



First Christian Church of Freedom
THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE / ESTABLISHED IN 1858

Freedom Rings

Newsletter November- December 2019



Winter's Coming!

The last couple months of the year seem dismal in one sense, but our worship does not leave us without hopeful signs and new life. Even with trees devoid of leaves and cold weather getting even colder, we are warmed by prophecies of better days, crowned with the birth of a Savior. Many are comforted by returning to southern climates, but those of us who brave the freezing temperatures of the north-country are soothed by fireplaces and blankets.

The last few readings of the Church Year are challenging ones as Jesus is confronted with questions about the end-times. We don't like to hear such talk as we live in a rather prosperous age, but in facing reality we are aware of our weaknesses and the possibilities of limits to our health and well-being. We are reminded of such things each day as we see live on TV or read in our local paper. Some mornings we feel it in our bones or find ourselves short of breath. No one lives forever, and those minor 'aches and pains' are constant tugs at our positive attitudes.

The month of December brings the beginning of a new, Christian year, and along with it comes readings prophesying God's continual work. "Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." (Matt. 24:42) "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." (Matt. 3:3) "See, I am sending you my messenger who will prepare your way before you." (Matt. 11:10). "The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in his way." (Matt. 1:18) God does not leave us alone as we consider the future, even if it does appear cold and dismal. God is constantly renewing our lives with words of encouragement and inspiration. And so, we rejoice and are glad because God is opening us up to new things and a bright future. Enjoy the holidays and participate in the opportunities for service and witness. Be a

Christian, do as Jesus would do, live your faith!
See you in church.

Pastor Larry



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

In anticipation of November's annual request for stewardship through pledging to our FCCOF, we share a simple and sincere message from our own experiences.

This past year the congregation has worked to insure that our historic building, in the heart of Freedom Village, is being well-maintained. Our Trustees prioritized immediate, ongoing and future needs to keep our structure and grounds strong, durable, accessible, safe and attractive as we move toward 2020 and beyond. Council has made decisions on each annual budget to maintain excellent personnel and programs to see to the well-being of the spiritual lives we share within this physical building.

When we consider that we are a small, non-denominational congregation that must finance our own needs, the length of our history since 1867, when the church itself was built, is remarkable. Our journeys of faith and fellowship intertwine and enrich the community of members as well as friends and visitors who pass through our doors for Sunday and holiday worship; for rites of baptism, marriage, death; for involvement in ministries and outreach that are at the center of our

Christian existence. We have been dedicated to upholding our relationships with God and with one another as sojourners and stewards in Creation.

To this purpose of keeping FCCOF vital, we have an annual time for financial pledging. Pledges, whatever the amounts, allow our finance officers and committees to plan a yearly budget. The information from pledge amounts is important to the shaping of what we can do each year - and we are mindful that situations change - pledges may need to be decreased, or increases may be possible, during the year. Life brings surprises to us all! But having a basic financial picture for budget planning is so very helpful.

Whatever your ability this year, please consider making a pledge to our shared "treasury" of faith and works. We remember our gratitude to God for our blessings and we recall the teaching of Scripture that where our treasure is there also is our heart. We will reflect sincerely on our own commitments to stewardship in pledging this November. We hope you will as well. Let us pray in thanks for all we share in this church in time, treasure and talent in the presence of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. And Happy Thanksgiving to all.

December 1st will be our annual meeting after the Service. Please remember to attend this important gathering of our congregation on the first Sunday of the Advent Season.

Dean Robertson, Council President

Gale Morris, Council Vice-President

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

will be held on Sunday, November 3rd, after the Church Service, to vote on taking funds from the Louise Anderson Fund in the amount of \$8,700 to pay for the new pew cushions. Please attend if you are able. Thank you.



Don't forget to set your clocks back on Sunday, November 3rd!



The **Annual Meeting** of the congregation will be Sunday, December 1st, after the Service. This is an important meeting to vote on business and budget matters for the coming year, and to remember those members and friends who have died in the past year. Also, we will have an important presentation of some changes to our by-laws that will be voted on. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this Annual Meeting.



Next Newsletter Deadline is **December 23rd**

PASTORAL VISITS



Should anyone wish to have a pastoral visit or communion, please speak to Pastor Larry, a deacon, or Patty in the church office.

If you need to reach Pastor Larry, he has a new phone number.

860-573-4552

Also, the church has a new email address:

fccf1858@gmail.com

Bible Study



All are invited to Camp Calumet each week on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. (10:30 a.m. in the summer months) for a group discussion of the scripture lessons for the coming week and how the lessons relate to daily living. **Bible Study** is held in the Camp Calumet Conference Center on the right as you go west on Lake Ossipee Road. Please see Pastor Larry if interested.

Remember "B. I. B. L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!"

Anonymous

Look what we found!



After ripping up the old rug in the Sanctuary, before replacing it, we found the signature of David L. Buswell, Pres. with a smiley face on the old wood flooring. I'll bet he never thought anyone would ever see it!



