

**August 20, 2025**

from the New Ipswich Congregational Church  
156 Main Street New Ipswich NH 03071



*From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyratira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. Acts 16:13-14a*

### **Expectations**

Timothy, Paul, Silas and Luke, as well as some others, are traveling throughout the Roman Empire spreading the gospel and strengthening the churches. Spending some time in Philippi, a city where there was no synagogue, they began to search outside the city for a *proseuche*, a place of prayer.

They apparently found such a place by a nearby river, today known as the Zygaktis River. Today there stands a small chapel at the site where it is believed that Paul baptized Lydia. A short distance away stands a Greek Orthodox Church also commemorating the baptism of the first European convert to Christianity.

The curious among us would have to ask; how would Paul and his fellow companions recognize this “place of prayer” when they found it? The answer was quite simple. They went looking for a place where believers were gathered. There in the lush, serene landscape beside the river where no church or chapel had yet stood they find several women, worshippers of God, who had gathered to pray.

When those who come seeking a place to pray come into our churches, our meetings, our events will they find a “place of prayer?” How will they know? Will they find worshippers of God, praying believers and the message of the gospel proclaimed? The building, the steeple, the ringing of the bell, the meetings, the events are all ways to draw attention, to bring them here. But it is up to you to show them the place of prayer they are seeking by reflecting the One we all pray to!

*Blessings*

*Pastor Ken*

### Church Calendar

Thur 8/21	Fr 8/22	Sa 8/23	Su 8/24	Mo 8/25	Tu 8/26	08/27/25
5-9pm Boy Scouts			10am Worship		6-7pm Girlscouts	1030-1230 Senior Fellowship

#### **Wednesday Senior Fellowship**

Come at 1030 to visit, stay till 12 noon for lunch.

Our lively group continues to grow! Conversation, laughter and sharing information- its a great social time to get you out and about.

The lunch is always pretty good too.

#### **At the River's Edge**

"At the River's Edge" is an intensive online Bible Study. We meet each Wednesday at 630pm on Zoom. Beginning Sept.3 this multi-church bible study will be managed by Donell Riddick New Life Christian Ministries Lowell, Mass.

#### **Church Surveys!**

There is still time to get your survey completed. Calling a new minister is a daunting process. The person the church selects could serve as much as 20 years or as little as

5. Don't miss this chance for your voice to be heard so the Search committee can select candidates for you to consider that meet your needs and expectations.



#### **The Cash Cow!**

Kevin and the staff at St Vincent De Paul extend their heartfelt appreciation for all those who have donated funds to purchase ½ gallons of milk. You can continue to donate directly to them or through Margie Brown

#### **Monday Night Dinners Return!**

Our weekly free community dinner will resume on Monday September 8<sup>th</sup>!

On the menu; Lazyman Lasagna

### **Pastor's Schedule August 21-27**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
9-5 NICC Office Open	9-1030 NICC Office Open  11am-3 Teacher's Mtg Heritage Christian School	9-12 Music Mason Market	830am-12 noon Preaching Red Oak Church W Springfield	9-5 NICC Office  630 Ice Cream Social Heritage Christiian School	Off Office closed  430pm Mtg G. Rivera FBCF	8-12 Heritage Christian School  1-5 NICC Office

Just a note: The final full office day for Pastor Ken will be Monday August 25<sup>th</sup>.  
August 27<sup>th</sup> ½ day: 1-5pm  
Tuesday August 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday August 30<sup>th</sup> are moving days.

### **Preaching Schedule for August**

August 24<sup>th</sup> Allison Rivera

August 31<sup>th</sup> Pastor Ken

### **Guest Preacher**



Allison Rivera will be bringing the message on Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup>. Allison is a member of New Life Christian Ministries in Lowell, Mass. A first year School of Ministry student who is passionate about preaching the gospel in a way that heals hearts and inspires change. She serves in her home church as a choir member and leader of the women's ministry. She is saved by the grace of God and growing in Him daily. The mother of 3 teen age girls- Nayla, Michaela and Yasnaia, she is doing her best to raise them up in the church on her own with the assistance of the village God has given her. She has a strong desire to re-present Christ to the best of her ability, in all ways, ALWAYS.

### **Financial Health**

Monthly recurring expenses June: \$5,791.58

Date	General Fund	Building Fund	Total	Special Gift
08/03/25	\$1,014.36	\$250.00	\$1,264.36	
08/10/25	\$1,660.00	\$400.00	\$2,060.00	

### **CF Calendar Raffle**

Still going! Til the end of the month!  
Winners are being selected every day! Look for Karyn Veeseer on Facebook to see if you are a winner!

### **Building Fund!**

We have several capital projects that need to be addressed soon!

New Septic System  
Siding replacement  
Roof repairs  
Parking lot paving

Please designate your gift as "Building Fund" whether on line or in the offering.

### **Opportunities to serve!**

**Children's Bulletin Art!** Signup outside the Sunday School classroom.

Email your art work to [naomimay2015@yahoo.com](mailto:naomimay2015@yahoo.com)

**Senior Fellowship Lunch.** See Naomi Petersen if interested in providing a meal.

### **Farewell Sermon and Lunch**

August 31<sup>st</sup> will be Pastor Ken's last Sunday here at NICC.  
please plan on staying after worship, bring something to share to say goodbye over lunch!

### **Sunday School Teacher Schedule**

August 24<sup>th</sup> The Happy Meal That Kept Going. \_\_\_\_\_ ?

August 31<sup>st</sup> A Walk on Water. Margie Brown

September 7<sup>th</sup> A Dogged Faith. Emily Trefflich

### **A Special Thanks**

To all those who helped make the 2025 Children's Fair a success!  
To the executive committee, area chairpersons, children area volunteers, far to many to name them all, those who donated toward the calendar raffle, gift baskets and on and on. Know that all of you were appreciated!