

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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Isaiah 43:16–21

*Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.*

At some point or another, we all feel haunted by our past. Whether we spoke an unkind word to a family member or friend, committed a selfish act that caused another pain, refused to confront injustices when we witnessed them, or simply moved after God commanded us to be still, we all have former things that fill us with guilt and shame. Sadly, we often allow our past to hinder us from being in the presence of God and receiving God's blessings.

This passage from Isaiah reminds us that the darkness of our past will never separate us from God's unconditional love. We must remember to trust God. Behold, all things are new, and the past has departed with the shadow of yesterday. God is calling each of us to a season of restoration. In this season, God's promise is to make us whole again. Though thorns of our past may leave their marks, God's grace is sufficient.

We are God's chosen people made in God's image. When God asks, "Do you not perceive it?" it is a question of faith. A question that illuminates our spiritual sight to know that God will guide us on this Christian pilgrimage and that the place God leads us to will be better than any request we asked of God. As you walk into this new year, do so with joy and expectation that God is about to do a miracle!

Pastor Kingsley



News Notes of Presbyterian Women...

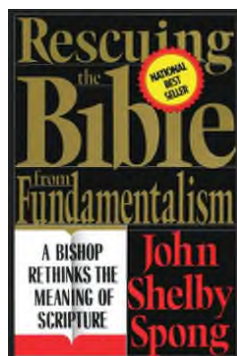
Thanks so much!...Our bake sale at the Deacon's Holiday Fair was a great success because of all the generous folks who baked and cooked for the event. The selection of donated soups was tremendous; the pies and baked goods flew off the table. The chutney, made by Carolyn and Gina continued to be in great demand. We were blessed with some extra help this year which made it a pleasant event all around.

Although our meeting was canceled on December 2 due to inclement weather, several ladies rallied the following Sunday to finalize the names of those who would receive personalized gift "baskets." We were appreciative to all that contributed gifts, candy, cookies, food and flowers; we were able to make and distribute 17 holiday parcels of cheer. In appreciation of caring for those less fortunate, a donation of one hundred dollars each was sent out to The Warming Station and The Guild of St. Margaret's Soup Kitchen in Middletown, NY.

Have a Happy, Healthy New Year. We hope more ladies can join us when we meet again **in two months on Monday, March 2, 2020.**

Take A Step To Explore Your Faith...Join Our Next Book Study!

We are looking forward to our next book study to be led by Pastor Kingsley! He will lead us in a study of the book, *Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism* by John Shelby Spong. We will meet on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm starting on January 27, 2020. Please contact Paty or Mark Glasse' with any questions or to sign up to join us. mpglasse@optonline.net



COOKIES-4-SHARING!

In November, Teen Voices were joined by some adults and our Friday Night Friends to make and package 20 boxes of cookies to send to members of our church family that are away at college, have moved or just haven't been around for a while. We want them to know that this is still their church home and they are welcome!

This was our fifth year packaging up love in the form of cookies and sending them out. The recipients may change, but the message does not! One quarter of the recipients are now ex-Teen Voices and are away at college. College is a time when church is often not at the top of one's thoughts, but we want to remind them that their church family is still here.

Thank you to the very many members of our congregation that provided names of recipients, financial support, and hands on support. Your words of encouragement make a difference!

Paty & Mark Glasse'

Teen Voices

Confirmation Class 2020

We are two months into the Confirmation program which will come to completion on May 31, 2020. We have six Confirmands participating in the course. This is the first time we have guided the Confirmation program. Our aim is to provide them with understanding of the Presbyterian tradition, continue to expand their understanding of the Bible and expose them to faiths around them. We remind them that their faith is their own and they must foster it by learning and applying their faith in the world.

In November, we toured the **First Presbyterian Historical Society** and the Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with the Confirmands and their parents. We found the tour to be enlightening and we were surprised by the underground document storage stretching most of a city block! The researchers laid out many historical books and documents on the table in the reading room. These included records relating to our church; the Confirmands (and adults) were able to look through them and see our own church history. We read about slaves that were married in the church and women that were only acknowledged as "and wife." We saw pictures of our building that looked like it could be today except for the old cars! We read Session notes from the early-mid 1800's. All-in-all, our church's 300 years dwarfs many of the other church's records that we saw. This gave the Confirmands a sense of connection to the church's history.

