

# WEEKLY NEWS - July 1, 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; Nick Mangino., Master Sergeant, Maine Air National Guard
- experiencing health issues or personal concerns, including George D. (brother of Leah D.), Candy B., Sandra and Vince G., Steve Q., Lori M., and Kaitlin Q., Wayne and Beth M. ; Holly and Charles S., and Susanellen 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.

## Strawberry Festival News

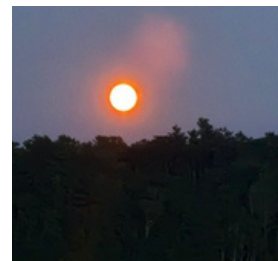
The strawberry festival was a great success thanks to everyone who stepped up to help!! We raised over \$3,000.00! We had many familiar faces come through the door and quite a few new ones!! Many thanks to all who participated! Leah

## Strawberry Festival Items for Sale

If you are getting ready for the fourth and need a little help, there is one strawberry rhubarb pie available for \$20 each, 6 jars of strawberry jam for \$6 each, \$6.00 and 4 one pound bags of rhubarb for \$4.00 each. Lyn will be in the office from 8-noon Mon-Fri if you are interested!

**Happy # 250 birthday USA!!**

Leah



The Strawberry Moon. As the first full moon of the summer, it appeared as a "micromoon," tracing the lowest patch across the Northern Hemisphere's night sky. (AI Overview)

## From the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar, July 1, 2026

This coming Sunday, July 5, and for the remainder of the summer, the worship service will be in your lovely, air-conditioned Fellowship Hall! Deacons have already set up the space and it looks great (thank you, Deacons!). Choir is off duty for the summer, so in lieu of an anthem, most Sundays we will sing at least one “extra” hymn. I am thankful that one or more choir members will stand with me to lead the hymns, as my low alto voice is not the best for carrying the melody 😊

As we approach this weekend I expect we all are mindful of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of this country. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress voted to approve the Declaration of Independence.

One of the most memorable statements in the Declaration of Independence is in closing, where the Founders “mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.” Those who signed the Declaration (and their families) faced persecution, the loss of their fortunes, and other hardships. At the time, Independence from the Mother Country was quite controversial. The Founders meant what they said, and their sacrifices resulted in a solid start-up for this country.

It is important to note that the Founders did not set up a “Christian nation” per se. First of all, many of them were Deists (believing that God created the world, set it in motion, and then stepped back) or Unitarians (believing in God but not in the divinity of Jesus). Some of the Founders were Congregationalists but certainly not Evangelical Christians. All of the Founders believed strongly in the “separation of church and state.”

It is important to remember, even as we celebrate all that is good about our country, that God is not an American, and that Jesus, in his human incarnation, was a Middle Eastern Jew from the rural province of Galilee.

Have a wonderful Fourth of July, and I hope to see you in church soon!

Blessings and peace,  
Rev. Cynthia  
pastorbiggar@gmail.com

## Faith Formation

The Faith Formation committee had our regular meeting on June 16. We set the calendar of events for the rest of the year, and we have some exciting events planned! July 10 at 5:30 p.m. we will host a pot luck dinner and Movie Night and watch The King of Kings, an animated film of the story of Jesus inspired by Charles Dickens' The Life of Our Lord. July 31 at 6:00 p.m. is Faith and Family Night at the Portland Sea Dogs. More information to come on this opportunity! August 13 at 5:30 p.m. we will have a pot luck dinner and Trivia Night with questions on NYCC history, UCC history and general Bible knowledge. September 13 will be our kickoff for Sunday School and our fall adult Bible study, with a pot luck lunch following the service and classroom tours given by our young people.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our programs and events. As a reminder, our Safe Church policy requires background checks for all volunteers involved in the Children's Ministry. Background check forms are available in the church office. Also, Children's Ministry volunteers in Maine are Mandated Reporters. Training must be completed once per year and is available online at <https://mainemandatedreporter.org/>, and we hope to host a live training in late August. If you choose to do the online training, please provide a copy of your Certificate of Completion to the church office.

Watch this space for more opportunities to gather, serve, and grow in our faith together!

