

WEEKLY NEWS - July 29, 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 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 by Tuesday in order to be included in the bulletin. For the prayer list, please speak with a deacon or the pastor. Thank You.

August Meetings and Activities

(Please check with your committees to confirm you are meeting in August)

Faith Formation - Sunday, August 9 following worship

Trustees - Tuesday, August 11 at 6pm

Council - Thursday, August 20th at 6pm

Diaconate - Sunday, August 30th 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.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Deadline is Sunday, **August 2**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES REQUESTED FOR MSAD 15 (GRAY / NEW GLOUCESTER; 5 SCHOOLS)

FOR PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS:

- CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR, ESPECIALLY SMALLER SIZES (4,6,8), AND SOCKS.

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

- SPIRAL-BOUND NOTEBOOKS (ONE SUBJECT)

FOR ALL GRADES:

- NEW BACKPACKS
- PENCILS (# 2)
- COLORED PENCILS
- PACKS OF ERASERS
- HAND-HELD PENCIL SHARPENERS,
- PENCIL POUCHES
- PENCIL BOXES
- DRY ERASE MARKERS
- GLUE STICKS
- SCISSORS (FISKARS BEST FOR ELEMENTARY GRADES)
- COLORED FOLDERS WITH POCKETS
- 3-RING BINDERS (2-IN.)
- COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS
- BOXES OF TISSUES
- ROLLS OF PAPER TOWELS
- PACKS OF SANITIZER WIPES

Note: A volunteer from the Gray church will deliver the supplies to the schools in MSAD 15.

Thank you for your generosity!

From the desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar, July 22, 2026

This coming Sunday, August 2, our sister churches in Gray and New Gloucester will join us here in North Yarmouth, in our lovely, air-conditioned Fellowship Hall, to celebrate Communion together, and to offer the “Blessing of the Backpacks.”

This blessing is for everyone who will soon be heading “back to school” at any grade level (preschool through grad school) or in any role (student, teacher, or staff). Going back-to-school after summer vacation is a major transition for everyone; and I feel it’s important to ask God’s blessing on the important work of teaching, learning, and interacting with all kinds of people. Though it’s on the early side to be thinking about “back to “school,” the other pastors and I wanted to offer the blessing, and have the school supply drive, when we are all together this Sunday



So if you are heading back-to-school this fall, please bring your backpack or something else that symbolizes the new school year for you, to church this Sunday, to be blessed. During the “Blessing of the Backpacks” we will also bless, dedicate and offer thanks for the school supply donations that have been generously provided! There is a need for school supply donations in the MSAD-15, Gray / New Gloucester School District. A list of the needed supplies is copied below. Any items that you would like to provide will be gratefully received.

A bin to collect the items is in the Gathering Space. A volunteer from the Gray church will take the donations to the schools where they are needed.

Thank you VERY MUCH for your generosity!

Blessings and peace,

Rev. Cynthia

pastorbiggar@gmail.com

Faith Formation

The Faith Formation committee has set the calendar of events for the rest of the year, and we have some exciting events planned! 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!

From our Vice Moderator

Those of us who have attended services in Gray and New Gloucester in the last few weeks very much enjoyed and appreciated the services. We also enjoyed coffee hour in Gray and an inside picnic in New Gloucester. Our turn to host a service with our neighbors, Gray and New Gloucester, is Sunday, August 2nd.

It would be wonderful if we could do an "expanded" coffee hour to welcome our neighbors on August 2nd. Thank you in advance for contributions!

Marsha, Vice Moderator

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

Lyn will be on vacation August 10-13th. Jeanne will check in with the office

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

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.

Flower Committee Volunteers Needed

Our beautiful sanctuary flowers don't appear by magic! Ellen and Gail have faithfully shared their time and talents to brighten our worship space each week, and they're looking for a few helping hands when we return to the sanctuary.

If you would like to be part of this ministry, please see Leslie, Gail, or Ellen. We would love to have you join the team!

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!

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.

Thank you for helping to fill our first two baskets!!

The month of July is "Let's go to the Beach" and "Coffee and Cocoa" (getting ready for those long winter months! If you'd like to participate, there will be checklists on the Gathering Space 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. Hard to believe, but summer items have been seen on clearance already, so a good time to shop!

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.

Thank you!

"Coffee and Cocoa" Basket "Let's Go to the Beach" Basket

Items:

flavored Coffees
cocoa mixes
almond biscotti
Dunkin Gift card
Aroma Joe gift card
Starbucks gift card
cocoa bombs
cappuccino
handheld milk frother
scone mix
muffin mix
insulated travel mug
peppermint stirrers
pirouline cookies

Items:

beach towel
frisbee
sunscreen lotion
beach ball
sunglasses
lip balm
insulated bottle
aloe vera
wide-brim hat
goggles
sanitizer wipes
flip flops
towel clips

From the Deacons

Hi All,

We are looking forward to August 2nd with our neighbors attending our church service. We had two wonderful gathering so far. One at The First Congregational Church of Gray, and one at The First Congregational Church of New Gloucester. We would like to expand our coffee hour and bring out our best china.

We are looking for breakfast coffee hour items such as muffins, donuts, fresh fruit, maybe some protein like deviled eggs and cheese. Bagels and cream cheese would be a plus!!!

There is no time for a sign up sheet, so please bring your offering to the fellowship hall before church begins on the 2nd.

Mark will be there on Friday, July 31 at 10:30am to help set up the room for communion and coffee hour if you would like to come and help.

Thank you.

Help Fill the Cart for the Harrison Food Pantry

The Harrison Food Pantry is in desperate need of dry goods. They are unable to fill the boxes with all of the foods that are needed. Below are some examples of foods that they are looking for, though any non-perishable item that you would like to donate will help.

Please be sure to check the expiration date before donating, as food pantries are unable to give away food that is out of date.

Grains and Cereals: Rice, Oats, quinoa, breakfast cereals

Pastas and Noodles: Dried spaghetti, macaroni, ramen

Legumes: Dried beans, split peas, and lentils

Snacks: Crackers, cookies, tea and coffee

Thank you for your continued help to feed our neighbors!

Your Missions Committee

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

North Yarmouth
Congregational Church

3 Gray Road
North Yarmouth, ME 04097

~ 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	