

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Lord, teach us to pray” ([Luke 11:1](#))

“Now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say . . .”

If you ever find yourself attending a worship service in an Episcopal church, whether by habit or by compulsion, heads up: those words are your cue. You’re about to speak the familiar words of our Lord’s Prayer.

I’m not well acquainted with the *Book of Common Prayer*. I do not naturally slip onto the rhythms of Episcopalian liturgy. But I like this phrase. The priest or liturgist seems to be giving us a verbal nudge, a wake-up call to any and all who are prone to worship with drowsy inattention. The words tell us that it’s our turn to jump in and be a part of the praying. It’s a rallying cry: “Here we go.”

Perhaps the opening words of the prayer slip by us. But if we miss the “Our Father,” we’re all in with the “hallowed be thy name.” The unison mumbling gathers strength and momentum and the next thing we know it’s over — until next week when the pastor or priest will cue our lines again.

What strikes me about this line from the Episcopal liturgy is that notion of boldness. “We are bold to say . . .” Those words connect the weekly repetition of the Lord’s Prayer with an act of courage. The Lord’s Prayer is not for the faint of heart.

I have both spoken and led the Lord’s Prayer more times than I can count. Rarely have I been aware of doing something bold. Having heard it time and time again, having taught it and studied it, I do not feel bold when I say those words. Maybe you know what I’m talking about. Maybe you’ve felt it too.

Far from being bold, we are often bored when we say the prayer Jesus gave us.

How does that happen? How do we let boredom elbow the boldness out of our souls? Maybe there’s a simple answer. Somewhere along the way, having worn a hard-packed verbal trail over those words with our frequent passing by, we stopped praying the prayer and started saying the prayer. Maybe it’s time for us to quit saying it and start praying it.

When the disciples asked Jesus, “Teach us to pray,” Jesus didn’t respond with a lecture about prayer. He gave them — and us — words to pray.

Our quest is simple. We’re out to recover our nerve--to get bold again, to leave behind our mindless recitations and take up the bold work of truly praying the way Jesus taught us to pray. We’re going to ask God to cause his name to be revered as if we really want it to happen. We’re going to plead for the coming of God’s rule on

this earth and the doing of God's will. We're going to ask for daily bread and for forgiveness as if we know we can't live without them.

We try to shake ourselves periodically by using different words for the prayer in our worship. It causes us to think about what is being said, and we can't just rattle it off.

Let us stop "saying" the Lord's Prayer and start "praying" the Lord's Prayer.

And our boldness begins with knowing exactly to whom we pray. God is our Father. He is eager for us to call on him. He is ever ready to hear us.

For today, try to recall when and from whom you learned the Lord's Prayer. Why do you think these words require boldness of those who pray them?

Pastor Kingsley

FEBRUARY BEINGS OUR LENTEN JOURNEY



We begin February with two Sundays following Epiphany. We then come to the **Transfiguration of the Lord** on February 15 in which we recall how Jesus and three of his apostles go to a mountain, and Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then, the prophets Moses and Elijah appear next to him, and he speaks with them. He shows his disciples a glimpse of his heavenly glory.

We move immediately to **Ash Wednesday** on February 18. It is at this time we stop to reflect upon our mortal condition and to hear those familiar words, "Remember, from dust you are and to dust you shall return." We come with penitent hearts indicating our desire to search our hearts and change our lives. We humble ourselves and receive the ashes on our forehead in the shape of a cross reminding us of the good news of the gospel – forgiveness for all and life in Christ.



We leave and go back out into the world ready to do our soul searching in a positive way taking stock of our lives, our shortcomings, our separation from God and his will for our lives. It is during this time that we can make changes in how we live in relationship with God, ourselves, and with others. The season of Lent is a time to set things right.