Kathy Avery	Kate Elliott	Bill McIntire, Jr.
Tarryn Balch	Bonnie Engroff	Carol Melvidas
Gerry Barnicle	John Ferralasco, Jr.	Judy Michaels
Suzie Bogart	Dick & Wanda Fields	Gay Mocer
Charlie Bojus	Fred Kistler	Diana Mozzoni
Rev. Bob Bossdorf	Jane Garnsey	Cindy Nason
Chris, Harold & Kevin Boynton	Dick Gauley	Peg Nichols
Steve Bracci	Hazel Gauley	Billy Norton
Harold Brown, Jr.	Cynthia Granahan	Clifford Pomeroy
	John Hogan	Eileen Portelance
Christie Catino	Karen Hopkins	Pat & Roger Olson
Terry Chadbourne	Glenn Hormell	DeMott Post
Eric Chamberlain	Rob Hyam	Jeannie Rogers
Carolyn Clancy	Dale Johnson	Kim Rose
		The Family of Ruth Smart
Celia Costa	Elmer Killam	Kevin Stark
Greg Dayton	Fred Kistler	Ellie Stokes
Lorelei DeNisco	Nancy Koza	

Chuck Depew	Harold Libby, Sr.	Laureen Strauch
Connie Dockiham	Bernice MacLeod	David Tanis
Mark Downie	Jeff & Kathy MacLeod	Debbie Trail
David Eldridge	Doreen Martin	John White
Delores Ellis	Debbie McGivney	

all our country's military personnel and their families.

This Newsletter features Peg Scully



Peg is a long-time member of the church, serving on many committees; Music & Worship, Personnel and a long-time member of the choir. Peg moved to Freedom in 1984 after spending summers here since 1968.

On their first trip here from Cincinnati, oh what luck to have been able to rest & refresh here each summer!

She realizes, now that she is into her 80's, "I am fortunate to be able to look back, rather than forward; that is not altogether unpleasant to do" and she feels lucky that she is able to do it. She has spent a big part of her life volunteering in & painting Freedom. She has produced a lot of paintings of the town, its landscape and its people over the last fifty years. She has sold a lot, bartered some and thrown a lot away. There are other people & places she has painted and she has the paintings, digital images, prints, slides and sketch books to prove it. Her designs include Old Home Week t-shirts, Freedom collectibles and the Freedom afghan.

It is with great honor & pride that we celebrate Peg Scully.

DISHWASHER IN THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM



Thanks to a generous and anonymous donor, we have a brand new dishwasher to wash and sanitize our cups for our after-church gatherings. It's wonderful!!



Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee met on May 1st to review the submitted applications for the George T. Davidson, Jr. Scholarship given annually. There were 62 submissions this year. From those, the following six students were chosen:

Brianna Desharnais
Hillary Johnson
Lucy Knox
Cora Nicoll
Meredith Paulding
Samuel Paulding

This unique group will be studying such diverse fields as neuroscience, teaching, communications, forensic psychology, education and applied linguistics, and music. They were also a group immersed in volunteerism and community service. Bravo to

these young scholars! We wish them all the best in their undertakings.

The members of this year's Scholarship Committee were Charlie Bojus, Velma Hormell, Paul Olzerowicz, Dean Robertson, Judy Robertson, Rev. Larry Wogman, and chair Jane Hartnett.

The Committee also voted to send an appeal letter for funding to the membership. This was sent out in October.

Jane Hartnett, Chair

Just for Fun!

The answer to Sept/Oct Newsletter riddle is
WHALE

New Riddle

1. How many books are there in the whole Bible?
2. How many books are there in the Old Testament?
3. How many books are there in the New Testament?
4. In which Testament would you look for the Sermon on the Mount?
5. In which Testament would you look for the story of Jonah and the great fish?
6. How many of the New Testaments books are called the Gospels?
7. In what book of the Bible would you read about Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego?
8. What is the first book in the Bible?
9. What is the last book in the Bible?
10. If you opened the Bible in the middle, what book would you find?

See how many you can answer!
You'll find out in the
January/February Newsletter!

The ladies guild recently took Pauli Libbey out to celebrate her **100th** birthday! This amazing woman is still making quilts which the ladies guild donates to the newborn babies at Memorial Hospital! Happy Birthday Pauli.



Congratulations to all who donated to the Freedom Food Pantry covering Effingham, Freedom and Ossipee. Thrivent Financial sent out a challenge to their Northeast region to be one of the first 100 food pantries to receive 500 donated non-perishable food items. **And, you did it!** The pantry will be receiving a check for \$500 from Thrivent. Pat yourself on the back, the challenge has been met.

If anyone uses Thrivent Financial, please remember to use your Action Team to obtain \$250 twice a year. Use it or lose it!

Contact:

Nancy Wogman at nancywogman@gmail.com
or Claire Tracy at clairetracy000@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



Please join us for our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 pm.

