



October 2010

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Newsletter

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

Dear Friends,

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”
Matthew 6:25-27

Conjecture about things to come, and the memory of things past, are what take away all the pleasantness of life and happiness. They cause worry, cares, anxiety. Therefore it is impossible that those in a state of happiness should have that kind of memory and that kind of forethought.

Emanuel Swedenborg,
Spiritual Experiences 2190

I have a confession to make. When September rolled around this year and the doorway of summertime possibility closed, I began to worry. Something happened, as my calendar shifted to 9/1/2010 and I felt thrust ahead, seemingly out of my control. Pies, Chowder and Burgers, oh my!

The Fair Booth! When would the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service be held this year? What shall we do for Advent? Should we start planning for a Children’s Pageant for Swedenborg’s birthday, in January?

Dreaming, and rolling ahead, at first it seemed harmless enough until I felt myself being swept up in a raging river of “What if’s,” of orchestrating, contemplating, scheming, questioning... that was soon out of control. Eventually, the raging river spit me out on the shore, where I pulled myself out of the water, sopping wet and a bit beaten and worn, to contemplate my next move.

Is this frenzy inevitable?
Do I have a choice?
Can I plan for the future while staying in the present?

So much of life requires so much planning to execute. Watching the preparations for the Fair I am truly in awe at the forethought that goes into pulling off this extraordinary feat, and integral church fundraiser. The dedication of so many members and friends of the church that make the work of our Fair Booth possible, is awesome, and I’m quite glad that we are all willing and able to think and plan ahead so it all runs smoothly. And I also know that there is a long

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

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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.

legacy behind us of men and women that have worked to make the FNC Fair Booth and the Church itself what it is today, that have made plans and decisions in the past that still are the foundation of how we operate. We owe much to the saints of the past. And yet here we find ourselves now, in the present.

What I am coming to see is that there is a big difference between learning from the past and dwelling on the past, and there is a big difference between planning for the future and worrying about the future. We are not defined by everything we have been, we are new today. And we are not fortune tellers and cannot know what mystery the future will always hold. One of my hospice clients gave me a great bit of wisdom that she had gained over her 92 years the other day. She told me, *"I decided in my life to always hold off worrying about something until it was time, and then when the time came there never was much to worry about."*

It's human to worry; we all do it from time to time. It's human to dwell in the past and feel defined by all that has been. It's angelic to live in the present. And we can all dabble in the heavenly realm when we make the choice to stay in the present. The present moment is where eternity resides. I look forward to the many opportunities we will have to be in the joyful present with one another this October; whether it's flipping burgers together and serving pie at the Fair, worshipping in the pews, or simply greeting each other on the street.

May you live this October season free from the past and open to the future, in the present moment where the Lord resides.

Many blessings,

Rev. Sage

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Saturday by appointment

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Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Family Worship 10:00 AM

October 3rd ~ Psalm 137, Luke 17:5-10
"Increase our faith"

October 10th ~ Jeremiah 29:4-7,
Luke 17: 11-19 "Spiritual healing"

October 17th ~ *Beginning of the Season of Gratitude*
Jeremiah 31:27-34 Genesis 32:22-31
"Wrestling with God"

October 24th ~ Luke 18:9-14
Lay Led Worship Service: Sally Gibson

October 31st ~ Isaiah 1:10-18, Luke 19:1-10
"Change requires action"



Pot Luck Luncheons

Please join us for two annual pot
luck luncheons immediately
following Worship Service on:
Sunday, November 6th before the
FNC Annual Meeting

AND

Sunday, November 13th at the
Maine Association meeting.
More details to follow next month.

Church Report

Passages

Father Brain Blanchette, Pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church passed away on Saturday, September 25, 2010 due to post-surgery heart complications. A wake and funeral were held in Houlton, ME on September 30th and October 1st. A mass will be held at either St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fryeburg or St. Joseph Church in Bridgton at a date to be announced. Our prayers go out to his family, friends, and congregation.

The Trustees

The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 12, 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	603-236-2346
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

Community Giving Tree



Please consider attending the next Community Giving Tree meeting which will be held at Assembly of God on **Tuesday, October 28 at 7:00 pm**.

There's so much that needs to get done to make this the amazing success it has been in past years. It's a lot of fun and you'll really feel good about doing it!!!

Women's Alliance

The next Women's Alliance meeting will be on **Monday, October 18, 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:

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

In The Hospital

Ludy Gallagher, Susan Logan, Phyllis Charles, Charlotte Lord, Alan Emery, and Mary Berry were all in the hospital this past month. We wish them all a quick recovery and return to good health.