Our chancel choir will be supporting our Lenten Journey with anthems to help us along the way. On Ash Wednesday we offer this sung prayer:

*Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.*

*Lord, take my life, and make it wholly thine;
Fill my poor heart with thy great love divine.
Take all my will, my passion, self and pride;
I now surrender, Lord, in me abide.*

Robert Clooney
Ministry of Music



News of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

When the shawl ministry began back in 2007, I don't think any of us thought it would be something that would have gone on and on like it has. Most of us in the back of our minds probably thought that a few shawls would go out and in a year or two everyone would move on. I am so pleased to say that we have flourished and grown. People in town know us as the "shawl ladies" and recently found myself going to thrift stores to purchase yarn so that our ladies wouldn't sit idle during the winter months. Our basket in the Narthex seems to fill and empty all on the same Sunday. We appreciate all of you for the donations to this ministry and know that every time a gift goes from the doors, a piece of you goes with it.

February is the month we do our annual yarn drive. We would love to receive a lot of yarn as it gets used by the year's end. We have the place to store it so if you are in a craft store, Walmart, Target, etc. and see some yarn on sale, please do not hesitate to buy and donate to our cause. Just place the yarn in the basket as you come in the church and watch how fast it disappears and is made into gifts. We can't thank you enough.

Several gifts went out in the past months again and all were received with the spirit they were given. God bless each of you that support this ministry.

Special thanks to Barbara Hankins who took up the challenge and made Dave Paffenroth a beautiful blanket for his recovery and a shawl to wrap around me when I need to feel all of your support. It isn't easy to be a receiver when you are a giver, but God is teaching us all sorts of new things. Barbara also worked hard to take care of the Carl Johnson family who had a few family losses at the same time. God bless our team; we do take care of each other.

Wendy Paffenroth, Shawl Secretary

Dear Friends,

We sincerely want to thank you for your prayers and concerns when serious health issues hit Dave as we began the new year. The realms of angels and GOD must have listened to all of those messages as we are in the fight of his life, we are connected to a world renown physician who has given us HOPE that he can come out of this and have his health restored. It is not going to be easy and we are sure we will need continued support to conquer and get over this mountain, but with all of you pulling for us, how could we possibly fail? God bless each of you and yours.

*Consider yourselves hugged...
Wendy and David Paffenroth and Family*



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The ladies who make up PW would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming donations of items to the "care packages" that were sent out this Christmas. We have never had such a great response and were blown away by your generosity and care gifts. I have heard that several people loved the books that were included and those who got the blankets loved the work that went into them as well. From the wonderful and delectable cookies and candies to the pretty gift bags and cookie tins, it couldn't have gone better. Thank you to Louise Spencer for picking up the beautiful poinsettias at the greenhouse the day of the packaging as well. It didn't take long to put them together as everyone pitched in and made it a joyful time. Also, thank you to those who took the time to deliver them. We may need more delivery people in 2015 as we like to get them out the day we package them. Thank you all.

PW will not meet in February. Our first meeting of the year will be on Monday March 2 at around 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. Please watch the bulletin for further information. Again, we invite all the ladies of the church to our meetings; we thank you all for the support you gave us in 2014 and are looking forward to an outstanding 2015.

God bless,
Wendy Paffenroth – PW secretary.



COME JOIN US FOR A KISS AND SOME GOODIES

DEACONS' VALENTINE COFFEE HOUR: FEBRUARY 8TH

SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS FOR SALE - FUNDRAISER

The First Presbyterian Church in Goshen has a new fundraising program to support our mission trip to Nicaragua. This program will not cost you any additional money! We are asking you to purchase ShopRite gift cards from the church to do your shopping. You receive full face value for your purchase. The church receives 5% from ShopRite. The more we purchase as a congregation, the more that we have to fund the trip. Feel free to ask your co-workers, neighbors and relatives if they want to buy gift cards, also. The cards will be sold during coffee hour and will be available in the church office during the week. If you have any questions contact Mark and Paty Glasse @ 845-986-1460 or mpglasse@optonline.net



SHARE PAGE

If you have something you want to share - a recipe, poem, prayer, something that touched your heart, email me by the 15th of the month and we will try to get it into the next newsletter. Email me at: mompaff@hotmail.com. Thank you, Wendy Lee Paffenroth.

