

# THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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December 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*I found this so moving, I wanted to share it with you. Hope you get a laugh and a cry.*  
*Pastor Kingsley*

It is with great joy that I share the news of the birth of Sarafina Wenying Paton-Kaye, born to Selene and Drew (Drew is Pastor at South Church in Dobbs Ferry). Sarafina was born on Friday. Drew shared the details in a Facebook post. Since it was all so amazing, funny and moving, I received permission from him to share it with you:

"At around 8:15 a.m. on Friday, November 10th, 2017, Selene felt a single, swift kick from within... and her water broke. Contractions came up fast and furious (along with her breakfast). Soon we were on the phone with our wonderful doula, Jeni Howe, then with a forthright nurse in our obstetrician's office who told us to come straight in. We had only a few brief moments to consider the fact that our due date was still three weeks away; that the family meeting we had scheduled for later that night with a single agenda item - "pack hospital bag" - would never come to pass; that the disarrayed condition of our bedroom would certainly be judged "unsuitable" for a homebirth by the midwives of Nonnatus House... By 10:00 a.m. Beckett was discharged into the care of his faithful babysitter, Ruth, and we were in the car, speeding towards Phelps Memorial Hospital. As we passed Main Street in Tarrytown, Selene - who was on her knees in the front seat - reported that she was feeling an uncontrollable urge to push. As we crossed into Sleepy Hollow she said, "The head is coming!" We got Jeni back on the phone and she expertly coached us. Then she said simply - in a way that conveyed both gentleness and seriousness - "Drew... drive fast." And then a moment later, Selene exclaimed, "The head is out!" I reported to Jeni, "Selene thinks the head may be out." Selene promptly corrected me, "NO! The HEAD. IS. OUT!" As we turned down the hill towards Philipsburg Manor, Selene called out, "She's born!!" As I turned in disbelief I saw Selene's hands moving deftly, powerfully, to bring the child into the world and unto her chest - as if she had done it a thousand times before. She collapsed into the seat with the child wrapped in her robe and held in her arms. Jeni, in her infinite wisdom, had gone ahead to the hospital and rallied the troops. She and a radiant fleet of hospital personnel were eagerly awaiting our arrival at the doors of the emergency room - but the height of the action was already past. And all was well with mama and baby.

Serafina Wenying Paton-Kaye was born at about 10:15 a.m. in a red Honda fit, traveling at about 60 mph in a 30 mph zone, somewhere in the vicinity of Philipsburg Manor. Six pounds, five ounces and 18 inches long (we later learned).

Here's to the kid who almost literally kicked down the door just to get into this world - and to the amazing, badass mama who delivered her own baby in a speeding car."

Please lift them all up in prayer.



## Music Notes

I write this shortly before Thanksgiving, with a turkey slowly defrosting in the fridge and preparations underway for the big feast. I have a lot to be thankful for, including this church. The choir is doing a wonderful job, and the Emmaus Ringers, our handbell choir, have hit their stride and are really ready to delight you come Christmas.

On December 10, we will host a Christmas carol sing along for the Goshen community. It will be at three o'clock, with treats to follow in Fellowship Hall. Please come and bring as many friends as you can! I think it's a wonderful, innocent holiday tradition to "gather round the family pipe organ" and sing our beloved songs. I just might play "Jingle Bells," too!

On December 17, we'll have a Christmas pageant. There's an article about it elsewhere in this issue.

December 24 is really two days in one. The morning is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, with purple paraments and the music of the Advent season. The tone will be one of watchful anticipation. That evening it will be Christmas, with white paraments and peals of joy. What a fascinating transition!

I hope that your Christmas preparations will be happy, and that we will all remember the true meaning of the season.

Jonathan

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**... OR JUST LISTEN TO THEM?**

**Then join us for a Sing-along.**

- Where: The First Presbyterian Church in Goshen
- When: Sunday, December 10, 2017
- Time: 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Holiday Sing-along in the Sanctuary

- Time: 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.  
Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall

**Carols and holiday songs for all ages!**



## Presbyterian Women's Association

The Presbyterian Women met on November 7 in the parlor and were so happy to see some new faces and hear some new ideas. Fran Hoffmann gave the Minute for Ministry the day before in church and for those of you that weren't there; here are a few brief notes of what Fran said:

