

# WEEKLY NEWS - June 3, 2026



## Church Picnic this Sunday!

Due to the predicted rainy weather this weekend, we have added a rain date. We are planning for this Sunday, but if the weather is rainy, we will postpone until June 14th.

### 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; Nick Mangino, Master Sergeant, Maine Air National Guard
- experiencing health issues or personal concerns, including Candy B., Sandra and Vince G., Steve Q., Lori M., and Kaitlin Q., Wayne and Beth Malloch; 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**

**Fellowship Hall Rental**

**Saturday, June 6-11am**  
**Celebration of Life for Mitsuko Fowler -**  
**Family Remembrance Gathering**

**Monday, June 15-5pm**  
**Greely Girls Lacrosse Banquet**

*From the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar, May 27, 2026*



On “the First Sunday after Pentecost” or “Trinity Sunday” (May 31 this year), pastors and Sunday School teachers do our best to explain the concept of “God the Trinity”: how there can be “one God in three persons.” The “three persons” traditionally are “God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.” In less limiting, more inclusive language: “Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,” or “Creator, Redeemer / Savior, Sustainer.”

Explanations for “one God in three persons” range from highly theological / theoretical statements to down-to-earth analogies such as this one: the Trinity is like a chemical compound that exists in solid, liquid, and gaseous forms. H<sub>2</sub>O, for example, exists as ice, water, and steam. In abstract art, the Triquetra symbol (above) can stand for the Trinity: one circle encompassing an infinite loop making three knots.

My favorite theologian, Julian of Norwich, thought and wrote a great deal about the Trinity in *A Revelation of Love* (c. 1400)\*. As one who enjoys linguistic subtleties, I like her statement that the Trinitarian God *may, can, and shall* “*make all things well.*” In Middle English, “may” indicated having power; “can” indicated knowing how; and “shall” indicated “must certainly.” So, Julian is saying that our Trinitarian God has the power to make everything ok; knows how to make everything ok; and most certainly will, ultimately, make everything ok.

That’s a Trinitarian statement I can live by, so I offer it to you☺

Blessings and peace,  
Rev. Cynthia  
[pastorbiggar@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbiggar@gmail.com)

\* Watson, Nicholas; Jenkins, Jacqueline (2006). *The Writings of Julian of Norwich: A Vision Showed to a Devout Woman and A Revelation of Love*. Pennsylvania State University Press. The statement summarized above is found in Chapter 31).

## Fun Facts

### Fun Facts of the History of the Strawberry Festival

As we prepare to celebrate 220 years of our church and prepare for this year's Strawberry Festival, I would like to share a bit of our Festival history!

Priscilla Brobst and Rosalyn Baston coordinated the first Strawberry Festival in 1993.

We have relied on volunteers to be berry pickers, pie, jam and shortcake makers, ice cream scoopers, greeters and cashiers. Even when it seemed insurmountable to coordinate the festival, someone would step up and fill the need!

The first festival was held beside the church under the pine trees where the gathering space and fellowship hall now sit.

Before we had the fellowship hall, the event was held either outside on the church grounds or in case of inclement weather, at the Wescustogo Grange Hall which sat where the Old Town House /Historical Society building now sits. Unfortunately, the grange hall burned in August of 2013.

This festival has become an annual event. In the 33 years, we have held 31 festivals. One was cancelled in 2005 due to the berry crop being compromised by excess rain and in 2020 COVID restrictions prohibited us from gathering.

Some fun facts:

- Wood from one of the pine trees that shaded us was used to make the trestle table that is now welcoming all in the gathering space!
- Priscilla has made at least 6,796 biscuits.
- Approximately 1,500 strawberry or strawberry rhubarb pies have been made.
- About 1500 of the largest berries have been dipped in chocolate or brown sugar.
- 1000+/- jars of strawberry or strawberry rhubarb jam sold.
- We have consumed or sold at least 4,700 quarts of berries.
- Approximately, 125 gallons of ice cream have been scooped for strawberry sundaes!

**Looking forward to this year's festival on June 27 from 1-3pm and to many more festivals!**

## Strawberry Festival News

We have scheduled the 2026 Strawberry Festival for Saturday, June 27 from 1-3pm. I am reaching out to all of you in hopes that you will be available to help out with this event in whatever way you can.

This is the timeline that I hope will work out with your schedule so that you can participate:

### **Thursday, June 25**

8:00 am Make Pies and Prepping Berries  
This would be 8-10 am or 10:30 am

### **Friday June 26**

Setting up fellowship hall for the festival  
This should not take more than a couple of hours, if that. Time is flexible.

