



October 2013

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Newsletter

A community united by faith in God and love to the neighbor

Penny in a pocket

September 3...**6:00a.m.**: I am about to wake up Monroe for his first day of kindergarten! His clothes had been laid out the evening before and the backpack and shoes were ready and waiting by the door. We knew Chuck Priest would be bringing the bus by at 6:55am!

6:45a.m.: Monroe was ready, almost. He had eaten, brushed teeth, and gotten dressed. We were right on schedule. Still... *as a mom and a minister*, I couldn't help but feel that something was missing. Here was one of those moments presenting itself to me. Our theology is one of spirituality and the everyday completely enmeshed. There is no separating the two. God's presence is everywhere and concerned with even the smallest details; I certainly couldn't help but see the Divine concerned with Monroe's first day of kindergarten! ☺

But what could I give to Monroe to help him remember and plant this seed of a lesson that God is at school too? I thought about a small rock...but I didn't have a good one on hand. And then I thought about a penny I had seen on the corner of his dresser. Of course! "*In God we trust.*" That would be perfect in his pocket!

Interestingly, the "*In God we trust*" motto has been on our money since the days of the Civil War. At that time, the Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon Chase, was receiving a number of requests in the mail from the people to have some connection with the Divine on our currency. This led Chase to instruct the Mint Director to come up with a motto. He wrote (Nov. 20, 1861):

Dear Sir: No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins. You will cause a device to be prepared without unnecessary delay with a motto expressing in the fewest and tersest words possible this national recognition.

Congress passed the motto in 1864, though it did disappear and reappear on certain coins through the years; since 1938, all United States coins carry the inscription.

Back to Sept. 3, 2013, **6:55am**: Monroe gets on the bus with a penny in his pocket, reminding him that God is always with him, and he can trust in Him.

I did ask Monroe if it would be okay if I shared our "penny in a pocket" idea in a church newsletter. He thought it would be fine.

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

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Secretary ~ Wednesday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

www.fryeburgnewchurch.org

Church Report

The Trustees

As a church, I wonder if we might not give ourselves the job of being a "penny in the pocket." I'm not thinking particularly of a penny's smallness or worth; though certainly that could be fitting. It is not uncommon for us as a denomination to wonder at how small we are, or how we are going to survive into the future. How many of you have ever passed by a penny on the sidewalk and thought it not worth it to pick it up? Fortunately, Jesus has a lot of reassuring teachings about the importance and power of something small. Whether it is the mustard seed, the two or three that are gathered together, or the one lost sheep that was worth rescuing, the "small" is worth attending to. Another hopeful verse comes to mind,

"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones." Luke 16:10

More than thinking of the worth of a penny, I was thinking about its job in Monroe's pocket. My hope had been that it could offer encouragement in its own way; it could be an unassuming, solid reminder of God's presence when emotions and experiences are new and shifting. I can't help but wonder...how are *we* serving as a solid, reassuring voice and presence for the Divine in a world that is shifting and changing politically...emotionally...spiritually? We can and do bring hope and encouragement to others with the Lord's guidance and help.

Let us *trust in God* together in this time of new beginnings and continued shifts and changes in the world, and be a "penny in the pocket" for those around us.

Thank you for your kind welcome to the Fryeburg New Church!

October Blessings from our family to you and yours,

Rev. Alison, Adam, Monroe and Elin

The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 7:00 pm.** The meetings are open to all, but you should contact the Chair prior to the meeting to get an item on the agenda. Also, please speak to any of the Trustees with your questions, concerns, compliments or complaints. We are here to serve you.

Currently Serving Trustees

Cindy Priest, <i>Chair</i>	935-3360
Jon Crowe, <i>Vice Chair</i>	925-1302
Donnette Barnes, <i>Treasurer</i>	935-2130
Scott Ferguson, <i>Secretary</i>	925-3207
Jennifer Richardson	935-4509
Jean Cressy	935-7093
Judy Hatch	935-2223
<i>Women's Alliance Representative:</i>	
Patty Swett	603-939-2262

Women's Alliance

The next meeting of the Women's Alliance will be on **Monday, October 21, 2013 at NOON.** Bring a bag lunch. We meet the third Monday of each month at the Church. All ladies are welcome!!

2013 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

PresidentJean Cressy
Vice-President.....TBA
SecretarySally Harnden
Treasurer.....Patty Swett
Chaplain.....Betty Baker

Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Family Worship 10:00 AM

As many of you might already be aware, several years ago, Convention's Educational Support Unit (EDSU) offered a plan to help unite our Swedenborgian Churches; they proposed we follow a seven-year cycle of annual "themes," each featuring a key Swedenborgian doctrine. Each church and ministry, in their own creative way, has been invited to explore the theme throughout the year.

We now find ourselves arriving at the middle of those seven years. This year (June 2013- June 2014), our focus is to be:

The Year of Providence: the assurance of Purpose

- the universe makes sense and we have a special, angelic purpose
- the laws of Providence are Love and Wisdom at work for us
- our call to "choose life" and become who we (really) are

I would love our Fryeburg New Church to explore in worship, service, and special projects the theme of Divine Providence throughout this year.

