



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

## Freedom Rings

**Newsletter**  
**May/June**



## *Pastors Ramblings!*

Spring has finally sprung, and maybe summer, too. Pretty soon we'll be complaining about allergies and black flies. We have learned to take the bad with the good, even in our religious life. Easter was a glorious celebration at our church. Starting with a 'sunrise' service down at the pavilion (50 brave souls), we continued with our Easter breakfast, and a wonderful 'main' service, complete with

Handel's Halleluia Chorus from the Messiah. In the midst of our celebrations, though, we had to mark some losses – the passing of 3 long-time members – Frank Meserve, Phyllis Kenison, and Linnie Giles. We do find comfort in knowing that, because of the Resurrection of Jesus, they have found their new home with God. For that, we're grateful!

Now we continue with the season of Easter, a 7-week period climaxing with Pentecost in June. That season will go until Advent in December. During Easter the focus is on the risen Christ, and some of the promises and hope that he brings. It gives us a chance to reflect on how Jesus comes and leads us to a strong inner life. His appearances to the disciples, meeting the followers on the road to Emmaus, being the Good Shepherd as well as the way, the life, and the truth, all show us how important our dependence on Jesus is. We are never alone, even in our darkest moments. As we experience the 'ups and downs' of daily life, the 'twists and turns' that mark human existence, we do need an anchor, something we can turn to and know we can trust. If it's our own strength, or wealth, or brains – we're probably going to come up short. However, our Christian faith offers us something greater. The early followers staked their life on the belief that God would direct their lives, and ultimately save them. Many were persecuted, even martyred, for their faith, but they passed it on and delivered it to us, centuries later. What will we do with it? Do we

have the 'faith' to proclaim it to new generations, or will it be lost? May God bless you and keep (protect) you! Pastor Larry



## *President's Message*

Happy Spring to you all, if you're like me it can't come soon enough...I still have snow in my yard!

It's been a long winter and we have some great things to look forward to over these next few months. There will be plays, concerts, OHW, and maybe a few surprises! I hope you are all looking forward to participating in our new church directory which is due to take place June 28 from 2-9 PM, please watch the bulletin for when to call for your sitting...bring a pet if you like!

I do want to let you know that we will be working very diligently in the coming months on raising money for our Capital Campaign Fund. Many of you are aware of the leaking from the roof in the Davidson and secretary's room this early spring, and we are having inspections done to see if a new roof is needed or if a possibly less expensive fix is in order. Second on the agenda is the church carpet, which is once again wearing thin and buckling in several spots; trying to stretch it again is not an option this time. We also have to keep in mind the age of our furnace. You can see we have lots to consider this year in order to keep our church maintained. I know all of you will help in any way that's within your means to do so.

Let's all enjoy the coming summer months, and as people are out and about more,

remember to reach out, and to connect to those who may be new in town, or to someone you might like to get to know better, and especially remembering to help those who are in need whenever possible. See you around town,  
Sandy Boyle  
President of Church Council



## **Mission Outreach Committee**

There's a new committee in town! A few of us have been getting together in order to come up with a way to reach beyond our community. Most of our efforts have been local - the Food Pantry, the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, the Ladies' Guild, and a few other projects. We are called to give beyond our 'local' needs. An example would be the early church which Paul commended for their support of churches who lacked resources. Most of our denominations are connected to wider benevolent organizations - Catholic Charities, Church World Service, Lutheran Disaster Relief, Methodist Relief, etc. We, being independent, don't have a specific organization to direct funds through, although we have had projects for which we've raised money, i.e. the Heiffer Fund.

What we're suggesting, with the Council's approval, is that we raise money through different means, in order to support projects or programs outside of our congregation. We would choose them based on recommendations from our members, and publicize their work. For instance, we are researching Habitat for Humanity as a possible candidate. If this is approved, we will try to get a speaker or video, see what is needed, and raise funds or do

volunteer work to support their organization. If you'd like to serve on this committee, speak with Pastor or one of the current members. We hope this will enhance the ministry of our church. Present members include: Steve and Diana Thurston, Ellie Stokes, Sarah Millette, Barbara Buffery, and Bonnie McCue.



### 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.



All are invited to Camp Calumet each week on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. 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.

