

A Note From The Pastor

Pastor's Ponderings

Resurrection Hope

I sit here writing this in my office here at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville. Winter weather in Albany has once again delayed my flight home. Rather than sit in an airport, I have decided to sit among friends and colleagues in a place where the coffee is hot and good and conversation and laughter is abundant. The joy of seeing me “back” in the office so soon, was wonderful to experience and it got me thinking just how powerful a warm welcome is. We in our church certainly do have warm welcomes. Our coffee hour has been quite lively and full of energy these past few months and I have seen week after week the warm hugs to those who are coming back. I, myself, have also experienced that warmth. It is one of those “lights” in our congregation that needs to shine out to the community even more. We have something special here that we need to share.

And what better time to share that joy than in the season of Easter that will soon be upon us. I know, it is still March and we have more weeks of Lent to journey through. We have Holy Week as well, with Maundy Thursday reminding us of Jesus’ last mandate to us to “love one another” and then the cross of Good Friday. We cannot sidestep this dark time of our journey, for those dark times, those times of struggles make us more aware of the mighty grace and power of God.

But this year, I am eager to get to Easter’s resurrection hope. I am eager to get to this season of celebrating the gifts we have in our family of faith. I am ready to shout loud and clearly the Easter promise, “He is alive!”

And we are alive. Our congregation, our witness, our mission work — God has a bright future for us. But this work of being Easter people is just that. Work. Work that will be challenging, but work I believe that will be life-giving and so rewarding.

So, I ask for you to join me in March in praying for the ministries God is preparing for us. Let’s spend these last weeks in Lent prayerful asking God to “show us the way.” That’s all. Just show us the way. For God will indeed do so.

Then when the first rays of Easter morning break through the clouds, we will be ready to greet our Risen Lord with more than just words of praise. We will be ready to greet our Savior with open hands ready to do the work of the church. First United Presbyterian has been a beacon of faith in Salem for 200 plus years. Like our church newsletter says, we are “ALIVE.”

Hope lives because Jesus lives and our church lives because of our hope in our resurrected Lord.

I am so blessed to be here as your pastor. So very blessed.

Now let me check the flight status. I pray there are no more delays for I can’t wait to finally get on that plane back to you for some coffee hour conversation and plenty of hugs.

Blessings!

Pastor Donna

Scriptures

Monthly Scripture Readings

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

March 4th	Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19:1-14 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22
March 11th	Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21
March 18th	Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12 Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33
March 25th	PALM SUNDAY Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1- 15:47
March 30th	GOOD FRIDAY Isaiah 52:13- 53:12; Psalm 22:1-31 Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1 - 19:42

Easter Plant Sale

It's that time of year once again to place your orders for beautiful plants from Laura's Garden, to fill our sanctuary. You can find a copy of this years updated order form attached, in the weekly bulletin or on the table located at the back of the chapel.

Please note, monies are due upon ordering.

Hurry don't miss out.

Orders due by March 18th!!!!

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

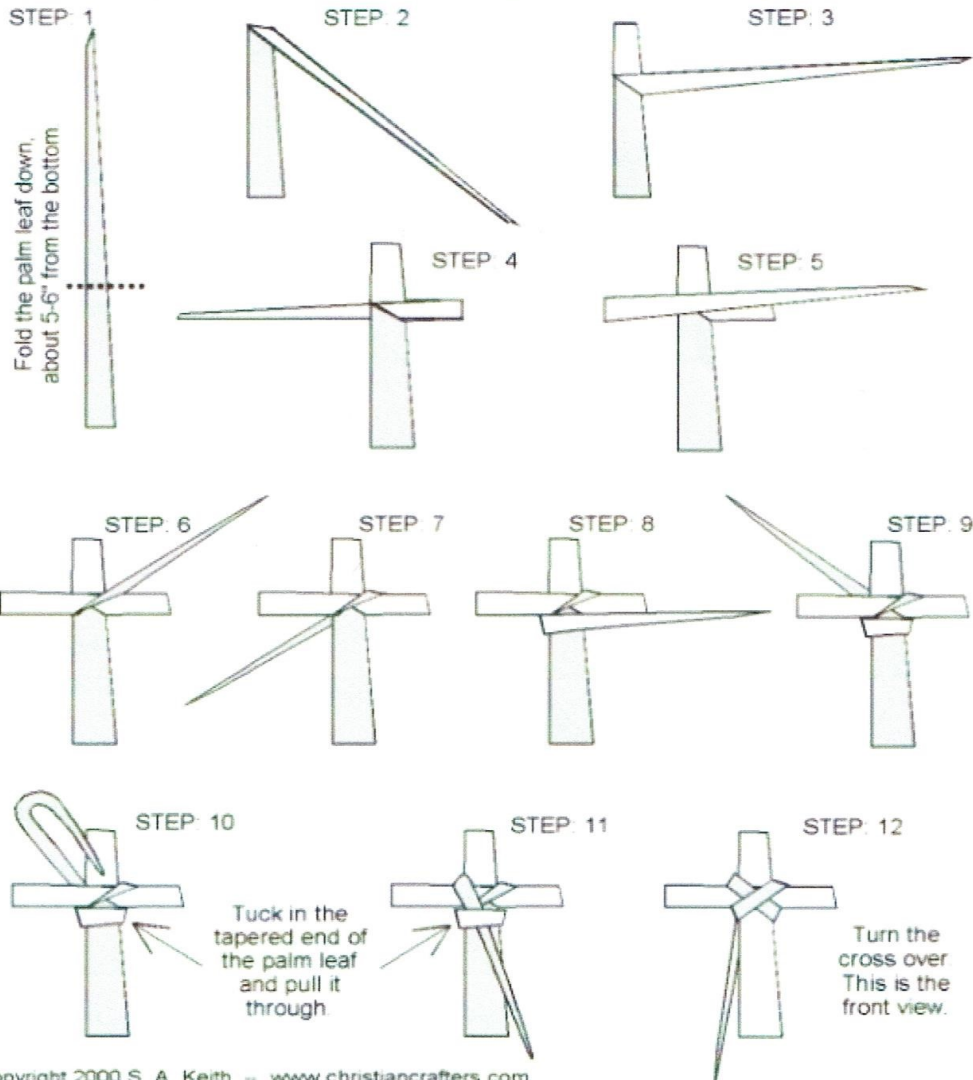
Please get the information for any and all of the exciting activities that will occur the month of April to Holly Keys (holly.keys@aol.com or call 854-3975 before 8 pm or drop something in her box in the business office at the church (just let her know its there)) by Sunday, March 25th, sharp!!!!

