



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

Freedom Rings

Newsletter
July/August, 2018



Pastor's

Corner

Summer Revisited

Everyone remembers the 'holidays' of the past when families may have gathered for dinners at Thanksgiving or exchanges of presents on Christmas. I imagine, in the same way, we remember summers of the past when we went on vacations or trips to the beach or the mountains or some other desirable destination. Living in the picturesque area of New Hampshire, most of us don't have to travel. It's all right here. And with many of us, we look forward to having relatives or friends visit us, so we have to practice our hospitality skills – have the place presentable, plan out snacks or meals, make people feel at home, etc.

That's not any different than what we practice at church – hospitality. Summer is our 'busy' season at First Christian. It's not unusual to have 2 or 3 families visiting us most Sundays, and, even though they may have no intention of joining our fellowship, they are still our guests. We want them to feel comfortable among us. How can we best accomplish this? Chances are high that they have been here before, especially if they have a cottage in the area. If they haven't, it helps to greet them with a handshake and smile. If they need a bulletin or hymnal, make sure they have access to one. We don't have convenient restrooms, so people need to be told where they are,

maybe even escort them. We also need to be sensitive to 'why they're coming to church'. It may just be their practice, but sometimes people come because of a need – a recent loss, loneliness, fear, or a questioning of their faith. As Christians we seek to reach out to others with the 'good news of Jesus Christ'. One famous churchperson suggested "using words if necessary". Sometimes just a friendly attitude is enough.

So, during these summer months let's be aware of strangers in our midst, and our Christian obligation to be 'ambassadors of Christ', our calling to witness the love of God, and our challenge to serve and treat others as Jesus has done to us. Express your faith!

See you in church. Pastor Larry



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to summer. I hope everyone is enjoying this weather as much as I am. As usual, our First Christian Church of Freedom is very busy. Many thanks to Lucy Kendall and her committee for organizing the fund raiser for the Community Club dinner. Her committee prepared and served a stuffed chicken dinner to 80 people and the church realized about \$1000. Thanks to the committee. This past month Gale Morris worked on setting up a time and talent display after church. Stations were manned by church members talking about how easy it is to make coffee to

have after church, ushering, joining the choir, membership, alter flowers and serving light snacks after church. We also had a table set up about the church history. Thanks to Gale, she is always thinking about ways to serve.

Trustee, Charlie Bojus, had the annual spring cleanup of our grounds. Thanks to those who helped, even the black flies were there.

I hope everyone reads the reports from the treasurer, financial secretary and the finance committee elsewhere in this newsletter. Expenses are running about \$9000 higher than our income through June. Last month in the newsletter, we asked for a Spring Appeal for each family to send an extra \$100 to the church if they could. Thanks to the few who helped. The church budget could use more help to reduce the \$9000.

Peg Scully has been working on getting our church listed on the New Hampshire Register of Historic Places. As president, I signed the letter of consent to be acted on at the July meeting of the State Historic Council. Again, thank you to Peg for doing all the work and putting in the time to get our church listed on the New Hampshire State Register. If we get approved, we will have a plaque on the outside on the church.

The trustees have planned for the new furnaces and oil tanks to be installed at the end of July. Next, they are solving the water problem on the roof where the choir stores their robes. This will be done in the fall. Upcoming events are the Food Sale at Rubber Ducky Day, Strawberry Festival, Church Barbeque at the Craft Fair, Old Home Week Breakfast, Children's Play during Old Home Week, Church Picnic and Thanksgiving Dinner. Lots going on and time to step up and help where you are able.

See you in church,
Dean Robertson, President



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.

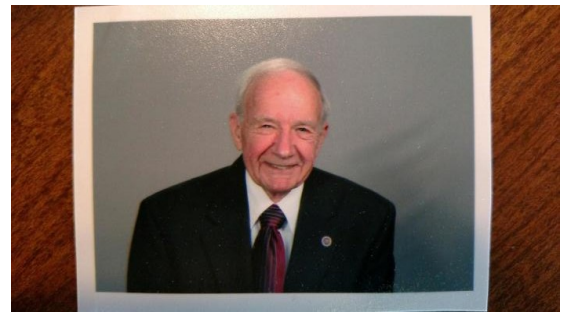
"B. I. B. L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!"

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.



