

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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June 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Colossians 2:8–19

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

I had a teacher once who said that everything was easy when you didn't know anything. When you don't know anything and then you learn one thing—wow, you know something now. The trouble comes when you know more stuff. The jar gets full; it's hard to get anything else into it. You stop learning. You get stuck.

Philosophy is just an inquiry into the nature of knowledge, reality, and existence—things about which we are unlikely ever to completely understand. Philosophers and scientists both constantly find that new insights bring new questions; every time you throw light on something, there is something else out there in the dark that you can't quite see. A lot of times, when you throw light on something, it calls into question the assumptions by which you determine your relationship to the world and to

others. When this happens, you hit a challenge: can you accommodate this new knowledge, or are you bound by your past to reject it?

That jar of stuff we know can be as weighty as a ball and chain shackled around our legs. When we can't accommodate new information, we are held captive by whatever philosophy we have allowed to determine how we view those relationships between ourselves and the world and ourselves and other people.

Science tells us an awful lot about the physical world. One thing science does very well is accommodate new information into the existing body of knowledge. When we leave the scientific realm, however, that accommodation can become a lot more grudging.

We need to develop that beginner's mind once more, to go back, away from the don't-eat-this-don't-drink-that, artificial qualifications and disqualifications of thought and action arising from the imposition of accumulated orthodoxies at best only peripherally related to those simple foundational truths. Those things only serve to oppress, and our foundational truth is one of liberation and redemption: "When you were dead in trespasses, God made you alive together with him." That's a simple philosophy. That's a good place to start.

Pastor Kingsley



Music Notes...

On Sunday, June 4--Pentecost Sunday--I'll be giving my first organ recital at First Presbyterian. The time of the event is 3 o'clock PM. The program will be varied and, I hope, very exciting! I will be playing music running from the glories of the Baroque to some very exciting twentieth-century music. Don't knock it till you've heard it!

The choir is winding down its first season with me, and I can't find the words to express my gratitude to them. Each and every one has given from the heart, from the soul, and from the vocal cords as well. God bless all of you, and THANK YOU, for your hard work!

It's vitally important to me to keep the great witness of sacred music alive and beloved in our day and age--a day and age which (I think) could stand to be a lot happier. The songs we sing on Sunday, be they Latin chants or rollicking gospel tunes, are part of a precious heritage of faith that we owe to the future. To quote the famous traveler Dorothy Gayle, when she awoke back in Kansas, "There's no place like home." The church and its great culture of faith is our home...and as the choir recently sang, "Heaven's gonna be my home," so we ought to sing like it.

On that note, consider clicking your heels and transporting yourself to a choir or handbell rehearsal sometime in the future. Over the summer, choir will meet Sunday mornings and learn something enjoyable and easy to sing. It's a great way to try us out. Handbells are in the thick of Pentecost practice, but when we reconvene, it will be the perfect time to jump in.

Blessings on your summer!

Jonathan



PRESBYTERAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The ladies in the church met in the parlor after a few more line dancing lessons. If all goes well, we should be ready for a show in a few years (joking, of course, ladies) Come on out before the meetings and learn something new and fun!

As the meeting got going, it was decided that PW would donate \$1000.00 towards the cost of the new stove in the kitchen. Our treasurer, Jenn Piller, will see that the money gets transferred to the appropriate account in the church.

The drink tent will again be set up under the steeple and tours will take place during GREAT AMERICAN WEEKEND. Dave Paffenroth has been in touch with EZUP Tent Company trying to get a part for the arm that is broken on the 8'x8' tent, but has been told that that model is no longer available and they do not have parts. Dave will see what he can "rig" up so that we can still use it.

Our hot and iced coffee and mock Mint Juleps were a hit along with our southern sweet tea. To help us offset the costs, we are seeking donations of either items or money to cover the items that we use. Here is a list of what we need. If you can help in any way, see one of the ladies at church or leave the information in the office with Pat, "**marked PW.**" Monetary donations are most welcome. Thank you.



