



**Salem First United  
Presbyterian Church is:**

# Alive!

Volume 50, Version 7

July/August 2015

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## Special points of interest:

- Articles for the ALIVE! Are due in no later than the 20th of the month.
- Community Hymn Sing - July 14 & August 12
- Worship at the Lake - August 12th
- Fifth Sunday Worship - August 30th

When Michael informed the Session that we would be writing a piece for Alive based on the month we were Elder of the Month, a little part of me did a blank!

Just what was I going to write??? I focused on two themes in my mind- one music oriented, the other women oriented. (hold on gentlemen- it isn't going the way it might sound)...Women of the Bible.

Now it isn't a big secret that I love to quilt, and there is a quilt that is called Women of the Bible! I have been reading the passages and looking at the blocks- knowing that there are too many quilts and too little time for me to do all of the quilts I love. But reading the history behind these blocks is very interesting.

I'd like to share Mary Magdalene block with you. Now what do you know about Mary Magdalene? Maybe this information is part historical fiction, however parts of it are not.

Mary Magdalene was a prominent woman traveling with a group of women, together with the disciples, following Jesus. Separate companion groups were not uncommon at the time. Mary was the leader of the women's group, while Peter was the leader of the men. Mary joined the group when Jesus cured her of an unknown illness. Some accounts indicate that Mary Magdalene was a former prostitute, but these claims have been found to be untrue. She was, most likely, a woman from a prominent family with considerable resources. She and the other women in the group used their own financial resources to help support Jesus and his followers. Mary was present throughout the final days of Jesus life, death and resurrection. During his crucifixion, the disciples fled; it was too dangerous to remain near Jesus. But Mary Magdalene and a few other women stayed as close to Jesus as possible.

Jesus died on a Sabbath day, and the women were unable to buy the burial spices needed, so they returned to the tomb the following day, and discovered that Jesus' body was missing. Inside the tomb were two angels dressed in white. The women began weeping, thinking that Jesus' body had been stolen. Mary Magdalene begged the angels to tell her where they had taken Jesus. "Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her: "Mary". She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" which means Teacher. (John 20:14-16.)

Continued on the next page...

## Continued from the Front

Mary Magdalene was the first witness to Jesus' resurrection. Some historians have suggested that maybe Mary and Jesus were "involved" but she greeted Jesus with a term that would have been used by his disciples. Jesus had great regard for Mary and trusted her to report his resurrection to the disciples. All accounts of the crucifixion and death of Jesus describe the women who were present, indicating Mary Magdalene was prominent among these women.

Some times, in our busy lives, we are gifted with an uncommon friendship: someone we can trust implicitly and can count on to stand by us through thick and thin. Mary Magdalene held this uncommon friendship with Jesus. She must have been an incredible woman. Do you share an uncommon friendship with somebody? I do, and I hope you do as well.

Diane Jilek, Elder

## From the CRE

Greetings Sisters & Brothers in Christ!

Summer time is here. We have accomplished many things since the beginning of the year and many more will be accomplished before the end of 2015. We have been able to do this because we are approaching God together as a Church. With summer also comes family vacations, times at the beach, and the enjoyment of God's creation in the beautiful area in which we live. As you enjoy this time, remember it's all possible through God.

I invite you to look at the results from our Fifth Sunday worship visioning questions. Some answers were surprising but the results are what I have seen and what I expected. We are a church that is changing - for the better. We are moving towards a new way of thinking that is more Spirit led instead of self-led.

Our next Fifth Sunday is August 30th. We are planning this out right now and hope we can continue to have these types of worship and sharing continuing on as we grow spiritually together as a church. This summer ponder the following questions: What does God have in-store for our church? What might that look like in my eyes?

We started our community hymn sing. This was fun and entertaining. As we will continue these throughout the summer we ask that you give it a try; even if you simply come and listen. The hymn sings are the second Sunday of the month and start at 3 p.m.

