

WEEKLY NEWS - May 6, 2026



In Our Prayers

We pray for those in our congregation and community who are

- mourning the loss of loved ones;
- serving our country in the military, including James Black, E-6, US Navy;
- experiencing health issues or personal concerns, including Candy B., Sandra and Vince G., Steve Q., Lori M. and Kaitlin Q., Holly and Charles S., and Susanelen S.

We pray for those in the wider world, nationally and globally who are

- hungry or unhoused,
- experiencing violence and destruction from wars and conflicts,
- rebuilding their lives following natural disasters,
- recovering from trauma.

We pray for 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. Thank You.

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

Church Gardens

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! to assist in the maintenance of the church's perennial gardens. The care needed is for “deadheading” the old blossoms and checking for unwanted grass or dandelions. A layout is on display in the Gathering Place if you would like to take just a section of the garden.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Lois Knight.

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.

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

This coming Sunday, May 10, is Mother's Day, when many churches, including this one, present all mothers (or all women) with flowers, and offer words of appreciation for mothers (and for those who have been motherly). However, Mother's Day can be complicated for some of us: for women who wanted to have children and were unable to do so; women whose children have died, or who lost children for other reasons; people of any age whose mothers have died recently-- or in tragic circumstances; people who were abused or abandoned by their mothers; and the list goes on. No one is perfect, not even mothers.

Nevertheless, mothers deserve to be celebrated. Most have done the best they could even in difficult circumstances such as poverty or wartime. Many of us enjoy sharing family stories about mothers who learned to be inventive, excellent cooks during the Great Depression or in other times of scarcity (including immigration). My paternal grandmother raised six children during the Depression. My father and his siblings, when they got together, would remember the magical Sunday pot roast which reappeared during the week in various tasty meals.

The Bible includes passages that refer to God or Jesus as having maternal characteristics. In Luke 13:34 Jesus compares himself to a hen who gathers her chicks under her wings. Medieval theologians and writers, including my personal favorite, Julian of Norwich (c. 1400), meditated on the motherhood of God (or Jesus). In *A Revelation of Love*, Julian famously wrote: "Just as surely as God is our Father, so also is God our Mother." Our focal scripture passage for Sunday includes these words: "We are God's offspring" (Acts 17:28). My sermon will include some discussion of "God as Mother."

Blessings and peace,

Rev. Cynthia

pastorbiggar@gmail.com

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.

May Meetings and Activities

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.

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!

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!

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

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 Mother's Day 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 Memorial Day Office Closed	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						