ITEMS NEEDED FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PW EVENT

- Coffee - 2 large cans, one for each day * **Donated*
- Iced Tea Mix- 3 large cans * **Donated*
- Bagels - several dozen each day
- Hard Rolls – several dozen each day
- 200 pre-wrapped – butter pats * **Donated*
- Cream cheese individual packets – 1 box
- Sugar packets or 5# of sugar
- Box of sweetener packets –Equal, Splenda?
- Coffee stirrers – one box
- Half and Half Creamers – individual – one box
- Half and half /or milk -2 gallons each day
- Napkins – 1,000
- Drink – umbrellas and/or swizzle sticks – Many
- Patriotic table coverings 2 front tables * **Donated*
- 20+ gallons of ice per day * **Donated*
- 800+ 16 oz. Clear cups (hard plastic)
- 800+ Large Red Solo cups
- 1,000 colorful straws * **Donated*
- 50 large bottles of Ginger Ale

- 50 large bottles of lemon or lime seltzer
- 50 – lemons
- 50 – limes
- 30 – oranges
- 2 large jars of Maraschino Cherries (Sam’s Club)
- 500+ fancy toothpicks* *Donated
- Fresh Mint (Donated but always can use more)

Set-up of the tents will be Friday evening, June 30 in the late afternoon – more information in the bulletin as time gets closer.

Thank you to Carol Gabella for finding 3.5 liter coffee pumps and pots at a restaurant web site. The three new pots were paid for and donated to PW by Dave Paffenroth. Thanks Dave.

June 5 is our next meeting. Hope to see you all there with 6:15 p.m. dance lessons beforehand. All are welcome. Meeting follows at 7 p.m.

Wendy Paffenroth – PW Correspondent



DEACONS’ ANNUAL PICNIC

June 11 is the date set for Children’s Day and the Deacons’ Picnic. We invite everyone to join us on the lawn (weather permitting) for an old-fashioned picnic. We’ll have lemonade, hot dogs and hamburgers, potato salad, baked beans, and watermelon. Please bring a lawn chair and perhaps a side dish, and join us immediately following the worship service!



PLEASE SAVE BOX TOPS FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

If you do not already save your box tops for anyone, I would appreciate you saving them for me to give to my niece who is trying to get much-needed supplies for her kindergarten classroom in Liberty, or to treat them to an educational program. The box tops can be found on many foods and household supplies such as Progresso soups, Betty Crocker products, Scott paper towels, General Mills cereals, etc. I also will take Campbell soup labels.

I have a box for collection in the back of church by the yarn basket, or you can hand them to me in church.

Thanks so much! Carol Gabella



Prayer Shawl Ministry News

Welcome June and welcome Barbara Schust to our group of fellow crocheters! We are thrilled to have you join in our mission.

Once again, we have had a productive month once again sending shawls and lap robes to where they need to go. Barbara and George Hankins brought twelve shawls over to some residents at Valley View who haven't been getting many visitors. The recipients were deeply touched and so thankful.

Thank you notes have been received from those who received that much needed "hug." Our group is focusing on making more lap robes in the coming months.

As we continue to get organized, Barbara, Darlene and I spent some time going through yarn and supplies. Donations of gift bags and tissue paper are needed; and yarn, of course, is always welcome.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have a request. You can also leave a message with Pat in the church office.

Crochet lessons are continuing and open to anyone who would like to learn. All you have to do is bring a crochet hook and a skein of yarn to get started. There is no fee for the lessons. You can contact me by phone, email, lisa.montalbano@gmail.com or come see me after church.

Sending healing hugs to all,

Lisa

Lisa Montalbano

Prayer Shawl Ministry/Outreach Committee Representative



Spring Rummage Sale – Saturday, June 24

We are now collecting donations for our **Spring Rummage Sale**, which will be held on **Saturday, June 24**. Please bring gently used, clean items in working condition to the church office during regular office hours. Only a limited amount of books will be accepted although cookbooks are always welcome. Donations will be accepted through June 18.

Volunteers are needed to help the week of set-up and the day of the sale. Please call Laura Colacci for more information at (845) 988-7657. Let's make this sale one of the best yet! Thank you.

Thank you!

The Presbyterian Women of the church wish to personally thank Mark Glassé and his staff for the outstanding **Mother's Day Brunch** on May 14 after church. We loved seeing the new table linens used for the first time and beautiful flowers on the table (we heard were donated by Carol Gabella) set everything off perfectly. The new curtain valences looked beautiful on the windows, and it was a lovely luncheon of fellowship. The food was tasty and more than enough for everyone to enjoy and go home satisfied. Dessert was great as well, and we all enjoyed the event. Thank you, again, for all you did to make our day extra special.

With our love,
Presbyterian Women's Association

The Mother's Day Brunch was one of the best, if not the best meals, I've had at church. I was not alone as everyone was raving about the brunch, from the perfectly baked salmon to the fresh whipped cream to top the strawberries, and even more. Thank you to Mark Glassé for organizing this and thank you to all who helped him. When are you cooking again!?

