

The **NEW CHURCH VOICE** of Florida

Volume 14, Number Four

March/April, 2016

What makes this a NEW church? In an unexpected way, but exactly as He foretold it, the Lord has come again! By his servant, Emanuel Swedenborg, the Lord has revealed Himself fully, disclosing an interior language that has lain hidden in the Bible for centuries. Swedenborg's testimony is true; come and see if it is so.



False Claims

By the Rev. Kenneth J. Alden

Jesus was condemned to death because, according to His accusers, He claimed to be someone He was not. They would have stoned Him to death when He said, "I and My Father are one." They explained, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God." (*John 10:33*) On that occasion, He escaped out of their hand. But their determination was unabated. Later, when they brought Him before Pilate, the Roman governor, they declared their desire to crucify Jesus, saying, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." (*John 19:7*) Had we lived in those times when the penalty for blasphemy was death (see *Leviticus 24:16*) we would have come to the same conclusion if we had believed Jesus was merely a man. It must have been a wrenching experience for the disciples! Did they accept the conclusion of their religious leaders, that this Man was falsely claiming to be God? Or did they stake their lives in this world and their eternal well-being in the next on their belief that Jesus really was the Son of God, and it was their leaders who were claiming falsely about Him?

How does one know the truth of a claim about spiritual truth? With natural-world claims, we try to check facts, verify statements with hard evidence, and run controlled experiments to arrive at the truth. With claims about spiritual truth we try to be equally rigorous, but we must rely on revealed truth and rational analysis in place of sensual proof. But even here, we need more than that. We also need to have our minds opened to see and recognize spiritual truth. Jesus addressed this issue when He quoted Isaiah's prophecy in explaining why He always spoke in parables: "Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the heart of this people has grown dull..." (*Matthew 13:14-15; Isaiah 6:9, 10*) As it says in

John, it is hardness of heart that makes it impossible for people to see and believe spiritual truths. (See *John 12:37-41*)

The first things needed to understand and perceive spiritual truth are a love of truth itself and a willingness to be led by the Lord. If we have no love of a truth greater than ourselves and if we aren't willing to be led by God, no amount of truth will be meaningful to us. We will not see it, or we will dismiss it, or explain it away. But if we do have these qualities—if our hearts are not hardened against being led by the Lord and His spiritual truth—then the evidence the Lord provides will be satisfying and reassuring to the point that it provides a secure foundation for our entire life.

The kind of evidence the Lord provides is seen in the laws about how to know if a prophet was genuine or not. One law warns against prophets who lead away to other gods we have not known. (See *Deuteronomy 15:1-3*) When detractors were convinced that Jesus was no prophet (see *John 7:52*) the disciples must have seen that Jesus was not leading to a god they had not known, but that in Him, they recognized the Jehovah they had always worshiped, and in fact, now really knew Him for the first time. As John acknowledged: "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." (*John 1:18*) Or as Jesus put it, "He who has seen Me, has seen the Father." (*John 14:9*) Those who acknowledge the theological writings of Emanuel Swedenborg to be the Word similarly see that they do not lead away to a god we have not known, but on every page lead back to the Lord in a way that lets Him shine before us.

A second test of the legitimacy of a prophet concerned prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. (See *Deuteronomy 18:21-22*) To know whether he was indeed sent by the Lord, they were to see whether what he spoke came to pass. Detractors challenged Jesus while He hung on the cross to save Himself if He were the Son of God who destroys the temple and builds it in three days. (See *Matthew 27:40*) While this was a corruption of what Jesus had actually said, there were other prophecies Jesus had made that did not come to pass literally—such as those indicating His return during the lifetime of the twelve apostles. And yet those same disciples must have seen that His sayings did come to pass— that life was better when forgiving a sinning brother, loving even one's enemies, resisting and put-

ting away the anger, hatred, and lust that commit murder and adultery from within. Likewise, those who acknowledge the Divinity of the Heavenly Doctrine see in its teachings a way of life that is good and opens the heart and mind to eternal life and happiness. When, for example, we practice the steps of repentance, we do notice a change that is good. The sayings do come to pass.

In those tumultuous times when Jesus was crucified for claiming to be the Son of God, the disciples must have doubted whether their faith had been well placed. If Jesus were just a man, it was all a blasphemous hoax. But because they were willing to be led by the Lord and cared about truth itself, the Lord could reveal to them spiritual truths that could not be seen by the hard-hearted. So He appeared to them after He had risen, showed them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself, and gave them a faith in His Divinity which served as the Rock on which He built His church. May we likewise open our hearts to innocence and the affection for truth whenever questions of the truth of the Lord's Word arise in our minds, that we may see what others cannot.

