



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

Freedom Rings

Newsletter
September/October



Pastors Ramblings!

“Do more than belong: Participate.
Do more than care: Help.
Do more than believe: Practice.
Do more than be fair: Be Kind.
Do more than forgive: Forget.
Do more than dream: Work.”

I enjoy motivational slogans. This was written by William Arthur Ward, and you'll find more by checking out his website. The Bible is full of such thoughts: “Go and do likewise”, “Love your neighbor as yourself”,

“Do unto others ...” and so forth. Those kind of thoughts build our value system, and make us the kind of persons we are. There are also ‘bad’ witticisms, one’s that go against our better natures. We need to beware of these, for they turn us into people who are not kind and loving and understanding, who do not show forth the qualities that are marks of our Christian-ness, and which witness behavior that we know isn’t right. These times are filled with hate, revenge, and anger. We need to counter these with our commitment to Christ-like faith, which we find in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Our worship is committed to this Gospel. Each week we study and reflect on God’s Word – through the readings, the prayers, the hymns, and the sermon. We need to be reminded, we need to seek God’s counsel, and we need to verbalize our faith. Most hopefully we do it at home, but it helps to do it in the community setting with other believers. We continue to struggle in understanding why things happen, or how God is a part of this unfolding drama around us. Whether it be the happenings in the world, the events in our country, or the decisions made in our towns, we require the touchstones that God provides in the Word, or through the promptings of the Holy Spirit. And the life of Jesus Christ gives us the ultimate model of ‘how to act’. May God continue to bless us as we live out our lives in this beautiful place. Pastor Larry



President's Message

I hope all of you have enjoyed these last couple of months of summer and partook of the several activities that Freedom had to offer...OHW, Craft Fair, Pig Roast, even Lobster and concerts, too! There was certainly an array of choices and a lot of fun to be had...it's sad to see summer come to an end so soon.

Along with all of the above happenings in town, we also undertook a very special fundraising campaign for our (Freedom's) 150 year old church building that is in need of some rather hefty and expensive repairs. This particular fundraiser was different in that it was not just geared to church members but to the entire Freedom Community, as well. This church building has been a part of the fabric of Freedom lives for the past 150 years and all of us have a responsibility to help it to continue to be a vibrant staple in town for the next 150 years....and, Boy...did ALL OF YOU respond beyond our wildest expectations!!!

We had a small committee and I for one, had no idea of where to start or how to organize such a large fundraiser and if it had not been for the expertise and organizational skills of Sylvia Manley (who has over the years helped run other big fundraisers) we would not have had such a wonderful success. We all learned a great deal from her...from posters, paper ads, letters and the constant push to get it

out to the entire Freedom community...as you can all attest to with the deluge of emails you all received over these past 6 weeks! Eventually....it all came together... and we enjoyed a rather different type of concert by The Modernistics, but it was fun....I couldn't help notice the reactions of a couple of young boys who came with their parents...they would nudge each other and laugh a little and their mother said they learned how shows "way back when" looked like...they had never seen tap dancers before....it was eye opening!

The Campaign fundraiser continues to receive donations, as I speak, and to ALL who have donated...even if it was just to buy a ticket to the concert, we cannot thank you enough. To those who hung posters, placed ads and volunteered in so many ways...thank you! I know that some of you are still not aware of how much we have raised, and I don't want to keep you in suspense, but I just want you all to know that donations to the Capital Campaign Fund will need to continue throughout the years if we wish to maintain our vibrant and beautiful ...First Christian Church of Freedom. We need to remember to reach out beyond the church community....our towns people stepped up in a big way as they realized that this historic building belongs to us ALL.

A little drum roll please.....amount as of Aug. 29 is.....**\$23,335.00.**

We are now coming in to another busy time of the year, beautiful foliage, start of school, followed by the holidays and, of course,... winter. New activities will be planned, so keep alert to new postings as the weeks pass.

Remember to reach out to those who are lonely or depressed, and those less fortunate than yourself, as He so taught us.

"Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."
Princess Diana

See you around town,
Sandy Boyle

plan pray give build

To everyone who made a contribution of time, energy, effort, financial support, and commitment, the Capital Improvement Committee says **"THANK YOU!"**

The fundraiser for the church building was a huge success and the appreciation to all is legion. The fundraising endeavors raised \$23,000. There were no expenses to the church. It could not have happened without community support, area support, and of course church members. Our "lady with a steeple" will remain a vital and vibrant part of Freedom.....150 years strong!

