



July/August 2017

Church of the New Jerusalem

# Monthly Newsletter

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

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## Greetings, dear Readers!

Do you have any exciting plans for this summer? I happen to have at least one very exciting item on my summer to-do list: learn to play a ukulele! As many of you may already know, we've had an offer here at FNC by one of our generous and musically talented parishioners to teach us ukulele (thank you Donna Lowell Fournier)! Starting Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>, after the church service, we will have our first ukulele lesson offered here at FNC. It began with an invitation for the children to learn...but it wasn't long before adults were asking to learn too! As I thought about being able to learn to play an instrument that I had never really thought about learning to play, I couldn't help but think, *"What an unexpected treat!"*

Interestingly, the ukulele seems to have made its way into popular culture by way of an island of Portugal called Madeira. A couple of centuries ago, Madeira was a popular tourist spot for European visitors who were drawn to its mountainous landscapes and winemaking culture; they would have heard local musicians strumming tunes on their small, guitar-like, four string instruments that were then known as the

machete (pronounced ma-CHET). It was also known as the "machete de Braga" after the city in northern Portugal where the instrument originated. Unfortunately, by the mid 1800s, Madeira was suffering from poverty, famine, and a series of natural disasters that led to its residents seeking life elsewhere.

At the same time, the Hawaiian Islands were booming with their sugar industry, but were in need of people to work on the plantations and factories. Desperation led planters to a world-wide search for help - they found Madeirans who were willing to sign three-year contracts to labor in the field, accept room and board and be sailed to their new Pacific promised land. When the people had docked, some who were transporting their ukuleles with them played for joy of landing after a 12,000 mile ocean journey! The Hawaiian Gazette soon published a story "...Madeira Islanders recently arrived here have been delighting the people with nightly street concerts. The musicians are fine performers on their strange instruments, which are a kind of cross between a guitar and a banjo, but which produce very sweet music...." Among the more than 25,000 Madeirans who came to Hawaii in the late 1800s, were at least three woodworkers and musicians who would ultimately open up

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

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

*Office Hours: Pastor ~ Wednesday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.,*

*Saturday by appointment*

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

[www.fryeburgnewchurch.org](http://www.fryeburgnewchurch.org)

ukulele businesses on the island ([www.ukelemage.com](http://www.ukelemage.com)). The instrument that came to be known as the ukulele came to the world's attention. *What an unexpected treat for the Hawaiian people* and the larger world!

I wonder how often that "unexpected treat" theme might crop up in your life? How often do you feel the joy of receiving an unexpected gift? How often do we think we know how a day will go, or have certain expectations and then realize that something fun or beautiful or joyous came along that we never expected to be so?

Some have described God as "the God of the unexpected." The Bible is filled with stories of unexpected angelic visits, bringing joyous and beautiful news. Or consider the Apostle Paul and his conversion experience - Paul had known himself as "Saul" - and as a hostile man who couldn't accept others' experiences of the Divine. And then unexpectedly, while walking, a light from heaven flashes around him, and he hears a voice speaking to him. His world is changed, and because he could accept the unexpected experience that would bring him joy rather than isolation, the Old Testament as we know it contains thirteen extra books and the story of Christianity's early expansion to the Gentiles.

Spirit is continuing to offer us more joy and beauty in life than our humans minds might plan on....but maybe that comes in packages we don't always appreciate. As mystic Suzanne Giesemann offers:

*... You missed an alarm or a bus or a train. You took a "wrong" turn. Or was it? When such unexpected events occur and you have a moment to gather your wits, pause and ask what resulted because of what you cannot explain. Who was helped? And then smile and see that if you or another was helped by your "wrong move" or "mistake," perhaps you had a little help from above.*

Whether our plans seem to be going according to schedule or not...may we all be open to unexpected treats and surprises from a universe whose very fabric is love. And, may we, like our generous ukulele teacher, be the one to

bring unexpected joy and beauty to those around us.

*With summer blessings to you and yours,*  
**Rev. Alison**

Office Hours: Weds. - Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm,  
Saturday by appointment

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**October 1 - 8, 2017**

Only 100 days until the Fryeburg Fair!  
It will be here before we know it, so it is never too early to look ahead at our schedules and make some space in our busy lives to help out with our food booth at the Fair which is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please contact Cindy Priest at 935-3360 for additional information.



