



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

# Freedom Rings

May/June  
2022



## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

*All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small  
All things wise and wonderful  
'Twas God that made them all*

This is my second Spring here with the First Christian Church. I love being in the village where one can step out the door and in every direction find a good road for walking and companions for the way.

Most Mondays, at midday, I walk with neighbors, up one hill or another, or on the flat, toward Loon Lake. It is lovely here in every season, but Spring has its own special charms, one of which presented itself early this week.

Walking on Monday from the church and up Old Portland Road, here they came - already and too soon - BLACKFLIES! Aren't they supposed to show up in mid-May? (Where I hale from over in Maine, we refer to them as our unofficial State Bird, but even there they don't usually arrive on the scene for another few weeks.)

I learned last year, when we were still gathering outside for worship, that Freedom is famous for its annual Blackfly population. For once, we were glad to be wearing masks, just to keep from inhaling them during the hymns.

It has been explained to me that the river provides the perfect environment for these perennial, persistent, pesky little creatures, and each year they return as reliably as our friends and neighbors who Winter away. And though we don't welcome them as warmly as we do our human companions, we do know to expect them, and prepare for their arrival by hauling out our netted head coverings and insect repellent.

I'm sure God loves them and with a brief google search I might very well discover the good they do for our place and planet. I suppose the same is true of Ticks - also back and thriving (but that's a topic for another day).

All this to remind us that, though we like to think the world revolves around humans with all our needs and desires, we do in fact share the planet with a thousand, thousand things that also belong to God whose ways are only known to us in little snatches of understanding.

And so, Welcome Spring! Welcome Summer! And to all our neighbors, of every species and kind as you return to Freedom, God bless you and Welcome Home!

With love,  
Rev. Mary



#### *Other news:*

There will be a Memorial Service and celebration for the life of **Dallas Fuller** will be held at the church on May 14, 2022, at 1:00 PM.

I will be away two Sundays in June, as I am officiating a family wedding in Chautauqua, NY on June 11th. Our guest Ministers during my absence will be **Rev. Bob Moore** on the 12th and **Rev. Ann Cady** on the 19th.

# COVID Precautions Update

It's true. We are meeting in person for worship. We are singing together. The choir is back, as is social hour following the service. For better or worse we are no longer requiring masks. All that said, I would still urge anyone who is unvaccinated, immunocompromised, uncomfortable gathering indoors, or simply feels more comfortable wearing a mask when with other people to please do so!

It is hard to know what the right thing to do is these days, but this much we know: We care about each other and want to do whatever we can reasonably do to protect our community. And of course, as a general rule, if you are not feeling well, please stay home and rest, knowing we will hold you in prayer.

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## Prayer List

Kathy Avery	Fred & Becky Kistler
Fran Babcock	Jeff & Kathy MacLeod
Charlie Bojus	Bill McIntire, Jr.
Neal Boyle	Carol Melvidas
Sue & Clyde Brown	Judy Michaels
Christine Campbell	Gay Moceri
Rebecca Davis	Cindy Nason
Connie Dockham	Peg Nichols
Kate Elliott	Pat Olson
Stefanie Emond	Sarah Scales
Janet Gallagher	Dan and Alice Spear
Alan Grant	Debbie Trail
David Hummel	Jim Tracey
Dale Johnson	Audra Wilson
Elmer Killam	Larry & Nancy Wogman

and all our country's military personnel and their families



If you have a prayer request, please send it to Susan at [fccf1858@gmail.com](mailto:fccf1858@gmail.com), call 603-539-6484 or drop it off at the office. Thank you.



## PASTORAL VISITS

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

If you need to reach Pastor Mary, her phone number is 367-9420 (H) or 515-6220.

## Book Group

### **"No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)"**

by Kate Bowler

"No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I need to Hear)" by Kate Bowler, is the next book the Book Group shall start discussing on **Thursday, May 5th at 9:30 AM.**



Kate Bowler is on the faculty at Duke University in the School of Divinity. At 35 she was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

"With dry wit and unflinching honesty, Kate Bowler grapples with her diagnosis, her ambition, and her faith as she tries to come to terms with her limitations in a culture that says anything is possible. She finds that we need one another if we're going to tell the truth: Life is beautiful and terrible, full of hope and despair and everything in between—and there's no cure for being human."

