



March 2009

Church of the New Jerusalem

# Monthly Bulletin

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

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Dear Friends,

Last month I celebrated my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was a lovely small little party with some of my closest friends. After enjoying some good food we took turns playing our favorite songs. Not a big surprise in that most of my friends are musicians and we all love to play! Two of my friends are professionals in the “hospitality” business and they helped with the cooking and the decorating and setting up. With fun in mind and good taste they added those decorative touches that change a house from a comfortable hominess into a place with the spirit of celebration! So it was on the next day, with everyone gone, a table full of party food leftovers, I was sitting on the couch savoring the events of the previous day. At one point my eyes stopped on one of the balloons that was still floating around the room carried on the breeze of people walking by or doors being opened and shut. My first reaction was “what a silly, useless thing!” But then, with time to let my mind wander, I began to wonder. This balloon, a meaningless thing, or is it? Certainly compared to all of the profound and important things in life this balloon was completely insignificant. But this simple little piece of rubber with some air in it, was one of the little touches that transformed our house into the party atmosphere which everyone had so enjoyed the day before. And

here it was, still lingering. Still gently bouncing along the floor reminding me of the good spirit we all shared in and that I was, here on the day after, still enjoying. And then it occurred to me, that this little balloon as a “thing” might be completely transitory and inconsequential but the effect it had on the spirits of the people who had gathered to celebrate the day was not!

It occurred to me, that this balloon was something very similar to music. Music, when it is played live, is something completely transitory and in some ways insubstantial. It happens, and then just as quickly as it starts, it is over and gone. In spite of the amazingly wonderful technology that allows us to record music, much of, if not most of, the best music that occurs simply vanishes into the ether of time, never to be heard again. And yet the momentary experience of hearing music can have profound and long lasting consequences.

This month we will be studying the parables of Jesus in our Sunday School classes and worship services. Much of what Jesus speaks to is the importance of our actions in the world. It seems to me that most of the things we do are small, insignificant, transitory, and in the larger scheme of things, seemingly unimportant. But balloons, and music, say exactly the opposite. They say that the little things we do, even though they may not seem to be important, even though they may not seem to last, even

**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

though they may not seem significant actually do have a profound and lasting effect on the spirits of those we share them with. Even when we might feel silly about something, just remember the balloon! What could be sillier? And yet those silly little things have a tremendous power to transform the feeling of a room and the spirits of the people who gather there. And even when we might feel like our actions will have no lasting effect, remember the experience of hearing live music. It is gone forever as soon as it stops, and yet it too can have a profound affect on the atmosphere, and even the thoughts and feelings of the people who are hearing it. The good works, the kind and encouraging words, the helpful gestures that we do in the course of a day may seem inconsequential, they may seem to evaporate into the ether of time so quickly, and they may seem insignificant in the large scale of world events. But in the realm of the spirit, the "kingdom of God" as Jesus would call it, those little acts of kindness are like stars in the heavens. They may be tiny, but they are beautiful nonetheless. And when they are added together with all of the other tiny little acts of kindness and good-will that people do, they fill the heavens with a beauty that is not only magnificent, but useful in the patterns they create. Someone is just as likely to stay on or even find the right path as a result of a simple act of kindness as a sailor finds his way by looking at the stars.

It is not our place to judge even our own actions. It is just ours to do good any where and every where we can. For in the end, the value of our actions is measured by our intention and the effect they have on the well-being of spirit. Even if they seem to fail or be useless in the material world even the smallest of gestures do not go unnoticed or unappreciated by God. Please remember this the next time you see a balloon, or hear someone singing a song, or have an opportunity to offer a helping hand or a kind word, or see some small way to make this world a better place.

Blessings,

*Rev. Ken*

## *Worship Schedule*

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

### The Parables of Jesus

- 3/1 The Blind Leading The Blind**  
Luke 6:39-49
- 3/8 The Prodigal Son**  
Luke 15:11-32
- 3/15 The Unmerciful Debtor**  
Matthew 18:21-35
- 3/22 The Ten Virgins and their Lamps**  
Matt. 25:1-13
- 3/29 The Master Lending Talents**  
Matt. 25:14-30

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE JANUARY 25 THRU FEBRUARY 22, 2009		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>
January 25	42	0
February 1	36	1
February 18	38	3
February 15	39	0
February 22	30	0

*Fish and Game Supper*

Mar 2nd,  6:30  
 2009 p.m.

# Church Report

## In the Hospital

### The Trustees

The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 6:45 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

Women's Alliance will meet on **Monday, March 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.** Sally Harnden will be in charge of coffee. We meet the third Monday of each month at the Church.

2009 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

*President* ..... Jean Cressy  
*Vice-President* ..... Sally Harnden  
*Secretary* .... Sally Harnden  
*Treasurer*.... Patty Swett  
*Chaplain*..... Betty Baker

On Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, the Women's Alliance held their annual **Silent Auction** and raised \$33.25 which will benefit the Fryeburg Health Care Center Activities Program. Thanks to all who participated.

