



September 2015

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Newsletter

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

Greetings, dear readers! I hope you have had a good summer!

On our family's list of things to do this summer was to read. The children enrolled in the local library's summer reading program – their job was to read about heroes!



On August 25th, I took the children to the end of the summer reading celebration. They spent two hours with other children and librarian Donnette Barnes and Jenny Huang-Dale making their own mask and cape, coloring and eating snacks. This meant I had *two whole hours!* to browse the shelves and read. I wasn't sure what to settle on until I spied a book I had heard of often but had never read – *Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife*. If you've already read it, I hope you won't mind being reminded of its beauty and the peace it offers.

The author, Eben Alexander, is the neurosurgeon who experienced a life-threatening, rare illness (*E.coli* bacterial meningitis) that attacked his brain; the part of his brain that controls human emotion and thought shut down completely. For seven days, he lay in a deep coma. While his family and doctors were losing hope of any recovery, Eben was experiencing the afterlife.

In his book, he attempts to describe three different kinds of places he visited (many times he references how limiting our earthly language is). He first found himself in a dark, muddy place that he calls Earthworm's Eye View; the second place he calls the Gateway, a more beautiful world than words can describe. There in the Gateway, he sees countryside, children laughing and playing, people singing and dancing, music that his whole body hears – all of this he sees and feels from the wing of a butterfly flying overhead. All of it so much more real than anything he had experienced on earth. And the girl who flew beside him shared these three messages with him:

"You are loved and cherished, dearly, forever."

"You have nothing to fear."

"There is nothing you can do wrong."

The kind of unconditional love Eben felt is what he wishes we could all know – this was no dream.

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

12 Oxford Street • Fryeburg, ME 04037

Rev. Alison Lane-Olsen, Pastor • Email: pastorfnc@gmail.com

Office: (207) 935-3413, Cell phone (620) 960-6748

Office Hours: Pastor ~ Wednesday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.,

Saturday by appointment

Secretary ~ Wednesday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

www.fryeburgnewchurch.org

The third place he experiences he calls the Core. At first he finds himself in the clouds, but then moves toward a completely dark immense void that is infinitely comforting. Pitch black yet brimming with light; something about the experience strikes him as a fetus in the womb – in this case, the mother is our Creator God, whom he begins to call “Om.” When questions come to his mind, he finds he perceives answers immediately.

“...this Being was warm and...personal. It understood humans, and it possessed the qualities we possess, only in infinitely greater measure. It knew me deeply... Om told me that there is not one universe but many – in fact, more than I could conceive – but that love lay at the center of them all.”

I cannot do justice to the book here, but let me share one more excerpt:

“Our truest deepest self is completely free. It is not crippled or compromised by past actions or concerned with identity or status. It comprehends that it has no need to fear the earthly world, and therefore, it has no need to build itself up through fame or wealth or conquest.

This is the true spiritual self that all of us are destined someday to recover. But until that day comes, I feel, we should do everything in our power to get in touch with this miraculous aspect of ourselves – to cultivate it and bring it to light. This is the being living within all of us right now, and that is in fact, the being that God truly intends us to be.

How do we get closer to this genuine spiritual self? By manifesting love and compassion. Why? Because love and compassion are far more than the abstractions many of us believe them to be. They are real, they are concrete. And they make up the very fabric of the spiritual realm. In order to return to that realm, we must once again become like that realm, even while we are stuck in, and plodding through, this one.”

This book would have been on my book list - the hero in this story is God, “Om” – who has created us with such love, beauty and joy. May we manifest love and compassion, and so feel more closely united and “at home.”

With September Blessings,

Rev. Alison

Office Hours: Weds. – Friday 8:30am-12:30pm,
Saturday by appointment

Email: pastorfc@gmail.com

Office phone: 935-3413

Cell phone: (620) 960-6748

Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 AM (details on next page)

Family Worship 10:00 AM (starting Sept. 6th)

New Series in September: I Love Sundays!!

