



THE RED DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BIG FLATS, NY – JUNE 2015

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

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

“I overheard a conversation. Someone was asked why they hadn’t been in church lately. He said, “There’s never any change”.

Isn’t it ironic that some want change outside of themselves but often never ask for change within themselves?



Gandhi said, “Be the change you want to see in the world.”

I say, “Be the change you wish to see in the **church.**”

Keep **Stubborn Hope** alive by submitting your ideas.

Peace,

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.

(Please submit in offering plate by July
31st, 2015)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Circle of Love

May was another busy month at The First Presbyterian Church of Big Flats! The month was filled with activities, wonderful music, and the warm fellowship that makes each Sunday so special for our community of faith. Thanks to all who make our church so special.

We honored the women of our congregation during our service on Mother's Day, May 9. The ladies in attendance received carnations as a token of our appreciation for all that is done by them for all of us. Thank you, **Joyce Dean**, for providing the flowers!

Our Bell Choir highlighted our worship service on Sunday, May 17. Thanks go to our director, **Nancy Compton**, and to all our dedicated ringers!

On Sunday, May 24, veterans **Jack Horn**, and **Galer Perreault** helped us to remember those who have given their lives in service to our nation as they led us in a flag ceremony during morning worship. Thank you for reminding us what Memorial Day is really about.

Our Parking Lot Project continues. The surfacing of our Welles Land property lot has been completed, and the sealing of our main parking lot is set for **Wednesday, June 10**, weather permitting. We encourage all those in our faith community to contribute to this very important project. **Pat Fitzgerald, Kathy Johnston, and Jill Knight** can answer any questions you may have about pledging and donating.

Our congregation and, especially, our Property Committee would like to express our appreciation to **Ann Hayes**. Ann's generous donation of funds to enabled us to purchase a power washer. This will be used in our continued work of maintaining our church in tip-top condition.

In our concerns this month, we ask for prayers for: **Joyce & Sam Dean, 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 Hooey, 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.



FAMILY SUNDAY SET FOR JUNE 14

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, June 14**. On this special day we will celebrate Family Sunday. We will recognize the importance of the wonderful connections we have through our church family. A special slide show will highlight activities from our church during the past year. All are invited to be part of our celebration!

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 **Family 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. Thanks, in advance, for your help.

FLAG DISPOSAL -- Our nation's flag should always be treated with respect. Worn or faded American flags may be given to **Galer Perreault** or taken directly to the Big Flats American Legion. These flags are burned in a special ceremony each Flag Day, June 14.

NOTES



FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

The Chancel Choir's last Sunday to perform as part of the Worship Service, will be June 14 (family Day). The second Sunday in September (the 13th) we will start Choir rehearsals at 9:30 sharp on Sunday mornings. We invite you to join us at that time to help us, ***"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."***

Keep in mind that ... ***"the forests would be quiet, indeed, if the only birds who sang there were those who sang best."***

The Bell Choir will also begin rehearsals in the fall to help celebrate the Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas seasons. Rehearsal time to be announced. If you would like to be part of this group, please see Nancy Compton. Playing in this group is great fun, excellent music reading practice, and a great way to enhance both the Worship Services and your own personal musical experience.

Join us. We'll save you a seat.

MISSION UPDATE

As has been mentioned before, it is an ongoing struggle to get involvement and participation of the congregation in the Church's Mission effort, via our Mission suggestion box at the back of the Church.

Our Mission suggestion box has seen very little use in the three years it has been there, only 2 suggestions in that time, from congregation. Mission gives to a spectrum of Charities, mostly national and international, and a few local charities too. These are reported every six months via congregational addresses and the annual report.

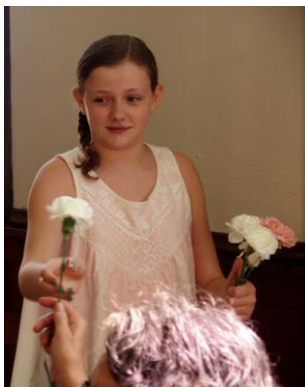
In light of this, it has been decided to reduce the number of Mission meetings from once /month, down to one /quarter. There is simply not the need to have everyone meet each month, when there are no suggestions and therefore no decisions to make on where to send our support.

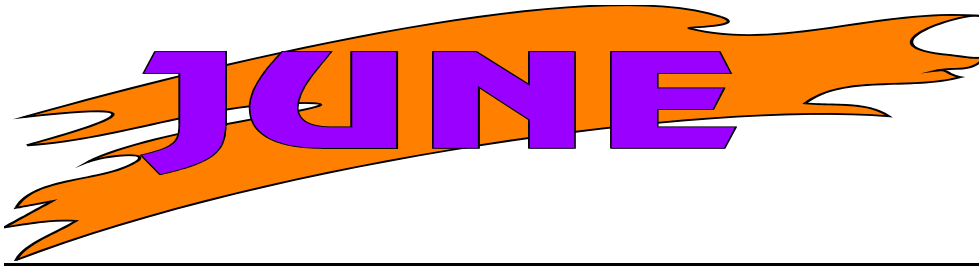
Regular semi-automated donations will continue, as they always have, to the major charities we support. If in the future, interest and participation by congregation increases, then the Mission team will revisit the mission meeting frequency, and adjust as needed.

Thank you and God Bless,

David J Stafford

PHOTO GALLERY





**NOTE – Our 2015
Summer Worship
Schedule will begin
on Sunday, July 5.
Summer worship
services will be held
at 9:30 AM**

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal (June 1 & 8)
	10:30 AM	Morning Worship with Sunday School and Nursery Care
TUESDAY	12:00 – 2:00 PM	Food Pantry is open
	6:30	Boy Scout Troop #87

SPECIAL EVENTS

May 30	Rummage/Bake Sale 9:00 – 2:00
May 31	“Pennies from Heaven”
June 7	Holy Communion
June 14	Family Sunday
June 14	Last choir appearance until September
June 21	At the Big Flats American Legion – Worship Service – followed by annual Church Picnic
June 28	Information due for the July/August <u>RED DOOR</u>
June 28	“Pennies from Heaven”

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Worship Committee	Meets following church service on June 14
Property Committee	June 17 – 6:00 PM (Wednesday)
Church Session	June 17 – 7:00 PM (Wednesday)

ANNUAL PICNIC TO BE HELD JUNE 21

Our annual Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, June 21** at the **Big Flats American Legion** (45 Olcott Road South). This will be a special time of worship and Christian fellowship. The day will start with a worship service at **10:30 AM**, and our annual Church Picnic will follow. It is very helpful in planning the event if we know how many to expect -- sign-up sheets will be circulated during morning worship services on June 7 and June 14. Families are asked to bring a dish to pass, your own table service, and a dessert to be shared (don't worry if this is a problem, we will have plenty to go around!) The church will provide grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, condiments, and soda pop for the youth. The Worship Committee is seeking help in putting the event together. Sign-up sheets for detailing the variety of tasks involved in preparing, conducting, and cleaning will be circulated in church -- please pitch in to help make this our best picnic ever! This will be a “rain or shine” event. Please plan to join us for this very special time together!