Many Thanks!!

A very special thank you to all of you who came to help make pies for the Fryeburg Fair booth. Many hours were spent rolling, peeling, chopping, and baking. The delicious smells coming up from the kitchen were absolutely heavenly ☺ Come taste some of our pies at the fair booth...they are legendary!!



Many thanks to **Nancy Harnden Leach** for making all the new tablecloths for the church dining room. She did a fabulous job!! Thanks also to the person who donated funds for the material.

A Season of Gratitude ~ October 17th - November 21st

"In daily life we must see that it is not happiness that makes us grateful but gratitude that makes us happy." ~ BR. David Steindl-Rast

For the six weeks after the Fair, and before the beginning of Advent we will be celebrating at the Fryeburg New Church a *Season of Gratitude*. Each week our Sunday School Classes will reflect on something that they hold in gratitude to the Lord, and in worship we too will focus on how we as a church community can transform our hearts at anytime into hearts of gratitude. During our community prayer time where we often bring forward prayers for healing and help we would invite you also to include prayers of thanksgiving and gratitude. This will be the theme of our worship life on Sunday mornings, and we would also invite you to make this a theme of your daily life as well.

One powerful personal practice that we would offer is to keep a gratitude journal for these 6 weeks. Each morning and evening we would invite you to write down something that you are grateful for. And try not to write the same thing twice!

Example:

I feel so grateful for ~ As I awake:
As I go to sleep:

See how much small actions like this can help to change your perspective and open your heart.

You can also enjoy this season by joining Rev. Sage and fellow church friends at one of the *Gratitude Gatherings* that will be held throughout October and November. By the time the Thanksgiving holiday rolls around may we all be overflowing in the spirit of gratitude for the blessings of life that God has given us all!

Rev. Sage would like to invite you this fall to the parsonage for a *Gratitude Gathering Pot-Luck Supper*



There will be four evenings to choose from and a sign up sheet at the church.

Thurs. Oct. 28th,

Wed. Nov. 3rd,

Thurs. Nov. 11th, or

Wed. Nov. 17th)

Each gathering will be from 6-8pm, and will include a reading on the subject of gratitude, time for sharing and reflection and most importantly, time for food and fellowship with church friends new and old. Invite along friends, family or people in the community you'd like to share your church with.

Christmas Cupboard



The Women's Alliance is once again gearing up for the annual *Christmas Cupboard* which will be on Saturday, November 20th!! Donations of anything handmade is appreciated and very much needed this year! MEN: We could really use donations of some of your handmade wooden crafts. Items for sale should be brought to the Church no later than set up day, Friday, November 19th at 9:00 a.m. Baked items can also be brought in anytime on Friday or Saturday morning by 8:00 a.m.

Welcomers for October

Oct 3 Debbie Urgese
 Oct 10 Karen Ela
 Oct 17 Sally Gibson
 Oct 24 Patty Swett
 Oct 31 Debbie Dolley

Ushers for October

Oct 3 OPEN
 Oct 10 OPEN
 Oct 17 OPEN
 Oct 24 OPEN
 Oct 31 OPEN

Coffee Hour for October

Oct 3 FAIR
 Oct 10 FAIR
 Oct 17 OPEN
 Oct 24 OPEN
 Oct 31 OPEN

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 26, 2010		
Date	Adults	Children
August 29	39	2
September 5	36	1
September 12	--	--
September 19	--	--
September 26	47	3



October flowers courtesy
 of
Edie Leach

Calendar for October 2010 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
2	Sat	Fair Booth opens	
3	Sun	Fryeburg Fair begins Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
10	Sun	Last Day of Fair Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
12	Tue	Trustees Meeting	7:00 p.m.
13	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
15	Fri	Rev. Sage @ Maine Council	All day
17	Sun	Adult and Children's Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
18	Mon	Women's Alliance	12 noon
20	Wed	Rev. Sage @ FHCC Dinner Bell North @SEAS	10:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
21	Thu	Rev. Sage @ Berkeley SHS till 10/25	
24	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
27	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
28	Thu	Gratitude Gathering Potluck Supper with Rev. Sage at parsonage Comm. Giving Tree mtg at Assembly of God Church	6-8 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
31	Sun	Birthday Bank Sunday Food Pantry Sunday Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Happy & Safe Halloween	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.

*Reminder: There is **NO** Dinner Bell
 on Wednesday, October 6 due to
 Fair parking at St. Elizabeth.*