



December 2006

Church of the New Jerusalem

Monthly Bulletin

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

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! I'm wondering what will we be doing this year to make this phrase we say and hear so many times actually become a reality? I was reminded by Rev. Tim's sermon at the Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service that we have a choice to make, and it is good to be intentional about that choice. Do we turn to all of the material things that are part and parcel of living on earth and expect them to make our Christmas merry? Or do we turn to the Lord and the Holy Spirit that gives life to all things? Of course, this is the question that is before us every day of our life from beginning to end, but it seems especially important in this season. Christmas is a time to recognize and celebrate the birth of Christ in the world, and yet, over the years, it has become a marathon of commercialized shopping frenzy. This year, I invite you to consider how you and your family and friends might make your celebration of the Christmas season little more spiritual. Direct your attention to the things that make your spirit joyful and grateful; your mind quiet, contemplative and peaceful; and your heart loving and open. Maybe it's a drive through the mountains together; maybe it's going ice skating; maybe it's sharing a quiet meal together made from a special recipe. Maybe it's none of these things, but if you look within, surely there is something that touches your spirit, brings you and the ones

you love a little closer together. There is no one answer to the challenges we all face in living. There are so many different kinds of people and different kinds of experiences. But in this season, we can look to the one common denominator: the love, compassion, forgiveness, redemption, illumination and spiritual awakening that were born into the world in the form of a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Rev. Ken

Genuine divine worship is unknown to those who think worship exists only in reverence and prayers, that is, from the mouth and thought alone, and not in the work done from a good heart full of love and faith. True worship of God consists in living according to God's ways. This is also true love of God and true faith in God. When we live a life of love and kindness, our life is continual worship.

~Emanuel Swedenborg
A.C. #1618 and #10143

The Fryeburg New Church aka The Church of the New Jerusalem

Church Office Hours: 8 a.m.- noon Tuesday - Friday

12 Oxford St. • Fryeburg, ME 04037 • Rev. Ken Turley, Pastor

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

Parsonage: 207-935-4500

Christmas Eve Candlelight Ecumenical Service

This year's service once again will be held at the First Congregational Church in Fryeburg on December 24 at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to participate.



Turkey and Rolls

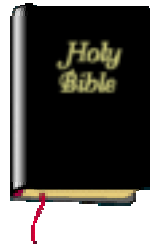
It is not exactly fishes and loaves, and it is not quite 5000, but nonetheless, the offering taken at the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service amounted to \$224.47, and, received by the Brownfield Food Pantry, it will provide almost \$3,000.00 worth of food to families in our area. Thanks so much to every one who came and to all the churches who participated. May the blessings of the season be upon you all.

-Rev. Ken

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Fryeburg New Church is to illuminate the path for people seeking God in their lives. We offer a place for those seeking regeneration and spiritual growth. We support each other as well as those in need in the community.

This Mission Statement was ratified by the congregation at the Annual Meeting of the Fryeburg New Church on Sunday, October 29, 2006.



Worship Services

Winter Schedule

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

12/3 1st Sunday Of Advent

"The Prophecy"

Micah 5:2-4

Isaiah 7:12-14; 11:1-5; 40:1-5; 55:1-9

12/10 2nd Sunday Of Advent

"The Angels"

Zechariah:

Luke 1:5-25

Mary

Luke 1:26-38

Joseph:

Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph, Mary and Jesus: Matthew 2:13-15

12/17 3rd Sunday Of Advent

"The Stable"

Luke 2:1-7

Christmas Pageant

2:00 p.m.

Christmas Party follows

12/24 4th Sunday Of Advent

"The Shepherds"

Luke 2:8-20

12/24 Christmas Eve Ecumenical Candle Light Service

7:00 PM 1st Congregational Church

12/31 The Recognition of Jesus

"The Magi and the Prophets"

Matthew 2:1-12; Luke 2:21-40



The Trustees

The Trustees meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. 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.

