



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

Freedom Rings

Newsletter
May/June, 2018



Pastors Corner

As we were driving north from Connecticut with my granddaughters, it wasn't long before the familiar strains of "when are we going to get there" came forth. I was wondering that myself. The trip seems to get longer and longer, even though I know the distance is the same. We may have the same thoughts about the winter and the cold. It seems as though we should be experiencing warm temperatures by now. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the end of April, we will. While we're heading south for a little vacation time, I'm looking forward to some heat and sunshine.

This winter has been a bit different. A couple of our families had to stay north for health reasons. A few of our members have moved to smaller apartments in communities a distance from here. And of the regular 'snow birds', I think some are staying longer down south because of the weather. In any case, our congregation is in the Easter season, celebrating the Risen Christ as we look forward to signs of new life among us. Someone has said that the only constant in life 'is change'. As we grow older, we come to realize that every day brings new challenges.

There are always situations we hadn't planned on, contact with people we didn't anticipate, and even health concerns that 'pop up'. Hopefully, there's one constant in all of that – our faith in a loving and forgiving God. God knows what we're going through, and even in the most trying of circumstances, God is there to comfort, guide, and provide for us. It is reassuring to know that on the most calm day, as well as the most chaotic of times, God will respond with what we need. Our attitude, then, needs to be acceptance, a willingness to do what is required, and gratefulness at God's presence.

We still don't know when we'll get there, only that we will. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Larry



Judy and I had a great time in Florida this past winter. Her injury to her back has healed and she is doing all her chores. Judy would like to thank everyone for all the cards and well wishes. We have only been home two weeks and Patty, our church secretary announced it was time for the next newsletter. So I called Gale Morris, church Vice President, who has been filling in for me and asked her to give me some suggestions for the newsletter. I have been in touch with her, but not on a daily basis. So here is her suggestion for the newsletter:

“In May and June we celebrate the leaders of traditional family life in Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. But there are many sorts of “families” that help each other through the good and the challenging times of life. Our church is a family, and in the coming months there are several events offered in celebrating that fact.

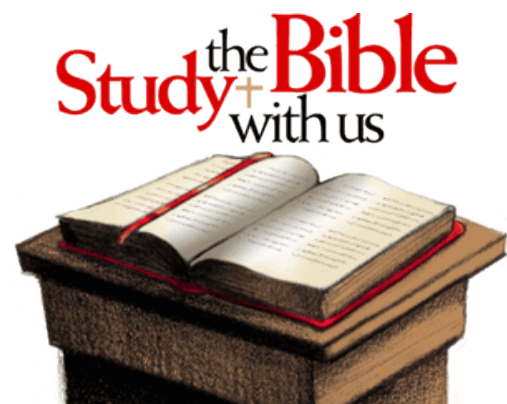
In May, there is a Women’s Day Retreat program at Calumet on Saturday, May 5. On the 9th of May, Lucy Kendall will be heading up a team that will prepare and serve a delicious chicken dinner at the town hall for the Freedom Community Club. The proceeds of this dinner will go to the church! On the 12th of May, you can dine together at Jake’s before attending a concert at Eaton’s Little White Church on Crystal Lake. This is a fund raiser for the Green Mountain Conservation’s efforts to complete their building on Huntress Bridge Road.

Pentecost, May 20th, is the Sunday in May that we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Christian family. This is one of the three most sacred days in the Christian calendar.

Memorial Day officially kicks off the summer season, but also allows us to remember all those members of families who served our country, who stood in harm’s way to protect our democratic freedom.

In June, there will be a chance on the 10th during coffee hour to hear of ways we might help the church with some time and talent in areas that need volunteers. This is a fun way to serve the church. In early June of 1858 the first members of this church signed the charter declaring their intent to be a non-denominational Christian congregation, dedicated to insuring that God’s Word would be part of daily life in the families of Freedom. It’s a good June date 160 years later to enjoy the fellowship of coffee hour and perhaps offer a few hours of time and talent to the FCCOF family. Then Ducky Day will be upon us, when the village fills with folks ready to buy tee shirts and baked goods and watch the toy ducks go over the mill falls. In between these events are the two months of Sundays to be spent together with prayer, the Word, music, fellowship and the comforts of life within a loving and compassionate church family. Please be with us, both to serve and to celebrate.”