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

**Lyn will be on vacation from**  
**July 13-16<sup>th</sup>**

## Fellowship Hall

**Worship is now being held in the**  
**airconditioned Fellowship Hall**

## Help with Lawn Care in July

Our intrepid lawn maintenance person, George, will be having Carpel Tunnel surgery on July 9th. He is looking for someone to take care of the lawns for a couple of weeks while he heals. If you can help, please let Lyn in the office know at 829-3644 or [nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com](mailto:nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com).

### Faith Formation Events

July-October 2026

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**JULY**  
**10**

Doors Open  
5:30  
Movie at  
6:30

**Movie Night: The King of Kings**  
Movie night with pot luck dinner.  
Doors open at 5:30, dinner at 6:00,  
movie at 6:30

**JULY**  
**31**

6:00 PM

**Portland Sea Dogs**  
Faith and Family Night at Hadlock Field

**AUG**  
**13**

5:30 PM

**Trivia Night**  
Pot luck dinner and trivia night. Trivia  
questions on NYCC history, UCC  
history, and Bible knowledge.

**SEPT**  
**13**

9:30 AM

**Sunday School Kickoff**  
Special service for Sunday School  
and fall Bible Study kickoff. Pot luck  
lunch following service.

**OCT**  
**4**

9:30 AM

**World Communion Sunday**  
Celebrate church unity and  
ecumenical cooperation

## 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!

## Faith and Family Night at the Sea Dogs

Join us on July 31 at 6:00 p.m. for Faith and Family Night at the Portland Sea Dogs! Tickets are \$12.25 per person for reserved seating, and ADA accessible seating is available. RSVP to Amanda Skupin at [amanda.skupin@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.skupin@gmail.com) by July 2 to reserve your tickets! We hope to see you there!

**Join us for Faith and Family Night at the Portland Sea Dogs.**

**July 31, 2026**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Tickets \$12.25 per person**  
**RSVP by July 2 to Amanda Skupin**  
**[amanda.skupin@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.skupin@gmail.com)**

## 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.

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 are located in Lyn's office.



### **Baker's Delight Basket**

Items Needed

Box Mixes: Cookies, Cake,

Box Mix: Brownies

Utensils

Sprinkles

Toppings

Apron

Rolling Pin

Bakeware

Cookie Sheet

Cupcake Pan

Bowl

Spatulas - Rubber

Cans of Frosting

Cookie cutters

Spatula - Metal

### **Arts and Crafts Basket**

Items Needed

Water Color Paint Sets

Crayons

Glitter Glue

Sew/Crochet kits

Beads

Modeling Clay

Sidewalk Chalk

Stickers

Scissors



Trustees - Tuesday, July 9th at 6pm

Council - Thursday, July 16th at 6pm

Diaconate - Next meeting - Sunday, July 26th  
- following worship

Missions will not meet again until September 14th

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.

## **A Heart Felt Gift**

NYCC has received a financial gift ...which, in and of itself is not unusual...but this time the gift was earmarked to honor the "workers" in our church. No restrictions or stipulations as to how NYCC uses the gift, just a heartfelt gratitude for what folks are willing and able to do for NYCC. It made me stop and take note of all the projects -short term, ongoing,- that are happening to keep our church functioning. Just to mention a few...grounds keeping, technical support and equipment, outside lighting improvements, shed construction, flowerbed care, events. i.e., Strawberry Festival, which is incredibly labor intensive, as are most of our special events. But we get it done, thanks to the "workers" we have at NYCC!

We are blessed and appreciate so much folks who are aware of all that is being done around us.

# ~ July 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Lyn on Vacation 7/13-7/16	Worship in Fellowship Hall In July and August		1  7p AA	2	3	4  Independence Day 
5 9:30a Worship in Fellowship Hall	6	7 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	8  7p AA	9	10 Movie Night 5:30pm Doors open 6p Pot Luck 6:30pm Movie	11 9a Pet Place Pantry
12 9:30a Worship  11a Faith Formation	13	14 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)  6p Trustees	15  7p AA	16  6p Council	17  Yarmouth Clam Festival	18 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)  Yarmouth Clam Festival
19 9:30a Worship in New Gloucester  Yarmouth Clam Festival	20	21 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	22  7p AA	23	24	25
26 9:30a Worship  11a Diaconate	27	28 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	29  7p AA	30	31 6pm Faith and Family Night at the Portland Sea Dogs	