If you have ever cried, "It is not fair," over a tragedy that has happened to you or to a loved one, then this book will help you wrestle with those issues. There are some walls we cannot deny, get over, or get around no matter how we may think we can. How do we approach God and expect God to act? Come and discuss with us. Read the first two chapters for May 5th. The book group meets weekly with probably about 50 pages a week. It will vary depending upon what the group wants to cover.

We are continuing to meet on Zoom for the time being. If you would like to participate, please contact Susan at the church office or Rev. Mary and we will send you the Zoom link.



## President's Message

Judy and I are happy to be home in Freedom and seeing all our church friends. All winter our church was asking members to wear a mask for your protection and others around you. Well, times are changing, you are welcome with or without a mask. Whatever makes you comfortable.

After church service come back and enjoy coffee and goodies and good conversation. An old tradition at our church.

Thank you to the Trustees for having the church grounds all cleaned up and ready for spring.

Committees are starting to meet in person to carry on the work of our church. If you remember, at the Annual Meeting, it was decided not to change committee people, but we asked if your term ended to please stay on. June Burt is our new Vice President.

Pastor Mary is doing a great job and we are blessed to have her serving us.

I hope to see you in church and at the coffee hour.

Dean Robertson

## Treasurer Report

### Church Financial Activity

All Church expenses received are paid. As of April 16, 2022, Church expenses exceed income by \$10.4k due to continued weak giving. Financial assistance from the Parsonage and Perpetual Funds will offset about half.

The Food Pantry has a net profit of \$ 1k profit through April 16, 2022 due to continued strong Individual support.



## Treasurer Report



## Investments

For the first quarter 2022, Church investments are down 3% and Food Pantry investments are down 2%. By comparison, the S&P 500 stock index was down 5% and the NASDAQ was down 9%. Church and Food Pantry returns are better than the stock indexes as both the Church and Food Pantry investment portfolios are diversified with a strong cash position. The Church pooled investment account is held by discount brokerage custodians Vanguard and TD Ameritrade. The Food Pantry investment account is held by Fidelity with Thrivent as their investment advisor.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul J. Olzerowicz  
Treasurer, First Christian Church of Freedom



## *Ladies Guild*

The Ladies' Guild continues to meet every Wednesday from 9 until 2.

We bring bag lunches to eat at noon and diligently work on quilts for the babies born at Memorial Hospital's Birthing Center as well as other items which will be for sale on Ducky Day, Parade Day, the Craft Fair, and Ring in the Holidays.

We eagerly anticipate the return of our snowbirds! Only five of us have been meeting this winter and we truly need help. If you are interested in seeing what we do, or how you may participate, come by any Wednesday between 9 and 2 and check us out. You do NOT have to know how to quilt...there are many steps besides sewing the tops, and we are willing to teach you more if you wish.

Respectfully submitted, Peg Nichols, President

# May, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry 1:00 Dallas Fuller Memorial
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild 7 pm Council Meeting	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
29	30	31				
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice				

# June, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild 7 pm Council Meeting	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		10 AM Food Pantry
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10 AM Worship, Coffee & Conversation		7 PM Choir Practice	9 AM Ladies Guild	9:30 AM Book Group		

## New Address

Norma Johnson  
 Langdon Place of Exeter, Apt 8.1  
 Exeter NH 03833



# Little White Church Concerts

Greetings friends of the Little White Church in Eaton!

**HAPPY SPRING!**

**Our 2022 Concert Series begins with local treasure, pianist Ellen Schwindt and friends playing Beethoven!**

Joining Ellen are violinists Chris Nourse and Margaret Hopkins for this wonderful program featuring Beethoven's Sonata Opus 30 #2, original works by Ellen, and other pieces of Slavic origin in support of Ukraine and our collective longing for **PEACE**. See below for more detailed information. We look forward to seeing you!

**Thursday, May 5th at 7:00 pm**

**Admission is by donation at the door.**

**Also! We are excited about upcoming concerts —**

**Sunday June 12th 4:00 Laura Kargul and Ronnie Lantz Piano and violin ~ a concert of Romantic Composers**

**Tuesday July 12th 7:00 Village Harmony Fantastic Touring Youth Choir; so glad they are back this year!**

**Sunday July 24th 4:00 Theo Martey/African Drum and Dance Ensemble**

## Mount Washington Valley Adult Day Center

The Mount Washington Valley Adult Day Center cares for aging adults with degenerative illnesses associated with aging, memory loss disorders, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and other physical needs.