Boynton Calendar Notes

By Rev. Kenneth J. Alden

SIMPLER SERVICES — On the first Sundays, of March (the 6th) and April (the 3rd), we will continue our experiment of including a children's talk separate from the extemporaneous address for adults. Accordingly, Sunday School and Nursery will be offered.

BIBLE STUDY — **Tuesdays at the church at 4:00 PM** All welcome. Bring a Bible and *Prophet and Psalms*, if you have it.

HEAVEN AND HELL BOOK STUDY — **2:30 PM on Tuesdays.** We are studying *Heaven and Its Wonders and Hell, from Things Seen and Heard (HH)*. After that, we will take up *The Last Judgment and Babylon Destroyed: All the Predictions in the Apocalypse Are at This Day Fulfilled, from Things Seen and Heard (LJ)*. The dates and readings are:

- **March 8th** HH 545-575
- **April 5th** HH 576-603
- **April 19th** LJ 1-27

READING GROUP — We are starting *Return to the Promised Land (RttPL)* by Grant Schnarr.

- **Tuesday, March 8th at 7:30 PM** in the home of Sylvia G. in Boynton Beach. Reading: *RttPL* pp. ix-43. (Intro. - ch. 2)
- **Tuesday, April 5th at 7:30 PM** in the home of Doris M. in Boynton Beach. Reading: *RttPL* pp. 44-98. (Ch. 3-5)

INFORMAL SOCIALS —

- **March 19th at 6:00 PM** - Pizza & Bingo social.
- **Saturday, April 23rd at 9:00 AM** - Meet in the church parking lot for caravanning up to the Busch Wildlife Cen-

ter in Jupiter where we will walk the park and enjoy our bring-your-own picnics together.

- And don't forget the Contemporary Sing-along at 9:15 AM on the first Sunday of each month.

EASTER DOCTRINAL CLASS — **2:30 PM on Tuesday, March 22nd.** "The Passion of the Cross." Reading: *True Christian Religion* 126-134.

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE — **March 20th at 10:00 AM.** Palm fronds will be available at the front entrance of the church. During the first hymn, you may bring your palms forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE — **Friday, March 25th at 7:00 PM.** As last year, this Holy Supper service will have shorter readings than previously, and a sermon on the subject.

EASTER SERVICE — **March 27th at 10:00 AM.** This Festival Service with one address for all ages will be held in the sanctuary with a floral procession. No Nursery or Sunday School.

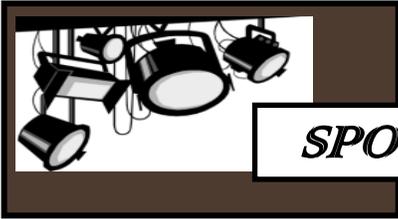


Rev. Kenneth Alden will be offering an informal worship service with a discussion on **Monday, April 18th** at 4:00 PM at the home of Byron & Linda Liles. To respond to their invitation to supper following the discussion, or for directions, call Linda at (239) 273-3583.

Pittsburgh New Church School Teaching Position

- Pittsburgh New Church School is accepting applications for a full time teaching position for the 2016-17 school year. The successful applicant will be responsible to cover core courses in the primary elementary grades five days a week. Additional duties include attendance at faculty meetings, and designated school events.
- Minimum requirements for applicants are: 1) a commitment to teach content in light of the teachings of the New Church, 2) to teach from and about the principles of the New Church, and 3) to have a Bachelor's Degree, preferably in elementary education. We are looking for a motivated individual who enjoys working with young children and would like to join a committed team of colleagues.
- Please send your inquiries or résumé with a cover letter to Pearse Frazier, Principal, 299 Le Roi Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15208 email – pfrazier@pittsburghnewchurch.org.

Applications due by **March 15, 2016**



SPOTLIGHT

By Martin Klein

North Fort Meyers, Florida, harbors a remarkable man, the Rev. Al N., and his wife, Pat. Here is a man who, at 37 years old, was a Lieutenant Colonel, in combat for the U.S. Army who, by now, would probably have become a four-star general. He was the youngest Combat Company Commander in Korea for four years. He has a Bronze Star for Bravery in Combat, A Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, a Silver Star for Gallantry in Action, and a Purple Heart. He was put out of action by a grenade, but when he recovered he went right back at it, becoming a pilot and serving in the helicopter service in Vietnam. A Pastor who served for 18 years at the New Church in Bath, Maine, he is now retired; just another old guy (85) whom you might meet in the grocery.