Our humble thanks and gratitude
Capital Improvement Committee

UNDERWRITERS, SPONSORS, DONORS

Allison, Mary Lee
Amico, Margie
Anonymous
Avery, David, Kathleen
Barnicle, Gerald
Blake, Jim/Judy
Bloomquist, Carl
Bouve, Sylvia
Boyle, Neal/Sandy
Chapman, Nadine
Cunio, Carol McIntire
Dumas, Ken/Patty
Essex, Bill/Nancy
Fuller, Dallas/Judy
Gunkel, Karl/Eileen
Harris, Don/Cheryl
Hogan, John/Mary Ann
Iselborn, Dr. Charles and Linda
Kendall, Lucy
Knight, Arlene
Ladies Guild

Lawley, Gail
MacLeod, Donald/Myrtle
Manley, John/Sylvia
Marchand, Mary/Francis
Marks, Ramon/Susan
McConkey & Associates
McEvoy, Barbara
McKinley, Mark/Jerildine
Meserve, David
Michaels, Joseph/Jan
Middleton, Jack
Millette, Roland/Sarah Scales
Morris, Gale
Packard, Wendell/Terry
Plunges, Petula
Potter, Harry/Sharon
Robertson, Dean/Judy
Rollins, Lu Ann/Barry
Seabury, Nancy (Freedom Charitable Foundation)
Second Glance Salon
Smart, Robert/Ruth
Smith, Janet A.
Spear, Daniel/Alice
Spodick, Stephen/Kathleen
Stoddard, Lauren
Thompson, George
Thomson, Maynard/Laura
Tracey, Claire/Jim
Tung Trust, Dr. Paul/Donna
Wogman, Reverend Lawrence/Nancy
*Additional names have been added since program print deadline. We thank everyone!

SPECIAL THANKS

Patty Dumas, First Christian Church
Secretary
In-Kind Donors who give of time, effort and energy each week to First Christian Church.
Freedom Village Store
Old Home Week

EVENT VOLUNTEERS - THANK YOU!

Blake, Judy
Boyle, Neal
Cunio, Carol McIntire
Gauley, Hazel
Granahan, Cindy
Manley, John

McKinley, Mark
Olzewski, Karen
Rivera, Lisa (Custodian, Freedom Elementary
School)
Rollins, Barry
Thompson, George
Wogman, Nancy



ADVERTISING SPONSORS - THANK YOU!

McConkey & Associates, Mark McConkey
Second Glance Salon, Jennifer Brown
Desiree Fenderson
Waddell & Reed, Margie Amico

**THANK YOU FOR A
SUCCESSFUL EVENT!**



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

Church Directory Update

Thanks to all who participated in the Church Directory project. 75% of our membership had their pictures taken and a few others submitted photos. The directories are now being proofed and will soon be printed and then distributed to all who had their pictures taken or submitted photos. Check your mailboxes located just outside of the church office. Those will be in the mailboxes sometime in September, based on when we receive the directories from Lifetouch.



Christian Education

The committee met in August to firm up plans for the Fall. At this point in time, we will be focusing on Adult Education. Our Book Study and our Bible Study are weekly programs that attract about 20 people and that is good!

For children, we will continue to have the Christmas pageant and the Music Camp. We will not, however, be offering weekly Sunday School. We have done that for the past five years and beyond, but we simply do not have

children who attend on a regular basis and to plan on a weekly basis is simply not feasible. We encourage you to invite families to our church as they are always welcome. This certainly is a program that can be reinstated at any time.



Another on again off again month. Thanks to Doris and Paul for doing the heavy lifting, and to all the great volunteers. We served an average of 1500-2000 meals for the month and served about 30 families, many with numerous persons in the family unit. Getting meat still is an issue and where we spend the most money of all the food stuffs we handle. We will be getting our annual inspection soon and expect that, as in the past, we will get sterling reviews. We continue to thank you for your support and help. This continues to be an important ministry of the church.

Bob Bossdorf, Co-director .



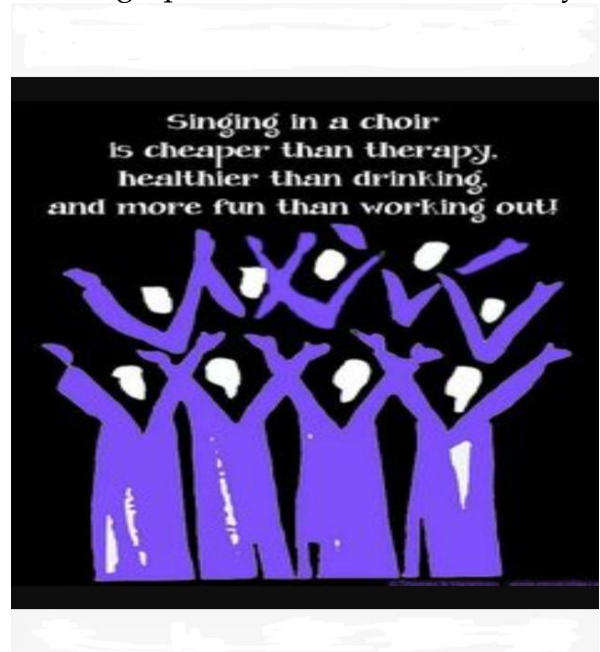
PASTORAL VISITS

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



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!