Many thanks to Gale for her kind thoughts.
Dean Robertson, See you in Church



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



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.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Church expenses are \$7,600 higher than income through April 11, 2018. This is about \$700 worse than last month. Pledge giving continues to be the reason for the shortfall continuing a pattern that began last year. Council continues to consider ways to address the issue.

The investment portfolio continues to experience volatility in 2018. A good January was followed by a correction in February with March showing a smaller retrenchment than February. The first few weeks of April have continued the volatility with large losses early followed by gains in the last week resulting in a slight gain for April, thus far. The Church recognizes the nature of the capital markets and invests accordingly. The Church has adequate liquidity to meet its obligations and short term requirements.

Investments are held at discount brokerage custodians 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 Olzerowicz



Women's Retreat at Camp Calumet *"Tell me the Story"*

Saturday, May 5th from 9 am to 5 pm

The Cost is \$15 (check made out to Camp Calumet)

Bring your Bible. Contact is Karen Hopkins at Nativity Lutheran



Children's Summer Theater Camp

The funds raised from the St. Patrick's luncheon will be used to supplement church funds and registration fees collected for the operation of the annual First Christian Church of Freedom Children's Summer Theater Camp. The camp is open to all children and traditionally attracts about 20 children ages 8-high school age. The charge is only \$15/child for the entire week of camp. It will be held from July 30th-August 3rd. The children will spend the week acting, singing, and dancing. There will also be plenty of time for crafts and play as well. By Friday afternoon they will be ready to perform this year's play. And on Sunday, they will again

perform the play for the First Christian Church of Freedom worship service.

Decorations and food will be funded by Thrivent Financial. All money raised that day will go to the music camp expenses.

This camp is a wonderful way to engage children from the community, many of who have never attended Sunday School or Church.

Nancy Wogman

The Children's Summer Music Camp will be performing "Life of the Party" on Friday, August 3rd at 2:30 PM and at the Old Home Week worship service on Sunday, August 5th at 10 AM. I will be sending out information and registration forms by the end of next week. If you know of a child who is at least 7 years old and might be interested in attending the camp let me know. I'll include them on the mailing list.

Carolyn Olzerowicz



Nathaniel & Carolyn Anderson

Kathy Avery

Tarryn Balch

Gerry Barnicle

Phil Beckwith

Charlie Bojus

Nancy Bossi

Ed Boyer

Chris Boynton

Harold Boynton

Kevin Boynton

Harold Brown Jr.

Kathy Brownrigg

George Carbone

Virginia Casey

Christie Catino

Eric Chamberlain

Carolyn Clancy

Celia Costa

Rebecca Crawford & Family

Cynthia Granahan

John Hogan

Karen Hopkins

Glenn Hormell

Velma Hormell

Rob Hyam

Elmer Killam

Fred Kistler

Harold Libby, Sr.,

Jean Marshall

Mary Mayhew

Theresa Maura

Carol Melvidas

Judy Michaels

Gay Mocer

Peg Nichols

Peter Nichols

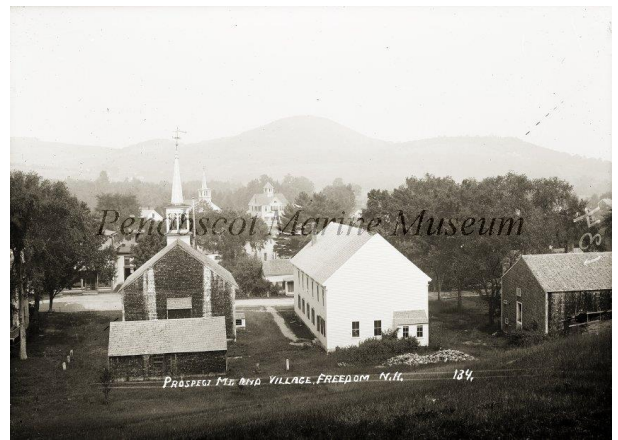
Bobby Nowosielski

Greg, Dayton	Pat & Roger Olson
Eric DeCof	Emily Plunges
Lorelei DeNisco	DeMott Post
Connie Dockham	Brooke Rines
Sally Downey	Judy Robertson
Patty Dumas	Jeannie Rogers
David Eldridge	Kim Rose
Delores Ellis	Marci Sharp
Bonnie Engroff	Sally & Bill Stoops
Joanne Fuller	Mike Sudak
John Gallagher	Steve Tanis
Jane Garnsey	Cheryl Vitum
Joy Anna Winslow	
and all our country's military personnel and their families	



