

# THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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

Telephone: (845) 294-7991; fax: (845) 615-1239  
email: [fpgoshen@gmail.com](mailto:fpgoshen@gmail.com)

Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music  
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary

Web Page: [www.fpgoshen.org](http://www.fpgoshen.org)

April 2020

## *Psalm 63*

*O God, you are my God, I seek you,  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.  
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.  
Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.  
So I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.*

*My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips  
when I think of you on my bed,  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;  
for you have been my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.*

*But those who seek to destroy my life  
shall go down into the depths of the earth;  
they shall be given over to the power of the sword,  
they shall be prey for jackals.  
But the king shall rejoice in God;  
all who swear by him shall exult,  
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.*

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” (v. 2) by Horatius Bonar  
Hymn 182, *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
“Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down and drink and live.”  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.*

Wilderness wandering. That's how I've always thought of Lent; a period in the desert before receiving the fresh, cool water of Easter. But wandering in the desert means you get tired and weary and so, so thirsty. Jesus himself uttered those words as he neared the end of his desert journey: "I thirst."

Psalm 63 describes our wandering as thirsting for God. Our whole being longs for God "in a dry and parched land where there is no water." Walter Brueggemann reiterates this idea by saying, "The theme of wilderness is an appropriate one for Lent, for Lent is about being in thin places without resources and being driven back to the elemental reality of God, the reliability of God, and our capacity to trust God in the thin places where there are no other resources. The Bible does not everywhere assume that God is present, but knows about the dry places where God's absence is overwhelming."

Our dry places are not always immediately evident to us. Sometimes we avoid visiting those dry places and wandering through our deserts by treating Lent like a task to check off our lists: don't eat chocolate for forty days, don't watch TV, don't . . . don't . . . don't. But what if we *do*? What if we do the hard work of desert-wandering that lies before us? What if we dig deep and think about the dry places in our lives where God's absence feels overwhelming? God promises a life-giving stream at the end of our journey, water miraculously gushing from the rock.

Pastor Kingsley

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## Music Notes



On Wednesday, March 11, I gave my usual midterm exams at NYU. Something was different, though: I was home, monitoring my students remotely and receiving their papers via our extensive online system. On Thursday, I learned that church services were canceled for Sunday, along with all rehearsals.

As I write this, the tri-state is under a near-total shutdown, as you well know.

Life is certainly full of surprises.

However, in counting my blessings, I realize that there is much work to do right at home, on computer or at a piano or with music paper. I am preparing to return to teaching after spring break, albeit remotely.

George Hankins did something wonderful with his relayed "missing you" emails. This is a smart, basic use of technology to hold us together...a great idea. Bill Powers and I are working on recording some of your favorite Lenten hymns as well. We'll find a way to make these available to you for download. Perhaps something "fancier" will emerge, but we are going to stick together.

I welcome emails and phone calls, and if you'd like any questions answered about hymnody or church music, give me a shout!

Also, very importantly, we still have an organ project to do. With God's grace and your support, we will still get that done and raise the roof with our singing for years to come.

See you in church soon.  
Jonathan

## **UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS**

The Church Session met the evening of March 16 on a conference call to discuss the current situation. We talked about the best ways to both protect and support each other during this time. These are some of the decisions the Session came to:

- Unfortunately, it is now clear that this crisis is not going away anytime soon. The Session has made a decision to suspend in-person activities, meetings and worship services until April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to assess the situation regularly and provide updates as the situation develops. Our first priority has to be the safety of our congregation.
- We are going to step up electronic communications. We are looking at possibilities for on-line worship and fellowship experiences. Stay tuned for more details.
- Elders and Deacons will be reaching out to congregants to make sure they're doing OK.

Finally, no one knows what the future holds and we don't have many global health care experts in our midst, so the best advice on this from a health perspective will come from the link below.

We are, however, a Christian Community and as such, we are the best people to support each other in this time of need. The situation has real concerns, but we will fare better if we remain in community, even though we are temporarily not physically meeting.

If you are house bound and need something, call the church office and we will do our best to get someone to help you. Your church is here for you.

If you are anxious about this, we understand – we are worried too. We trust in Jesus, but struggle with times like this. Your church is here for you too. Call the church office and we'll do anything we can for you as well.

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”* Philippians 4: 6-7

### **Helpful Links**

Shoprite – Shop at Home

<https://shop.shoprite.com/store/c16c625>

CVS Home Delivery

<https://www.cvs.com/content/delivery>

For more information on coronavirus, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>

**Even though we're not meeting, our bills still need to be paid. If you could please mail in your pledges, we would appreciate it. Thanks.**

## **TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER**



### **HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO:**

2	<i>Ingrid Warner</i>	17	<i>Emma Hourahan</i>
4	<i>Heather Case</i>		<i>Tom Sawyer</i>
	<i>James Magee</i>	22	<i>Mary Kopec</i>
14	<i>Gabby Donohue</i>	28	<i>Carol Hoffman</i>
16	<i>Kaitlyn Gati</i>	29	<i>Elizabeth Sproul</i>

### **HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARIES TO:**

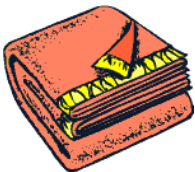
13	<i>Brian and Michele Meek</i>
24	<i>Kevin and Sara Hankins</i>

*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.*

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**The church's email address has changed.**

**It is now [fpgoshen@gmail.com](mailto:fpgoshen@gmail.com)**



### **Thank You For Your Generous Donations!**

We will be able to purchase 91 and 1/10<sup>th</sup>  
Church World Service Blankets for nation and word-wide  
distribution to those in need.

