



Pres Clippings

First Presbyterian Church

www.firstpreselmira.org

March 10, 2020

THE MEMORIAL WINDOWS OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ PART 3

Window IV—BAPTISM

The use of a dove to represent the Holy Spirit is derived from the account of Jesus' Baptism:... "and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove...and lo, a voice from heaven saying, This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:16 & 17) To show this, a ray of light extends from the dove at the top of the window down to a fish in the water below. The fish is an ancient Christian symbol. First, it refers to the disciples being called to become "fishers of men." Then a rebus was made of the Greek word ichthus, meaning fish. Each letter was the initial of a word in the sentence Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.

I - Iesus - Jesus CH - Christos - Christ TH - Theou - of God U - Uios - Son S - Soter - Savior

The lighted lamp in the ventilator window symbolizes education.

This window was donated by Mr. and Mrs. W. Henry Steele in memory of Edward John Steele (1869-1953) and Katherine Sawyer Steele (1868-1957)

Window V—PREACHING AND TEACHING

At the top of this window a chi rho on a stylized mountain peak symbolizes the Sermon on the Mount. The other symbols refer to Jesus' parables. A shepherd's staff rescuing the lost lamb is the Good Shepherd. A little tree with birds nesting in it has grown from the tiny mustard seed. Also included are the broom and the candle with which the housewife sought for lost coin. At the bottom are the two houses; one standing sturdily on a rock, unaffected by the storm, while the one built on sand is washed away.

In the ventilator an open book superimposed on the globe of the world represents evangelism, which has been a major function of the Church from its beginning until today, in obedience to Christ's command.

(continued —>)

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INSERT:
**Easter Flower
Order Form**

Please Remember!
"FEED MY SHEEP"
March 15th:
**CANNED FRUIT
IN LIGHT SYRUP**

This window was donated by Mrs. John A. Wright in memory of Miles De Forest Cummings (1869-1946), Minnie Eisenacher Cummings (1875-1958) and John A. Wright (1896-1953).

Window VI
THE MINISTRY OF HEALING

Jesus' healing miracles are symbolized first, at the bottom, by the cross potent which is also known as the Jerusalem cross. It is composed of four tau crosses whose lower ends meet. It is associated with healing because it resembles archaic crutches. In the middle of the window is a more contemporary crutch and Moses' staff encircled with a brazen serpent which was raised in the wilderness to heal the Israelites. Next above, the dead Lazarus emerges from the tomb, called back to life by Christ. At the top, Christ's finger anoints the eye of the blind man with moistened clay and restores sight.

The hands in the ventilator are clasped in fellowship.

This window was donated by Mrs. S. Roberts Rose and Mrs. Kenneth W. Marks in memory of Frank Elihu Tripp (1882-1964) and Fanny Miller Tripp (1882-1974).

THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SERVICE

March 15, 2020 ~ 10:30 AM

3rd Sunday in Lent

Cents-Ability Sunday

Rev. Joanne Bartel will lead us in worship and preach. The **Chancel Choir** will sing. The Greeters and Ushers will be **Barb Cacciotti, Dennis & Nancy Cooper**, and **Dottie Tholfsen**. A Minute for Mission will be given by **Nancy Cooper**. The Lay Reader will be **Anne Lamb**. The Chancel Flowers will be given by **Barb Cacciotti**. The Fellowship Hour will be hosted by **Carole Wereski**. Childcare is available. All are welcome to attend!

CENTS-ABILITY SUNDAY

March 15, 2020

Cents-Ability is a small first step in the battle against hunger and poverty. Congregations invite every member — of all ages — to contribute a few cents at every meal. This simple act is an expression of thanks for what we have received. It is also a commitment to share with others in response to Jesus' command "You give them

something to eat." When members bring their offerings to church on the appointed Sunday, all of those coins "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" as they are received and dedicated.

NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY SERVICE

March 22, 2020 ~ 10:30 AM

4th Sunday in Lent

The Rev. Joanne Bartel will lead us in worship and preach. The **Chancel Choir** will sing. The Greeters and Ushers will be **Barb Cacciotti, Liz Holloway, Donna Hutchison**, and **Kammie Morrisey**. The Lay Reader will be **Bill Ostrander**. Childcare is available. All are welcome to attend!

