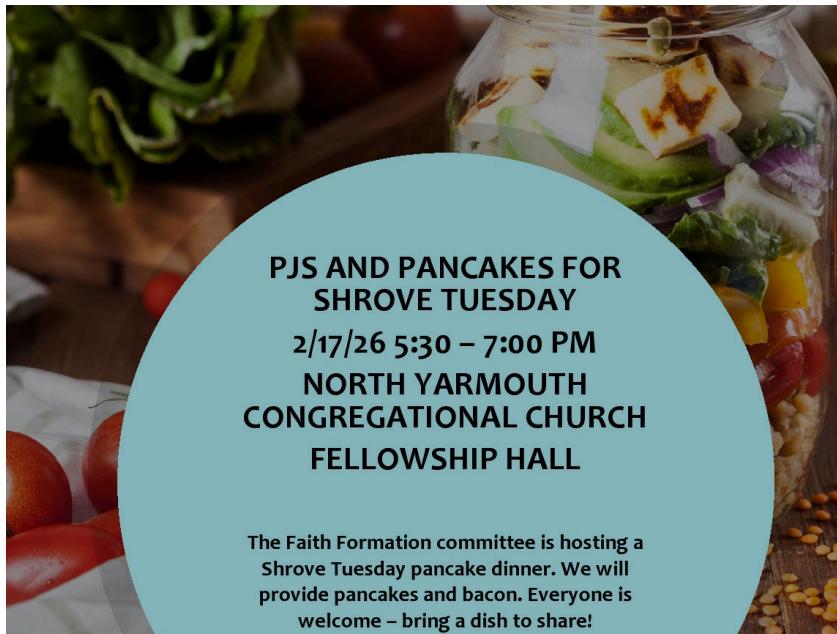
On Sunday we will think more about this story, what it meant to its first hearers and readers, and what it might mean for us: what inspiration we might take from the story as we move forward together (for the time being), at North Yarmouth Congregational Church, UCC, located on (or near) the top of Walnut Hill Road!

Hoping to see you in church on Sunday
Rev. Cynthia

New Printer Cartridge Recycling Program

We are setting up a collection spot to start collecting used ink cartridges that we will take in to Staples to recycle. This will help with the cost of shredding, etc. for the archive committee. If you generally throw away your used ink cartridges or take them to the transfer station please think about bringing them to the church. We will take care of them for you. Thank you.

The Archive Committee



What is Shrove Tuesday?

Shrove Tuesday is observed by many Christians on the day before Ash Wednesday, which begins the Lenten season leading up to Easter. The expression "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the word *shrive*, meaning absolution following confession. Christians in many denominations and communities visit their church on *Shrove Tuesday* to confess their sins and clean their soul, thus being *shrive* (absolved) before the start of Lent. Shrove Tuesday is the last day of the Carnival or Shrovetide season, in which people indulge in richer, fatty foods before the fasting traditionally observed during Lent. Churches also ring bells to remind people to repent their sins and burn the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday, to make the ashes Ash Wednesday services the next day.

Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes

Without a quorum last Sunday we were unable to approve the minutes from the annual meeting. Unless there are concerns, the minutes will be reviewed and approved at the February 19th Council Meeting. Please connect with Jeff Shorey if you have any concerns.

Patience????? What's that?

For a couple of months I have been trying to find the right place to take the clothing items you folks have donated to our "street ministry" outreach program. It was difficult contacting anyone who would or could help. Many unanswered inquiries! And our amazing supply of cold weather clothing items were not keeping anyone warm upstairs at our church.

So, I started checking in with our own church people who are familiar with more local opportunities to use and distribute needful things. I heard about some really good stuff that was going on at the Freeport Community Center. They serve Freeport, Pownell, and Durham folks who are needing help. I don't know exactly how they operate, but I do know there is no charge for items if you can't pay and if you can pay anything that money goes to folks who need oil or bills paid to keep folks in their homes. It sounds like the kind of help many folks need in today's troubled times.

Anyway, last Friday I went to Freeport with 20, yes 20! bags of socks, gloves, hats, sweats, outer wear, boots, shoes, shirts, pants....you name it. I didn't talk to anyone except to ask where I could unload my car. She showed me the bins....end of conversation.

While I was unloading a person came by and offered to help me unload. She explained why she was there.....she was not a worker but was a client who had brought something she had made that could be sold. She also was in need of help. Well, she could not believe what was in the bins and asked if she could take a picture. I have no idea what she was going to do with the pic, but as I was leaving she was photographing our gifts for their outreach program. I intend to follow up on this program and will keep you posted on what it is all about.

Thank you so much for your amazing support of NYCC's effort to help those in need!

Your Mission Board

~ February 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Super Bowl 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Diaconate Meeting	2 Groundhog Day	3 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	4 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	5	6	7 1p M. Fuller Memorial Gathering (FH)
8 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship	9	10 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group 6p Trustees	11 Your paragraph text 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	12	13	14 Valentine's Day 9a Pet Place Pantry
15 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Faith Formation	16 Presidents Day Church Closed	17 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 5:30p Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	18 Ash Wed. 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal Ash Wed. Service TBD. 7p AA	19 6:30p Council	20	21 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)
22 1 st Sunday in Lent 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship	23 5p Greely Girls Hockey Banquet	24 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	25 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	26	27	28 9:30a -11:30 am Girl Scouts of Maine, Nidoba Serv. Unit