How did this all come about? How did a guy with success written all over his military career ever wind up as a minister of the smallest religion in the world? We could blame it all on a book, written by the Rev. Theodore Pitcairn, entitled, *My Lord and My God*, but I think it was the Lord Himself who issued the call.

Before returning to war in Vietnam, Al, who was married and had three children, answered an ad for the Pitcairn book, for it promised to answer all the questions Al had about religion. When it came, he was smitten. *Here* were answers that sensibly resolved Al's questions about a tri-personal God, vicarious atonement, faith alone as saving, and many other questions. When he left for Vietnam, *Heaven & Hell* and *True Christian Religion*, by Emanuel Swedenborg, went with him. These three volumes were shortly followed by an entire 30-volume set of the Writings of Swedenborg, sent directly to Al where he read them through in Vietnam.

When Al got a five-day R & R leave in Hawaii, he was joined there by his wife. All he could talk about was his commitment to the phenomenal revelations by Swedenborg. She bought the whole story. Wise woman!

Al was next assigned to Fort Belvoir, in Washington, DC, where he quickly became friends with the Rev. Brian Kingslake, Pastor to an aging congregation of the General Convention of the New Church there. But, Al's children would have been the only ones in the congregation and Brian recommended that Al & Pat would do better for their children if they joined the Rev. Fred Schnarr in the General Church congregation at Mitchellville, MD, where there were plenty of children.

So, the whole family moved to Washington and was baptized into the General Church of the New Jerusalem in September. Then, on the 21st of December, their son, Mark, (a junior at the Academy of the New Church (ANC) Boys School in Bryn Athyn, PA) was home for the holidays and went joy riding with some friends. Sadly, he was killed in a car crash.

The family continued in Washington (Mitchellville) for a couple of years until Al's next assignment took them to Carlisle, PA, to the war college there and general officer train-

ing. From there, Al was sent to San Francisco where he took two years of schooling in preparation for his next command; that of single-star general. But, while there he was sent on temporary duty to Washington, DC where he looked up Rev. Erik Sandström. They talked!

Now, Al and Pat were not happy with their environment in San Francisco and they feared that when their daughter graduated from the ANC in Bryn Athyn she would come home to live there and might not get the best opportunities for her future.

So, with Al's burning desire to be more involved with the church, his conversations with Rev. Sandström and Bishop Louis King, and his and Pat's desire to provide a good environment for their daughter, Al resigned his military career, applied to and was accepted in theological school, and moved to Bryn Athyn.

At 45 years old, Al entered a unique and untrod pathway. He insisted to his good friend, Bishop Louis King, that he did not want a pastorate, but only a New Church education in the Doctrines. To this end, Al purposely omitted to take one credit that would have given him his degree. To no avail, the Bishop tried to get Al to cover a pastoral opening in Baltimore. Then there was an important need in Toronto, and in 1990 the Bishop proceeded to ordain Al, even without that last credit, and packed him off to Canada, where he served for three years.

Then, this surprising fellow asked to have the congregation at Bath, Maine, with no salary, because they could not afford him and his retirement from the military would be sufficient for his needs. Bishop King said, "No, go to Tucson." Al said, "Yes, I want Bath!" Bath won, and Al served there for two years. Then the church sent another minister to Bath, but shortly he left, and Al returned to serve there for 16 more years. Now, in full retirement, our little "Bonita Springs" group is blessed with his and Pat's snowbird residence in North Fort Meyers.



SE District Scholarship Fund

Southeastern District Scholarship Funds are available to anyone who lives in the SE district who would like assistance with paying for education at the Academy High School, the Bryn Athyn College, or the Theological School.

