

# THE RED DOOR



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BIG FLATS, NY – MAY 2015

Founded 1827 ----- “Pride In Our Past – Faith In Our Future”

(607) 562-8048 ----- /www.bigflatsfirstpres.org/

“... ‘I assure you that whatever you did for the humblest of my brothers you did for me.’”



“Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

“The mark of an effective church is not how many people come but how many people who live differently as a result of having been there.”

Priscilla Shirer

Thank you for  
your service to  
Christ.

Dear Friends,

The size of a church is not an indication of its service to the global and local communities. I continue to give my heart and soul to this church and the communities around it and am ever thankful for you who continue to graciously and humbly give your heart and soul as well.

Peace

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Rick".

# Stubborn Hope Project



**First Presbyterian Church  
of Big Flats  
needs You!**



“That is what the gospel is all about: that God makes room for eternal life to grow, for divine love to multiply even in the worst conditions even in the valley of the shadow of death”

(Isaac S. Villegas)

How can we bring new life to our church?  
New faces, new lives, new ideas. Give your  
idea and how you are willing to implement it.

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(Please submit in offering plate by July  
31<sup>st</sup>, 2015)

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

# Circle of Love

**We serve a risen Savior!** Easter is always a special time for our congregation, and this year was no exception. Our Lenten season was marked with very meaningful worship services and beautiful music. Our Holy Week featured a festive Palm Sunday service, a very spiritual Maundy Thursday experience, a joyous Easter Sunrise Ecumenical Service and breakfast (held this year at Hillview Methodist), and a wonderful Easter Sunday time of worship and praise. Soul-lifting music, inspiring messages, a beautifully decorated sanctuary, the joyful sounds of our children as they hunted for Easter eggs, and a wonderful coffee hour combined to make Easter Sunday a day to remember! Special thanks to **Barb Horn** and the Worship committee, **Nancy Compton** and the choir, **Stacie Belosky** and the Christian Ed. Committee, **Ann and Mark Slowik** and kitchen helpers (wow -- what a fabulous Easter buffet during our morning coffee hour!), **Jenny Dean and Kathy Johnston** for the beautiful flowers, and, of course, **Reverend Rick** for making it all so meaningful.



Some of last month's highlights include:

- Thank you to all who participated in our special collection for the Food Pantry on Easter Sunday. This year's campaign raised nearly **\$400** in cash and food donations to help those served by our local pantry.
- Saturday, April 11, was the date of our seventh and final fundraising breakfast for the 2014-2015 season. What a terrific project this has been. Thanks to **Jenny Dean**, the Membership Committee, and to all our wonderful volunteers (and patrons, too) for making these morning meals so successful! Be sure to watch for news of our return next fall!
- We celebrated a special birthday in our congregation during April with a card shower. Congratulations and best wishes to **Dorothy Bartlett**, who marked her **102<sup>nd</sup>** birthday on April 16.
- On Sunday, April 19, we worked to assemble a large number of Hygiene Kits to help disaster victims. The kits contain a variety of personal care items and are distributed by the Church World Services organization. Our Mission Team has provided funds to purchase items for the kits. **Gigi Price** coordinated our efforts. Thanks to all who pitched in to help!
- Special thanks to **Ty and Luke Gromer** for stepping forward to help our church run smoothly. Ty has volunteered to make sure that our morning bulletins are folded and ready to be used each Sunday, while Luke, who serves on our Session and the Property Committee, has taken on the responsibility of serving as our Banner Coordinator. **Duane Welch**, who has taken care of the banners for the past eight years, is working with Luke to ensure a smooth transition.
- In our concerns this month, we ask for prayers for: **Joyce & Sam Dean, Stephen French, Pat & Tom Seem (daughter Erin), Gigi Price, Larissa & Miranda Page, Alan Giglio (Pat Fitzgerald's nephew), Reva Soutar, Nick Rudnick, Emma Gardner, Flora Berke, Irene Hooley, Lydia Middaugh, Jackie McMann, Ginnie Schweizer, Dudley & Marie Shea, Ruth Price (Rev. Rick's mother), Marge Larocque (Gigi's mother)**, and others who are dealing with ill health, surgery, loss, or life changes. Please continue to pray for our servicemen and women and their families and for peace in our troubled world.



*Do you have a special joy or concern that you would like to share with our Big Flats Presbyterian Church community? See Rev. Rick or Bill Howells, and we will include your news in our Joys/Concerns column.*

[www.bigflatsfirstpres.org](http://www.bigflatsfirstpres.org)

## SPAGHETTI DINNER SET FOR APRIL 30

Here's a chance to enjoy a terrific meal at a terrific price to help a terrific church! Please plan to attend our fund-raising Spaghetti Dinner on **Thursday evening, April 30**. The menu will feature spaghetti and meatballs, salad, beverage, and choice from a variety of desserts. We will charge **\$6.00** per person, with a maximum of **\$12.00** for a family. We will be serving dinner from **5:00 – 7:00 PM**, and take-out meals will be available. We hope to see you (and your appetite) on April 30. Bring a friend (or two, or three)!



## SPRING RUMMAGE SALE COMING MAY 30



Our Spring Rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, May 30, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**, with lunch served and a bake sale. Our reduced-price **Bag Sale** will take place at **1:00 PM**.

Donations of sale items are most welcome. We have some room to store sale goods in the church basement, but it would save a great deal of work if items could be held at home and then brought in from **Sunday, May 24, through Tuesday, May 27**. At that point they can be left in the Sunday School classroom, thus saving our volunteers from making many additional trips up and down the basement steps. If you need access to the church, call **Linda Lincoln at 562-7601**.

