

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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December 2020



Music Notes...

As it says in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas,"

*It came without ribbons! It came without tags!
It came without packages, boxes, or bags!*

This year, we may feel more like the Whos in Who-ville. But Christmas is coming all the same. We're planning on holiday celebrations at church, reshaped to accommodate the current situation.

On Sunday, December 20, there will be a live Nativity in front of the church, with Christmas carols sung by the choir--suitably distanced, of course. The event will go from 5:30 to 7 PM. On Christmas Eve, there will be a repeat, same schedule, followed by a quiet, instrumental Christmas Eve service in the sanctuary.

I hope you can attend both of these events! We certainly "need a little Christmas, right this very minute."

If you are interested in taking part as a singer, that's possible, but please let me know right away. There are logistics, and we might not be able to accommodate last-minute arrivals.

I've spoken with Austin Organs, and we are making progress. Their schedule may have changed for obvious reasons, but the organ is moving ahead. The console we're to receive has been taken from storage and inspected, and it will work well. This is a 1931 Austin console, not our original one but its sibling. The intensive work of wiring the console, completely rewiring the organ chambers, making everything clean and workable and functional again, will take time, but it will be done! I'm already dreaming of the dedication recital.

Wishing you, despite every obstacle, a deep sense of gratitude and joy, expectation and hope, and the true meaning of this glorious season.

Blessings on your pathway,

Jonathan

FYI...

- The Village of Goshen Police Benevolent Association will be selling Christmas trees on the lawn of the First Presbyterian Church from November 28 through December from 4:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursdays through Sundays. The PBA is a non-profit that supports many local charities and organizations. So keep them in mind if you are going to purchase a live tree this year.
- The Confirmation Class will be confirmed on Sunday, December 20 during the worship service. Please join us to congratulate our confirmands. Thank you to Paty and Mark Glassé for their hard work in guiding these young people in these difficult times.

- **Outdoor Living Nativity at The First Presbyterian Church in Goshen**

Dates: Sunday, December 20 and Thursday, December 24, 2020

Times on both days: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm EST

*First Presbyterian in Goshen, celebrating its 300th year in 2020, has a special event this Advent season -- its very own outdoor Living Nativity. **ALL are invited to witness Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, LIVE in the Village of Goshen, including live animals in the Nativity scene for both evenings, with the addition of a live camel on December 24th -- no special effects!** This will be an awesome experience in person, and we hope you will take the time to focus on the true reason for this glorious season. Following the outdoor Living Nativity scene on Christmas Eve (December 24), there will be a worship service inside the church with appropriate social distancing measures.*

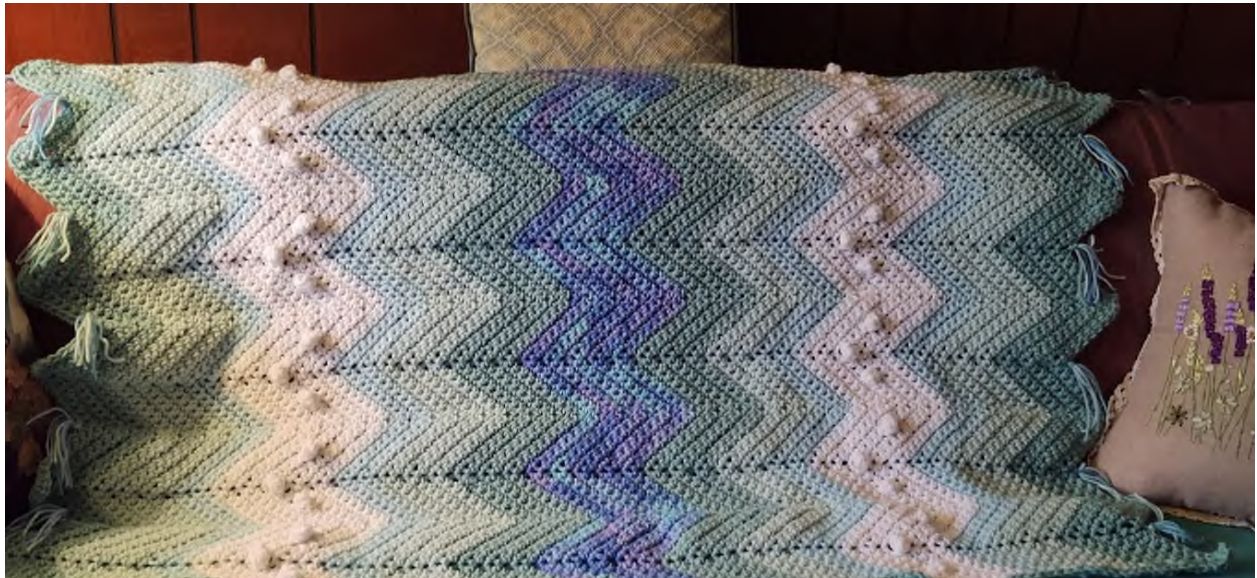


Preachers for December

December 6	Edgar Hayes, CRE
December 13	Rev. Peter Johnson
December 20	Lynn Costa, CRE
December 24	John Redman, CRE
December 27	Anne Wood, CRE

The First Presbyterian Church in Goshen is raffling off a crocheted lap robe to benefit Fearless Hudson Valley, Inc. (formerly known as Safe Homes of Orange County) and Orange and Rockland's Neighborhood Fund.

While donations in all amounts are welcomed, raffle tickets will be given to those donors who give \$50 or more... one ticket for each \$50 donation (2 tickets for \$100, etc.).



The lap robe, designed and crocheted by a member of the Goshen Public Library's 'Yarn Gang', measures 40" wide x 50" long.

