



July 2010

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Newsletter

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

Dear Friends,

July is fast approaching and I am still catching up with my spirit as I return to Fryeburg, after a week in St. Paul, Minnesota at this summer's annual Convention of the Swedenborgian Church. It was a full and rich week, and an uncertain and at times arduous journey home as planes were cancelled, and our Maine contingent maneuvered through the red tape, and lines of cranky air travelers! But we made it, and are all so glad to be home!

The theme of this year's convention was "Seek and Ye Shall Find," and throughout the week of worship, sharing resources, business meetings, and time as a community it seemed this theme was woven through. Rev. Frank Rose, who opened our Convention with a spiritual talk, set us off together on the right path by reminding us all that to be spiritual seekers of the Lord's Kingdom is not always about having all the right answers but having the right questions. He called us all to consider what are we seeking? And how is this shaping what it is that we find?

For many churches in the world today there is disappointment in the numbers of people that attend, the challenge of meeting the budget, the number of children that show up for Sunday School. Many of the discussions around Convention had to do with facing this fact and the changes that are occurring in the world, with how people use their time, and the time that people have to do much of the traditional work of the church. When we dwelled in the

question together, "Why aren't our churches bigger and more successful?" it seemed that we came up with all kinds of answers but none that seemed to bring hope or joy in them. And when we dwelled in the question "What is the new church that the Lord is calling into the world?" we came up with few specific answers, but opened ourselves up to dream a little and wonder together and it was exciting and hope filled.

What became clear is that to be the New Church in the world is to dwell in the question of how we shall seek the kingdom of God and to stay there even when it feels fearful that there may not be a perfect or clear answer as to what that will look like.

The Lord assures us:

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8

As I return to the sweetness of home, and the joy of our worshiping community here in Fryeburg I return with this question about how we as the Fryeburg New Church seek the kingdom of God? I know that I feel we are in the joy that emerges each week in the singing and learning and sharing that is happening in our community. And I wonder too how the Lord is nudging me, and us, in ways that we do not yet have

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

Office Hours: Pastor ~ Wed thru Friday 8 a.m. - 12 noon, Saturdays by appointment

Secretary ~ Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

12 Oxford St. • Fryeburg, ME 04037 • Rev. Sage Currie, Pastor

Office: (207) 935-3413 • Email: Pastor@FryeburgNewChurch.org

Parsonage: (207) 935-4500, cell phone (207) 256-7529

answers, but only the joyful question of how the Lord is calling his church.

In love and summer blessings,

Rev. Sage

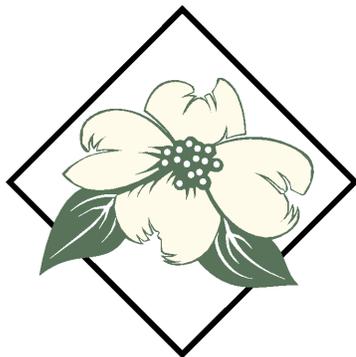
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Saturday by appointment

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Summer Worship Schedule

Family Worship 9:00 AM

July 4th ~ 2 Kings 5:1-14 "Naaman's healing from leprosy; wash and be clean"

July 11th ~ Deuteronomy 30:9-14 "The Word is very near you"

July 18th ~ Luke 10:38-42 "Mary & Martha: distraction & presence"

July 25th ~ Luke 11:1-13 "How shall we pray?"

~

Church Report

The Trustees

There will be NO Trustees' meeting during July and August. The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 7, 2010 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

Patricia Swett, <i>Chair</i>	603-939-2262
Cindy Priest, <i>Vice Chair</i>	935-3360
Nels Liljedahl	935-3741
Deneane Frost	935-3344
Scott Ferguson	925-3207
Susan Wheaton Logan	603-694-3743
Donnette Barnes, <i>Treasurer</i>	935-2130
<i>Women's Alliance Representative:</i>	
Sally Harnden	935-2546

Women's Alliance

There will be NO Women's Alliance meetings during the months of July and August. The next Women's Alliance meeting will be on **Monday, September 20, 2010 at NOON.** Bring a bag lunch. We meet the third Monday of each month at the Church. All ladies are welcome!!

