

# THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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

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

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

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

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## Psalm 103

*Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.*

*Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.*

*The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him. For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, obedient to his spoken word. Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will.*

*Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul.*

Have you ever talked yourself out of bed? You know, like a Monday morning pep talk? The alarm sounds and you say to yourself, "OK, Monday. You can do it." Or do you rally yourself before you go into a big meeting? Maybe you whisper to yourself, "You've got this. You'll do great."

The psalms reveal a very human response to our experience in this life. The psalmist leads us in hymns of lament and songs of praise. The psalmist reminds us that despite the heartache and pain we experience, our God never leaves us. The psalms are full of "holy pep talks."

Every so often, however, praising God can sometimes be a lot like trying to get out of bed on a Monday morning. We wake to multiple breaking news stories about violence in our cities, natural disasters, or political unrest. We greet the day knowing we may encounter those very raw human realities of sickness, heartache, loss, or fear. Sometimes instead of waking with praise on my lips, I pull the covers over my head and ignore it all.

Truth be told, sometimes we do need to talk ourselves into worship. The same was true for the psalmist. In today's psalm we encounter the writer giving a word of encouragement to the psalmist's very soul: *Bless the Lord, O my soul. Remember everything God has done for you! Let's do it, O my soul, and bless the Lord!*

Reading the psalms can remind us of God's promise of love and care. They are guides for our praise when it's near impossible to summon our hearts to gratitude. So when morning comes and with it the alarm sounds human ills and shortcomings, try turning to the psalms. Then face the day with praise, reminded of God's presence and promise.

Pastor Kingsley



## Music Notes

Advent is coming! The radio is playing Christmas songs about silver bells and talking snowmen, and TV commercials are already decked with boughs of holly, but it's not Christmas yet. We wait, we sing "O come, O come, Emmanuel..." We light candles of purple and pink. We live in two Christmases, really: the Christmas of Christian tradition and the Christmas of folk Christianity. The latter, unfortunately, is mixed up in commercialism. I hope that our coming Sundays will really put you in the Christmas spirit by remembering the long, patient wait for the Messiah. As the French carol "Il est né" puts it,

*Depuis plus de quatre mille ans  
Nous le promettaient les Prophetes;  
Depuis plus de quatre mille ans  
Nous attendions cet heureux temps.*

For more than four thousand years  
The prophets promised Him to us;  
For more than four thousand years  
We have waited for this happy time.

What's four weeks compared to four millennia?

On Sunday, December 23—the Fourth Sunday of Advent—we will hold a community Christmas carol singalong. This has been a hit in recent years and we hope it will continue to grow. It starts at 3 o'clock, and there are rumors of an especially nice reception afterwards. Plan on both!

It was bittersweet to play for Phyla Wright's memorial service on November 19<sup>th</sup>. She had been so cheerful, so supportive of me in my early days here. I never met Paul, but he stands tall in the collective memory, as our steeple stands tall over Goshen. I have been doing a lot of looking up! Thank you for being such a loving and good community, and keep on doing what makes you so special.

There's a small newsletter in the narthex, whimsically called The Vesper Chime. It is just an update on some things the music ministry is up to, and has some historical information on organs and sacred music. Stay up to date, and look for more good things to come!

Happy Advent (and Merry Christmas!), Jonathan



**Please join us for the  
Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols  
December 24 7:00 PM**



### **News from the Outreach**

The Outreach Committee brought back the recognition of our members who have been faithful to our church. They were recognized on Sunday, November 18. We recognize those who have 20 years and above in 5 year increments the following:

For 20 years: Peter Trelin and Eugene Tucker

For 25 years: Edith and Douglas Bush and Susan Varden

30 years: Darlene and Cliff Bartley, Sharlene Bischof and Wendy Paffenroth

40 years: Linda Clark, Sandy and Art Soons, and Cheryl Zis

45 years: Julia House and Doug Wade

50 years: Edwin Garling and Dr. Laura Kennedy

60 Years: Betty Lobb and Thomas Sawyer

70 Years: Barbara Munhill

75 Years: Walter Jensen

It is truly awesome for the service you have given and is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much and God bless you all.