This October, the theme of our worship services and messages will be focused on different teachings about Divine Providence. Bible lessons to be announced.

October 6: What is Divine Providence?

October 13: Divine Providence ~
Law of Hidden Operation.

October 20: Divine Providence ~
Law of Noncompulsion.

October 27: Divine Providence ~
The struggle against evil.



Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Luncheon

Please join us for our annual pot luck luncheon immediately following Worship Service on: **Sunday, October 27th**

FNC Annual Meeting will follow after lunch.

**Maine Association Annual Meeting TBA

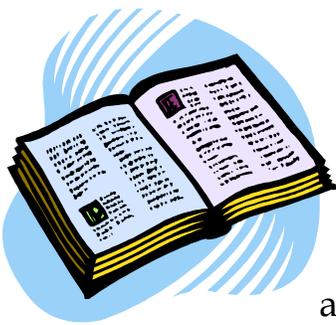
*Don't forget to get your annual reports in to the FNC Office by October 11th so it can be included in the Church report.
Thank you!

Fish and Game Supper

Nov 4, 2013  6:30 p.m.

- ALL SUPPERS to be \$9.00 per person.





Bible Study

An Adult Bible Study will be starting once again. Please join us on Thursday mornings at 10:00am, beginning October 3rd, in the church library! The Bible Study topic will be the Scripture readings for the following Sunday.

Christmas Cupboard



The Women's Alliance is once again gearing up for the annual *Christmas Cupboard* which will be on Saturday,

November 16th!! Donations of anything handmade are appreciated and very much needed this year! EVERYONE: We could really use donations of some handmade wooden crafts. Items for sale should be brought to the Church no later than set up day, Friday, November 15th at 9:00 a.m. Baked items can also be brought in anytime on Friday, or Saturday morning by 8:00 a.m. We also will be decorating wreaths at the Church on November 10th after the service, write it on your calendar so you don't miss all the fun!

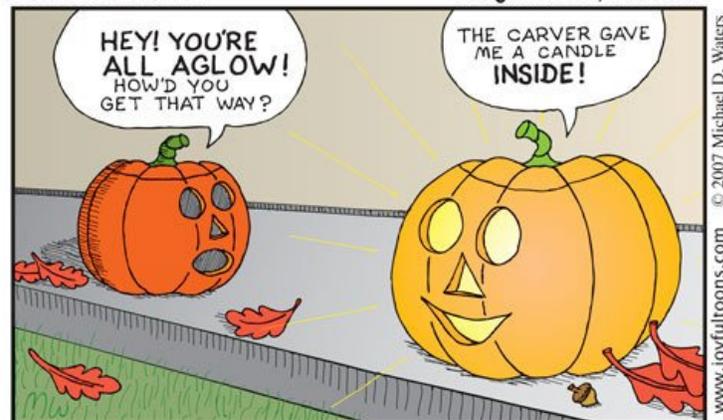
Too old to go Trick-or-Treating?

Not many children coming to your house? I'd like to propose a new idea for Halloween this year! Let's turn the church lights on, sit on the steps, and hand out candy at 12 Oxford Street this year. At what other time do we have hundreds of residents pass by our door in one evening? Let's make it a mission and outreach event! If you are interested in helping hand out candy Halloween night, please let me know! *Angel costumes welcome!*

~Rev. Alison

INNER LIGHT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. - 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 NIV

*Reminder: There is **NO** Dinner Bell on Wednesday, October 2 due to Fair parking at St. Elizabeth.*

Welcomers for October

- Oct 7 Fryeburg Fair
- Oct 14 Sally Harnden
- Oct 21 Martha Richardson
- Oct 28 OPEN

Ushers for October

- Oct 7 Tom Barrett & Donnette Barnes
- Oct 14 Stanley Dolley & Chuck Priest
- Oct 21 Jen & David Richardson
- Oct 28 Dean Harnden & Sue Davidson

Coffee Hour for October

- Oct 7 Fryeburg Fair
- Oct 13 Jane Williams
- Oct 20 Renie Chaplin
- Oct 27 Jean Cressy

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE		
SEPTEMBER 2-23, 2012		
Date	Adults	Children
Sept 1	24	3
Sept 8	63	3
Sept 15	62	5
Sept 22	43	6



October
flowers
courtesy
of
Renie Chaplin

Calendar for October 2013 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
			
29	Sun	Fryeburg Fair begins Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
6	Sun	Last Day of Fair Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
8	Tue	Trustees Meeting	7:00 p.m.
9	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
10	Thu	Brown Bag Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
13	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship <i>Communion Sunday</i>	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
16	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS Worship Committee mtg.	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
17	Thu	Brown Bag Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
20	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship <i>SS Teacher's Meeting</i>	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
14	Mon	Women's Alliance	12 noon
23	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
24	Thu	Brown Bag Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
27	Sun	Birthday Bank Sunday Food Pantry Sunday Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Family Potluck and FNC Annual Meeting	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
30	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.