

Sunday, August 3, 2025

- Organ Prelude
 - Announcements
 - Call to Worship - Meditation
 - Invocation
 - Hymn – *We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations*
 - Scripture - Luke 6:27-32
 - Sermon – *A Balancing Act*
 - Concerns and Celebrations
 - Memorial Moment
 - Hymn – *Amazing Grace*
 - Offering/Offertory Prayer
 - Special Music - *Because I Have Been Given Much*
 - Benediction
 - Hymn of Parting – *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*
 - Organ Postlude
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- Guest Minister – Rev. Judy Braun, member of Acton Congregational Church
 - Organist – Sharon Michaud
 - Special Music - Tom Osborne
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Visit us at <https://eldergrey.org>

The Elder Grey Meeting House



Photo by Kathy Carr

1806 - 2025

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

Sunday, August 3, 2025
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.

2024-2025 Elder Grey Meeting
House-Cemetery Association Officers

- President..... Becky Hutchinson Joyce
- First Vice-President.....Lesley Ortiz
- Second Vice-President.....Vacant
- Secretary.....Deborah Downs
- Treasurer/Clerk.....Linda Hanscom
- Trustees.....Bill Butterfield
Margaret Downs
Stacey Gray
Lee Robator
Kelly Pelchat
- Authorized Agent and Custodian
of the CemeteryJon 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.



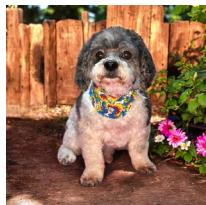


Guest Minister

Rev. Judy Braun has accepted our invitation to speak to us again this year.

Rev. Judy is a retired CAT scan technologist, Assistant Pastor, and Hospice Chaplain. Now she spends time with her feet, ankles, knees and whole body in the River of Life.

Beside the river she plants vegetables and flowers and prunes trees and bushes, accompanied by four legs of love, Panda. His life has experienced two separate knee surgeries and back surgery for a ruptured disc. With a little Reiki from Rev. Judy and good food, at thirteen years old he is a perky visitor around the neighborhood.



of gypsum plaster, then a lime and sand mix. The new plaster “allows for a strong and resilient system that can withstand structural movement in an unheated building”. Peter later remarked that we were very lucky and encountered just about perfect weather: first warm and dry, then damp and wet, then dry again, with no freeze during the night. Fans were kept going day and night for a two week period, with the power supply donated by next door Elder Grey neighbors Kelly and Scott Pelchat. By October 7th, Peter and Dan were taking down the staging and starting the clean-up process. Peter made several visits afterwards to check the moisture level in the walls as the plaster set and slowly whitened.

And finally, in early November, we were able to hold a business meeting inside the Meeting House. Because it was a bit on the chilly side, Shaun Campbell rigged up a heater so folks could admire the newly replastered walls in comfort!

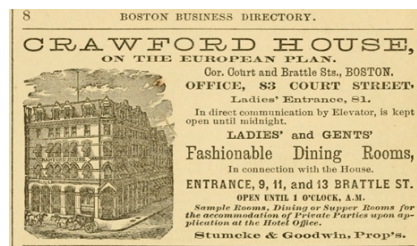
Yet Another Meeting House Restoration Project: Replastering the Interior

Thanks to a \$7,500 grant from both the Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust and the Davis Foundation, a \$5,000 grant from the Narragansett Number One Foundation, and the generosity of a number of donors, the final phase of our restoration work was completed. In late August of 2024, Peter Lord, a plaster restoration expert from Limington, and Dan Amabile began the labor intensive work of removing all old and deteriorated plaster from the interior walls of the Meeting House, including the remnants of wallpaper put up decades earlier. Interestingly, Peter discovered handwriting on the backside of a strip of the paper with the name Stanley Durgin, and the date August 14, 1962!

The first step was to protect the floor with waterproof paper and then cover the work area with polysheeting. Peter noted that the old plaster was “a very good mix with plenty of lime, but very thin and that’s what eventually did it in.” They then fastened metal wire and wooden lathing, and applied a gypsum scratch coat, then a second coat

A Recollection of James Gray by One Who Knew Him

On the evening of May 15, 1890, at the Crawford House in Boston, Samuel King Hamilton addressed a gathering of 79 at a reunion of the Sons of Waterboro. His address was filled with memories of their home town, including the following:



I can recall too the shorter, more compact and sturdier form of another minister who founded the church on Bradeen’s Ridge, Elder James Gray. I can well remember him as he drove about the country on a high thorough brace gig drawn by a gray mare whose age was such as to render it improper to look in her mouth I well remember the high esteem in which he was held, his fervent prayers and more fervent exhortations. How he gave the people line upon line, precept upon precept and here a little and there a little of the goodness of God “yer-zee” strewed around among the people “r - r - r.”