

**Sunday, August 6, 2023**

Organ Prelude

Announcements

Call to Worship

Invocation

Hymn – *To God Be the Glory*

Scripture prayer: Psalm 10:1-4, 17-18

Sermon – *Praying*

Concerns and Celebrations

Memorial Moment

Hymn – *Amazing Grace*

Offering/Offertory Prayer

Music played by Judy Braun (YouTube)

Benediction

Hymn of Parting – *God Be With You*

Organ Postlude

Guest Minister – Rev. Judy Braun, member of Acton Congregational Church

Organist – Sharon Michaud

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

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

## The Elder Grey Meeting House



Photo by Kathy Carr

**1806 - 2023**

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the ninety-seventh annual Pilgrimage Service at the Elder Grey Meeting House Chadbourne Ridge Road North Waterborough, Maine

Sunday, August 6, 2023  
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.*

### 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.

## 2022-2023 Elder Grey Meeting House-Cemetery Association Officers

President.....Lee Robator

First Vice-President.....Becky Hutchinson Joyce

Second Vice-President.....Lesley Ortiz

Secretary.....Deborah Downs

Treasurer/Clerk.....Linda Hanscom

Trustees.....Shaun Campbell  
Kelly Pelchat  
Bill Butterfield  
Margaret Downs  
Stacey Gray

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 Minister

Rev. Judy Braun retired from her position as a CAT scan technologist at Maine Medical Center in 2012 and that September was ordained as Assistant Pastor/teacher to the Congregational Church in Cumberland, Maine. She served there for six years developing a ministry of artists in the congregation. She also led a weekly Bible study for a group of approximately eight people as well as a ministry to the local assisted living facility in Yarmouth. From 2016 to 2021, she was a hospice chaplain for Northern Light Home Health and Hospice, serving the area south of Portland.

Having grown up in Wadsworth, Ohio, she traveled with her military husband, eventually coming to Portland. She lived in Windham for over forty years where she raised two children. She has three grandchildren in Massachusetts. Besides writing her personal memoir, she is currently serving the Inn at Village Square in Gorham as a group spiritual leader. She is a Master level Reiki practitioner and loves to garden at her home in Alfred where she lives with her dog, Panda.

Among the locales was the Elder Grey Meeting House, which was chosen for the town meeting segment. The film crew arrived on August 26th. The meeting house was full, and Raymond Bradeen played the role of moderator from the pulpit. Seated in the pulpit with him were Lee Owen to his right and Dr. Ansel Davis to his left.



Lewis' character stood to thank all his neighbors for their



help during his recovery. Eva (Davis) Shapleigh rose from her seat and also spoke to the gathering. (Note: In 1955 Eva wrote one of the earliest histories of the Meeting House.)

The Portland Press Herald reported, "By strategically placing floodlights inside the Meeting House, a filter in the camera, and shooting against a brilliant sun, the film comes out a beautiful night shot, moonlight streaming down on the building as the lights shine through the open doors and windows."



The following January, 1947, the Capitol Theatre in Sanford had a "World Premiere Showing" of "Village Storekeeper." The theater advertised, "Don't miss this extra special treat of a moving picture showing your own community with your own neighbors as the stars." It shared the bill with "Jack London," starring Michael O'Shea and Susan Hayward.

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## The Day "Hollywood" came to the Elder Grey Meeting House

In late summer of 1946, the U.S. State Department arrived in Waterboro to make a film depicting American small town democracy. "Village Storekeeper" was meant to be distributed through embassies and consulates all over the world. Excepting one professional actor, George Wells Lewis, all the thespians were local residents. The 20-minute film has narration but no dialogue.

The story revolves around the proprietor of the Webber Farm, Jim Skelton, played by Lewis. After he fell from a load of hay and broke his leg, the townspeople rallied to assist him and his wife, played by Helen Carpenter.

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