Thank you!!!



Palm Cross Diagram

Supplies: One palm leaf strip about 24-26" in length, 1/2" in width, tapering to the end



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Easter Plant Sale

We will again be ordering flowers from **Laura's Garden** (854-3833). Submit your order to **Jane Keys** or **Holly Keys** as soon as possible, but **NOT LATER THAN MARCH 18th**. Orders will not be accepted after this date. If you order through the church and include payment, the florist delivers them. Make checks payable to the church. Write **"Easter Flowers"** on the memo line. If you buy a plant elsewhere and deliver it yourself, fill in the bottom portion of this form for the bulletin listing.

TO ORDER THROUGH THE CHURCH:

Easter Lily

6" 1ppp (5-6 bud) \$ 9.25 _____ 6" 1ppp (7-8 bud) \$11.75 _____
 8" 2ppp (1012 bud) \$22.75 _____ 10" 3ppp (15-18 bud) \$32.95 _____

Tulips

6" \$ 8.50 _____
 8" \$18.25 _____
 10" \$23.95 _____

Daffodil

6" \$ 8.50 _____
 8" \$18.25 _____

Hyacinth

6" \$ 8.50 _____
 8" \$18.25 _____
 10" \$23.95 _____

Cyclamen 6" \$14.95 _____

Martha Washington Geranium 6" \$16.95 _____

Hydrangea

6" \$25.95 _____
 8" \$35.95 _____

Azalea

6" \$19.00 _____
 8" \$29.95 _____

Kalanchoe 6" \$14.95 _____ Reiger Begonia 6" \$14.95 _____ Mum 6" \$10.95 _____

Mixed Garden (tulip, hyacinth, daff)

6" \$14.95 _____ 8" \$19.25 _____ 10" \$29.95 _____

_____ I will purchase my plant elsewhere and my bulletin information is listed below.

(PLEASE SPECIFY) **"In Memory Of"** or **"In Honor Of"**:

Given By:

Birthdays/Anniversaries

March Birthday's

8th Nathanael Holmes
Tauno Wirkki
17th Thane Rea
24th Laural Keys
27th Jane Hanks (99th!!)

March Anniversaries

NONE

Lenten Lunch Schedule

Be part of a wonderful Salem tradition which brings the community together for a time of devotion, song and fellowship. Lenten Lunches are held each Thursday at noon in Lent, beginning February 15. Bring your own sandwich to accompany the delicious homemade soups that will be served at each host church.

March 1—Holy Cross Catholic Church, Rev. Laura Mitchell speaking

March 8—Hebron United Presbyterian Church, Rev. Debbie Earthrowl speaking

March 15—Salem First United Presbyterian Church, Carol Fink speaking

March 22—Shushan Presbyterian Church, Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson speaking

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): _____

March 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Worship 10am	5 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	7 Bible Study 8:30 am	8 Line Dancing 9:30am	9 Line Dancing 9:30am	10 TURN CLOCKS AHEAD AT BEDTIME!!!
11 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Worship 10am	12 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	14 Bible Study 8:30 am	15 Line Dancing 9:30am Lenten Lunch 11:30 am	16 Lenten Lunch 11:30 am	17 ST PATRICKS DAY Pie Order Pick Up 12:00 pm
18 Worship 10 am Worship & Music 11:30am Easter Plant Orders Due	19 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	21 Bible Study 8:30 am	22 Line Dancing 9:30am	23 Line Dancing 9:30am	24
25 PALM SUNDAY Worship 10am 4 Cents a Meal Collec- tion ALIVE Deadline	26 Cub Scouts 6pm Boy Scouts 7pm	28 Bible Study 8:30 am	29	30 GOOD FRIDAY	31 PASSOVER

Church Address:
13 West Broadway
PO Box 606
Salem, NY 12865

Church Phone Number:
518/854-9471

Pastoral Care: Pastor Donna Jackson
Phone # 802-394-2602
E-mail: pastordonna1@gmail.com

Clerk of Session: Marie Bell
Phone # 518-677-3020
E-mail: tmbellz@aol.com

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
March 2018**

Elder of the Month:

Sunday, March 4th

Reader: Neal Rea

Coffee Time: Valerie Roche

Sunday, March 11th

Reader: Sylvia Graham

Coffee Time: Dolores Phaneuf
Jean & Norma Skellie

Sunday, March 18th

Reader: Kim Skellie

Coffee Time: Kay Tomasi
Jane & Tom Keys

Sunday, March 25th

PALM SUNDAY

Reader: Nancy Bardwell

Coffee Time: Mary Van De Water
Amy Thetford