Pat Swett , <i>Chair</i>	603-939-2262
Debbie Dolley, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	935-2887
Susan Wheaton Logan, <i>Secretary</i>	603-694-3743
Deneane (Dede) Frost	935-3344
Nels Liljedahl	935-3741
Cindy Priest	935-3360

<i>Women's Alliance Representative:</i>	
Sally Harnden	935-2546
<i>Treasurer:</i> Stan Dolley	935-2887

Dinner Bell North

Dinner Bell North in Fryeburg is alive and well. Under the direction of Bebe Toor, it serves dinner to 80-120 patrons at the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton church at 5:00 p.m. every Wednesday. All of the help from shopping, prepping, setting up tables, cooking, serving, and cleaning up are volunteers. It takes quite a crew each week! It is truly an ecumenical and community involved activity. All are welcome to eat and/or to help. If you would like more information, or would like to become involved, please call Bebe Toor at 935-2068.

Women's Alliance

Officers for the Women's Alliance are:

<i>President</i>	Jean Cressy
<i>Vice-President</i>	Sally Harnden
<i>Secretary</i>	Claudia Graves
<i>Treasurer</i>	Patty Swett
<i>Chaplain</i>	Betty Baker

We meet the third Monday of each month. our next meeting date is December 18, at 6:30 p.m.. This month coffee will be done by Jean Cressy.

Gift Idea



With the holiday season upon us, our church print would make a beautiful and meaningful gift for that special person in your life. For more information, and for the order form, please visit our web site,

<http://www.FryeburgNewChurch.org>

All proceeds from the sale of these prints go into our Capital Fund which makes many worthwhile projects possible. This truly is a gift that keeps on giving!

Why do we have candy canes at Christmas?

Candy canes are a food that is associated with Christmas time here in America. During the Christmas season it is mostly used for decorations or craft projects. However, it is also a fabulous hard candy that many people just eat!

The candy cane is also an important religious symbol for Christians. Its two colors, typically red and white have their own meaning. The red reminds of the depth of Jesus' love for each one of us. The white reminds us of the purity of his teachings. These two colors are blended together in the candy cane the way the Lord's love and teachings were blended together in his life and when they are blended together in our hearts and minds, they are sure to make us and our lives just a little bit sweeter!



Poinsettias

Orders for poinsettias need to be called in or sent to the Church Office by December 10th. The cost for each Poinsettia is \$8.00. Tel: 935-3413

Church Report

Passages

Marilyn Bell entered the spiritual world on November 11, 2006. A memorial Service was held on November 26 at the Masonic Hall in Fryeburg. Our sympathies are extended her family.

Marriages

Sherilyn R. Reinstra and Matthew Martin were married on August 26, 2006, in Rehobeth, MA. Father Reverend David Reinstra performed the ceremony. Congratulations!

In the Hospital

Alex Dyer was in the hospital in November for knee surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery!

Youth Group

The Fryeburg New Church youth group is very active this year. We continue to hold monthly Sunday dinner gatherings at both the Fryeburg New Church and the Portland New Church. This year our theme is religions of the world. We discuss a different major faith/belief at each gathering and try to match food to the region where the religion is most prevalent. At our meetings we prepare or order dinner, hold discussions, play games, plus plan outings and retreats. All youth ages 12 – 18 are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Ten teens gathered for an overnight at the Fryeburg church on November 11th from 4:00 pm Saturday – 11:00 am Sunday. We helped prepare for the Christmas Cupboard by moving tables and assembling the Christmas trees. Our religion to discuss was Buddhism. Jane Fullerton led the discussion, which included an introduction into the life of the Buddha, mediation, the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. Thank you, Jane, for all the time you took to share the fundamentals of Buddhism with us. Later in the evening we played games and watched a movie. On Sunday morning we participated in the 10 am Sunday worship service before departing for home.