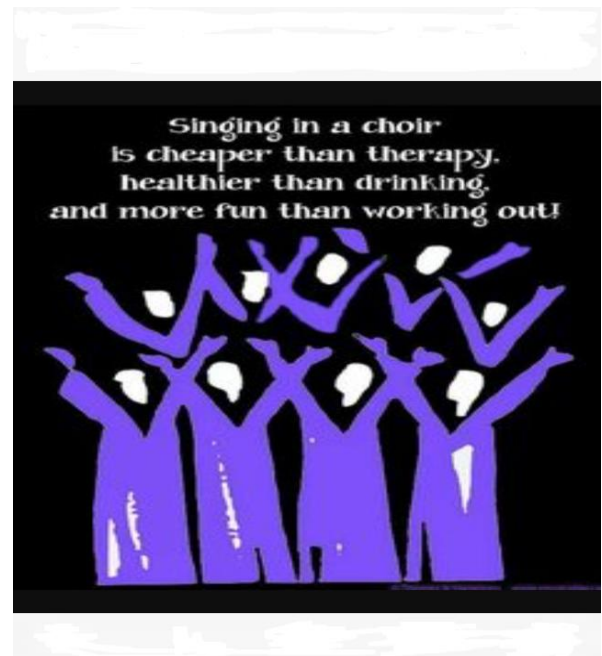
"B. I. B. L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!"

Anonymous



### A NOTE FROM THE USHERS

**We are in need of ushers.** If you are interested, or if you are currently an usher and no longer wish to serve for your specified month, either because of health issues or other concerns, please call Mark McKinley at 539-6577 or Henry Granahan at 539-5295. Please know that your faithful service continues to be deeply appreciated and does much to reinforce the welcoming attitude of First Christian Church. If you have not participated, and would like to consider becoming an usher on Sunday mornings, please contact Mark. Thank you.



**Choir singers wanted.** There is always room for more singers. No audition required. Rehearsals are on Tuesday nights at 7. Come join us!



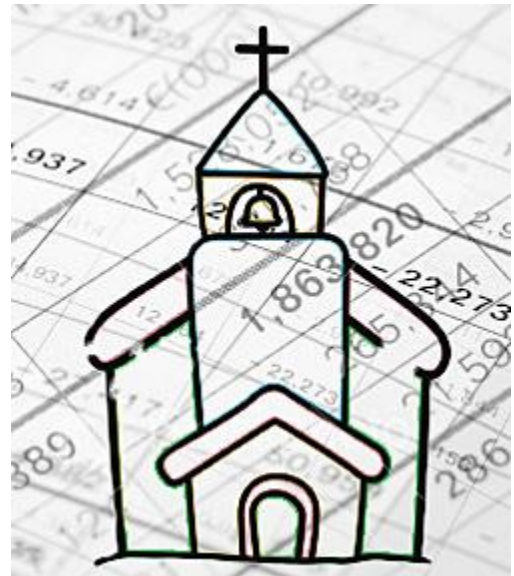
## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY

The Deacons have custody of medical items available for loan purposes. Currently the following items are stored in the church barn and may be borrowed by contacting George Thompson at 539-4601, or the Church at 539-6484.

Wheel Chairs	Commodes
Crutches	Potty Seats
Canes	Shower Chairs
Walkers	Blow-Up Mattress
Knee Braces	
Shower Transfer Benches	

Louise Anderson, Nathaniel & Carolyn Anderson, Kathy Avery, Tarryn Balch, Phil Beckwith, Jim Blake, Ellie Bossdorf, Kevin Boynton, Kathy Brownrigg, Harold Brown Jr., Carolyn Clancy, Celia Costa, Elise Crommett, Connie Dockham, Frank Cunio, Sally Downey, Robert Elliott, Delores Ellis, Joanne Fuller, Jane Garnsey, Michael Gaudette's sister-in-law, Cynthia Granahan, Karen Hopkins, Glenn Hormell, Dave Johnson, Elmer Killam, Pauline Leclerc, Jean Marshall, Mary Mayhew, Carol Melvidas, Judy Michaels, Bill Nason, Peter Nichols, Pat & Roger Olson, DeMott Post, Harry Potter, Jeannie Rogers, Kim Rose, Marci Sharp, Kathleen Sherin, Marcus Sims, Dick Stosez, Mike Sudak, Marc Thurrell, Cheryl Vitum, Joy Anna Winslow, Eli Workman and all our country's military personnel and their families.

**To ensure your prayer request is added to the list, please write the information down** and place it in the offering plate, Patty's mail slot or on her desk. Thank you.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Church expenses are \$7,200 higher than income through April 11, 2017. This year's pledge income has been coming in slower than in prior years. The financial secretary and I expect giving to pick up in the coming month or so as members return from warmer climates. Easter came three weeks later this year than last year.

The Capital Fund has received about \$700 from the pork supper last month designated for the church furnace replacement. There are a couple more fund-raisers scheduled this year to benefit the Capital Fund for capital

projects. Note that while these fund raising activities are helpful they will not be sufficient to cover the entire cost of capital projects coming in the coming months and years.

