

## WEEKLY NEWS - April 29, 2026



### In Our Prayers

#### **Congregation & Community:**

James Black, E6, U.S. Navy.  
Candy Burgess, Sandra and Vince  
Golonka, Steve Quentel, Lori  
Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly  
and Charles Slonina, Susanellen  
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.

\*Please submit items for the  
Church Calendar to Lyn Glassock  
by Wednesday morning in order  
to be included in the weekly  
news. For the prayer list, please  
speak with a deacon or the  
pastor.

### Office News

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

**Rentals / Usage**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**GFCC - Rehearsal - May 9 at 6pm**

**Greater Freeport Community Choir Concert**  
**May 9 at 7pm**

### May Meetings

Faith Formation - Sunday, May 10 following worship

Missions - Monday, May 11 via Zoom at 6:30pm

Trustees - Tuesday, May 12 at 6pm

Council - Thursday, May 21 at 6pm

Diaconate - Sunday, May 31 following worship

Discipleship - Thursdays at 1pm in the Gathering Space

Bell Ringing - Wednesday May 6 and 20, 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.

### Spring Cleanup

Spring Cleanup is planned for  
Saturday May 2 at 9am with a rain  
date of Saturday, May 9th. Donuts  
and cider will be provided for a much  
deserved snack. **Many hands make  
light work!**

## from the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar, April 29, 2026

Because the Cumberland Association has recently gathered or will gather soon for Pastoral Installation services (at Raymond Village, Casco, New Gloucester and Yarmouth), in lieu of a Spring Meeting this year, individual churches are asked to recognize the Association (and the UCC denomination) in some way.

This coming Sunday, May 3, our service will highlight characteristics of the United Church of Christ that distinguish “us” from other denominations. Though most New England UCC churches have “Congregational” in their names, having developed historically from the “Congregational” tradition, the United Church of Christ was actually built from four traditions (including “Congregational”) which joined together in 1957 to form the UCC.

On Sunday we will have an opportunity to say together “The United Church of Christ Statement of Faith,” which is “a testimony, not a test of faith.” In other words, it is not a “creed,” not a list of required beliefs, but rather an invitation to consider what we believe about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the meaning of “church,” and ways we can share our faith in the world.

The UCC Statement of Faith exists in several versions. I prefer the version that we will be saying on Sunday, because it is in the form of a prayer, a “doxology,” addressing God directly (and using “inclusive language.”). This version is also the one I first heard in the church that ordained me, Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC, in Concord, MA. Reading, hearing, and saying this Statement of Faith (which we did every time new members joined the church or whenever a child was baptized) helped to persuade me, in the year 2000, to join the United Church of Christ and continue my path to ordination in this denomination.

Here is **The UCC Statement of Faith, in the form of a Doxology:**

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,  
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,  
and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being,  
create persons in your own image,  
and set before each one the ways of life and death.

## from the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar, continued

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will  
declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,  
you have come to us  
and shared our common lot,  
conquering sin and death  
and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,  
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,  
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church  
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,  
to be your servants in the service of others,  
to proclaim the gospel to all the world  
and resist the powers of evil,  
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,  
to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you  
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,  
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,  
your presence in trial and rejoicing,  
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. **AMEN**

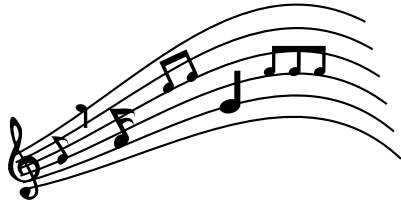
Blessings and peace,

**Rev. Cynthia**

[pastorbiggar@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbiggar@gmail.com)



During a bad storm in March this sign created by our former pastor, Nancy White, and Vince Golonka was blown over. When we put the sign back in place, we noticed that it was quite faded. We asked Janine and Robert Dransfield if they could "recondition" it. They said they would be happy to. They did a wonderful job restoring the sign, and we are truly thankful for their skill and hard work. The timing feels especially meaningful, as there is a celebration of life for Nancy on May 9. The refreshed sign now stands as a tribute to her work and legacy at our church. Please think of Nancy when you see the refreshed sign.



