



# THE RED DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BIG FLATS, NY – JUNE 2016

Founded 1827 ----- "Pride In Our Past – Faith In Our Future"

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

## SESSION UPDATE

Your session is currently working the process of identifying an Interim Pastor. There are multiple steps in this process. and it just takes time to carefully follow these steps to match appropriate candidates with the needs of our church.

We are working on gathering suggestions from session members in developing our church "**Mission Statement.**" Our mission statement is an embodiment of who we are as a congregation, what we stand for. and how we support the teachings of Jesus Christ. After that, we need to complete a "**Mission Information Form.**"

There is a lag time involved with each step, and, of course, the Presbytery has to be consulted along the way. We are blessed by having **Kirk Allen** help guide us through this process and act as our liaison to the Presbytery hierarchy.

So just know we are making progress, but it takes time, and we will update the congregation on a monthly basis. In the meantime, numerous church members from various committees, including Session and Worship, are working diligently to keep services active.

Thank you.

Your Session

## IF YOU NEED PASTORAL CARE

Session members have agreed to act as liaison to individuals requiring some church related service in the absence of a pastor. Therefore, if something happens with a loved one or a congregation member (death, sickness, hospital), a session member could help facilitate getting help.

Our church answer machine (**562-8048**) is checked regularly, or session members may be contacted directly:

Pat Fitzgerald	562-3395	Jill Knight	738-2229
Scott French	562-8895	Stewart Potter	259-2502
Tom Halm	562-2197	Gigi Price	737-0441
Barb Horn	562-3239	Mary Ellen Rudnick	562-3757
Kathy Johnston	562-6818	Ann Slowik	739-3769
Luke Gromer (Youth Elder)			

## 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.

We were blessed to have wonderful speakers and worship leaders in May. Thank you to: **Rev. Juanita Dickinson, Rev. Ted Cooper, Bill Powell, Karen Perreault, Julie Spangenberg-**

**Jolley, and Jean Tedrick** for being vital parts of our journey of faith.

We honored the women of our congregation during our service on Mother's Day, May 8. 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 Spring Rummage Sale, held on Saturday, May 14, was very successful, raising over **\$1500**. Thanks to sale coordinators **Linda Lincoln, Nancy Pangia, and Donna Stevens** and to all who worked to make it such a great event!



Our spirit was alive on Pentecost Sunday, May 15. Many in the congregation wore **red** to mark the day, which was highlighted by a message from speaker **Bill Powell**.

On Sunday, May 22, **The Corning Brass Works** provided wonderful music during our worship service. This talented group played a number of selections and accompaniments before, during, and after the service. Members of our congregation, **Samara, Luke, and Ty Gromer**, are part of The Brass Works.

On Sunday, May 22, Food Pantry Director **Julie Spangenberg-Jolley** shared some ideas with us on what it means to be a "**Community**" Food Pantry. Over **\$595** was received in a special offering to support the work of the Big Flats Community Food Pantry. Thanks to all who contributed to this important outreach!

Our Property Committee has been very busy! See the article on page four to find out what the committee has been up to this spring.

During morning worship On Sunday, May 29, we remembered those who have given their lives in service to our nation. Veterans **Jack Horn and Galer Perreault** led us in a flag ceremony, and our choir sang a special anthem, "**Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones**." Thanks to all who helped remind us about the true

meaning of Memorial Day.

Congratulations to **Cathy (Neally) and Phil Hubbard**, who were married in Corning on Saturday May 14! Best wishes to a very special couple!

The sympathy of our congregation is extended to **David and Janet Stafford** and family on the loss of Dave's brother, **Clive Stafford**, who passed away on May 5. 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.**

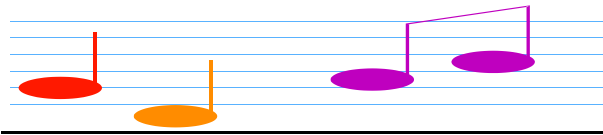


## SPONSORING A SPECIAL SUNDAY BULLETIN

Special bulletin covers are part of our worship service on important days in the church calendar (Christmas, Easter, etc.) and such national holidays as Memorial Day and Thanksgiving. These bulletins are sponsored by our Worship Committee or by members of our congregation.

Special bulletin covers are not limited to just those days listed above. In fact, **anyone** can sponsor a bulletin at **any** time. Bulletins can mark an anniversary, a special birthday, may honor a special person, may serve as a way to remember someone, or may serve a variety of other purposes.

To sponsor a bulletin, sign up on the bulletin board in the Church House and talk to **Barb Horn (562-3239)**. She can help you pick out a cover which will fit your needs. **Two weeks' notice** is required, as it takes time to order and receive the special covers. The cost to sponsor a bulletin is **ten dollars**.



## FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



We welcomed and thoroughly enjoyed the **Corning Brass Works** who were with us for our May 22 service. The Choir sponsored a lovely coffee hour after the service which was displayed by **Karen Perreault and Ann Hayes**. (Thanks for making everything look so nice!!)

Interestingly, some of the **Brass Works** members commented on how fortunate we are to have such a fine choir! Which makes the following even more painful to say:

**We have a serious concern.** We have always had the best choir in the area. Some of our folks are now wintering in Florida. Others need to take a Sunday away from time to time, and our ranks get mighty thin sometimes. If we are to uphold our reputation, we need help. Please think about this growing and very serious problem. Imagine, if you will, a Sunday service without an introit, an anthem, and the choir's leadership during the hymns. You know what you need to do. We have a great time! We laugh a lot, and we love and care for each other. Please seriously consider joining us at **9:30 on Sunday mornings** for our weekly rehearsal.