We were reminded that eternal life is not lived out in this setting with the passing of George Thompson. George was a long-time member of First Christian, and has a history of participation within our community. Those who die in the Lord receive the comforting gift of salvation in the everlasting arms of a loving God. May he rest in peace.



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 \$9,400 higher than income through June 13, 2018. Pledge income continues to be weak. Some members have responded to the \$100 per family Spring Appeal. Thank you for your support and keep it coming. We have raised \$400 of our \$5,000 goal. There were no unbudgeted expenses occurring since the last report in April 2018. Investment portfolio returns have been volatile in 2018. Returns through May 2018 were 1.2%. Volatility will continue to put pressure on these returns which is the nature of investing in the stock market. The Church maintains adequate liquidity to meet its obligations and short term cash requirements. Investments are held at discount brokerage custodians, Vanguard and TD Ameritrade.

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

Paul Olzerowicz, Treasurer



Nathaniel & Carolyn Anderson	Kathy Avery
Tarryn Balch	Gerry Barnicle
Phil Beckwith	Charlie Bojus
Nancy Bossi	Ed Boyer
Chris, Harold & Kevin Boynton	Harold Brown, Jr.
Kathy Brownrigg	George Carbone
Virginia Casey	Christie Catino
Eric Chamberlain	Carolyn Clancy
Celia Costa	Rebecca Crawford & Family
Greg Dayton	Eric DeCof
Lorelei DeNisco	Connie Dockham
Sally Downey	David Eldridge
Delores Ellis	Bonnie Engroff
Joanne Fuller	John Gallagher
Jane Garnsey	Cynthia Granahan
John Hogan	Karen Hopkins
Glenn & Velma Hormell	Rob Hyam
Elmer Killam	Fred Kistler
Harold Libby, Sr.	Jean Marshall
Mary Mayhew	Bill McIntire, Jr.
Carol Melvidas	Judy Michaels
Gay Mocer	Cindy Nason
Peg & Peter Nichols	Pat & Roger Olson
Emily Plunges	DeMott Post
Jeannie Rogers	Brooke Rines
Kim Rose	Nancy Seabury
Marci Sharp	Kathleen Sherin
Sally & Bill Stoops	Laureen Strauch
Mike Sudak	Jim Tracey
Rosemary Traveis	Cheryl Vitum
Joy Anna Winslow	

and all our country's military personnel and their families.



LADIES GUILD

The Ladies Guild will have quilts and crafts on sale in the Church during Rubber Ducky Day, June 30th and also during Old Home Week Parade day, August 4, 2018. The Guild will also have a table at the Community Club Sale at Freedom Elementary School, Friday, August 10, 2018.

The queen-sized 91" x 106" raffle quilt, will be on display and tickets may be purchased at each venue.

Many new items will be featured at each sale as well as quilts; 100% cotton microwaveable potato baking bags and microwave bowl holders, new table runners, adult clothing protectors, aprons, etc.

You will find it easier and more convenient to make your purchases as cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted at each sale.

Myrtle MacLeod, Guild Secretary



The committee met on May 9th to review applications/choose recipients for 2018.

The following students were chosen: Miranda Cottrell, Brenda Desharnais, Shelby Packard, and Meredith Paulding. Pastor Larry and Paul Olzerowicz attended Awards Night at Kennett to present the letters from the church to Brenda and Shelby. Miranda and Meredith are presently attending college, so their notification was sent by mail after Awards Night.

Members of this year's committee were Charlie Bojus, Velma Hormell, Paul Olzerowicz, Dean Robertson, George Thompson, and Pr. Larry.

I have sent the 2017 plaque to be engraved in Laconia. It should be returned shortly.

Jane Hartnett



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Join us on July 15 following the worship service for a strawberry festival to support our summer Music Theater Camp. In lieu of the usual coffee hour, there will be strawberry shortcake. A \$5/person or \$15/family

donation is suggested. The proceeds from the festival will benefit the summer Music Theater Camp that is held during Freedom Old Home Week and is open to children in the community. Thrivent Financial has provided funding for the festival. So-join your friends after church for the festivities. It's a time to relax, meet friends, celebrate summer and support a good cause.



The annual First Christian Church of Freedom Children's Summer Theater Camp will be held from July 30th-August 3rd. The camp is open to all children and traditionally attracts about 20 children age 8-high school. The charge is only \$15/child for the entire week.