MAKE Sunday THE BEST DAY OF YOUR WEEK



September 6

**Sundays Can Surprise You:
Called into Community**

Acts 2

September 13

**Good Sundays Make Better Mondays:
Giving us Vision**

John 9

September 20

How Sundays Can Change Your Eternity

Mark 3

September 27

Gifts of the Spirit – Being a Blessing

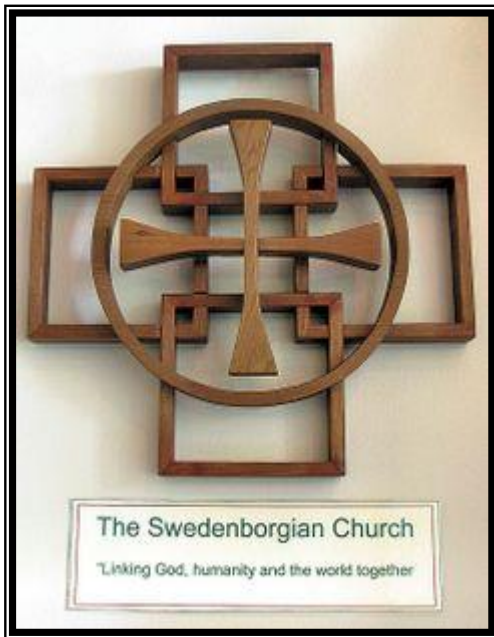
1 Corinthians 12

Fryeburg New Church
 Family Breakfast &
 Sunday School Registration

The Fryeburg New Church Sunday School year begins with breakfast on Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. We welcome back all last year's students and look forward to all new students 3 years old through high-school age. *Classes will start on Sunday, September 20th.*

We look forward to working with you and your children to build a solid Biblical knowledge and spiritual foundation for life here and hereafter.

Family Breakfast:	9:00 a.m.
Teachers' Introduction:	9:30 a.m.
Family Worship	10:00 a.m.



**Would you like to officially
 join the church?**

See Rev. Alison! We will offer a membership class this fall about the history and teachings of the church to anyone who expresses interest!

Church Report

The Trustees

The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 1st, 2015 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

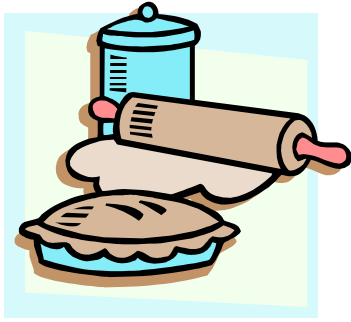
Jon Crowe, <i>Chair</i>	925-1302
Stew Frost, <i>Vice Chair</i>	935-3344
Cindy Priest, <i>Treasurer</i>	935-3360
Dede Frost, <i>Secretary</i>	935-3344
Donnette Barnes, <i>Trustee</i>	935-2130
Jane Fullerton, <i>Trustee</i>	890-9454
Judy Hatch, <i>Trustee</i>	935-2223
<i>Women's Alliance Representative:</i>	
Patricia Swett	603-939-2262

Women's Alliance

The next meeting of the **Women's Alliance** will be on Monday, September 21, 2015 at NOON please bring a bag lunch. All ladies are welcome!!

2015 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

President	Jean Cressy
Vice-President.....	Claire Kiesman
Secretary	Sally Harnden
Treasurer.....	Patty Swett
Chaplain.....	TBA



PIE MAKING

Come help make pies for the Fryeburg Fair. We will meet at the Church kitchen at 9 am on September 29 & 30th. It is a lot of fun! Don't miss it ☺



FALL WILL SOON BE HERE. THE FRYEBURG FAIR WILL BE COMING "FAIR"LY SOON TOO! FALL FUN...YAY! OUR BOOTH WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM OCT 3RD TO OCT 11TH. BOOTH CLEANING WILL BE SEPT 27TH AND PIE MAKING AT THE CHURCH WILL BE SEPT 29TH AND 30TH. THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS THAT YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THIS. CHECK OUT THE SIGN UP SHEET, FILL IT OUT WHERE YOU CAN AND GET BACK TO THE CHURCH ASAP. WE WILL ALSO HAVE A SIGN UP SHEET AT THE CHURCH. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE! Co CHAIRS, CINDY PRIEST 935-3360 AND DONNETTE BARNES 935-2130

Dinner Bell North 2015-2016 Season

Due to unforeseen difficulties, the Dinner Bell North will **NOT** be opening in September. Stay tuned to see if problems are resolved and it reopens in October after the Fair. Until then, if you are in need of food, call the Brownfield Food Pantry or the Sweden Food Pantry. We are sorry for any inconvenience. The Dinner Bell asks that you pray for resolution of problems within the Catholic Church. When it reopens, the Dinner Bell is always looking for cooks, shoppers, and workers on Wednesdays. Thank you for your support.

