



May 2013

Church of the New Jerusalem

# Monthly Newsletter

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

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## From the Minister May 2013 Newsletter

As my time in Fryeburg seems to be inching quickly to the finish line (my last Sunday will be June 16th) I look with relief and gratitude at our scripture lesson for the first Sunday in May, Matthew 6:19-34 "Do not worry." Remember that most beloved passage about how God clothes the lilies of the field more beautifully than King Solomon? The last verse in this passage has struck me most deeply, and particularly in the unique new bible translation titled The Message.

Matthew 6:34 from The Message

*"Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes."*

If I give my entire attention to what God is doing *right now*, what do I see? Well first off God has given me the opportunity to write this reflection that will be read by a community he has given me deep love and affection for. I see God calling in the springtime and causing the sun to rise upon the greening earth, bringing things to bloom including the bright yellow forsythia that line the parsonage garage. I feel the love God has given me to share with my

fiancé Ted. And I feel the excitement of all the possibilities God seems to be bringing into view, not least of all the upcoming candidate visit with Rev. Alison. And, right now I am grieving as I prepare to say goodbye. God is giving me grief! But as I tell the families who I work with in hospice, our grief is always in measure to the depth of our love so I would not prefer the alternative!

Yes, there are MANY uncertainties that rest in tomorrow that I could easily play out into deep fears. What if I don't find a job in ministry?

What if my cat Tabby and Ted's cat Saki can't find cat peace together in our new home? Or Ted and I for that matter?! What if there's no place to swim in Anchorage? What if I don't find my "place," like it seems I have found it so well here in Fryeburg?

But the truth is I have no control over any of these future possibilities at this current moment.

The only power I have is to choose how I will accept what God is doing right now, with gentleness? Anger? Love? Irritation? Blame? Hope? Joy even?

When I look back on my life I can see so many moments of transition and change, loss and sadness when these very same fears and anxieties came into view. Believe me as I considered that crazy opportunity to move to

**The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem**

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Office: (207) 935-3413, Cell phone (207) 256-7529

*Office Hours: Pastor ~ Wed. thru Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Saturdays by appointment*

*Secretary ~ Wed thru Fri. 8:30 – 12:30 a.m. [www.fryeburgnewchurch.org](http://www.fryeburgnewchurch.org)*

Fryeburg, Maine and become the pastor of the New Church I had a whole host of fears and uncertainties about what that would look like! Thank God I moved despite my fear. What a gift this journey has been.

And I know that tomorrow will be a gift as well, all the adventures ahead, for me and for the future of FNC.

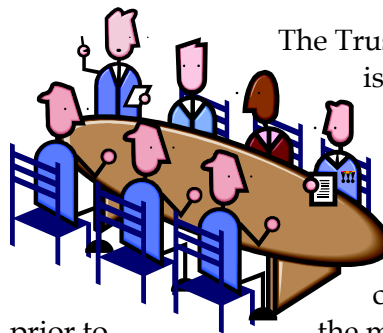
What God is doing right now is loving us and loving the world into being. He is caring for everything about this current moment, and will care for everything about the moments to come. There is nothing we need to worry about! May we rest in the abundance of the Lord's kingdom, the changes that have brought us to where we are and the changes that will carry us along into the future. God is and all is well!

**Many Blessings,**  
~ *Rev. Sage*

Office Hours: Wednesday-Friday 8:30am-12:30pm,  
Saturday by appointment  
Email: [pastor@fryeburgnewchurch.org](mailto:pastor@fryeburgnewchurch.org)  
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# Church Report

## The Trustees



The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 7, 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



## Worship Schedule

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

5/5/13 ~ Matthew 6:19-34 "Do not worry,"

5/12/13 ~ **Mother's Day**  
Matthew 7:1-14 "Judging Others,"  
*Rev. Sage away*

5/19/13 ~ **Special Candidate Visit with Rev. Alison Lane-Olsen**  
Matthew 7:7-20 "A tree and its fruit,"

5/26/13 ~ Matthew 7:21-29 "House upon the rock,"

## Women's Alliance

The next meeting of the Women's Alliance will be **Monday, June 17th, 2013 at 12 noon**, the ladies will dine out for lunch, and location is to be announced. There will be **no** meetings in April or May. All ladies are welcome and encouraged to join us.

2013 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

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

## MOTHER SETON HOUSE

### Baby Bottle Boomerang



Mother Seton House is a private, nonprofit, 501c3 organization serving pregnant women and new mothers in difficult circumstances in western Maine and Mount Washington Valley since 2007.

Please take a bottle home, fill it with loose change, dollar bills or a check, and return it by Sunday, May 26th.

Your donation is deeply appreciated.

Please consider participating in this fundraiser for Mother Seton House. Baby bottles will be available after church on Sunday, May 5th. For more information call Dawn Ferguson at 925-3207.

To find out more about Mother Seton House go to

[www.mothersetonhouse.com](http://www.mothersetonhouse.com)

Or find them on facebook.



# Happy Mother's Day!

## Looking Ahead!

Mark your calendars!!!  
June 2 Sunday afternoon, 2:00 pm.

### Ring in the Belfry

A hymn sing-along, with bell ringers and choirs from the Lovell UCC, the Fryeburg New Church and the Fryeburg First Congregational Church, under the direction of Jed Wilson, John Waldie, and Greg Huang-Dale. We celebrate the rebuilding of our belfry! Program will be a benefit for the three churches.