The members of the First Christian Church of Freedom Ladies Guild are pictured with a few of the 300 baby quilts that they donate yearly to newborn babies at Memorial Hospital in North Conway, NH. This Action Team utilized the \$250 grant from Thrivent Financial to purchase fabric for these quilts. Each quilt costs about \$12 to make, so we are grateful to Thrivent Financial for this support. We meet weekly from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. to work on these quilts. In addition to making quilts, the group enjoys good fellowship and support from members. Thanks goes to Claire Tracey, a Thrivent member who applied for the grant. Behind the group is this year's raffle quilt. Tickets are available from members.

A Glimpse of the Past



A rare early photo of the back of the church shows a small barn which was used to tie up the horses of the congregants during worship. If you're curious to know if there were facilities in the church, be assured that there was a privy at the rear of the Town Hall next door which could be used if necessary. Dates of this picture are uncertain, but we know the little barn was torn down by 1930.

The photo of the two buildings from the front was taken around 1907. The horse barn is visible between the two buildings if you look carefully. The Merrow house to the north was torn down in the 1950s, but the barn remains and is now an art gallery.

These pictures will be included in the Heritage Commission application to list the First Christian Church on the State of N.H. Register of Historic Places. An inventory done in 1989 is being rewritten as it must be updated every 10 years.

Peg Scully

Photos courtesy of Alan Fall



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 the Sheriff directly at 539-2284.



HELP WANTED

The finance team is looking for someone who will lead an ad-hoc committee to review the church insurance needs. This person would look at our current policies and make recommendations to the finance committee as to whether we need to make any changes. We have used the same company for several years and wonder whether we are getting the best value and service.

Please contact any member of the finance committee if interested.

Paul Olzerowicz paul@sentinelfnl.com
 Ellie Bossdorf ebossoft@yahoo.com
 Barbara Buffery bryerbuff@aol.com
 Thanks, Ellie Bossdorf



Thanks to all who supported the **St. Patrick's Day Luncheon**. Decorations were beautiful thanks to Karen Olzewski. And thanks to Mark McKinley for helping to set up. Nancy Wogman, Carol Cunio and Norma Johnson helped to serve. And a special thanks to Thrivent Financial for the \$250 grant. As a result of that support, we realized \$416 for our summer music camp! So—we enjoyed great food and wonderful fellowship while supporting a good cause.



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY

The First Christian Church of Freedom has medical equipment available. If you have such a need, please contact George Thompson at 539-4601

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

Thank you to the Nason Family for their very generous donation of the following equipment: Slide Board (wheel chair to car), Step Stool, Transporter Chair, Bed Rails, Bike Pedal on Stand, Air Mattress w/pump

The following exercise equipment was also donated by the Nason Family:
Trapeze and Bike Pedal on Stand



FOOD PANTRY

We continue to be active in serving the needs of the three surrounding communities. Doris has procured assistance from each of the towns served and the need certainly continues. We will be having our annual meeting of the food pantry board after food pantry (about 12) on May 12. The volunteers continue to show up and do a great job; numbers of families has been all over the place but we continue to serve in the vicinity of 2000 meals a month. I am still plugging the numbers in and wrestling with the computer, Dallas takes care of USDA, Nancy Bossi runs the books and Doris and Paul and others do the heavy lifting. We are also beginning to develop a procedure manual for those who will follow us. Come volunteer. We also got a very nice financial gift from the Masonic Lodge. And thanks to all for your support.

Bob Bossdorf, Co-Director



The Freedom Food Pantry needs volunteers to do some heavy lifting. We get a food delivery once a month and don't have enough people to load and unload the truck. If you are able to help out, please contact Doris Sirois at 539-1339. Thank you.



