

# The Herald

## First Church in Salem Newsletter

Dear Friends

I pause here at the end of our first interim year together to reflect on the path we have walked together thus far. I appreciate those of you who have been engaged in the life of the community this year, those who have come to worship, sung in the choir, helped with RE, brought your kids, brought a dish to share at fellowship, served on a committee or task force, made a pledge.

Somehow or other, we have lent a portion of our spirits, minds, hearts to the life of First Church in Salem, and I hope and trust the community is in a better place as we end the year together.

I have watched and listened as you have begun to acknowledge some of the difficult realities of the past few years together, taken some risks in sharing your honest truths with one another, even with people who think and feel very differently about things than you do. That is not easy. It takes energy and it takes courage. Thank you. It is essential to the repair and mending needed to bring this community back to a full and vital life together.

The work is not done, but it is well started.

Its not that different from what each one of us does in our own personal life, I think. We're always engaging, I think, in a kind of "spiritual inventory taking," sometimes more fully and honestly, sometimes less so, with the different events and challenges of our lives. To be a mature adult is to confess we have not always done it perfectly or just as we might have wished. It is also to be able to name and claim our own gifts and strengths that we might exercise and enjoy them.

So it goes with a church community as well. Spiritual stock-taking.

I hope, here on the edge of summer, you will pause to celebrate the steps you have taken, individually and collectively, as a spiritual body together. *[continue]*

## Newsletter Highlights

Summer Staff Schedules

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Religious Ed Updates

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Pastoral Care

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Stewardship & Giving

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North Shore Pride Parade

First  
Church  
in  
Salem,  
Unitarian  
Universalist

I'm looking forward to a rest, some travel and walking in southern Scotland and the Yorkshire Dales, some time with family. We'll have a graveside service for my sister in Rhode island in early August. I'll take a class in painting an icon at the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Mass, something I never thought I'd do! There will be time, I can guess, for rest, reading, walking, ocean, garden, friends, handwork, and new adventures threaded through.

I've decided that "notice and savor" are my watchwords for this summer. Drawing on an ancient prayer tradition called the "daily examen." I'll try to "notice" and to "savor."

Here are some words by Henry David Thoreau. They are about the summer although, oddly enough, he wrote them on March 15, 1852 in his journal:

"I go forth to make new demands on life.  
I wish to begin this summer well;  
to do something in it worthy of it and of me;  
to transcend my daily routine and that of my townsmen;  
to have my immortality now,  
that it be in the quality of my daily life; . . . .

May I dare as I have never done!  
May I persevere as I have never done!  
May I purify myself anew as with fire and water, soul and body!  
May my melody not be wanting to the season!  
May I gird myself to be a hunter of the beautiful, that naught escape me!"

I hope the summer will help you "hunt for the beautiful" as well. See you at the end of August!

Jenny

## SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

### SUMMER STAFF SCHEDULES

Reverend Jenny Rankin | Interim Minister

Rev. Jenny will be out of the office and on vacation from June 18-Aug 18. During this time, there will be a minister on call for pastoral care. Sarah Klokowski lives in Salem and is training for the ministry; Sarah worked closely with Rev. Jenny for three years and can vouch for her gifts in ministry. You can reach out to her at 774-334-0298 or sarah@fplincoln.org if you need someone to talk to or there is a pastoral care need in your family.

Catherine Bertrand | Congregational Administrator

The church office closes for the month of July. Catherine will be available for meetings remotely Monday through Friday 1:30pm-4pm. If you need to contact her please email Catherine for an appointment at firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com. Catherine will be out of the office and on vacation from July 18-August 2 and from August 14-18.

Theo Burbank | Religious Education Coordinator

The RE Coordinator position operates on a 10-month basis. Theo's last day for the year will be June 21. Over the summer she will be running a day camp and taking some time to travel and recharge. She'll be back to work and available to meet again starting August 22.

Lisa Charest | Henny Penny Preschool Director

Henny Penny will be closed from 6/9/23 - 8/29/23. We will be starting our new academic year on 9/11/23. Lisa will be accessible via email, hennypennynurseryschool@gmail.com

### SUMMER CHURCH SERVICES

June 11 RE Sunday and Bridging

June 18 Worship led by Transition Team

June 25 no worship service at 316 Essex Street; people are invited to watch worship service at General Assembly in Pittsburgh. The live stream will be available here at 11am on Sunday, June 25: <https://www.uua.org/ga/program/highlights/sunday-morning-worship>

During the month of the July there are no church services held and the church office is closed. Church services (without Sunday School or childcare) resume on August 6th with our annual Founders' Day Service. Sunday School will resume with our Homecoming Service on Sunday, September 10th.