We provide services to support the physical, emotional, recreational, social, and therapeutic needs of our aging friends and neighbors in the Carroll County and Western Maine communities at our 14,000 square foot facility in Conway, NH. We also provide critical counselling support to families and caregivers.

MWV Adult Day Center, 987 East Main Street, Center Conway, NH

(603) 356-4980 Ext. 7701

Lynn Coyle, Director/Administrator: [lcoyle@mwvadulthoodcenter.org](mailto:lcoyle@mwvadulthoodcenter.org)

[Mwvadulthoodcenter.org](http://Mwvadulthoodcenter.org)

# Ossipee Concerned Citizens

New Website

<https://www.ossipeeconcernedcitizensinc.com>

## Ossipee Concerned Citizens

3 Dore Street P.O. Box 426 Center Ossipee, NH 03814 (603)539-6851

To-go meals: Ossipee Monday- Friday call ahead

Congregate meals: 12 pm to 1 pm Monday- Friday

## May 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2. Baked Whitefish, White Rice, Peas, Carrots, Dinner Roll, Orange	3. Eggplant Lasagna, Spinach, Dinner Roll, Fruit Cup	4. Pork Chop w/ Chickpeas, Kale, Brown Rice, Garlic Bread, Apple	5. Rosemary Chicken Breast w/ Sweet Potatoes, Quinoa, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Banana	6. Turkey Burger w/ Tomato on Whole Wheat Bun, Caesar Salad, Pear
9. Hot Dog w/ Bun, Baked Red Kidney Beans, Carrots, Grapes	10. Sweet 'n' Sour Pork, Rice Pilaf, Butternut Squash, Lima Beans, Boiled Egg, Pineapple Chunks	11. Egg & Swiss Cheese on Whole Wheat English Muffin, Strawberry Yogurt, Cucumber Slices, Baby Carrots, Banana	12. Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Brussel Sprouts, Dinner Roll, Apple	13. Chicken Salad on Pita, Garden Salad, Orange
16. Fish Sticks, Fries, Spinach, Cauliflower, Plain Greek Yogurt, Peach Cup	17. Chicken Penne w/ Asparagus & Tomato, Garlic Bread, Fruit Cup	18. Macaroni & Cheese, Peas, Carrots, Cranberry Sauce, Bread Stick, Orange	19. Mushroom Smothered Steak, Broccoli, Yams, Dinner Roll, Pear Cup	20. Seafood Chowder, Caesar Salad w/ Croutons, Plain Greek Yogurt, Apple
23. Spaghetti & Meatballs, Green Beans, Carrots, Plain Greek Yogurt, Orange	24. Cheese Quesadilla, Cilantro Lime Rice, Pinto Beans, Salsa, Fruit Cup	25. Salisbury Steak, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Unsweetened Apple Sauce	26. Roasted Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes, Asparagus, Carrots Dinner Roll, Mandarins	27. B.L.T on Whole Wheat Bread, Sweet Potato Fries, Boiled Egg, Banana
30.  Closed Happy Memorial Day!!	31. Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, Carrots, Lima Beans, Banana	** Menu Subject to Change**	All MOW Clients will receive a Quart of Milk every week and 2 pats of margarine daily.	



Next Newsletter Deadline is **June 19<sup>th</sup>!**

The First Christian Church of Freedom

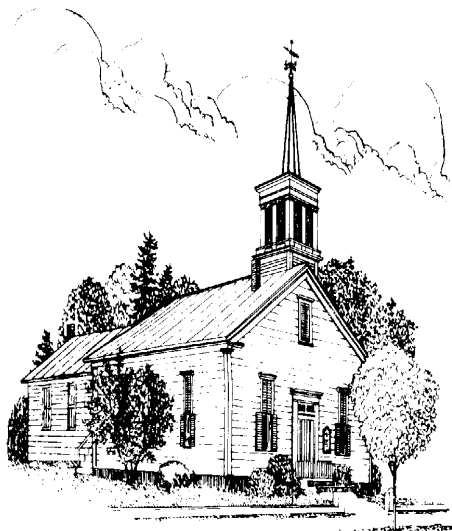
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Pastor Mary G. Edes, 603-367-9420



*Combining Traditional & Contemporary Faith  
Communities*