Paty & Mark Glasse'



TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Steve Coon</i>	14	<i>Alexandria Cox</i>
	<i>Stephen Serkes</i>	16	<i>Ed Berry</i>
	<i>Chris Viebrock</i>	17	<i>Sam Fontana</i>
5	<i>Wayne George</i>	18	<i>Tanya Hagopian</i>
8	<i>Hannah Warner</i>	20	<i>Logan Diglio</i>
10	<i>Audra Cox</i>		<i>Laura Pietropaolo</i>
	<i>Nicholas Gati</i>	25	<i>Sam Boese</i>
11	<i>Susan Stewart</i>	26	<i>Emmanuel Phillips</i>
12	<i>Scott Roper</i>	31	<i>Alexander Begnoche</i>
13	<i>Don Dinsmore</i>		<i>Maddie Laskoski</i>
	<i>Molly Farley</i>		<i>Sara Laskoski</i>
	<i>Ryan Farley</i>		<i>Richard Paulus</i>
	<i>Whitney Schindley</i>		

HAPPY JANUARY ANNIVERSARY TO:

3 *Heather and Brian Case*

*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.*

2019 ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE
BY JANUARY 5, 2020

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. 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.



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	Ed Berry	Sharlene Bischof
Ann (Strong) Blake	Richard Brahs Children separated from their mothers at the border	
Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla	Linda Clark's brother, Bill DeBlock	Barbara Cody
Peter Coyne	Jean and Bruce Crandall	Matt Csernai
Jon Dollar	Everyone serving in the Military	James, Max, and Liam Feragola
Mary Lee Farris and her sister	Judy Fazio	Charles Fritz
Charlene Gooden	The Family of Ethel Ausubel Gross	Barbara and George Hankins
Kevin and Sara Hankins	Carol Hoffman	Susan Johnson
Rosemary Joy	Regina Kenny	Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy
Jeff Kott and Natalia	Brenda Kujawski	The Kurdish People
James Lowry	Karen Magee	Kelly Magee Thrush
Maggie and Quinn	The Family of Ruth Maney	Evelyn Mercado
Richard Montalbano	Kevin Murphy	Eileen Myslinski
Amy (Thompson) Nguye	Owen	Dave Paffenroth
Josephine Pecoraro	Carlos and Miarose Reyes	Carolyn Reynolds
Karen Saleski	Mary Rita Schlagel	Eva Sickler
Gary Smith	Louise Spencer	Sue Stewart
Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch		Christopher Tucker
Lori Kilmer's mom, Learle VanEmburg		Charles Velzy
Kenneth Van Etten	The Wade Family	Jerry Westphal
Sue Whitson	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.)



Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

JANUARY UPDATE

**Prayerfully Consider a Year-End Donation to Support
Your Meditation Garden
(It's Tax-Deductible!)**

Your Garden operates on 100% donations (not part of the church's operating budget).
Remember, eventually we will need to construct a 2nd & 3rd columbarium wall!
The estimated cost for these two new walls is \$40,000.

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 (right now we only have one).

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)

"Stewards of Our Garden"

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

The JANUARY/early FEBRUARY Steward's Schedule:

Bill Eustance	January 1 – January 15
Barbara and George Hankins	January 16 – January 31
Bill Eustance	February 1 – February 15

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

We could certainly use 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.

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 Noisemaker to Celebrate Special Days

You will need:

- empty kitchen matchbox (NO matches)
- foil
- tape
- dried beans or rice
- unsharpened pencil
- 2 rubber bands
- stickers, glue and glitter (optional)



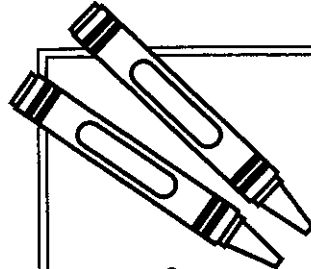
How to make the noisemaker:

- Put beans or rice in the matchbox, so that it rattles when you shake it.
- Tape the box shut.
- Cover box with foil.
- Poke 2 small holes on opposite sides of the box near one end.
- Stick the pencil into one hole, through the box and out the other hole.
- Wrap rubber bands around the pencil on both sides of the box, so the pencil won't slip through the holes.
- If you want, you can decorate the box with stickers and glitter.



