

WEEKLY NEWS - March 18, 2026



Please keep the following people in your prayers

Congregation & Community: Candy Burgess, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susannellen Stearns

Wider World: People recovering from natural disasters and conflicts in the U.S. and around the world. Peace within ourselves, our families, our communities, and our world.

Printer Cartridges

There is a collection container in the office 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

LOOK WHAT WE DID!!!

You folks really got behind the ONE GREAT HOUR of SHARING this year !

To date, \$655.00! has been given so that those kids who are hungry can have a chocolate chip cookie and a glass of milk; that man who is cold can have a warm sweater; those who have lost their home can have a tent to sleep in. To add our giving to all the other churches who take part in this, is going to make a difference...and that's the good news.

Thank you and blessings to you.

Missions Board.

P.S. A special thank you to our Sunday School Class for their contribution!

P.S.S. (from Lyn) - Will not be sending OGHS in for a couple of weeks to give folks time to add to our giving.

Office News

Office Hours Monday - Thursday
8:00-12:00 pm

Rentals / Usage
Fellowship Hall

Lyn will be in the office at 10:30am on Tuesday, March 24th. Jeanne will do a morning check in.

Thursday, March 19
Greer Hockey Banquet 5pm

Saturday, March 21 - 11am
Bahai New Year Event

March Meetings

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

Discipleship - Thursdays at 1pm in the Gathering Space

Bell Ringing - Wednesday, March 18th at 5:45pm in the Community Room

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.

Join us for a movie night on **March 20 at 5:30 p.m.** We will have a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by the movie *The Way*, about a man's pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago to honor his son. This movie inspired our Lenten worship series and encourages us to look at life as a pilgrimage that we never walk alone.



New Music Committee

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for interested and committed people to serve on the new Music Committee. You don't have to be a musician, just interested in the viability of our music program and able and willing to serve. It is estimated that the committee will meet about once a month. There will also be ample opportunities to help out, even if you are not on the committee.

Please contact Music Director, David, to express interest and/or get a fuller description of the role of the committee.

The Faith Formation committee is looking for your input on programs and events. Do you want more Bible studies? Dinners? Community events? Movie nights? Programs for all ages? Feel free to speak with Amanda Skupin, Sandra Brann, Jess Smith or Gail Strattard about your ideas and wishes for the year. We would love to hear your thoughts!

From the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar

First, for your cognizance: I need to make you aware of a scam that is impersonating pastors, including your Interim Pastor. Several such scams have made the rounds in recent years, using a pastor's name to solicit funds. This one may ask you for "help on an important matter" and request that you reply to the email or call a certain number directly for a private conversation. It uses a form of my name or email address, probably taken from the church website. When Lyn received the message in the church office, she alerted me and deleted it.

Please, if you receive an email or text message that appears to be from either the church or "Pastor Biggar" asking for help with an "important matter" and instructing you to call a specific phone number, do NOT call that number and do not reply to the email.

Clues that the message is a scam include: the email address of the sender is not quite the same as mine (and not the same as that of North Yarmouth Church) and my last name may be misspelled. (My last name is Biggar, for a town in Scotland, not the comparative form of "big.")

Please note: I would not contact people in this way to request assistance. Nor would the church office.

If you receive one of these messages, please

- Do not call the number
- Delete the message
- Report it as spam or phishing if possible.

On a happier, more spiritual, and more seasonally appropriate note: the Vernal Equinox happens this coming weekend. Spring is almost here, and we will soon observe Holy Week and celebrate Easter.

The following poem came to me one spring while I was living in Concord, Massachusetts, exploring my call to pastoral ministry, and participating in a "spiritual enrichment group" at my church. Group members had covenanted to look for signs of spring, and signs of hope, during Lent, and share our observations with the group. That year, Lent (and Easter) were earlier than usual, so signs of spring were hard to find. But with the help of my dog Sophie, I began to notice subtle signs of spring, and wrote this poem as a reflection on Lent, springtime, and Easter:

"Journey Through Lent to Easter, Concord 2008"
Cynthia Bland-Biggar

Ashes, dust
Snow, ice, rain,
Dirt, sand,
Orion descends through the heavens.
Stiff, sandy gloves rest on the wooden railing by the Milldam.
Crows cawing,
Robins return.
Pussy willows fluff forth.
Sophie chases dry leaves in the wind.
One forsythia blooms.

In Jerusalem, Jesus rides on a donkey's colt.
Palms waving, donkeys braying, crowds cry, "Hosanna!"
Jesus breaks bread with his disciples,
Sweats blood in the Garden, is betrayed by his friends,
Carries his cross on his blood-soaked back.
Crucified with criminals,
Jesus cries out in agony and yields up his soul: "Into Your hands
I commend my spirit!"