Upcoming Events

Our December youth group gathering will be at the **Portland New Church**. Date and time to be announced. We will be discussing Judaism and celebrating Hanukkah, which officially begins at sundown on December 16th but we'll be squeezing all 8 days into two hours! All youth and adult leaders are invited to bring a \$5 wrapped gift to exchange (bring something that you would like for yourself). Come spin the dreidel, eat some latkes, light the menorah and celebrate the Festival of Lights! If you need a ride to the Portland New Church, contact Jane Fullerton, jfuller@fairpoint.net. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

The Swedenborgian Church Youth League (SCYL) is having its annual **Winter Retreat at Almont, Michigan, on Dec 26 – 30**. The theme this year is "Truth," and it is open to all youth age 13 - 18. There will be a van from Boston going out to Michigan so make sure you contact me as soon as possible at kfekete@hotmail.com to register and reserve your seat. Flyers are available at the church. Cost is \$50 and financial assistance is available. It's going to be a fantastic retreat so I hope you can attend.


- Kurt Fekete

From the Choir Director



Many thanks and congratulations to our ecumenical choir for the beautiful job they did on Thanksgiving Eve. We are so blessed to have such a loyal and wonderful choir, and with the addition of our new members, we just keep getting stronger and stronger as we lift our voices together in worship. Ecumenical choir will continue to practice on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 at the church, as we prepare for the Christmas Eve service. Adult choir will continue to meet on Sunday mornings at 8:15 a.m., preparing music for our morning services. Youth choir will meet on Tuesday evenings at the parsonage from 5:30 to 6:15. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome to join us for any of these groups. Questions? Please call me Turley at 935 – 4500

- Laurie Turley

Calendar for December 2006 (held at our Church unless indicated)			
3	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00a.m
5	Tues	Youth Choir at Parsonage Trustees Meeting	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
6	Wed	Dinner Bell North at EAS Church Ecumenical Choir	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
8	Fri	Billy Holt Dinner at EAS Church	5:00 p.m.
10	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Deadline for Poinsettia orders Maine Association Meeting, Portland Swedenborgian Church	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 am 1:00 p.m.
13	Wed	Dinner Bell North at EAS Church Ecumenical Choir	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
16	Sat	Hanukkah	
17	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 am
18	Mon	Women's Alliance	6:30 p.m.
20	Wed	Dinner Bell North at EAS Church	5:00 p.m.
24	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Christmas Eve Service at the Congregational Church	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 am 7:00 p.m.
25	Mon	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
27	Wed	Dinner Bell North at EAS Church	5:00 p.m.
31	Sun	Adult Choir Sunday School Family Worship Birthday Bank Sunday	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 am

Office Hours

Our office hours are **Tuesday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

Raffle Winners from Christmas Cupboard

Julianne D'Angelo won the Santa; Janet Hill won the Afghan; Linda Hatch won the wreath; and Martha Richardson won the Samantha Doll.

Congratulations to all!

Maine Association Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday December 10th at 1:00 p.m. at the Portland Swedenborgian Church on 302 Stevens Ave. 1:00 Coffee and snacks, 1:30 Communion worship 2:00 Business meeting. Please meet at the church 12:30 to carpool.

Ushers for December

- 3 Brenda Brackley & Shelly Dolley
- 10 Chuck & Cindy Priest
- 17 Herb Eastman & Mary Dysinger
- 24 Stan & Debbie Dolley
- 31 Open

Welcomers for December

- 3 Debbie Urgese
- 10 Debbie Dolley
- 17 Karen Ela
- 24 Martha Richardson
- 31 Sally Harndem

Coffee Hour for December

- 3 Susan Logan
- 10 Donnette Ela
- 17 Rene Chaplin
- 24 Sally Harnden
- 31 Jean Cressy



**MERRY CHRISTMAS To All
And have a safe and happy
new year!**

Community Sponsored Benefit
DINNER & DANCE
for
BILLY HOLT

recovering from lung cancer surgery

Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Casseroles, Salads, Baked Beans, Rolls, Beverage and Dessert
with Dinner Music by Laurie Turley

Dance 7:30 to 10:30 PM

featuring the good rockin' music of

Mo' Blues

Dinner: \$7.00, kids under twelve \$4.00

Dance: \$5.00, under twelve \$1.00

Dinner and Dance: \$10.00, under twelve \$5.00
afghan and 50/50 raffle drawing that night

Friday, December 8, 2006
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church,
Rt 5, Fryeburg, ME