### **Saturday June 27**

8:00- 10:30 am slicing berries for shortcakes and selecting berries for dip a berry  
12:30 pm Workers should arrive and double check their table  
1-3pm Festival

Please let me know either way if you can or cannot participate so that I can adjust duties as I have volunteers.

Any and all help is appreciated,  
Hope to hear from you!

Leah



## Flower Committee Volunteers Needed

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 Freezer!

### 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!

## Exciting Opportunity!

220th Anniversary of North Yarmouth  
Congregational Church

Are you interested in history, specifically the history of our church? Our 220th anniversary is coming up in October 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 have a strong team in place, but if you would like to help we would love to have you join us!

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

Learn more about our church!

## Pringle Cans Needed

Candace is collecting Small and Large Empty Pringle chip cans WITH THE LIDS. They can be dropped off in the office. Thank you.

## Garden Volunteers Needed

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.

## Church Council News

I am very happy to share that several months ago we expressed our desire in our weekly newsletter to update our Administrative office with additional storage cabinets. Shortly after we received an anonymous gift for the project. The cabinets were selected and purchased, and the installation was completed this week. They look very nice and will make it easier to organize our office. Thanks for all the help we received to make this happen!

In that same request, we also mentioned that we needed funds to repair and paint the North gable end of our Sanctuary. I am very happy to share with you that Pam and John Ames have stepped forward and generously given \$8,000 towards this project. We will be soliciting bids for the work and will be completing the project this summer. We are so very lucky to have these people that are willing to donate their time and resources to help maintain our church and its community!

Jeff Shorey

## June Meetings and Activities



### Maine Lions Project Recycle

The donation box out in the entry way is for collecting old eyeglasses, hearing aids and cell phones. The Lioness-Lions Clubs collect these from all over the county to be recycled. I think we have become "blind" to the box and it is important! Please think of using this box to recycle your items that are no longer needed. Your donation will help someone See, Hear, or in an Emergency, Call for help!

Thank you, Gail S.

### Women's Fellowship News

The Women's Fellowship is getting a jump on this year's Christmas Fair silent auction. Every month leading up to the event we will be collecting items for two themed baskets. The month of June is "Bakers Delight" and "Kids Arts & Crafts".

If you'd like to participate, there are checklists on the entryway table to initial or if you want to donate something not on the lists, be sure to write down what it is so we don't receive duplicates. The items need to be new and if they're clear wrapped or have an attached tag, please leave them on.

The baskets will be located in Lyn's office.

Trustees - Tuesday, June 9 at 6pm

Faith Formation - Sunday, June 14 following worship

Missions - Monday, June 15 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Council - Thursday, June 18 at 6pm

Diaconate - Sunday, June 28 following worship

Discipleship - Thursdays at 1pm in the Gathering Space

Bell Ringing - Wednesday June 3 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 Office

Thank you so much to Roger and Jeff for installing the new cupboards in the office. Also, thank you to the person who donated the funds to purchase them! They look great, and will help keep the office looking clean and organized.

Grateful,  
Lyn

**NORTH YARMOUTH  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
3 GRAY RD**

# Strawberry Festival

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27  
1:00-3:00 PM**

COME AND ENJOY

- Strawberry Shortcake w/Homemade Biscuits,  
Strawberry Jam
- Strawberry-Rhubarb Punch
- Fresh, Homemade, Strawberry and Strawberry  
Rhubarb Pies
- Strawberry Sundaes / Dip a Berry
- Fresh Quarts of Strawberries
- Face Painting

~ June 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	<b>3</b> 5:45p Bell Ringing (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	<b>4</b> 1p Discipleship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> FH Rental ★ 11a Family Service for M. Fowler
<b>7</b> 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 12p Church Picnic (534 New Gloucester Rd.)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Trustees	<b>10</b> 5:45p Girl Scouts (CR) 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	<b>11</b> 1p Discipleship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9a Pet Place Pantry
<b>14</b> 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Faith Formation	<b>15</b> ★ 5pm Greely Girls Lacrosse Banquet 6:30pm Missions	<b>16</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	<b>17</b> 7p AA Choir is now on summer break	<b>18</b> 1p Discipleship 6p Council	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook) 3p Parking Lot Rental – Wedding at The Barn
<b>21</b> Father's Day 9:30a Worship 10:00a Worship Joint service at Gray, UCC	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	<b>24</b> 7p AA	<b>25</b> 8am <b>Strawberry Fest. Pie Baking</b> 1p Discipleship	<b>26</b> Strawberry Festival Set up	<b>27</b> 1p – 3pm Strawberry Festival (FH) 
<b>28</b> 10:00a Worship Joint service at Gray, UCC ★ 2pm FH Rental Jewish Comm. Alliance	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group	<b>Rev. Cynthia will be on vacation from June 21-28.</b>			