Many thanks! Mission Committee



## ***Presbyterian Women's News...***

After the winter's hiatus we gathered on March 2 to start off our year. Gina Gruber and Betty Lobb's birthdays were celebrated with a yummy strawberry shortcake made by Carolyn. Keller. We missed our other March birthday lady, Wendy Paffenroth, who was unable to attend.

We reviewed the many Christmas thank you notes from folks who received some Christmas cheer gifts. We are always glad to know that they were well received. We voted to donate \$500.00 towards the roof fund debt as well as put \$500.00 of our past earnings towards the organ repairs.

**On Sunday, May 17, we will host the coffee hour. We ask all ladies to help make this a tasty affair...** We will not try to outdo the men's coffee hour this year... Wow, it was spectacular guys!

Fran Hoffmann has received communication from Ella Hoffmann, long time friends from Goshen. Her husband Tom, now deceased, was a middle school English teacher. Ella is now in an assisted living facility and would like to hear from her Goshen friends. Her address is:

Ella Johnson, Residence at Otter Creek, 350 Lodge Road # 205, Middlebury, VT 05753

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### **ONGOING REMINDERS...**

#### **PLEASE CONTINUE TO SAVE BOX TOPS FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

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. There is a box for collection on the table in the Narthex or give them to Carol Gabella.

#### **THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ONGOING!**

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. See Mark Glasse' on Sundays to purchase them or stop by the church office during the week. Any questions contact Mark at (845) 325-4439 or [mpglasse@optonline.net](mailto:mpglasse@optonline.net)

#### **PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2020**

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 **305** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2020 is \$38.80**, which is a total of **\$11,834.00** to be taken from our operating budget. If you haven't already done so, please assist with this expense and write a check for your family assessment and either mail it to the church or place it in the Sunday offering plate. Thanks for doing your share.



## **DEACON'S PICNIC IN THE PARK**

In Celebration of our 300 Years

**A very special Deacon's Picnic is being planned  
for Sunday June 14, 2020**

We will be under the pavillion at the Myron Urbanski Memorial Park  
( Craigville Park, Goshen).

There is easy access to the picnic and bathroom area, a children's playground,  
horseshoe pits, and a volley ball area...plenty of parking and open area for other  
activities. Bring a friend, bring a family to join us.

More information to follow in May

### ***MISSION NEWS...***

The 21st Annual Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh Walk for Housing is taking place on Sunday, April 26, 2020 at 1:00 pm. Everyone interested in participating, please see Lori Kilmer for a registration/donation form. Please consider participating in this fun 3 mile walk that will take you past many of the houses already built by Habitat. Donations collected will go to PresbyBuild. Donation checks should be made payable to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh with PresbyBuild in memo of check and should be given to one of the team members prior to the walk.



Dear Members of the Church:

Easter lilies, in memory of our loved ones, or in honor of someone special, has been a long standing tradition in our church. However, this year we cannot have our service as planned. However, please consider memorializing or honoring your loved one by donating the cost of the lilies to The Board of Deacons to use for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. We believe there will be a greater need than usual in the upcoming months.

**\*\*Please write the inscription in the memo section of your check and the names of your loved ones will be listed in the May's Tower Tie.\*\***

Checks to: First Presbyterian Church in Goshen: B.O.D.

Thank you and keep well!  
The Board of Deacons



## **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:**

Ron Alebras  
Ann (Strong) Blake  
Calvary Presbyterian Church  
Peter Coyne  
Everyone serving in the Military  
Judy Fazio  
Barbara and George Hankins  
Susan Johnson  
Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy  
Brenda Kujawski  
Patricia Lawlor  
Richard Montalbano  
Amy (Thompson) Nguye  
Josephine Pecoraro  
Carolyn Reynolds  
Matt Skyer  
Gary Smith  
Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch  
Lori Kilmer's mom, Learle VanEmburg  
Kenneth Van Etten  
Jerry Westphal  
Orra Wood

The Family of Ed Berry  
Richard Brahs  
Linda Clark's brother, Bill DeBlock  
Jean and Bruce Crandall  
James, Max, and Liam Feragola  
Charles Fritz  
Kevin and Sara Hankins  
Rosemary Joy  
Jeff Kott and Natalia  
The Kurdish People  
Maggie and Quinn  
Kevin Murphy  
Owen  
John and Mary Lee Redman  
Karen Saleski  
Mary Rita Schlagel  
Louise Spencer  
The Wade Family  
Sue Whitson  
Cheryl Zis

Sharlene Bischof  
Brian and Nancy Buckley  
Barbara Cody  
Jon Dollar  
Mary Lee Farris and her sister  
Charlene Gooden  
Carol Hoffman  
Regina Kenny  
Evelyn Kromm  
Grace Lanuti  
Evelyn Mercado  
Eileen Myslinski  
Dave Paffenroth  
Carlos and Miarose Reyes  
The Family of Bob Schaper  
Eva Sickler  
Sue Stewart  
Christopher Tucker  
Charles Velzy  
Sam Wallis  
Jo Wolfe

***(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**

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Spring is here...get up, get out, spend a few quality moments with your God, your thoughts and your heart. The garden is the perfect place to recharge, refresh and re-energize your spirit!