*"I became a member of this church in 1951 and went to my first meeting of the Presbyterian Women. All ladies of the church are automatically a member of PW; there is no joining of this group. Things were different then. We didn't have a Fellowship Hall or even a kitchen with shiny new equipment or a comfortable parlor to hold our meetings in. We actually used a large house called the Parish House that sat across from St. James Episcopal Church. It has since been torn down. My children went to Sunday school in that building and our women met there on the first Monday of each month, just as we meet now on that same day. I didn't know many people and I was so impressed by the warm welcome I received and some of these women became my closest friends.*

***So, what do Presbyterian Women do?** Sometimes we raise money by working at the Great American Weekend at our booth, holding bake sales among other things. And, you ask, where does the money go? Some of it goes to the needs of the church like helping to replace the oil tank a few years ago, to the brass railings you see at the chancel, a donation toward the new stove, linens for receptions in Fellowship Hall, and curtains for windows were also purchased. Over the years the women have donated to the Tiffany window restoration, as well as making sure lilies and poinsettias are on the chancel for the holidays. Also, money raised is donated to St. Margaret's Soup Kitchen, People to People Fund and each December we put together Christmas cheer boxes for our shut-ins, lonely or ill members of the congregation.*

*Once a year we honor someone of the church and celebrate with a luncheon. We have honored a total of forty-two women and one man so far. On the first Friday in March, we celebrate World Day of Prayer and this past year it was held at our church. The service is written by women of a different country each year and we gather with our neighboring church sisters for the afternoon. We held a beautiful reception this year. We have also had teas with these fine women of other Goshen churches.*

*As you can see PW, has come a long way since we were at the Parish House 65 years ago. This small group of women are doing the Lord's work right in our own church house. We invite you to come and join us the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. All I can say is **"Try it....You'll Like It!"**  
God Bless – Fran Hoffmann*

Discussion was also held about the upcoming holiday fair and soup/chili sale as well. We gave out dishes at coffee hour on two Sundays in November to be used for donations of baked items. We thank all those women who so graciously baked for the bake sale or made soup and/or chili for us to sell. We hope you had an opportunity to come to the fair, maybe purchase something from PW, or something from the white elephant table that was there as well.

Watch for emails to go out the beginning of December for the date we will package the Christmas cheer gifts. We can always use home baked cookies to add to the boxes. Please consider helping us make this a better holiday for some of our members who cannot share in services with us.

All at PW hope you have a blessed holiday and that the new year is full of hope and happiness along with good health for all. Watch the bulletin for updates on PW meetings and events.

Hugs from the Women,



## SHARE PAGE

*If you have something you want to share -- a recipe, poem, prayer, or something that touched your heart -- email me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, and we will try to get it into the next newsletter. Email me at: [wendypaffenroth@gmail.com](mailto:wendypaffenroth@gmail.com)*

*Fran Hoffmann wanted to share this story with you.*

### **The Donkey**

*He was not a handsome animal, this donkey. His ears were too long, his body too squat, and his flanks were scarred with the welts of many beatings. He was a common creature, his coat the color of dust, dingy, far from the ivory-white hues reserved, as Scripture said, for the mounts of royalty. Common he was, yet stolid, standing wearily in the cold, his muzzle deep in barley, the rich wet sounds of munching loud in the darkness.*

*The donkey's ears pricked as he heard the voice of the man, his most recent owner. "Wake up," the man whispered to the lady. "Bring the Baby. We must go now. Quickly." The man came and adjusted the rope that served as his halter. This was a good man. The best. No beatings from him. No whips. No kicks. No cries of "Stupid beast!" Over and over again during the three tiring days of travel from Galilee, the man had patted him. "Good fellow," he'd said as the donkey picked his way skillfully among the rocks on the trail. The man had been gentle, too, with the lady. She had been heavy with Child, then.*

*The lady came out, bearing in her arms a small bundle that she held close. "But where?" she asked the man fearfully.*

*"South," said the man. "Egypt, if we can."*

*As the man helped the lady mount the donkey's back, the donkey saw the Child for the first time and the Child the donkey. In one quick moment the Child reached out and touched the donkey's short, coarse mane. The donkey shivered. And then they were off, the man, the lady, the Child, the donkey.*

*But something had happened to the old animal. There was pride in the lift of his head; his hooves rose and fell in clean, sharp beats; and his coat – no longer was it the color of dust. Now the donkey's entire body was of a hue befitting a royal Passenger, the color of ivory.*

*Van Varner*



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

Thanks so much! Carol Gabella

## LAST CHANCE TO PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2017

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 **357** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2017 is \$34.10**, which is a total of **\$12,173.70** to be taken from our operating budget. **As of October 31, 2017 \$5,931.20** has been collected. 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.