SAVE THE DATE! ~ MARCH 22nd
HYMN SING SUNDAY

Let's spread Jesus love on March 22nd when we do our HYMN Sing Sunday. We will be visiting Chemung County Nursing Facility, then off we go to Woodbrook. We will have lunch right after our church service in the kitchen. We will leave church at **12:30 PM** and **CARPOOL** to each location. Come and have fun, fellowship



CHURCH FAMILY



Our prayers of joy and congratulations extend to God on behalf of **Zach** and **Sam Curren**, on the birth of their baby son, Jackson Curren, on February 13, 2020. Proud great grandmother is **Dottie Tholfsen**.

Our prayers of joy and congratulation extend to God on behalf of **Eric** and **Suzanna (Rehner) Dodge** on the birth of their baby son, Camden Dodge, on February 25, 2020. Proud relatives are Aunt **Michelle** and Uncle **Josh Giacchino**.

and bring cheer singing the hymns that the residents can sing by memory!!! If you have any questions, please call Eileen and Tom Leslie at 796-5995 or see us at Church on Sunday.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Ash Wednesday worship service on Wednesday, February 26th....**The Rev. Jane Winters** for leading and preaching...the **Chancel Choir** for singing...**Mark** and **Jane Ivanick** for Greeting and Ushering...Deacons, **Barb Cacciotti** and **Jane Ivanick** for preparing the Communion...Elders, **Alida Schamel** and **Chuck Stewart** for serving the Communion.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Family Game & Fun Night on Saturday, February 29, 2020. A fun time was had by all.

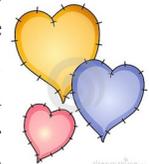
THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Sunday morning worship service on March 1st....**Jim Mosher, CRE** for leading and preaching...the **Chancel Choir** for singing...**Michelle** and **Xavier Giacchino, Judy Gooding, Steve Proudfoot, Sheila O'Bireck, and Carole Wereski** for Greeting and Ushering...**Anne McGee** for giving the Minute for Mission...**Tom Stegbauer** for Lay Reading...Deacons, **Barb Cacciotti** and **Nan Peterson** for preparing the

Communion...Elders, **Harry Fitzsimmons, Andy Foster, Liz Holloway, Tom Leslie,** and **Joanne Tunison** for serving the Communion...**Tom** and **Eileen Leslie** for giving the Chancel Flowers, "Thank you God for blessing us with our three children. Patrick had his "6th" (24 solar years) birthday on February 29th!"

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Sunday morning worship service on March 8th....**The Rev. Joanne Bartel** for leading and preaching...the **Chancel Choir** for singing...**Brenda Miller, Chuck Stewart, Debra Watts,** and **Deb Weigel** for Greeting and Ushering...**Rehana Stanley** for giving a Minute for Mission...**Chuck Stewart** and **Rev. Bartel** for Lay Reading...**Brenda Miller** for giving the Chancel Flowers, "The Chancel Flowers are given in loving memory of my mother and grandmother."...**Liz Holloway** for hosting the Fellowship Hour.

"WARM-UP" WITH A PRAYER SHAWL

We invite you to use the prayer shawls located on the church pew in the narthex area, while you are in the church building. If you need to "warm-up" during a Sunday worship service or during a church event, the handmade shawls are available for your use.



ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP? ~ EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA!

Saturday, April 11, 2020 ~ 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

We are once again getting ready for our annual Easter Egg-stravaganza and we need your help to make this event as successful as last year when we had about 180 attendees. We are in need of volunteers to help prepare lunch for the people attending, volunteer at the craft tables, a greeter at the door, egg hidiers and helpers in general to assist the age groups while doing crafts and hunting.

We also need goodies (individually wrapped) to put inside the plastic Easter Eggs. You can obtain eggs to fill at church (we have lots of them), or if you are donating items with which to fill the plastic eggs, please leave your donation in the church office no later than April 4. If you can help out in any way, please contact Tom or Eileen Leslie at 796-5995. Thank you very much!

When you are done using the prayer shawl, please return it to the same place. Thank you.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SOUP SUPPER

We will be having a Soup Supper prior to the Maundy Thursday service, April 9th, starting at **6 PM**. Please bring a soup to pass and your own table service. Drinks and bread will be provided.



DEACONS

During this time of searching for an interim pastor, the Deacons want you to know that we are available to our members. If you have a need or concern we could possibly help with, please ask one of us.

Here is a list of the Deacons right now: Dottie Tholfsen, Ron Tunison, Barb Cacciotti, Jane Ivanick, Nan Peterson, Linda Proper, Carole Wereski, Marsha Turner, Karen White, Kathy Menges and Lynn Hornbuckle. If you need their phone numbers, please use the directory or call the church office.