May your summer be filled with laughter, joy, happiness, relaxation, and most of all thankfulness to God for all our blessings.

Michael Barron, CRE

# Scriptures

## Monthly Scripture Readings

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

July 5th - 2 Samuel 5: 1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48  
2 Corinthians 12: 2-10; Mark 6: 1-13

July 12th - 2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24  
Ephesians 1: 3-14; Mark 6: 14-29

July 19th - 2 Samuel 7: 1-14a; Psalm 89: 20-37  
Ephesians 2: 11-22; Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

July 26th - 2 Samuel 11: 1-15; Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3: 14-21; John 6: 1-21

August 2nd - 2 Samuel 11: 26-12:13a; Psalm 51: 1-12  
Ephesians 4: 1-16; John 6: 24-35

August 9th - 2 Samuel 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33; Psalm 130: 1-8  
Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6: 35, 41-51

August 16th - 1 Kings 2: 10-12, 3: 3-14; Psalm 111: 1-10  
Ephesians 5: 15-20; John 6: 51-58

August 23rd - 1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84: 1-12  
Ephesians 6: 10-20; John 6: 56-69

August 30th - Song of Solomon 2: 8-13; Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9  
James 1: 17-27; Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

## Session Notes

The Session of the First United Presbyterian Church of Salem held a regular meeting Wednesday evening, June 24, 2015 at the church chapel.

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

The minutes of the May 20th meeting were APPROVED as presented.

The **treasurer's report** was ACCEPTED as presented. Will Linendoll finished the outdoor wiring project. We were able to purchase and fill ALL our fuel tanks at the cost of \$2.30 per gallon (an extremely low price) and are set for the start of winter. We will be asking the congregation to assist with collecting one pound coffee cans to hold cookies for the Thanksgiving baskets that are distributed through the food pantry.

	<b>For May</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$4,577.84	\$19,931.22
<b>Expenses for April</b>	\$5,700.95	\$21,464.48

**Clerk's report:** Two new members were welcomed during the Fifth Sunday worship. Building use requests came from Salem Lunch & Learn for July 23-24 during the preparations for the Alfresco Dinner at the Courthouse. Diane Jilek also requested use to institute an adult craft day in the chapel one per month.

**Building & Grounds Task Force:** Still awaiting the report from AllPro. Will look into other items that can be completed on the outside while we wait for the inside to have the mold removed.

**Mission Team:** Monies were issued from the Deacons Ruth Wright fund for a children's project, Salem Summer Lunch & Learn program. Mission team will match the amount collected by children in VBS "Kid-to-Kid" project. Discussed looking into helping children attend Camp Erin; a camp for children who had lost a loved one. Annual pig roast will be October 17th.

**Worship and Music Committee** - Will continue the Community Hymn Sings throughout the summer. Will hold on the second Sunday of the month at 3 pm. Michael will contact the pastors to help promote in their congregations.

**Restoration Committee** - Looking to move forward by contacting Peter Bell to complete a survey in preparation of the outdoor drainage to be completed.

**Pastoral Care & CRE Report** - Rev. David Simmons reported conversations between 20-30 persons, sent cards, phone calls, and home visits totaling around 50 contacts. Completed home communion to four people; including a visit with Bert Moore. Preparing a Bible study on Paul's letter to the Romans that will begin July 15th. Michael reported participation in the Memorial Day services, Fifth Sunday and Community Hymn sing, led the Baccalaureate, attended the Presbytery meeting in Silver Bay and completed one pastoral care call. Michael will have vacation on July 12 and Aug. 23rd and we will look at alternatives for worshipping those days.

Other items discussed were the accepting, with regret, the resignation from Kevin Baylor, preparing for Holly Keys maternity leave, discussion of Fifth Sunday results and preparing for the next Fifth Sunday worship, Looking at two specific questions: "What makes this church unique in the neighborhood or what makes this church different from the other churches in the village?" and "What kind of person does your congregation want to send out into the world?" Decided and agreed to not meet as a Session during July and August but left it open to meet if a need arises. Will hold the next meeting September 2 for business and have our joint meeting with the Deacons on Sept. 16.