#### **Memorial Pavers**

To order a memorial paver to honor or remember your loved ones, please see Pat in the church office. The cost of each paver is only \$100. We will place an order when we have 10 requests (as of now we only have one order).

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#### **Only 4 Niches Remain Available for Purchase in the Memorial Columbarium**

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

**Payment in Full = \$2,800**

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

18-Month Payment Option = \$180 / month for 18 months (\$3,240)

***We will need to consider constructing a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> columbarium wall soon...***

***The estimated cost for these two new walls is \$40,000+.***

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#### **“Stewards of Our Garden”**

*Special thanks to our dedicated Stewards for keeping the garden neat!*

##### **The APRIL/early MAY Steward's Schedule:**

Bill Eustance	April 1 – April 15
Barbara and George Hankins	April 16 – April 30
Bill Eustance	May 1 – May 15

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#### **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!**

***As the spring arrives, we ALWAYS NEED a few extra “Helping Hands”...***

*It takes only a few minutes of your time to pick up any litter, pull a weed, sweep a few pavers clean, or gather a few leaves and you too can help keep YOUR garden beautiful! Contact Pat in the church office to sign up and be added to our Steward's schedule.*

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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 2020**

**George Hankins  
Deb Hourahan  
Barbara Thompson  
Sue Varden  
Rob Warner**

#### **Class of 2021**

**Mark Glassé  
Bill Hodges  
Lori Kilmer  
Ken Phelan  
John Redman  
Scott Roper**

#### **Class of 2022**

**Linda Boardman  
Geri Corey  
William Eustance  
Brad McLeland  
Brian Meek  
Rob Person**

**Clerk of Session: Sue Varden**

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

#### **Class of 2020**

**Diane Church  
Carol Gabella  
Jane Geyer  
Gina Gruber  
Mary Kopec  
Betty Lobb  
Charlie von Pentz**

#### **Class of 2021**

**Michael Coyne  
Allison Csernai  
Don Dinsmore  
Patrick Ellis  
Paty Glassé  
Barbara Schust  
George Schust**

#### **Class of 2022**

**Liese Boese  
Margaret Dickover  
Jon Hourahan  
Jody Kopec  
Logan Quick  
Felicia Van Doran  
Mitch Weintraub**

**Co -Moderators of Deacons: Carol Gabella and Paty Glassé  
Presbyterian Women:**

### **STAFF**

**Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music  
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary  
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer  
Billy Kozireski, Church Sexton  
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County**



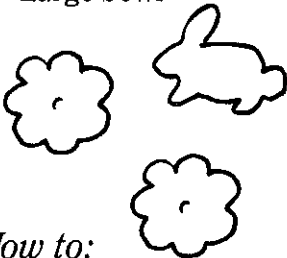
# THE KID'S PAGE

## Make a celebration snack!



### You need:

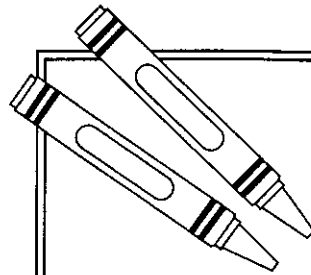
- \* 4 boxes of gelatin dessert in any flavor (4-serving size)
- \* Boiling water
- \* 9" x 13" pan
- \* Cookie cutters
- \* Measuring cups
- \* Spoon
- \* Large bowl



### How to:

Put dry gelatin in large bowl. Mix in 2½ cups of boiling water. Stir until dissolved completely. Pour into a pan. Refrigerate until firm (at least 3 hours). Cut spring & Easter shapes with cookie cutters.

### Enjoy!



## Just for **KIDS** Easter

Easter is a special day for Christians. The days before are dark and sad, but on that special day – we celebrate!  
Why do we celebrate?

Write the word to fit each definition. Transfer the numbered letters to the corresponding boxes. Read the answer.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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14	15	16
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17	18	19	20
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great happiness

a place where plants grow

opposite of evening

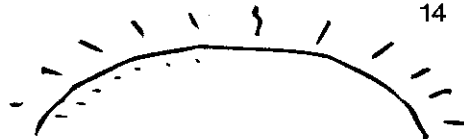
a shape that means love

it rises every morning

a close companion

Jesus was nailed to it

it blocked the door of Jesus' tomb



1 12

11 20 16

13 7 6

15 9 19

8 4

10 18 17

3 5

14 2



[Jesus rose from the dead!]

[joy, garden, morning, heart, sun, friend, cross, stone]