



June 2016

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Newsletter

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

Happy June, dear Readers!

This time of the year brings with it a lot of excitement! Summer is right around the corner, and millions are graduating across the country (about 3.3 million students are expected to graduate from high school this spring). Congratulations, all graduates! So much mastered, and yet, still so much to learn. That reminds me of an old poster that used to hang up on the wall in my dad's warehouse; it was a picture of an overwhelmed looking ape with the words, "Just when I knew all the answers, they changed all the questions." ☺ This is certainly holding true in my life!

**Just when I knew all of life's answers,
They changed all the questions!!**



Here is one such example. Every once in awhile, one of us in my household will propose to the rest of the family that we should take a walk and pick up any litter we see along the way. This always sounds like a great idea, so we find an empty bag or two and

head out! It was on just one such recent walk that my daughter (age 6) asked me one of those questions that I wasn't really sure how to answer. She said to me (in an exasperated tone), "Why did God create cigarettes?" (I think my children have come to associate cigarettes with littering as they are seen often at the sides of the road).

Hmmm...I thought. How do I answer that? *What would you say?* My two children already know that smoking can hurt a body...would God create that? But if not, who is doing the creating? *Oh brother!*

I found myself immediately wanting to say, "God didn't create cigarettes," because I didn't want my daughter to connect God with creating something harmful. And yet...that answer feels false. For one thing, before being connected with cancer or any other health complication, tobacco was/is simply a leafy green plant, without any judgment attached. Having been valued for some time, carved stone drawings have been found (dated between 600 to 900 AD) showing Mayan Indians of Mexico using tobacco; Native Americans smoked tobacco through a pipe for special religious and medical purposes. Interestingly, tobacco became the first crop grown for money in North America (by the settlers of Jamestown in 1612), and cigarette smoking only became widespread after James Bonsack's invention of the cigarette-making machine in 1881; his machine could make 120,000 cigarettes a day.

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

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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

As I think again about her question, it strikes me as interesting that she already assumes God was in on it...her question is *why*. She has already heard so many times that God is the CREATOR that of course there is no disconnection between this world and Spirit. This gets to the heart of why it feels false to me to simply say "No, God didn't create cigarettes." Because, there is no disconnect from Spirit, even with the objects, inventions, situations or people, that appear to bring harm to another. It's so challenging to our human understanding sometimes...but as I've heard repeated by some in our congregation, "There is not a spot, where God is not."

Perhaps these words shared by a military officer turned medium, Suzanne Guiesemann will help:

There You Are!

Do not devalue the worth of any other, for in so doing, you are belittling God. Once again, we remind you that all is of the Creator. What you see as the human part you know as individuality, but it is merely a creative, individualized aspect of the Creator, expressing with the free will with which it is endowed. Such beauty! Such Love does give it this human experience. The humanness may mask the beauty and love, but only, only, my friend, in your perception.

See past the humanness to the Spirit.

See God, the Love behind the thoughts and actions, no matter how far they may seem to you from your limited view of God. Look upon another and rejoice, saying, "Oh, God! There you are!"

If you truly knew what you were seeing, you would either drop to your knees or run up and embrace the other. Look upon all others anew today and rejoice. Honor thy neighbor and honor thyself. It is all God.

June blessings to you! May you always find yourself inspired by new questions, a sense of wonder and learning,

Rev. Alison

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

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Office phone: 935-3413

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Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Family Worship 10:00 AM

June 5 - Music Sunday

June 12 - Children's Sunday

Please join us for our potluck
at the Assembly!

June 19 - New Church Day Sunday!
(Father's Day)

June 26 - TBA



CO-CHAIR NEEDED

Our booth at the Fryeburg Fair is our church's most significant fundraiser - and we need your help to make sure all runs smoothly during fair time! Do you feel called to help? Donnette Barnes has recently stepped down from the co-chair position (with Cindy Priest); we thank you, Donnette, for your service! If you are interested, please see Cindy Priest or Stew Frost. Thank you for your consideration!

Church Report

The Trustees

The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 7, 2016**. 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

Stew Frost, <i>Chair</i>	935-3344
Jon Crowe, <i>Vice Chair</i>	925-1302
Cindy Priest, <i>Treasurer</i>	935-3360
Jenny Huang-Dale, <i>Trustee</i>	935-1054
Susan Logan	603-694-3743
Dede Frost, <i>Secretary</i>	935-3344
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 is TBA. All ladies are welcome and encouraged to join us.

