



February 2006

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Bulletin

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

Dear Friends,

Happy Valentine's Day!
Abraham Lincoln's Day! George
Washington's Day! Wow, for such a
short month February sure has a lot of
special days. I guess that just goes to
show that you don't have to be big to be
special. Which is good because that is
the approach we might want to take with
our church.

There was a time when the
Swedenborgian church was big: over a
hundred attending church on a regular
basis, special occasions where ministers
spoke to groups of over five hundred.
Throughout the country there were
sizable congregations of very influential
people. But that was back in the early to
mid 1800's. It hasn't been that way for
quite some time.

But big or not, our church is
special. We have a number of people
who have been coming here since they
were children. And now they are
watching their own children head off
down to Sunday School, and in some
cases their grandchildren. We have a
theology that puts Jesus Christ as the

immutable center of the divine presence
and yet we can look at people from other
religions without self-righteousness or
pity knowing that devotion to their
understanding of God and a life lived as
an expression of God's love and wisdom
will lead them into their own place in
heaven. Speaking of which, we have an
understanding of God who is truly love
and wisdom, compassion and
forgiveness and so judges or condemns
no one, but rather, while calling them to
goodness and truth, allows each person
the freedom to decide and choose for
themselves what it is they love above all
things and in what state of being they
choose to live out the eternity of spiritual
life.

Yet along with all of that, we
have a church community of friends and
neighbors that is at once loving and
caring and tolerant, understanding and
forgiving. No one among us is "without
sin." And yet each one of us is
attempting to turn the steps of our life's
journey toward the Lord; each one of us
responding to and following the Lord's
voice as we hear it; and each one of us,

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

Church Office Hours: 8 a.m.- noon Tuesday - Friday

12 Oxford St. • Fryeburg, ME 04037 • Rev. Ken Turley, Pastor

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Parsonage: 207-935-4500

in our own way, attempting to be of service to the church and to one another.

We may not be big, but we are special. And the same can be said for our denomination. For while we are few in comparison to almost all other denominations, our churches are communities of committed, caring and talented people. If you are wondering if in fact all of this is true, try asking yourself this question: "Where would I be in my life right now, if it weren't for this church?" It is a question worth keeping in mind, every time you come up the front steps, or in the side door; every time a call goes out for volunteers; every time the collection plate gets passed; every time there is some friction between people over one issue or another; every time there is a piece of music played that you don't especially like, or that you do especially like; every time someone new comes through the door or suggests we do something a little differently; etc., etc., etc. . . . "where would I be without this church?" "Where would we ALL be without this church?" It isn't perfect. It isn't big. But after all these years, through the changing of so many generations, it is still very much alive. And it is special. I hope you feel the same way too.

Blessings,

Rev. Ken

"We all have the means to bestow on others the most lavish gifts; love, joy, peace, hope, kindness, acceptance, encouragement, laughter, forgiveness, time. There is not enough money to buy them and not too little money to give them. The more you spend, the wealthier you become; yet nothing will cost you more than what you freely possess to give."

COMPUTER CORNER

Please go visit our church website!

www.fryeburgnewchurch.org

It is not only beautiful it is informative!

I was interviewed some time ago for a new book, *Exploring the Spirit of Maine*. You can check it out at

www.downeastbooks.com

Scroll down a bit to new releases. It is in the top row and is very interesting!

If you are looking to learn more about what our church is all about, check out

www.swedenborg.org

If you are interested in what the Sunday School Association is up to, or would like to explore some resources:

www.swedenborgianresources.org

Rev. Ken and Laurie have a new website: www.turleymusic.com If you haven't had a chance to hear Laurie's new CD it's a chance to check it out.