Thank you Debbie Urgese for making  
delicious treats for all the Dads in  
Church on Father's Day!



## Summer Worship Schedule Family Worship 9:00 AM

### SUMMER WORSHIP CALENDAR

**July 2:** *“Our Part in the Greater Whole”*

**July 9:** Guest Preacher: Sally Gibson  
Rev. Alison away for Convention

**July 16:** Theme TBA

**July 23:** Theme TBA

**July 30:** FNC Assembly in session!

**August 6:** Guest Preacher, Rev. Jane Siebert

**August 13:** FNC Assembly in session

**August 20:** Theme TBA

**August 27:** Theme TBA

## *In Our Prayers*

*We offer our prayers to our church community and our world. We send healing prayers to Patty Swett and those experiencing health challenges. Prayers of gratitude for those continuing to heal from recent surgeries, including Martha Richardson and Adam Lane-Olsen. Prayers of peace for those with depression, mental illness and addiction. Prayers for safe travels for all traveling to Convention and other summer destinations!*

# Church Report

## The Trustees

The Trustees' next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 5th, 2017 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

Stew Frost, <i>Chair</i>	935-3344
Jon Crowe, <i>Vice Chair</i>	925-1302
Cindy Priest, <i>Treasurer</i>	935-3360
Jim Gibson, <i>Trustee</i>	935-3676
Donnette Barnes, <i>Trustee</i>	461-2411
Susan Logan, <i>Secretary</i>	603-694-3743
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.

2017 Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

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



## Fryeburg New Church Assembly

July 29<sup>th</sup> - August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Summer is here and FNC Assembly begins on Saturday, July 29th!

If you haven't registered yet, please visit the Assembly website at [www.fryeburg.org](http://www.fryeburg.org). You may also contact Emily Woofenden at [ewoofenden@fryeburg.org](mailto:ewoofenden@fryeburg.org) or (413) 247-0046 with questions about registration or housing.

Check out the latest addition to the FNCA website: <http://fryeburg.org/polarbearclub>



**SAVE THE DATE! - The Fourth Annual Dole 3 Miler will be Saturday ~ August 5, 2017.**

Registration is open for the Third Annual Dole 3 Miler.

**Visit [www.dole3miler.com](http://www.dole3miler.com) for additional information**

## **FNCA 2017 Lecture Themes**

Morning Chapel 8:45

1st Lecture 9:00

2nd Lecture 10:00

Discussion Group 11:00

Monday - Saturday

(no lectures on Wednesdays)

(no lectures on Wednesdays)

**NOTE:** Due to the Fourth annual [Rev. Dr. George F. Dole Celebration 3-Mile Road Race](#), there will just be one lecture on the middle Saturday (August 5) and it will be held at 10:30.

### **Week One**

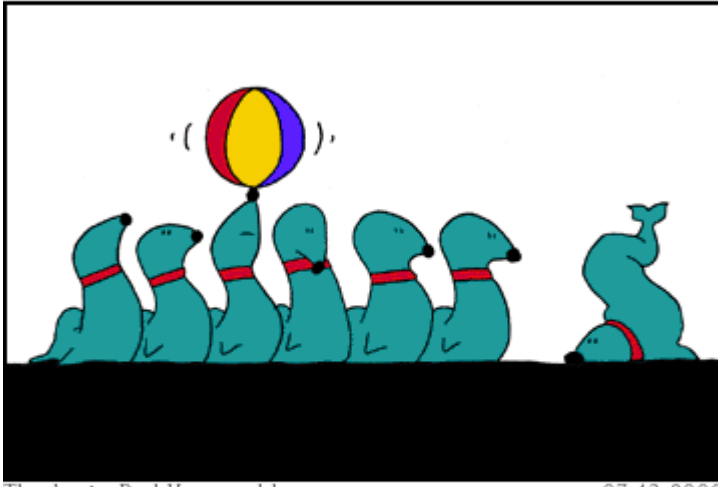
#### **"Where It All Began: the Book of Genesis"**

From the Creation story to the Israelites travel to Egypt, Swedenborg's writings offer extensive detail and analysis of the book of Genesis. This week's lecturers will share insight into Swedenborg's perspective on these familiar Bible stories, as well as guide participants in exploring how understanding the first book of the Bible can aid us to be more aware of our own "genesis" and live more mindfully.