August Preaching Schedule

August 6: Diane Smith leads our annual Founders' Day service.

August 13: Tiffany Magnolia

August 20: A guest from ECCO (Essex County Community Organization) will be leading.

August 27: Claire Donaldson

Reminder! There is no service on Labor Day Weekend: Sunday, September 3rd. Please join us for our Homecoming and Water Communion Service on Sunday, September 10!

## In Religious Education

Over the summer please take a look at the page for the Little Free Library:

<https://www.firstchurchinsalem.org/little-free-library>

This page includes information about the project and a way to donate online. We hope to have this library installed at the end of September, but we need to raise the money before the end of the church year. Please contact Theo at [fcreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:fcreligioused@gmail.com) if you are interested in getting involved or have any questions.




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## Pastoral Care Team

Our team supports members and friends of First Church who are ill or in need of comfort. We provide meals, rides, condolence cards, phone calls and visits to hospitals, nursing homes or at their home. A group of volunteers called Care Angels offers these services. If you know of someone in need, please contact Sally Millice 978-745-1632 or Sharon Corrigan 802-236-0054. You may also contact the church office who can reach us.

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## Stewardship & Giving

Stewardship Pledges can still be made over the summer if you haven't had an opportunity to make one already! [Click here to pledge.](#)

If you need to manage your online contributions or any giving you can [click here for further details](#) or contact Catherine at [firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com).

# First Church Communications

## CONNECT WITH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

To connect with members of committees or leadership at First Church please use our online Directory. This can be accessed through your Breeze account: [firstchurchinsalem.breezechms.com](http://firstchurchinsalem.breezechms.com) Under 'Tags' you will find "Online Directory". Updated printed Directories will be made available quarterly. Please feel free to contact Catherine at [firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com) as well.

## NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR JENNY

The church leadership decided for a number of reasons it was best for Jenny to have a brand new email address, so it is: [jrankin@firstchurchinsalem.org](mailto:jrankin@firstchurchinsalem.org). If by mistake, you use the old one ([minister@firstchurchinsalem.org](mailto:minister@firstchurchinsalem.org)) all those emails will be forwarded to her new email address so she will get them. If you have any questions about this, please contact our parish administrator, Catherine Bertrand at [firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com)

## GET THE WORD OUT!

We want all of our events and meetings at First Church to be well attended and successful. The First Church staff is here to help you get the word out about your ministry event or need! We strive to reflect the heart of your event while maintaining the best practices to ensure effectiveness, clarity, and consistency.

All communications for publication must be submitted via email to [firstchurchcomm@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchcomm@gmail.com).

### BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER: THE HERALD

We have a bi-monthly newsletter that is sent either on the first of every month or the Friday before the first Sunday of each month.

- **Publication Dates:** *To Be Announced in August*
- **Materials Deadline for publication:** *To Be Announced in August*

### WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: E-HERALD

We have a weekly email newsletter that is *sent by 2pm on Fridays*.

- **Deadline for publication:** Every Thursday by 10am.
- Articles about church related items or events are welcome. Photos and other images are welcome, however, those that are blurry, out of focus, or may violate copyrights may be excluded.
- **Things to include as necessary:**
  - Contact name and info for committee/team or an individual if your article asks readers to take an action. Consider that many people no longer have house phone lines; it's good to indicate if texting is preferred. Phone numbers should also include area codes.
  - Date and time of event.
  - Location.

### ORDER OF SERVICE & SUNDAY VERBAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Print Deadline:** Every Thursday by 10am
- **In-Person Announcement Deadline:** Every Friday by 10am
- Announcements submissions are 75 words or less (three brief sentences) - not including the title, and date and time, if needed.
- Verbal announcements should follow print guidelines regarding length. If your news is a repeat announcement or something longer than a few sentences, please reach out to discuss the possibility of a pulpit editorial or offertory reflection.

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INTERIM MINISTER: REVEREND JENNY RANKIN  
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: THEO BURBANK  
SEXTON: BILLY MCCARTHY  
CHAIR OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE: STEVE PALMER  
CHAIR OF THE DEACONS: LYNN TAGGART  
DIRECTOR OF HENNY PENNY: LISA CHAREST  
LEAD TEACHER, HENNY PENNY: TRICIA PINI



*proud to be here  
proud to be together*

**PROUD**  
to be  
**ME**



Join First Church members  
and friends on  
Saturday, June 24 for the  
annual North Shore Pride  
Parade.

Line up and check in begins at  
11am at Shetland Park on  
Congress Street.  
Parade kicks off at noon and  
ends at the Salem Common.

All are welcome!!! Friends,  
families, everyone!