

# WEEKLY NEWS - April 22, 2026



*Please keep the following people  
in your prayers*

**Congregation & Community: James Black,  
(U.S. Navy) Deployed to the Middle East.**

Candy Burgess, Sandra and Vince Golonka,  
Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel,  
Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanelle 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 Tuesday in order to be  
included in the bulletin. For the prayer list,  
please speak with a deacon or the pastor.

## Office News

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

Lyn will be out of the office on April 29 and  
30. Jeanne will check in.

**Rentals / Usage  
Fellowship Hall**

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

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

## April Meetings

Diaconate - Sunday, April 26 following worship

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.

## 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

Today, April 22, 2026, is Earth Day. On the first Earth Day in 1970 I was in the ninth grade in Wake Forest, NC. My “Earth Sciences” teacher, Mrs. Helen Lee, had also been one of my Sunday School teachers. A favorite memory from early childhood is of a nature walk with Mrs. Lee on the campus of Southeastern Seminary. There were many magnolia trees on the campus, and I remember picking up magnolia cones.

As a science teacher, Mrs. Lee made her students conscious of the Conservation movement of the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. Bipartisan efforts at the time eventually led to laws to protecting air and water. According to a Wikipedia article, this movement, and the first Earth Day, were inspired by the “the extraordinary attention garnered by Rachel Carson's 1962 book, Silent Spring, the famous 1968 Earthrise NASA photograph of the Earth from the Moon, the saturation news coverage given to the Santa Barbara oil spill<sup>[17]</sup> and the Cuyahoga River (near Cleveland, OH) catching fire in early 1969.” [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Day)

The Raleigh News and Observer invited local students to submit poems in honor of the first Earth Day. The poem I submitted was chosen for publication. While I later had to realize that it’s not great poetry, it does make a strong statement, so I will venture to share it:

### Poem for Earth Day 1970

Earth is our mother.  
How can we kill her?  
She gives with her blessing  
Food, shelter, clothing.  
Beauty transcending  
Man’s small creations,  
And Life itself.

Earth is our mother.  
How can we kill her?  
Filth and pollution,  
Chemical poisons  
Created by Man  
In his inventions  
Only destroy her.

Destruction completed,  
Earth will be gone,  
And so will we.

## From the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar Continued

On a more hopeful note to honor Earth Day, I invite you to read Psalm 8, Psalm 23 (which we will hear on Sunday), Psalm 24, Psalm 100, Psalm 104, and others, which speak beautifully of God the Creator. A favorite hymn, "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale," is also apropos. For anyone who may be interested, here is the link to this hymn on YouTube [https://youtu.be/iDjs7CFpoGo?si=MWI3yJ\\_71\\_FUtHy-](https://youtu.be/iDjs7CFpoGo?si=MWI3yJ_71_FUtHy-)

On Earth Day 2026, let us remember our Creator and the wonders of Creation, with awe, reverence and gratitude.

Blessings and peace,

**Rev. Cynthia**

pastorbiggar@gmail.com



### Dear Church Family,

I would like to sincerely thank you all for the generous monetary gift in recognition of Administrative professionals Day. Your kindness and support means a lot to me. I am grateful for the 15 years that I have worked at NYCC and look forward to more years to come.

More than blessed, Lyn

### 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!

## Council Notes - April Council

1. **Pastor's Report:** Cynthia reported on a successful Holy Week and noted that there will probably be more shared activities with Gray and New Gloucester. To be discussed with deacons: whether to celebrate our 220th anniversary or wait until the 225th; a possible summer discussion on identifying who we are, who are our neighbors, and what is God calling us to do. She is also working on identifying patterns from the past that may repeating.

2. **Finances:** Revenue is up, loose offering steady, rental income up for March. Minister's housing is up because did not have this expense last year. Fuel usage is up, as well as heating repairs. Workers Comp was paid in March, as well as snow removal for February and March.

### 3. Committees:

**Trustees** – Shed construction is underway, new LED lighting is up in front of the church, and Jeff and Roger are working on the lighting in the parking lot. The Trustees are putting specs together for the north gable end of the church and the stairwell projects. The big room under the Fellowship Hall is available for rent, but we need to be discerning about who we rent to.