Submitted, Dolores Phaneuf, Clerk of Session

# Committee Reports

## Mission Team

The Mission Team met June 15th at Dolores' home. Neal Rea, moderator, opened with passage from the June 15th reading from "God Calling." David Simmons opened with prayer from the Scripture of the Book of Job.

A motion made and carried to donate \$1000 to the Salem Summer Lunch and Learn Program.

Will complete another RADA cutlery order on July 25th.

David will begin a new Bible Study on Romans, July 17th.

The annual Pig Roast will be October 17th, with tickets being sold before the night of the dinner. Discussion was also about adding a flea market or craft fair.

Vacation Bible School will be held the week of July 20-24. This year five committees or groups from the church will provide an evening meal. The Mission team will supply the pizza and cake on Friday. A note that there may be some conflict with the Washington County Band that uses the chapel for practice on Tuesday nights and Lunch and Learn, who needs space on Thursday and Friday because of the large dinner at the courthouse. Amy will check into this with Seth or Herb about Lunch & Learn. The VBS will raise money to provide bibles for children in Thailand in operation "Kid to Kid." Mission Team to supply matching funds for the project.

Discussion on project "Camp Erin" a camp for children who have lost a loved one. Charlie will see Bev Kratzert or Debbie Earthrowl.

Golf tournament for SAVE van - at last meeting we voted to donate \$50

Meeting was closed in prayer in unison saying the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be July 13th at 7 pm. All are invited!

## Worship & Music

Worship and Music met after church on May 17th and the following was discussed;

- August 9th will be our annual worship at the lake.
- Fifth Sunday will be a breakfast and worship will be held August 30th
- Community Hymn sing event to take place on July 12th, August 9th, and September 13, and a date to be decided in November. We will re-evaluate after the November service.

## Announcements

### Vacation Bible School

Summer's here and we're gearing up for VBS! The children of our community will be enjoying a Thailand Trek this year from July 20th -24th from 5-7:30. The kids will be learning about various ways that 'God Is...real, love, forgiving and forever' all while learning about a foreign culture-Thailand! Every day will be a new experience of bible stories, games and exploring Thailand with videos and crafts. Of course we'll also be sharing a meal and fellowship (what's VBS without food??). We're adding a new twist to the program by having our different church committees host the dinner each night. As usual there will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway with a 'sneak peek' at the program. We're always looking for volunteers to help out. If you're unable to join us during the week, you can still help out by sponsoring a child. Envelopes are available in the narthex and can be put in the collection plate or given to Amy Thetford or Dolores Phaneuf. You can even mail it in with VBS written on the memo line of your check. Come be a part of planting some seeds!

### Community Hymn Sing

Do you like to sing?

Do you have a favorite hymn?

Are there songs you just love to sing that we just can't get enough of during a church service?

Come to our **Community Hymn Sing**. Invite your friends and neighbors. We will join together in singing God's praise and glory by singing some new songs and some of our old time favorites.

Spread the word and join us **Sunday, July 12th and Sunday, August 12 at 3PM.**

### Craft Day for Adults

Salem First United Presbyterian Church will host a crafting Day starting July 1st (Wednesday) from 9-3. We will continue these based on participation on the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone in the community is invited to come. If you require an electrical source please bring an extension cord and power strip. Lunch on your own. Quilting is also welcome!

## Bible Study

Prior to an old Testament study this fall, a summer study group will look at Paul's letter to Romans. Of course, after a beautiful greeting Paul quickly goes into a list of ills that plagued the pagan world of his day. Sure to offer discussion and a bit of digging deeper, we might also be encouraged in care and patience; we then go forward to read some of our world's most powerful statements on life in community and on our calling. St. Augustine, Martin Luther and Karl Barth are only three of many who have begun to read Romans and been remarkably influenced. Romans resulted in revitalization to churches of early Western civilization, the reformation and more the recent, neo-Orthodoxy of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Wednesday classes will begin, July 15 and continue for five weeks beginning at 8:30AM. You are cordially invited.