In Concord, Massachusetts,
Though icy patches remain,
Sophie sniffs Green within the brown grass.
Crocuses send forth green shoots, purple blossoms;
A muskrat scurries into the brook--
Signs of Resurrection!

Join our Chicken Pie Mission - We Need Your Help!

We would like to fill the freezer with whole chickens, chicken breasts or thighs for our next chicken pie making session. If you are moved to help fill the freezer, they can be placed in the freezer in the kitchen hallway.

We also have frozen chicken pies and gravy for sale

Chicken and Gravy Pie - \$25
Pint of Gravy - \$7

And as always, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Easter Flower Order Form

Easter – April 5, 2026

Deadline to order is Sunday, March 22, 2026

Item	Cost	Quantity	Pot Cover? .50 each
Pansy – 3.5" pot	\$3.39		
Mini Daffodil – 4" pot	\$6.79		
Primrose – 4" pot	\$6.79		
Gerbera Daisy – 6" pot	\$12.74		
Easter Lily (1 Plant/pot) – 6" pot	\$18.70		
Easter Lily (3 Plants/pot) – 8.5" pot	\$56.95		
Daffodil – 6" pot	\$15.29		
Hyacinth – 6" pot	\$15.29		
Tulip (Assorted) – 6" pot	\$15.29		
Hydrangea (pink, White or Blue) – 17 cm pot	\$27.20		
Calla lily – 6" pot	\$27.20		
Tender Azalea – 6" pot	\$28.90		
Pansy Color bowl – 12" pot	\$21.24		

Moss green pot covers are no longer free. .50 per pot.

Total amount: _____ (Check payable to NYCC)

Dedications: (Please write legibly)

Your Name: _____

In celebration of: _____

In memory of: _____

Please return this form and payment to the church office

Church Council Agenda for March 2026

Old Business

1. Check in with everyone
 2. Opening prayer
 3. Review and approve February meeting minutes
 4. Discussion about meeting time, length and day of the week
 5. Financial report
 6. Pastors report
- Committee reports
- a. Trustee's
 - i. Status of shed project
 - ii. Status of parking lot lighting project (Jeff/Roger)
 - b. Diaconate
 - i. Review handout for online Prayer request
 - ii. Music committee status
 - c. Missions

New Business

1. New shelving in the table storage area
2. Project funding requests for our website
 - a. North gable end of Sanctuary
 - b. Stairway insulation and heat trace
 - c. Changes to our Renter's Policy and clean up check list
 - d. Form a committee to manage our online presence?
 - e. Form a committee to investigate hiring marketing company or catering company to manage fellowship hall/kitchen

Open discussion

~ March 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Diaconate Meeting	2	3 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	4 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	5 1p Discipleship	6 5p Greely Rec Cheer Fundraiser (FH)	7 Set Clocks ahead 1 hour tonight
8 Daylight Saving Begins 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Faith Formation	9 5p Greely Girls Hockey Banquet 6:30p Missions Mtg Via Zoom	10 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group 6p Trustees	11 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	12 1p Discipleship	13 March 14 th event setting up tables in the pm	14 9a Pet Place Pantry 4p Turkish Cultural Ctr event (FH)
15 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship	16	17 Saint Patrick's Day 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	18 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	19 1p Discipleship 5p Greely Hockey Banquet 6:30p Council	20 Spring Begins 5:30p Family Night with Pot Luck Movie "The Way"	21 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook) 11a Bahai New Year Event (FH)
22 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship	23	24 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	25 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	26 1p Discipleship	27	28
29 Palm Sunday 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Diaconate	30	31 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	Church Admin. Lyn, will be out of the office on Tuesday, March 10 th .			

LENT & HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE

Family Night with Pot Luck (March 20)

5:30pm Movie "The Way" at NYCC

Palm Sunday (March 29):

9:30am (Worship)

Maundy Thursday (April 2):

5:30 PM (Soup and Bread Service) and

6:30 PM Tenebrae Service at the New Gloucester Church-19 Gloucester Hill Rd. with combined choirs.

Anyone who would like to bring dessert is welcome to do so.

Good Friday (April 3):

5:00 PM Service with Combined Choirs

at the Gray UCC Church - 11 Yarmouth Rd. Gray, ME

Easter Sunrise Service (April 5):

6:00am (at Skyline Farm 95 The Lane, North Yarmouth)

Easter Breakfast (April 5):

at the church following the sunrise service at NYCC

Easter Sunday (April 5):

9:30am (worship) at NYCC