#### **Getting Through Together**

We are so happy that this is so successful and hope that if you know someone who needs to come and benefit by this service, please spread the word. Please let them know that they can find the parlor by coming through the office door on Park Place. Meetings are at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of every month.

#### **Post cards**

We care about our members and when we do not see you or are not signing the red books in the pew, you will get a post card from us letting you know that we miss you. We know lives get busy and sometimes you do not make it to church, but we really do miss seeing you. So if there is something going on, you need help, someone is ill, please let us know so we can help.

#### **Visitors/Members**

In each pew there are red registers for you to sign to acknowledge your presence with us. When visitors sign the register and leave their address, we like to respond with a letter of thanks for joining us. The red register serves as a tool to know who may not have been in church for a while and need a card or a call to let them know we miss them. The Outreach Committee asks members if they sit near someone new, to please ask them to sign the register, invite them to come to coffee hour, and if they are interested in joining to seek out one of the committee members or call the church office and speak to Pat. The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who seeks out our visitors and makes them feel welcomed.

## 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 23, 2018
- Time: 3 PM – 4:30 PM
  - Holiday Sing-along in the Sanctuary



Time: 4:30 PM – 5 PM

- Refreshments in Fellowship Hall

Carols and Holiday songs for all ages



**Friday Night Friends**

**December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Theme: Birthday Party for Jesus**

**Registration: 5:30 Starts 6 – 8pm**

**Crafts, Music, Games, Dinner, and FUN**

**\$5.00 per child; family max - \$10.00**

**Dinner will be served**

**Please contact Allison Csernai with questions or to register**

**[aac0605@gmail.com](mailto:aac0605@gmail.com) or 845-341-8541**

## **Midnight Run**

I just want to send out a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way with our recent Midnight Run trip into NYC. We took down five vehicles packed with clothes, food and a wonderful group of volunteers, making five stops and depleting most of the supplies we took with us. The weather cooperated for a change AND since we moved the clocks back, we even got an extra hour of sleep!

Our next run will be in March. Please save your travel toiletry items and any gently worn men's/women's clothing. We'll be looking for help with food donations, help sorting as well as drivers and volunteers to help with distribution. It really is a very moving and quite humbling experience. If you're ever feeling like you don't have enough, spend a few hours with us on the streets of Manhattan. Most of the people we meet keep everything they own in a shopping cart or plastic bag. Many are quite articulate, most are extremely gracious and grateful, and they ALL have a story. Enjoy the coming holidays and again, thank you for keeping Midnight Run one of our successful mission projects.

Wendy Bynum-Wade  
Midnight Run Coordinator

## **A UNIQUE GIFT IDEA FOR CHRISTMAS**

The Presbyterian Giving Catalog is available now in Pat's office or on the table in the Narthex. It includes a range of gifts from \$25 and up that provide meaningful items for nourishment, income producing, and continued self preservation for our neighbors in need. They can be purchased in honor of a friend or family member. The catalog can also be viewed at website: [presbyteriangifts.org](http://presbyteriangifts.org) or to order you can call 1-800-872-3283. The mission committee will be pooling money and choosing a gift this Christmas. A lasting Christmas or birthday gift! If you need further help with this, call Diane Church at 845-294-5398.



## ***NOTES FROM the Presbyterian Women's Association...***

PW is in the holiday spirit and wants to be sure we spread that cheer among our congregants who don't make it to church as often as they used to. We will be packing holiday gift bags in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. We will be looking for homemade cookies, quarts of homemade soups, books and small gift items to include in these bags. We could also use volunteers to help deliver these bags. For more info or to volunteer to bake, make soup or deliver, call Carol Gabella 342-4367 or leave your name with Pat in the church office at 294-7991.



## **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. 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](mailto:mpglasse@optonline.net)

## **PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2018**

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 **343** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2018 is \$36.83**, which is a total of **\$12,632.69** 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.



