



The **NEW CHURCH VOICE** of Florida

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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.



ARE YOU AFRAID?

By the Rev. Alan Cowley

Are you afraid? I'm not talking about phobias, like if you are afraid of spiders. I'm not even talking about larger fears like the fears of rejection or death.... Are you afraid to change?

In the New Church we have been given some amazing tools for life change. Most notably the steps of repentance which are amazingly practical and simple to understand. And yet the practicality and simplicity of the process of repentance doesn't seem to equate to easy life changes. If you are like me, I suggest that fear is what is making the process difficult, not the process itself.

Repentance begins with self-examination. We are told to take an honest look at our actions and intentions. So far so good. This step doesn't seem that difficult, in fact most of us do this on a daily basis when we ask ourselves how we could have done something better, or wondering why we said something that we shouldn't have, and many other things of the sort.

The next step also seems relatively easy. We are supposed to recognize and acknowledge some particular harmful trait, habit, or pattern in our lives. I could probably list ten about myself in quick succession. If we are people who believe that we need to be working on our spiritual lives, we probably have a laundry list of things we know we should work on. The Writings for the New Church tell us to pick just one or two at a time to focus our efforts.

The next step is that we pray to the Lord for the power to stop doing whatever it is we are trying to not do. Again, not the hardest thing in the world to do! Prayer in the Writings is described as 'speech with God' containing 'a certain opening of the person's interiors toward God' (Arcana Coelestia 2535). So as long as you are speaking to God with sincerity of heart, you are most likely doing it right.

The last step of repentance though is where the rubber meets the road, and where fear often jumps in to interfere. The final step is to 'begin a new life'. This means actually refraining from acting

out in the way we were before. It means giving up the bad habit. It means acting in a way that is both unfamiliar and opposed to the way our hearts want us to act. And fear plays a double role to keep us from succeeding.

On the one side, we are afraid to give up something that we identify with as a part of our self. Like have you ever heard yourself say 'well that's just a part of who I am!' This argument is all over the place! People feel like if they were born a certain way than they don't need to change it... Or even that they should not change it because then they wouldn't be themselves. On the other side, we are afraid of the unknown. When we give up a bad habit, or nasty character trait, we often wonder what is going to fill the void left behind. A common excuse for why a person doesn't want to give up smoking or drinking is that they 'like the social aspects of it, and they couldn't get it elsewhere'.

So in this final step of repentance we can easily be frozen with fear. And what makes it worse is that each time we try to tackle a persistent issue it feels less and less surmountable. Hell is very good at making us think that we either don't need to change, or that our efforts will be fruitless. But there is hope! We are not alone! 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible' (Matthew 19:26).

With that in mind, here are a couple of tools/teachings I find helpful when I am afraid to change.

1) Replace fear with Fear: there are two kinds of fear; fear from hell, which causes us to remain in our destructive behaviors; and fear of God, which can give us strength in our struggles.

Everyone who loves another is afraid of injuring the one he loves. There is no genuine love without that fear. Accordingly, someone who loves the Lord is afraid of doing evil, because evils go counter to the Lord, as they go counter to His Divine laws in the Word. (Apocalypse Revealed 527)

2) Temptations become easier to fight against with practice: I'm sure you have all heard the cliché 'If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.' When fighting within a single temptation for long periods of time it can be difficult to not give up, but this old adage is very true! Keep trying! Then as you gain some success with the Lord against hell, you will begin to feel more confident, and the power of hell will wane with every victory.

Those who are unwilling to hear anything about repentance come into this fixed attitude of mind; but on

the other hand, those who by repentance have removed some evils that are sins, come into a settled purpose to believe in the Lord and love the neighbor. Such are kept by the Lord in the purpose to refrain from other evils. (True Christian Religion 523)

Jesus said, 'In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world' (John 16:33). And in Isaiah, 'Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand (Isaiah 41:10).

ALL WELCOME!

Did you know that you can participate in our Bible Study via conference calling? Let Alan know you are interested!

Call him at (561)736-9235,

or email pastor@newchurchboynntonbeach.org.

STARTING THIS FALL "PRINCIPLES OF EXPOSITION"

Would you like to get more out of your devotional reading? Have you ever wondered how ministers unfold the internal meaning of Biblical text for their sermons? Did you know that there is a step-by-step method for exposition?!!!

The Monday afternoon Bible Study will begin a new series of classes aimed at understanding **HOW** we study the Word in the New Church. This will be in conjunction with our normal scheduled readings. If you have an interest in learning some great methods to gain a better understanding of the spiritual sense of the Word, please join us on Monday afternoon at 4:00 pm, in the Boker room, or call in for conferencing!

NEED AN EVENING CLASS? NEED A BABYSITTER? NEED A RIDE? NO PROBLEM!

Let us know your needs. We will do what we can to help make it possible for you to join us. Let Alan know you are interested by calling him at (561)736-9235

or email pastor@newchurchboynntonbeach.org.



