

The Messenger

First Congregational Church of Fryeburg October 2021

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: Fall Brings Fryeburg Fair Time

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease." Genesis 8:22

Have you ever surveyed the amazing colors of autumn and wondered how to preserve leaves? October brings a spectacular showcase of color and light to our green landscape here in New England. It is something we often overlook until the season is upon us and we marvel at its beauty.

When I was a little girl at C.A. Snow School, our classes would often go outside to collect samples of tree leaf varieties and colors during fall. We learned all about the processes that create autumn foliage. Most importantly, once our trees stop producing chlorophyll and morph from green to orange, red, and yellow, it means they are getting ready to drop. This process actually protects deciduous trees as they prepare for winter.

Because of the changes in length of daylight and temperature, leaves stop their food making process. The chlorophyll breaks down and the green color disappears. This makes the yellows, reds, and orange colors visible and give the leaves their fall splendor.

Back inside our classrooms, we'd look at the variety of shapes and colors we'd collected, identifying specimens and then my favorite part of this classroom project, we'd create our own little masterpieces by a technique of pressing the leaves between wax paper so we could bring them home to share with our families.

For years my mom kept our pressed leaves in the family Bible. And I have a few pressed leaves from our yard here in Brunswick secreted into heavily bound books for safe keeping. Another reason why fall is my favorite time of year.

All this beauty and splendor comes at the same time as our Fryeburg Fair. The fair has also morphed over the years and is a far different fair than it was when I was growing up. When I think about the fair, I am transported back in time to the 1960's and the magical place the fair held in my little girl heart. Together with my sister, Rose, accompanied by our two brothers still living at home, Clayton and Carlton, we headed toward the rides, using the enormous Ferris Wheel as our guide.

Carlton and Clayton indulged our every wish and whim, taking us on all the rides we could squeeze into an evening while our folks volunteered at one of their club, church, or organization connections. We rode the Merry-go-round, the roller coaster, the swing chairs, (which my brother, Carlton, caused me to never want to ride again because he kept spinning my swing as we went round and round), the ponies, and the enormous Ferris Wheel. The rides were not part of Smokey's back then but they were just as good. The Ferris Wheel was far larger than the Ferris Wheel for current fair goers.

I remember one Saturday night when I was eight years old it was a bitter, cold, windy night. My sister and I had our long johns on under our dresses and were wearing sweaters, knit hats, mittens, and scarves. Carlton rode with Rose and Clayton rode with me. We'd waited for what seemed like an eternity to an eight year old to finally get our turn on the Ferris Wheel. Once we got going I was thrilled and my stomach leapt into my throat every time we made our way to the top and started down.

The view from the top of the Ferris Wheel is amazing, especially after dark. You can see the entire fairgrounds and all it has to behold. It is a lot windier at the top of the Ferris Wheel too, so you better bundle up if it's a cold night. And, if you're not afraid of heights, which my brother, Clayton and I are not, we made the bucket seat rock as we rode up and around the top adding to the excitement.

On that particular Saturday night we could hear the big show at the grand stand starting and see my sister, Rose, and brother, Carlton, who were in the chair just ahead of us. We shouted and waved to them and they turned and waved back. I don't remember exactly how or when it happened, but on one of our swings up toward the top, the Ferris Wheel sort of skipped. The operator slowed it way down and then just as we were cresting the top again, it stopped. For the next half hour or so we moved forward and backward one place down from the top and then up to the top.

None of us on the ride were afraid. Actually, we were all whooping and waving and laughing. (I'm sure it was a lot more fun for those of us closest to the top than those in the bottom bucket seats), but everyone

seemed to be having a good time. My brother, Clayton, pointed out lots of interesting things happening below us as we waited to finish our ride, rocking our bucket seat and waving to everyone below us.

We could look down and see men working on the controls and eventually whatever the kink was that kept us at the top was fixed and we were able to do the full swing around the Ferris Wheel. The operator let everyone who wanted to stay on, get the complete ride. I think only one or two bucket loads of people got off, older folk if I remember. It was such a thrill, I couldn't wait to tell my mother but both my brothers said it would be better if I didn't, so I didn't.

