

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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July/August 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Are You Settling for Less?

I recently ran a search on the word "settle" on dictionary.com. What I found was a very thorough list of the senses or possible uses and meanings of the word. No surprises, really. "Settle" can mean "to take up residence in a certain place"; it can mean "to pay a bill or account"; it can mean "causing something to be established." Dictionary.com gave a list of thirty-two possible uses of the word. The one which holds my interest was number thirty-one: "To be satisfied with."

This is the kind of settling we generally don't like. Paying a bill, settling into a new home, reaching agreement on an issue or question, getting the kids to sit still in the back seat—these are forms of settling that we gladly embrace. But to simply "be satisfied" doesn't quite cut it. That's the kind of settling we refuse to do.

Some of you are still single today because you've decided you don't want to "settle."

Some of you are quietly doctoring your resume because you don't want to "settle" professionally.

Some of you are negotiating a business deal, and you want to be careful not to "settle" too quickly or too low.

Some of you are stressed and anxious because you can't settle; nothing is ever enough. Others of you live every day with mild sense of regret. You look back at your life and you wonder if that's your story...you "settled."

Few of us aspire to "settle" in this sense—and yet, when it comes to the spiritual fruit of joy, that's exactly what we do. We settle. Since we're not clear about the nature of joy, we settle for something less. We may settle for being successful, but success isn't joy. We may constantly chase fun, but having fun doesn't mean we find joy. We may settle for being well liked or popular, but having friends doesn't always bring joy. In a variety of ways, we can settle for something less than or other than the spiritual fruit of joy. We trade our joy for something that makes us feel good. It's a lousy exchange.

Jesus—the very Jesus who lives in us by the Holy Spirit—would tell us, "Don't settle." In fact, Jesus intended that we would have joy and that our joy would be full. He said so, and he said it plainly: "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full" (John 15:11).

Are you allowing yourself to "settle" for something less than the fullness of joy Jesus wants to give you? If your joy is something less than full, what is occupying that space? What is your "joy substitute" of choice?

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Kingsley



JULY / AUGUST —SUMMER ALREADY!

My first reaction is always, “where did June go?” The Christian education year has finished, school is out, and graduates are on to new endeavors. Great American Weekend has taken its usual fun place as an annual marker of time. But now, summer is here full-on. It is time to enjoy the bounty of nature around us, bask in the warm weather, and breathe in new life force to refresh our souls.

Our summer choir starts on July 8; each Sunday we put together an anthem with the singers we have. You are invited to join us—just come at 8:45 a.m. and gather around the piano to rehearse. We’d love to have you sing with us!

I plan to spend time filing away music, listening to new music for our choir, and opening myself up for inspiration for the coming choir year. It’s a challenge every summer to find ways to renew and refresh our music program.

Enjoy the season, but remember that we will be here each Sunday worshipping together as we sing, pray, listen to God’s word, and fellowship with one another at coffee hour. I invite you to allow your presence to minister to others and be part of the “worshipping throng,” even during the summer.

Carpe diem—seize the day!

Robert Clooney
Director of Ministry of Music

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2012

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 **340** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2012 is \$29.25**, which is a total of **\$9,945.00** to be taken from our operating budget. Please assist with this expense and write a check for your family assessment, if you haven’t already done so, and either mail it to the church or place it in the Sunday offering plate. Thanks for doing your share.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS ARE NEEDED

Coffee Hour after Sunday church services is a great opportunity for fellowship and getting to know our members. But **WE NEED HOSTS!** Please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board in the lobby of Fellowship Hall so we can continue this well attended and favored fellowship opportunity. If you have any questions, you can contact Sue Varden at 649-7830.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (PW)
SUMMER 2012

The meeting of PW was held on Monday, June 4, in the church parlor. We had a dozen ladies come out to plan our summer. Fran Hoffmann again moderated the meeting with her style and grace to which we all have become accustomed. Thanks, Fran, for keeping us together and moving in the right direction. You are appreciated.