### **Week Two**

#### **"The Connection between the Natural and Spiritual Worlds"**

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin wrote, "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." In many of his books, Emanuel Swedenborg wrote of this connection or 'correspondence' between the spiritual and natural worlds. Lecturers this week will highlight this connection with the many aspects of the material world and the variety of ways we can experience, notice, and understand it.



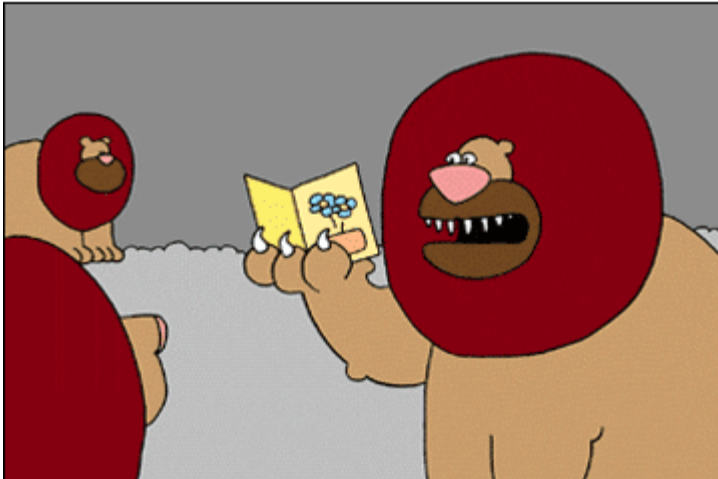
Thanks to Dad Hengeveld 07-13-2000

THEY KNEW INSTANTLY THAT THEY COULDN'T FINISH THEIR ACT BECAUSE THE SEVENTH SEAL WAS BROKEN



Thanks to Benoit Paquette (See Genesis 6-8) 08-26-1999

YES, I'M AWARE THAT OUR PROJECT DOESN'T MEET YOUR BUILDING CODE ... TELL YOU WHAT, JUST GIVE ME A WEEK



(See Daniel 6) 07-05-2004

IT'S FROM THAT DANIEL GUY ... HE JUST WANTED TO THANK US FOR A WONDERFUL VISIT

# Fundraising Committee



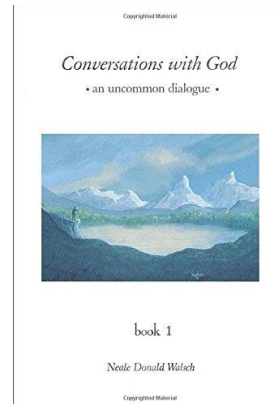
## Community Yard Sale

The third annual FNC Community Yard Sale will be held at the Church on Saturday September 2 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 26, 2017. 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.

## UPCOMING BOOK GROUP!!!!



### Conversations with God, Book 1

Starting in August... date and time TBA  
Please let Rev. Alison know if you are interested!



## Famous person of the month (*influenced by Swedenborg*)

**Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968) American preacher and civil rights activist**  
"Swedenborg enables us to understand why we were created, why we are alive and what happens to us after our bodies die. Swedenborg enables us to have the best possible understanding of God's message as it exists in the Bible books which constitute God's Word."

"Martin Luther King over Swedenborg." Martin Luther King over Swedenborg. *N.p., n.d. Web. 28 Nov. 2016.*

## Looking More Closely at Flowers

*"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these" (Matthew 6:28-29).*

*Flowers that grow in the garden are beautiful through to their inmost parts, for the more they open out the more beautiful they become (see Arcana Coelestia 8480).*

Flowers are a beautiful part of the Lord's creation. Take a closer look at the flowers that grow in your area. What does the beauty of the flowers tell you about the Lord's care for all that He has made? Remember that you are an important part of His creation and that the Lord is taking special care of you.