How to use:

- Hold the pencil and move your wrist to spin the box.
- Make lots of happy noise to celebrate special days throughout the year.



Just for

KIDS

Special Times for the Israelites



"This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it ..." Exodus 12:14

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events. Below are some of the special days observed by the Israelites.

Use the code to find the name of the special day and the month of the Jewish year in which they are celebrated.

CODE:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFE DCBA

Season		Holiday	Month
1. End of Summer	ILHS SZHSZMZS	(New Year)	GRSHIR
2. Fall	BLN PRKKFI	(Day of Atonement)	GRSHIR
3. Fall	HFPPLGS	(Festival of Booths)	GRHSIR
4. Winter	SZMFPPZS	(Festival of Rededication)	PRHOVE
5. Winter	KFIRN	(Festival of Lots)	ZWZI
6. Spring	KZHHLEVI	(Feast of Unleavened Bread)	MRHZM
7. Spring	HSZEF'LG	(Feast of Weeks/Pentecost)	HREZM

Answers: 1. Rosh Hashanah; Tishri; 2. Yom Kippur; Tishri; 3. Sukkot; Tishri; 4. Hanukkah; Kislev; 5. Purim; Adar; 6. Passover; Nisan; 7. Shavu'ot; Sivan

First Presbyterian Church Goshen-NY, Holidays in United States

Jan 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
9:30am - Worship/C 10:30am - Coffee	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 7pm - AA @ B	New Year's Eve 9am - AA @ B 9:30am - Food 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NA @ B	New Year's Day 9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NA @ B	9am - AA @ B 9am - Inspire @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - NA @ FH	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - NAMI @ B	8am - Mike Coyne @ 9:30am - AA @ B 1pm - AA @ B 8:30pm - AA @ B
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Annual Reports Due 9:30am - Church 9:30am - Worship/C 10:30am - Coffee 10:30am - Deacons	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 7pm - AA @ B	9am - AA @ B 9:30am - Food 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NAMI @ B	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - OutReach 7:30pm - Finance	9am - AA @ B 9am - Inspire @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7:30pm - Choir	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - Friday Night 6pm - NAMI @ B	9:30am - AA @ B 9:30am - Food 1pm - AA @ B 1pm - Mike Coyne @ 8:30pm - AA @ B
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am - Church 9:30am - Worship/C 10:30am - Coffee 11am - Mission 12pm - TLC @ FH	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - AA @ B	9am - AA @ B 9:30am - Food 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NA @ B	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 7pm - GAPNS Mtg. @	9am - AA @ B 9am - Inspire @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7:30pm - Choir	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - NAMI @ B	Midnight Run 9:30am - AA @ B 12pm - NA Event @ 1pm - AA @ B 8:30pm - AA @ B
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Tower Tie Articles 9:30am - Church 9:30am - Worship/C 10:30am - Coffee 2:30pm - NAMI @ FH	Martin Luther King 9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 7pm - AA @ B	9am - AA @ B 9:30am - Food 12pm - Clergy Mtg. 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - Audubon 6:30pm - Mark 6:30pm - NA @ B	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - Session @	9am - AA @ B 9am - Inspire @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7:30pm - Choir	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - NAMI @ B	9:30am - AA @ B 1pm - AA @ B 5pm - Dance Class @ 8:30pm - AA @ B
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:30am - Church 9:30am - Worship/C 10:30am - Coffee 11am - Fundraising	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B 7pm - AA @ B 7:30pm - Book	9am - AA @ B 9:30am - Food 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - NA @ B 6:30pm - NA @ B	9am - AA @ B 12:30pm - NA @ B	8am - GAPNS Book 9am - AA @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ FH 6pm - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7:30pm - Choir	8am - GAPNS Book 9am - AA @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ FH 6pm - NAMI @ FH	8am - GAPNS Book 9:30am - AA @ FH 1pm - AA @ FH 8:30pm - AA @ B