The Trustees are coordinating a repair to the roof in the fellowship room. Ice dams from heavy snow accumulations caused water to enter the ceiling and drip into the office and area outside pastor's office door. The insurance company will inspect the damage. The church's maintenance budget is expected to be sufficient for the cost of the repairs.

Church and other Fund investments continue to perform well in 2017 up 2.3% for the first quarter. Investments are securely held at Vanguard and TD Ameritrade.

If you have any questions about any financial matters of the Church, please do not hesitate to speak with me, any Church Officer or member of the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Olzerowicz, Treasurer

consider First Christian Church of Freedom their primary church. We also have a second category of people who may belong to another congregation. It's called 'associate membership'. It may be that a person is a lifetime member of a church in another state, and really wants to retain their membership there. Or, it may be, as is the case with me and many others, that for other benefits, one wants to maintain membership in a church of a particular denomination, or where one's family has always been a member, and it is necessary or desirable that one retain membership in a denominational church. In this case, one can become an associate member here and have all the privileges of a full member – vote, pastoral care, involvement in various ministries, serving in leadership, etc.

We want to invite those who are not, to become full or associate members. Being on this 'list' does not make anyone better or more *Christian than anyone else, but it does help us get 'a handle' on 'who we are' as a congregation, and maybe how we need to shape our mission and ministries.*

Please let us know about joining (it's free!), or if you're not sure, speak to Pastor Larry or call the church office 539-6484



## **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR FAMILY AND BECOMING A CHURCH MEMBER?**

When you're a member of a church, it means you've made a commitment to your faith. You have said "I'm a follower of Jesus Christ and a member of a Christian community." It also helps from the church's point of view to know who can be counted on to continue the church.

First Christian Church has 2 categories of members. One is as a full member – those who



**Good Morning Call!** Several of us participate in this program offered by the Carroll County Sheriff's office. It is simple.....you make a call and talk to a real person.....if they do not hear

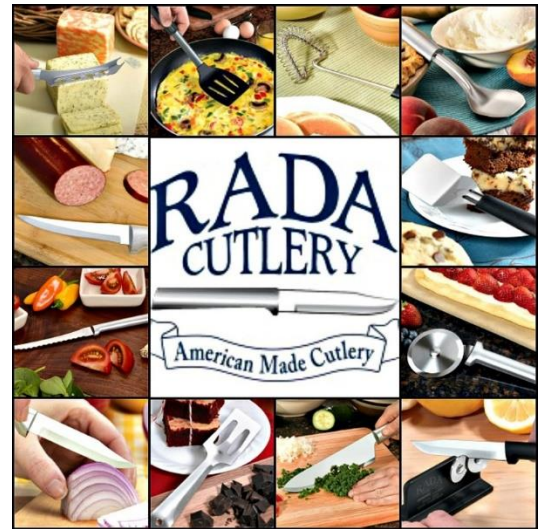


from you, the Freedom Police stop by. It is reassuring that, during an emergency, either personal or weather related, someone knows where you are. Any questions.....call Lee Allison at 539-6429 or the Sheriff directly at 539-2284.



## LADIES GUILD

The Ladies' Guild has been busy! We sent another batch of 21 baby quilts to Memorial Hospital in February and have more to go soon. Roberta Davidson taught us how to make place mats last week and we have many patriotic themed placemats ready for our Rubber Ducky Day sale. We lost two of our lifetime members this month, Phyllis Kenison and Linnie Giles. They will be missed! We welcome Isabelle Pomerleau and Sue Monteiro as new members. New members are always welcome. We meet every Monday from 9-2. Bring a bag lunch and join us. People who have never quilted are welcome.....all you have to do is have a desire to learn!



## FUND RAISING

The Fund Raising Committee is selling "Rada Cutlery" made in the USA as one of our fundraisers. This will not be a door-to-door event but samples will be on display at our events and ongoing. You may contact Judy Robertson, Velma Hormell or Patty Dumas in the church office if you are interested in checking out the catalog for paring knives, bagel knives, chef's knives, granny forks, pie or cake servers, steak knives, etc. which are available.

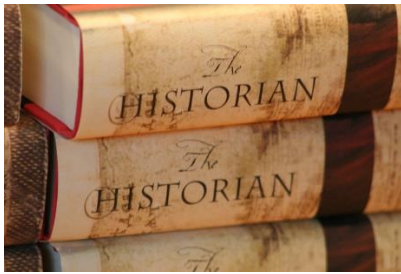
We have just received the new catalog for 2016. Keep this extremely well-made cutlery in mind for gifts throughout the year and you will be supporting the church at the same time.  
Velma Hormel



**Annual Women's Retreat – May 13, 2017 – from 8:45am – 2 pm.**

Once again we'll be joining the members of Nativity Lutheran for a Women's Retreat to be held on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 8:45 a.m.- 2 p.m. The Retreat will be held at Camp Calumet and include lunch. The cost is \$15/person.