We discussed the wonderful time we had at the **Spring Fling**. The ladies outdid themselves, and it will be a day that all of us will remember for a very long time. Please take a moment to check out the photo in the narthex. A few people had to leave early, but most of the attendees are in the photo, which Dave Paffenroth took.

The Memorial Day bake sale was again a success, and thanks go to all those wonderful bakers that donated their specialties. Also, thanks to Carolyn Keller and Al Jorgensen for getting the tent up before the raindrops sprinkled our goods and to Carolyn and Betty Lobb for the beautiful decorations on the Memorial Day table. We also appreciate all those who worked the sale and those who donated "good old dishes" and baskets on which we put our baked goods. That is a surefire way to help sell the products. It was a lovely day of fellowship.

We discussed receptions that are held after funerals at the church. We brought up several caterers and also delis that would make food for the family if they wanted a meal and we would provide

We have been raising money for the **chancel banisters**, but the first quote was much more than we can possibly spend. We will ask around and give our ideas to several of our church members who are in construction to see if they have thoughts about how to go about this. It will get done—but probably in the future.

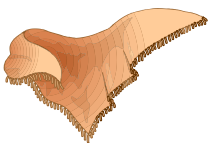
Great American Weekend (GAW) is upon us. The ladies decided to once again do the coffee and bagel/hard roll concession in the morning. We always need a few strong men or women to carry the coffee pots down to the field. We will also take any volunteers who can help us for a few hours that day. We are going to see if we can find some of the "push top" coffee pots that we could use for this and for future events. Keep your eyes open for some on sale or at yard sales. We would be glad to take donations of any if someone is looking to get rid of them, too. It doesn't take much. I mentioned we were looking for push pots at the local deli I go to, and before I walked out of the store with my morning coffee, I had a donation of one. Thank you to CJ's Market in Pine Island for the lovely donation to PW; we will use it at GAW to be sure.

Fran Hoffmann announced that the **World Day Blanket Drive** netted \$1,045 from our church. This isn't as much as we have done in the past, but it is still a very good showing for the church. We thank everyone who donated money for this cause.

The summer PW picnic will be on July 21 at 12:00 p.m. at the home of Carol Gabella. The picnic is for all the women of the church, and it is always a wonderful day of fellowship and friendship. Don't miss it!

Our next meeting is planned for July 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlor. Please come on out and bring a friend.

Wendy Lee Paffenroth



Hug Happenings News of the Prayer Shawl Ministry (PSM)

Our shawls continue to be sent out to warm the souls of those who need a little hugging. Some of the recent shawls donated to the "shawl closet" are so beautiful it seems a sin to have to tuck them away. But in time, they all seem to find shoulders that need them and love them as much as the makers who created them did.

Recently, I visited a friend in the Schervier Pavilion in Warwick. I noticed that there were many people, especially ladies, sitting in wheelchairs wearing thin cotton dresses with their legs exposed. While this is not only a nursing home but also a rehab center, I asked the lady at the desk if they have a lot of full-time residents. She told me that they had many and quite a few without any family left.

A week later, I delivered a dozen of our lap robes and shawls to them. The lady at the desk was so impressed with our work, she had tears in her eyes. She immediately pulled one of the shawls and walked to the reception area where a woman in a wheelchair was visiting with her husband. It was obvious that the lady was a stroke victim, but she could say a few words. The lady from the front desk put the shawl around her, and she immediately began stroking it and smiled at me. She made it known that "no one was to steal it from her room," and I saw the look of thanks in those crystal blue eyes.

With the gifts, I enclosed some of our prayers and a letter stating who we are and what we do. They said they were going to give it to the pastoral care committee at the home, as they would know who would need and appreciate them.

I have to admit that, for the entire day, I had a smile on my face and a good feeling that I wanted to share with all our PSM workers. It was a rainy Tuesday, and a few hours after I left them, I stopped the car at a red light. When I looked in my rearview mirror, I saw a magnificent rainbow. I think it was God's way of saying that he thanked us, too, for taking care of his people.