**Corinne (Corky) Whitaker** was taken to Maine Medical Center after a car accident.

**Gordon Leach** is at Sunbridge Health Care & Rehab in North Conway.

We wish them a quick recovery and return to good health.

### Choir News



**Youth Choir** will continue meeting on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:15 here at the church. All children who love to sing are welcome to join us.

**Adult Choir** will begin rehearsing for the Easter season starting on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> for 4 weeks leading up to Easter Sunday. This includes Wednesday of Holy Week. Rehearsals will be at **6:30 pm at the church.**

### Science and Religion??

This is a brief note to let you know about a wonderful report regarding Evolution Weekend on NPR. You can access it at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=100597574>. Below is a brief excerpt written by Barbara Bradley Hagerty.

"It's interesting to note that the creation story goes in a progression," says David Oler, who was until 2000 a Conservative rabbi. "It doesn't have human beings created first and animals later. There's water, there's light, then there's plants, then there's animals, and then there's human beings. Those who wrote the Torah, those who wrote the Bible, were genius to be able to anticipate the progression from the simple to the complex."

The article contains additional links regarding Evolution Weekend.

## East of Eden



Wondering what to do with your stash of old batteries or the cans of unneeded paint taking up space in your garage? Resist the temptation to toss them in the trash. The reason: they (and everything on the list below) contain toxic chemicals capable of contaminating the environment if not disposed of properly.

Unlike items that are picked up at the curb, you'll have to make a special effort to unload these ones responsibly. But, with a little advance planning and some good info, you'll see that it's really quite simple to dispose of these seemingly mysterious items. Here's how:

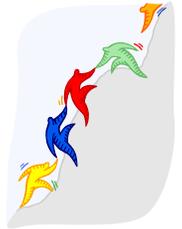
- **Batteries.** Recycling rechargeable batteries is fairly easy. Home Depot, Staples, Radio Shack, Best Buy, and other retailers take them back free of charge. There are fewer options for single-use batteries, but look for bins at your local Whole Foods Market, Ikea, or library. Otherwise, your best bet is the local household hazardous waste drop-off site.
- **CFLs.** These energy-efficient bulbs are becoming easier to get rid of. Just drop old bulbs off at any Home Depot or Ikea for free recycling. Or ask about CFL recycling at your local Ace Hardware or home improvement store.
- **Electronics.** Every retailer that takes back rechargeable batteries also accepts mobile phones, as do most wireless providers. For computers, cameras, televisions, and others it's worthwhile to do a little homework because some stores charge fees depending on item and brand. Check out Best Buy, Staples, and Office Depot to see what's the best fit. Some places, like Radio Shack, have trade-in programs where you can receive store credit for your old gadgets.
- **Motor Oil.** In case you need some motivation, consider this factoid from Earth911: Every gallon of used motor oil that's improperly disposed of can contaminate one million gallons of drinking water. Bring it to Wal-Mart, Autozone, Jiffy Lube, or search online for more convenient choices.
- **Paint.** It's among the harder items in this group to dispose of, but it's worth it and totally

doable. If the paint is still in good shape, consider donating it. As of now, there aren't any retailers that accept used paint so you'll need to make a special trip. Search Earth911 for a comprehensive list of options.

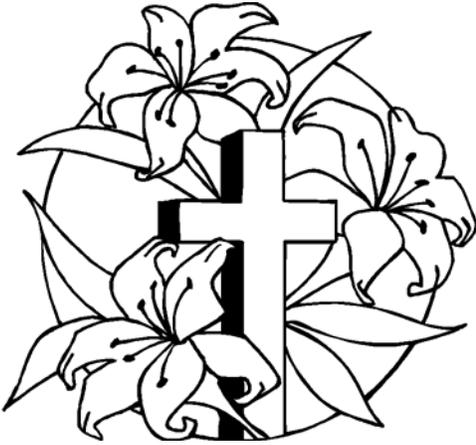
*Environmental journalist Lori Bongiorno shares green-living tips and product reviews with Yahoo! Green's users. Her book, Green Greener Greenest: A Practical Guide to Making Eco-smart Choices a Part of Your Life is available on Yahoo! Shopping and Amazon.com.*

## Youth Group

Youth group has been continuing our "Journey to God" theme. Over the past few months we have held dinner/discussion meetings. What was to be an overnighter, turned out to be a 4 to 11pm meeting since no Portland teens could make the sleepover. There were 12 Fryeburg teens in attendance, with 3 newcomers. We started the meeting by making cards for the Fryeburg Health Care residents. Rev. Ken Turley led the Journey discussion with questions on why we travel, what we take, how we prepare for our journey and what the measured outcome is to be. Dan Dyer arrived with pizza for our dinner and we then the night took off with boundless energy and comic routines by Alex and Ian. Alex and Izzy (Alex being 6' 2", weighing 200 and Izzy at 5' 6" and weighing maybe 100 pounds) had a pizza eating contest. I believe it was a draw, but I am sure no one will challenge Izzy in the future! Since it was December, we had our usual gift exchange. No electric, fiber optic horses this year, but the theme was candy. Once the sugar highs set in, the games began. A new twist to sardines was established when Dan (Dyer) did not understand the rules and allowed the kids to start seeking out the hidden before the time was ready. The grand champs (who were not found) went to Nacoma, Emily and Makayla. In honor of Nina, we made brownies. Yes, more sugar. We missed Kurt and while we had a great time, realized that the meeting was not complete. In future gatherings we hope to go on an outing to see Nina in her high school musical and also plan to have another overnight, maybe in the spring in Boston.



