



December 2010

Church of the New Jerusalem

# Monthly Newsletter

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

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Dear Friends,

As the days get shorter I have to say in our little corner of the world it seems at times like we are heading back to the beginning of things. Back to before the first day of creation when "darkness was over the surface of the deep," or before the first day of our own creation in the darkness of our mother's womb. As I sit here writing this greeting it's just about 3:45 and already the sun is very low in the sky and shadows are all around.

There is a reason that this is the time when we celebrate the birth of Christ, the light of the world!

While at the Fryeburg Health Care Center the other day, leading worship, we got to talking about destruction and peace, and whether we live in a time of light or a time of darkness. The general consensus was that we live in a time of darkness and destruction. Naming war, violence on television, illness, poverty, natural disasters, and the current economic crisis, the group had no trouble naming all the signs of darkness and destruction in the world. After a rousing time of naming these many fears and complaints, eventually a quiet descended and I asked them to consider where they see signs of peace and light. The quiet continued for some time. And then several gathered smiled.

The conversation that followed was how as much as we had all of these complaints and proof of trouble everywhere, there we were enjoying one another, caring for each other, and content. There we were together at peace. Even in the midst of the many aches and pains and struggles, there were smiles, and thoughtful prayers, and joy, in the simple act of being together, and looking to the Lord.

This holiday season of preparing for the unassuming, quiet birth of our Lord in the most unlikely of places is all about looking for those quiet places where peace resides, in the midst of what might feel like overwhelming darkness and destruction. The colorful Christmas lights and decorations that are such a favorite of mine during the holidays will remind us of the presence of this light that is always in our midst no matter how dark it may feel. And the fact that our friends and neighbors with their efforts light up our neighborhoods points to how the Lord's light shines in the darkness so very often through the efforts we each make to love one another. A real reason to celebrate!

May your families be blessed this Advent season with trust in the light and love of God, through every dark night.

Many blessings,

*Rev. Sage*

Office Hours: Wednesday-Friday 8am-12 noon,  
Saturday by appointment

Email: [pastor@fryeburgnewchurch.org](mailto:pastor@fryeburgnewchurch.org)

Office phone: 935-3413

Parsonage phone: 935-4500

Cell phone: 256-7529

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

12 Oxford St. • Fryeburg, ME 04037 • Rev. Sage Currie, Pastor

Office: (207) 935-3413 • Email: [Pastor@FryeburgNewChurch.org](mailto:Pastor@FryeburgNewChurch.org)

Parsonage: (207) 935-4500, cell phone (207) 256-7529

*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.*

## Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Family Worship 10:00 AM

## Church Report

### The Trustees

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

**December 5, 2010** ~ Second Sunday of Advent:

*Angel Messengers*

Zechariah: Luke 1:5-25

Mary: Luke 1:26-38

Joseph: Matt. 1:18-25

The Holy Family: Matt. 2:13-15

**December 12, 2010** ~ Third Sunday of Advent:

*The Shepherds*-Isaiah 11:1-9, Luke 2:8-20

**December 19, 2010** ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent:

*The Holy Family*-Luke 2:1-7

**Children's Christmas Pageant &**

**Christmas Party**

**December 24, 2010** ~ 7:00 pm

**Ecumenical Christmas Eve Service** at the  
First Congregational Church of Fryeburg

**December 26, 2010** ~ Lay Led Service,

*The Visit of the Three Wise Men*

### 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

### Christmas Eve Candlelight

#### Ecumenical Service

Please join us on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at  
7:00 p.m. for the Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Ecumenical Service at the First Congregational  
Church at 655 Main Street in Fryeburg.

All are welcome.

### Women's Alliance

The next Women's Alliance meeting will be on **Monday, December 13, 2010 at NOON**. **No gifts please.** 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

### Poinsettias



Orders for red poinsettias need to be called in or sent to the office by **December 17<sup>th</sup>**. The cost for each poinsettia is \$8.00 each and you will find an order slip and envelope enclosed. Office phone: 935-3413

## Baptism

*Makenzie Marie Callaghan*, daughter of Katelyn and Patrick Callaghan, was baptized into the Lord's New Church on Sunday, November 21, 2010. Ashley Holmes and Justine Lathrop stood as Godparents. Congratulations to Makenzie and family.

## Passages

*Claudia Graves* entered the spiritual world on November 24, 2010. Funeral service was held at the Fryeburg New Church on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup> and was officiated by Rev. Ken Turley. Claudia was a dear friend and will be missed by all. We pray for the peace and comfort of the Lord to be with her family and friends during this difficult time.

## In The Hospital

*Bryson Herlihy, Martha Richardson, Billy Holt, Edward Coombs, and Patty Heath* were all recently in the hospital. We are praying for their quick recovery and return to good health.

## Choir



**Ecumenical choir** will be meeting at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesdays** at the church. We will rehearse songs for Sunday morning services as well as for the Christmas Eve ecumenical services. All are welcome and invited to attend our choir rehearsals. Merry Christmas!

## And the Winners are:

The winners for this year's Christmas Cupboard raffle prizes are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize:** Christmas Wreath won by Ruby Hatch
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize:** Lamb won by Sherry Baker
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize:** Picture won by Jo Cressy

Congratulations to our lucky winners!!!

