

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924

Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Office Administrator

Telephone: (845) 294-7991; fax: (845) 615-1239

email: fpgoshen@gmail.com

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpreschurchgoshenny>

January 2024



I write this the day after the Choir's wonderful visit to Glen Arden. What a good job they did—what good cheer they displayed—what professional flexibility they showed as the program turned to audience requests! First Presbyterian brought joy—real, genuine, real-time joy — to some of the wisest and worthiest in the community. They should not thank us: rather, we should thank them.

Also on December 17 was the annual Christmas Carol Sing-along event, something that has endeared itself to the community. I hope it continues to grow.

Also as I write this, I hope that Austin sticks to its plan to come on Tuesday, December 19, to finally finish the pending matters of the organ project. Things have gotten in the way, including the labor shortage (for whatever reason).

God and Austin willing, the organ will have a new dimension of brilliance after Tuesday's recital.

Speaking of Tuesday recitals, I am deeply gratified by the support this initiative has received. There are regulars at these programs—people who seldom if ever miss—and they are not necessarily church members. Music has the ability to transcend boundaries.

I hope that the Twelve Days of Christmas are bright this year, and that the joy of the season stays with us all year long.

See you in church!

Jonathan

MIDNITE RUN

Set for Saturday, January 6th 2024 – This is a BREAKFAST RUN

Please support the annual trip to NYC to provide a meal and distribute clothing to the homeless. Please contact Wendy Bynum-Wade if you can drive or ride along. (Text or call her at 845-629-4324)

All those going to NYC are expected to arrive approximately 7:15 am to help pack up the food and clothing. The group usually gets back by 1:30 pm, depending on the traffic.

Kitchen volunteers are needed to bake and pack up the casseroles and prepare the coffee @ 5:15 am. **Contact Carol Gabella if able to assist 845-342-4367 or (gabellacarol@gmail.com)**

Volunteers from the community are invited to join this event.

WE KINDLY NEED: New or ready to wear items

NO SUMMER OR SPRING ITEMS

Donation bins will be available outside the church office and in the Narthex.

Monetary donations accepted: Please make checks out to FPC Goshen with “Midnite Run” written in memo section

WE ESPECIALLY NEED:

Men’s briefs/boxers and tee shirts all sizes

Gloves/mittens for both men and women

Toiletries

FOR LADIES

New panties size 6 & 7

Feminine supplies

FOR MEN & WOMEN

Heavy tops and sweaters/hoodies - MEDIUM heavy tops and sweaters

Winter shoes and boots

Heavy pants/jeans/sweats- ALL sizes

Leggings/ heavy slacks/sweat pants/ Medium and XL winter coats/jackets

Thermal tops/ pants: small/medium winter boots and shoes

OTHERS ITEMS NEEDED:

Small soaps, travel size toothpaste, small shampoo, tooth brushes, packs of tissues, washcloths, combs

EXTRA HEAVY DUTY Contractor Bags

THE LIST OF FOOD ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE BAG LUNCHES WILL BE FORTH COMING.

Prayer Chain

It is vital for any congregation to be in prayer for the church and for individuals affiliated with the church who have a need for God's intervention in some way. This is why churches such as ours have prayer chains. But the prayer requests must stay current if individuals are to be asked to pray for everyone on the list. We have changed the way we update the prayer chain. Once a request has been made for a member of the church, a friend, a neighbor, a family member, etc. to be met with prayer, that name will remain on the prayer chain list for 2 months. If you want continued prayers for another 2 months, please contact the church office to make that request. Use the church email address fpgoshen@gmail.com or phone the office with your request at 845-294-7991.



PRAYER CHAIN

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:

Randy Faurot for good test results
Judy Faurot on the death of her brother, David
Bud on good test results
Trey Long, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer that has metastasized to his liver
Amy, the Kopec's daughter, is going through a rough time
The Kingsley Family on the death of Kathleen
Carol Hoffman
The Fontana Family
Bob and Al
Jon Maskewsky – a truck driver in Berlin who disappeared a month ago
Darlene Jackson – knee replacement
Albert Coyle – a friend of Ken Skyer's who is recovering from an unknown illness
Anne Wood on the death of her sister, Jeannie
Sara Simas – not feeling well
Mitch Weintraub's brother, Keith
Michael Csernai on the death of his sister a few months ago and his father just recently.
Michael who had been in ICU with cardiac issues.

Pastoral Care

While we are without a permanent pastor, John Redman will handle any pastoral care requests.

You can reach him at 914-474-0722.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Stephen Serkes</i>	17	<i>Sam Fontana</i>
5	<i>Wayne George</i>	20	<i>Laura Pietropaolo</i>
8	<i>Hannah Warner</i>	25	<i>Sam Boese</i>
12	<i>Scott Roper</i>	31	<i>Alexander Begnoche</i>
13	<i>Don Dinsmore</i>		<i>Richard Paulus</i>
	<i>Molly Farley</i>		
	<i>Ryan Farley</i>		
	<i>Whitney Schindley</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.*

NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE.....

Coffee Hour will continue on Sundays after the worship service.