Worship Services

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

The Sermon On The Mount

2/05 “The Beatitudes”
Matthew 5:1-12

2/12 “Salt, Light and the Law”
Matthew 5:13-20

2/19 “Issues Of Anger”
Matthew 5:21-47

2/26 “Material Issues”
Matthew 6

About Our Monthly Newsletter

If you haven't already would you consider the following options:

- 1.) Keep receiving your Monthly Bulletin in the mail at your current address.** (no action necessary, unless you want to call the church office and confirm or update your mailing address)
- 2.) Picking up your Monthly Bulletin at church on Sunday** and saving us the postage and you the wait for snail mail. (Please call the church office and let us know so we can take you off the list)
- 3.) Receiving the Monthly Bulletin as an attachment via email,** thus saving us postage, printing and time and you the wait for snail mail. (Please call the office and leave your name and email address so we can add you to the email list)
- 4.) Reading and/or downloading the Monthly Bulletin from the church's website!**

www.fryeburgnewchurch.org

(Please call the church office and let us know so we can take you off the monthly mailing list)

Any of these options are viable and any of them, except #1, will save the church expense and guarantee you receive it as early as possible. If you receive it via the web, you will receive it in perfect condition and be able to access and copy it as many times as you would like. So please give this some thought and let us know if any of these options work for you. They will certainly “work” for the church!!!

Blessings,
Rev. Ken and the Trustees

CHURCH REPORT

In the Hospital

Haden Fox has been in the hospital and is now home with his loving family.

Clifford (Cush) Mulherin was admitted to the hospital for a knee replacement. He is now recuperating at home.

Thank You

Many thanks to **Billy Holt** for painting the downstairs ceiling.

Thanks to **Debbie Urgese, Karen Ela,** and **Susan Logan** for the major makeover of Rev. Ken's office.

Women's Alliance

Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

President:.....Jean Cressy
Vice-President: .Sally Harnden
Secretary: Claudia Graves
Treasurer: Patty Swett
Chaplain: Betty Baker

Our next meeting date is **February 20th at 6:30 pm.** We will have a Silent Auction to benefit the F.H.C.C. Beano prizes. The silent auction was postponed from last month and we hope to have a **BIG** attendance for this at the February meeting. Pat Swett and Edie Leach are on committee. Jean Cressey is on Coffee. All ladies are welcome!

MUSIC

Come join the choir!

- Choir practice will continue to be held at the parsonage during the month of February to save on heating at the church.
- Youth choir is at 5:00...all young singers ages 5 and older are welcome to attend. (We serve hot chocolate by the fire!)
- Adult choir is at 7:00. All older singers age 13 and older are welcome to attend. (We don't serve hot chocolate, but I'll heat the teakettle, if you'd like.)
- There will be no choir practice during school vacation, February 22.



If you have any questions, please call Laurie Turley at 935 - 4500

Youth Group News

On Tuesday, December 20th teenager and leaders from the Fryeburg and Portland youth groups gathered at the home of Kurt Fekete for our **Yankee Swap Pancake Dinner Youth Christmas Party**. All were invited to come to the party in breakfast gear (PJ's, slippers and/or robe) and all youth were asked to bring a \$5 - \$10 gift to swap. Everyone brought a gift to share. Congratulations to Nina Sasser for winning the funkiest present award with her Mad Libs gift! We all enjoyed a great dinner of pancakes and sausage while we joined in warm holiday fellowship and merriment.

We thank all who contributed to our youth group by purchasing the youth fundraiser God's Creation calendars. They sold out at the Fryeburg church and have provided a nice donation to our youth group account. Money earned is used to support our local youth programs and activities as well as to provide support for youth to travel to retreats and youth events across the country. Thank you so much!

