

North Yarmouth Congregational Church, UCC

**Please keep the following people
in your prayers**

**Eric and Amy Austin and family on
the passing of their daughter Hannah**

Sheila Babcock, Pet Pantry Patron

David and Michelle Bickford

Terri Bickford

Candy Burgess

Carol Davis

Louisa and Karl Gerstenberger

Sandra & Vince Golonka

Nolan, Soph and Zeb Green

Blanche Mays

**Steve Quentel, Lori Martin
& Kaitlin Quentel**

Rey and Ellen Medrano

Cindy & Bill Tompson

Nancy White

Dear Beloveds of God,

I hope you are enjoying this Spring weather. After a few brutal storms, we certainly need the sunshine and warmth.

I am pleased to announce that Nolan is doing well. She just had a checkup and has been gaining about two ounces a day since coming back from the hospital, which is exactly what the doctors want to see happening. We are so grateful for your prayers and support. I believe we are heading to smoother waters.

With the warm weather coming, I'd love to start working on plans for some outdoor worship experiences or prayerful walks out in nature. If this is something that interests you, please let me know. Christians have long spoken about two sources of Revelation: the Book of Scriptures and the Book of Creation. Let's get out there, marvel, pray, and enjoy the outdoors.

This week's scripture readings are First John 3: 16-24 and John 10: 11-18. In these passages, Jesus is described as the Good Shepherd who will defend and nurture the flock through all adversity. We will be exploring and celebrating the love and protection Jesus extends to us and how we can extend that love to others.

Many Blessings,

Pastor Zeb

Church Cleanup Day

Our Spring church cleanup day is set for **Saturday, April 27th at 9:00am**. We will be working to clear up the church yard and parking area, taking down storm windows and also doing some work inside. If you will be working outside please bring gloves and a rake. Please join us as we brighten up the church for the spring/summer season. Donuts and apple cider will be served. Rain date will be May 4 at 9am.

Thank you from Sue Elliott

Thank you to everyone who came to and contributed to my going away party. Your farewell wishes have truly touched my heart.

It is an exciting and emotional time as I pickup and move to my new home at Clarewood House in Houston Texas where I will be closer to my daughter Charity. I will be around for another month while I await my new home to be ready.

I appreciate your kind words and prayers and I am grateful for the time I have spent with you all over the years.

Sue

**There is a basket in the Fellowship Hall if you would like drop in a card for Susan.

Food Pantry Donations

The Grocery Cart in the Gathering Space has been the collection spot for much needed food for our neighbors. Communion Sunday has been our Sunday for food collection but drop off of food is welcome anytime. Thank you for filling the cart so many times. Below is an updated list of the most needed food items. (3/24)

Reusable bags | Canned fruit peaches | Pineapple | Mandarin oranges | Tuna fish | Peanut butter | Jam /jelly
Chicken ramen noodles | Instant potatoes | Chicken and beef soups | Chowder & beef stews
Broth, veg. beef, chicken | Spaghetti' Os/Ravioli | Spaghetti/Angel hair/ pasta | Hamburger helper
Spaghetti sauce | Crackers | Coffee reg. Med | K-cups reg. Med | Hot Cocoa | Brownie mix | cake mix/Frosting
Pancake mix/muffin mix | Condiments Mayo/Ketchup | Kids Cereal and granola | Oatmeal packets
Jell-O and pudding mix | Protein drinks | School snacks | Granola bars | Juice individuals and family size
Chips | Pretzels | Tortilla Chips

This food is distributed where it is most needed. Currently the food is sent to two places. The Community Food Pantry and the Harrison Food Bank. The Community Food Pantry serves families from North Yarmouth, Cumberland, Pownal, and New Gloucester. The number of families using the pantry has increased this year to over 95 families per week. NYCC members and friends have supported the pantry with food donations, money donations and volunteer time. The Harrison Food Bank serves families in Western Maine. The number of families served per week has grown from 200 to over 800 in the past few years. We have supported the Food Bank with food donations and money donations from the Missions Fund.

Thank you for your generosity. We are helping many families in our area put food on the table.

Clothing Ministry

Happy Spring. A quick note to let you know that the Clothing Ministry is changing. Springing forward, the Clothing Ministry will collect basic clothing to be given out by the NYCC Street Ministry to people living outside.

The most asked for items this spring are listed below. If you are so moved, please leave your donation in the Gathering Space of the church.

Socks

New Underwear

T-shirts

Spring Coats

Sneakers

Baseball Hats

Going forward, if you have other clothing to donate, you might consider donating to the organizations listed below. If you have questions about these organizations, the locations, items collected or hours to donate, please email Tracy, tdahlgren1140@gmail.com or check out their websites.

Maine Needs

<https://www.maineneeds.org/>

332 Forest Ave,
Portland, ME

The Salvation Army,

<https://satruck.org/>

Salvation Army Family Store

1225 Roosevelt Trail

RAYMOND, ME, 04071

Salvation Army Thrift Store

30 Warren Ave,

Portland, ME 04103

The Freeport Thrift Store

<https://fcsmaine.org/thrift-shop/>

53 Depot Street

Freeport, ME

APRIL MEETINGS

Council - Sunday, April 21 following worship

Choir - Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm and Sunday mornings at 8:30 am.

(The choir will meet from 8:00 am - 9:00 am on Sunday mornings through Easter)

Tuesday Gals meet at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Men's Club meets on the third Saturday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at Toddy Brook

Pet Place Pantry is open on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Greater Freeport Community Chorus

Greater Freeport Community Chorus presents their Spring concert, “I Dream a World,” on Saturday, May 4, at 7:00 p.m. at North Yarmouth Congregational Church, and Sunday, May 5, at 3:00 p.m. at Brunswick United Methodist Church. Admission at the door is \$10 for adults, and free for children under 18. There are no online or presale tickets.

Artistic Director Jesse Myers-Wakeman has chosen “I Dream a World” as the featured work of the program. It features text by Langston Hughes in a setting by Dr. Andre Thomas. The program also includes a selection of traditional spirituals and other pieces highlighting the turmoil of the human condition and offering hope for a more peaceful and loving future for all.

GFCC was founded in 1996 by the late Sukie Rice of Freeport and currently has over 50 members from 15 local Maine towns. Our leader, Jesse is an acclaimed choral director, vocalist, teacher, and composer, originally from Belfast, Maine. Area residents may remember his full-length musical play, “Letters at Sea,” which was performed at Freeport High School recently. The chorus is accompanied by Maine native and USM graduate Kellie Moody. Find out more about the chorus at WWW.GFCCSings.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/greaterfreeportchorus.



~ April 2024 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | 1 6p Greely Boys Hockey Banquet (Fellowship Hall) | 2 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group | 3 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA | 4 Rummage Sale Set-up | 5 Rummage Sale Set-up | 6 9am-2pm Rummage Sale Fellowship Hall |
| 7 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Diaconate Meeting | 8 | 9 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group 7p Trustees | 10 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA | 11 6p Girl Scouts (FH) | 12 | 13 9a Pet Place Pantry |
| 14 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Faith Formation | 15 Patriots Day Office Closed 6:30pm Missions Mtg Via Zoom | 16 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group | 17 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA | 18 | 19 | 20 7:30a Men's Club Breakfast (Toddy Brook) |
| 21 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 11a Council | 22 Earth Day | 23 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group | 24 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7p AA | 25 6p Girl Scouts (FH) | 26 | 27 9am Church Cleanup Day |
| 28 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship | 29 | 30 10a Tuesday Gals (FH) 6p Paley's Men's Group | Church Cleanup Day rain date – May 4 at 9am. | | | |