2016 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

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



Children's Sunday

Please be sure to join us on Sunday, June 12th for Children's Sunday as our children and their teachers are recognized for a year of spiritual growth, learning, and of course, fun!!



All Church Potluck Picnic! June 12th, 11 am



To celebrate the completion of our Sunday School year, we will be holding our annual All Church Picnic after worship on Children's Sunday June 12th at the Fryeburg New Church Assembly! Please bring a potluck dish to share and prepare to have fun. Bring your friends and family and enjoy time to connect with long time church friends and meet new ones!

In our Prayers

We send healing prayers to Cindy Priest and Patty Swett and others recovering from recent hospital stays or surgeries. Continued prayers for Sally Harnden and other church friends unable to attend services. Continued prayers for Nels Liljedahl and prayers of healing and hope for all those living with cancer. We also send prayers to Sonia, daughter of Joyce Syracuse, recovering from pneumonia.



(See Numbers 22:22-34)

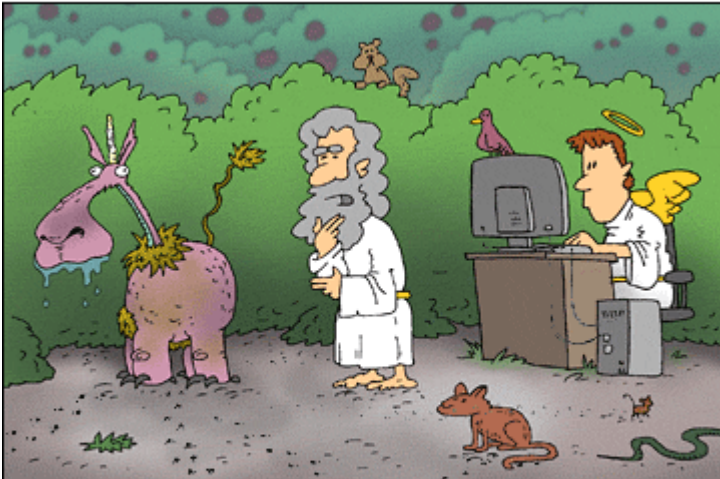
06-01-2012

YOU NEED TAKE THE NEXT LEFT ...
YOU'RE TOO CLOSE TO THE LINE, BALAAM,
BE CAREFUL! ... SLOW DOWN TO THE
SPEED LIMIT AND WATCH OUT FOR THAT
SQUIRREL ...



Thanks to Darnell Fenderson

06-25-2012



(See Genesis 1:1-2:3)

06-18-2010

UMM YEAAAHH ... WHY DON'T YOU GO
AHEAD AND HIT "UNDO" ON THIS ONE

Fundraising Committee



Community Yard Sale

The third annual FNC Community Yard Sale will be held at the Church on Saturday August 27 from 8AM to 2PM. We are hoping to include all kinds of bargains from furniture, children's items, kitchen gadgets, back to school clothing, and even a few antiques. We need your help collecting items. If you are doing some spring cleaning or are ready to pass along those unneeded treasures in the attic, basement or barn please think of us. We will gladly accept your donations. Please contact Jen Richardson at 935-4509 or the Church directly at 935-3413.

The Maine Street Festival

We are once again hosting The Maine Street Festival Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday August 27, 2016. We are looking for artisans. If you are interested in having a booth please contact Jen Richardson at 935-4509 or the Church directly at 935-3413.



Fryeburg New Church Assembly

July 30 - August 14, 2016

Summer is almost here which means Assembly will begin in just a couple months! 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 visit the Assembly website at www.fryeburg.org.

You may also contact Emily Woofenden at registrar@fryeburg.org with questions about registration or housing.

Make plans now to attend the 2016 Annual Convention in Urbana, OH!

Convention theme: Turning the Page

The 192nd session of the General Convention of the New Jerusalem (The Swedenborgian Church) will be held from Wednesday, June 29 through Sunday, July 3, 2016 at Urbana University in Urbana, Ohio. (Council of Ministers members will arrive on Sunday, June 26, and General Council members and early arrivals will arrive on Tuesday, June 28.) For more information go to www.swedenborg.org

Registration deadline is June 10th - \$50 late fee applies after June 10th.