## Greater Freeport Community Choir Concert

Greater Freeport Community Chorus presents their Spring concerts: **"Sing Into Spring - Highlights from the past 30 years" with Jesse Myers-Wakeman, Artistic Director, and Accompanist, Kellie Moody, on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the North Yarmouth Congregational Church, 3 Gray Rd., North Yarmouth, ME and Sunday, May 10, 2026 at 3:00 pm at the Brunswick United Methodist Church, 320 Church Rd., Brunswick, ME.**

Join us as the chorus celebrates 30 years of music-making, featuring an eclectic selection of music from the group's previous programs. The chorus will honor their members, past and present, and their dedication to bringing beauty to the community through song.

## Collecting Pringles Cans

Candace is collecting empty Pringles chip cans with the lids for a Christmas Fair project. They can be dropped off in the office. Thank you.

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  
Small Chicken and Gravy Pie - \$13  
Pint of Gravy - \$7

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

## Gift to Grace Street Ministry

To date \$1,200 has been given in memory of Nancy White to Grace Street Ministry. There is still time if you would like to add to this gift. What a generous spirit this church has! If anyone would like to give, your donation can be put in the offering plate on Sunday or handed to Lyn next week.

Blessings,  
Missions

## Russian Dinner

The Russian Baptist Church in Gorham is having another of their special dinners on May 16 at 6 pm at 211 Mosher Road in Gorham. Ethnic meal from "Soup to Nuts". While you are enjoying the meal, you will be serenaded by the young people's choir. The evening also includes a raffle of gift cards and a fabulous dessert auction! Meal and a show! Donations will be accepted for the meal.

Gail S.



**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

at Val Halla Banquet Center 60 Val Halla Road, Cumberland

Doors open at 5 pm CASH BAR

Tickets available at the door or at the church

\$10.00 per adult children ages 18 and under are free.

**The Congregational Church in Cumberland, UCC**

282 Main Street Cumberland, Maine 207-829-3419

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fb@cumberlanducc  
insta@congregationalchurchcumberland



## From the Council

Several weeks ago the Trustee's received a letter from Consolidated Communications stating that the cost for our phone landlines (we have three) was going up to \$120 per month each. This prompted us to start looking for alternatives. We quickly learned about new technology that could save the church a lot of money. We realized that we should review all our utility accounts including our internet provider, security system provider and sprinkler system provider. We found that there are many options for bundled services as well as cellular replacements for land line phones. We hope to have proposals for review by the Church Council and Trustees in May. We will update you on our changes and savings next Month.

## Pilgrim Lodge Scholarships

No matter your age there is something for you at our Pilgrim Lodge church camp. Gail S. is a great resource if you have questions about this particular camping experience.

The Missions Board is offering \$100.00 scholarships to any church connected person interested in attending. Pastor Cynithia is planning a Pilgrim Lodge Sunday soon. We can probably gain a lot of the ins and outs of PL at that time. Stay tuned!

Your Missions Board in action  
ps: you probably could invite a friend to join you.....we'd help them, too.

## Exciting Opportunity!

Are you interested in history, specifically the history of our church? Our 220th anniversary is coming up in September 2026 (more information on this later in the year), and part of our celebration includes updating the timeline that was created in 2006 for our 200th anniversary.

The original timeline, which will be brought out of storage and exhibited, needs to be updated for the last 20 years. The first timeline included related events for the church, the town, and the country from 1806-2006.

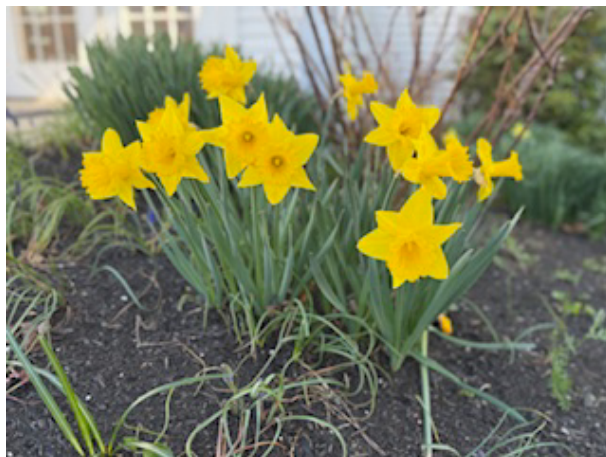
We are looking for some volunteers, especially with some computer skills, to help research, organize data, and physically create the last 20 years of the timeline.