Applications should include the names of the students, their home address, the names of the parents if they are applying on behalf of their children and the school that they hope to attend. Applications are due no later than April 30, 2016, for those hoping to attend in the 2016/2017 school year. Please send your application to:

Washington Church of the New Jerusalem
Attn.: SE District Scholarship Fund
11914 Chantilly Lane
Mitchellville, MD 20721



the *Book Corner*

By Forrest Dristy

It seems like only a few years ago that we commonly assumed books to be objects that were made of paper and ink. Well, that is certainly no longer the case. Now that we are well into the age of cyberspace and the Internet, we must acknowledge that books do not require either paper or ink. They can just as well consist of fleeting bytes of information that reside who-knows-where in the mysterious "cloud". Books of this nature can be read only when we electronically summon all of their bytes to appear before us on our glass tablet or iPad or other expensive modern device. As unlikely as it seems to someone of my generation, this kind of book has become so commonplace that the old fashioned paper book may now be considered an endangered species. I still prefer those paper-based relics myself, and I don't think that they are going to disappear completely in the foreseeable future. However, I am also willing to admit that the electronic variety has some distinct advantages.

The advent of electronic publishing has done wonders for increasing the availability of those books that have small audiences, and some of the best books ever written fall into this category. Think of the Writings, for example, and think of the many thoughtful collateral books that were written decades or centuries ago. Fortunately, the Writings themselves have been kept in print (at least their English translations) over the years, but numerous profound volumes by New Church authors have been languishing on dusty library shelves hidden from all but the most diligent searchers. Now these valuable volumes can be brought to light and given to anyone who cares by means of modern cyber technology. I just want to mention a couple of websites where you can take advantage of this spiritual treasure.

The first is www.swedenborgdigitallibrary.org, where you can access the complete set of the Writings. But that is just the beginning. You can also find an amazing array of books on New Church subjects by many authors, including such excellent writers as Chauncey Giles and Brian Kingslake. Even the venerable reference work known as Pott's Concordance is there for everyone to consult. The other site I want to tell you about is www.swedenborgstudy.com. At this location also you can find a treasure trove of old, out-of-print, priceless books. Some of them are by well known authors. For example, there are seven books, originally published from 1944 to 1972, by the scholarly Hugo Lj. Odhner. And there are some by authors not so well known, such as Testimony of Genesis to the Inspiration of the Bible by T. A. Plantz, originally published in 1912. This significant work is intended to demonstrate that the Bible is a truly sacred book by revealing to the reader the internal sense of its first book. Clearly it has an admirable purpose.

These websites, and others as well, use the marvels of modern Internet technology to give us all the ability to find and read wonderful New Church literature from the past. We owe a great debt of gratitude to the people who have provided them. I simply want to mention by name Kurt Simons with regard to the digital library site and Ian Thompson with regard to Swedenborg studies. They are unsung heroes.



Directory Updates

Philip & Mina S have moved to Pennsylvania.

Jane S. has a new phone number and email address

Larry & Gail C. have a new street address

Details are available from Rev. Kenneth Alden (contact information on the last page of *The Voice*).

The General Church Central Office



in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania currently has two positions open in the Advancement / Development Department. Brief descriptions are below. If interested please submit a resume to:

Karen Day Stoeller (Director of Human Resources) at karen.stoeller@anc-gc.org.

Positions will be located in Bryn Athyn. Relocation expenses are not covered. You will find a more detailed position description at www.ncpeoplevision.org.

Annual Giving Officer, General Church

Position Overview: Reporting to the Executive Director of the General Church of the New Jerusalem, this position will design and implement annual giving programs for the General Church. In addition, the position will assist with e Church Administration. An expected 40-60% of the Annual Giving Position's time will be spent out of the office in the field meeting with donors and prospective donors.

Donor Relations Manager, General Church

Position Overview: This position reports directly to the Executive Director of the General Church. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: communicating with and stewarding donors; formulate results-oriented fundraising communication strategies for a variety of audiences; maintaining donor giving information; and supporting the leadership team in donor communications.



Seeking Those In Military Service

To serve as a point of contact for General Church members and friends in the military, the new chairman of the Military Services Committee, the Rev. Jim Cooper, requests "names and contact information of anyone that you know that is in one of the branches of the military, National Guard, Coast Guard, active duty or reserves. Please don't assume that we know anything!"

You can send these to pastor@newchurchboynntonbeach.org for forwarding to Jim.

New Pastor for The New Church at Boynton Beach



Dear Friends,

Let me begin by saying how honored and humbled I am to have been nominated and overwhelmingly affirmed to be your next pastor! Susan and I have truly felt the hand of Providence leading us to you, and a lot of excitement about the opportunity we have been given to serve the Lord in Boynton Beach.

It was very pleasant to meet many of you while I was there in January, and I really look forward to getting to know you all more personally. To that point, I would love to hear from you! If you have a chance I would love to get an e-mail or letter telling me a bit about yourself. What do you do for work? What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? What do you love about the New Church at Boynton Beach? Do you have a favorite quote from the Word?

