

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924
The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor

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April 2016

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me . . . (Matt. 28:18)

In my mind, Jesus' Great Commission has forever begun with the word, "Go." If I were to try and say those words by memory, that's where I would start. And I would very likely slip into the Elizabethan English of the King James Bible. "Go ye." That's how I learned those words, soaking them in throughout my childhood in Sunday school classes and Vacation Bible Schools, sermons and songs.

Somehow in my mind "the great commission" became "the great go-mission." But every time I open the Bible and actually read the words that Jesus spoke, I'm confronted with my error. Jesus is already speaking before he gets to the word "go." If we begin with "go," we're late to the party, and what we miss out on just might be critical for how we go or whether we go at all.

"All authority in heaven and one earth has been given to me."

This is the opening line of the great commission. Jesus doesn't begin with us and what we do, he begins with himself and who he is, his authority over all things in heaven and on earth.

We can think about this in a couple of ways. For starters, Jesus' statement about his authority sounds like it compels our obedience to his command to go and make disciples. Since Jesus has authority, we need to take seriously what he says. And if he says "go," we go.

But there is a different way that authority works in our lives, and this may be what Jesus wants us to know. His authority over all things doesn't simply compel obedience, it fills us with confidence. Without this confidence we will not go and carry out his mission.

If we skip this opening line and begin with 'go' we are likely to go in our own authority. And when we take on a spiritual calling in our own authority, things get weird. We become pushy. We do violence to others. We are not relaxed. We find it hard to love. We neglect prayer.

There is plenty to talk about when it comes to the word "go." What does going look like? Where does going lead us? These are good questions, but they are not a good beginning. Unless we are convinced that Jesus is indeed alive and actively accomplishing his will in this world, we will not go at all.

Maybe as you read this you're getting ready to go somewhere. Today, before you go, take a moment and give thanks to Jesus for his authority over all things. The decisions you're facing at work, the parenting tasks that consume your thoughts, the errands you need to run, and the people you'll encounter – Jesus has authority over all of those things. He is already at work in those places and his commission is an invitation to join him there. So go. But before you go, rest in his authority. And pay attention. Wherever you go, Jesus is already there.

Pastor Kingsley

APRIL MOVES US FORWARD INTO SPRING

We have made our Lenten journey, lived with our Lord through Holy Week, and celebrated the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. He is alive! We continue our journey with Jesus during the seven-Sunday season of Easter that starts on Easter day, March 27 and continues through Pentecost on May 15.



The world around us is awakening from winter’s slumber, we sense our inner being becoming more alive, we feel the longing to get outside and soak up the warmth. Yet we also pause weekly to recharge and reenergize as we come together to worship and fellowship with one another. I still hold to the dictum that our weekly coming together provides the stability, the structure, and the renewal that we need to face whatever may confront us in our daily lives. Life is uncertain.

We learned that with the passing of Lori Baird so suddenly. Life is a precious gift. If we are vigilant in the practice of our faith, we can be better prepared for life’s unexpected events when they do occur.

The “Soul Food” we so desperately need is right before us -- prayer, readings from scripture, reminders of our fellow Christians in need of prayer and healing, hymns of faith, and words of wisdom from the sermon. Our services are deep wells from which we can drink, as we follow Jesus’ command and take communion for our hungry souls to nourish us spiritually for the week ahead. We are a community of faith.

Robert Clooney
Director of Ministry of Music

Christian Education Committee Would Like You To Know...

We are very sorry to announce that we will not be holding Vacation Bible School this year. Thank you all so much for your past support and volunteering to help this year. We just couldn't field enough co-directors to take VBS from now through to July.

This event has always been an important and spiritually-creative part of our church’s outreach, so we do hope to revive it again in the future with your help.

Thanks to Father Carl at St. James’ Episcopal Church for his efforts as well.

Sincerely,
Committee for Christian Education



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

DEACON'S 3rd ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER & 50/50 Raffle

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 5PM TO 7 PM

In Fellowship Hall

*****Spaghetti served with meat sauce or red sauce*****

Complete dinner; Salad, bread, dessert and beverages

PAY AT DOOR

\$10.00 Adults \$5.00 Ages 4- 11

Gluten free spaghetti upon request

THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ON GOING!