## CLASSIC CHORAL SOCIETY Chorus & Orchestra

Janiece Kohler, Artistic Director

### 58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CONCERT

#### Program

Felix Mendelssohn  
VOM HIMMEL HOCH

Robert Russell Bennet  
CAROL CANTATA SUITES

Randal Alan Bass  
SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS  
Audience Sing-Along

Sunday, December 17, 2017  
4:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church in Goshen

NO TICKETS REQUIRED Donations appreciated

Phone: 845-713-4543

Email: [classicchoral@hvc.rr.com](mailto:classicchoral@hvc.rr.com)

[www.classicchoralsociety.org](http://www.classicchoralsociety.org)

## Connecting Through Giving

### *Share your blessings with others*

When's the last time you connected with a friend through social media? Or text, or e-mail? When's the last time you shared a status update, or a photo of a cat? Technology today allows us to stay connected to those we love more than ever before. We can scroll through their photos, comment on their posts, and "like" those funny videos they share—even when they're miles away.

On the other hand, social media allows us to feel more connected to those around the world in both tragedies and celebrations. We can change our profile pictures in support, use hashtags to share our thoughts, and send our prayers to all those affected.

It is in these moments and through these actions that we feel connected, yet helpless to those who were affected. We show our support, but how can we know it's making a difference?

### **You Can Take Action that Makes a Difference**

Through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog, you can make a difference. By giving to those in need through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog, you can make an impact on the lives of people in our communities—locally and globally. From water filters for Flint residents, to a family of chickens for those living in rural communities around the world, there are over 40 gifts in the Presbyterian Giving Catalog that will make a difference.

Please give generously.

Find a gift that will make an impact at [www.presbyteriangifts.org](http://www.presbyteriangifts.org).

Printed copies of the catalog are also available. Contact the church office for a printed copy.



### ***Current Happenings from the Outreach Committee...***

We now have a new member program. If you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our church, please have them speak to one of the Outreach Committee members. We are planning to have a new member class in January.

There were several shawls given out this past month both near and far; five baby blankets for baptisms, three of them coming up in December. Thank you to Kathy Stringer for donating two bags of shawls for the group. We are always looking for crocheters and we have plenty of yarn if you need some. If you are interested, please let Lisa or myself know and we can help teach you if you would like to learn. If you know someone that would love a shawl, please let either Barbara Hankins, Lisa or myself know so that we can make one and get it sent out.

We are always looking for members to join our committee. We are thinking of starting a bereavement group, but need more discussion on this and will be looking for people to help get this going.

The community dinners have been going well and for the 2018 year I have two months open... August and September. If you are member of a group and would like to host, it would be appreciated.

Please remember to sign the red register book when you are in church so that we know you have been with us.

Thank you

*Darlene - Outreach Committee Chair*

*The church is doing a few new things when it comes to stewardship and one of them is a one minute segment of the worship service called "A MINUTE FOR MINISTRY." Each Sunday during the collection a member of our congregation will be sharing some aspect of the church's ministry they are involved in or what special way the church has touched their lives. What follows is another of these which we wanted to share with you.*

Good morning everyone. My name is Mark Glassé. I am currently the Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee. I am an Elder and serve on the Mission and Christian Education Committees. I am not here today to speak about any of that. I am here to share with you why I am a part of this congregation.

My story is, while unique to me, is probably no different from most. I don't have a long history with this church. I wasn't raised Presbyterian, I don't live in Goshen, and my family and I have been here less than 5 years. What draws me here is not the steeple or the stained glass windows or even the building itself, while all are beautiful. Being charitable I view it as a mixed blessing. I am here because of you sitting in the pews. It is us together that make this the church. I am here because our congregation believes in a version of the Gospel rooted in love. We do not look to judge others. We look to share our love and our blessings with the world around us.

This gives us an openness, to those all around us. This openness is evident in the way our building is open to the community. There are multiple meetings of AA, NA, NAMI, the Girl Scouts and others. Our communion table is open to all who would confess Christ. We don't care what denomination you come from, we don't care what your past was like, we don't care about who you love. What is important is that we come together, to work for a better world.