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 received the new catalog for 2018. 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.



God has called us to be good stewards of the gifts He has given us. These gifts include our talents, time and monetary gifts. The congregation has been very generous in giving these gifts.

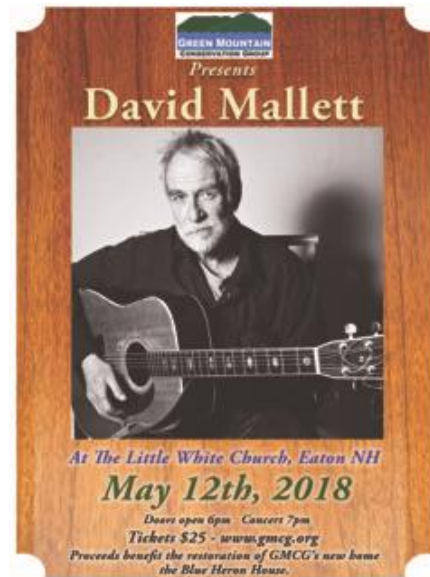
When the budget was set for 2018 we assumed that our pledged gifts and loose offering would meet our operating fund needs for the year. We rely on 90% of our income to come in through these two items. This has not happened. The trend over the past few months has put us in a deficit position. If this continues, we are looking at a possible deficit between \$5000-\$6000. **What can we do about this as a congregation?** The finance team is open to any suggestions. One thing we can do is pray about it because we know "the Lord does provide".

Another suggestion is that if 50 people could give an extra \$100 over the next 40 weeks we would be close to reaching our goal. Also, you might consider looking at your pledge for the year and decide if you can afford to increase that amount for the remainder of the year. If so let us know. We all depend on keeping the operating fund income in a positive position.

One other note, is that if you give a gift to the Capital Fund it does not affect the operating Fund. The operating fund is the focus of the day to day expenses of the church.

If you decide to give a gift please label it "Spring Appeal" so we can keep track of it. Thank you for your consideration.

Ellie Bossdorf, Chair: Finance Team



First Christian Fellowship Event on May 12 at the Little White Church in Eaton

A group of us will be attending the David Mallett Concert to Benefit Blue Heron House Restoration, the new headquarters of Green Mountain Conservation Group.

David Mallett is an American folk singer songwriter hailing from Maine. In a career spanning four decades, he has recorded 14 albums, had several hundred covers of his songs, including the American folk classic Garden Song [Inch by Inch, Row by Row] and performed in clubs, concert halls and festivals across the US, Canada and Europe. He has appeared on numerous broadcasts, including National Public Radio's A Prairie Home Companion. Known for his carefully written, poetic offerings, his body of work has provided material for an eclectic list of artists that includes Alison Krauss, Pete Seeger, Hal Ketchum, Emmylou Harris, John Denver and the Muppets.

Doors will open at 6pm and concert will start at 7pm. Following the concert there will be a reception in the church basement for folks to mingle, purchase David Mallett's music, and learn about GMC.

Tickets are \$25/person and can be purchased after church. We are also planning on going to dinner beforehand at a restaurant to be designated. So please sign up and get your tickets.



FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY



Last weekend was a disaster. My husband and I were driving to the hospital (I needed some tests) and a Kamikaze turkey flew into our car and wiped out our driver side window. We were fine, but, sad to say, the turkey was not. Then, when we got to the hospital, no one knew where to send us. It took an hour to direct us to the right department. But, we made it home safely! Whew!!

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

Sincerely, Patty Dumas



A bright 8-year-old child was being tested by the Speech Teacher and was given analogies and asked to describe the following differences: Speech Teacher: "What's the difference between an oak tree and a Christmas tree?" Child: "One has leaves and the other has needles." Teacher: "Very good! What's the difference between a saucer and a plate?" Child: "One flies and the other doesn't."

May 2018

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

June 2018

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	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10am Book Club		10 am Food Pantry
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10 am Book Club		10 am Food Pantry
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9 am Choir Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:00 am Bible Study at Calumet 7 pm Choir Rehearsal		10 am Book Club		10 am Food Pantry

The First Christian Church of Freedom

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www.FirstChristianChurchofFreedom.org

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Pastor Lawrence N. Wogman