Here, I'll begin: My original hope after graduating from Bryn Athyn College (2005) was to be an ancient history teacher. I'm not sure why I never followed through on that plan, but looking back on it, I can see how the Lord has built up various different skills and loves leading me to the ministry. I spent several months teaching before moving from Pennsylvania to Georgia, where I delivered pizza for a few months while obtaining my CDL to become an over the road trucker. And if there is one thing I learned from being on the road constantly, it would be the value of patience.... I cannot do anything about the traffic jam in front of me! Naturally or metaphorically.

But trucking didn't satisfy me socially. There was too much time spent alone. So I got off the road and picked up a shovel to run a landscaping company. I specialized in hardscaping and water features, and I loved working with homeowners to create the garden of their dreams. But after a few years I realized that tending to the garden of our minds was my true calling. So I returned to Bryn Athyn and completed theological school in 2012.

I believe being a pastor is the greatest job in the world. I cannot imagine anything being more spiritually fulfilling. Over the past few years since ordination I have served as pastor of Michael Church in London, England. I hope some day you may get to travel to London and meet the people at Michael Church, it has been a great experience! I will miss them all dearly.

In my spare time I love to play guitar, sing, and write music. I love playing golf, but lately my energetic dog Ziggy has required a lot of walking. Dogs are a very important part of my life, and there is almost nothing more relaxing to me than hiking with my dogs.

It would be hard to choose just one quote from the Word and call it my "favorite". So, here are a couple that have really affected me lately. I love the comfort of the Lord's words at the end of the gospel of Matthew saying, "And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (*Matt.* 28:20) The other is a quote my parents engraved into the pocket watch they gave me after graduating from theological school. I try to think of it as my motto, "All religion is of life, and a life of religion is to do good." (*Life* 1)

Okay, now it's your turn! I'd love to hear from you!

God Bless,
Alan

E-mail: AmCowley@Icloud.com
Address: 21A Hayne Road
Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4JA
United Kingdom



BEGIN A NEW LIFE

"*Begin a New Life* is a universal, faith-based program (developed by Rev. Mark Dandridge Pendleton) that helps you make and sustain any life change that you want or need to make, one or two changes at a time."

Check it out at www.beginanewlife.info



Kempton New Church School Expansion

Since its founding in 1979, the Kempton New Church School has taught over three hundred students in the light of the Lord's threefold Word. Today, we are blessed anew to be experiencing growing pains.

With maxed out classrooms, the coming of our largest kindergarten ever next year and the addition of 11th and 12 grades, we are truly grateful. If you are one who believes in the power of New Church Education to better our world, if you are excited about a K-12 New Church School supporting the development of a new generation of the New Church, or if you want to know more about us and our commitment, come see us at www.KNCS.org. Click on "Expansion" and join in our future.

If you prefer a personal contact, School Expansion Fund Committee Representatives, Chris Judson (215-421-1375) and Bradley King (610-756-6343), are eager to talk to you.

"All instruction is simply an opening of the way; and as the way is opened... Heavenly things flow in."

(Arcana Coelestia 1495)

Thoughts on Evolution

By Ron Horvath

There are probably no greater obstacles to religious faith for non-believers than the literal creation story in Genesis and the seemingly illogical rejection of evolution by biblical adherents.

The real reason that evolution arises so often is because the debate over evolution is really a debate over the moral status of man. If we are nothing more than chemicals connected by water and electrostatic bonding then there is no moral truth and all morality is relative.

Then how might we understand evolutionary theory given that greater metaphysical question? Evolutionary theory does seem to explain the general principle of biological mutation but there are a couple of widely acknowledged problems with classical Darwinian theory. The first is the nature of the selection process. What exactly governs mutation during 'natural selection'? The probability principle of quantum physics should hold even at the genetic levels of biology . . . but it does not.

What exactly are we talking about here? If total random selection were operative in the mutation process, it would have required an incredibly vast number of years just to evolve single cell organisms under normal laws of probability. But the fact that it took a mere two billion years requires some mechanism other than random selection—a mechanism that would increase the chances of reaching the biological complexity on the evolutionary scale in the amount of time that has thus far been allowed.

Evolutionary biologists have tried to construct a reasoning for this 'chance factor,' or 'restricted probability,' that seemingly guides probabilities toward the set of life-forms we see, but so far a compelling theory has evaded them as well as Darwin himself.

