

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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July/August 2020

Psalm 69:7–18

It is for your sake that I have borne reproach,
that shame has covered my face.
I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.
It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;
the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.
When I humbled my soul with fasting, they insulted me for doing so.
When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them.
I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate,
and the drunkards make songs about me.
But as for me, my prayer is to you, O Lord.
At an acceptable time, O God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.
With your faithful help rescue me from sinking in the mire;
let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.
Do not let the flood sweep over me,
or the deep swallow me up, or the Pit close its mouth over me.
Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.
Do not hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.
Draw near to me, redeem me,
set me free because of my enemies.

Biblical scholars put this psalm in the category of what is known as an individual lament. It is part of the ancient temple ritual in which someone would take their complaint directly to God in the temple instead of any kind of civil court. After emotionally pleading their case before God within the temple, they wait—usually overnight—for God's response.

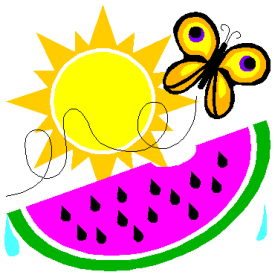
The kind of case that the worshiper takes to the temple in a psalm like this was one that had issues larger and deeper than could be solved in their equivalent of small claims court. For instance, in this particular case, the psalm mentions how the gossipers at the gate and the town

drunks are mocking the psalmist as someone who is fake and a hypocrite. However, the psalmist seems to know that the issues here are much larger and more complex than that, and so they take their case directly to God instead of trying to hash this out with the drunks and gossipers.

Right now I think we know deep down that, as satisfying as that might be, we can't find one person to "take to court" for this virus and social unrest. There are deep hurts and laments involved here that only God can really hear, understand, and adjudicate.

Psalms of lament like this remind us that whenever we hurt it is OK, in fact appropriate, to take our complaints fully and directly to God and await through the night for God's response that will come with all of the glory of the sunrise on a new day.

Pastor Kingsley



We haven't given up hope

DEACON'S PICNIC IN THE PARK

In Celebration of our 300 Years

It has been tentatively rescheduled for Sept. 13, 2020

**We will be under the pavilion at the Myron Urbanski Memorial Park
(Craigville Park, Goshen).**

There is easy access to the picnic and bathroom area, a children's playground, horseshoe pits, and a volley ball area...plenty of parking and open area for other activities. **So mark your calendars** as we open to celebrate in an open air environment (with a roof overhead... just in case.) If desired, you have plenty of time to make a costume of any period from 1720 on up.

As First Presbyterian Church in Goshen wrestles with the realities of COVID 19, we are examining ways that we can resume in person worship services. As we navigate this new terrain, we want to make one thing very clear – **our foremost priority is the safety and welfare of our congregation.**

We also value our community time and in person worship. Currently, guidelines from New York State and the Presbytery state that we can have worship with the following restrictions –

- It is recommended that no one over the age of 60 or with any underlying condition attend in person worship at this time
- We cannot use shared material – hymnals, bibles, programs, etc.
- We cannot sing as a congregation
- We must all wear facemasks when not seated in our pews
- We must keep adequate space between our pews
- We must refrain from any social contact in the vestibule before or after the service
- We must not shake hands or touch. If we do communion we must do it in an appropriate, socially distanced, sanitary method.

Given these restrictions, Session has decided to continue worship services on line for the immediate future. The worship committee is looking at forms of worship that might meet these restrictions but it is apparent that many people in our congregation may not be able to attend an in person worship safely for some time. We are looking to offer some form of service that meets the necessary guidelines after Labor Day, knowing that only a limited number of congregants may be able to make use of it.

As a community, we will continue to worship. We will worship on-line. We may find some way to worship in small groups. We may find some way to worship without singing. We may find some way to worship without touching or communion. But, rest assured, we will worship.

Know that we treasure our group worship experience but we treasure each of you all the more.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS TO:



1	<i>Rick Heal</i>	20	<i>BA Long</i>
2	<i>Brian Meek</i>	24	<i>Jody Kopec</i>
4	<i>Judy Green</i>		<i>Lucien Quick</i>
7	<i>Felicia Van Doran</i>	25	<i>Bill Eustance</i>
12	<i>Kenneth Phelan</i>		<i>Curtis Johnson</i>
13	<i>Colin Boardman</i>		<i>Ashley Wade</i>
16	<i>Mark Glasse</i>	26	<i>John Gruber</i>
18	<i>Lori Kilmer</i>	31	<i>Lynn Healey</i>
19	<i>Logan Quick</i>		<i>Shannon Roper</i>

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS TO:

2	<i>Robin Knoblock</i>	18	<i>Alan Sproul</i>
3	<i>Craig Shaeffer</i>	21	<i>Joan Howell</i>
4	<i>Paty Glasse</i>	23	<i>Wendy Bynum-Wade</i>
6	<i>Bethany Case</i>	26	<i>Alexis Dickover</i>
8	<i>Joseph Van Doran</i>		<i>Mark Hahn</i>
9	<i>Barbara Hankins</i>	29	<i>Carolyn Keller</i>
13	<i>Matt Begnoche</i>	30	<i>Darlene Bartley</i>
	<i>Jean Crandall</i>		<i>Ed Gallet</i>
15	<i>Tyler Csernai</i>		<i>Amber Van Grol</i>
	<i>Jonathan Laskoski</i>		