Have a wonderful and blessed summer. We are making a difference, and, just so you know, we are very close to the one-thousand-mark of gifts we have given since we began in September of 2007.

*Wendy Paffenroth
PSM Secretary*



For The Congregation

This note was received on June 13 and needs to be shared with the congregation. A shawl and several angel pins were sent upstate to a gal who works for Crop Production Services (the company my husband works for). Leslie recently found out she has Stage IV pancreatic cancer. While her time is short, she appreciated the gift our church has sent and wanted us to know that she received it. This is the note she sent back to us:

Dear Dave and Wendy, What a wonderful gift I received from you and YOUR CHURCH...I was truly overwhelmed with the kindness and outpouring of love and warmth. It was received on a perfect day. God must have had it delivered to me on that rainy, cold day.

The shawl makes me smile, as the angels have carefully and patiently worked my faith. The beautiful glass angels will always be cherished. They will not be put away for a *special day*. Every day to me now is a blessing from God. I am so grateful and can't get enough minutes before nighttime. I hate wasting time on sleep. I love life and God has allowed me extra time to laugh, love, learn, and grow my faith deeper each and every day.

Thank you so much. May God bless you both and your "church congregation." In faith always, Leslie Scoville, Geneseo, NY

"Set your mind on things above, not on things on earth...Colossians 3:2"

I think we all can take a lesson from Leslie. She is making every moment of the life she has left count for something. As I have said in the past, when the shawls are sent, the blessings come back to the church threefold. Thank you again for all who support this ministry. We are doing something that counts.

Wendy Paffenroth
Prayer Shawl Ministry

*Presbyterian Women Honoree Luncheon
Glen Arden
June 3*

Dear Presbyterian Women's Association,

My dear ladies, I don't know where to begin to thank you for the honor you gave to me on June 3 as your 2012 "Lady of the Year." Your wonderful "Willow" gift will always hold a special place in my china closet. The beautiful mint baskets that you specially designed, the gorgeous program, the centerpieces, the balloons, and the kind words will always hold a special place in my heart. Plus, the making of cards was a fun idea.

Most of all, each of you is so special to me. You are my church sisters who have a continuing and lasting faith that helps to guide me on the path I am on. Your beautiful words and all the hugs you gave to me on my day will never be forgotten. Your generosity goes further than anyone can imagine. But I would be remiss if I didn't tell each of you that you continue to inspire me. You make my world complete, and I feel blessed that you are on the same path as I am. God certainly blessed my life when he chose us to walk along together, if even for a short time.

Thank you one and all for choosing me to be part of your special "team" of Presbyterian Women. It was a day that both Dave and I will always remember.

Consider yourselves each hugged,

Wendy Lee Paffenroth

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
Emily Barry and Family
Gabriel Bittner
Sarah Burrows
Jessica Chasen
Shannon Decker
Amy Depew
Everyone serving in the Military
Mary Lee Farris' brother-in-law
Gabby
Barbara and George Hankins
Martin Johnson and Joy Johnson
Kay Kent
Roberta Kinnamon
Patty Lewis
Steven Longobardo
James Magee
Evelyn Mercado
Heather Mustavs
Steven Neil
Oretsky Family
Amy Pemberton
The Family of Mike Pitt
Loretta and Jack Richner
Tom Sawyer
Fred Schwarz
Sara Simas
Louise Spencer
Bill and Jean Strong
George Tietz
Joe and Mark VanZandt
Wendy-Bynum Wade
The Weinberger Family
Orra and Dale Wood

Dedra Altizer
JoAnna Becerril
Brandy Bond
Winnie Bynum
Grace Cook
Mary Jane DeFreece
Joe Destefano
Evie and Family
Ben Fisher
Fran Genovese
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Carolyn Keller's parents
Kim
Lyndsay Krutki
Charles Li
Margaretta Macica
The Family of Melissa Martucci
Jeff Monroe
Eileen Myslinski
Nina and Jason
Ann Ott
Velma Peters
Ilona Reichl
Trudi Roach
The Family of Joan Schaeffer
Bryan Scott and Family
Megan Slasinski
Peggy Srirach
Shawn Thatcher
Brenda Travers
Kenya VanZandt
Jean Wade
Jo Wolfe
Paul and Phyla Wright