The second problem with Darwinian evolutionary theory we are confronted with is even more problematic and Darwin himself described it as the "greatest threat" to his theory. This problem deals with the early Cambrian Period, 500 million years ago. It is often referred to as the 'Cambrian explosion' or the 'Biological Big Bang' when all of the known phyla emerged in a very short period of time, geologically speaking, with no new ones having emerged since. This period has been defined as lasting anywhere from 30 million years to as few as five million, a spec in geological time.

The first mystery is that there is just not enough time to have gone from single cell colonies to vertebrates and complex life forms. If it took almost two billion years to evolve single cell organisms how could complex ones have evolved in a mere five to 30 million from such primitive ones? Even more perplexing is the fact that there are no fossil records for any ancestors to these new species. It's as if they just miraculously appeared. If we were talking seven days instead of 30 million years we might be tempted to want to revisit the literal interpretation of *Genesis*.

Attempts have been made to try to explain this remarkable absence of any ancestral fossil trail but so far unsuccessfully. Classical Darwinian theory cannot account for these problems and so we are going to need a new evolutionary theory that can more accurately account for the Cambrian explosion and one that explains restricted probability in 'natural selection'.

There are two other problems with classical evolutionary theory. The first is we cannot explain how the most primitive pre-

cursors of life occurred and second why there would have evolved non-material consciousness capable of moral and abstract thinking well beyond the requirements for 'survival of the fittest'. This goes to the heart of the matter of the moral state of man. A reassessment of evolutionary theory that takes into account these unanswered questions will almost certainly require some spiritual accommodation. The Lord offers some explanation with what is said in Swedenborg's writings on 'discrete degrees'.

Darwin became the principle source of evolutionary theory but there is another fascinating twist to this story. New Churchman Alfred Russell Wallace was developing the very same ideas that Darwin was and at the very same time. Interestingly, they conversed with each other frequently on their research. In fact, Wallace was more advanced in them at the time than Darwin but Darwin wrote a book, *On the Origin of Species*, and became famous in the process. Wallace did not and the rest is history.

What is interesting, is how developing the same principles and believing almost everything that Darwin did regarding evolution and 'natural selection,' he came to a conclusion that will disappoint most evolutionists.

Wallace himself grew increasingly insistent that the evidence of biology could not be accounted for without reference to a purposefully acting Mind: "Wallace clearly likened the transcendent force that directed his physio-theological world to a real 'Mind,' not some self-directed automata." (Michael Flannery, *Alfred Russel Wallace: A Rediscovered Life*. Discovery Institute Press.)

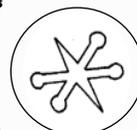
Imagine how evolution would have been portrayed differently if Wallace had written an evolutionary book instead and one that pointed to an intelligent being as the principle actor and 'prime mover.' It would have likely explained some of the problems troubling classical Darwinian theory.

Traveling Clergy Scheduled to Visit Tampa Area New Church Members

A tentative schedule has been made for Tampa to receive services from a minister.

Rev. Calvin Odhner is scheduled for March 6, 2016, and Rev. Jeremy Simons is scheduled for April 3, 2016.

All interested parties are encouraged to please contact Gale Arnoux (561) 236-1041.



Jacksonville

Carole Hansen
(904) 772-5938

Jacksonville Schedule for March / April

Service: 4:00 p.m.

03/19 Rev. Lou Synnestvedt — (Host: Belcher)

04/16 Rev. Calvin Odhner — (Host: Hansen)



The New Church at Lake Helen

148 Euclid Ave., Lake Helen, FL 32744

Directions: Exit Interstate I-4 at Lake Helen, number 116. Turn East to first stop sign, turn left and go one block and the church is on your right. It is at the corner of Euclid Ave. and Harlen Ave.

Before driving all the way to Lake Helen, visitors should call ahead to confirm that there haven't been any last minute schedule changes.

Lake Helen Schedule for March / April

✧ Class: 10 a.m. ✧ Service: 10:30 a.m.