Rev. Ken Alden and Kim report two things: one, they are having a very *moving* experience, and two, their son, Benjamin, is working in North Carolina and living with Hans and Bethany (Alden) Soneson. (Ken says that after Kim's therapies are over they can have a temporary safe haven at the Rev. Mark & Kay Alden's home in Bryn Athyn, PA if they need it.)

On June 29, **Bill Bishop**, supported by Martin and Pat Klein, celebrated his and his wife, Nancy's, 25th anniversary by presenting a gorgeous chocolate cake (a favorite) and ice cream to all the residents and staff at the New Age Senior Care facility in Wellington. Also, Bill's sister, Elaine from North Carolina, visited in late June.

In late summer **Dean & Rachel Boyce** will be taking a paddle wheel riverboat from St. Paul to St. Louis and then on to Memphis.

Peggy Braun is keeping active with her participation in the Elks Club. ('Elks' promote charity, justice, brotherly love, belief in God, patriotism, and the welfare of its members. Seems a worthy way to support one's community!)

In a civil ceremony, on July 30, **Josh Childs** was married to **Elizabeth Gonzalez** at 'Sundy House' in Delray Beach. The couple will live at their Fort Lauderdale residence on Ocean Blvd.

In August **Rob Earle** will drive his two sons to Oklahoma: Jamie to attend the University of Oklahoma, and Colin to Oklahoma City where he will join a friend and fly to Vancouver, British Columbia where he plans to step boldly into his future with organic farming. Here at home, Rob's wife, **Kris**, starts teaching at Spanish River in August.

At the end of June, **Bob Heinrichs** left his wife, **Janina**, in charge while he went off to Delaware in pursuit of his Masters degree. Then, he and Janina visited their daughter, Carina, in Annapolis, MD for a few days before they came home to check if Justin and Erica are meeting expectations to have their baby by the end of August.

Assuming that it would increase his wisdom, **Miriam Heinrichs** sent her husband, the **Rev. Dan Heinrichs** to the *Living Waters Camp* in Canada during the week of July 6th to the 12th. After the camp, (which Dan's son, the Rev. Brad Heinrichs, was running), Brad, his wife, Kathy, and the kids visited Dan and Mim here in Florida from the 28th of July to the 5th of August.

Ron Horvath tells us that his daughter, Meagan, is home from South Korea where she has been teaching English. She now heads for San Francisco to begin graduate studies on East Asia.

Argo & Janet Karalus have cancelled their plans for a Berlin Holiday due to the increasing unrest in Europe.

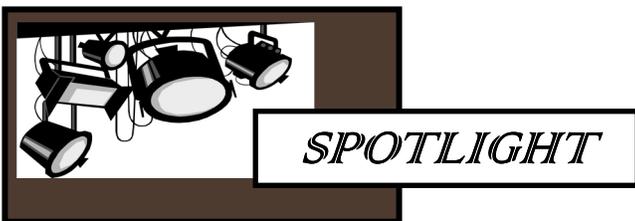
Martin & Pat Klein departed for the world's only "Kuhl Fest", held in Kitchener, ONT, Canada from the 12th of July to the 17th of July. This 'fest-ation' included a charter bus tour of all the old 'Kuhl' homesteads and great-great relative's burial sites plus lots of social updates for cousins and kin from as far away as Singapore.

In August, Master Trekker, **Sylvia Kloc**, will single handedly pilot her Ford Fusion on an exciting six-point tour of the eastern and middle US. Her itinerary includes visits with: her grandson, Christopher Klock, Jr. in Orlando, FL, her brother, Mike Kloc and his wife, Nancy in Bryn Athyn, PA, Barbie Acton, also in BA, her family-in-law—Roger and Beth Mech in MI, her brother, Michael Hoffman in IL, her nephew and wife, Doug & Tracy Kloc in TN, and then, in the absence of a hurricane, her home-again car port in Jamaica Bay, FL. That might qualify as a Senior Olympics "Trekker of the year" event.

Over the fourth of July, **Ron & Anna Smith** had a long weekend visit with Ron's sister, Theresa, in Pittsburgh, PA. There were fireworks to mark the day!

Associated with the Boynton Beach New Church are two young women, **Carrie Childs** and **Elsa Horigan**, who are resolutely developing their own unique business. Their new venture, *CarrieElle's Closet* at number 9 north 'K' street in Lake Worth, offers women's upscale designer resale clothing and trendy new clothing, plus hand bags, accessories, and jewelry. Elsa says that, "We have been up and running since June 15, and we are very pleased with how our clientele has been growing." You can come in, or call (561) 288-6694, or go to carriescloset.com.

When her caregiver arrived a little late one Sunday in July, **Beryl Moorhead**, soon to be 91 years old, was rushing to be on time for church. Instead, Beryl ended up in the hospital with a cracked hip (or possibly her femur?) and was in rehab by late July. She is hoping to be home in early August. Beryl was at Manor Care, 16200 Jog Road, Delray Beach, FL 33446 as of 07/25/16. Phone calls are not very convenient, but cards and visits are welcome. As usual, despite her physical trials, Beryl is reported to be happy, looking well, and in good spirits.



by Martin Klein

Ron Horvath

Thirty years ago there was a family that came to Coral Springs FL (that was in 1976). There, by a lake, they established a fair estate having a four-bedroom, two-bath, single story house with a deck and a 15 by 30-foot pool. Native residents there include occasional alligators and, more frequently, 4-foot long Iguanas. Awkwardly, as it turns out, this location is looked at as 'permanent' by the owners, it is about thirty miles south of the New Church Society at Boynton Beach. There, Ron and Monica Horvath, managed to raise five respectable children — three girls: Misty, Fawn, and Meagan, and two boys: Sage and Kiron.

