



Pres Clippings

First Presbyterian Church

www.firstpreselmira.org

April 3, 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today is the day after Easter. This morning, while I was out running errands, I saw a sign outside of a store that read "Easter 50% off." Indeed, the stores are getting rid of their Easter merchandize and moving on to something else. It's as if Easter is only a day and that's it. However, to think that Easter is only one day of the year misses the whole point.

Our Easter celebration is the confirmation that Jesus is alive and that his spirit is loose in the world, teaching us, healing us, and protecting us. Easter is also the promise of eternal life, and the promise that our sins are forgiven and that God's love and mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. As such Easter isn't just a day.

As Christians we continue to celebrate Easter every Sunday. This is a practice that began with the early Christians who celebrated the resurrection of Jesus on the first day of every week throughout the year. In celebrating resurrection each Sunday they came to call the first day of the week "the Lord's Day," a title that we still use. In some traditions go so far as to call every Sunday "a little Easter."

What does it mean for us? A fellow by the name of Peter Rollins once said, "If our daily lives bear no marks of the resurrection of Jesus, then we deny the resurrection by our lives." In other words, if we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Day, then to be genuine in our celebration and faith, we need to live accordingly by worshipping each week, learning from Jesus our teacher throughout the year, daily following Jesus' teachings which include loving our neighbor, and continually sharing the good news of Jesus as we have opportunity. In short, we seek to live more intentionally for Jesus as our gift back to Jesus for what he has done for us.

Love and peace,
Betsey

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INSERT: Easter Flowers

Please Remember!

"FEED MY SHEEP"

April 8th:

CANNED MEATS
(chicken, ham, tuna, etc)

&

PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS

THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SERVICE

April 8, 2018 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Rev. Dr. Betsey Crimmins will lead us in worship and preach. The Anthem will be piano duet by **Anne McGee** and **Kay Stewart**. The Greeters and Ushers will be **Harry Fitzsimmons, Kammie Morrisey, Charlene McCarthy, Wynona Mills, and Carole Wereski**. A Minute for Mission will be given by **Mike Stanley**. The Lay Reader will be **Alida Schamel**. The Deacons preparing Communion will be **Terry Horton, Mike Crimmins, and Barb Cacciotti**. The Elders serving Communion will be **Pat Holmstrom, Mark Ivanick, Mike Mitchell, Mike and Rehana Stanley**. The Chancel Flowers will be given by **Tom and Betsy Stegbauer**. The Fellowship Hour will be hosted by **Herb and Gerry Brown**. Childcare is available. All are welcome to attend!

NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY SERVICE

April 15, 2018 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Easter

Two Cents A Meal Sunday

Tom Leslie will lead us in worship and preach. The **Chancel Choir** will sing. The Greeters and Ushers will be **Rich Buchheimer, Lynn Hornbuckle, Paul Kingsbury, and Linda Proper**. The Children's Sermon will be given by **Joanne Tunison**. The Lay Reader will be **Norm Schamel**. The Chancel Flowers will be given by **Barb Cacciotti**. The Fellowship Hour will be hosted by **First Pres Works/Mission Committee**. Childcare is available. All are welcome to attend!

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Betsey Crimmins will be on out of the office from April 9 - 13, 2018. If you are in need of any pastoral assistance during this time, please contact the Deacons.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Maundy Thursday worship service and Soup Supper on March 29...**Mike Crimmins, Charlene McCarthy, and Carole Wereski** for Greeting and Ushering...the **Deacons** and **Elders** for helping to set-up and clean-up...**Mike and Patricia Kapusta and Tom and Eileen Leslie** for organizing the service and supper...**Carole Wereski, Patricia Kapusta, Jane Ivanick, Barb Cacciotti, Nancy Cooper, Donna Hutchison, Pat Holmstrom, Kelly Stewart, and Joanne Tunison** for donating the various soups.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Prayer Vigil from Maundy Thursday evening to Good Friday afternoon. Many thanks to **Donna Hutchison** for setting up a meaningful prayer room.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Easter Egg-stravaganza on Saturday, March 31. Thanks to the many people who helped with donating candy for the Easter eggs, filling the Easter eggs, hiding the eggs, baking the cookies, organizing the Easter crafts, making and serving the lunch, and a very **BIG THANK YOU** to **Eileen Leslie** for organizing this wonderful event.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Easter Sunday morning worship service on April 1...the **Chancel Choir** for singing...the Brass Ensemble for playing; **Scott Kelley** and **Noelle Humphries**



CHURCH FAMILY

Our prayers of joy and congratulations extend to God on behalf of **Doug Orbaker and Sarah Crimmins** on the Baptism of their baby daughter, Julia Grace Orbaker, on Sunday, April 1, 2018.