✧ Potluck Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. (visitors welcome)

03/20 Rev. Lou Synnestvedt	—	Palm Sunday Service <i>(Host: Rees)</i>
04/03 Rev. Michael Ferrell	—	<i>(Host: TBA)</i>
04/17 Rev. Calvin Odhner	—	<i>(Host: St. Aug.)</i>



The **Rev. Kenneth Alden** and the **Rev. Daniel Heinrichs** spent the week of February 14th in Kempton, PA attending regional "Ministers' Meetings" for the General Church of the New Jerusalem. This convocation, attended by General Church ministers from the Eastern US, served as a platform for presentation and discussion of the ministers' topics for discussion and studies of New Church doctrines from the Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg and their relationship to current states of the church. Some of these presentations may find their way into the meetings next year, of the whole Council of the Clergy, and eventually into the pages of *New Church Life*.

Dean & Rachel B. and **Kris & Rob E.** report that Jamie E., a senior at the Academy of the New Church Boys School in Bryn Athyn, PA will be visiting friends and family in both Jupiter and in Delray Beach during spring break.

Peggy B. was delighted to have her friend, Arlene D., from the old days in Chicago, visiting her for four days.

Bob & Gail B. report that they had a recent visit from their cousin, Anna M., down from Mt. Kisco, NY for a little Florida sunshine. In early March, their daughter Cindy & Keith P., with grandkids Christian & Elizabeth, from Glenview, IL will visit for a long weekend. Then, at Easter, their daughter, Jill B., from Glenview, and daughter, Barb & Bill L., and grandson,

Robbie, from Towson, MD will visit. They're really looking forward to some family time, since their Christmas holiday flight north was cancelled!

Lucy C. was happy to entertain her daughter, Martha B. and her niece, Betsy A., who visited for a couple of weeks in February.

A fierce defender of her independence, **Dottie F.** (Hollywood, FL) nevertheless enjoys the careful attentions of her two sons, Dan, in Satellite Beach, FL, and Todd, in Idaho. She just spent a week in February visiting Dan.

Sylvia G. just got together with her sister, **Peggy B.** for a luncheon with Peggy and her Chicago friend, Arlene D..

In March, **Bob & Janina H.**, Alan & Jacquie J., Larry & Teryn R., and possibly Calvin & Maggie O. will load up all their kayaks, bicycles, and sun screen and head for Torreya State Park by the Apalachicola River in Florida's Pan Handle. Their kayaks are ocean-going, so there's no limit to where they may turn up.

Rev. Dan & Miriam Heinrichs are looking forward to a spring break visit (March 19) by Chris & Anika (F.) B., with their son, Jayel.

After three years in Japan, teaching English and learning Japanese and Korean, **Ron H.'s** daughter, Meagan, is coming home here to stay!

Coming attractions to **Martin & Pat K.'s** house — for two days, David (son) & Heather K., with children: Samantha and Maya, on March 4th; and for two days, Robert (brother to Martin) & Laurie K., on March 13. (Dave's coming for business in Orlando and the kids are looking for a certain Mouse up there. Laurie is coming to be the Maid (Matron) of Honor at her sister Sandy's, second marriage, to Leonard H. ... she's 76 and he's 80. Sandy's going 'down the Hatch' in St. Augustine and then Bob & Laurie will do a sortie to Boynton Beach (for the record).

Topping a pretty good month, **Sylvia K.** was re-elected as president of the *Jamaica Bay Cooperative Board of Directors* by a large majority vote of all the shareholders. Following that, Sylvia's daughter, Elizabeth M., came for a ten-day visit, 'just to be with Mom'. Hey, Sylvia! Sometimes good people really do win!

Jan M.'s son, Craig, his wife, Jenny, and Jan's grandson, Jasper will be coming for a visit in between Tampa and Vero Beach art shows, in which Jenny is a participant.

Bob & Naomi S. were delighted with having Martha G. as a house guest during the Boynton Retreat, and they are also looking forward to having Bill R. for a short time in early March. As an aside, Bob & Naomi's daughter, Jennifer & Dan A. took them on an iPhone tour of the new house they just bought in Huntingdon Valley, PA (just past the Philmont Country Club and up the hill a bit).

Jane S. is getting better and better, and Justin and Jodi, with their three children, are coming for Easter, March 27! They're all going to take an airboat ride! Life is good.

Miss us? We missed you!

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FLORIDA NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Efforts are underway to create a Florida New Church Directory to help bridge the gap between New Church Floridians. We plan to make it available to all Voice subscribers who provide us with their email address and to others who request it. It will be sent out in an email as a PDF. If you would like to be included, please contact us at ncvoicefl@newchurchboyntonbeach.org.

The New Church Voice of Florida is published bi-monthly by the New Church at Boynton Beach: Rev. Kenneth J. Alden (Pastor), Amy Martz (Editor).
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Contributions for *The Voice* are greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to: The New Church at Boynton Beach or NCBB.