Coffee hour hosts are needed. Please contact Diane Church at dianeschurch@gmail.com or (845) 294-5398 if you would be willing to host one week. There is also a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

The last Sunday of each month we are asking the congregation to host coffee hour.

Please bring something to share on that Sunday.

We also plan on playing BINGO again in the near future.

We are planning to have another "Jo Wolfe Restaurant Dinner Club" sometime in February; the date TBA. Watch for more information in the bulletins and the *Weekly Tower Tie*.

Guest Preachers for January

January 7 – Lynn Costa

January 14 – Rev. Glenn Henricksen

January 21 – TBA

January 28 – Rev. Glenn Henricksen

Did you know that Session meetings are open to church members? If you are a member, you are welcome to attend regular meetings of the Session which are currently held in parlor on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m.

If you attend a Session meeting to express concern about a topic that is before the Session, please let the Clerk and the Moderator know of your desire to speak prior to the start of the meeting.

2023 Annual Reports

Due in the church office by January 21, 2024

The Annual Congregational Meeting

Scheduled for Sunday, February 25, 2024

Financial Commitments

If you haven't made a financial commitment for 2024 but would like to support this congregation in fulfilling its work of worship, education, mission, outreach, care and fellowship, consider making a pledge using a commitment card found on the table in the Narthex or see Deb Hourahan.

Please Pay Your Per Capita Assessment For 2024

A message from the Treasurer: Please consider paying your **per capita assessment for 2024** to offset the more than \$8,000 the church must pay out to cover expenses for the Presbytery of Hudson River, Synod of the Northeast and General Assembly of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This year it remains at **\$39.70 per member** (not per family). 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. We ask that you pay this by February 1, 2024. Thank you for doing your share to support the expense of being a church in active ministry.

Electronic Giving Cards

There are giving cards for use during the offertory for those who give electronically each week/month/year. Your gifts are meaningful and necessary, and you should be able to participate in our weekly presentation of our offerings to the Lord.

Livestreaming Worship

If you are unable to join us in person for worship, watch on our YouTube channel.
If you need help finding the Livestream, use the link on our Weekly Tower Tie.

Please Be Advised That We Do Live Stream Our Worship Services.

The Live Stream camera generally captures the first 4-5 (rarely 7-8) rows of the sanctuary in its feed. Normally we only see the back of your head. If you would rather stay out of camera range, please know that we do not capture the seating under the balcony (on either side) and we don't capture the back rows at all. Regarding the Children's Message: We keep the camera zoomed out. As children leave to go to Sunday school, we will pan up to the stained glass windows so no children's faces are caught on camera.

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



JANUARY UPDATE

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.

The Memorial Columbarium

PLEASE NOTE: A niche in the Memorial Columbarium has become available. If you are interested in purchasing it, please contact Pat in the church office.

The price of the niche is \$2,800. There are two payment options:

12 month = \$250/month for 12 months (\$3,000)

18 month = \$180/month for 1 months (\$3,240)

Once this niche is sold, the Session/Congregation will need to consider if constructing a second/third wall is desired and/or financially possible. If it is, a new estimate for the work will need to be created, considered, approved and project timeline established.

“Stewards of Our Garden”

Special thanks to our dedicated Stewards who work hard to keep our garden beautiful!

The JANUARY and early FEBRUARY Steward's Schedule:

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

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

If you'd like to help maintain our garden, just see Pat in the church office to sign-up and be added to our Steward's schedule.

Call the church office (845-294-7991) for any information you need about
The Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We strive to be a welcoming, loving church family united by our faith and committed to service in Christ.

BOARD OF ELDERS

Class of 2024

**Marlene Gaynor
George Hankins
Bill Powers
Mal Stewart**

Class of 2025

**Diane Church
Linda Clark
Jody Kopec
Felicia Van Doran**

Class of 2026

**Jennifer Ellis
Michael Coyne
Jon Hourahan
Kevan Ottochian**

Clerk of Session: Felicia Van Doran

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2024

**Patrick Ellis
Bill Keller
Barbara Schust
George Schust**

Class of 2025

**Cecile Ayres
Michael Csernai
Carol Gabella
Jennifer Serkes**

Class of 2026

**Diana Bowe
Carolyn Keller
Cheryl Zis
Sam Fontana**

Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller

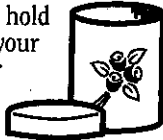
STAFF

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

THE KID'S PAGE

Make a New Year's Time Capsule

Make a container to hold your treasures and your wishes and goals for the New Year.



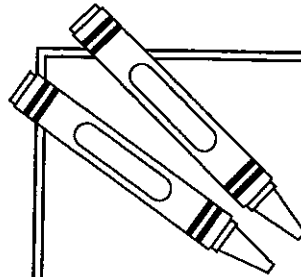
You will need:

- small storage tin (You may have a cookie-, popcorn- or candy-tin leftover from the holidays. If you don't have a tin, a shoebox will work.)
- goals for the coming year
- permanent markers ■ paper
- glue ■ tape ■ scissors ■ paint
- paintbrush
- little treasures (photos of friends or family, small toys, coins, etc.)

