<u>OUR MISSION</u> A WELCOMING FAMILY OF GOD REACHING OUT TO ALL IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST

Pastor: Elizabeth Smith

<u>Session:</u> Peg Pitcher (clerk), Marj Hughes, Laurie Rutan, Peter Stratton, Steve Kennison, Kathy Huzzy, Tom Osborne.

<u>Deacons:</u> Mary Dixon, Sue Stratton, Patricia Houck, Vashta Osborne, Regina Einbeck, Courtney & Patrick Adriance, Karen Lawrence

<u>Treasurer:</u> Peter Stratton Asst. Kathy Huzzy, Pat Houck, Helen Gydesen

Financial Consultant: Sharon Shue

Organist: Onie Brown

Guitarist: Steve Kennison

Choir director: Trish Kennison

Office Manager: Kathy Huzzy

Women's Assoc. President: Susan Stratton

<u>Forest Finds Manager:</u> Kathy Huzzy <u>Sound Expert:</u> Helen Gydesen



Forest Press

4019 Center Street, P.O. Box 326, Lyons Falls, N.Y. 13368 www.forestpresbyterichurch.org

Worship service is at 10 am Sunday Mornings

Office hours: Mon., Wed. & Fridays-8 am to 11 am; phone: 315-348-8119; email: forestchurchLF@gmail.com

April 2025 Newsletter

Pastor Elizabeth's Effervescent Elaborations

Friends, let me go over the Message with you one final time—this Message that I proclaimed and that you made your own; this Message on which you took your stand and by which your life has been saved. The first thing I did was place before you what was placed so emphatically before me: that the Messiah died for our sins, exactly as Scripture tells it; that he was buried; that he was raised from death on the third day, again exactly as Scripture says;

The Message

1 Corinthians 15:1-9 "Jeremy's Egg: An Inspirational Easter Story"

Jeremy was born with a twisted body, a slow mind and a chronical terminal illness that had been slowly killing him all his young life. Still, his parents had tried to give him as normal a life as possible and had sent him to St. Theresa's Elementary School.

At the age of 12, Jeremy was only in the second grade, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher Doris Miller, often became exasperated with him. He would squirm in his seat, drool and make grunting noises. At other times, he spoke clearly and distinctly, as if a spot of light had penetrated the darkness of his brain. Most of the time, however, Jeremy irritated his teacher. One day, she called his parents and asked them to come to St. Theresa's for a consultation.

As the Forresters sat quietly in the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school. It isn't fair to him to be with younger children who don't have learning problems. Why, there is as five year gap between his age and that of the other students!"

Forest Presbyterian Church Newsletter

April 2025

Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue while her husband spoke. "Miss Miller," he said, "There is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here."

Doris sat for a long time after they left staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Foresters. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other youngsters to teach and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read or write. Why waste any more time trying?

As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. "Oh God," she said out loud, "here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared with that poor family! Please help me to be more patient with Jeremy."

From that day on, she tried hard to ignore Jeremy's noise and his blank stare. Then one day he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him. "I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed, loudly enough for the whole class to hear. The other children snickered, and Doris' face turned red. She stammered, "Wh-Why, that's very nice, Jeremy. Now please take your seat."

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each child a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?

"Yes, Miss Miller!" the children responded enthusiastically – all except Jeremy. He just listened intently; his eyes never left her face. He did not even make his usual noises. Had he understood what she had said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents and explain the project to them. That evening, Doris' kitchen sink stopped up. She called the landlord and waited an hour for him to come by and unclog it. After that, she still had to shop for groceries, iron a blouse and prepare a vocabulary test for the next day. She completely forgot to phone Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school, laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in a large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. After they completed their math lesson, it was time to open the eggs. In the first egg, Doris found a flower. "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sigh of new life," she said. "When plants peek through the ground we know that Spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arms. "That's my egg, Miss Miller," she called out.

The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, which looked very real. Doris held it up. "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes, that is new life too" Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine."

Next, Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that the moss, too, showed new life. Billy spoke up from the back of the room. "My daddy helped me!" he beamed.

Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty! Surely it must be Jeremy's, she thought, and, of course, he did not understand her instructions. If only he

Forest Presbyterian Church Newsletter

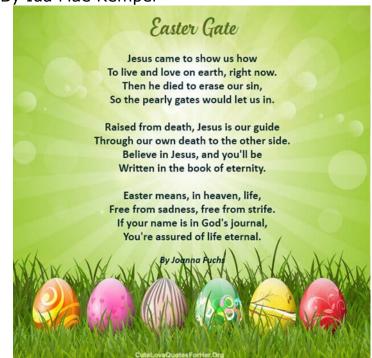
had not forgotten to phone his parents. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another.

Suddenly, Jeremy spoke up, "Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "but Jeremy – your egg is empty!" He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus tomb was empty too!"

Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?" "Oh, yes!" Jeremy exclaimed. "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then His Father raised Him up!"

The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the school yard, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away.

Three months later, Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the mortuary were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of the casket, all of them empty.