2010 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

- PresidentJean Cressy*
- Vice-President.....Carol Andrews*
- SecretarySally Harnden*
- Treasurer.....Patty Swett*
- Chaplain.....Betty Baker*

In the Hospital

Charlotte Lord suffered a broken ankle and was taken to the hospital. We wish her a quick and comfortable recovery.

Summer Swedenborg Series



Many members and friends of the congregation have expressed an interest this year in learning more about New Church doctrines.

With the unpredictable nature of people's summer schedules I've been inspired to offer several Thursday evening gatherings where in a small group setting we can explore in more depth some of the foundational doctrines of the New Church and their implications for our lives.

Sign up for one, or for all of them! Come alone, bring your spouse, bring a friend!

These informal gatherings will focus on learning and exploring together, all perspectives and questions are welcome. Come to learn, come to explore, come to be inspired and renewed as we all benefit from the shared wisdom of one another!

Please RSVP @ 256-7529 at least two days before the scheduled gathering.

Each will be held with a minimum of three participants and a maximum of seven.

Living your Love

Thursday, July 8th 7-9 pm (at the parsonage)

Swedenborg speaks frequently about the design of heaven being one of immense variety that operates as each person lives their highest use to the benefit of the whole.

We will read together some of these passages and discuss the questions of call,

life's purpose, and ways for discovering and living our love in the world.

Marriage Love

Thursday, July 15th 7-9pm (at the parsonage)

Swedenborg devoted a whole book to the complex beauty of marriage love, seeing the love between two persons as an image of the divine coupling of the Lord's love and wisdom. We'll explore this idea together in the context of our own experiences of love, looking to ask the questions of how this perspective can enrich our own marriages and partnerships with others.

Regeneration

Thursday, July 22nd, 7-9 pm (at the parsonage)

Regeneration = to be born again. Jesus teaches that we are all to be born again in the spirit. This teaching has been interpreted in different ways by different churches and in the Swedenborgian church we understand this as a continual life long process that we call regeneration. What does that process look like? What's our job in it? What's God's? What are some of the benefits of spiritual growth and how can we engage our own regeneration with more intention?

Fryeburg New Church Assembly

July 31st – August 15th, 2010



Assembly is just 4 weeks away so please get your registration forms in right

away if you haven't already done so!!!

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis with consideration given to the best use of available space, family size, physical needs, and length of stay.

For more information, please pick up a registration form from the information table at the church entrance, or visit the Assembly website at www.fryeburg.org. You may also contact Nancy Little at [littlenancyf@yahoo.com](mailto:littlelancyf@yahoo.com) or (413) 247-0046 with questions about registration or housing.

Please Help Us Recycle!!!

We are looking for someone to pick up our recyclable office paper about once a month. If you are headed toward the dump and would be willing to pick up two small boxes of paper to be recycled, please stop by the church office any weekday morning before 10:30 am.



The Church and the environment thank you ☺

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**Saturday, July 24th at
Bradley Park 9:00 a.m. to**

3:00 p.m. Please bake something and bring it to Bradley Park at 8:30 a.m. If you cannot bake something, a donation would be greatly

appreciated. Thank you in advance for your help from the FNC Women's Alliance.

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FNC Alliance Yard Sale

Saturday, August 14th

Have you been meaning to clean out some of that clutter, but don't want to put together your own yard sale? Please consider donating some of your "for sale"

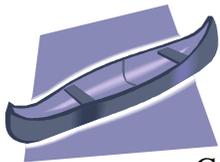


items to the Church for our mid-summer yard sale coming on *Saturday, August 14th*. Items can be brought to the church weekday mornings between 8:30 and 10:00am. Proceeds will benefit the Fryeburg New Church Alliance.