Everyone seemed to enjoy some “church humor” – so here are a few more.

How to get repairs done on the church – but it only works once...

The minister of a local church was deep in thought trying to figure out a way to ask the congregation for money for repairs to the church building. It seemed like he had exhausted every avenue, as there had been extensive fund raising in the past year.

The morning he planned to address the situation the organist called in sick but noted that he found a substitute to come in. The substitute wanted to know what to play, so the minister gave him a copy of the service. He explained he had to address the members about fund raising; and if the organist could come up with something that might enhance the mood it would be appreciated.

During the service the time had come for the fund raising talk. The minister went on to explain how they needed to raise the money now as the situation would only get worse and would cost more money in the future. He asked if anyone could donate \$100.00 to the cause to stand up and the ushers would get their name. Just then the substitute organist played the “Star Spangled Banner.” The church repairs were completed in a very short time.

- Why is it people want to sit in the front of the bus, the back of the church, but be the center of attention?
- *The Sunday school teacher asked the kids what they knew about God. One little boy put his hand up and waved it to get attention. The teacher said, “Tommy, tell us what you know.” Tommy said, “God is an artist.” The teacher questioned him on how he knew this. He said, “You know we say it all the time...Our Father, who art in heaven.”*

Join us for the **Ash Wednesday Service** on
February 18 at 7:00 p.m.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Danielle Puelzl</i>	13	<i>Alice Kwiecinski</i>
	<i>Grover vonPentz</i>	14	<i>Laura Colacci</i>
3	<i>Kathleen Kingsley</i>		<i>Andrea vonPentz</i>
4	<i>Todd Countryman</i>		<i>Doug Wade</i>
	<i>Garfield Clark</i>	15	<i>Patrick O'Hern</i>
	<i>Arlete Shaeffer</i>	16	<i>Cliff Bartley</i>
5	<i>Morgan Case</i>		<i>Robyn Boardman</i>
	<i>Sarah Gibbons</i>	18	<i>Dave Bryson</i>
6	<i>Dan Esposito</i>	20	<i>Beth Phelan</i>
	<i>Anne Lavell</i>		<i>Anne Tuthill</i>
10	<i>Linda Clark</i>	21	<i>Jack Calzaretta</i>
12	<i>Jude Monteleone</i>		<i>Kimberly Zis</i>
	<i>Jo Wolfe</i>	24	<i>Mackenzie Sproul</i>
			<i>Amber Countryman</i>

HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

9	<i>Mike and Allison Csernai</i>
14	<i>Sean and Janet Linton</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 Evan McDowell on receiving his Eagle Award on January 3.



Please mark the date:

DEACONS' SPAGHETTI DINNER

SATURDAY, MARCH 7: 5-to 7PM

Ticket sales will start mid February from Deacons or in church office.

MIDNIGHT RUN

By the time you read this note, we will have gone on our Midnight Run to New York City. Thank you to everyone who donated their time or goods to this worthwhile cause. When asking for donations, they poured in—clothing, food, money, physical help. To list everyone would take another page! As and ye shall receive is an understatement.

Blessings to all for your generosity.

Lori Baird
Midnight Run Coordinator

CHILI CHALLENGE COMING SOON

Lucky for us, the Mission Committee's favorite fundraiser—the Chili Challenge—is coming real soon. Once again, Fellowship Hall will be alive with good food, music, prizes—transformed into a real Mexican cantina! So plan on joining in on the fun.

The date for the contest is Saturday, March 21, 2015. Eating time is 5:00 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. with voting ending at 6:45.

To enter your chili—which everyone knows is the best in town!—in the contest, send a check for \$25.00 to Geri Corey, 115 Old Chester Road, Goshen, 10924, and you'll receive instructions for bringing your chili in on the day of the challenge.

If you're more interested in eating chili instead of cooking it, the contest offers 18 different chili dishes and the fixings: cheese, sour cream, corn bread. Drink (water or soda) is included, as is homemade dessert in the \$8.00 ticket price.

