



# THE RED DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BIG FLATS, NY

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

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## A Note From Pastor Denise

It has continued to be an interesting last couple of months. We miss seeing each of you in person. While Zoom and Facebook Live allow us to continue to worship with one another, it is not quite how we would all like it to be.

### **The “Get-Back-Together” Committee Has Been Formed**

A committee of people from the Worship and Property Committees (approved by Session) has been formed to create the cleaning and other protocols and changes necessary for us to be able to resume in-person worship in a couple of months. We will keep you updated on progress every few weeks. Please be in prayer for this group!

As we are looking forward to what in-person worship may look like, Valerie and I would like to express our thanks and gratitude for the kind words and encouragement that we have received during these months as we have worked to provide meaningful worship experiences and opportunities for continued connection among the members and friends of our congregation. Your expressions of thanks have enabled us to continue our services joyfully. We look forward to continued ministry with each of you.

Continue to take time to be in prayer for one another and to reach out by email or cards or phone calls to those whom God brings to your mind. Take these opportunities to share God’s love with one another.

Blessings,  
Pastor Denise

### **VIRGINIA SCHWEIZER (1922 - 2020)**

Virginia (Ginny) Schweizer, beloved member of our congregation, passed away on Thursday, June 4, 2020, at the age of 97 (she would have turned 98 on June 15). She was residing at the Chemung County Nursing Facility at the time of her passing. In 1967, Ginny married Paul A. Schweizer, who passed away in 2004. In addition to their love for each other, they shared a passion for aviation, particularly for soaring. Ginny was a very famous aviatrix, a pioneering female sailplane pilot and promoter of soaring and women in aviation. She set a number of records and received a number of awards for her achievements, including induction into the National Soaring Hall of Fame in 1971. Ginny was a really nice person – friendly, warm, upbeat, and unfailingly gracious. She will truly be missed.

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

In these very uncertain and tumultuous times, we are blessed to be part of a church that has been a beacon of faith and strength for over 192 years. Even though we are now forced to (electronically) worship at a distance from each other, we remain close in faith and in love. We all look forward to the day when our sanctuary is again open and we can worship in person!

## *Circle of Love*

We are blessed and thankful to all who have kept our church alive and vibrant during the past few months. Thanks to the efforts of a number of wonderful people:

- we are able to worship together via various social media outlets;
- our Church Session, our Worship Committee, and our Property Committee have been able to continue their important work;
- our financial team has been able to stay on top of all that is needed to do in the area of fiscal management;
- our Food Pantry has been able to continue its vital mission of serving those in need;
- our property is being maintained and improved.

To all those involved we give our heartfelt thanks!!

The sympathy of our church is extended to the family of **Virginia Schweizer**. Among our concerns this month, we ask for prayers for: **Betty Apicello, Dorothy Hoos, Neal Gummo, Alissa Jolley, Cathy (Neally) Hubbard, Marilyn Jenkins, Mary Ellen & Nick Rudnick, Cindy Smith (sister of Pat Seem), Henry and Joyce Schurr, Martin Gromer, Cindy & Ed Leisenring, Alan Giglio (Pat Fitzgerald's nephew), Reva Soutar, Marie Shea**, and others who are dealing with ill health, surgery, loss, or life changes. Please remember our shut-ins. 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 faith community? See Pastor Denise or Bill Howells, and we will include your news in our Joys/Concerns column.***

# PLEASE WORSHIP WITH US!

## MIDDAY DEVOTIONS VIA ZOOM – TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT NOON

We will gather via **Zoom** on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Noon for a brief devotion and time of prayer.

Zoom URL: <https://zoom.us/j/745507880?pwd=ZHg4THhGbXBQbFpxVTcwRHpHcG5VZz09>

If you need or want to join by phone, you can call in to one of these numbers:

+1 646 558 8656 US      +1 301 715 8592 US      +1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 745 507 880

Password: 275053

We will meet like this every Tuesday and Thursday at noon until we can meet in person again.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m. – July 5

9:30 a.m. – July 12 through September 6

via Zoom, Facebook Live and YouTube Live.

Zoom URL: <https://zoom.us/j/705292707?pwd=SWxkR3BwSW9HaFQrK2dTZnFOQ0JMdz09>

If you need or want to join by phone, you can call in to one of these numbers:

+1 646 558 8656 US, +1 301 715 8592 US, +1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 705 292 707

Password: 174036

The Bulletin and words for the Hymns will be displayed on the Zoom page during the service.

We will also be streaming to Facebook Live and YouTube Live.

You can find the Bulletin for the Worship Service on the Notes tab of our Facebook page and the Bulletin is sent out in our weekly email notices.

***NOTE:*** *If you have announcements you would like included in the Bulletin / on the Zoom display, please provide those to Denise and/or Valerie by Saturday morning each week.*

Denise's Email is [pastorbfpres@empireaccess.net](mailto:pastorbfpres@empireaccess.net)

Valerie's Email is [music2mnstry@aol.com](mailto:music2mnstry@aol.com).



## PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Property Committee continues to be very busy.

Recent projects have included:

- Continued maintenance/mowing of church exterior grounds.
- Monthly inspections of our roof, basement, sump pumps, dehumidifier and exterior lighting.
- Repaired, stabilized, and repainted our church sign, which had fallen over during a high wind event.
- Monitored operation of our water softener. This led to replacement (by **Chemung Softwater**) and recalibration of the timer unit which, in turn, has resulted in much lower salt usage and more efficient performance.
- Continued monitoring of our utility and insurance costs.
- Refurbishment of our "Rene's Garden" on Church Street.
- Brush cleanup (thank you **Wilsoncroft Family!!!**) along north side of our Welles Land property.



Projects planned or under discussion include:

- Coordinating with our Pastor, Session, and Worship Committee to plan for safe resumption of worship services in our sanctuary.
- Establishing protocols for cleaning our facility and establishing policies and procedures for building use.
- Investigating the operation of our chime system.
- Power washing the north side of our building (and other areas as needed).
- Installing anti-skid strips on our outside ramp.
- Addressing a drainage problem along the east side of our parking lot.
- Assessment of the condition of our steeple.
- Development of a church Emergency Operation Plan.

**A number of our projects will be costly but are extremely important. Any and all contributions to our Building Fund will be gratefully received. Thank you for your support!**



### RUMMAGE SALE ??????????????

We have no Rummage Sale planned for the near future, but, hopefully, we will look forward to a sale at some point. In the meantime, we ask that you save rummage items at home.

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANYTHING TO THE CHURCH!!**

**Linda Lincoln and Donna Stevens** are our Rummage Sale Coordinators our sale and will be happy to answer your questions. Watch for e-mail updates and please stay healthy!

## **SUMMER WORSHIP**

**Our 2020 Summer Worship Schedule will begin on Sunday, July 12.**

**Summer worship services will be held (via Zoom) at 9:30 AM.**

**We will return to our 10:30 worship time on Sunday, September 13.**