



Salem First United
Presbyterian Church is:

Alive!

Volume 50, Version 4

April 2015

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**Special points of
interest:**

- Articles for the ALIVE! Are due in no later than the 15th of the month.
- Check it out! The newsletters will now be on our website too! This will be added by mid-April.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

A few years ago Jane and I attended The Stations of the Cross at the Holy Cross Catholic Church in Salem. The teenage members of the church acted out the Stations of the Cross which tell the story of Good Friday, the story of the passion and death of our Lord. It was a very moving experience for us.

I would say that the Stations sometimes represent the story of our own lives. We all carry a cross at sometimes in our lives, the crosses are not wooden, but they are heavy and burdensome. The crosses we sometimes carry could be struggles with our health, marriage, job loss, relationships, watching a loved one suffer or die. Sometimes the weight of our earthly struggles become so great that we collapse as Jesus did at some of the stations.

Yes, sometimes the Stations of the Cross are the story of our lives, but we must never forget though that Good Friday is always followed by the joy of Easter Sunday. When life becomes difficult, remember the resurrection-our resurrection made possible by Christ's resurrection. Hallelujah!!

Tom Keys, Elder

From the CRE

Greetings sisters and brothers in Christ,

Spring has finally arrived! Spring takes us out of the dark, dismal days of winter; where everything around us dies. In the spring we start to see the birds return with their proclamation and songs to God, we see blossoms on the trees and budding spring flowers breaking through the hard wet soil showing us that life is still *Alive* and well.

We remember what Christ has done for us over 2000 years ago. His self-sacrifice for us so we can be forgiven of our sins is the ultimate sacrifice. We celebrate by shouting out "Christ has Risen! He has Risen indeed!" As we begin a new journey with Christ, a new formation as our Risen Lord, new life comes to everyone who believes.

Dolores Phaneuf shared the following with me:

In 1964 or maybe 1965, Carol Butler (the minister's wife), Ella Eastman and I started the ALIVE and printed the first issue for distribution on Easter Sunday - just to let the congregation know what was going on. The first issue was done on an old mimeograph machine a few month's later the church brought a duplicating machine that still used a stencil.

Isn't it amazing how we can sometimes return to what we believe? Here we are 50 years later, a new look, with more modern resources, more modern ideas, and still delivering the message of God and keeping people informed.

As our lives have become an attachment to a phone or tablet, or some other type of electronic device, in this day and age of modern technology there are so many more options than there were when we were growing up in the church.

The leaders of the church (the Session) have realized that their communication with the church has been lacking. The leaders are moving forward and changing some of the old ways into new ways of thinking. We are developing new ways to communicate to all the members at First United Presbyterian Church of Salem; this being the first step.

Christ has Risen! is still the good news! First United Presbyterian Church of Salem has *Alive* to keep this message and happenings of the church going for another generation!

Michael Barron, CRE

Scriptures

Monthly Scripture Readings

The Scripture readings you will hear in April will come from the following readings:

April 5th - EASTER SUNDAY

Acts 10: 34-43; Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24;
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; John 20: 1-18

April 12th Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133

1 John 3: 1-7; John 20: 19-31

April 19th Acts 3: 12-19; Psalm 4;

1 John 3: 1-7; Luke 24: 36b-48

April 26th Acts 4: 5-12; Psalm 23;

1 John 3: 16-24; John 10: 11-18

Did you Know?

We are looking to send out our Alive! Newsletter via email. In place of receiving the newsletter on paper you can receive it via email and it will be in COLOR!

Give your email address to Dolores Phaneuf to get on the email list!

Newsletter Articles

Deadline for Alive! articles is the 15th of the month!

Session Notes

The Session of the First United Presbyterian Church of Salem held a regular meeting Wednesday evening, March 18, 2015 at the home of Dolores Phaneuf.

Rev. McKinney called the meeting to order at 7:00 and Michael Barron, CRE opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the February 17th meeting were APPROVED as presented.

The **treasurer's report** was ACCEPTED as presented. Previous church insurance that was cancelled by the carrier also cancelled our Workman's Compensation insurance undenounced to the Church. NYS fined the church \$1,500 which the Session has approved the payment.

	For February*	Year-to-Date
Revenue	\$1,885.00	\$5,133.46
Expenses for February	\$4,113.53	\$8,558.11

*Note one Sunday was cancelled in February due to ice and snow.

Treasurer and Building committee will (1) place a lock on the door un the upstairs Boy Scout Room (2) mark all exit doors a place a secondary light source in case of emergencies. These requests and mandates come from our Insurance carrier. Code Enforcement Safety Inspection Certificate has been received.

Clerk's report included communion being served by Michael Barron, CRE and Rev. Dr. David Simmons on March 1st. Building use request from Dolores Phaneuf to use the church for a memorial service for her sister, Beverly McMorris Lloyd on Saturday, July 11 in the morning and possibly use of the chapel for a light lunch.

Mission Team reported that \$1,031.06 was raised from Corn Beef and Cabbage dinner for Salem/Shushan Heat Fund, and that amount will be turned over to Rev. Debbie Earthrowl

Worship and Music Committee - motion made and APPROVED for month's leave without pay in early Fall, for Linda Bischoff, organist.