When you buy ShopRite gift cards through the church you can help fund our mission trips. The church sells gift cards at full face value, and we receive a 5% discount from ShopRite when the cards are purchased. If you buy groceries at ShopRite, PLEASE purchase gift cards from the church. If you spend \$100, the mission fund will grow by \$5. We all buy groceries so why not help fund our mission trip in the process? See me on Sundays to purchase them or stop by the church office during the week.

Any questions/please feel free to contact me.

Mark Glasse' (845)325-4439 or mpglasse@optonline.net

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2016

Every year, the Presbytery of the Hudson River charges every member church an assessment according to the current active membership. Our recorded active membership is currently **354** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2016 is \$31.50**, which is a total of **\$11,151.00** to be taken from our operating budget. Please assist with this expense and write a check for your family assessment, if you haven't already done so, and either mail it to the church or place it in the Sunday offering plate. Thanks for doing your share.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The past few months have been very busy for the shawl ministry. We have lost some very dear members in our congregation and hats off to Barbara Hankins who has been on top of making sure the gifts are made and delivered to family members in a timely fashion.

Thank you to Darlene Bartley who is “using up her storage of yarn” and adding lovely shawls to the “stash” so we can continue giving gifts out when needed. Each one seems to find a home quickly, and the colors seem to fit the occasion needed as well.

- I passed out two shawls to a friend and her daughter, also a friend, in Goshen who lost their husband/dad recently. Joan Howell had made some lovely stole-type shawls and I presented them after the wake. After the funeral, the widow came to tell me that she “hugged” herself with the shawl that night and then put it over the back of her husband’s easy chair where she could “grab it” if she wanted. Then she said, “How did you know my living room was green? The shawl is perfect for the room!” I didn’t know, but I think God directs where our gifts go and which ones go where.
- I also recently heard from a mom in North Carolina whose daughter, a young principal in the area, is battling brain cancer. We sent a shawl a year ago when my girlfriend told me of this situation. Jackie said that Katie still uses her shawl and loves it so much; she always has it with her during treatments too. We wish Katie a full recovery and an easy time with treatments.

We are always looking for new people to join us. No pressure, you can make one shawl a year or you can make as many as you want. There is a lot of yarn upstairs in the yarn room and we try to keep the bin in the Narthex full as well with already-donated skeins. There has been a need for purple, lavenders and soft pastels if anyone is purchasing yarn for the ministry. Our ladies have a wonderful color sense when it comes to putting together the different yarns.

Thank you again for thinking of us and letting us help you fill the needs you have for shawls, lap robes, and baby blankets. God bless each of you.

Consider yourselves each hugged,
Wendy Lee Paffenroth, Shawl Secretary

PRAYER HOTLINE – Continuous Prayers When You Need Them

If you have a sudden need for prayer – an emergency, an accident, an illness, a fear – start a prayer chain by calling:

Fran Hoffmann – 294-6470
Louise Spencer – 615-0983
Mary Gray Griffith – 294-9288

Prayer contacts will begin immediately.





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS NOTES



Some lovely ladies from the church gathered in the parlor on Monday, March 7 for the first meeting of the year of the Presbyterian Women's Association. We also celebrated a few of our ladies birthdays, though none of us like to admit the years are creeping upwards on us.

We missed our Moderator, Fran Hoffmann, but we called her at home and gave her a shout out. She seems to know how to keep our meetings moving, so we will hope she is back with us next month in April.

The ladies present decided to make a contribution to the purchasing of new outside doors to Fellowship Hall when the estimates are in. We know they are truly a need for the church.

Calling all teapots and tea cups! Yes, it is TEATIME!! The first Friday in May our ladies will be hosting the Ecumenical Tea in Goshen. Our neighboring church ladies will come to sit and have fellowship with us, ***and it will take everyone's help to make this a success.*** To start, we will need some fancy finger food...also, if you have teapots and tea cups you wouldn't mind loaning (for display purposes only), we are thinking of putting out a "tea display" for people to admire. You simply put a small name tag on the bottom, and it will be returned to you. Also we need you, the ladies of our church, to come out and have a lovely afternoon. Hats and gloves are optional! More information will be forthcoming in an email and in the church bulletin. We are also looking for your creative ideas to make this a special day for our guests. Please consider joining us the first Monday of April to further discuss the plans. Thank you.