Please, no clothing or electronics!

Teen Canoe Outing

Wednesday, July 14th



We'll take a day trip together down the Saco River followed by a BBQ and sleep over at the parsonage. Bring a friend!

Contact Rev. Sage at (207) 256-7529 or Kurt Fekete at (802) 345-0169 for more information and to RSVP.

Children's Wisdom on Eternal Life

During the season after Easter each Sunday School Class participated in a Holy City project where we added each week a line or two about what the children were learning, or sometimes already knew!, about what it means that heaven is breaking into the world in the image of the Holy City. Here are some of their lovely insights!



Mrs. Richardson's primary class:

"God is the love in our hearts. We give our love to each other. We love our parents and they love us. We love God."

"God takes care of us he loves us and watches out for us."

Mrs. Dyer's 1st and 2nd grade class:

"Listen for the Lord,"

"Heaven is in all of us. The Lord protects us."

"The Lord leads us. He takes care and protects us. We are like sheep. We will live in the house of the Lord forever."

Mrs. Crowe's 3rd grade class:

"The Lord is always with us even if we cannot feel or see Him."

"The heavenly city is God's love coming to the earth,"

"Our soul will never die, it will always be happy."

"We go to Heaven, we do not die."

Mrs. Dolley's 4th and 5th grade class

"Heavenly light always shines in us. As it does in the holy city."

"Heaven is a safe place!"

"When you feel love, you feel heaven!"

"When we are on earth we feel loves sometimes but in heaven we feel it all the time."

Calendar for July 2010 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
4	Sun	Independence Day Adult Choir Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
6	Tue	Concerts in Bradley Park: <i>All About Kid-featuring Michael Glen from TryOut Toys Ent., and Tina Titzer's Act One Dance Company. Cake and ice cream served by Fryeburg Rotary ☺</i>	7:00 p.m.
7	Wed	Drumming with Redwing	7:00 p.m.
8	Thu	<i>Swedenborg Series: Living Your Love (at parsonage)</i>	7:00 p.m.
11	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
13	Tue	Concert Supper @FNC Concerts in Bradley Park: <i>Bridgton Community Band</i>	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
14	Wed	Teen Canoe Trip Drumming with Redwing	All day 7:00 p.m.
15	Thu	<i>Swedenborg Series: Marriage Love (at parsonage)</i>	7:00 p.m.
18	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
20	Tue	Concert Supper @SEAS Concerts in Bradley Park: <i>Nancy Ray & "The Relics"</i>	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
21	Wed	Drumming with Redwing	7:00 p.m.
22	Thu	<i>Swedenborg Series: Regeneration (at parsonage)</i>	7:00 p.m.
25	Sun	Birthday Bank Sunday Food Bank Sunday Adult Choir Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
27	Tue	Concerts in Bradley Park: <i>Rollins, Tyoe, and Hobson Band</i>	7:00 p.m.
28	Wed	Drumming with Redwing	7:00 p.m.

There will be no Dinner Bell North during the months of July and August.

**Summer Schedule
No Welcomers**



Ushers for July

- 7/4 Billy Holt & Donnette Barnes
- 7/11 Chuck Priest & Stanley Dolley
- 7/18 Mary Dysinger & Lawrence Perry
- 7/25 Dean Harnden & Jim Harrington

Coffee Hour for July

- 7/4 Sally & Dean Harnden
- 7/11 Debbie Dolley
- 7/18 Sally Gibson
- 7/25 Cindy Priest

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE MAY 30 – JUNE 27, 2010		
Date	Adults	Children
May 30	72	10
June 6	63	6
June 13	62	25
June 20	40	3
June 27	37	2



*July flowers
courtesy of
Carol Andrews*

****Anyone who has garden flowers they would like to have in church during the month of July, please let Carol Andrews know at 935-1007.*

*For the month of August, please call Jean Cressy at 935-7093****