THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary

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June 2020

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

"For the Beauty of the Earth" (v. 5) by Folliott Sanford Pierpont Hymn 14, *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*

The melody and opening verses of "For the Beauty of the Earth" echoed in my mind as I sat down to ponder the concluding verse. The first two are a tribute of praise for the wonders of creation. The second two verses proceed to the rich human experiences of everyday. All these matters of creation and humanity comprise the common graces (by no means commonplace) that nurture and uphold us.

Today's final verse turns to the source of all these graces, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer: "For thyself best gift divine." This is the special grace that touches and transforms our entire experience, here and in the hereafter. Our deeply faithful goal of peace on earth—shalom, compassion, and justice undergirding the reconciliation of humanity and all creation—leads to choruses of joy in the heavenly realm among the saints who have gone before us. The conductor of these choirs is none other than Jesus, our brother and our Savior, the very embodiment of that "great, great love" of our one God.

May we join together in the everlasting refrain: "Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise."

Pastor Kingsley

Music Notes



It seems that every time I turn around, our wonderful Pat is reminding me that I owe her a Tower Tie article. Where does the time go?

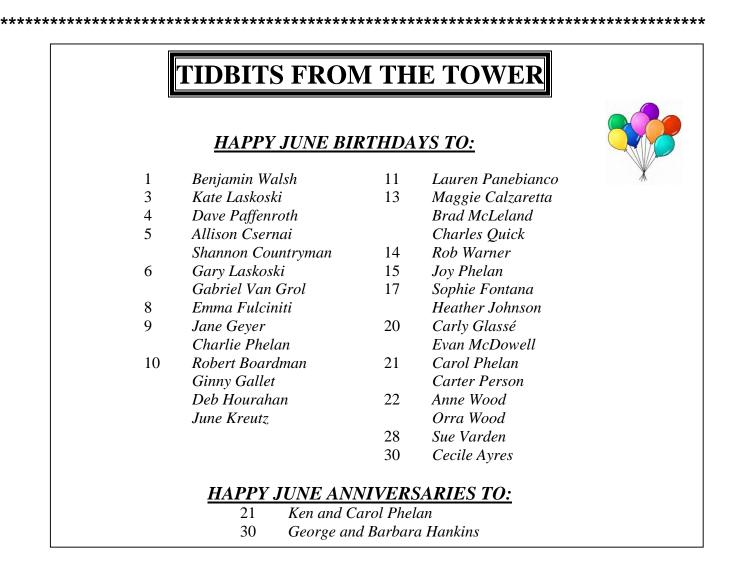
Here's a website for you: <u>www.hymnary.org</u>. It contains more information than you'll ever need about hymns--their composers, authors, history, everything. It's considered an invaluable treasury of information for church organists and all those interested in the wonderful subject of Christian hymnody.

I appreciate your words of appreciation about the music in the videos. To avoid the wrath of YouTube and copyright holders, all music and words must be in public domain--in other words, as they were printed before 1920-something. That's why you are seeing such early editions of our favorite songs! I'm also careful to use organ voluntaries of sufficient vintage. Such is the pitiless algorithmic age we live in.

I look forward to resuming my regular work as soon as possible. In the meantime, I enjoy being part of the community of First, and of this wonderful area in general. It's a relief to be done with all the online teaching, I hope once and for all...and I'm already starting to enjoy the summer. The milkweed is poking up, and that means butterflies. Hummingbirds are buzzing and the phlox is creeping.

Stay in touch...watch the Sunday services...take part in the coffee hours...and let's hope no more snowfall till Christmas! I can't wait to see you all in person again.

As ever, Jonathan





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	Ann (Strong) Blake
Richard Brahs	Linda Clark's brother, Bill DeBlock	
Barbara Cody	Peter Coyne	Jean and Bruce Crandall
Jon Dollar	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
Carolyn Keller and Family	Regina Kenny	Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy
Jeff Kott and Natalia	Evelyn Kromm	Brenda Kujawski
Patricia Lawlor	Maggie and Quinn	Evelyn Mercado
Richard Montalbano	Kevin Murphy	Eileen Myslinski
Amy (Thompson) Nguye	Owen	Dave Paffenroth
Josephine Pecoraro	Carlos and Miarose Reyes	Carolyn Reynolds
Karen Saleski	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

JUNE UPDATE

The Meditation Garden will be there for us all as we begin to return to a more normal social schedule. When it is allowed, please feel free to return to the 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 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} 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 JUNE/early JULY Steward's Schedule:

Bill Eustance Barbara and George Hankins Bill Eustance

June 1 – June 15 June 16 – June 30 July 1 – July 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

<u>Class of 2020</u> George Hankins Deb Hourahan Barbara Thompson Sue Varden Rob Warner <u>Class of 2021</u> Mark Glassé Bill Hodges Lori Kilmer Ken Phelan John Redman Scott Roper <u>Class of 2022</u> Linda Boardman Geri Corey William Eustance Brad McLeland Brian Meek Rob Person

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

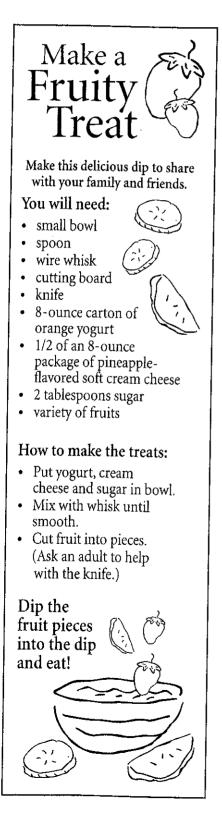
<u>Class of 2020</u> Diane Church Carol Gabella Jane Geyer Gina Gruber Mary Kopec Betty Lobb Charlie von Pentz <u>Class of 2021</u> Michael Coyne Allison Csernai Don Dinsmore Patrick Ellis Paty Glassé Barbara Schust George Schust <u>Class of 2022</u> Liese Boese Margaret Dickover Jon Hourahan Jody Kopec Logan Quick Felicia Van Doran Mitch Weintraub

Co -Moderators of Deacons: Presbyterian Women: **Carol Gabella and Paty Glassé**

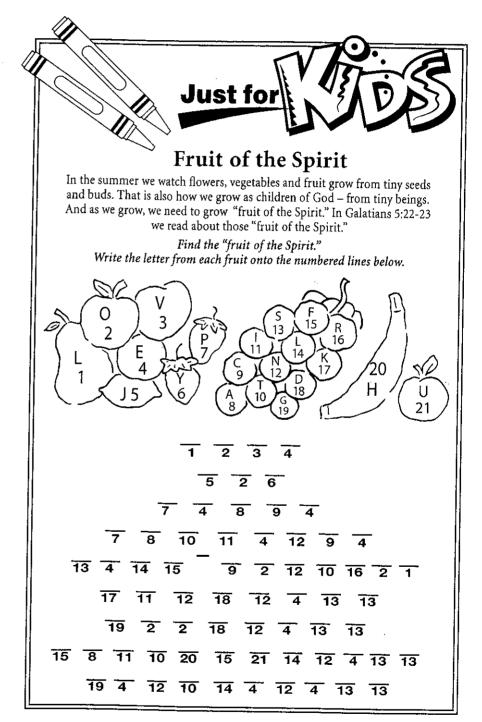
<u>STAFF</u>

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

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faithfulness, gentleness.

Answers: love, joy, peace, parience, self-control, kindness, goodness,