## **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

## POINSETTIAS to adorn our Sanctuary ORDERING DEADLINE DECEMBER 3

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 23 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 3. 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:** \_\_\_\_\_



## TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

### **HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:**

|    |                          |    |                        |
|----|--------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | <i>Roger Tuthill</i>     | 16 | <i>Linda Boardman</i>  |
| 2  | <i>Joy Kissane</i>       |    | <i>Marilyn Velzey</i>  |
| 4  | <i>Greg Sitler</i>       | 19 | <i>William Person</i>  |
| 5  | <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>Barbara Heiser</i>  |
| 14 | <i>Rob Dickover</i>      |    | <i>Kevan Ottochian</i> |
|    | <i>Jeanette McDowell</i> |    | <i>Kayla Farley</i>    |
|    | <i>Ken Skyer</i>         | 29 | <i>Geri Corey</i>      |
| 15 | <i>Rachael Quick</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.***

### **Congratulations to:**

- *Mary and Jody Kopec on the birth of their fourth grandchild, Dahlia Frances born to Tara and Bobby Montemurro. She weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz.*
- *Brian Meek who became an uncle! Patrick Christopher Dodd was born on October 26, 2018 and weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. The proud parents are Holly and Christopher Dodd.*





## **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:**

|                                   |                                |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Colin Alevras                     | Ron and Kathy Alevras          | Ed Berry                                      |
| Ann (Strong) Blake                | Sarah Bohling                  | Susie Bohling                                 |
| Marilyn Borth                     | Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs  | John Burleson                                 |
| Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla | Linda Di Meo                   | Everyone serving in the Military              |
| James, Max, and Liam Feragola     | Mary Lee Farris and her sister | Judy Fazio                                    |
| Esther Glassé                     | Matthew Gould                  | Barbara and George Hankins                    |
| Kevin and Sara Hankins            | Georgia Hickey                 | Kris Hill                                     |
| Susan Johnson                     | Joseph                         | Rosemary Joy                                  |
| The Keahon Family                 | Regina Kenny                   | David Kingsley                                |
| Linda Koch                        | Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy     | Jeff Kott and Natalia                         |
| Brenda Kujawski                   | Margo Kumpf                    | James Lowry                                   |
| Karen Magee                       | Kelly Magee Thrush             | Ruth Maney                                    |
| Evelyn Mercado                    | Bob Montalbano                 | Richard Montalbano                            |
| Eileen Myslinski                  | Amy (Thompson) Nguye           | Dean Oberg                                    |
| Josephine Pecoraro                | Carlos and Miarose Reyes       | Maritya Reyes                                 |
| Natalie Roger                     | Marge (Chasen) Rolen           | Jennifer Serkes and Family                    |
| Tom Sawyer                        | Gary Smith                     | Louise Spencer                                |
| Peggy Srirach                     | Kathy Stringer                 | Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch |
| Lise Suenson                      | Christopher Tucker             | Danny Tucker and Family                       |
| Cindy Vanderplaat                 | Kenneth Van Etten              | June Vautin                                   |
| The Wade Family                   | The Family of Doris Weinberger | Jo Wolfe                                      |
| Anne Wood's brother-in-law Dennis | Sandra Wood                    | Orra Wood                                     |
| The Family of Phyla Wright        | Vicki Yost                     |   |

***(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.)***

We have lost three of our sisters in Christ this past month. Please keep the families of Barbara Drake, Phyla Wright, and Doris Weinberger in your prayers.

*For those of you who remember Doris Weinberger, below is her daughter's address.*

Judy Fisher  
686 Bellknap Mountain Road  
Gilford, New Hampshire 03249



## **Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden**

### **DECEMBER UPDATE**

#### **Memorial Pavers**

Bundle up and enjoy the serenity of the Meditation Garden in December. 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.

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#### **5 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              | December 1 –December 15   |
| Barbara and George Hankins | December 16 – December 31 |
| Beryl Yungman              | January 1 – January 15    |

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

*We could certainly use a few extra “Helping Hands.”*

*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 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 2019**

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

### **Class of 2020**

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

### **Class of 2021**

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

**Clerk of Session: Sue Varden**

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

### **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**

### **Class of 2021**

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

**Moderator of Deacons:  
Presbyterian Women:**

**Carolyn Keller**

## **STAFF**

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