Kathy Stringer

HEARTFELT THANKS FOR PRAYERS

As most of you know, our daughter, Ashley, was rushed to ORMC on Saturday, April 8, unresponsive and in severe septic shock. She spent the first ten days on a respirator, heavily sedated, to allow her organs to recover from systemic failure. When they stopped the sedation to allow her to wake up so they could remove the breathing tube, she remained comatose for an additional 5 days; causing a great deal of anxiety, fear and uncertainty for all around her, including the doctors and medical staff. As she has so many times before, Ashley did come around on her own timetable and after multiple procedures, a few setbacks and two separate bouts of pneumonia, she was finally able to return home on Saturday, May 20, a day over six weeks in captivity at ORMC. For all of you who took this journey with us through prayer, visits, cards or kind thoughts, we can't thank you enough. The prayer shawls came in handy, the temps are frigid in the hospital. Most of all, the love and concern was palpable and the consistent prayers were instrumental in getting her through this latest health scare. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to everyone in our church family.

God bless,
The Wade Family

ORGAN RECITAL ON SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH

First Presbyterian Church in Goshen, a positive community presence since 1720, announces an organ recital by its new minister of music, Jonathan B. Hall on Sunday, June 4 at 3:00 p.m.

Jonathan Hall, a native of New York, grew up in Manhattan and Port Washington, Long Island. He studied English at the University of Chicago and earned the Doctor of Music degree at the Jacobs School of Music of Indiana University. He is active as a writer, and regularly publishes articles and reviews on the subject of the organ and sacred music. He is the author of *Calvin Hampton, A Musician Without Borders*, a biography of the famous organist of the Gramercy Park neighborhood. He is also a leader in the American Guild of Organists, heading up its Committee on Professional Certification.

Hall arrived at First Presbyterian in December 2016 and has been busy building its music programs. He has composed music for the adult choir and the newly-relaunched handbell choir. He finds Goshen's oldest church to be alive with energy and very much engaged in the present day, and sees a great future for its musical and cultural programs.

The program will be performed on the church's historic 1931 Austin organ, which is in the early stages of a planned restoration. Dr. Hall will perform masterworks by J. S. Bach, César Franck, and others. He will be joined by Bill Powers, a classical saxophonist. Bill Powers studied with Eugene Rousseau at Indiana, and the two have concertized for years as the Powers and Hall Duo.

This program is free and will be followed by a simple reception. Free-will offerings are gladly received. All are welcome and there is ample parking. In case of high temperatures, a reminder that the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church is now fully air conditioned.

COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN FOR OUR 300TH ANNIVERSARY

Planning is underway for the three-year celebration of our congregation's 300th year in existence. All are welcome to the monthly meetings as we discuss, debate and fine-tune various ways to commemorate three centuries of service to our community as Presbyterians. The next meeting for the general committee will be on Tuesday, June 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor. If you can't make that meeting but have ideas to share, please contact John Redman or leave a message in the church office. The first planned activity is going to be a clambake on Saturday, September 16; many of the specifics have not yet been determined by the Tower Tie deadline. If you're interested in being part of the planning for the clambake, please contact Darlene Bartley or Linda Clark.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Benjamin Walsh</i>	14	<i>Rob Warner</i>
3	<i>Kate Laskoski</i>	15	<i>Joy Phelan</i>
4	<i>Dave Paffenroth</i>	16	<i>Mark Keller</i>
5	<i>Allison Csernai</i>	17	<i>Sophie Fontana</i>
	<i>Shannon Countryman</i>		<i>Heather Johnson</i>
6	<i>Gary Laskoski</i>	19	<i>Glenn Bischof</i>
	<i>David Totten</i>	20	<i>Carly Glassé</i>
7	<i>Kevin Fenner</i>		<i>Evan McDowell</i>
	<i>Jessica Spencer</i>	21	<i>Carol Phelan</i>
9	<i>Jane Geyer</i>		<i>Luke Wade</i>
	<i>Julia Paulus</i>	22	<i>Anne Wood</i>
	<i>Charlie Phelan</i>		<i>Orra Wood</i>
10	<i>Robert Boardman</i>	26	<i>Robert Pietropaolo</i>
	<i>Deb Hourahan</i>	28	<i>Sue Varden</i>
11	<i>Lauren Panebianco</i>	30	<i>Cecile Ayres</i>
13	<i>Maggie Calzaretta</i>		
	<i>Brad Mc Leland</i>		
	<i>Charles Quick</i>		