How did such a fortunate development come to pass? It all started when Ron's parents met on a ship coming from Hungary. As a result, Ron's dad got a job at a foundry in Gary, Indiana, and presumably, that led to Ron growing up and taking a job with Delco Remy, a division of GM, making automobile head and tail lights.

That was one of the most fortuitous circumstances in young Ron's life, for there he became mentored by one Jim Woods, an 'accidental' Swedenborgian. "Jim was the neatest person!" Ron exclaimed to me. "Jim grew up in rural Indiana, came across the Writings of Swedenborg, and studied them and studied them all on his own! How Swedenborg's religious thought was *different* was all he would talk about."

Then, Jim Woods had made contact with a minister of the New Church in Cincinnati, (by the name of Rev. David Holmes as Ron recalls) and between the Rev. and Jim Woods they got Ron 'applied to' and 'accepted by' the Academy of the New Church College in Bryn Athyn, PA in the late 1960's. Ron could not see sitting in a factory for 25 years or so putting retainer springs on distributor caps, so he was off to one of the biggest adventures of his life! Ron says, "My affections from my experiences in Bryn Athyn are stronger than from almost any other preparatory experiences I have had."

After his Associate of Arts degree from Bryn Athyn, Ron joined 5,000 other applicants to serve in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. Being one of 50 who were finally selected, his acceptance earned him two preparatory years at the University of New York where he finished with a BS degree in Chemistry. By 1969 the program had become heavily politicized and was becoming almost anti-American, so he resigned.

His next move was to take the officer's exams and then Officer's Training School for the Air Force. Thus he found he was a lieutenant. So, after four years and 120 sorties as a Phantom-Jet pilot in the Vietnam War he found he was a captain and still alive.

Foot loose and still single, he took a job with IBM in Wilmington, DE for three years. This must have helped his résumé because he next found he was a stockbroker for Merrill Lynch.

That's when it happened! While in Cork, Ireland, he met Monica Scannel. One thing led to another and they ended up married and living in Broward County, Plantation, FL with a new job at Kedron, a company owned by a friend who made extensive, expensive architectural models.

But the pay was low and his friend urged him to start his own architectural modeling company, Ron Horvath & Associates. That ran for 15 years until the 1992 recession and the 'technical revolution' put a crimp in that business.

To get certified in Microsoft and Cisco, Ron took seven exams. That qualified him to be an entry level 'network tech' and he took a position with the Hughes Company.

So nowadays, Ron Horvath, Network Support Engineer, spends more time than he would like, setting up and maintaining router networks for the likes of Burger King, Exxon, BP Amoco, etc.

Speaking of his family's relationship with the New Church, Ron says that where they lived they were very isolated, church-wise, and he wishes they had become involved with *any* church, locally. Then, he feels, he could have easily explained the differences to his children and Monica, who are all very bright. But now, his children are surprised to find a more rational and scientific approach to religion. He has been trying to show them that blind faith alone is not the only path to salvation. Multiple confirmations of Swedenborg's revelations appear every day, especially in the fields of medicine and psychology.

Anyway, Ron became caught up in all the daily cares of raising a family and performing well in his work. He feels that his Bryn Athyn experiences were stronger than anything else in his early life and that if *any new church person had called or dropped in* he might have reconnected with his very strong New Church affections much sooner than he did and things could have been different for his family. But, no one called.

So, he proposes a challenge for all New Church apostles: Commit to calling any number (five?) who are known to have some connection with the New Church... "Hi. My name is — and I just wanted to give you a hello..."

"That personal touch could make a huge difference," says eye-witness, Ron Horvath.

Ron has just been appointed as the new Treasurer for the Boynton Beach New Church Congregation.



Congratulations

Joshua Childs and
Elizabeth Gonzalez
Married on July 30, 2016

CHARTER DAY CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 13-17, 2016

A schedule of the weekend's events will be made available on August 15 at www.ancss.org/charterday and www.brynathyn.edu/charterday.

WRITERS NEEDED FOR VOICE REPORTING

Have you ever wondered if you could be a writer?
Are you good at writing book reviews or article reviews?
Interested in making phone calls to New Church members scattered around Florida and keeping us posted as to their chatter?

The Voice needs material. New Church members all over the world look forward to receiving the Voice every other month and we don't want to disappoint them, but we need more participation in gathering news worthy items.

If you are interested in contributing your time and talents to this most worth cause, please contact Amy Martz at (770) 845-2214 or email ncvoicefl@newchurchboyntonbeach.org.

The New Church Voice of Florida is published bi-monthly by the New Church at Boynton Beach:
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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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