

# THE RED DOOR



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BIG FLATS, NY – MAY 2016

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

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

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** On April 3, our worship leader was **Meredith Tiftt**, who serves as Chaplain of CareFirst Hospice, in Corning ([www.CareFirstNY.org](http://www.CareFirstNY.org)). She quoted the following prayer as part of her message to us, and many in our congregation have asked if it could be printed in our newsletter.

One of my favorite sayings is by an unknown author, but it sums up what I try to do each day in my interactions with my patients:

Blessed are they who understand  
My faltering steps and palsied hand.  
Blessed are they who know my ears today  
Must strain to catch the things they say.  
Blessed are they who seem to know  
That my eyes are dim and wits are slow.  
Blessed are they who looked away  
When coffee spilled at the table today.  
Blessed are they who never say,  
“You’ve told that story twice today.”  
Blessed are they who know the way  
To bring back memories of yesterday.  
Blessed are they who know I’m at a loss  
To find the strength to carry the cross.  
Blessed are they who ease the days  
On my journey home in loving ways.



## LYDIA C. MIDDGAUGH (1928 - 2016)

Lydia Middaugh passed away on April 10, 2016, at the age of eighty-seven (born August 9, 1928, in Guentrange-Thionville, France). She was a wonderful mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was a treasured and much-loved friend to those in our congregation and to many people in the Big Flats area. For many years Lydia took responsibility for the care of the communion linens and the collection of altar cloths in our sanctuary, spending many hours in this labor of love. Lydia was very active in the life of our church, working at various functions and reaching out to help those in need. She was very proud of her family. Lydia was an important part of our faith family, and she will be missed by all of us.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

# Circle of Love

We have so much for which to be thankful in our little church! Warmth, caring, love, and a "can-do" attitude continue to be the hallmarks of our faith community. This month we continued to be blessed with wonderful speakers each Sunday; we marked the completion of another successful pancake breakfast series; we worked together on a number of projects. In the midst of our joy we came together to mourn the loss and celebrate the life of one of our most beloved senior members.

Some of last month's highlights include:

- We were blessed to have these wonderful folks lead our worship services this month: **Chaplain Meredith Tiftt, Rev. Beth Frigard, Nancy Compton & Karen Perreault, and Bev Hendrickson**. Thank you so much for sharing your faith and insights with us!
- Saturday, April 9, was the date of our final fundraising breakfast for the 2015-2016 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. Congratulations and best wishes to **Dorothy Bartlett**, who marked her **103<sup>rd</sup>** birthday on April 16.

The sympathy of our congregation is extended to the **Farr family** on the passing of Mom and Grandma **Lydia Middaugh**, and to **Frank Reynolds** and family (good friends of our church) on the loss of wife **Laura Reynolds**. In our concerns this month, we ask for prayers for: **Imogene Stayer (Robin Fitzgerald's mother), Brandon Davis (nephew of Sheila French and Lisa McGill), Denise Wiskowski (sister of Debbie French), Peter Middaugh, Joyce & Sam Dean, Alan Giglio (Pat Fitzgerald's nephew), Reva Soutar, Nick Rudnick, Emma Gardner, Flora Berke, Irene Hooey, Ginnie Schweizer, Dudley & Marie Shea, Marge Larocque (Gigi Price'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 Bill Howells or any Session member, and we will include your news in our Joys/Concerns column.***

## A CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR EMMA GARDNER

Long-time member of our church, Emma Gardner has moved into the Elcor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, in Horseheads. Her new address is:

Emma Gardner  
Elcor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center  
48 Colonial Drive  
Horseheads, NY 14845

# PENTECOST SUNDAY -- MAY 15

## CATCH OUR SPIRIT -- WEAR SOMETHING RED!!

### SPRING RUMMAGE SALE COMING MAY 14

Our Spring Rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, May 14, 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**.



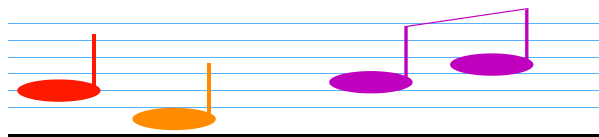
Donations of sale items are most welcome. We have some room to store sale goods in the church basement, but it would save a great deal of work if items could be held at home and then brought in from **Sunday, May 8, through Tuesday, May 10**. At that point they can be left in the former Sunday School classroom area, 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 very grateful to the **Scouts from BSA Troop #87!** They will be working on **Tuesday evening, May 10**, to set up tables and bring sale items up from the basement. We need volunteers from our congregation to work with the scouts on this part of our sale project. Details about time, etc. will be announced during morning worship.

We are going to need volunteers for setting up, working at the sale, taking down, and a variety of other jobs. On **Wednesday, May 11, starting at 9:00 AM**, we will be working to organize and price items for the sale. If needed, this work will continue on **Thursday, May 12, 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 14, 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.



### FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

**May 22** will be very a very special musical Sunday, as **The Brassworks** will be performing at our church. This talented group will be playing the prelude, offertory, postlude, and accompanying the hymns for our regular morning service.

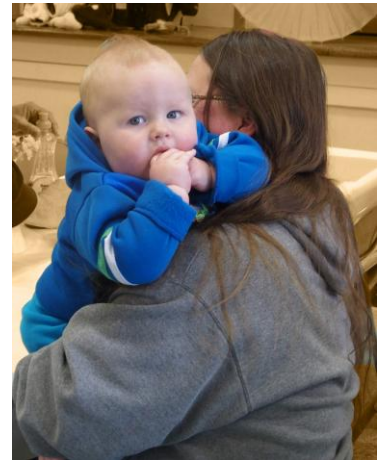
There are also still some empty spots in the choir loft. **9:30 Sunday mornings** for rehearsal. We'll save you a seat!!!

### FROM OUR PROPERTY COMMITTEE – RUG SHAMPOOING

Sometime in the next three to six weeks, the church office, library, sanctuary and other areas with carpets will be cleaned and shampooed. We will need help moving loose furniture and other items to prepare for this work. When the date is finalized, more details will be announced.



# PHOTO GALLERY



**THANK YOU to our Pancake Breakfast Cooks, Helpers, and Patrons!**



## WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	Morning Worship
TUESDAY	12:00 – 2:00	Food Pantry is open
	6:30	Boy Scout Troop #87

## SPECIAL EVENTS

April 30 (Sat.)	Welles Land Cleanup: 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon
May 1	<b>Rev. Juanita Dickinson</b> will lead our worship service
May 8	Mother's Day – Holy Communion – <b>Rev. Ted Cooper</b> will lead our worship service
May 10 (Tues.)	Scout Troop #87 will set up tables for Rummage Sale – our help needed – time TBA
May 11 (Wed.)	Set up / Organize / Price items for Rummage Sale: 9:00 AM - ?
May 12 (Thurs.)	(If necessary) Price items for Rummage Sale: 9:00 AM - ?
May 14 (Sat.)	Rummage Sale: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
May 15	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b> -- <b>Bill Powell</b> will lead our worship service
May 22	<b>Julie Spangenberg-Jolley</b> will lead our worship service – Music by <b>THE BRASSWORKS</b>
May 29	Sunday of Memorial Day weekend – <b>Jean Tedrick</b> will lead our worship service
May 29	Information due for the June <b><u>RED DOOR</u></b>
May 29	“Pennies from Heaven” collection during morning worship

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Worship Committee	Meets following church service on May 1
Property Committee	Wednesday, May 4 – 6:00 PM
Session	Wednesday, May 4 – 7:00 PM

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## CHURCH PICNIC SET FOR JUNE 19



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 19**. Sharpen your taste buds and watch for more details next month.