



Salem First United
Presbyterian Church is:

Alive!

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EASTER SEASON



Special points of interest:

- Adult Crafts April 7th 10am—2 pm
- Articles for the ALIVE! Are due in no later than April 22nd
- One Great Hour Collection April 8th
- 4 Cents a Meal Collection April 22nd
- Tax Day April 17th
- Recipe Submission Deadline April 15th

Special Note of Thanks

As many of you know, my mother passed away after a long battle with cancer on February 22nd. I cannot express enough the gratitude I have for the moments I was able to share with her and my family during her last month here with us. God was ever so present with us every step of the way, journeying right alongside us. I had a conversation with a family friend the night of her wake. This woman was so angry. She couldn't understand why these things happen, why cancer takes a sweet woman from this earth too early and in a horrible way. "She didn't deserve to die this way" I heard her say. No, my mother didn't deserve to die this way, but that is the result of the broken-ness of THIS world. God was with my mother the entire time, gently guiding her, bringing her family close, wrapping her in angel's wings. God was in the love, the ultimate healing that surrounded her and my family. I felt it like I have never felt it before, God moments all around us. I felt the love of my church family surround me with the emails and letters of comfort. I know you were all journeying with me. Your prayers were deeply felt my friends. What I can't understand is how anyone can go through something like this without faith, without knowing God, without the knowledge of a resurrected Christ. We are blessed, deeply blessed that we share this faith journey together and I for one am grateful for every one of you. Thank you all so much.

Submitted by Amy Thetford

Church Cookbook

Ladies and Gents ... the Mission Team is looking for, no more than, **5 or 6** of your favorite recipes. Yes, we are getting back to work on the **Church Cookbook**. The plan is for each recipe to have its own page, with room at the bottom to make notes by the current or future owner. Pastor Donna will be the "watchdog" of this project and select the recipes. Helping are Gail Sheffield Phillips and daughter Meghan Aesch, doing the prep and typing (both have publishing experience). Meghan has published three cookbooks herself and one was a best seller! Recipes can be given to: Amy Thetford, Marilyn Hanby, Helen Simmons or Dolores Phaneuf. **ALL submissions are DUE by APRIL 15th!!!**

Scriptures

Monthly Scripture Readings

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

April 1st	EASTER Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18
April 8th	Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133:1-3 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31
April 15th	Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4:1-8 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48
April 22nd	Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23:1-6 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
April 29th	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study will resume April 18, 8:30 AM, with a 6 weeks focus on Christian faith in response. Plan to join us as we gather with coffee, bible, fellowship and prayer. Adam Hamilton offers an informed and inspired resource, *Unafraid*, weekly lessons and the departure point for conversation and prayer. (This may be just right for anyone struggling with worry, or who wonders how families and communities live as peacemakers in troubled times.)

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please get the information for any and all of the exciting activities that will occur the month of May to Holly Keys (holly.keys@aol.com or call 854-3975 before 8 pm or drop something in her box in the business office at the church (just let her know its there)) by Sunday, April 22nd, sharp!!!!

Thank you!!!

Mission Team

Your Mission Team met for a regular meeting Monday, February 19 at 4 pm. Members of the Mission Team include: Moderator Neal Rea, Charles Perry, Marilyn Hanby, Helen Simmons, Rev. Dr. David Simmons, Amy Thetford, Steven Burgess and Dolores Phaneuf. The Rev. Donna F. Jackson also attended.

The meetings are always opened with prayer and with Neal reading the day's passage, ENDURE, from the book, *God Calling*, "Do Not Forget to meet all your difficulties with love and laughter."

The reports of the Secretary/Treasurer are usually sent to the members prior to the meeting, ready for any needed discussion. (Dolores' computer was down for a couple of weeks, and the report of the treasurer was not available, but would be sent out soon.)

There were several items of correspondence ... "We Are The Church Together", a folder of the Special Presbyterian Offerings for 2018; a folder, "Your Giving At Work" from Albany Presbytery; A thank you from Church World Service for the donation of Hygiene Kits, and Emergency Clean Up Buckets for the latest natural disasters; letter from the Stated Clerk of the Office of the General Assembly concerning the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. We will be collection this offering the Sunday after Easter, April 8, and th Fish Coil Boxes will be available to anyone who wants to use them, also a folder of places OGHS funds have been used; suggestions for family worship during Lent; and a newsletter from Liloan Eye Hospital in Korea ... an interesting project, but we will probably stay local for the time being.

Neal will read a Minute for Mission on Sunday, February 25 and Charlie will read on Mard 18th. David will be the "back-up".

David read an excerpt from the December/January *Presbyterians Today*, written by the new interim editor, The Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson, titled, "In Dark Times, God Does God's Best Work". Her belief is that when this world gets crazy, God id still at work amongst us.

There was a lengthy discussion on violence, especially in schools; what is considered a family unit now; assault weapons, and many other current issues. Also discussion on the Easter Sunrise Servide.

Plans are to have a craft day to make bookmarks for Adopt a Soldier and for the pew bibles, Saturday, March 3rd. Other members of the congregation will be invited to help

The next meeting will be Monday, March 19th at 4:30 at Dolores' house. All are invited! The closing prayer was given by the Rev. Jackson, after she thanked everyone for a great meeting.