Our prayers of healing and comfort extend to God on behalf of **Dottie Tholfsen** who is a patient at the Arnot Ogden Hospital.



on trumpets, **Rebecca Dodson Webster** on horn, **Scott Becker** on trombone, and **Nate Rinnert** on tuba...**Barb Horton, Rehana Stanley, Mark and Jane Ivanick** for Greeting and Ushering...**Nancy Cooper** for Lay Reading...**Barb Squires** for assisting in the Baptism...**Mike and Betsey Crimmins** for hosting the Fellowship Hour.

NEW NURSERY STAFF

Please welcome **Bella DiPofi** and **Sami Swarthout** as our new Child Care Givers. Both girls are high school students—Bella is at Twin Tiers Christian Academy and Sami is at Elmira High School. The nursery is open and staffed each Sunday, 9:15 a.m. to noon.

FIRST FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT APRIL 6th at 6 p.m.

Cabin Fever starting to set in? Come out and warm up with our “First Friday Family Fun Night” at First Pres, **Friday, April 6** starting at **6 p.m.** in the Great Room. Theme for this event will be **Family Game Night**. Bring your favorite board game, or join in with one of ours. The Hospitality Committee hosts a series of Family Fun Nights throughout the year, which will feature a light, kid-friendly meal, refreshments and changing activities each month, including games, movies and, of course, fun. For information, call Mike Kapusta at 989-984-7015.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP!! SATURDAY, April 7, 2018 WEATHER LOOKS GOOD!

I am scheduling our first clean up for this year for Saturday, 7 April 2018. But I need your HELP. As time has moved on several members of our “core” group have had to stop their assistance. So we sure could use some new folks to join in. We have 2 two mile stretches on Route 352, but we only plan to tackle one stretch on any given Saturday. If we can get 8 people, then the 2 miles can be divided into 8 sections of ½ mile each. Historically, with 8 people, a 2 mile stretch has taken about 1 hour to 1.25 hours. As there are new requirements all volunteers must report to the church first, to obtain equipment, refresh safety procedures and sign into the daily event sheet. As usual I will be at the church at 8:30 AM to get our gear ready and have out the safety briefing and the form to sign. As people arrive I can assign sections to clean so those who want to start earlier can do so. If you are looking for some fresh air, fun and to do stewardship for our Earth please either phone Greg Lamb at 562-3134 or e-mail him at lambge@gmail.com. **I would really appreciate a call or e-mail so I can have an idea of how many folks can be expected. Thanks in advance for your support!**- Greg Lamb



KNITTING4PEACE

COME VISIT THE MAKER FAIRE! ~ April 4, 2018

Our Knitting4Peace Peace Pod has been accepted into the Chemung County Maker Faire, which will take place at the Arnot Mall, **April 14th**, from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** This is an exciting opportunity to connect with other knitters and crocheters with the hope of getting some more people involved. Please stop by and visit us at the mall.

In the meantime, the group will be putting together a display of the items that are made for K4P. You can help. Right now, the inventory of completed items includes many baby blankets, as well as some mittens and hats, and just a few shawls and scarves, but that's it. There are no peace pals, wash cloths, or birthing kits. If you would like to knit or crochet an item or two at home, that would be great. The group has plenty of yarn stored in the cupboard in the Genesis Room, so help yourself. Patterns are available at the Knitting4peace website: www.knitting4peace.org. The K4P Pod meets every **Tuesday** from **3-4:30 p.m.** in the Genesis room. Please come and join us!

