

WEEKLY NEWS - September 2, 2026



September Meetings and Activities

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.), Sandra and Vince G., Samuel N., Steve Q., Lori M., and Kaitlin Q., and James S. (Amanda S's husband).

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.

Trustees - Tuesday, September 8 at 6pm

Faith Formation - TBA

Missions - Monday, September 14 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Council - Thursday, September 17 at 6pm

Diaconate - Sunday, September 27th following worship

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.

Book Discussion - Thursdays, September 17-November 19 at 1pm

Choir Rehearsal begins again on Wednesday, September 2 at 6:30pm

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 desk of Rev. Cynthia Biggar, Sept. 2, 2026

This month we start a new “Christian Education” year. Sunday, Sept. 20, will be Faith Formation Sunday (aka “Sunday School kick-off”), as well as Homecoming. On Sept. 20, we will bless and dedicate this year’s Sunday School program. Our deepest gratitude to Amanda Skupin, who leads the Faith Formation Team; to the other teachers, Jess Smith and Sandy Brann; and to those who volunteer to assist each Sunday: Jeanne Chadbourne, George Black, Leah Davis, Jeff Shorey. We hope that others will volunteer to teach and/or assist with Sunday School. If you are interested, please speak with Amanda.

Homecoming Sunday is also “Bring a Friend to Church” Sunday. I hope you will invite at least one friend to come to church and stay for the potluck lunch afterwards. During my time as your Interim Pastor, I have encountered—and / or heard references to—quite a few individuals who are “members” of NYCC but not attending worship services (at least, not in person). If you are reading this, and if this applies to you, please know that you would be warmly welcomed to “visit” on Homecoming Sunday (or any other Sunday), and see what you think. Worship services are being conducted in an orderly fashion, and some of those who attend in person, have been kind enough to say that they like my sermons. Please come and check us out!

On Sept. 20, NYCC’s wonderful choir, directed by David Myers-Wakeman, returns to the Sanctuary. In this highly musical congregation, choir music enhances everyone’s worship experience!

The single most effective way to grow a church is through personal invitation: members reaching out “by word of mouth” to invite friends and neighbors. Please come, and invite your friends!

Blessings and peace,

Rev. Cynthia

pastorbiggar@gmail.com

Faith Formation

The Faith Formation team held our regular meeting on Sunday, August 9. We finalized preparations for our Trivia Night on August 13 at 5:30 p.m. and reviewed curriculum options for the coming Sunday School year. This fall we will use materials from Illustrated Ministry that correspond with the lectionary readings, allowing our Sunday School class and adults upstairs to learn about the same scripture passages each week. We plan to have the children decorate the classroom on September 13, with lessons beginning on September 20. We hope you will take the time to visit our Sunday School room to see what our children are learning.



We also need teachers and helpers for the upcoming Sunday School year. Background checks and mandated reporter training are required. Background check forms are available in the church office and Amanda Skupin will have forms available at Sunday services. Mandated reporter training takes about an hour and can be done online at mainemandedreporter.org. We hope you will support this valuable ministry!

Trustees

The Trustees held our regular meeting on August 11, 2026. We received a financial report from our Treasurer, and we are on budget for the year. We discussed a proposal to better insulate the back kitchen stairwell, hopefully eliminating the ice issues from years past. This project will involve removing the existing sheetrock and insulation, framing a new ceiling, installing additional insulation and more lighting, and replacing the existing exterior door. If you have questions or are available to help with this project, please see Gary Davis or Roger Pushor.

Women's Fellowship has generously agreed to contribute to the cost of having the Fellowship Hall carpet professionally cleaned. The remainder of the cost will come from our regular budget, and we hope to have it cleaned in mid-September.

After a two-month test, our phone system will switch to a wireless signal this month. This will save on the cost of maintaining multiple landlines and improve reliability of the entire system. All church phone numbers will stay the same.

Lastly, we are looking for additional bids for painting work on the exterior of the sanctuary. If you have a reliable painting contractor you know and trust, please let us know!

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

Fellowship Hall

**Worship is now being held in the
airconditioned Fellowship Hall through
September 13th**



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!

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



Dear Friends,

I wanted to share this opportunity with your church to see if there is any interest in joining with us for our monthly barn dance that is held in the New Gloucester Congregational Church Vestry. This is truly an intergenerational activity where we have had children as young as 4 and adults as old as 82 enjoy contra dancing as a group. Kathryn does an excellent job calling the dance steps and getting everyone engaged. You don't need to know any of the steps because she demonstrates each one in advance of calling it. If you want to laugh and get some great exercise and hear some wonderful music, this is an event to share with everyone. We hope you can come. Please see the poster attached for details. If you want to see an example of the fun check out the church's facebook page.

Warm regards,

Cindy Slocum



A Welcomed New Shed!

With the collaboration of the following men of the church, Nelson and Norman Smith, Gary Davis, George Black, Jim Knight, a plan for a utility shed was drawn up and assembled. Materials were donated by Hancock Lumber, Nelson Smith, Gary Davis, George Black and Jim Knight with monetary support from the Men's club. The shed is a welcome addition to store our outdoor maintenance tools and equipment.

A huge thank you for your hard work getting this project off the ground and completed. We are all set to store the lawn mowers and more for the winter months ahead.

~ September 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	2 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	3	4	5 4p Parking Lot Rental-Broader
6 9:30a Worship In Fellowship Hall	7 Labor Day Church Closed	8 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Trustees	9 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	10	11 Patriot Day	12 9a Pet Place Pantry
13 Fall Sunday School Kickoff 9:30a Worship Back in the Sanctuary	14 6:30p Missions	15 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	16 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	17 1p Book Discussion 6p Council	18	19 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook)
20 Homecoming Sunday and Potluck 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship	21	22 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	23 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	24 1p Book Discussion	25	26
27 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Diaconate Meeting	28	29 10a Tuesday Gals (FH)	30 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA	Church Admin. Lyn, will be on vacation from September 21-27 th .		