### MUSIC SUNDAY

Sunday June 2nd, 2013

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

June 9th, 2013

SUMMER SERVICE HOURS (9 am) WILL BEGIN JULY 7th AND CONTINUE THROUGH THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST.



### Northern New England Home, Garden & Flower Show

Celebrate the return of spring by attending the 11th Annual Northern New England Home, Garden and Flower Show at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds on May 17, 18 & 19, 2013. General admission is \$9 for adults. Youth aged 6 to 16 are \$4.00 and children under 6 are free



## You Are Invited to a Clean out the Parsonage Party



After worship on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00 church members and friends are invited to join Rev. Sage as she cleans stuff out of the attic and basement of the parsonage.

Bring yourselves, your muscles, gloves and a truck if you have one.

## Travel Stories!

Join Greg and Jenny Huang-Dale at coffee hour after worship on May 5<sup>th</sup> as they share about their recent trip to El Salvador and Guatemala.

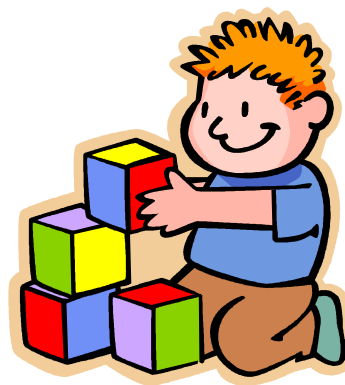


## CONVENTION 2013

The 189<sup>th</sup> session of the General Convention of the New Jerusalem (The Swedenborgian Church) will run from Wednesday, June 26\* through Sunday, June 30, 2013 at [Urbana University](http://www.urbanauniversity.edu) in Urbana, Ohio. Rev. Sage Currie, Martha Richardson and Debbie Dolley will be attending as delegates from Fryeburg. If you are interested in attending convention please let Rev. Sage know. For more information visit: [www.swedenborg.org](http://www.swedenborg.org)

## “Godly Play”

During the Sunday School hour 9-10 am on



Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> Rev. Sage will be sharing a special lesson for Children of all ages! Rev. Sage will be presenting a lesson based in the Christian Education method Godly Play to the

children in attendance, our Sunday School teachers and then any adults interested in the children's ministry at FNC. Please join us!



**The Search Committee is happy to announce we have a candidate who will be making a visit to FNC the weekend of Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>!**

Rev. Alison Lane-Olsen will be traveling to FNC from her current parish, The New Jerusalem Church in Pretty Prairie Kansas, where she serves half time while also raising two small children with her husband Adam. Rev. Alison and Adam will both travel to Fryeburg for this visit and be staying at the parsonage arriving Thursday May 16<sup>th</sup> and staying through Monday the 20<sup>th</sup>. She will be participating in worship on May 19<sup>th</sup> and the Search Committee will also host a potluck supper after worship so that people can meet with and get to know Alison. Please help us make her feel welcome and speak to a member of the Search Committee if you would like to help out at all with Rev. Alison's visit.

*Sincerely,*

**Martha Richardson**

*Chairman of the Search Committee*

## Welcomers for May

May 5 *open*  
 May 12 Debbie Dolley  
 May 19 Martha Richardson  
 May 26 *open*

## Ushers for May

May 5 Tom Barrett & Donnette Barnes  
 May 12 Stanley Dolley & Chuck Priest  
 May 19 Jen & David Richardson  
 May 26 Jean Cressy & Dean Harnden

## Coffee Hour for May

May 5 Jane Williams  
 May 12 Chuck Priest  
 May 19 Sally & Dean Harnden  
 May 26 Jean Cressey

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE MARCH 31 ~ APRIL 28, 2013		
Date	Adults	Children
March 31	86	4
April 7	45	12
April 14	26	2
April 21	33	8
April 28		



Calendar for May 2013 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
1	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS <b>Worship Committee</b>	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
2	Thu	<b>Brown Bag Bible Study</b>	12 noon
5	Sun	Adult Choir <b>Sunday School</b> "Godly Play" Family Worship Huang-Dale Travel stories Parsonage "Clean Out"	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.  10:00 a.m. after worship 12:00 - 1:00
7	Tue	<b>Trustees Meeting</b>	7:00 p.m.
8	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
9	Thu	<b>Brown Bag Bible Study</b>	12 noon
12	Sun	<b>Mother's Day</b> Rev. Sage at Haden Inst. Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
15	Wed	Rev. Sage @ FHCC Dinner Bell North @SEAS	10:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
16	Thu	<b>Brown Bag Bible Study</b>	12 noon
17	Fri	Rev. Sage @ Maine Council	All day
19	Sun	<b>Rev. Alison Lane-Olsen</b> <i>Special Candidate Visit</i> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Potluck Luncheon	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. after worship.
22	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS <b>Worship Committee mtg.</b>	5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
23	Thu	<b>Brown Bag Bible Study</b>	12 noon
25-27	Sat-Mon	<b>Work Weekend &amp; SCYL Teen Retreat @ FNC Assembly</b>	
26	Sun	<b>Birthday Bank Sunday</b> <b>Food Pantry Sunday</b> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
27	Mon	<b>Memorial Day</b>	
29	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
30	Thu	<b>Brown Bag Bible Study</b>	12 noon