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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Sunday School class invites you to join them at **9:30 a.m.** in the parlor area on **Sunday, April 8th** to discuss the Gospel of Mark, chapter 14. There will not be Adult Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 1st. Please come and bring your Bible and join us!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: GREG LAMB

The Nominating Committee chaired by Greg Lamb will be soon beginning their search for folks willing to serve as Elders and Deacons. It should be noted that one must be a member of the church to serve in these positions. This years Nominating Committee will consist of Greg Lamb, Mike Stanley, Barb Cacciotti (Deacon Rep), and the 5 individuals who volunteered to be members-at-large at the 6/25/2017 Congregational Meeting: Nancy Cooper, Jane Ivanick, Ron Rehner, Kay Stewart and Dottie Tholfsen. Greg Lamb will be

contacting this years Nominating Committee to set up the first meeting soon. If you have an interest in serving in any of these positions or are in need of knowing just what Elders and Deacons do, please contact Greg Lamb, Rev. Dr. Betsey Crimmins or any of the current or past Elders and Deacons.

At this point in time we have the following openings:

- **Elders—Class of 2021:** 3 vacancies for a 3 year term, **Class of 2020:** possibly 1 vacancy for a 2 year term
- **Deacons—Class of 2021:** 3 vacancies for a 3 year term (however two people have expressed an interest in serving in Class of 2021), **Class of 2019:** 1 vacancy for a 1 year term.
- **Youth Elder** and **Youth Deacon: Class of 2019:** 1 vacancy for each. Should youth members not be available, then those one year positions could be filled with adults.



**SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS CAMP!
JUNE 25—29, 2018**

There is a “Moose on the Loose!” We are currently collecting: **empty toilet paper rolls, empty paper towel rolls, small forest or camping theme stuffed animals and books.** The poster and drop off basket are located in the missionary lobby. We also are asking for a **few artistic volunteers** to help create large backdrops of trees, Moose and some other characters from our program curriculum. Finally we are hoping to borrow **small pup tents** to serve as team posts during the morning greeting time. Please contact the church office if you are able to help.

**GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP
THURSDAYS, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

GriefShare is a 13 week video-based Christian seminar and support group for those who have lost a spouse, a parent, a child, a family member or friend. The next meeting is on **Thursday, April 5th** from **6 – 8 p.m.** in the parlor. The only cost is for the workbook at \$15, which you will be able to keep. Our trained GriefShare leaders are Patricia Kapusta, Barb Squires, and our Elmira College intern, Jessica Tiner.

VOLUNTEER AT THE FOOD BANK!

Volunteers are needed to support the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. We have committed to the Food Bank to work a **6-8 p.m.** shift on the **2nd Thursday** of each month. The next volunteer time is on **April 12th.** If you are able and interested in

helping our First Pres group help the Food Bank we would love to have you join us. If you would like to get a better idea about what the Food Bank of the Southern Tier does, you can go to their website at www.foodbankst.org

The **CIRCLE OF WOMEN** will have their next meeting on **Monday, April 16th**, in the Hoffman Great Room. All women are invited.

**CHEMUNG HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY
WOMEN’S BUILD MAY 5th!**

This year’s Women’s Build will be **May 5th** from **9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.** We are hoping to have a team from First Pres for the third consecutive year! Thanks to all of those women and men that have stepped up to hammer (or paint, clean, trim) for Habitat over the last three years! Our own team has worked at multiple sites that now house local families. If you are 16 yrs or over and are interested in participating in Women’s Build sign up materials will be available April 8th and 15th in Mission Lobby or contact Barb Fitzsimmons at b2fitz@yahoo.com or 562-8095.



PRES CLIPPINGS SCHEDULE

There will be no Pres Clippings published on April 10. The next Pres Clippings will be published on **April 17.** Please submit any articles to: kespreselm@stny.rr.com, by 9 a.m. on the Monday of the week that Pres Clippings are to be published. Thank you.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK..



*“Jesus Christ is risen! Love has triumphed over hatred,
life has conquered death, light has dispelled the darkness!”*

~ Pope Francis

The Rev. Dr. Betsey R. Crimmins, Pastor

Felix Perez, Outreach & Service Specialist

Gary Tucker, Organist

Scott Kelley, Instrumental Director

Kelly Stewart, Church Secretary

Fred Betschen, Church Treasurer

Bella DiPofi, Child Care Giver

Barbara Squires, Clerk of Session

Melissa Moore, Director of Music

James Stewart, Sr., Church Sexton

Susan Weaver, Financial Secretary

Paul Kingsbury, Assistant Church Treasurer

Sami Swarhout, Child Care Giver

Church Office (607) 734-1614

Visit our website: www.firstpreselmira.org