I am proud to be part of a congregation that is willing to show its love. We show that love by sending teams to New York City, to help feed and clothe our homeless brothers and sisters. We show that love by helping to rehab homes in Newburgh. We show that love by helping to build housing and a medical clinic in Nicaragua. These are the things that we can all be proud of. No matter our age or physical condition, we can help to make these things happen. I'll never forget seeing Carol Gabella's, 101 year old mother, Mae, helping to make sandwiches to send down to New York City for a Midnight Run.

Most of my adult life was spent away from the church. My Sundays were spent reading the New York Times having awesome omelets and drinking mimosas. My Sundays were without obligation. But my life was not as complete. I invite you to have a fuller life, work a little harder on behalf of those you don't know and may never meet. But I guarantee you will have a more meaningful life. When our Lord asks "Whom Shall I send" will you join me in the reply "Here I am Lord" and be a better disciple of Christ, as we share God's love with everyone we meet.

Thank you.

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## **SAVE THE DATE**

**"OPEN MIC NIGHT"**

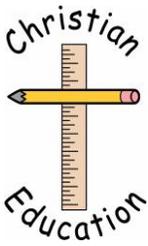
Friday eve, January 26<sup>th</sup>

Sponsored by the Fundraising Committee

Details will follow

For information, contact Mark Glasse'

*The Christian Education Team Would Like You To Know....*



The Santa Breakfast is on December 2. Hope you signed up!

The Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 17. Come and be cheered by a great plot and fun actors!

There is a red bucket in the Narthex as you enter the sanctuary, ready to receive any contributions you can make toward the Sunday school's Christmas project this year - a cash donation to the Presbytery Disaster Relief Fund, which will be sent to Houston, Key West, Puerto Rico and their immediate vicinities to help with much-needed supplies and rebuilding after the hurricanes. To help you collect change, feel free to take one of the buckets to add to over the week.

The Giving Tree is also in the Narthex and we hope you will choose a tag for a child who needs a little extra cheer (sometimes a lot....) at Christmas. Directions are on the tag.

Please, please be prepared to follow through on the tag you take! The last couple of years there have been no gifts for some children on the list and we only discover that when Linda and I are collecting the bags to transport, usually in the evening when she gets off work. We check against a list from the Salvation Army so that we don't miss someone. We have to scramble to get to a store still open to find something! And we foot the bill after having already chosen a couple tags ourselves. Please, if your circumstances change and you can't complete the commitment, call one of us and we can put that child's name back on the tree for someone else, or at least have a little more time to find a gift. Call us if you have any questions!

My boys really liked being the consultants to choose a gift for someone else. I think it has been part of the reason they are both involved in charities now.

We plan to take the younger kids ice skating at Bear Mountain and maybe snow tubing for the older ones at Mt. Peter sometime in January. Stay tuned for new activities!

Best Wishes for a Cheerful Christmas and a Great New Year,  
BA Long

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**REMINDER:**

*There is going to be a Church and Goshen Community Carol Sing-along on Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. There will be refreshments to follow. Please let me know if you will be donating two dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies for the refreshments. Contact me at Coffee Hour or call the church office (294-7991) and Pat will let me know.*

*Thank you.  
George Hankins*



**POINSETTIAS to adorn our Sanctuary  
ORDERING DEADLINE DECEMBER 4**

In honor of the birth of our Savior and in celebration of this glorious season, please consider helping us to decorate our Sanctuary with beautiful red, white, pink, and marbled poinsettias. They will be placed in the church for Sunday, December 24 and remain for the Christmas Eve candlelight service. One may take them home after the evening Christmas Eve service.

Kindly consider ordering a plant in honor of or in memory of a special person(s) or loved ones, or simply to the Glory of God and in celebration of Christ's birth. **THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 4. All orders must be accompanied with a check.** Please complete the form below and submit with your payment of \$13.99 per plant made payable to the First Presbyterian Church in Goshen (put **Poinsettias** in the memo) or call the Church Office (294-7991), Betty Lobb, 294-6344, Carolyn Keller 294-5508 or Carol Gabella 342-4367.

Thank you for helping us honor Christmas with festive flowers!