## 2016 QUILT PROJECT -- SNEAK PREVIEW!

Here's a **SNEAK PREVIEW** of our 2016 Quilt. This beautiful quilt, made by talented members of our congregation, is in the process of being finished and bound. Tickets will soon be available for this, our **Sixth Annual Quilt Raffle**. Watch for more details in upcoming months. Thank you to all who are part of this special project.



## FOOD PANTRY SPRING FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

On Sunday, May 22, a special offering was received to further the work done by The Big Flats Community Food Pantry. Donations from our congregation exceeded **\$595**. Thanks to all who gave in aid of this truly worthwhile endeavor!

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Property Committee has been very busy this spring. Recent projects have included:

- On April 29, a hardworking crew of sixteen committee members and other volunteers spent the morning cutting trees, clearing brush, and cleaning up the southeast section of our Welles Land property. Special thanks to **BSA Troop 87** volunteers **Mike and Skyler Carlson**, and **Mary and Donte Seeley** for their hard work!
- **Scott and Sheila French** continue to do a great job in mowing our church grounds and Welles Land property. Many thanks!
- Carpets in our sanctuary, office area, and library were cleaned and shampooed on May 26. Thanks go to Pat Fitzgerald for coordinating this project.



- Thanks, also, to **Pat Fitzgerald and Scott French** who spread mulch around the front and sides of our church. Special thanks to **Ted's Landscaping** (shop local!), for their donation of extra mulch (and free delivery!) to help make our church grounds so attractive!
- The committee has contracted with Pest Solutions, of Horseheads, to spray to control insects this summer and to minimize our annual infestation of box elder beetles this upcoming fall and winter.
- The lease on our office copy machine will expire this fall. The committee is exploring options to enable us to continue to have access to a copier in the most cost-effective manner.
- Our church cleaner, **Ann Stein**, does a terrific job. If you see her, a smile and word of appreciation would be most appreciated!

### PROPERTY COMMITTEE WORK PARTY SET FOR JUNE 4

Our Property Committee has scheduled a work party for **June 4, from 9:00 AM until noon**. We will be continuing to clean up brush and debris on our "**Welles Land**" area, on Church Street. If you have some time on June 4, we could really use some help!



### RUMMAGE SALE A SUCCESS!

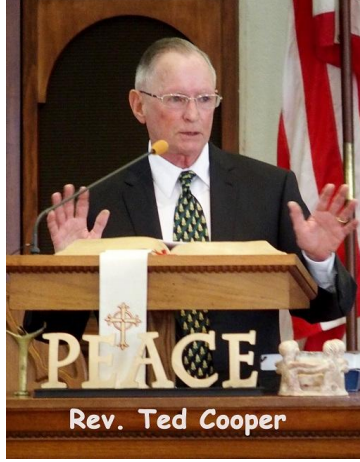
Thanks again to all who worked to make our Spring Rummage Sale so successful. **Co-chairs Linda Lincoln, Nancy Pangia, Donna Stevens**, and a host of willing volunteers worked together to raise over **\$1500** for our church! We are especially thankful to the **leaders and scouts of Troop 87** who did a great deal of "muscle" work in setting up tables and bringing sale items from the church basement so that they could be organized and made ready for the sale.

We are starting to plan for our next sale. Our Fall Rummage Sale is scheduled to take place in October. We ask you to start saving items that could be sold (fall and winter clothing, holiday decorations, etc. are especially welcome). **Please keep these items at home until September, when we will start collecting for the October sale.** Watch for more rummage news in the September issue of **THE RED DOOR**.

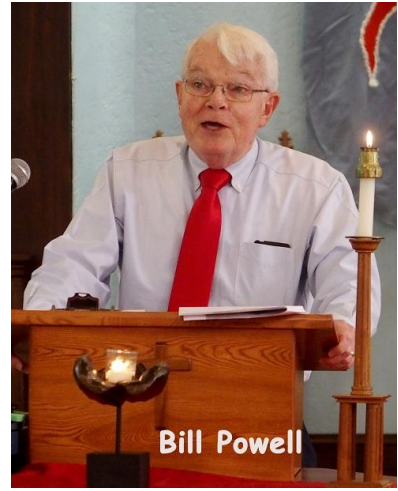
# PHOTO GALLERY



Rev. Juanita Dickinson



Rev. Ted Cooper



Bill Powell



Karen Perreault



Julie Spangenberg-Jolley



Jean Tedrick



# JUNE

**NOTE – Our 2016 Summer Worship Schedule will begin on Sunday, July 3. Summer worship services will be held at 9:30 AM**

## WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal (June 5 & 12)
	10:30 AM	Morning Worship
TUESDAY	12:00 – 2:00 PM	Food Pantry is open
	6:30	Boy Scout Troop #87

## SPECIAL EVENTS

June 4 (Sat.)	Property Committee work party – 9:00 AM - noon
June 5	<b>Deborah Kuehner</b> (The Potter’s Hands Foundation) will be our speaker
June 12	<b>Rev. Ted Cooper</b> will lead our service -- Holy Communion
June 12	Last choir appearance until September
June 19	At the Big Flats American Legion – Worship Service – followed by annual Church Picnic
June 26	<b>Rev. Juanita Dickinson</b> will lead our service
June 26	“Pennies from Heaven”
June 26	Information due for the July/August <b><u>RED DOOR</u></b>

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Worship Committee	Meets following church service on June 26
Property Committee	June 1 – 6:00 PM (Wednesday)
Church Session	June 1 – 7:00 PM (Wednesday)

## ANNUAL PICNIC TO BE HELD JUNE 19

Our annual Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, June 19** 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 5 and June 12. 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!

