

The Parish Voice

July/August, 2018



First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
3 Gray Road, North Yarmouth, ME 04097
Church Office: 207-829-3644 Email: nyarmouthceucc@gmail.com
Church Website: <http://nyceucc.com>
Office Hours: MTWTH-7:00-8:30am Tues & Thurs 12:15-3:00pm
Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Nancy J White
E-Mail: nyccevnancy@gmail.com
Phone Number: 207-504-6289

Pastor Nancy's day off is Monday

Here's What's Happening in July

- 7/04 Fourth of July—Office Closed
- 7/14 Pet place Pantry—9:00—10:00 am
- 7/21 Men's Club Breakfast—7:00 am
- 7/28 Church Yard Sale—9:00-1:00 pm

Here's What's Happening in August

- 8/03 Friday Lunch—11:30-1:00 pm
- 8/11 Pet Place Pantry—9:00-10:00 am
- 8/18 Men's Club Breakfast—7:00 am
- 8/27 **September Newsletter Articles Due**

Tuesdays: Women's Fellowship/Tuesday Gals, 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted on the monthly calendar.

Email Address Change

Please update Rev. Nancy's email address to:
revnancyjwhite@gmail.com



Happy 4th of July

Altar Flowers

To place flowers in memory of or in honor of someone or "just because."

July flowers
will be taken care of by
Leah Davis

August flowers
will be taken care of by
Rosemarie Smith



Summer Vacations

Rev. Nancy will be on vacation from July 23—August 5.

The office will be closed from August 6-10 for vacation.

Summertime Worship

Taking advantage of our lovely A/C, we will be worshipping in the fellowship hall during July and August. Please note, based on feedback from last year, we will have several chairs with arms to make it easier for some to stand/sit. Join us whenever you are able for summer worship!

The Diaconate



The date of the church yard sale has been set for July 28 from 9:00 to 1:00 pm.

Contributions will be collected up until the 27th. Please no used computers, tv's or broken items.

Please contact Gary Davis at 831-1254 or Priscilla Brobst at 829-3480 before dropping off any questionable items.

Ponderings from the Pastor

On Sunday June 24th, I preached on Jesus calming the storm. Jesus led his disciples to the other side, into scary places and expected them to go with him and share God's love with all.

An excerpt (for full sermon, please contact church office and ask for it):

Our nation and our world right now are in some very stormy times. Jesus calls us as followers to care for the least. Our Bible even before the times of Jesus repeatedly tells us to take care of the stranger, the alien in the land, and also to care for the least, the widows and the children. Jesus reiterates that same message in the Gospels even going so far as to say when you take care of the ones shunned by society, the prisoner, the hungry, the naked, the sick, the lonely, anyone in distress, then you take care of Jesus himself. And when you do not, you are rejecting Jesus. Jesus expects us to care for the least, to take care of the stranger, those we don't even know in our world. I know we all have different opinions about the best way to handle the humanitarian crises in our country and our world. I do not believe anyone here would say we should not feed the hungry or care for those who have fallen on hard times. I would be surprised if anyone here said separating children from their parents is OK.

Jesus calls us to hold on to our faith, to act in love especially in stormy times. We need to search our hearts of faith and ask ourselves, 'does what I feel about this situation, how I think this or that situation should be handled, do my feelings and actions align with my faith in Jesus?' And yes there is a lot going on out there in our world and we have children right here in Maine who are food insecure and whose families need help to survive and many others who also need help. This is not an either/or situation, it is not a choice we must or should make but a both/and situation. We need to care about all of those in our world who are struggling to survive. Why do we think it must be one or the other? Are we afraid? Jesus asked his disciples that and he asks us that as well. Why are we afraid? If Jesus is with us then there is no need to fear.

For as we proclaim that we are followers of Jesus the Christ, no matter what we feel about immigration, refugees and asylum seekers, terrorizing children by separating them from their families is not the way Jesus has taught us that we should act in our world. We must search our hearts and question our beliefs and answer the questions Jesus asked his disciples on the Sea of Galilee: 'Why are you afraid?' 'Have you no faith?'

Many of you asked 'How can we help?' 'What can we do?'

Please go to the United Church of Christ website, www.ucc.org and check out the Justice Ministries link, http://www.ucc.org/justice_immigration.

Pastors Ponderings Continued...

On this page, there is a great deal of information including ways to donate and how local UCC churches are helping.

"The pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd, UCC in Sahuarita, Ariz., and his congregants are among church volunteers at the Comedor, a small hillside compound where Jesuits, Sisters of the Holy Eucharist, Samaritans from Green Valley, Sahuarita and Tucson, No More Deaths members, and helpers from both sides of the border provide migrants with morning and evening meals, clothing, medical care, phone calls, legal advice, and psychological services."

Make sure that any information you find or hear is factual. Especially on Facebook, be sure to do fact checks on whatever posts come up in your feed. Snopes.com is a good resource for that. Be faithful in educating yourself. Share what you find with others. Tell all that God loves everyone and calls us as followers of Jesus to also love everyone. May there be peace in our world.