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The New Church Voice of Florida
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Boynton Beach, FL 33437-4203



Florida Calendar

March 2016

“The Lord is constantly fighting on your behalf against evils and falsities, and by these conflicts is confirming you in truth and good.”

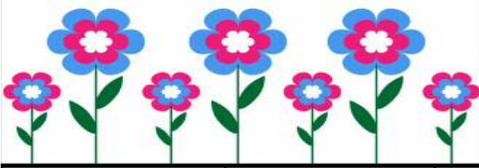
AC 63 Emanuel Swedenborg

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:15 Clergy Breakfast 4:00 Bible Study	2	3  Food Drive Month	4	5
6 9:15 Sing Along 10:00 Simpler Service 11:10 Pastor's Council 11:20 Board of Trustees	7	8 2:30 HH 4:00 Bible Study 7:30 Reading Group	9	10	11	12 
13 10:00 Sunday Service 11:20 Voice Committee Poll Preparation	14	15 Church used as polling place 4:00 Bible Study	16	17	18	19 11:00 Scleroderma Meeting 6:00 Pizza & Bingo
20 10:00 Palm Sunday Service 	21	22 2:30 Easter Class 4:00 Bible Study	23	24	25 7:00 Good Friday Service	26
27 10:00 Easter Sunday Service	28 	29 4:00 Bible Study	30	31		

Organ	Sound	Flowers	Chancel	Usher	Greeters	Sunday School	Snacks
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6	Sue B	Larry K	Betty H	Bob H	Bob H	Barbara W Peggy B	Betty L Peer S	Peggy & Forrest D
13	Sonja S	Ron H	Janet K	Dennis O	Dennis O	Bob W Jan M	Heather H Bob H	Janet & Argo K
20	Sue B	Benjamin A	Pat K	Cian H	Bob W	Gail Bob B	Ellen K Dan H	Gail & Bob B
25	Sonja S	Joshua C	Naomi S	Bill B	Bill B	Dan H Dennis O	—	—
27	Sue B	Larry K	Naomi S	Bob S	Bob S	Martin Pat K	—	Grace & John Y

Jacksonville 19 th 4:00 Palm Sunday Service Rev. Lou Synnestvedt	Lake Helen 20 th 10:00 Class 10:30 Palm Sunday Service Rev. Lou Synnestvedt	Bonita Springs No Service
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Florida Calendar April 2016

“The more we submit to God's leading, the more and more deeply we become an image of God.”

True Christianity 20, Emanuel Swedenborg

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						
3 9:15 Sing Along 10:00 Simpler Service 11:10 Pastor's Council	4 7:30 Outreach Meeting	5 2:30 HH 4:00 Bible Study 7:30 Reading Group	6 8:15 Clergy Breakfast	7	8	9
10 10:00 Sunday Service 11:20 Board of Trustees Voice Copy Deadline	11	12 4:00 Bible Study	13	14	15	16 11:00 Scleroderma Meeting
17 10:00 Sunday Service	18	19 2:30 HH 4:00 Bible Study	20	21	22	23 9:00 Busch Wildlife Social
24 10:00 Sunday Service	25	26 4:00 Bible Study	27	28	29	30

Organ	Sound	Flowers	Chancel	Usher	Greeters	Sunday School	Snacks
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3	Sonja	Ron H	Jane S	Matthew S	Matthew S	Dean & Rachel B	Janina H Peer S	Barbara W Sylvia G
10	Sue	Benjamin A	Sonja S	Benjamin S	Martin K	Forrest & Peggy D	Nicola S Bob H	Naomi & Bob S
17	Sonja	Joshua C	Rachel B	Benjamin A	Benjamin A	Bob & Naomi S	Betty L Dan H	Thelma H Sylvia K
24	Sonja	Larry K	Peggy B	Georgina	Dean B	Barbara W Peggy B	Heather H Peer S	Peggy B Doris M

<p>Jacksonville</p> <p>16th 4:00 Service Rev. Calvin Odhner</p>	<p>Lake Helen</p> <p>3rd 10:00 Class 10:30 Sunday Service Rev. Michael Ferrell</p> <p>17th 10:00 Class 10:30 Sunday Service Rev. Calvin Odhner</p>	<p>Bonita Springs</p> <p>18th 4:00 Service Rev. Kenneth Alden</p>
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