HAPPY JULY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

8	<i>Patrick and Jennifer Ellis</i>
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>
22	<i>Rob and Christine Person</i>
24	<i>Brendan and Wendy Donohue</i>
30	<i>Benjamin and Erica Walsh</i>

HAPPY AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES TO:

14	<i>Garfield and Linda Clark</i>
15	<i>Robert and Beryl Yungman</i>
17	<i>Marilyn and Charles Velzey</i>
18	<i>Logan and Rachael Quick</i>
26	<i>Ron and Kathy Stringer</i>
27	<i>Brian and Nancy Buckley</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	Susan Ambrsino	Janet Begnoche
The Family of Sharlene Bischof	Ann (Strong) Blake	Richard Brahs
Linda Clark's brother, Bill DeBlock	Robert Clooney	Barbara Cody
Peter Coyne	Jean and Bruce Crandall	Everyone serving in the Military
James, Max, and Liam Feragola	Mary Lee Farris and her sister	Judy Fazio
Charles Fritz	Charlene Gooden	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	Evelyn Kromm	Brenda Kujawski
Patricia Lawlor	Maggie and Quinn	Jim Magee
Evelyn Mercado	Richard Montalbano	Kevin Murphy
Eileen Myslinski	Amy (Thompson) Nguye	Owen
Dave and Wendy Paffenroth	Josephine Pecoraro	The Family of Michael D. Quinn
Carlos and Miarose Reyes	Carolyn Reynolds	Karen Saleski
Tom Sawyer	Matt Skyer	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
Sam Wallis	Jerry Westphal	Sue Whitson
Jo Wolfe	Orra Wood	Cheryl Zis

(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

JULY/AUGUST UPDATE

The Meditation Garden is here for us all as we return to a more regular social schedule. As allowed, please return to your garden to reflect on God's many blessings.

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 JULY/AUGUST/early SEPTEMBER Steward's Schedule:

Bill Eustance	July 1 – July 15
Barbara and George Hankins	July 16 – July 31
Bill Eustance	August 1 – August 15
Barbara and George Hankins	August 16 – August 31
Bill Eustance	September 1- September 15

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

As the spring arrives, we ALWAYS NEED 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



This is a fun art project you can do on a rainy day.

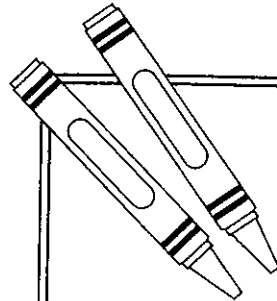
You will need:

- ▷ rain
- ▷ paper
- ▷ water-soluble markers
- ▷ old newspapers

How to make the picture:

- ▷ In the house, use the markers to draw shapes, lines and designs on the paper.
- ▷ Go outside and put your picture in the rain for about 20 seconds.
- ▷ Take it back into the house and lay it on some newspapers to dry.

The rain helped you create a masterpiece!



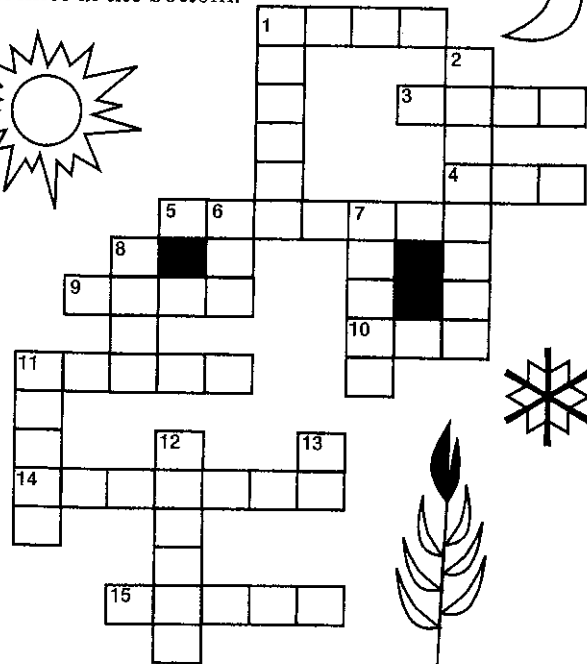
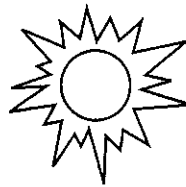
Just for

KIDS

God's Promise

The Lord made a promise to Noah in Genesis 8:22. It was a covenant. Fit the words from the list into the crossword puzzle. Then use the numbers to match the words to the blank lines at the bottom.

as
and
the
day
cold
long
heat
will
earth
night
never
cease
winter
summer
harvest
endures
seedtime



“

13 8 13 10 7 14

2 6 5 9 6

3 12 6 1 Down 4

6 11 Across 1 Across 11 Down 15
”

Answer: “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

[NOTE: A completed crossword puzzle is in a file called KID0803BB on this month's CD and on the Web site: www.NewsletterNewsletter.com.]