But my absolute favorite thing to do when I was little and even now that I am grown up, is visiting the animal barns. I absolutely love walking through the barns visiting each cow, horse, steer, ox, pig, rabbit, llama, chicken or goat. And when they started Old McDonald's Farm petting zoo, it became one of my loves too. The Firemen's Muster on opening Sunday and Woodsmen's Field Day on Monday are two of my favorite events to attend. Firemen compete in teams of four and six, often in full fire gear in a variety of wet and dry hose and ladder events. And on Woodsmen's Day Men and Women from all over the United States come to participate in old time contests using brains, brawn, and skill to out carve, balance, toss, chop, and saw, for the big prizes. They are both a whole lot of fun and I hope you get a chance to experience them too.

I'm not a shopper, so the vendors don't hold much attraction for me, (except the home made fudge displays which call to me), nor a gambler, so the games, harness races, and bingo tent aren't on my radar, but the exhibit halls are. I love the Agricultural Exhibit Center, the Christmas Tree and Wreaths Exhibit, the Farm Museum, the Maple Sugar House, the Natural Resource Center, The Garden Center, and the Craft and Fiber Centers.

And while you're there don't forget to stop by the church's Dairy Bar. There's a whole lot of folks you're likely to know working there and lots of great coffee, conversations, and dairy delights to tickle your taste buds.

Here's hoping for eight dry days for the fair and lots of happy memories made.

Blessings,



Covid-19 Statistics – Active Cases (as of September 23rd)

Positive Cases

Maine	The United States	Around the World
85,872	42.5 million	219 million

Deaths

Maine	The United States	Around the World
1009	680,000	4.55 million

Maine Covid-19 Outbreaks at an alarming rate

A record setting number of people are hospitalized with Covid-19 in Maine hospitals. The Maine CDC reported that there were 226 hospitalized, 88 in the ICU and 40 on ventilators. There are only 46 ICU beds available statewide.

Maine COVID-19 Cases Latest Figure Sets a Pandemic Record

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported 716 new Covid-19 cases on September 22nd, the highest for the entire pandemic and two more deaths. The deaths were reported in Hancock and Penobscot counties.

Covid-19 and Maine Youth

Total number of confirmed Covid-19 cases among Mainers under the age of 25. **25,162**

Total number of Mainers under the age of 25 hospitalized with Covid-19. **56**

Total number of Mainers under the age of 20 with Covid-19 who have died. **1**

Maine Covid-19 cases in Maine Youth by age (As of Sept. 13th. Data gathered every 2 weeks).

Age 0-4	Age 5-9	Age 10-14	Age 15-19	Age 20-24
2546	3346	4114	6611	8545

Do you still need to get vaccinated? <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines>

Pfizer announces Covid-19 vaccine for 5 – 11 year olds

Pfizer announced on Monday that a Phase 2/3 trial showed its Covid-19 vaccine was safe and generated a robust antibody response in children 5-11. Pfizer plans to submit its findings to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for emergency use authorization soon. FDA officials have said once the data is submitted, the agency could authorize a Covid-19 vaccine for younger children in a matter of weeks.

Maine statistics on Covid-19 vaccinations – Total Vaccinations – 1.9 million

First Dose 988,069 73.5% **Fully Vaccinated** – 912,065 67.9%

Maine Covid-19 Resources

- **StrengthenME:** The Maine Dept of Health and Human Services created **Strengthenme.com** to help Mainers cope with the stress and uncertainty of the pandemic. The program offers a hotline that is open 7 days a week, 8am – 8pm. Anyone in need of assistance can call 207-221-8198.
- **Maine Helps:** The Maine Helps website, <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/maine-helps> offers ways Mainers can directly help nonprofits, health care and businesses during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- **FrontLine WarmLine:** Maine Department of Health and Human Services phone line to help Mainers who are working on the frontlines of the coronavirus outbreak. The phone line will be staffed from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day by calling 207-221-8196 or 866-367-4440. The service will eventually include a text option, officials said.
- **211 Maine:** The state's 211 system can answer general questions about coronavirus from callers. Mainers can also text 898-211 to have their questions answered.
- **NAMI Maine Resources:** is offering several programs to help people with mental health concerns due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Supporting Maine People and Families–

Manage unemployment benefits <https://reemployme.maine.gov/accessme/faces/login/login.xhtml>

Workforce training and resources. <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/workforce-resources>

Help paying for childcare <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/support-for-families/child-care/paying-for-child-care>

General Assistance for Mainers harmed by Covid-19 – food insecurity, health care, emergency benefits and more <https://apps1.web.maine.gov/benefits/account/login.html>

Support for Maine Employers

Supporting Maine Businesses <https://apps1.web.maine.gov/benefits/account/login.html>

University of Maine is updating policies, operations, resources. <https://www.maine.edu/together/>

Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan t <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-unveils-transformative-plan-spur-economic-recovery-achieve-long-term-economic>

For Pledges, Donations, Gifts from the Heart – THANK YOU! !!