Lori Baird
Mary Lee and Ted Berry
Haley Buckley
Mary Carr
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Bob Dennis
Bill Eustance and Famil
Mary Lee Farris' sister
Norm and Sharon Frelinger
The George Family
The Hartzel Family
Laura and Tom Kennedy
Ella Kimble
Grace, Frank and Fran Leva
Robert Lobb
Kerry Maddlone
Andy Marussich
Jean Musgrave
Richard Nash
Amy (Thompson) Nguyen
Leon Paffenroth
The Family of Marina Petersen
Tim Richardson
Ted Sandstrom
Kevin Schuler
Dorothy Sevcik
Gloria Spradlin and Jimmy
The Smith Family
Judy Thompson
Kim Valentini and Family
Ashley Wade
Molly Wanat
Anne 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

Summer UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

We would like to place a new order for memorial pavers, but we have only three orders.

If you are interested in ordering a paver to honor or remember a loved one...

NOW would be a good time.

Please see Pat in the church office if you are interested. The cost of each paver is \$100. As soon as we have a total of six or more orders, a new order will be placed.

NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE JOINING, WILL YOU?

“Stewards of Our Garden”

Please consider lending a hand in keeping the church’s garden neat!

You can help keep our garden beautiful by giving only a couple minutes each month to pick up any litter, pull a weed, or sweep a few pavers clean. Please contact Pat in the church office to sign up 845-294-7991.

The July/August schedule for our Stewards:

Barbara and George Hankins:	July 1 – July 15
Jen and Gregg Piller:	July 16 – July 31
Beryl Yungman and Sue Varden:	August 1 – August 15
Barbara and George Hankins:	August 16 – August 31

Niches are Available for Purchase in the Memorial Columbarium

Each niche allows for double or single interment, and the following four purchase options are available:

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)

Please call the church office (845-294-7991), Pastor Kingsley, or Wayne George (914-213-4093) for any information you need about the Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS TO:



2	<i>Brian Meek</i>	19	<i>Logan Quick</i>
3	<i>Lee Bush</i>	20	<i>BA Long</i>
	<i>Gary Howell</i>	21	<i>Sue Ruckdeschel</i>
4	<i>Judy Green</i>	22	<i>Luis Figueroa</i>
5	<i>Grace Benson</i>	25	<i>Jeff Bryson</i>
6	<i>Michele Castellano</i>		<i>Bill Eustance</i>
7	<i>Dave Castellano</i>		<i>Curtis Johnson</i>
9	<i>Shaylin Green</i>		<i>Ashley Wade</i>
10	<i>Dorothy Gott</i>	26	<i>John Gruber</i>
11	<i>Steven Neil</i>		<i>Margaretta Macica</i>
12	<i>Donna Totton</i>	31	<i>Jason Gardellis</i>
13	<i>Colin Boardman</i>		<i>Lynn Healey</i>
15	<i>Greg Spencer</i>		<i>Shannon Roper</i>
18	<i>Lori Kilmer</i>		
	<i>Scott Markel</i>		

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Cheryl Maturana</i>	21	<i>Joan Howell</i>
3	<i>Craig Shaeffer</i>	22	<i>Jordan Depew</i>
5	<i>Joann Kebrdle</i>	23	<i>Wendy Bynum-Wade</i>
6	<i>Bethany Case</i>	26	<i>Alexis Dickover</i>
9	<i>Barbara Hankins</i>		<i>Mark Hahn</i>
11	<i>Jean Strong</i>	28	<i>Taylor Gati</i>
13	<i>Jean Crandall</i>	29	<i>Carolyn Keller</i>
	<i>Jack Richner</i>		<i>Jack McCloud</i>
15	<i>Dick Ayres</i>	30	<i>Amber Bartley</i>
	<i>Tyler Csernai</i>		<i>Darlene Bartley</i>
	<i>Jonathan Laskoski</i>		<i>Ella Chevalier</i>
18	<i>Alan Sproul</i>		<i>Robert Clooney</i>
19	<i>Alan Jorgensen</i>		