As part of the Christmas Eve Service, the Freedom Honor Roll is read. It is a list of the service men and women who currently serve in the U. S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corp., National Guard and Coast Guard. Should you know someone who should be included in the Honor Roll, please contact the church office at 539-6484 or Velma Hormell at 539-2079. We will need: rank, name, branch of service, where stationed and relationship.

Thank you!



The OCC Christmas Gift Tree will be in the Church available the beginning of December for anyone wishing to give a gift for children in need.

The deadline for turning in the gifts from the tree is Sunday, December 15th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



will be held on Saturday, November 23rd from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Town Hall. Proceeds from the luncheon will benefit the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which is used to serve the community.

The Luncheon will feature the famous minestrone soup, corn chowder, sandwiches, desserts and beverages.

We need volunteers to help with cooking the chowder, soup and desserts. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Room. If you can help, please sign up or call Velma Hormell at 539-2079.



The Ladies Guild is looking forward to a "whopping" sale when Freedom Rings in the Holidays in November. There will be many beautiful quilts, microwave bowl holders, adult clothing protectors, pot holders and many more items.

Tickets for our beautiful 2019 Fiesta Rose raffle quilt may be purchased on Mondays, Sundays after church or from a Guild member.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help with the quilting. If you are interested, contact Peg Nichols at 539-1602.

The Freedom Bulletin Board

We are happy to say that there are currently 342 members of the Freedom Bulletin Board! But of course there are many more people who live in Freedom who are not yet members. Here is an invitation you can forward to friends and neighbors who may not know about the list or how to become a member.

You are invited to join the Freedom Bulletin Board, a community email list for residents and friends of Freedom, NH, created to foster a sense of community, share news and needs, and publicize community events. Members are able to post directly to the group and unsubscribe at any time.

Sign up here -- and please spread the word!

<https://groups.google.com/d/forum/freedombulletinboard>

If you prefer, you can send an email to Elizabeth Rhymer at erhymer99@gmail.com or Nancy Griffin at ycnangriff@gmail.com with **your full name** and they will add you to the list directly.

Once you are approved as a member, to post to the group, send email to freedombulletinboard@googlegroups.com Please note that you may not receive a copy of your own post.

General Rules for Participation:

- Please be respectful of others.
- No political discussion.
- List members agree that they - and not the list owners or list moderators - are solely responsible for their writings and posts.

Posting Guidelines:

- All posts must include your full **real name**.
- Be specific when posting a new topic. "Freedom Named Best Small Town in America!" is good. "Exciting News!" is too vague.

- One topic per post. Don't ask for advice about electricians in the same post that you try to sell your lawn mower.
- Reply directly to the poster unless your response is important to the entire group. Be careful using "reply all."

Please let us know if you have any questions,

Elizabeth Rhymer & Nancy Griffin
List Managers
Freedom Bulletin Board



Happy Holidays Everyone!

If you have any information for the office or for me, please leave it on my desk on Sunday mornings. Office hours are Monday 9-1, Wednesday 9-1 and Thursday 9-1.

Sincerely,

Patty Dumas

You Say

I can't figure it out.
I'm too tired.
It's impossible.
Nobody loves me.
I can't forgive myself.
It's not worth it.
I'm not smart enough.
I'm not able.
I can't go on.
I can't do it.
I can't manage
I'm afraid.
I feel all alone.

God Says

I will direct your steps.
I will give you rest.
All things are possible.
I love you.
I forgive you.
It will be worth it.
I will give you wisdom.
I am able.
My grace is sufficient.
You can do all things.
I will supply all your needs.
I have not given you fear.
I will never leave you.

Bible Verses

Proverbs 3:5-5
Matthew 11:28-30
Luke 18:27
John 3:16
Romans 8:1
Romans 8:28
I Corinthians 1:30
II Corinthians 9:8
II Corinthians 12:9
Philippians 4:13
Philippians 4:19
II Timothy 1:7
Hebrews 13:5

BE THANKFUL FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS!

November, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						10 am Food Pantry
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry 2 pm Ruth Smart Memorial Service
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 pm Council Meeting	10am Book Study Group	Freedom Rings in the Holidays Quilt & Craft Sale	10 am Food Pantry Freedom Rings in the Holidays Quilt & Craft Sale 11:30 am Holiday Luncheon
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am Quilt Raffle	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		Thanksgiving 		Food Pantry Closed

December, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am ANNUAL MEETING	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 pm Council Meeting	10am Book Study Group		10 am Food Pantry
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	7 PM Christmas Eve Service	 CHRISTMAS DAY			10 am Food Pantry
29	30	31				
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild					

The First Christian Church of Freedom

12 Elm Street, Freedom, NH 03836

603-539-6484

Email: fccf1858@gmail.com

www.FirstChristianChurchofFreedom.org

Like us on Facebook!

Pastor Lawrence N. Wogman, [860-573-4552](tel:860-573-4552)