Due to Coronavirus restrictions, it is asked that donation checks be made out and mailed to:

First Presbyterian Church in Goshen
33 Park Place, Goshen, NY 10924

In the NOTE section of your check, please be certain to write 'Mission Benefit Raffle.'
Include your address. Your ticket(s) will be mailed to you.
Drawing 12/11/2020.

POINSETTIAS to adorn our Sanctuary ORDERING DEADLINE DECEMBER 6

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 13 and remain for the Christmas Eve 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 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6. 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!

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

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



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:

2	<i>Joy Kissane</i>	19	<i>William Person</i>
3	<i>Fiona Keahon</i>	20	<i>Nancy Leech</i>
4	<i>Greg Sitler</i>	23	<i>Barbara Schust</i>
6	<i>Lisa Montalbano</i>	25	<i>Jennifer Serkes</i>
9	<i>Beryl Yungman</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>
16	<i>Linda Boardman</i>	30	<i>Graham Glasse</i>
	<i>Marilyn Velzey</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.*



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 Alevras
Janet Begnoche
Robert Clooney
Jean and Bruce Crandall
James, Max, and Liam Feragola
Charles Fritz
Barbara and George Hankins
Rosemary Joy
Jeff Kott and Natalia
Maria Kurt
James Magee
Richard Montalbano
Amy (Thompson) Nguye
Josephine Pecoraro
Karen Saleski
Mary Rita Schlagel
Louise Spencer
Christopher Tucker
Charles Velzy
Jerry Westphal

Susan Ambrsino
Ann (Strong) Blake
Barbara Cody
Dori Dodson
Mary Lee Farris and her sister
Carol Gabella's nephew, Frank
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Regina Kenny
Evelyn Kromm's son
Patricia Lawlor
Kelly Magee Thrush
Kevin Murphy
Owen
Carlos and Miarose Reyes
Tom Sawyer
Eva Sickler
Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch
Lori Kilmer's mom, Learle VanEmburg
Kenneth Van Etten
Jo Wolfe

Linda and Tom Chiappardi
Richard Brahs
Peter Coyne
Everyone serving in the Military
Judy Fazio
Charlene Gooden
Susan Johnson
Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy
Brenda Kujawski
Maggie and Quinn
Evelyn Mercado
Eileen Myslinski
Dave and Wendy Paffenroth
Carolyn Reynolds
Matt Skyer
Gary Smith
Sam Wallis
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.)



Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

DECEMBER UPDATE

Visit the Meditation Garden during the Christmas season.
Its tranquility and beauty are special at this time of year.

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).

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 2nd and 3rd columbarium wall soon.
The estimated cost for these two new walls is \$40,000+.***

“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
Bill Eustance	January 1 – January 15

CALLING ANY & ALL VOLUNTEERS!

The leaves have fallen AND we ALWAYS NEED a few extra “Helping Hand.”

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.

Call the church office (845-294-7991) 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 2021

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

Class of 2022

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

Class of 2023

**Nancy Buckley
Jennifer Ellis
Kevan Ottochian
Kenneth Skyer
Sue Varden**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

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**

Class of 2023

**Diana Bowe
Jane Geyer
Gina Gruber
Carolyn Keller
Mary Kopec
Jonathan Laskoski
Cheryl Zis**

Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller

STAFF

**Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer
William Kozireski, Church Sexton**

THE KID'S PAGE

Christmas Treasure from Trash

You can make pretty Christmas ornaments from old Christmas cards.

You will need:

- * old Christmas cards
- * scissors
- * glue
- * 3" or 4" circle pattern (cut from cardboard or just trace a coffee cup)
- * hole punch
- * yarn and ribbon
- * glitter
- * trims — rick-rack, ribbon, sequins, beads

How to do:

Trace the circle on two cards. Cut out and glue the backs of the cards together.

Decorate the edges of the cards with glue and glitter or scraps of ribbon.

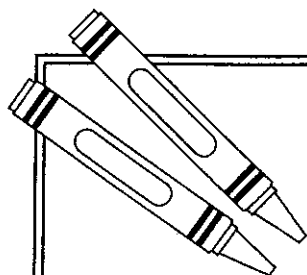
Punch a hole in the top.

Insert a piece of yarn or ribbon.

You may also make small ones for gift tags.

Just cut your circles smaller.

Leave the back white and write "To:" and "From:" on it.



Just for

KIDS

Telling the Christmas Story

These words are all part of the Christmas story. First, find them in the puzzle below. Circle them. You may find them → ← ↗ ↘ ↙ ↘ ↕ ↓. There will be 12 letters that remain uncircled. Write them in the order found on the lines below. You will find a special Christmas message! Then use the words from the list to tell the story to someone!

joy	hay	men	inn	wise
Lord	star	baby	king	east
Mary	gold	angel	taxes	Jesus
sheep	myrrh	three	manger	Savior
donkey	Caesar	Joseph	birthday	Messiah
shepherds	frankincense	Bethlehem	Augustus	

B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	P	S	M	A	R	Y
I	A	N	G	E	L	E	G	O	L	D	E	C	A	E
R	C	B	J	S	M	Y	R	R	H	R	S	A	E	K
T	J	O	Y	E	H	E	T	S	A	E	S	E	M	N
H	T	A	X	E	S	E	N	O	I	H	I	S	A	O
D	A	G	N	I	K	U	E	N	N	P	A	A	N	D
A	E	Y	W	R	A	T	S	P	N	E	H	R	G	R
Y	A	U	G	U	S	T	U	S	T	H	R	E	E	O
F	R	A	N	K	I	N	C	E	N	S	E	A	R	L
R	O	I	V	A	S	R	T	H	J	O	S	E	P	H

“ _____ ”

Answer: Peace on Earth

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