## *Easter Lilies*



**Easter is Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>!** For those who wish to have a lily in church on Easter Sunday, please place your order early as we need to place our order by the First of April!

The cost remains the same this year at \$8.00 each. Lilies can be picked up after church on Easter Sunday, left for the following Sunday, or for a shut-in or nursing home resident. Orders should be returned to the office by **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Envelopes are enclosed and may be placed in the collection plate, left in the church office, or called in to Jennifer in the office at 935-3413. ***Please indicate who the lily will be "In Honor" or "In Memory of".***



*Fryeburg New  
Church*

*12 Oxford Street  
Fryeburg, ME 0403.  
935-3413*

**EASTER LILIES: \$8.00 EACH**

HOW MANY LILIES? \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN ORDERS BY: APRIL 1, 2009**

# A Benefit Concert for the Brownfield Food Pantry

featuring

## Katherine Rhoda

heartfelt music from Hiram Hill –  
voice, Marxophone, violin-guitar, more, much more...

## Ken and Laurie Turley

from Fryeburg – original songs & covers –  
jazz, blues, & light rock with a touch of classical

## Denis J. Dunn

from Kezar Falls – poetry - yes!

## Empty Pockets

from Porter and Fryeburg –  
Celtic/traditional instrumentals played with passion and grace

and, from Brownfield –

## Dana Cunningham

exquisitely expressive contemplative piano

# Sun., Mar.22, 7 PM

an evening of and for community nourishment at the

## Fryeburg Congregational Church

655 Main St. (Rt. 302), Fryeburg

Admission by donation

Thanks in advance for your generosity!

## Welcomers for March

Mar 1 Debbie Urgese  
 Mar 8 Debbie Dolley  
 Mar 15 Sally Harnden  
 Mar 22 Martha Richardson  
 Mar 29 Sally Gibson

## Ushers for March

Mar 1 Billy Holt & Donnette Barnes  
 Mar 8 Kevin & Bonnie James  
 Mar 15 Billy Holt & Loretta Shulte  
 Mar 22 Jean Cressy & Tom Barrett  
 Mar 29 Dean Harnden & James Harrington

## Coffee Hour for March

Mar 1 Cindy Priest  
 Mar 8 Sally & Dean Harnden  
 Mar 15 Martha Richardson  
 Mar 22 Jean Cressy  
 Mar 29 Sally & Dean Harnden

## Solution to last month's Crossword puzzle

A	L	A	R	M		R	E	P		G	L	A	R	E	
R	A	T	I	O		E	A	R		A	O	K	A	Y	
C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E		O	V	A	T	E	
A	O	N	E		A	P	O	S	T	L	E				
D	R	E	S	S	Y		N	T	H		B	A	B	A	
E	E	R		O	M	B		O	E	D	I	P	U	S	
			C	L	E	A	T			I	R	I	S	H	
	V	A	L	E	N	T	I	N	E	S	D	A	Y		
V	E	N	O	M			C	O	S	A	S				
A	T	T	U	N	E	S		S	T	R		O	H	M	
T	O	E	D		O	P	E		E	M	B	R	Y	O	
			N	A	N	E	T	T	E		L	I	M	P	
D	E	V	I	L			C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E
O	P	I	N	E			K	O	P		T	R	I	E	D
C	A	P	E	S			S	S	S		S	E	N	D	S

<b>Calendar for March 2009</b> (held at our Church unless indicated)			
Mon	2	<b>Fish &amp; Game Supper</b>	6:30 p.m.
Tue	3	<b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	6:45 p.m.
Wed	4	Dinner Bell North @ SEAS Youth Choir at the church	5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
Sun	8	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
Wed	11	Dinner Bell North @ SEAS Youth Choir at the church	5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
Sun	15	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
Mon	16	<b>Women's Alliance Meeting</b>	6:30 p.m.
Wed	18	Rev. Ken @ FHCC Dinner Bell North @ SEAS Youth choir Adult choir	10:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Fri	20	Rev. Ken @ Maine Council	All day
Sun	22	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship <b>Brownfield Food Pantry Benefit Concert @ First Congregational Church</b>	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
Wed	25	Dinner Bell North @ SEAS Youth Choir Adult Choir	5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Sun	29	<b>Birthday Bank Sunday Food Bank Sunday</b> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.



*March flowers  
 courtesy of  
 Edie Leach*