Restoration Committee - initial contact made with Peter Bell regarding the need for a topographical and perimeter survey, when the snow is off the ground. Synod application for funding distributed to Session members for possible funding source for upcoming repairs.

Building & Grounds Task Force - Met after church on March 15th to discuss and prioritize upcoming repairs as outlined in both studies and prepare a plan to discuss with Session. Session reviewed the plan and voted to Approve the use, if necessary, a small portion of funds from investments with the understanding as fundraising begins this money will be returned for future maintenance.

Discussions during the session meeting also included the announcement from PC (USA) regarding Same Sex Marriages and how we will move forward with upcoming repairs and restoration as well as future pastoral leadership. Announcements to be made during worship and will look at a new service for the fifth Sunday's of the month starting in May.

Respectfully Submitted, Dolores Phaneuf, Clerk of Session

Committee Reports

Worship & Music

Worship and Music met on March 1st and March 22nd.

- Sunrise service will be at Linda Bishoff's home. Time set for 6:30 service. We will meet at the church at 6:00 am and car pool over to Linda's at 6:15 as there is still a lot of snow.
- Easter morning breakfast will be held at 8:30 am in the chapel for anyone who wishes to attend. Checking with Dave Mears to be coordinator.
- Moving back into the sanctuary on Palm Sunday, Jane Keys ordering palms
- One Great Hour of Sharing to be collected on Easter Sunday. Mission team will complete Minute for Missions.
- Bulletins have been ordered for Palm Sunday, Easter, Pentecost, Mother's & Father's Day, and Memorial Day
- Linda Bishoff has requested an additional month vacation without pay for the early fall. This will be brought to session.
- Discussion regarding replacing the wax candles with oil filled candles. Price will be looked into and we have plenty of candles until a decision is made.
- Michael will introduce a new worship style called "Fifth Sunday" to be completed on the fifth Sunday of a month. There are five this year. March (Palm Sunday), May 31, August 30, November 29 (first Sunday in Advent) and December 27 (Sunday after Christmas.) The first one we will celebrate is Monday, May 31.

Faith Filled Friday's

Faith Filled Friday has been moving right along! Most of the kids who attend FFF do not attend a church regularly and aren't familiar with Bible stories. With that in mind, we've been concentrating on the Lenten Journey, trying not to overwhelm them with too much information at once.

We've been using the Sunday readings as a jumping off point and have really had some great conversations. For one lesson the kids learned what he means to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus. We gave them different scenarios where they had to choose between caring for/sharing with others or thinking of themselves first. It was such a blessing to see they always chose others before themselves! Exactly what Jesus wants us to do!

We also made Lenten pretzels with the kids, using this as an opportunity to talk about prayer (since pretzels are made in the shape of arms folded in prayer!) Again, GREAT conversations flowing as the hands worked the dough! Before Easter break, we will be using the Stations of the Cross as a basis to learn about Holy week and Jesus' final hours. Hopefully we'll even get some paper palms made to decorate the sanctuary. I'd like to extend a HUGE thank you to all who've been taking the time to come help us out. It's greatly appreciated!!

Amy Thetford

Deacons

We met on March 16th. The Rev. David Simmons and Alberta Murn took communion to Elsie and Bert. The Deacons took daffodils and a card to our seniors on Monday, March 30th.

We will be finalizing our pie orders to be picked up on April 18th. Pies will be in the Chapel on that day to be picked up between 11 AM—12 Noon.

Our Next meeting will be Monday, April 13 at 12:30 PM.

Mission Team

The Mission Team sends a big "Thank YOU" to everyone who contributed food, helped with preparation, set/clean-up, and bought tickets to make the Irish dinner a great success! A special thank you to Marie Bell who prepared and cooked all of the delicious corned beef. \$1,036.06 was given to Debbie Earthrohl for the Salem/Shushan Heat Fund.

The Mission team will be taking orders for our new, on-going fundraiser, RADA Cutlery (which is all proudly made in the USA.) There is a great selection of various knives that are used daily, including the popular one piece paring knife, peeler, servers, etc. You can get a catalog from any of the Mission Team members: Marilyn Handy, Charlie Perry, Neal Rea, Helen or David Simmons, Amy Thetford, Arna Thibeau or Dolores Phaneuf.

Due to the cancelation on the 4th Sunday of February, there was no 4 cents a Meal collection. This will be taken on March 22nd.

A new mission project has been started that is a year long collection. This came as a request from Salem's School Nurse's office. Due to the rampant illness running through the school, the collection of clothing is almost depleted. There is a need specifically for size 5/6 to 10/12 in gently used sweatpants, wind pants, or shorts. To kick start to program the Mission Team approved a donation of \$100 to the school nurse to purchase underwear and socks. All donations can be taken directly to the school (label the bag "School Nurse") or brought to church and they will be brought over to the school.

The next Mission Team meeting is Monday, April 13th at 7 PM at Dolores Phaneuf's home. All are welcome to attend. "Many hands make light work."

