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**Sunday, August 7, 2022**

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship

Invocation

Hymn – *It Is Well with My Soul*

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer (trespasses)

Announcements

Memorial Moment

Special Music – *How Great Thou Art*

Scripture – Proverbs 3:13-26

Hymn – *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Sermon – *The Pathway to Wisdom*

Offering – *Amazing Grace*

Hymn – *Wonderful Words of Life*

Benediction

Organ Postlude

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Guest Speaker – Alex Luhtjarv – Senior Deacon,  
United Parish, Winchendon, Massachusetts

Organist – Sharon Michaud

Special Music – Andrew Martelle, Violin

Visit us at <https://eldergrey.org>

## The Elder Grey Meeting House



Photo by Kathy Carr

**1806 - 2022**

Everyone is cordially invited  
to attend the ninety-sixth annual  
Pilgrimage Service at the  
Elder Grey Meeting House  
Chadbourne Ridge Road  
North Waterborough, Maine  
Sunday, August 7, 2022  
at 2:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served  
following the service  
for an hour of sociability  
and renewal of old acquaintances.

*There is a hand rail at the meeting house steps.*

**The Elder Grey Meeting House is entered  
upon The National Register of Historic Places**

### GPS

Our physical address is  
346 Chadbourne Ridge Road.  
Beware of an approach from Route 117 in  
Hollis or Limington. The lady giving directions  
does not know that this road hasn’t  
been used as a throughway for about 50 years.

## 2021-2022 Elder Grey Meeting House-Cemetery Association Officers

President.....Lee Robator

First Vice-President.. .Becky Hutchinson Joyce

Second Vice-President.....Vacant

Secretary.....Deborah Downs

Treasurer/Clerk.....Linda Hanscom

Trustees.....Arnold Weeks

Lesley Ortiz

Kelly Pelchat

Bill Butterfield

Margaret Downs

Authorized Agent and Custodian  
of the Cemetery .....Jon Gale

### Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting will be held  
at the Meeting House following the service  
and refreshments. All those interested are  
welcome and are encouraged to stay and attend.

The Elder Grey Meeting House-Cemetery  
Association is a 501(c)(3) organization.  
Please specify whether any donation is intended  
for the meeting house or the cemetery.

### BYOC

Those of you who find the 1806  
pew seats a bit unyielding are  
invited to bring a cushion.



## Guest Speaker

Alex Luhtjarv serves as the Senior Deacon at the United Parish in Winchendon, MA, a blended multi-denominational faith community. He has taught social studies for 21 years at Hillsboro-Deering High School in Hillsboro, NH. He and his family recently moved to Hillsboro after living many years in Rindge, NH. Alex and his wife Karla have six children, including five-year-old twins, who do their best to keep them busy. Alex is president of his teachers' union as well as a local scholarship organization. When not at church or school, he enjoys reading, hiking and cheering on the Boston Red Sox. Alex's wife Karla has family connections to the Elder Grey community going back many generations.

## Meeting House & Cemetery Updates

After last year's removal of all coats of shellac, calcimine and paint from the meeting house ceiling, Steve Vincent has applied two coats of white paint. In addition, Steve stayed on to scrape and paint the exterior of the building. A portion of the back wall and the southwest wall corner of the cemetery were repaired by Leah Grandstaff and her helpers. Gravestone restoration expert Jess Davis and her assistant repaired the gravestones of Elder James Gray and his wife Anna and of brothers Benjamin Frank Barnes and Elijah Barnes.

## The Four Daughters of Samuel Gray

Elder James and Anna (Woodard) Gray's eldest child Samuel was born in July of 1810. In 1834 he married Sophia Carlisle and they lived on land deeded to him by his father on what is now known as Huff's Lane in North Waterboro, not far from Elder Gray's farm. The Samuel Gray home was later the childhood home of Elmer West, a clergyman. He was a guest minister, a "Waterboro boy," at our Pilgrimage Service in 1927.

Oral history tells us that Samuel and Sophia planted a maple tree for each of their four daughters. First arriving was Maria Chase Gray, born in 1836, then Lydia in 1839, Julia in 1842 and Celestia in August, 1846.

In 1840 Samuel Gray was listed as a Waterboro voter, but in 1849 he moved his family to Biddeford. Then in 1856 Samuel, Sophia, and their surviving three daughters moved to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Samuel was a

carpenter. He died in 1869, age 59, and was buried in Biddeford. Sophia outlived him for many years and died November 8, 1895, in Evanston, Illinois, at the home of Celestia. She is buried next to Samuel and Lydia.

**Maria** married Walter C. Fortescue in 1857 in Iowa. As a single man in 1851, Walter, "a highly educated blind young man, came to Macon to organize a school for the blind." Today it is The Georgia Academy for The Blind. Walter and Maria lived their married life in Philadelphia and had five children. Walter was a lifetime educator and a publisher of text books, and Maria was president of the Women's Christian Association. Walter died in 1911, 85, and Maria died in 1914, 78. Two sons – Walter and Horace – survived her.

**Lydia** died in 1855 at the age of 16 and is buried with her parents at Woodlawn Cemetery in Biddeford.

**Julia** married David Burnett in 1858 in Iowa. For most of their married life they lived in the Washington, D.C. area where Julia was active in civic and social organizations. Among these organizations was the Legion of Loyal Women; in March, 1907, Julia participated in their GAR reception at which Clara Barton was a speaker. David was one of the founders of the Knights of Pythias in 1864. David died in 1912, and Julia died in 1918, survived by one daughter Alice.



Julia Gray

**Celestia** married Civil War surgeon Patterson L. McKinnie in 1866 in Illinois, prior to his graduation from Rush Medical College. In 1880, they were living in Moline. As a widow, Celestia's mother Sophia lived with Celestia and her family for many years. In 1895 Sophia died at their home in Evanston. Celestia was civic-minded like her sisters. Dr. McKinnie died in 1907 while spending the winter with Celestia and their son Guy in Riverside, California. His obituary stated that he spent his later years in mining, real estate and insurance. Celestia died in 1926, survived by three children.

An undated inscription in an 1892 Bible held by the Association reads, *This Bible is a gift of the people of this neighborhood. The donors are Maria, Julia and Celestia, daughters of Samuel Gray and grand daughters of Rev. James Gray for whom this Meeting House is named.* In 1978 the Woodsome family dedicated this Bible to Onville Curtis Woodsome, fourth great grandson of Elder James Gray.

The Elder Grey Meeting House - Cemetery Association  
265 Chadbourne Ridge Road  
North Waterborough, ME 04061