### Service Schedule for July/August 2015

**Elder of the Month: Diane Jilek**

#### **Sunday, July 5th**

Reader: Nancy Fleming  
Coffee Time: Nary VanDeWater &  
Amy Thetford

#### **Sunday, July 12th**

Reader: Norma Skellie  
Coffee Time: Marilyn Hanby & Donna Holmes

#### **Sunday, August 2nd**

Reader: David Simmons  
Coffee Time: Irlene & Dave Mears,  
Kim Skellie

#### **Sunday, August 9th**

**Worship at the Hedges Lake**

#### **Sunday, August 30th**

**Fifth Sunday**

#### **Sunday, July 19th**

Reader: Pat Briglin  
Coffee Time: Nancy Bardwell & Neal Rea

#### **Sunday, July 26th**

Reader: Deborah Borthwick  
Coffee Time: Diane Jilek &  
Jean & Kevin Baylor

#### **Sunday, August 16th**

Reader: Nick Holmes  
Coffee Time: Dave & Helen Simmons  
Arna Thibeau

#### **Sunday, August 23rd**

Reader: Jim Briglin  
Coffee Time: Valerie Roche

## Birthdays/Anniversaries

### July & August Birthday's

July 3rd	Dean Hanks	Aug 1st	Evelyn Braymer
July 6th	Helen Simmons	Aug 3rd	Neal Rea
July 7th	Jim Briglin	Aug 16th	Irlene Mears
	Mary VanDeWater		Holly Hanks Keys
July 11th	Jean Skellie		Ida Armstrong
July 14th	Donna Holmes	Aug 18th	Marie Bell
July 16th	Chris Barrett	Aug 20th	Charlie Perry
July 26th	Christopher Barrett	Aug 21st	Alberta Murn
		Aug 22nd	Amy Thetford
		Aug 24th	Madison Barrett

### July & August Anniversaries

July 3rd	Jim & Kay Tomasi
July 28th	Tim & Diane Jilek
Aug. 6th	Jay & Kim Skellie
Aug. 7th	Neal & Carol Rea
Aug. 11th	Bob & Thema Fiske
Aug. 26th	Jim & Pat Briglin

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

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**Foundational in Community,  
Foundational in Faith, and  
Foundational in God's Love.**

First United Presbyterian Church was founded and this community built around our church. When times change, the people change and new faces emerge. We have been a foundation for the community by never wavering, always present, and ready to serve our sisters and brothers.

First United Presbyterian Church believes all people are called to God at some point. We are ready to show God's love through our missionary work in helping our sisters and brothers in the community. We rely on God's strength and love to help us maintain our foundational presence in our community; a community founded in faith, hope, and love.

# Prayers & Concerns

## Those in our prayers during the last month:

New life and Birth of children	Carol Wilkins
Family of Steven Barron	Rev. Jerry McKinney
David Mears	Damien
Scott	Faith Filled Fridays
New Ministries within our church	Shirley
Albert Woodell Family	Family of Marilyn Feanan (Tom Key's Sister)
The Wilbur Family	Janet
Jessica Barrett	Amy Thetford & family
All High School Graduates	Our Military
Emergency Service Workers	Leaders of the world

## Long Term Prayer Consideration

Donna Holmes	Hanna Goldman
David Fleming	Elsie Jackson
Alicia Barron	Sasha Blake
For those battling Addictions or abuse	Homeless men, women, and children
Emergency Services Workers	All the Armed Forces

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.**

### In Nursing homes

Roberta "Bert" Moore

## 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): \_\_\_\_\_

## Fifth Sunday Visioning

Here are the results of everyone's answers in a word cloud from our first Fifth Sunday worship. Thank you all for your willingness to participate. The larger the response the more times it came up in a response. This is just a starting point for our church. We will learn new things about ourselves and about how we can better serve the church, the community, and serve our Lord. The words that are the largest are the current feelings of the church in Salem. May God always be with us, guiding us to what we have been called to do in Salem.