Four teens from Maine (two from Fryeburg, Ethan & Alex and two from Portland, Kristina & Nina) joined me at the annual Swedenborgian Church Youth League teen winter retreat in Almont, Michigan this year. The retreat theme was, "The Five Senses" and teens from across the US and Canada gathered to explore our five physical senses and how they relate to God and spirit, through the insights of Emanuel Swedenborg. From Conjugial Love 210 we read, "*Each love has its own special sense. It is apparent from the delights of the five senses - sight, hearing, smell,*

taste and touch - that delights accompany the use they serve and are delightful to a person in accordance with the love he has for it." We learned how spirits perceive their senses and what each one corresponds to. On the practical side, we saw how our senses serve us, how they fool us, how they clarify the world around us and how they help us discover our own unique, individual talents, use, and heavenly path. We also were visited by a Master Reiki Healer who led us in a session on energy and the power of touch.

We will meet back at the Portland Swedenborgian Church on **Sunday, February 26th** from **4:00 – 6:30 pm**. Please contact Kurt Fekete to arrange a ride to this meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Kurt

The Trustees

The Trustees' next regular meeting is scheduled for **February 7th**, at **6:00 p.m.** Please note that 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

Stew Frost	935-3344
Debbie Dolley	935-2887
Pat Swett	603-939-2262
Judy Hatch	935-2223
Susan Logan	603-694-3333

Women's Alliance Representative

Cindy Priest	935-3360
Treasurer Stan Dolley	935-2887

Yearly Reports Due!

It's that time of year again. Please submit your yearly reports to the church office so that the annual booklets can be compiled.

Sunday School Attendance

January 1 – 4 children
January 8 – 20 children
January 15 – 14 children
January 22 – 15 children

Prints For Sale



We still have for sale a number of these beautiful watercolor prints, created especially for our church by a well-known local artist. The prints are 11"x14" matted and would make lovely gifts, anytime of the year.

The cost is \$29.00 each if picked up at the church; \$35.00 each for mail orders. All proceeds go to benefit our Capital Fund. For more information, please click on this link:

http://www.fryeburgnewchurch.org/Capital_Fund.html

CHILD CARE

Each Sunday, during Worship Service, Child Care for children up to 8 years old is provided in the downstairs room on the right and children 8-12 will be in the room across the hall on the left.

USHERS FOR FEBRUARY

- 5 Stan and Debbie Dolley
- 12 Chuck Priest and Lawrence Perry
- 19 Billy and Gail Holt
- 26 Claudia Graves and Iva Hatch

WELCOMERS FOR FEBRUARY

- 5 Debbie Urgese
- 12 Debbie Dolley
- 19 Martha Richardson
- 26 Karen Ela

COFFEE HOUR FOR FEBRUARY


- 5 Brenda Brackley
- 12 Mary Dysinger
- 19 Cindy Priest
- 26 Jean Cressey



FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY

Flowers for February will be done by Jean Cressy every Sunday.



CALENDAR FOR February 2006			
 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
1	Wed.	Dinner Bell North Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Youth Choir New Jazz Ensemble Adult Choir All Music Events held at the Parsonage	5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
5	Sun.	Sunday School Communion FAMILY WORSHIP	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
7	Tue.	Board of Trustees Meeting	6:00 p.m.
8	Wed.	Dinner Bell North Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Youth Choir New Jazz Ensemble Adult Choir All Music Events held at the Parsonage	5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
12	Sun.	Sunday School FAMILY WORSHIP	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m..
14	Tues.	<i>Valentine's Day</i> <i>Water District Vote</i>	
15	Wed.	Dinner Bell North Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Youth Choir New Jazz Ensemble Adult Choir All Music Events held at the Parsonage	5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
16	Thu.	Rev. Ken at Hicks/FHCC Brownfield Food Pantry Brownfield Lions – Rte 113/5	4 – 5 p.m.
19	Sun.	Sunday School FAMILY WORSHIP	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
20	Mon.	<i>President's Day</i> Women's Alliance Meeting	6:30 p.m.
22	Wed.	Dinner Bell North Elizabeth Ann Seton Church No music events will be held this week	5:00 p.m.
26	Sun	Sunday School Birthday Bank FAMILY WORSHIP Youth Group Meeting Portland Swedenborgian Church	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4 – 6:30 pm