Birthdays/Anniversaries

April Birthday's

1st - Robin Hanks
6th - Bailey Fifield
10th - Albert Woodell
11th - Tammy Loveland
16th - Scott Thetford
22nd - T J Goddard
25th - Zoe Cary Boucher

April's Anniversaries

23rd - Todd and Laural Keys

If you would like a birthday or anniversary published in the Alive!, Please contact the church office at 854-9471

Announcements

Did You Know?

Our Worship Leader, Michael Barron, CRE, has received a request to have a new member class.

The class will be completed in May , approx. 3 meetings, with the hope and joy of having the presentation on Pentecost Sunday (May 24.) This will be adjusted based on the schedules of the new member(s.)

If you wish to become a member please see Michael after worship so enough materials are ordered.

The Salem Volunteer Fire Department is selling Lawn Mower Raffle tickets for \$5 each. Drawing is Saturday, May, 23, 2015.

See Marilyn to purchase your tickets.

Prayers & Concerns

Those in our prayers during the last month:

Family of Ed David	Linda Tucker
Joan Moore	Chris Barrett
Bob Sullivan	The Galzuwitz Family
Arna Thibeau	Pat Barron
Steve Barron	Mary Dickinson's Niece
Helen Simmons	Neal Rea
Alicia Barron	Norma Skelley
Emergency Service Workers	Our Military
Leaders of the world	

Long Term Prayer Consideration

Donna Holmes	Hanna Goldman
David Fleming	Elsie Jackson
For those battling addictions	Homeless men, women, and children
Emergency Services Workers	All the Armed Forces

In Nursing homes

Roberta "Bert" Moore

Each month we will list all of the people that we have had in our prayers for the past month. If you should have anyone you would like to add to our weekly list please place their names in the offering plate during Sunday worship or call the church office, 854-9471, by Friday at 3 PM. **Please notify when name is to be removed.**

Hospital Admittance Update

Due to HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) the Salem First United Presbyterian Church will not be notified if you, or a loved one, are hospitalized. **Please call a deacon or leave a message on the church phone (854-9471) to let us know that you, or a loved one, have been hospitalized.**

When admitted, be sure to list Salem United Presbyterian Church as your affiliate and give permission to release the information so that Rev. Simmons, Michael, or a Deacon can visit. **Otherwise, your admittance and room number may not be available.**

Prayer Requests

If you need a prayer or wish to place someone on the prayer list, please complete this form, or one found in the Narthex, and give it to an usher or deacon.

Name of Prayer recipient: _____

Cause for joy or concern: _____

You name (optional): _____

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
				9:30 AM - Line Dancing <u>Maudy Thursday</u> 6 PM - Dinner; 7 PM worship at West Hebron Presbyterian Church	<u>GOOD FRIDAY</u> Church open from Noon - 3PM Worship Service - 7 PM	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
EASTER SUNDAY <u>Sunrise Service</u> 6:30 am at Linda Bischof's home 8:30 am - Easter breakfast 10 AM - Worship	6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	9 am - Choir Rehearsal 10 AM - Bible Study		9:30 AM - Line Dancing	2:30 PM - Faith Filled Friday's	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10 AM - Worship	12:30 PM - Deacons Meeting 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts 7 PM - Mission TEAM meeting	9 am - Choir Rehearsal 10 AM - Bible Study	11:30 - 1 pm Soup & Sandwich Luncheon	9:30 AM - Line Dancing 7 pm - Session Mtg	2:30 PM - Faith Filled Friday's	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10 AM - Worship Worship & Music Committee Mtg - after worship	6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	9 am - Choir Rehearsal 10 AM - Bible Study		9:30 AM - Line Dancing	2:30 PM - Faith Filled Friday's	
26	27	28	29	30		
10 AM - Worship	6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	9 am - Choir Rehearsal 10 AM - Bible Study		9:30 AM - Line Dancing		

Church Address:
13 West Broadway
Salem, NY 12865

Church Phone Number:
854-9471

Worship Leader: Michael Barron, CRE
518-338-9492

Pastoral Care: Rev. David Simmons, HR
518-692-7859

Clerk of Session: Dolores Phaneuf
518-854-7275

At First United Presbyterian Church:

We believe that God calls everyone to serve one another
with whatever gift each of you has received so that God
may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ!

Join us on Sunday's for worship, music, and fellowship!

Service begins at 10 AM

We're on the Web!
www.salemnyfirstupchurch.com

"This Newsletter is made possible through our giving to
First United Presbyterian Church"

Service Schedule for April 2015

Elder of the Month: Tom Keys

Sunday, April 5th

Reader: Neal Rea
Coffee Time: Mary VanDeWater &
Amy Thetford

Sunday, April 12th

Reader: David Borthwick
Coffee Time: Marilyn Hanby & Donna
Holmes

Sunday, April 19th

Reader: Diane Jilek
Coffee Time: Nancy Bardwell & Valerie
Roche

Sunday, April 26th

Reader: Chris Barrett
Coffee Time: Diane Jilek & Kevin & Jean
Baylor