We'll be focusing on our Baptism and what it means to us today. So join us and take time for yourself! You won't be disappointed!

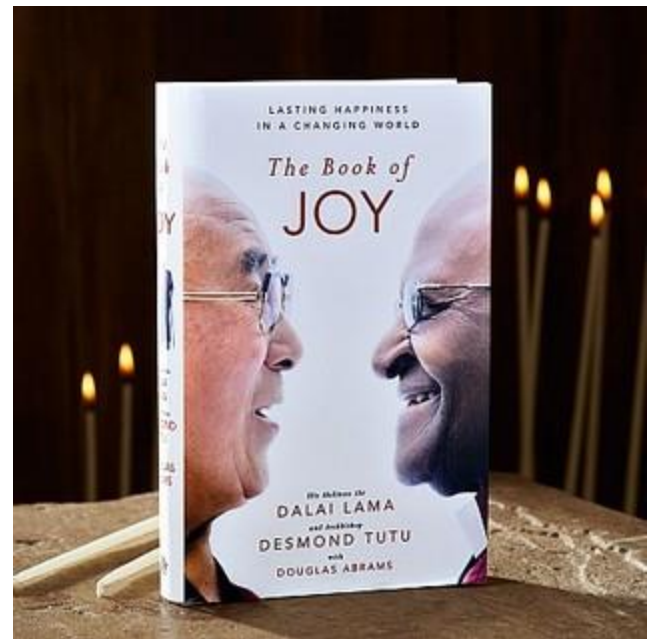


On Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 7-8 pm, the Membership Committee will sponsor a talk on more “Fun to Know” things about our church. We are fortunate that our Historian is Bob Smart, someone who puts great effort into studying, organizing, preserving and presenting the pieces of our FCCOF past. He finds bits that both inform and amuse.

In this year that marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the actual construction of our building, Bob's subject choice is especially relevant. He will speak on the history (from 1867 to present day) of some of the building blocks of function and design that we see each time we enter church. First, the story of our pews. How many were built; how were they put together; what materials were used; were the paint colors always the same? What purpose did the first pews serve beyond providing seating for the congregation on Sundays? Has their placement changed over the decades? Secondly, Bob will tell us how in more recent time the outdoor ramp came to be built, the intent being to ease access to church for many of our members and visitors. And more fun to know items.

We will gather at 7 pm in the main part of church for the program. There will be time for questions, and light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Fellowship Room. Please mark your calendars and join us. Just come to church that Friday, take a pew, and enjoy!

Gale Morris, for the Membership Committee



In May, the book group will discuss “The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World” by Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carlton Abrams. A few copies will be available near the church mailboxes for \$14.54 or you can find it on Amazon.com. Here is what Amazon says about the book:

“Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, have survived more than fifty years of exile and the soul-crushing violence of oppression. Despite their hardships, or, as they would say, because of them, they are two of the most joyful people on the planet.

In April 2015, Archbishop Tutu traveled to the Dalai Lama's home in Dharamsala, India, to celebrate His Holiness's eightieth birthday and to create what they hoped would be a gift for others. They looked back on their long lives to answer a single burning question: How do we find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering? They traded intimate stories, teased each other continually, and shared their spiritual practices. By the end of a week filled with laughter and punctuated with tears, these two global heroes had stared into the abyss and despair of our time and revealed how to live a life brimming with joy.

This book offers us a rare opportunity to experience their astonishing and

unprecedented week together, from the first embrace to the final good-bye.

We get to listen as they explore the Nature of True Joy and confront each of the Obstacles of Joy – from fear, stress and anger to grief, illness and death. They then offer us the Eight Pillars of Joy, which provide the foundation for lasting happiness. Throughout, they include stories, wisdom and science. Finally, they share their daily Joy Practices that anchor their own emotional and spiritual lives.

The Archbishop has never claimed sainthood and the Dalai Lama considers himself a simple monk. In this unique collaboration, they offer us the reflection of real lives filled with pain and turmoil in the midst of which they have been able to discover a level of peace, of courage and of joy to which we can all aspire in our own lives.”



**Church  
Directory Photos—June 28, 2017 from 2-9 pm.**

### **Church Directory Photos Coming in June**

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 28. That's the day that Lifetouch Church Directories will be coming to First Christian to take photos for a new directory. The previous one was done in 2011, 6 years ago.