Fran Hoffmann did it again! Over \$1000 was donated to Church World Service for blankets from our church. Congratulations all for a job well done. Thank you to the congregation for sending these warm gifts out there as well.

Generous donations were made to PW from the Tucker family and from Karen Bende in memory of several members. We sincerely appreciate your thinking of us.

The Holiday Fair, Bake Sale, Soup and Chili Sale and blanket raffle were also discussed. We did great this year, and all who helped deserve a pat on the back for a job done well again. From the beautiful blanket raffle proceeds, a donation was made to the window restoration. Thank you again, Sharlene Bischof, for the hard work that went into your magnificent afghan.

The ladies will once again sell their drinks under the steeple at Great American Weekend in July. We appreciate any and all help from our members on that weekend. We also discussed where to purchase the bagels this year and see who can get us the best prices. More information will be forthcoming at our meetings.

Remember- mark your calendars for April 4 in the parlor around 7:00 p.m. **We want your input into PW!**

God bless,
Wendy Lee Paffenroth, PW Secretary



**PLEASE SAVE BOX TOPS
FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

If you do not already save your box tops for anyone, I would appreciate you saving them for me to give to my niece who is trying to get much-needed supplies for her kindergarten classroom in Liberty, or to treat them to an educational program. The box tops can be found on many foods and household supplies such as Progresso soups, Betty Crocker products, Scott paper towels, General Mills cereals, etc. I also will take Campbell soup labels.

I will have a box for collection in the back of church by the yarn basket, or you can hand me them in church.

Thanks so much!
Carol Gabella

DINNER CLUB AT THE LANDMARK INN

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR DINNER AT THE LANDMARK INN**

**Route 94
Warwick, New York**

Sunday, April 24, 2016

5:00 p.m.

\$30.00 per person includes tax and gratuities

Cash bar

APPETIZER:

Assorted Hors d' Oeuvres
Salad with House Dressing

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE:

Pan Roasted Boneless Frenched Breast of Chicken with a
Wild Mushroom Madiera Wine Sauce

Sauteed Filet of Sole with a Lemon Tarragon Sauce

Grilled NY Sirloin with a Gorgonzola Crust and
Port Wine Demi Glaze

All served with Fresh Vegetable Medley, Rice and Potatoes

DESSERT:

Choice of three from the dessert menu

Coffee, tea or soda

Contact Linda Clark (294-7488) or Jo Wolfe (294-6652) for reservations.

TEEN VOICES

Grades 7 through 12 meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 9:30am

We enjoyed a fun and inspiring weekend at our Youth Retreat in March. Eight of our teens joined the teens from the Olivet Presbyterian Church at Tuscarora Retreat Center in Bethel, Pennsylvania. The theme was "Beyond Limits." We focused on pushing ourselves to achieve our goals beyond the limits set by ourselves and other people. We must be open to God's plan for us and push ourselves to achieve that goal by relying on courage from God. The weekend included ice-breakers, free-time, personal reflections, Bible study, movie time, a Sunday service and an all-inclusive volleyball game. Retreats are a great way for the teens to relax and get to know each other better. They also allow the space to remember the importance of building a faith community. We take great pleasure in sharing this experience with them all.

Paty & Mark Glasse'



A Big Bunny Breakfast Thank YOU

to the following for all their help!

Grover & Charlie Von Pentz, Mark Glasse, Carol Gabella,

Cheryl Zis, BA Long, The Boardman/Farley Family,

The Csernai Family, The Boardman Family,

The Fontana Family, Brian & Jack Meek,

Beth Laskoski and the many teenager volunteers

she sends to help just when we need them!

We are truly blessed to have all of you in our lives.

Sincerely,

Linda Boardman & Michele Meek



PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Come out and join a progressive dinner!

For those who have never done one, it goes like this-- we have three hosts who will open their homes for the evening for the enjoyment of food, fellowship and fun. The hosts will provide the beverages (feel free to bring some if you wish) and the paper products. Guests will sign up to bring either an appetizer, a main course or dessert. Sign up early as to what you will bring so we are sure to have enough at each home we visit.