Blessings, pastor Nancy



A BIG thank you to my church family for all the understanding (and lots of cards) while I am recovering from ankle surgery. 3 weeks plus after I am finding I need to keep it elevated to reduce swelling and I am finding it very frustrating (because I feel like I should be able to do more stuff) but not painful. So I am grateful for your understanding as I work more from home sitting in my recliner.

Please feel free to call me if you want to reach me either on my cell phone 504-6289 or my home phone 822-5271.

Pastor Nancy

Why is becoming Open and Affirming still important? This is one of many questions we will be addressing as we proceed to explore becoming an Open and Affirming church at NYCC. First we are forming a Core

team to plan and guide the process and it looks like the Diaconate is our Core Team for proceeding with our church's exploration of becoming Open and Affirming. We will plan to start in the fall. The Core Team's first tasks will be to educate and prepare themselves and to plan how we will proceed to explore this with the entire congregation. This process will afford ALL the opportunity to voice their thoughts and be heard with love. Our hope is that we can spend the fall planning and be ready to broaden to the congregation by the beginning of 2019. Any questions, Please let me know. Pastor Nancy

Trustees

The Trustees are continuing to pursue the items of Choir Area Accessibility, Stand by Generator, and Office Window Replacement.

We'd like to thank all those who participated in the spring clean up. Things came together quite well and all looks good. Well done.

Respectfully,
Chris Dahlgren

Missions

The Missions Board has been working on developing a framework of giving for the year. We completed this at our last meeting. We also received an accounting of monies given in the name of the church from Women's Fellowship and from Friday Lunch. We took this information and information gathered from our survey and developed our framework around it so we were adhering to the congregation's preferences but not duplicating what other groups were doing. We are pleased to let you know that we have over \$6,000 worth of missions giving planned throughout the remainder of this year. This includes continuing to sponsor our child from Haiti, continuing to support the Machias Church and their food pantry, as well as donations to the Good Shepard Food Bank, the Root Cellar (for school supplies), the Heifer Project, as well as all of our Christmas giving projects and a winter donation to Keep ME Warm. Many thanks go out to all of you who gave us input and continue to be so generous in giving to the missions of this church.

Leslie Eastman

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN !

If you want to play, please bring a picture or two of you when you were a lot younger to the church in a sealed envelope. Leave them on Lyn's desk. Lyn will put together a board of all the unidentified pictures and let's see how well folks can figure who's who. We might even have a bit of a contest and see who identifies the most pics. We will have the results announced at one of our "events" as church winds up again in Sept. Sad to say but, team work is really not fair !!!!!

Tuesday Gals

Tuesday Gals is going to be doing baskets again for the Christmas Fair. We plan on doing around 8-10 this year. We are starting very late this year, so we need to do 2 baskets at the same time.

The first two baskets are:

Car Wash Basket

All items to clean and shine vehicles inside and outside will be greatly appreciated.

Celebration Basket

This basket will include items for celebrating all occasions and holidays.

Idea list is posted on our poster board in front of the large bulletin board in the Gathering Space. We appreciate all your help to make these raffle baskets a success for the Christmas fair! If you would rather donate money we will do the shopping. Once again, we appreciate your help!

Moderator checking in.....

"Summertime and the living is easy",.....I think this is a line from an old, old song. Anyway, it is fairly descriptive of our church now. And this is good news, because when we get up to speed this fall, it can be quite intense for some. A rest is appropriate in my opinion. Perhaps we could use some of this slow time to think about how we can serve our church when we are asked to:

- 1) Take part in a church service....you should have seen/heard Hadley and Eliza Smith help Rev. Nancy with Scriptures this past Sunday!
- 2) Consider joining the choir.....I am and if you are chuckling, I understand. But David is encouraging.
- 3) Serve on a board/committee....almost all of them need fresh ideas from new members.
- 4) Take charge of "coffee hour".... not doing it, but seeing that it happens. Hearing Susan's pleas this past year was hard for me.
- 5) Come up with a new way to see that coffee hour happens. (Richard assigned committees to a month of being responsible.)
- 6) Spearhead how the church will be involved in NY Funday. Some suggestions to date are, making breakfast sandwiches, smoothies.
- 7) Attend a study group....sometimes the most meaningful things happen!
- 8) Think about helping on our fall Stewardship Drive, keeping in mind that you would be totally amazed at the generosity of our folks.

These are some ideas. Do you have other thoughts? Love to hear your ideas.

On June 24th we heard a message during the service about the immigration situation in our country. Politics were put aside, or should have been, because the issue is purely humanitarian. At the end of the message a still small voice was heard asking, "what can we do?" I heard it. Others sitting closer to the person surely heard it. Now, wouldn't it be just the most amazing undertaking, as a church or individually, if we actually did something. I have no idea what that looks like, but I have an editorial piece brewing that won't leave my mind.

The church council will meet sometime around the middle of July (no date yet) and we will be discussing our rental policies among other things. Upon being asked, five local churches have sent us their policies and the comparisons are interesting. We are all in the same ballpark. It will be interesting if we change our present practice.