## Christmas Pageant



Please join us for the Christmas Pageant and see our children reenact the Christmas story! The Pageant will be held at the Fryeburg New Church on **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** during Worship Service. It is sure to be a wonderful presentation!! Christmas Party to follow.

## Youth Group

**Our next gathering is an exciting sleepover Christmas party!** We will meet at **3 pm on Saturday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>** at the Fryeburg New Church and stay until 11 am (after worship) on Sunday, Dec 12<sup>th</sup>.

I also have a special request for a volunteer assistant (preferably an adult female) to spend the night sleeping at the church from 10 pm to 8 am. Please email me if you are able to help out. Thank you so much for volunteering your time!

Along with your PJs, pillow, sleeping bag, nice clothes for church and sleeping pad, all youth are asked to bring a wrapped gift valued at less than \$10 to swap (bring something that you would like to receive). At this overnight, in addition to our Christmas party and games, we'll also discuss our theme, "Emanuel's Manuals", put up and decorate the Christmas tree, work on props for the Christmas Pageant, and the talk about the upcoming winter retreat at Almont, Michigan! As in the past, I am happy to bring teens (up to 4) from Portland to Fryeburg.

If any teens from Portland would like to go to this youth group, please email me to let me know.

Portland teens can arrange to meet me at the N. Windham Burger King on Route 302 at 2:00 pm.

Feel free to bring friends! (please let me know so I can send them a registration form).

See you there!  
Kurt



## Raffle to Benefit **Bryson Herlihy**

This week we learned the heart-wrenching news that Bryson, the toddler son of TJ and Aimee (Gagnon) Herlihy, has been diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma-a rare form of Cancer. Bryson, at the mere age of 19 months, is one of the youngest children diagnosed. Bryson's parents are struggling with the news, as it comes at a time in their lives where they are already being tested.

TJ, Bryson's father, a police officer, recently had his hours cut substantially. His mother, a hardworking high school teacher, will be on leave for the following year to care for Bryson as he undergoes a year of chemo treatments requiring hospitalization.

Please join me and my family as we gather prayers and funds for the Herlihy Family. On behalf of Bryson and his family, thank you so much for your heartfelt generosity.

### **Raffle/Donation Information:**

A limited number of raffle tickets are being sold for \$25 each. The prize is \$1,000 CASH!! The drawing will be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Cash donations are encouraged. Tickets and money should be sent to:  
C/O Jessy Richardson, P.O. Box 833, Denmark, ME 04022  
Cell # 1-207-393-7594

**\$1,000 CASH Prize!!**

## Poinsettia Order Slip

PLEASE MARK THE SLIP BELOW AS TO WHERE YOU WISH YOUR OFFERING  
TO GO AND ENCLOSE IN THE ENVELOPE IN YOUR BULLETIN

POINSETTIA: HOW MANY? \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH OFFERING: AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES: AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

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(tear here and return to church office by Dec. 17th)



## *You are invited!*

**Date:** Friday, December 10th, 2010

**Time:** 5-6 pm caroling, 6-9pm festivities

**Location:** Fryeburg New Church Parsonage  
22 Elm St., Fryeburg, ME

*Christmas carolers are invited to gather at the parsonage at 5 pm before leaving to sing in the season in our New Church neighborhood. Then at 6 we will gather back for food, fellowship, and Christmas cheer.  
Please bring a favorite dish to share, a friend and lots of Christmas spirit!*

**RSVP with Rev. Sage at 256-7529 or  
pastor@fryeburgnewchurch.org**





### Welcomers for December

Dec 5 Debbie Urgese  
 Dec 12 Sally Harnden  
 Dec 19 Scott Ferguson  
 Dec 26 OPEN

### Ushers for December

Dec 5 Billy Holt & Donnette Barnes  
 Dec 12 Chuck Priest& Stanley Dolley  
 Dec 19 Jen & David Richardson  
 Dec 26 Dean Harnden & James Harrington

### Coffee Hour for December

Dec 5 Renie Chaplain  
 Dec 12 Debbie Dolley  
 Dec 19 Christmas Party  
 Dec 26 Sally & Dean Harnden

WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE OCTOBER 31 –NOVEMBER 28, 2010		
Date	Adults	Children
October 31	--	--
November 7	46	3
November 14	--	--
November 21	64	2
November 28	53	3



December flowers  
*Poinsettias and  
 Advent Wreath*

Calendar for December 2010 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
5	Sun	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
7	Tue	<b>Trustees' Meeting</b> Ecumenical Choir	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
8	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
10	Fri	<b>Christmas Caroling and Potluck Party with Rev. Sage at the parsonage</b>	6-9 p.m.
11	Sat	<b>Youth Group Sleepover</b>	3:00 p.m.
12	Sun	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
13	Mon	<b>Women's Alliance (no gifts)</b>	12 noon
15	Wed	Dinner Bell North @SEAS	5:00 p.m.
17	Fri	Poinsettia orders due	9:00 a.m.
19	Sun	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Pageant and Party</b> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
24	Fri	<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ First Congregational Church</b>	7:00 p.m.
25	Sat	<b>Christmas Day</b>	
26	Sun	<b>Birthday Bank Sunday Food Pantry Sunday</b> Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.