When you've finished sampling all the entries, you vote twice—one vote for the best chili made by an individual and one for the best chili made by an organization.

It's always an exciting time, waiting to hear whose chili won the contest. At the time of awarding prizes--\$50 each for the two winners—the Judge's Super Chef prize of \$50 will be awarded also. Bragging rights come in the form of a framed certificate naming your chili as "THE BEST." The certificate is ready to hang on your wall for all to see.



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	Dedra Altizer	Millie Augere
Rosa B.	The Barron Family	Emily Barry and Family
JoAnna Becerril	Ed Berry	Sarah Burrows
Anthony Capaccio	Mary Carr	Eric Carsanty
Jean Chang	Steve and Carol Coon	Bruce and Jean Crandall
Suzanne DeBlock	Bob Dennis	Joe Destefano
Sally Dorritie	David Dzierzek	Everyone serving in the Military
Evie and Family	Mary Lee Farris' sister	Ben Fisher
Norm and Sharon Frelinger	Rebecca Garloch	Graham Glasse
Kate Goodspeed	Dorothy Gott	Barbara and George Hankins
Kevin and Sara Hankins	Carol Hoffman	Bill Howell
Susan Johnson	Rosemary Joy	Carolyn Keller's father
Bob and Barbara Kennedy	Laura and Tom Kennedy	Roberta Kinnamon
Jeff Knox	Liz LaMontanaro	The Family of Alfred (Wes) Lee
Robert Lobb	James Magee	Gavin Martin
Riley Martin	Andy Marussich	The McCloud Family
Evelyn Mercado	Jeff Monroe	Dorothy Montalbano
Joseph Montalbano	Jude Monteleone	Jean Musgrave
Eileen Myslinski	Richard Nash	Nina and Jason
Nick K.	Amy (Thompson) Nguyen	Ann Ott
Alice Paffenroth	Velma Peters	The Ptak Family
Rachel Reeves	Tim Richardson	Loretta Richner
Ted Sandstrom	Tom Sawyer	Kevin Schuler
Fred Schwarz	Bryan Scott and Family	Dorothy Sevcik
Matt Skyer and Family	Fred Smith	The Smith Family
Louise Spencer	David Paul Spradlin	Jackson Spradlin
Peggy Srirach	Elmer Stevens	Bill and Jean Strong
Jean Stukey	George Tietz	Butch Turley
The Family of Thomas Underwood	Kim Valentini and Family	Joan Van DerHeide and Family
Kenya VanZandt	Ashley Wade	Wendy Bynum-Wade
Molly Wanat	The Weinberger Family	Jo Wolfe
Anne Wood's dad & brother-in-law	Orra Wood	Sharon Worden
Phyla Wright	Beryl Yungman	The Family of Larry Zakreski

(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

FEBRUARY 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 \$100. **We now have seven orders on-hand.** We will place another order when we have a total of ten.

13 Niches 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 FEBRUARY and early MARCH Steward's Schedule:

Beryl Yungman and Karen Bende:

February 1 – February 14

Barbara and George Hankins:

February 15 – February 28

Jen and Gregg Piller:

March 1 – March 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 2015

Kathy Alebras
Wendy Bynum-Wade
Elizabeth (BA) Long
Louise Spencer
Sue Varden
Orra Wood

Class of 2016

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

Class of 2017

Robin Knoblock
Karen Magee
Anne Tuthill
Grover vonPentz
Rob Warner

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2015

Laura Colacci
Carol Gabella
Tina McCloud
Gregg Piller
Jennifer Piller
Nancy Smith
Hannah Warner

Class of 2016

Wendy Donohue
Bill Eustance
Gina Gruber
John Gruber
Carolyn Keller
Kathleen Kingsley
Lisa Montalbano

Class of 2017

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

Moderators of Deacons: Carolyn Keller and Carol Gabella
Presbyterian Women:

STAFF

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