Thank you tons for getting your financial support to the church even if you are not in church.

Mow those lawns, hit the beach, take an afternoon nap, go to camp, cook supper outside, whatever, be safe, think about how blessed NYCC is and how blessed you are!

Good Thoughts going your way,

Jeanne Chadbourne, Moderator



You are invited

Please join us for a potluck gathering hosted by Mark and Marsha Heath at our home on July 15th at 11:30 AM

This is a get together for Jeanne Chadbourne's 80th birthday.

Please bring a salad or dessert to share

The pool is open so bring a towel. We have chairs, but you may want to bring one just in case.

Look for overflow parking across the street.

Hope to see you there.

No gifts please!

Coming in September/fall, The Rev Dr Leslie Foley will lead us in a workshop following worship that will help restart/facilitate our Care Team Ministry. This will be for anyone especially those who want to join us in this vital ministry and all Deacons.

"Bearing Each Other's Burdens": Sharing the Work of Caring for God's People Among the most important functions of a church is creating a community that cares for one other throughout the crests and furrows of life. Small and large churches face challenges of sharing pastoral care between the pastor, Deacons, or a care team. What are the best practices for sharing pastoral care? How do churches organize and prioritize this shared work of calling, writing, and visiting?

Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries



Ernie and Sharon Clark
7-3-1971

Nelson and Candace Smith
7-10-1971

Frank and Lyn Glassock
7-29-1995

Happy Anniversary!

July Birthdays

- 5 Kris Perkins
- 7 Jim Whipple
- 9 Katie Whittier
Ellie Whittier
- 11 Norm Smith, Nelson Smith
- 12 Jeanne Chadbourne
- 13 Charlotte Benoit
- 15 Theona Lagasse
- 16 Pam Ames
- 19 Chris Dahlgren
- 20 William Tompson
- 28 Lin Tompson-Murphy
- 31 Holly Perkins

News from the Office

Summer hours

Monday—7:00-8:30 am.

Tuesday— 7:00-8:30 am and 12:15-3:00 pm.

Wednesday—7:00-8:30 am.

Thursday 7:00-8:30 am and 12:15-3:00 pm.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you, Lyn

August Birthdays

- 4 Dale King
- 9 Don Lockhart
- 13 James Black
- 14 Libby Steele, Kevin Balvin
- 15 Addison Taylor
- 21 Trudy Sappington
- 22 Nancy Thomas
- 26 John Stewart
- 28 Ashley Hayward
- 31 Jimmy McConnell

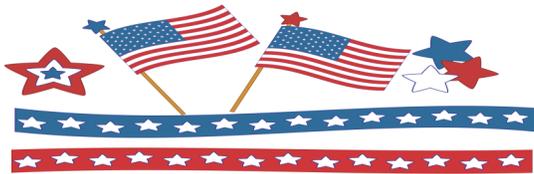
Men's Club

The Men's Club will be meeting for breakfast at Toddy Brook on Saturday, July 21st and August 18th at 7:00 a.m. at Toddy Brook. All men in the community are welcome.

For info contact Norman Smith 829-5892
or smithnorman325@gmail.com



If we've missed a birthday or anniversary please let us know, and we will update the list.



JULY 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 7:00 pm Women's AA	2	3 10:00 am Women's Fellowship/ Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba	4 Independence Day Office Closed 7:00 pm AA	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship 7:00 pm Women's AA	9	10 10:00 am Women's Fellowship/ Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba	11 7:00 pm AA	12	13	14 9:00-10:00 am Pet Place Pantry
15 9:30 Worship 7:00 pm Women's AA	16	17 10:00 am Women's Fellowship/ Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba	18 Office open in the afternoon 7:00 pm AA	19 Office closed in the afternoon	20	21 7:00 a.m. Men's Club Breakfast— Toddy Brook
22 9:30 Worship 7:00 pm Women's AA	23	24 10:00 am Women's Fellowship/ Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba	25 7:00 pm AA	26	27	28 9:00-1:00 pm Church Yard Sale
29 9:30 Worship 7:00 pm Women's AA	30	31 10:00 am Women's Fellowship/ Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba		Rev. Nancy on vacation July 23- August 5		July Altar Flowers by Leah Davis



AUGUST 2018



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	Rev. Nancy on vacation through August 5.		1 7:00 pm AA	2	3  11:30-12:30 pm Friday Lunch	4
5 9:30 Worship 11 - C.E. 7:00 pm Women's AA	6 Lyn on Vacation Office closed all week	7 10:00 am Women's Fellowship Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba	8 6:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm AA	9	10	11 9:00-10:00 am Pet Place Pantry
12 9:30 Worship 11-Diaconate 7:00 pm Women's AA	13	14 10:00 am Women's Fellowship Tuesday Gals 6:30 pm Zumba	15 7:00 pm AA	16 4:30 pm Council	17	18 7:00 am Men's Club Breakfast
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North Yarmouth Congregational Church
3 Gray Road
North Yarmouth , ME 04097



THE PARISH VOICE deadline for September is August 27—email: nycc@maine.rr.com