HAPPY JUNE ANNIVERSARIES TO:

2	<i>Tyler and Audra Cox</i>
	<i>Robert and Jennifer Fitzpatrick</i>
4	<i>Jeff and Donna Totton</i>
7	<i>David and Mary Kingsley</i>
12	<i>Craig and Sara Benson</i>
21	<i>Ken and Carol Phelan</i>
30	<i>George and Barbara Hankins</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:

- *Jennifer (George) and McIver Nivens on the birth of their daughter, Zuri Diane Nivens. She was born on May 1, 2017 at 6:29 p.m. and weighed in at 8 lbs. 11 oz. The proud grandparents are Wayne and Diane George.*
- *Scott Roper and Christine Shortess on their marriage on April 29, 2017.*
- *Louise Spencer on the birth of her great granddaughter, Chloe Louise.*
- *Morgan Serkes, who was the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award from the Orange County Track and Field Officials.*



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 and Kathy Alevras

Ann (Strong) Blake

Hannah Boorse

Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla

Sharon Conlon

Everyone serving in the Military

Robert and Brenda Faulls

Miko Graham

Edith Hausmann

Rosemary Joy

Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott

Diana Martin

Evelyn Mercado

Amy (Thompson) Nguye

Josephine Pecoraro

Aimyna Jade Royce

Joe Spoor

Virginia Stubenrauch

Cindy Vanderplaat

Doris Weinberger

Dennis Sandra Wood

Vicki Yost

Linda Boardman

Sarah Bohling

Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs

Laura Colacci

Suzanne DeBlock

Judy Feragola

Judy Fazio

Barbara and George Hankins

Andy Hine

Laura and Tom Kennedy

Brenda Kujawski

Nancy Mason

Eileen Myslinski

Dean Oberg

Rachel Reeves

Tom Sawyer

Peggy Srirach

Gary Swinger

Kenneth Van Etten

Jo Wolfe

Orra Wood

Ed Berry

Susie Bohling

John Burleson

Lawrence Colacci

John DeGroat

Mary Lee Farris and her sister

Esther Glassé

Kevin and Sara Hankins

Susan Johnson

The Kingsley Family

The Joseph Lupinski Family

Sergio Franklin Maturana

Nona McClure

Dave and Wendy Paffenroth

Maritya Reyes

Gary Smith

Elmer Stevens

Christopher Tucker

The Wade Family

Anne Wood's brother-in-law

Phyla Wright

(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.)

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2017

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 **357** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2017 is \$34.10**, which is a total of **\$12,173.70** 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.

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



JUNE UPDATE

Spring is a wonderful time to enjoy the garden. Spend a few moments with our Creator God and savor the beauty of nature. The gates are always open to anyone who desires a few tranquil moments in meditation and prayer.

Memorial Pavers

Place your orders for a memorial paver to honor or remember a loved one. **Eleven NEW paver orders have been placed.** We will be placing an engraving order in early June.

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 only \$100.

8 Niches Remain Available 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”

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

The JUNE and early JULY Steward’s Schedule:

Bill Eustance, Jen and Gregg Piller:	June 1 – June 15
Beryl Yungman:	June 16 – June 30
Barbara and George Hankins:	July 1 – July 15

Anyone can be a Steward of Our Garden any day of the week! 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! Thanks for being an active member! Contact Pat in the church office to sign up and be added to our 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 2018

**Kathleen Alevras
Mark Glasse
Bill Hodges
Elizabeth Long
Scott Roper
Orra Wood**

Class of 2019

**Linda Boardman
Adam Boese
William Eustance
Brad McLeland
Brian Meek
Malcolm Stewart**

Class of 2020

**Darlene Bartley
Robyn Boardman
George Hankins
Deb Hourahan
Sue Varden
Rob Warner**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2018

**Wendy Bynum-Wade
Laura Colacci
Ian Depew
Wendy Donohue
Paty Glasse
Gregg Piller
Jenn Piller**

Class of 2019

**Liese Boese
Margaret Dickover
Jon Hourahan
Carolyn Keller
Jody Kopec
Logan Quick
Felicia Van Doran**

Class of 2020

**Diane Church
Carol Gabella
Jane Geyer
Gina Gruber
Mary Kopec
Betty Lobb
Charlie von Pentz**

**Moderator of Deacons:
Presbyterian Women:**

Carolyn Keller

STAFF

**Jonathan Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County**