HAPPY JULY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

11	<i>Leroy and Judy Green</i>
	<i>Doug and Wendy Wade</i>
14	<i>Gary and Beth Laskoski</i>
	<i>Grover and Barbara vonPentz</i>
24	<i>Brendan and Wendy Donohue</i>
27	<i>Bob and Laura Pietropaolo</i>
30	<i>Benjamin and Erica Walsh</i>

HAPPY AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES TO:

4	<i>Paul and Phyla Wright</i>
14	<i>Gar and Linda Clark</i>
15	<i>Robert and Beryl Yungman</i>
18	<i>Brian and Danielle Diglio</i>
	<i>Logan and Rachael Quick</i>
26	<i>Ron and Kathy Stringer</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:

- *Sarah Gibbons who graduated from Hunter College on May 24, 2012 with a PHD in Physical Therapy.*

- *Blayne Gibbons who graduated in May from Orange County Community College with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts.*
- *Dane Ketcham and Ashley Heasley on the birth of their daughter Taylor Mae Ketcham on June 1 in Meadville, Pennsylvania. Taylor is the sister of Tristan, the granddaughter of Jeff and Meredith Ketcham, and the great granddaughter of George and Barbara Hankins.*
- *The Goshen C.J. Hooker Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team, Odyssey Angels, Division II on placing 12th out of 62 teams in the world finals at Iowa State University in Ames. The team had placed first in the regional competition at Orange Ulster BOCES on March 10 and first in the state at Binghamton on March 31. Our own Darcy McDowell and Kate Laskoski were part of the team and Beth Laskoski was one of their coaches.*
- *Elizabeth Conley, daughter of Susan Pierce, graduated from the University of Maryland with a M.A. degree in Social Work. She was then one of eight candidates selected by the U.S. Navy and was commissioned as a Naval Officer. She will do her officer's training in Rhode Island and then will be stationed in Jacksonville, Florida working at the Mayo Clinic located there.*
- *Patricia Green who was honored during National Nurses Month as the top nurse in the Hudson Valley. She was selected from a field of 20 nurses from a seven-county region. She was honored on May 9 at Hudson Valley Magazine's Excellence in Nursing Awards at the Grandview in Poughkeepsie.*
- *To our High School Graduates: Caitlin Chasen, Ethan Fogg, and David Totton*

NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The following is a list of items that are needed for Vacation Bible School. You can put any donations in the bins in the hallway outside the church office.

- | | |
|---|---|
| - Paper towel rolls | - Loofahs |
| - Toilet paper rolls | - VERY large cardboard (6 ft. or more) |
| - Wrapping paper rolls | - Three fridge boxes |
| - Tissue paper | - Egg cartons |
| - Soda and/or water bottles | |
| - Pool noodles | |
| - Artificial greenery (i.e. ferns, various leaves, long spikes, grass-like) | |

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 2013

**Cecile Ayres
Cliff Bartley
Barbara Hankins
John Redman
Scott Roper
Rob Warner**

Class of 2014

**Linda Clark
Dom Fontana
Pat Green
Bill Hodges
Karen Magee
Grover vonPentz**

Class of 2015

**Kathleen Alevras
Wendy Bynum-Wade
Elizabeth Long
Louise Spencer
Sue Varden
Orra Wood**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2013

**Lori Baird
Gina Gruber
John Gruber
Kari Taylor
Moses Ukejianya
Ashley Wade
Anne Wood**

Class of 2014

**Diana Bowe
Brendan Donohue
Lori Kilmer
Brian Meek
Jude Monteleone
Richard Paulus
Cheryl Zis**

Class of 2015

**Laura Colacci
Carol Gabella
Jonathan Laskoski
Marni Lewis
Tina McCloud
Gregg Piller
Jennifer Piller**

Moderator of Deacons: Lori Baird

STAFF

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