### What brought you here the very first time?

A word cloud containing the following terms: ancestors, closer to God, grew-up here my feet, tolerant members, message from former pastor, brought in by current member, family (largest), mom, friendly, minister, born, involvement in community, forward looking, previous pastor, spouse friendly people VBS, father good friends beauty, opportunity, moved here.

### What made you stay after the first visit?

A word cloud containing the following terms: people hope, worship leader, location, commitment, work (largest), the energy, felt like home, warmth, preacher's wife, family roots, worship, faith, inspirational sermons, family feeling, returned to church, musical ministry, God's word to me, feeling of family, mom, belonging, friendly people (largest), community, family, loyalty, fit our need.

Our Church is...

A word cloud with 'alive' at the top left and 'loving' in the center. Other words include 'solid foundation of faith', 'Love', 'called worried', 'kind working', 'home', 'poor old', 'moving ahead', 'started growth', 'encompassing', 'struggling', 'baby steps in growth', 'tight-knit', 'dependable', and 'awesome'.

Our Church is not...

A word cloud with 'dying' on the left and 'dead' at the bottom center. Other words include 'done Close', 'Leaving perfect away rich', 'exclusionary argent alone static', 'their hope', 'growing to', 'doors lost', 'God worshipping', and 'going without'.

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
	6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts		1 9-3 Craft Day for Adults	2 9:30 am - Line Dancing	3	4 Independence Day
5 10 am - Worship	6 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	7	8	9 9:30 am - Line Dancing	10	11 Memorial Service for Beverly McMorris-Llyod
12 10 am - Worship (guest speakers) 3 pm - Community Hymn Sing	13 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	14	15 8:30 - Bible Study 11:30 - 1:00 - Soup & Sandwich Luncheon	16 9:30 am - Line Dancing	17	18
19 10 am - Worship 11:30 am - Worship & Music Committee	20 5 PM - VBS	21 5 PM - VBS	22 8:30 - Bible Study 5 PM - VBS	23 9:30 am - Line Dancing Salem Lunch & Learn 5 PM - VBS	24 Salem Lunch & Learn 5 PM - VBS	25
26 10 am - Worship	27 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	28	29 8:30 - Bible Study	30 9:30 am - Line Dancing	31	

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
						1
2 10 am - Worship	3 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	4	5 8:30 - Bible Study 9:30 - 3 - Craft Day for Adults	6 9:30 Line Dancing	7	8
9 10 am - Worship at Hedges Lake 3 pm - Community Hymn Sing	10 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	11	12 8:30 - Bible Study	13 9:30 - Line Dancing	14	15
16 10 am - Worship 11:30 am - Worship & Music Committee	17 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	18	19 11:30 - 1:00 - Soup & Sandwich Luncheon	20 9:30 - Line Dancing	21	22
23 10 am - Worship	24 6 pm - Cub Scouts 7 pm - Boy Scouts	25	26	27 9:30 - Line Dancing	28	29
30 10 am - Fifth Sunday Worship	31					

Church Address:  
13 West Broadway  
Salem, NY 12865  
Email:  
salemfirstunitedpresbychurch@gmail.com

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

First United Presbyterian Church:

**Foundational in Community, Foundational in Faith,  
and  
Foundational in God's Love .**

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

Service begins at 10 AM

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.salemnyfirstupchurch.com](http://www.salemnyfirstupchurch.com)

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

Don't forget that the last Sunday in August (August 30th) we will have another "Fifth Sunday" Worship service. Come and see what it's all about!

If you were unable to attend the first one, join us for this one! We share a meal, stories, and music! A great way to glorify God and celebrate church!

Bring a brunch dish to pass and join us for "Fifth Sunday"  
Sunday, August 30th at 10 am in the chapel.