Fish and Game Supper



Sept 14, 2015 6:30 p.m.

Thank you Chuck Priest for maintaining the Fire Extinguishers every year!



Celebrate

WE'RE HAVING A 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JEAN (MEME) CRESSY

Saturday, September 12th 4pm to 6pm, at the American Legion Hall in Fryeburg, Maine ~ Dinner will be served.

R.S.V.P. to Joan McBurnie at 207-452-2698 or email at mcb@roadrunner.com

In lieu of gifts Jean has asked for donations to be made to the Harvest Hills Animal Shelter.

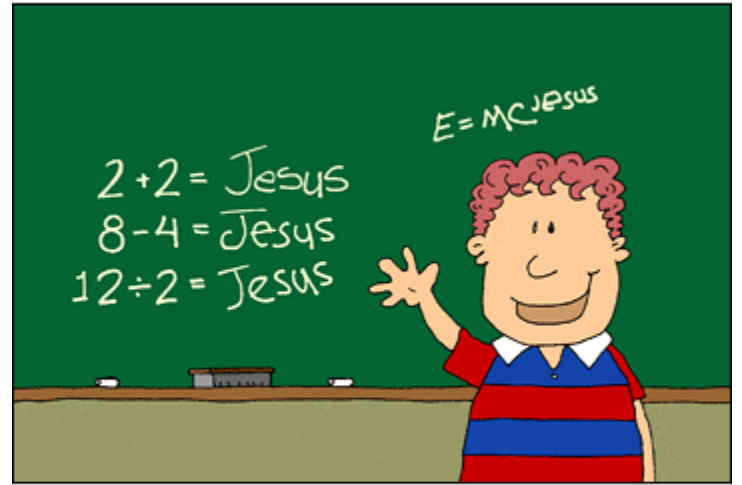
From the Swedenborg Foundation summer newsletter:

Swedenborg and Life, a weekly YouTube video series sponsored by the Swedenborg Foundation and hosted by Curtis Childs, has exploded in viewership over the past few months. **People watched their videos more than 140,000 times in April alone, for a total of almost a million minutes.**

The hour long show tackles a different topic each week, bringing in featured guests and using video clips alongside live discussions to illustrate some aspect of Swedenborg's thought as it relates to the modern world. Recent episodes have included topics like "The Shape of Heaven," "The Spiritual Force behind Music," and "Spiritual Physics." The series is now the primary focus of the offTheLeftEye YouTube channel, which also includes shorter videos about different aspects of Swedenborg's thought.

You are invited to join Rev. Alison at the parsonage this September and October, Thursday evenings (7-8:30) to watch the weekly **Swedenborg and Life** videos, and have some time for discussion! First gathering will be Thursday, September 10th -hope to see you there!

We will not meet the week of the fair!



Thanks to Gert-Jan van Heugten

06-16-2008

IN BIBLE CLASS WE LEARNED THAT JESUS IS THE ANSWER

"The Year of Spiritual Uses" Convention theme 2015-2016

*This coming year, celebrate
"the call to bless!"*

*** a new commitment to "walking the talk":**

This is the year we move beyond just thinking or talking about what we believe to focus on living our faith. It's what we do, based on what we most love, that makes us who we are and will be.

***a new awareness of our own unique gifts:**

This is the year we name and own - and share - the talents, gifts and abilities that a loving God has given us. For it is in this way that God has made each of us to become our own special blessing to the world.

***a new power to bring love into the world:**

This is the year that, empowered by God to be a blessing, we act - on our own and with others - to bless others with love, healing and new hope. We make the difference only we can make. We become our own unique form of God's love - our true self.