### Appreciating the Variety of Flowers

- 1) **Color** ~ See how many different colors you can find. Notice that flowers can be different shades of color, such as light blue or dark blue. Can you find a flower petal that has many colors?
- 2) **Size** ~ Look for big flowers and small flowers.
- 3) **Petals** ~ How many petals does a flower have? Do some flowers have more petals than you can count (easily)?
- 4) **Smell** ~ Can you find a flower with a wonderful smell? Can you find a flower with no smell at all?
- 5) **Number of Flowers on a Stem** ~ How many flowers does one stem carry?
- 6) **Turn toward the Sun** ~ Some flowers turn toward the sun. Others open when the sun shines and close up at night time.
- 7) **Dance with the Wind** ~ On a windy day, observe which flowers blow in the wind and which ones keep still.
- 8) **Where Do They Grow?** ~ Find flowers that grow on trees or bushes. Find flowers that grow on the ground. Can you find any flowers that are growing in a pond or lake?
- 9) **Look Inside** ~ Can you find the pistils and the stamens?
- 10) **Choose One of Your Favorite Flowers** ~ Look at it every day and notice how it changes. Make a picture of it. You could make a quick drawing with a pencil or use colored pencils or water colors to illustrate its beauty.

**Take a photograph of your flower, getting as close as your camera will let you.**

*Project idea found on [www.newchurchvineyard.org](http://www.newchurchvineyard.org)*

**There will be no Dinner Bell North during the months of July and August.**

**Welcomers for July/August**

- July 2 *open*
- July 9 Debbie Dolley
- July 16 Martha Richardson
- July 23 *open*
- July 30 *open*
- Aug 6 *open*
- Aug 13 Debbie Dolley
- Aug 20 Martha Richardson
- Aug 27 *open*

**Ushers for July/August**


- July 2 Stew Frost
- July 9 Chuck Priest & Stanley Dolley
- July 16 Jen & David Richardson
- July 23 *open*
- July 30 Jean Cressy & Dean Harnden
- Aug 6 Stew Frost
- Aug 13 Chuck Priest & Stanley Dolley
- Aug 20 Jen & David Richardson
- Aug 27 Jean Cressy & Dean Harnden

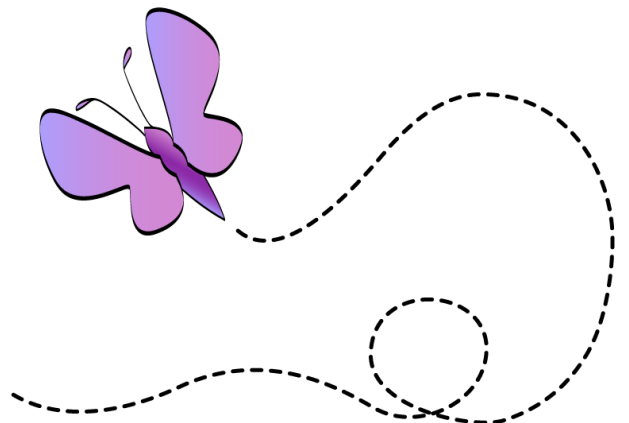
**Coffee Hour for July/August**

- July 2 Debbie Dolley
- July 9 Dede Frost
- July 16 Martha Richardson
- July 23 Mary Dysinger
- July 30 Lee Dyer
- Aug 6 Beth Carey
- Aug 13 Jen Richardson
- Aug 20 Martha Richardson
- Aug 27 *TBA*

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE		
JUNE 4 – JUNE 25, 2017		
Date	Adults	Children
June 4	41	17
June 11	45	9
June 18	18	2
June 25	23	4

The church office will be closed July 29 - August 15 during FNC Assembly. If you need anything leave a message at the Church or contact Rev. Alison @ (620) 960-6748. Thank you.

Calendar for Summer 2017 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
<b>July</b>			
2	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
4	Tue	<b>Independence Day</b>	
9	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
16	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
23	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
29	Sat	<b>FNC Assembly Begins 7/29-8/15</b>	
30	Sun	<b>First Sunday of Assembly</b> Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
<b>Aug</b>			
<b>7/29-8/15</b>		<b>FNC Office Closed</b>	
5	Sat	<b>Dole 3 Miler road race @ FNCA</b>	8:00 a.m.
6	Sun	<i>Guest Preacher,</i> <b>Rev. Jane Siebert</b> Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
13	Sun	<b>Last Sunday of Assembly</b> <i>Guest Minister, TBA</i> Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
20	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.
26	Sat	<b>Main Street Arts Festival</b>	8 am – 2 pm.
27	Sun	Adult Choir Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.





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

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**Address Service Requested**