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, "Life of the Party" on August 3rd at 2:30 PM and at the Old Home Week worship service on Sunday, August 5th at 10 AM, at Freedom Elementary School.

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



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.



The **State Historical Resources Council** will meet on July 20 to consider approving the Church for listing on the State Register of Historic Places. Say a little prayer that this is approved. Listing enables us to apply for certain grants and waivers and can be very helpful in maintaining and improving important historical buildings.

If you are able to help out, please contact Doris Sirois at 539-1339. Thank you.



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY

The First Christian Church of Freedom has medical equipment available. If you have such a need, please contact the office or Henry Granahan at 539-5295.

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



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.



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



The Church Council, Finance Committee and Treasurer have agreed that it is important that church members and friends be kept informed of the Church's financial status. Beginning sometime last year and until the present, weekly giving has fallen short of what we need to cover the budget. This is the budget that was approved by church members at the annual meeting in December of 2017. Weekly giving pays "ongoing" expenses to run the church worship services and office. By sharing this information with you we hope to spark conversations among us on how giving can be increased.

Beginning July 8 the church bulletin will include the following information.

	2018 <u>Last week</u>	2018 <u>Year to Date</u>
Weekly Target	\$1,474.60	\$38,339.50
Actual Weekly collection	\$1,074.60	\$28,839.50
Over target (Short of the target)	(\$400.00)	(\$9,500.00)

If you have already given to the 2018 Spring Appeal made by the Finance Committee chairman, Ellie Bossdorf, last month, thank you. Please prayerfully consider continuing that support.

2018 spending thus far has no spending surprises other than the unexpected replacement of the church furnace blower in February 2018.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to speak with me.



JULY 20TH - TORME' SINGS TORME'

Nationally recognized singer-songwriter, Steve March-Torme' will croon a tribute to the life and music of the famous father, Mel Torme'. He will be accompanied by the ten-member Clayton Poole Orchestra composed of professional musicians from across the country. Together, under the direction of Poole, they will entertain you with a variety of jazz and big band renditions. March-Torme' tours worldwide as a singer/entertainer. He has performed in 46 of the 50 states, in addition to concerts in Australia, Canada, Japan, Brazil, London and Italy.

If you are interested in going to the concert, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Room.



OLD HOME WEEK SCHEDULE



Friday, Aug. 3, 2:30 pm Children's Summer Theater Performance, Dress Rehearsal "Life of the Party", at Freedom Elementary.



Saturday, Aug. 4, 9 am - 1 pm Ladies Guild Quilts & Crafts at Freedom Elementary and Church Barbeque.



Sunday, Aug. 5, 8 - 9:30 am Continental Breakfast at the Town Hall sponsored by First Christian Church



Sunday, Aug. 5, 10 am
Welcome Home Church Service and Children's Summer Theater Camp Performance, "Life of the Party", at Freedom Elementary



Sunday, Aug. 5, 1 pm at First Christian Church



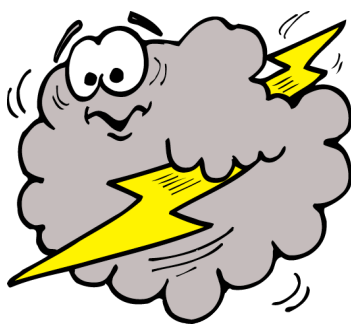
Sunday, Aug. 12, 10 am
Old Home Week Closing Service at First Christian Church



FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

Have a happy and safe summer!

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



When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's b been taking my picture!"

July 2018

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

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			10 Music Camp	10 Music Camp	2:30 Summer Theater Performance	10 am Food Pantry
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8am Continental Breakfast, 10am Sunday Service & Summer Theater Performance 1pm Blessing of the Animals	9 am Ladies Guild	10:30 am Bible Study at Calumet			9am Ladies Guild Crafts Church BBQ	10 am Food Pantry
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am Old Home Closing Service	9 am Ladies Guild	10:30 am Bible Study at Calumet				10 am Food Pantry
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:30 am Bible Study at Calumet				10 am Food Pantry
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday Service 10 am	9 am Ladies Guild	10:30 am Bible Study at Calumet				

The First Christian Church of Freedom

12 Elm Street, Freedom, NH 03836

603-539-6484

Email: Fcc1858@yahoo.com

www.FirstChristianChurchofFreedom.org

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Pastor Lawrence N. Wogman