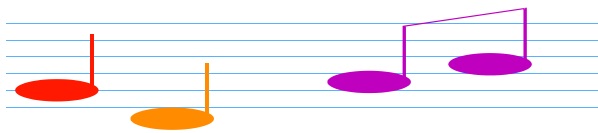
We are going to need volunteers for setting up, working at the sale, taking down, and a variety of other jobs. We will be setting up tables on **Wednesday, May 27, starting at 9:00 AM**, and we will then continue working to organize and price items for the sale. If needed, this work will continue on **Thursday, May 28, also at 9:00 AM**. We may also be working on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. We will be cleaning up after the sale on **Saturday, May 30, at 2:00 PM**. Extra workers are requested to come for setup on **Wednesday morning** and for cleanup on **Saturday**. Many hands make light work! Sign-up sheets will be posted.

The sale of baked goods during our rummage sale is always very popular (and profitable!). Donations of baked items will be most appreciated. These baked goods can be brought to church on Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning.

Our sale is truly a win – win – win event – a chance to recycle your un-needed items; a chance to help raise funds for our church; a chance for everyone in our community to buy quality items at bargain prices! Please consider spending a few hours of your week to make this sale successful.

**Linda Lincoln, Nancy Pangia, and Donna Stevens** are coordinating our sale and will be happy to answer your questions.

## NOTES



## FROM OUR CHOIR LOFT

Both the choir and the bell choir are wrapping up the church year. The last week that the Chancel Choir will sing is **June 14th**. We have been invited that day to the home of Pat and Robin Fitzgerald for an end of year picnic. Meat and rolls will be furnished. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Our end of year picnic was at their home last year and we all had a wonderful time. They have a wonderfully cool porch - even on a hot day, and a lovely pool, should you be interested in swimming.

The bell choir also plans to ring a couple more times before June 14. If you would like to join us for the fall (Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas season), please speak with Nancy Compton.

The Chancel choir rehearses on **Sunday mornings at 9:30 sharp**. Join us any time. We have a lot of fun and produce some absolutely wonderful music. We'll save you a seat!!!



## PICTURES WANTED!!



We are seeking pictures, preferably digital photos, of children/families/friends in our church that can be scanned for a Power Point presentation on June 14, during **Children/Youth Sunday**. It will really make the planning process much more efficient if pictures are submitted as soon as possible. Pictures can be given to **Gigi Price** on a disc or may be e-mailed to her at [gprice@stny.rr.com](mailto:gprice@stny.rr.com). Thanks, in advance, for your help.

## 2015 QUILT PROJECT UNDERWAY

Our world-famous quilters have started work on this year's raffle quilt. Our talented seamstresses have been busily working to sew the squares ready for assembly into the quilt. The results of their collaborative effort will be ready for us all to see in the fall. Last year's raffle raised nearly \$800, and we are hoping for even greater success in 2015. Watch for more details in upcoming months.

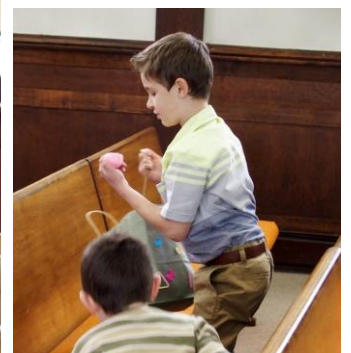
## PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our church grounds are looking very spiffy, thanks to the efforts of many dedicated volunteers. Thanks to all who work to keep our church looking so nice!

- On Saturday, April 18, **Mary Churchill, Brian Dean, Chris Dean, Jenny Dean, Pat Fitzgerald, Scott French, Luke Gromer, Ty Gromer, Tom Halm, Bill Howells, Kathy Johnston, Pat Seem, Tom Seem, Bob Tedrick, and Jean Tedrick** spent the morning cleaning up the area along the northern edge of our church's Welles Land property. The group took down a number of trees, removed stumps, and cleared dead wood and debris from the tree line border.
- Also on Saturday, April 18, scouts from Troop 87, along with a number of adult volunteers, raked and cleaned up cleaned leaves and debris from all the flower and shrubbery beds surrounding our church building. The group then worked to clean up the area along the south edge of our Welles property. Special thanks to **John Farr**, who coordinated the involvement of Troop 87.



# EASTER SUNDAY 2015



# PHOTO GALLERY



Pride In Our Past -- Faith In Our Future



## WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	Morning Worship with Sunday School and Nursery Care
TUESDAY	12:00 – 2:00	Food Pantry is open
	6:30	Boy Scout Troop #87 ( <i>note: scouts meet on the first Wednesday of each month and then on subsequent Tuesdays</i> )
WEDNESDAY	5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal

## SPECIAL EVENTS

April 30 (Thurs.)	Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser – 5:00 – 7:00 PM
May 3	Holy Communion
May 10	Mother's Day
May 24	Pentecost Sunday -- Bill Howells will lead worship service
May 24	Sunday of Memorial Day weekend -- Memorial Day observed Monday, May 25
May 24	Information due for the June <b>RED DOOR</b>
May 27 (Wed.)	Set up / Organize / price items for Rummage Sale – 9:00 AM - ?
May 28 (Thurs.)	( <i>If necessary</i> ) Price items for Rummage Sale – 9:00 AM - ?
May 30 (Sat.)	Rummage Sale – 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
May 31	"Pennies from Heaven" collection during morning worship

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Worship Committee	Meets following church service on May 17
Property Committee	Wednesday, May 20 – 6:00 PM
Session	Wednesday, May 20 – 7:00 PM



## CHURCH PICNIC SET FOR JUNE 21

Mark your calendar for a culinary adventure and a time of worship, fellowship, fine food, and fun! Plan to join us at the Big Flats American Legion picnic pavilion for our annual church picnic. The date is **Sunday, June 21**. Sharpen your taste buds and watch for more details next month.