Date: SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Appetizers: 5:00 – 6:15 pm
B.A. Long's home
34 Hawthorne Drive
Middletown

Main Course: 6:30 – 8:00 pm
The von Pentz's home
2 Robalene Drive
Goshen

Desserts: 8:15 pm - ???
The Bartley's home
41 Police Drive
Goshen

Please come out and join us for this fun event.
See Darlene Bartley or BA Long at church to let them know if you are coming.

SPRING PLANT SALE IN THE CHURCH PARK

April 29 and April 30 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
May 1 – 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For more information, call Grover vonPentz at 291-1932.

KITCHEN SUPPLIES NEEDED

We are asking for your help in supplying the items below for our kitchen. Our committee has been investing a lot of funds in these supplies, and we can really use your support. If each family or individual could donate even one item on the list below, it will go a long way in fulfilling our needs. So... when you are out and about, perhaps you can choose one of the following items to donate on occasion.

- Coffee – decaf or regular
- New dish towels
- New potholders
- Paper napkins
- Paper towels
- Paper plates, various sizes – heavy duty
- Coffee cups – 8 oz.
- Juice cups – 3 oz.
- Plastic cutlery
- Garbage bags – Big ones!
- Aluminum foil – industrial size (Sam's or BJ's)
- Saran Wrap – industrial size (Sam's or BJ's)
- Ziploc bags
- Dish detergent
- Kitchen hand soap
- Sponges
- SOS/Brillo pads
- Cleansers
- Bleach
- Bathroom deodorizers
- Toilet paper
- Bathroom liquid soap

Tablecloths – We could also use 30 plastic (vinyl flannel back) tablecloths of the same color. Gold, pale green, ivory are recommended.

Water filtration system for our coffee and drinking water

Our pots and pans are aluminum, and we would like to see them replaced with stainless steel: large stock pots, 2 quart pots, and some large skillet are suggested.

Your thoughts and ideas are welcome. Please contact me anytime and leave a message if I am not available.

Robin Knoblock - 845-313-1319 – rknoblock@hvc.rr.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO:

2	<i>Ingrid Warner</i>	16	<i>Kaitlyn Gati</i>
4	<i>Heather Case</i>	17	<i>Ian Depew</i>
	<i>James Magee</i>		<i>Emma Hourahan</i>
	<i>Jackie Quinn</i>	18	<i>Gregg Piller</i>
6	<i>Marge Chasen</i>		<i>Mark O'Hern</i>
8	<i>Ryan Fitzpatrick</i>	22	<i>Mary Kopec</i>
	<i>Stephen Quinn</i>	25	<i>Barbara Bruno</i>
9	<i>Jackson Diglio</i>		<i>Tina McCloud</i>
12	<i>Aiden Misir</i>	26	<i>Emmanuel Phillips</i>
14	<i>Gabby Donohue</i>	27	<i>Blayne Gibbons</i>
15	<i>Rebecca Zis</i>	29	<i>Elizabeth Sproul</i>

HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARIES TO:

13	<i>Brian and Michele Meek</i>
24	<i>Kevin and Sara Hankins</i>

If you are also celebrating a special day, we wish you much happiness. If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary included, please give your dates to Pat in the church office.

Our church family has experienced a great loss. It never seems "real" until we go to the kitchen and Lori isn't there anticipating all our needs or we don't see her at the lectern reaching out for help with the homeless... things too numerous to mention. It enters my mind so often in disbelief. Let's all pray and unite to fill her "shoes."

Rest in peace with our love, Lori.

Bob and I will be going to West Harrison Cancer Center every day of the week and Memorial Sloan Kettering on the weekend until his admission for the experimental T-cell treatment on April 15. Until we can return to church on a regular basis, we send you all our love and thank you, we feel your prayers.