This is a great opportunity to showcase our ministries and to reach out to the community. Photos will be taken of our members, but will also be open to those in the Freedom community. And, if you have family members that would like their photos taken, that can be

arranged as well. You can even have your pets in the photos.

You'll be hearing more in the months to come, but for now, mark your calendar.



### **FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY**

We are finally into spring/summer; a wonderful time of year. Let the flowers bloom!! If you have any information for the office or for me, please leave it on my desk or in my mailbox on Sunday mornings. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm.

Sincerely,

Patty Dumas





While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

Announcing the 12th Annual:

## First Christian Church of Freedom Children's Summer Theater Camp



### Moses and the Freedom Fanatics

Monday, July 24th - Friday, July 28th  
10 AM - 3 PM

At the Freedom Elementary School

This is a week that parents and children look forward to each Summer. The children will learn memorable songs, do some fun choreography, and take pride in presenting a play that will be enjoyed by the whole community. This year's play will be "Moses and the Freedom Fanatics," a comic retelling of the story of God's liberation of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt. Plagues of frogs, lice, flies, fleas, and more will descend upon the people of Egypt before Pharaoh will listen to Moses and let the people go.

The children should bring a lunch with beverage and an afternoon snack each day. Casual clothing is fine but please, no flip-flops or open-toed shoes. The cost is \$15 for the week. Scholarships are available. Please register by July 16th to ensure that there will be costumes, scripts, and supplies enough for everyone. Children must be at least 7 years of age.

Registration forms are available at The First Christian Church of Freedom at 12 Elm St., Freedom; phone # (603) 539-6484 or on the church website, [www.firstchristianchurchoffreedom.org](http://www.firstchristianchurchoffreedom.org). For further information contact Carolyn Olzerowicz at (603) 569-5711 or at [colzerowicz@gmail.com](mailto:colzerowicz@gmail.com).

#### Performances at the Freedom Elementary School

Friday, July 28th at 2:30 PM, &  
Sunday, July 30th at 10:00 AM  
At the FCCF Old Home Week  
Worship Service

#### Freedom Old Home Week Parade

Saturday, July 29th at 9:30 AM  
Camp participants will board the camp  
float at the Freedom Elementary School.

# Moses and the Freedom Fanatics

First Christian Church of Freedom  
Summer Theater Camp Registration Form  
July 24th-28th, 2017

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # during camp hours \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate contact in case of emergency \_\_\_\_\_ phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Food intolerances? \_\_\_\_\_

Medical conditions we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

Child's physician \_\_\_\_\_ phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance information \_\_\_\_\_

Do we have your permission to obtain medical treatment in case of an emergency? \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Clothing size (for costumes) \_\_\_\_\_

Do we have your permission to use camp photos that include your child on our Church Website?  
\_\_\_\_\_ In the local newspaper? \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

A rehearsal CD will be mailed to you as registration forms are received. Please learn the songs as best you can before camp begins. This way we will have more time to learn movement, block scenes and work on acting. For additional information call Carolyn Olzerowicz at (603) 569-5711 or email at [colzerowicz@gmail.com](mailto:colzerowicz@gmail.com). Church office phone # is (603) 539-6484.

Please return this form as soon as possible along with \$15 cash or  
check made out to FCCF, memo Theater Camp to:

**The First Christian Church of Freedom**  
**PO Box 502 Freedom, NH 03836**



# May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 9 am Deacons Meeting 10am Book Club	5	6 10 am Food Pantry
7 9 am Choir 10 am Sunday Service	8 9 am Ladies Guild	9 10 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir	10	11 10 am Book Club	12	13 10 am Food Pantry Annual <b>Women's Retreat</b> 8:45 am to 2 pm
14 9 am Choir 10am Sunday Service	15 9 am Ladies Guild	16 10 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir	17 7pm Council Meeting	18 10 am Book Club	19	20 10 am Food Pantry
21 9 am Choir 10am Sunday Service	22 9 am Ladies Guild	23 10 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir	24	25 10 am Book Club	26	27 10 am Food Pantry
28 9 am Choir 10am Sunday Service	29 9 am Ladies Guild	30 10 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir	31			

# June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 10 am Food Pantry
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25 9 am Choir 10 am Sunday Service	26 9 am Ladies Guild	27 10 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir	28 <b>Directory Photos 2-9 pm</b>	29 10 am Book Club	30	

**The First Christian Church of Freedom**

12 Elm Street, Freedom, NH 03836

603-539-6484

Email: Fcc1858@yahoo.com

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

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**Pastor Lawrence N. Wogman**