How to make it:

- Wash and dry the tin.
- Decorate the tin with the markers or paint. (If the tin already has a design, you can use that one. Or you can decorate pieces of paper and then glue them to the tin's lid and sides.)
- Mark your name and the date on the lid.
- On a piece of paper make a list of goals – things you would like to accomplish during the year. (For example, be a better student, be more helpful around the house, make new friends, etc.)
- On another piece of paper write some of the important things that happened last year. (For example, got a new puppy, went on a fun vacation, learned to ride a bike, etc.)
- Place the list of goals in the tin along with any little treasures you want to include.
- Tape the lid onto the tin.
- Store it in a safe place (for example, your closet, under the bed, etc.).
- Open the tin on the next New Year's Day. Did you accomplish all your goals? Did you remember what was in the tin?

Macy
2003



Just for

KIDS

"Who Am I?"

It's a new year and you may be thinking about time, birthdays and how old you'll be this year. Below are some people from the Bible and the ages they reached.

First, fill in the name of each person. If you need help, look up the verses in the Bible. Next, find the age of each person by matching the number under the blanks to the sum of the digits in the ages listed. For example, if the number under the line is 11, it could be 290 (2+9+0=11) or 47 (4+7=11).

Names:	Abraham	Joseph	Adam	Moses	Isaac	Noah	Jesus	Sarah
Ages:	33	110	120	127	175	180	930	950

1. I was God's first man. I lived to be _____ years old.
Who am I? _____ (Genesis 5:5) (12)
2. I built an ark when God flooded the earth. I lived to be _____ years old.
Who am I? _____ (Genesis 9:29) (14)
3. God said that my offspring would be as many as the stars in the heavens.
I lived to be _____ years old. Who am I? _____ (Genesis 25:7) (13)
4. I was close to 90-years-old when God said that I would have a son. I lived to be _____ years old. Who am I? _____ (Genesis 23:1) (10)
5. My parents were Abraham and Sarah. I lived to be _____ years old.
Who am I? _____ (Genesis 35:28) (9)
6. My brothers left me in a pit in the wilderness. I lived to be _____ years old. Who am I? _____ (Genesis 50:26) (2)
7. When I was 3-months-old, I was placed in a basket in the reeds along the bank of the Nile River. I lived to be _____ years old. Who am I? _____ (Deuteronomy 34:7) (3)
8. I began my life in a barn with animals. I lived to be _____ years old.
Who am I? _____ (Luke 2:7). (6)

Answers: 1. 930, Adam; 2. 950, Noah; 3. 175, Abraham; 4. 127, Sarah; 5. 180, Isaac; 6. 110, Joseph; 7. 120, Moses; 8. 33, Jesus

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
<div>New Year's Eve</div> <div>9:30am - Worship Service @ S</div> <div>10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH</div>	<div>New Year's Day</div> <div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving</div> <div>12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>6:30pm - Outreach Committee @</div> <div>7:30pm - PNC @ B</div>	<div>4:30pm - Mission Committee @ P</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P</div> <div>7:30pm - NA @ FH</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>Midnight Run (Breakfast Run)</div>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<div>9:30am - Church School</div> <div>9:30am - Worship Service @ S</div> <div>10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH</div> <div>10:30am - Worship/Music</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving</div> <div>12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - PNC @ B</div>	<div>7:30pm - Finance Committee @ P</div>	<div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S</div> <div>7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div> <div>6pm - Friday Night Friends @ FH</div>	<div>9am - Food Pantry @ FH</div> <div>12:30pm - NA @ FH</div>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<div>9:30am - Church School</div> <div>9:30am - Worship Service @ S</div> <div>10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH</div> <div>10:30am - Deacon's Mtg. @ B</div>	<div>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</div> <div>Office Closed</div> <div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving</div> <div>12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - PNC @ B</div>	<div>7pm - Session @ P</div>	<div>3pm - GAPNS Book Fair set-up @</div> <div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P</div>	<div>8am - GAPNS Book Fair @ B</div> <div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div> <div>5:30pm - Pinewood Derby @ FH</div>	<div>8am - GAPNS Book Fair @ B</div> <div>8am - Pinewood Derby @ FH</div>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<div>Annual Reports Due</div> <div>Tower Tie Articles Due</div> <div>9:30am - Church School</div> <div>9:30am - Worship Service @ S</div> <div>10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving</div> <div>12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - PNC @ B</div>	<div>7:15pm - GAPNS Mtg. @ FH</div>	<div>6pm - Food Pantry @ FH</div> <div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S</div> <div>7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>1pm - Diva Dance @ FH</div>
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
<div>9:30am - Church School</div> <div>9:30am - Worship Service @ S</div> <div>10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	<div>9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving</div> <div>12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - PNC @ B</div>		<div>First Day of Black History Month</div> <div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S</div> <div>6:30pm - NA @ FH</div> <div>7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P</div> <div>7:30pm - NA @ FH</div>	<div>12:30pm - NA @ B</div>	