LOST AND FOUND

If you have lost an item, please be sure to check in the lost and found areas of the church. Areas to check are: both coat racks, also the large plastic bin, marked "Lost and

Found", in the coat room, closest to the sanctuary. Unclaimed items will be donated or disposed of by the end of March. Thank you.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible Study is meeting every **Sunday at 9:30 AM** in the parlor area. They will discuss the lectionary readings for that Sunday. All are welcome!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP!!

SATURDAY, March 21, 2020

Leave Church at 9:00 AM

We are looking for as much help as possible at our first Saturday pick up of the year. 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 work 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 home, 562-3134 or mobile 607-426-1834 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

SACRED STITCHES PEACE POD

The Peace Pod meets on **Tuesday afternoons**, from **2:30-4:30 PM** in the Genesis Room. If you can't make meetings, you can craft at home. There is a bounty of yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks and patterns available. Right now, the need is for Peace Pals, warm hats, mittens and scarves, as well as baby blankets, lap blankets and sleeping mats.

CIRCLE OF WOMEN

The Circle of Women invites you to their next meeting on **Monday, March 16th** at **10 AM** in the Hoffman Great Room. All women are invited.

RE-USABLE GROCERY TOTES

First Pres has reusable grocery totes for sale at \$10 each. They are made from washable cotton, are durable, and measure 15" x 15". These totes can last for many, many years. If you are interested in

purchasing a re-usable grocery tote, please call the church office 734-1614.

FIRST PRES BOOK CLUB

Our next book will be Anne Lamott's book "Almost Everything-Notes on Hope". We will meet on **Wednesday March 25th** at **7 PM** to discuss the book. If you have questions or need assistance ordering a book, please contact Barb Fitzsimmons. We always have a good discussion, please consider joining us!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, March 26, 2020

1 - 6 PM ~ Hoffman Great Room

When was the last time you thought about donating blood? A momentary inconvenience can save a life! There is a great need for blood in our area. Walk-ins are welcome. You may schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-RedCross or by visiting www.redcrossblood.org

EDGEWOOD PIANO TRIO CONCERT & Pre-Concert Dinner



The Edgewood Piano Trio (violin, cello and piano) will perform a concert on **Friday, March 27th** at **7:30 PM** in the sanctuary. Musicians are Eric Johnson, cello; Margaret Matthews, violin; and Gwen Beckman, piano. A free will offering will be accepted during the concert.

Each concert combines one of the major works from the repertoire, such as those of Schubert, Beethoven or Brahms, with an undeservedly obscure composition. The piano trios of Lalo, Foote, Raff and Clara Schumann are every bit as rewarding as those few that one regularly encounters in chamber music concerts. They also choose a work that they play just for the fun of it. This might be an arrangement for piano trio, such as Brahms' Hungarian Dances, quirky, like Martinu's Bergerettes, or light and tuneful as is Reinecke's Op. 159. Each piece is introduced by the trio to give an insight into its structure, place it in its historical context, and give a background to a composer with which the audience may not be familiar.

There will be a **Pre-Concert Dinner** beginning at **6:00 PM** in the Hoffman Great Room. The menu will be: homemade chili with cornbread, cream of tomato soup with grilled cheese, and assorted desserts. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 years and under. Pre-ordering is appreciated. Please come and join us!

PRES CLIPPINGS SCHEDULE

The Pres Clippings will now be published every other week. The next Pres Clippings will be on **Tuesday, March 24th.** Upcoming Pres Clippings will be on **April 7th & 28th.** **Please send all articles by 9 AM on the Monday prior to the publishing date** to Kelly Stewart, at kspreselm@stny.rr.com.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO GRADUATE IN JUNE OF 2020

The application process for Twin Tiers Youth for Christ Scholarship is now open. The application is found online at www.communityfund.org/students. The deadline for application is **March 31, 2020.**

The goal of the Twin Tiers Youth for Christ Scholarship (TTYFCS) program is to recognize young adults for their development as committed Christians and to motivate them to continue to develop as followers of Christ. The program currently awards a male and a female annual scholarship of \$5,000 each. Each recipient is paid \$625 per semester for up to 8 semesters.

Eligibility for this scholarship is as follows: The candidate must be a Christian who lives in Chemung County or an adjacent county and has been a resident for at least six (6) months. The student must be enrolled or will be enrolled in an accredited four-year college or university. The student must obtain a recommendation from a pastor of a "Christian Church." The candidate must complete the Twin Tiers youth for Christ Scholarship Application.

GRIEFSHARE GROUP

There will be a new 13 week GriefShare group starting on **Monday, April 6th** at **6:30 PM.** If you would like further information, please call the church office or speak to one of the GriefShare leaders:

Heather Cranford or Rehana Stanley. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone.