By Ida Mae Kempel

Palm Sunday and Easter

Palm Sunday is April13th and Passion/Easter Sunday is April 20th and we will have a walk through Holy Week in scripture and song. Easter Sunday will pick up where Palm Sunday leaves off. There will be a lot of beloved old hymn which tell the Easter story. Come enjoy and bring a friend!!

Deacon's Meeting Highlights

- A donation was made to Lewis County Hospice in memory of Dave Fitzgeralds wife Debbie.
- Courtney and Patrick spoke in regards to the Plentiful gifts program.
- A copy of the minutes are in Kathy's office.

Forest Friends (Women's Association) Highlights

- Forest Finds will not have a basket auction at the Lyons Falls Festival.
- We will have a basket auction here at church during the Lyons Falls garage sale day.
- We will send \$400.00 to church World Services to purchase blankets.
- Our next meeting is April 14, 2025 at Bertha Dorrity's.
- A copy of the minutes are in Kathy's office.

Forest Finds Highlights

- Forest Finds made \$2,075.03 in February.
- Barb will make an Easter basket to raffle off.
- Our Easter items are being put out as we receive them.
- Meeting minutes are in Kathy's office.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Sarah Durst, Andy Liendecker, Katie Liendecker, John Hazard, Neil Austin, Regina Einbeck, Jennifer Lemberger, Shawn Fitzgerald, Sue Levesque, Marta Louvet, Onie Brown, Christopher Peck Courtney Adriance, Shela Luther, Bertha Dorrity, Sherry Mathis, Rachael, Nancy Newton, Janet Gydesen, Gail Schmidt, Mike Bradish, Jerry Duink, Laurie Rutan, Tim Kranbuhl, Chris Broadbent, Joan & Larry Chase, Jim Wilcox, Lily Warcup, Marie Duink, Bob Jones, Ginny Fitzgerald, Vashta Osborne, Milton Dick, Ron Perini, Carol Kunkel, George Gydesen, Don & Sue Busch, Linda Duncan. Those who have lost loved ones, our church, session, deacons, and pastoral leadership.



We pray for our members of the Armed Forces Jason Beadore, Steven Potter, Bryan Monnat, Travis Post, Caleb Post, and Dustin Post.



NOTICE

Easter Service is April 20th. If you would like to order flowers for Easter in memory of your loved ones. Please see Helen.

APRIL Word Search





Saturday, April 5, a workshop on books using your device. Attendees can question and all are cards and their own

Saturday, April 12, children and their

Saturday, April 19, friendly Easter Egg

Tuesday, April 29, 5content is welcome!



Caring Friends of The Community Annual Meal

Thurs. April 10th 4 p.m. until gone
At Croghan Mennonite Church Kirschnerville Rd Croghan
Drive Thru
Meal Includes:
Jerked Pork Steak, [prepared by Red Barn Meats]
Salt Potatoes, Baked Beans &
Homemade Dinner Roll
Price \$15
Also available for purchase ptgs of one Dz.
Assorted Cookies for just \$5.00
Once again thank you to Croghan Fire Police for traffic control
Also available from this event pright back to your community.
HI proceds from this event pright back to your community.
Thank you for Avays supporting our efforts.



10AM - Learn to use Libby! Join us for checking our digital audiobooks and elibrary card and favorite call ahead to save a seat or submit a encouraged to bring current library device. (315) 348-6180

9AM-12PM, Lego Day - Open to all caregivers.

10AM, Easter Celebration - Family-Hunt & Activities

7PM, Open Mic Jam - All tasteful

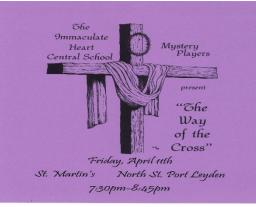
April 10th: <u>SPAGHETTI</u> DINNER

Sponsored by Valley Homemakers Thursday April 10, 2025 3-G Fire Hall Blue Street, Glenfield Eat in or Take Out – 4:30pm Adults - \$12 Children 12 and under - \$6









Mon

Tue

Sun



Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1114		Jac	
		1	2	3	4	5	Liturgist
							4/6 Mary Dixon 4/13 Tricia Kennison 4/20 Easter 4/27 Peg Pitcher
6 Session & Deacons Meeting After church	7 Birthday Laurie Rice	8	9	10 Birthday Ryan Morrison	11 Birthday Elaine Mathis Lynn Kilborn	12	 Usher/Greeter 4/6 Pat Houck 4/13 Jamie Dorrity 4/20 Easter 4/27 Vashta Osborne Coffee Hour 4/6 Pat Houck 4/13 Peg Pitcher 4/20 Easter 4/20 Easter 4/27 Vashta Osborne AA Meeting Wednesday Nights 7:pm Paint Classes Thursday 9:00am
13 Pain Ounday	14 Birthday Shela Luther Linda Vanalstine	15	16 Birthday Sharon Sandri	17	18 "Jriday" " State	19 Birthday David Rice Regina Einbeck	
20 Roma	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27 Adult Bible study after church	28	29	30				

Forest Presbyterian Church P.O. Box 326 Lyons Falls, NY 13368



8