FNCA 2016 Lecture Themes

Morning Chapel 8:45
1st Lecture 9:00
2nd Lecture 10:00
Discussion Group 11:00
Monday - Saturday
(no lectures on Wednesdays)

NOTE: Due to the third annual [Rev. Dr. George F. Dole Celebration 3-Mile Road Race](#), there will just be one lecture on the middle Saturday (August 6) and it will be held at 10:30.

Doctrinal Theme: "Uses"

As Wilson Van Dusen wrote of uses: "*The simplest and most powerful method for personal spiritual development in Swedenborg's theology lies in the idea of uses. Part of its beauty is its simplicity, which permits carrying it out in the midst of ordinary duties and labor, indeed, in any human act. It can be applied anywhere, anytime, by anyone.*"

As a spiritual practice in the here and now, Uses combines Swedenborg's teachings of correspondence, Divine good and truth, loving the neighbor, and "acting as if of self" into the true life of religion. From a variety of approaches, we will explore how to deepen our awareness of how to use this incredible universal spiritual tool so we can more consciously give our attention and intention to making ourselves of use.

Week Two Biblical Theme: "The Teachings of Jesus"

The Bible has been called "The Greatest Story Ever Told" because it tells of the relationship between God and humanity. One might also imagine Jesus as we find him in the Gospels as "The Greatest Human Who Has Ever Lived". In Swedenborgian theology, the life of Jesus presents a perfect marriage of Divine Love and Divine Wisdom manifested in a life of genuine humanity. Lectures and discussion group this week will explore Jesus' historical context, His parables, all aspects of His ministry, and their relevance.

Angels with You

Make 2 angels out of clothespins and slip them over the neck of your shirt or dress so that you remember that the Lord keeps angels near you at all times, protecting you and helping you do what is good.

Materials:

wooden clothespins fabric scraps, tissue paper, ribbon, yarn, etc.
marker, pen, or pencil if you want to draw a face

Procedure:

1. Make a robe or gown for your angel.
2. If you want to have the angel's arms showing, you might want to use a pipe cleaner to make the arms after making the gown.
3. Make wings for your angel, to remind you of the wings of the cherubim picturing the way the Lord protects us.
4. You may wish to add other details, such as hair, eyes, and mouth.

Enjoying the Angels:

Younger children may want to carry the angels with them, slipping the clothespin over the top edge of a shirt or dress.

Older children could stand the angels up, using wooden rings (clothespin doll stands) or balls of clay.

OR use fish line or gold thread to suspend the angels from the ceiling above your worship center or in your room.



From www.newchurchvineyard.org

Welcomers for June

June 5 Debbie Urgese
 June 12 Debbie Dolley
 June 19 Martha Richardson
 June 26 *open*

Ushers for June

June 5 Tom Barrett & guest
 June 12 Stanley Dolley & Chuck Priest
 June 19 Jen & David Richardson
 June 26 Jean Cressy & Dean Harnden


Coffee Hour for June

June 5 Sally Gibson
 June 12 Potluck Picnic @ FNCA
 June 19 *TBA*
 June 26 *TBA*

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE MAY 3 - 24, 2016		
Date	Adults	Children
May 1	37	11
May 8	42	9
May 15	35	7
May 22	40	8
May 29	--	--

Summer Worship Schedule

Worship will continue to be held at 10 am through the month of June. Beginning July 3rd worship will be held at 9 am.

Calendar for June 2016 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
1	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
2	Thu	Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
5	Sun	Music Sunday Adult Choir Family Worship	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
7	Tue	Trustees Meeting	7:00 p.m.
8	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
9	Thu	Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
12	Sun	Children's Sunday Adult Choir Family Worship All Church Picnic @ FNCA	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
15	Wed	Worship Committee	7:00 p.m.
16	Thu	Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
19	Sun	Father's Day Adult Choir Family Worship	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
June 29 – July 3, 2016 Convention @ Urbana University in Urbana, Ohio			
26	Sun	Birthday Bank Sunday Food Pantry Sunday Adult Choir Family Worship	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Third Annual Dole 3 Miler will be
 Saturday ~ August 6, 2016.

Registration is open for the Third Annual Dole 3 Miler. Register by July 1st to receive a free t-shirt. FYI George says this will be the last time he participates in the race so if you want the opportunity to run with him, this is your last chance!

Visit www.dole3miler.com for
 additional information





Church of the New Jerusalem
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Address Service Requested