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**Yes, I would like to order Christmas poinsettias for the Sanctuary as follows:**

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u>
_____	<b>Red</b>
_____	<b>White</b>
_____	<b>Pink</b>
_____	<b>Marbled</b>
_____	<b>Total @ \$13.99 each = \$_____ due</b>



Please make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church in Goshen (put **Poinsettia** in the memo) and place in the offering plate or give to Betty, Carolyn, or Carol

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Kindly PRINT as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.)*

**To the Glory of God and:**

**In memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In celebration of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To honor the birth of Jesus Christ:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_



## **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 and Kathy Alevras*

*Sarah Bohling*

*Marilyn Borth*

*Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla*

*Sharon Conlon*

*John DeGroat*

*Mary Lee Farris and her sister*

*Bob Geyer*

*Lynne Gregor*

*Edith Hausmann*

*Susan Johnson*

*Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott*

*Kelly Magee Thrush*

*Sergio Franklin Maturana*

*Eileen Myslinski*

*Dave and Wendy Paffenroth*

*Maritya Reyes*

*Tom Sawyer*

*Louise Spencer*

*Kathy Stringer*

*Gary Swinger*

*Cindy Vanderplaat*

*The Wade Family*

*Anne Wood's brother-in-law Dennis*

*Phyla Wright*

*Ed Berry*

*Susie Bohling*

*Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs*

*Laura Colacci*

*Winifred Coyne*

*Everyone serving in the Military*

*Robert and Brenda Faulls*

*Esther Glassé*

*Barbara and George Hankins*

*Georgia Hickey*

*Rosemary Joy*

*Brenda Kujawski*

*The Family of Rose Marciante*

*Evelyn Mercado*

*Amy (Thompson) Nguye*

*Josephine Pecoraro*

*Marge Rolen*

*Lisa Scheuermann*

*Joe Spoor*

*Virginia Stubenrauch*

*Christopher Tucker*

*Kenneth Van Etten*

*Doris Weinberger*

*Sandra Wood*

*Ann (Strong) Blake*

*Hannah Boorse*

*John Burleson*

*Lawrence Colacci*

*Suzanne DeBlock*

*Judy Hankins Feragola*

*Judy Fazio*

*Miko Graham*

*Kevin and Sara Hankins*

*Jennifer and Andy Hine*

*The Kingsley Family*

*Karen Magee*

*Diana Martin*

*Richard Montalbano*

*Dean Oberg*

*Rachel Reeves*

*Aimyna Jade Royce*

*Gary Smith*

*Peggy Srirach*

*Caryl Swald*

*Danny Tucker and Family*

*June Vautin*

*Jo Wolfe*

*Orra Wood*

***(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.)***

**Please join us for the**

**Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols**

**December 24 7:00 PM**

# **TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER**

## **HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:**

1	<i>Roger Tuthill</i>	15	<i>Rachael Quick</i>
2	<i>Joy Kissane</i>	16	<i>Linda Boardman</i>
3	<i>Craig Benson</i>		<i>Marilyn Velzey</i>
4	<i>Greg Sitler</i>	18	<i>Barbara Thompson</i>
5	<i>Erica Gati</i>	19	<i>Joe Pietropaolo</i>
	<i>Kari Taylor</i>	20	<i>Nancy Leech</i>
6	<i>Lisa Montalbano</i>	23	<i>Barbara Schust</i>
9	<i>Beryl Yungman</i>	25	<i>Jennifer Serkes</i>
	<i>Christopher Misir</i>		<i>Wesley Sproul</i>
12	<i>Bruce Crandall</i>		<i>Mal Stewart</i>
	<i>Sadie Hankins</i>	27	<i>Kayla Farley</i>
14	<i>Rob Dickover</i>		<i>Barbara Heiser</i>
	<i>Elise Frederick</i>		<i>Kevan Ottochian</i>
	<i>Jeanette McDowell</i>	29	<i>Geri Corey</i>
	<i>Ken Skyer</i>		<i>Ethan Cox</i>
		30	<i>Graham Glasse</i>

## **HAPPY DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:**

12	<i>Logan and Rachael Quick</i>
17	<i>Robert and Rebecca Boardman</i>
18	<i>Bruce and Jean Crandall</i>
23	<i>Bill and Gina Gruber</i>
28	<i>Jon and Deb Hourahan</i>
29	<i>Tom and Jeanette McDowell</i>
	<i>Greg and Deb Spencer</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.***

## ***AWESOME...***

I want to thank my awesome friends at FPC. During my surgery and chemotherapy treatments over the past 6 months you have been so supportive and caring. I felt surrounded by your love through phone calls, cards, emails, FB posts, visits, food, flowers, and FedEx. Those of you who drove me to and from NY Presbyterian for treatments and doctor appointments are special angels often devoting whole days to my needs for transportation and company. I especially want to thank you all for your prayers. When I was waiting to go into the OR, I was so calm. I stress over minor things. So what caused this unusual calm? It occurred to me that I was feeling the prayers from everyone praying for me and those prayers gave me the courage to relax and be brave. AWESOME FEELING! Thanks to you all!