Fryeburg Fair Sign-Up Sheet

This year, as in the past, we need help in many areas....pie making....veggie peeling and cutting at the Church mornings during the fair...cooking at the Church during the fair...Morning pick ups and delivery of goods to the fair booth....and of course, working in the BOOTH!! (A pass will be provided, if needed, to work at the fair booth).

There are four shifts per day at the fair booth:

- Shift #1 -- 6:30 am to 11:00 am
- #2 -- 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
- #3 -- 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm
- #4 -- 6:30 pm till Close (9 or 10 pm)

Please sign up for any and all you are able to!!

Name and phone # _____

- I can make pies at the Church 9:00 am (lots of jobs...peeling..mixing..rolling!!)
Tues. Sept 29th _____
Wed. Sept 30th _____
- I can help clean and set up the booth Sunday September 27th @ 12:00 pm.
- I can help peel and cut veggies at the Church during the fair:
What day(s)? _____
- I can help cook (stews, beans, chili, and/or pies) at the Church during the fair:
What day(s)? _____
- I can do morning pick ups and deliveries during the fair:
What day(s)? _____
- I can work at the booth during the fair:

What day(s)? and Shift(s) *****Pass Needed ? _____

- Sat. Oct 3rd _____
- Sun. Oct 4th _____
- Mon. Oct 5th _____
- Tues. Oct 6th _____
- Wed. Oct 7th _____
- Thurs. Oct 8th _____
- Fri. Oct 9th _____
- Sat. Oct 10th _____
- Sun. Oct 11th _____
- I will be able to help with a monetary donation \$ _____

Please return this promptly to: FNC Fair Committee, 12 Oxford Street, Fryeburg ME 04037

*** THANK YOU ***

Welcomers for September

Sept 6 *open*
 Sept 13 Debbie Dolley
 Sept 20 Martha Richardson
 Sept 27 *open*

Ushers for September

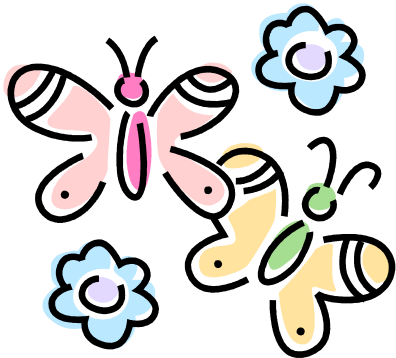
Sept 6 Tom Barrett & Donnette Barnes
 Sept 13 Stanley Dolley & Chuck Priest
 Sept 20 Jen & David Richardson
 Sept 27 Dean Harnden & Jean Cressy

Coffee Hour for September

Sept 6 Debbie Dolley
 Sept 13 Family Breakfast
 Sept 20 Susan Logan
 Sept 27 Jean Cressy

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE JULY 5 – AUGUST 23, 2015		
Date	Adults	Children
July 5	36	2
July 12	21	4
July 19	16	2
July 26	24	3
August 2	48	15
August 9	67	21
August 16	35	4
August 23	20	2

September Flowers
 In Memory of
 Edie Pangaro



Calendar for September 2015 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
1	Tue	MSAD 72 Back to School ☺ Trustees Meeting	8:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
6	Sun	Family Worship	10:00 a.m.
10	Thu	Swedenborg and Life @ Parsonage	7 – 8:30 pm
13	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Reg. & Family Breakfast Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
14	Mon	Fish and Game Supper	6:30 p.m.
16	Wed	Worship Committee Mtg	7:00 p.m.
17	Thu	Swedenborg and Life @ Parsonage	7 – 8:30 pm
20	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School begins Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
21	Mon	Women's Alliance	12 noon
24	Thu	Swedenborg and Life @ Parsonage	7 – 8:30 pm
27	Sun	Food Bank Sunday Birthday Bank Sunday Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Fair Booth Clean-up	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
29	Tue	Pie Making	9:00 a.m.
30	Wed	Pie Making	9:00 a.m.

*Don't forget to get your annual report in to the FNC Office by October 10th so it can be included in the Church report.
Thank you!



Church of the New Jerusalem
a.k.a. *Fryeburg New Church*
12 Oxford Street
Fryeburg, ME 04037

Address Service Requested