**Diaconate** – Our meeting day is changed to the last Sunday of the month. Tech support should report to the Council and use them for any needed support. **The Flower Committee** should be reinstated as a viable committee with volunteers and a budget; organization is needed. **The Music Committee** has two volunteers in addition to the Music Director and one or both organists; one more person needed.

**Missions** – Annie has been talking to the Preble Street Teen Center. Fill the Trailer for the Harrison Food Bank is scheduled for May 17. The Pet Pantry had 19 people last month, the most ever, and they are being helped by HART for cat supplies. They sent \$100 to MSSPA in Windham for the care of horses. \$100 scholarships to Pilgrim Lodge are available. They are giving \$200 to the Grace Street Ministry in Nancy's White's name and have opened this up to additional contributions from the congregation.

### 4. New Business:

- a. Projects for the wish list will be posted online when specs and information are complete.
- b. The rental policy is being worked on. Relative to security deposits, Monday-Thursday, Lyn will inspect and decide whether building is clean; Mark will cover this Friday-Sunday. Any questions or issues will be referred to Council.
- c. With the possible arrival of town water (within 15 months or more), our sprinkler system will need to be addressed.
- d. Volunteers are needed for the annual Rummage Sale on May 23.

5. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

## Thank You, Nancy

As someone said recently, "there is probably no more meaningful way to remember and celebrate NYCC's time with Pastor Nancy than to continue support for her Grace Street Ministry". We were so involved with this ministry, and church folks were so incredibly giving of their support...(I'd like to know how many clean white summer socks and warm winter hats we took to Portland!) What I can not forget was the look on some of their faces when they held a clean pair of socks. It was precious.

We are continuing our support and remembering Nancy by sending from NYCC financial gifts from the Missions Board, and we are gladly accepting your contributions to go with it. Checks can be made out to NYCC and cash is fine too. Just make sure it is clear where you want your gift to go. (GSM will do that!)

Blessings,  
Missions



## 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 y



**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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insta@congregationalchurchcumberland

## IT'S BAAAACK !!!!!!!!

Plans are underway to "fill the trailer" for the Harrison Food Bank, and if the number of folks who asked for help at our pet pantry last Sat....that would be 19 !.( We have never had that many folks needing help for their pets.) indicates in any way how folks might be challenged to make ends meet today, Harrison has its work cut out for them. They serve so many people.

Watch for more information in the coming weeks, but we know diapers and basic food items are always appreciated.

May 17th is our day for folks to bring their goods.

Stay tuned !

Your Missions Board in Action Emoji  
ps. thank you Jon B , for your trailer.

# 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!

## 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!!**



**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**

## ~ April 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>FH= Fellowship Hall</b>  <b>CR= Community Room</b>			<b>1</b>  5:45p Bell Ringing (CR) 6:30p Choir 7p AA-FH	<b>2</b> Maundy Thursday 1p Discipleship 5:30p Soup & Bread 6:30p Tenebrae Service at New Gloucester Cong. Church, 19 Gloucester Hill)	<b>3</b> Good Friday  5p Good Friday Service at Gray Cong Church (11 Yarmouth Rd\, Gray\, ME)	<b>4</b>
	<b>5</b> Easter 6a Easter Sunrise Service (Skyline Farm), 95 The Ln  6:45a Easter Breakfast (NYCC)  8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10a Tuesday Gals  6p Paley's Men's Group-CR	<b>8</b>  5:45p Girl Scouts-CR  6:30p Choir  7p AA-FH	<b>9</b>  1p Discipleship	<b>10</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship  11a Faith Formation	<b>13</b>  6:30pm Missions via Zoom	<b>14</b> 10a Tuesday Gals  6p Paley's Men's Group-CR  6p Trustees	<b>15</b> 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR)  6:30p Choir  7p AA - FH	<b>16</b>  1p Discipleship  6:00p Council	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)
<b>19</b> 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship	<b>20</b> Patriots Day  Office Closed	<b>21</b> 10a Tuesday Gals  6p Paley's Men's Group-CR	<b>22</b> 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR)  6:30p Choir  7p AA - FH	<b>23</b>  1p Discipleship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30a Choir Rehearsal  9:30a Worship  11a Diaconate	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10a Tuesday Gals  6p Paley's Men's Group-CR	<b>29</b> 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR)  6:30p Choir Rehearsal  7p AA	<b>30</b>  1p Discipleship	<b>Lyn will be out of the office on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.</b>	