If this is something you would like to help with, please contact Mark Heath or Rev. Cynthia.

Learn more about our church!

# Volunteers Needed for the Flower Committee

Ellen and Gail have been doing a great job providing flowers to brighten up the sanctuary and inspire us all. But, they could use some assistance. If you think you might be able to help, please see Leslie, Gail or Ellen. It would be much appreciated!



## HELP FILL THE TRAILER!!



CANNED GOODS

CEREAL

RICE

DIAPERS

WIPES

PEANUT BUTTER

JELLY

SOUPS

PASTA

SAUCE

GIFT CARDS



FOOD DRIVE - HELP DONATE TO SUPPORT  
THE HARRISON FOOD BANK  
ACCEPTING CANNED FOOD AND  
NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS.  
PLEASE DO NOT DONATE  
OUT OF DATE ITEMS

**SUNDAY,  
MAY 17TH**

AT NORTH YARMOUTH  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
3 GRAY ROAD



TIME: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
RAIN OR SHINE!!

If you receive a suspicious request:  
stop. verify. protect.

## Did you know about these latest scams?

### Fake ticket sales

Scammers create websites and social media profiles to sell fake sports or concert tickets.

### Travel scams

Scammers may create fake travel listings, like bogus vacation rentals, to trick you into sending money. Also, avoid using public USB charging stations, as they can be used to install malware on your device.

### Toll scams

Scammers send fake notifications saying you owe a toll. They're trying to steal your information. Avoid clicking any links and delete the message.

NORTH YARMOUTH  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH

## RUMMAGE SALE

MAY 23, 2026  
9:00AM - 1:00 PM



ITEMS FOR SALE MAY INCLUDE: CLOTHING,  
SHOES, POCKETBOOKS, BOOKS, PUZZLES,  
GAMES AND TOYS, KITCHEN ITEMS,  
SMALL FURNITURE, TOOLS,  
SEASONAL ITEMS AND MORE!

3 GRAY ROAD, NORTH YARMOUTH  
ON THE CORNER OF ROUTES 115 AND 231

## IT'S ALMOST RUMMAGE SALE TIME!

The annual Women's Fellowship/Tuesday Gals Rummage Sale will be happening on Saturday, May 23. We are looking for lots of volunteers, especially for cleanup. Drop-off days at the church will be Thursday, May 21, and Friday, May 22. Please do not bring anything earlier because there is no place to store it. We are looking for salable items such as housewares, china, pots and pans, small appliances, linens, clothing, books, games, toys, knick-knacks, puzzles. Please, no electronics unless you know they are working. Other items also welcome, as long as they are salable, clean, and working.

Again, volunteers are needed to help set up, work during the sale, and clean up. We are also hoping that parishioners might also pick up anything leftover on Sunday and take it to Goodwill...

Contact Gail or Kathy to let us know if you can help in any capacity. Thanks! We look forward to a lot of great items and a great sale!

~ May 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9am Church Spring Clean Up
3 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship	4	5 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group	6 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR)  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	7 1p Discipleship	8 6p FCC Rehearsal (FH)	9 9a Pet Place Pantry  7p Freeport Community Chorus Concert (FH)
10 <b>Mother's Day</b> 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship  11a Faith Formation	11   6:30p Missions Mtg via Zoom	12 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group  6p Trustees	13 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR)  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	14 1p Discipleship	15	16 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)
17 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9-2pm Fill the Trailer Food Drive 9:30a Worship	18	19 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group	20 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR)  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	21 1p Discipleship  6p Council	22 Rummage Sale Set Up	23 9a Rummage Sale
24 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship	25 <b>Memorial Day</b>  <b>Office Closed</b>	26 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Paley's Men's Group	27 5p Girl Scouts (CR)  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	28 1p Discipleship	29	30
31 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship  11a Diaconate Meeting						