We are grateful to each and every one of you who continue to support of our church.

Your contributions make it possible for us to continue to support our many missions.



The Thrift Store has new fall hours. Saturdays, 10 am – 2 pm and Wednesdays, 9 am – 12 noon. We still need volunteers for two hour shifts each day. You can volunteer to work retail or help stock. As a volunteer, you earn store credits to spend at the shop.

If you'd like to volunteer or would like more information, please be in touch with our manager, Ingrid, by emailing her, Thank you again for supporting this vital mission for our church!

gardener@smallfryfarm.com You can also visit the Thrift Shop web site to learn more, fryeburgthrift.com.



First Kids News

WE HAVE OPENINGS!!! There are four openings for new enrollment. If you need assistance with tuition, we can help.

For information on enrolling your child or children, please contact Kerri at 207-935-3276 or by a message on the FirstKids Children's Learning Center Facebook page or email.

firstkidsoffryeburg@yahoo.com



Laurie Weston, Ginny Rubino, Muriel Rochussen, Ruth Fisher, Sue Koch's sister, Ellen, John Beebe's niece, Cynthia, Eve Walker's friend, Richard, Laura Smith, Shelly Hibbert, Barbara Lawrence's granddaughter, Ellie, Brian Pipe, Jack Gordon, Cynthia Thebault, Norene Hastings, Harvey's sister in law, Kathleen, Carlene, Henry and Barbara in the nursing home, Penny Sue Munz, Jean Hubbard, Arlin Bigelow, Carlton and Karen Pipe, brother, Chris, his wife, Ginny, and wisdom and discernment for Kitty and Missie and all our family and friends who are traveling this month.

Update on the Curbing/Parking Safety and Accessibility Concerns.

Thank you everyone for your continued support. We now have a small

cut out in the curbing by the front of the church and our thrift store. However, the DOT does not want to give us back our parking spaces.

We still need your help! Please consider writing to Gov. Mills requesting further action.

Office of Gov. Janet T. Mills
210 State Street
Augusta, ME 04333



The Dairy Bar will be open for the fair!!!

We still have many openings for volunteers all eight days of the fair, October 3-10. We open around 6am for hot drinks and donuts and begin getting busy for ice cream orders by 10 am. until we close around 8pm.

You get a free ticket into the fair which you can use before or after your shift and while volunteering, you can choose an ice cream or frappe or sundae too!

Please be in touch with Linda if you'd like to volunteer some of your time to this tasty and fun mission. Let her know soon, please! And thank you!!!

Email: lindarussell2972@gmail.com

Gotta a favorite Joke? These are some great fall season one liners sent to Vi. *Har-dee- har- har!!!*

What do you get if you drop a pumpkin? Squash!

How did the scarecrow earn his award? He was outstanding in his field!

What is the cutest of all seasons? Awww-tumn!

How do you fix a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch!

What Our Church is All About



Our Mission

We encourage all to live and grow as disciples of Christ in service to God and the World.

Our Minister

Rev. Dr. Violet Eastman
(Pastor Vi)

Email: ourpastorvi@gmail.com

Phone or Text:
239-595-4569

Pastor Vi's home address
93 Harding Rd
Brunswick, Maine
04011



Music Director, John Waldie
Pianojaw2@gmail.com



Christian Ed Director,
Linda Russell.

Lindarussell2972@gmail.com



Church Office

Office Phone: 207-935-3227

Please be advised our office phone number is are not monitored daily.

Church website:

www.fryeburgucc.org

Our Physical Address:

655 Main Street
Fryeburg, Maine 04037



Kerri McCormack, Head Teacher

Hours: Monday - Friday

7:30 am - 5:30 pm

Phone: 207-935-3276

We are still asking members and friends NOT to come to the church building during this time of Covid-19 unless it is absolutely necessary.

We are working to keep our learning center children and teachers healthy and safe.



679 Main Street
(just down the street from our beautiful church)

Store Hours

Wed. and Sat. 10am-2pm or by appointment.

Ingrid Kellas, Manager

gardener@smallfryfarm.com

www.fryeburgthrift.com

Phone: 207-935-2329

Our church is on Facebook!



You can find us at

Fryeburg Congregational Church
The Little Church with a Big Heart

Pastor Vi will continue to make worship services available on our FB page even though we open for public worship.

Have a great month everyone!