Submitted by Dolores Phaneuf

Birthdays/Anniversaries

April Birthday's

1st Robin Hanks
7th Pat Briglin
16th Scott Thetford
25th Zoe Cary Boucher

April Anniversaries

23rd Todd & Loral Keys

If you would like a birthday or anniversary published in the Alive!, Please contact the church office at 854-9471 or holly.keys@aol.com.

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): _____

Mission Team

Your Mission Team had a very productive meeting Monday evening. Those attending were Moderator Neal Rea, Pastor Donna, Dr. Rev. David Simmons, Helen Simmons, Marilyn Hanby, Steven Burgess, Charles Perry and Dolores Phaneuf.

Following the usual business reports, discussions were held on many past and possible future projects for our congregation. We plan to continue with the on-going project of sending used postage stamps to Jane Hanks for her church's mission work. Although Jane is unable to attend here, she is still as faithful to us, as she is to her Florida Church. She keeps herself busy and like many of the rest of us, can't always do it the way that it used to be done.

We spent quite a sum of money, and as we are "God's hands and feet here on earth", we are to love and care for one another. Top on our list is Marie Bell who is preparing for hip surgery soon after Easter. At the present time, she does not expect to need any help on weekends, but may need transportation for appointments or groceries during the week. She did promise me that she would ask for help if needed, and she is appreciative to the many who have already offered.

Charlie is not only heavily busy on the Session, but is in charge of planning meetings to educate the public on the opioid epidemic in the area. He is also involved in many youth programs.

Donations of \$200 each were made to The Salem School Backpack Program. Gift cards to Sheryl Chambers for transportation for Jim's medical appointments for tumor treatments. TD Bank account for Jessica Bullock, a mother of 4 school age children, who has just been diagnosed with a rare form of pancreatic cancer. A local resident.

We are planning to have a spring drive for Adopt A Soldier, based in Saratoga. Plastic grocery bags containing suggestions for donations, will be hung on doors in the "village" of Salem, and possibly distributed by the Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts. A collection bin will be placed at church for people to drop off their donations or contact Amy or Dolores for pick-up. We will make the posters, notices to go into the bags and do the advertising. Charlie volunteered to take them to Saratoga in his truck. My son, Rich, will help him unload them.

Voted to have our annual pig roast in September or October. Dolores will contact Bob Wilcox to make sure that he will still be able to do it.

We are going to finish the Church Cookbook project that we started a couple of years ago. Gail Sheffield Phillips and her daughter, Meghan Aesch, will do the typing and preparation (both have previously worked on publishing). They have both agreed to do the project. Dolores will meet with them Friday, March 22. We want "tried and true" recipes that have been tested. The number of recipes submitted by an individual will be limited to no more than 5 or 6. Each recipe will be on its own page and will have a blank space at the bottom for comments. Pastor Donna will be the "watch dog" as to which recipes will be included, and some may not be included. Many recipes have already been received. The book will also have a memorial section with some recipes from our past cookbooks and dinners.

Suggestions for fund raising to pay for the projects include

Spaghetti Dinner

Local Crafters Craft Show (painters, artists, knitters, other homemade craft articles)

Art Show, Quilt Show

Luncheon the day of the Salem Town Wide Tag Sale

Dessert Auction Food Sale

Basket Auction (there is already someone who is willing to take charge of this)

Continue the sale of RADA knives

Mother's Day Tea with a wedding dress fashion show (dresses from anyone)

May be possible to combine two or more together.

The Mission Team invites anyone to attend a meeting or give suggestions for possible projects or fund raising ideas. The next meeting will be Friday, April 20th.

Submitted by Dolores Phaneuf

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER	2	3	4	5	6	7 Adult Crafts 10-2
8 Worship 10am One Great Hour Collection	9 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	10 Session 7pm	11	12 Line Dancing 9:30am	13 Line Dancing 9:30am	14
15 Worship 10am Worship & Music 11:30am	16 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	17 TAX DAY	18 Bible Study 8:30 am	19 Line Dancing 9:30am	20 Mission Team Meeting	21
Recipe Submissions Due	23 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	24	25 Bible Study 8:30 am	26 Line Dancing 9:30am	27	28
22 Worship 10 am 4 Cents a Meal Collec- tion	29 Fifth Sunday Service Worship 10am ALIVE Deadline					

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Clerk of Session: Marie Bell
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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 2018**

Elder of the Month:

Sunday, April 1st

EASTER

Reader: Diane Jilek

Coffee Time: Marilyn Hanby

David & Helen Simmons

Sunday, April 15th

Reader: Ruth Ihne

Coffee Time: Diane Jilek

Nancy Roundtree

Sunday, April 8th

Reader: Marie Bell

Coffee Time: Nancy Bardwell

Neal Rae

Sunday, April 22nd

Reader: Nancy Rountree

Coffee Time: Dave & Irlene Mears

Kim Skellie

Sunday, April 29th

Reader: Jean Skellie

Coffee Time: Fifth Sunday Celebration