POTTER'S HANDS DINNER AND DESSERT AUCTION APRIL 18th ~ 6:00 PM

Join us for a fun and delicious evening as we raise money for The Potter's Hands Foundation. Enjoy a catered dinner followed by a fast-paced auction of extravagant desserts and other items. Brian and Melissa Moore will be providing dinner music! This event will be held at the **Grace Lee Memorial Wesleyan**, 2075 Chambers Rd, Beaver Dams, NY. Tickets are \$35 a person. We have a table reserved for our church. Please see Barb Fitzsimmons for tickets 562-8095.

The Potter's Hands Foundation is a faith-based, non-profit organization committed to serving survivors of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking as they work through the process of restoration and healing. For more information about Potters Hands please go to www.thepottershandsfoundation.org.

HEALTH MEETS FOOD CLASSES Starting April 23, 2020

Learn to cook delicious healthy food. As well as tools and techniques to effectively meal plan, shop, and eat healthy on a budget. Alongside other community members, you'll be working with medical residents and students from LECOM to prepare delicious healthy dishes. Together we discuss how different foods and techniques can help you eat well, get healthy, and stay healthy! At the end of each class we EAT the dishes we cook!

Classes are held on **Thursday evenings from 5 - 7 PM** at our church. Class dates: **April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28.** Call Health on Demand to register: 607-737-4499 Class size is limited so reserve your spot soon!

THE SPRECHER-PHILPOTT SCHOLARSHIP

This past summer the Westminster Presbyterian Church (on Elmira's south side) gave our church the contents of the Helen Sprecher Student Loan Fund that they had been over seeing for a number of years.

The money was given in memory of Helen Sprecher for individuals in need of assistance as they pursue any educational programs after graduating from high school. Helen was a World War II Veteran, a Captain in the Woman's Army Air Corps Far East Service Command, having served in the Philippines and New Guinea. After military service she married and moved to Elmira where she taught physical education for the Elmira City School District until her retirement. Helen was an active member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Helen Sprecher Fund was combined with our church's Philpott Fund to create a new scholarship fund. The Philpott Fund was created about 10 years ago from the donation of Mr. Philpott's life insurance policy to the church by his wife in gratitude for the care received from the church back in the 1940's and 1950's.

The combination of these two funds has allowed us to create a scholarship fund that can award a minimum of \$1,000 annually to a deserving church member pursuing higher education. A scholarship committee was formed this past summer that developed criteria and procedures for scholarship application that have been approved by Session.

Application forms, as well as a list of criteria and procedures, are now available in the church office. The first scholarship can be awarded in May, 2020. The deadline for application is April 30, 2020.

DINNERS OF EIGHT

Hospitality Committee is bringing back dinners of eight. We are looking for people to host a dinner of eight sometime from April 25th through May 30. The host makes the main dish and guests fill in the sides and bring their own beverages. Dinner can be sit down or picnic style, the hosts' choice. If you would like to host, please email Marcia at marciamet@gmail.com or Barb at b2fitz@yahoo.com.

2020 CHANCEL FLOWER CHART

The 2020 Chancel Flower chart is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway across from the kitchen. Please feel free to sign-up for giving the Sunday Chancel Flowers. The next available date is March 22nd. Bouquets for the chancel are \$40 each. Unless otherwise indicated by the donor, the flowers

then are separated into bouquets after worship. The bouquets are then delivered to those who are sick or homebound, by the Deacons.

HABITAT NEWS

May 2nd will be a First Pres build date at Chemung Habitat for Humanity. We will work from **8:30 AM - 3:00 PM**. If interested in signing up, please see Harry or Barb Fitzsimmons. 562-8095



Women's Build will be on Saturday, May 9th. Cost is \$10 a person and you may sign up on line at Chemungcountyhabitat.org. Our church has had a team at Women's Build since 2016. Let's keep the tradition going! Any questions please contact Barb Fitzsimmons at b2fitz@yahoo.com.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...



*“Be faithful in small things,
because it is in them that your strength lies.”*

~ Mother Teresa

Barb Squires, Clerk of Session
Melissa Moore, Director of Music
Fred Betschen, Church Treasurer
Kelly Stewart, Church Secretary
Bella DiPofi, Child Care Giver
James Stewart Sr., Church Sexton

Gary Tucker, Organist
Scott Kelley, Instrumental Director
Paul Kingsbury, Assistant Church Treasurer
Susan Weaver, Financial Secretary
Sami Swarthout, Child Care Giver

Church Office (607) 734-1614
Visit our website: www.firstpreselmira.org