Bob and Maureen Johnson



PRAYER CORNER

The following members or friends are going through a time in which they have asked for prayer by the church. Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Vince Ahrens
Ed Berry
Susie Bohling
Jean Chang
David Crandall
Sally Dorritie
Evie and Family
Norm and Sharon Frelinger
Dorothy Gott
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Bill Howell
Rosemary Joy
Jeff Knox
Kelly Magee Thrush
Andy Marussich
Jeff Monroe
Jean Musgrave
Nina and Jason
Alice Paffenroth
William John Pink
Tom Sawyer
Dorothy Sevcik
The Smith Family
Peggy Srirach
Suzanne Thomas
Kim Valentini and Family
Rebecca Vives
Jo Wolfe
Orra Wood
Vicki Yost

The Family of Lori Baird
Ann (Strong) Blake
Aryanna Brahs
Sharon Conlon
Suzanne DeBlock
David Dzierzek
Mary Lee Farris' sister
Jane Geyer
Barbara and George Hankins
Andy Hine
Bob and Maureen Johnson
Laura and Tom Kennedy
Brenda Kujawski
Gavin Martin
The McCloud Family
Lisa and Bob Montalbano
Eileen Myslinski
Nick K.
Dave and Wendy Paffenroth
Rachel Reeves
Fred Schwarz
Sandy Shores
David Paul Spradlin
Elmer Stevens
Christopher Tucker
Cindy Vanderplatt
The Wade Family
Anne Wood's brother-in-law
Sharon Worden

Rosa B.
Sarah Bohling
Mary Carr
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Joe Destefano
Everyone serving in the Military
Ben Fisher
Kate Goodspeed
Judy Feragola (Hankins)
Carol Hoffman
Susan Johnson
The Family of Mildred Keller
James Magee
Riley Martin
Evelyn Mercado
Richard Montalbano
Richard Nash
Amy (Thompson) Nguye
Velma Peters
Tim Richardson
Bryan Scott and Family
Matt Skyer and Family
Jackson Spradlin
Gary Swinger
Butch Turley
Kenya VanZandt
Doris Weinberger
Sandra Wood
Phyla Wright

(If you or someone you know would like to be on this list or if you would like to take a name off the list, please call the church office and the name(s) will be included/omitted next month.)

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

APRIL UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

To order a memorial paver to honor or remember a loved one, please see Pat in the church office. The cost of each paver is only \$100.

10 Niches Now Remain for Purchase in the Memorial Columbarium

Each niche allows for double or single interment with four purchase options:

Payment in Full = \$2,500

12-Month Payment Option = \$250 / month for 12 months (\$3,000)

24-Month Payment Option = \$130 / month for 24 months (\$3,120)

36-Month Payment Option = \$ 90 / month for 36 months (\$3,240)

“Stewards of Our Garden”

Thank you to our dedicated Stewards for keeping the garden neat!

The MARCH and early APRIL Steward's Schedule:

Barbara and George Hankins:	April 1 – April 15
Bill Eustance, Jen and Greg Piller:	April 16 – April 30
Beryl Yungman and Karen Bende:	May 1 – May 15

It takes only a few minutes of your time to pick up any litter, pull a weed, or sweep a few pavers clean, and you can help keep our garden beautiful! Contact Pat in the church office to sign up.

Call the church office (845-294-7991), Rev. Kingsley, or Wayne George (914-213-4093)
For any information you may need about The Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we shall seek to use our gifts through worship, ministry, and mission, to gather the Church in from the world, to continue to nurture one another, to serve a world still broken, and to exemplify through common values and purposes Christian discipleship to the greater glory of God.

BOARD OF ELDERS

Class of 2016

**Cliff Bartley
Geri Corey
John Redman
Tom Sawyer
Mal Stewart
Jo Wolfe**

Class of 2017

**Robert Johnson
Robin Knoblock
Karen Magee
Anne Tuthill
Grover vonPentz
Rob Warner**

Class of 2018

**Kathleen Alevras
Mark Glasse
Bill Hodges
Elizabeth Long
Scott Roper
Orra Wood**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

Class of 2016

**Wendy Donohue
Bill Eustance
Carol Gabella
Gina Gruber
John Gruber
Carolyn Keller
Lisa Montalbano**

Class of 2017

**Diana Bowe
Diane Church
Lori Kilmer
Mary Kingsley
Charlie vonPentz
Nancy Warner
Cheryl Zis**

Class of 2018

**Laura Colacci
Paty Glasse
Tina McCloud
Gregg Piller
Jenn Piller
Hannah Warner**

**Co-Moderators of Deacons: Carolyn Keller and Carol Gabella
Presbyterian Women:**

STAFF

**Robert Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music
Pat Schwetje, Church Secretary
Deb Hourahan, Church Treasurer
Richard Paulus, Financial Secretary
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County**