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

19 children participated in the Summer Musical Theater Camp. From what parents and grandparents have been telling me I believe that it was a rewarding and fun week for everyone involved. I love to watch as the children's individual personalities unfold and grow over the week and from year to year. Our Old Home Week Worship Service and play performance at the Freedom Elementary School brought out over 200 people to worship and enjoy the event. Thank you to the many people who helped make our camp and worship service possible.

We are always ready to welcome new singers to our choir. If you would like to sing with us you can simply show up at a rehearsal or contact me, Carolyn Olzerowicz, at (603) 569-5711 or at colzerowicz@gmail.com. Weekly rehearsals will resume on Tuesday, September 12th at 7 PM at the church.

14 Health Benefits of Singing



1. Reduces stress
2. Improves mood
3. Lowers blood pressure
4. Improves breathing
5. Reduces perceived pain
6. Boosts immune system
7. Improves sense of rhythm
8. Promotes learning in children
9. Forges comforting memories
10. Promotes communal bonding
11. Provides comfort
12. Motivates
13. Empowers people
14. Promotes well-being



Louise Anderson, Nathaniel & Carolyn Anderson, Kathy Avery, Tarryn Balch, Matt Barnicle, Phil Beckwith, Gail Bizer, Jim Blake, Harold Boynton, Kevin Boynton, Harold Brown Jr., Kathy Brownrigg, Eric Chamberlain, Carolyn Clancy, Celia Costa, Rebecca Crawford & Family, Greg, Dayton, Connie Dockham, Sally Downey, David Eldridge, Robert Elliott, Delores Ellis, Joanne Fuller, Robyn Gallagher, Jane Garnsey, Michael Gaudette's sister-in-law, Cynthia Granahan, Karen Hopkins, Glenn Hormell, Velma Hormell, Rob Hyam, Lucy Kendall, Elmer Killam, Pauline Leclerc, Gayle Lee, Jean Marshall, Mary Mayhew, Theresa Maura, Donald McCauley, Carol Melvidas, Judy Michaels, Bill Nason, Peter Nichols, Pat & Roger Olson, Emily Plunges, DeMott Post, Harry Potter, Jeannie Rogers, Kim Rose, Marci Sharp, Kathleen Sherin, Marcus Sims, Barrie Stokes, 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.



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 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



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.



TREASURER'S REPORT

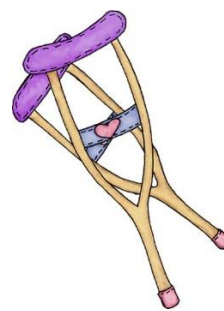
Church expenses are \$4,100 higher than income through August 24, 2017 due primarily to lagging 2017 pledge income. The Church is beginning the budget process for 2018. Parsonage repairs are expected to be completed by September 1st. Repairs should be completed on budget. A new tenant should be moving in September 2017 once paperwork is complete. Church investments continue to perform well and are secure at the custodians. 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, First Christian Church of Freedom



OFFERING COUNTERS

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Thank you to all who worked so tirelessly to make the August 11th Modernistics evening such a success. It has helped to boost the capital funds for the improvement of the church. The accounting for the function is just about complete, and we show \$17,520.00 collected thus far. It is expected to top \$20,000 once all the proceeds are collected and posted. Certainly a great job all around. As of August 15, 2017, we have collected \$39,666 in pledge and regular contributions. This is about \$2500 less than the same time period last year. However, loose plate offerings are up from last year for the same time period. We have collected \$4279, whereas we only had \$3468 last year during the same time period. Of note is also the Parsonage account, which is down about \$2000 for the same time period last year. This is due to the vacancies and subsequent loss of revenue during this time period. The capital fund is about double what it was last year at this juncture. We have collected \$8365. Many contributions made in memory of loved ones have been designated for this fund, which explains its rise over the same time period last year. None of the \$8365 amount includes collections from the August 11th event. This fund will rise significantly once the money from the Modernistics concert is all collected and posted. Overall the revenue this year is approximately \$19,000 higher than the same time period last year. Carol Porter



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	



FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY FALL IN NEW ENGLAND; THE MOST BEAUTIFUL TIME OF YEAR!

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



Epitaph (in a cemetery in England)

**"Remember man, as you walk by,
As you are now, so once was I,
As I am now, so shall you be,
Remember this and follow me."**

**To which someone replied by writing it on
the tombstone:**

**"To follow you I'll not consent,
Until I know which way you went."**

SEPTEMBER 2017

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

OCTOBER 2017

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

The First Christian Church of Freedom

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603-539-6484

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www.FirstChristianChurchofFreedom.org

Like us on Facebook!

Pastor Lawrence N. Wogman