Yours in Christ,

Karen Magee

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

- *Michael and Jennifer Alevras on the birth of their daughter, Melody Rae Alevras born on November 7, 2017. The proud grandparents are Ronald and Kathleen Alevras.*
- *Kimberly and Jordan Cretaro on the birth of their son, James Michael who was born on October 13, 2017. Cheryl and Nichola Zis are the proud grandparents.*
- *Louise Spencer, who is a published poet! This extract from her Master's thesis was in the Lutheran "Church and Life" magazine recently:*  
<http://www.churchandlife.org/past.htm>  
<http://www.churchandlife.org/2017-07-what-a-folk-school-is-not.htm>
- *Laura Gabella, daughter of Carol Gabella, who was inducted into the Colt Athletic Hall of Fame at Orange County Community College on November 4, 2017. She is the youngest person thus far to receive this honor.*
- *Michael Coyne, Patrick and Jennifer Ellis, June Kreutz, Stella Lemmon, and Charles and Marilyn Velzy who joined the church on October 29. We welcome them to our church family.*

To All,

I would like to thank the following people for doing the Minute for Ministry and sharing their personal stories: Barbara Hankins, Deb Hourahan, BA Long, Mark Glassé, Ken Skyer; and from the committees the following: Deb Hourahan for Stewardship, Jon Hourahan for Deacons, Sue Varden for Mission, Bill Hodges for Finance, Fran Hoffmann for the Woman's Association, and George Hankins for Music and Worship.

For upcoming Minute for Ministries, we will have BA Long doing a minute for Christian Ed. and Haley Wilton sharing a personal story.

I am looking for members to do a personal story on December 24, January 7 and January 21. If you are willing to speak for a minute or two as to why our church means so much to you, please let me know. Also, if you are on a committee and would like to speak about what your committee does or anything that is coming up, I would be happy to fit you in.

It is important to talk about what our church means to us and why we come here. It is because of all of us that the doors stay open. We have become a family, we care for each other, and we reach out and do for others to help them in every way we can. We are awesome and we need to keep the caring going, working to bring peace, happiness, and a smile to everyone's face.

Thank you from Stewardship,

## **Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden**



### **DECEMBER UPDATE**

**Thanks to those dedicated friends and members who came out to support the Garden's Annual Fundraiser. \$560 was raised to help fund the on-going maintenance of the Meditation Garden.**

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### **Memorial Pavers**

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

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### **7 Niches Remain Available 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)

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### **"Stewards of Our Garden"**

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

#### **The DECEMBER/ early JANUARY Steward's Schedule:**

Bill Eustance, Jen & Gregg Piller      December 1 – December 15

Beryl Yungman      December 16 – December 31

Barbara and George Hankins      January 1 – January 15

*YOU can be a Steward of Our Garden on any day of the week! 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 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 2018**

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

#### **Class of 2019**

**Linda Boardman  
Geri Corey  
William Eustance  
Brad McLeland  
Brian Meek  
Malcolm Stewart**

#### **Class of 2020**

**Darlene Bartley  
Robyn Boardman  
George Hankins  
Deb Hourahan  
Sue Varden  
Rob Warner**

**Clerk of Session: Sue Varden**

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

#### **Class of 2018**

**Wendy Bynum-Wade  
Laura Colacci  
Donald Dinsmore  
Wendy Donohue  
Paty Glasse  
Gregg Piller  
Jenn Piller**

#### **Class of 2019**

**Liese Boese  
Margaret Dickover  
Jon Hourahan  
Carolyn Keller  
Jody Kopec  
Logan Quick  
Felicia Van Doran**

#### **Class of 2020**

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

**Moderator of Deacons:**

**Carolyn Keller**

**Presbyterian Women:**

### **STAFF**

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