

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924
The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor

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Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

March 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me . . . ([Matt. 28:18](#))

In my mind Jesus' Great Commission has forever begun with the word "go."

If I were to try and say those words by memory, that's where I would start. And I would very likely slip into the Elizabethan English of the King James Bible; "Go ye." That's how I learned those words, soaking them in throughout my childhood in Sunday school classes and Vacation Bible Schools and sermons and songs.

Somehow in my mind the great commission became the great go-mission.

But every time I open the Bible and actually read the words that Jesus spoke, I'm confronted with my error. Jesus is already speaking before he gets to the word 'go.' If we begin with 'go' we're late to the party and what we miss out on just might be critical for how we go or whether we go at all.

"All authority in heaven and one earth has been given to me."

This is the opening line of the great commission. Jesus doesn't begin with us and what we do. He begins with himself and who he is, his authority over all things in heaven and on earth.

We can think about this in a couple of ways. For starters, Jesus' statement about his authority sounds like it compels our obedience to his command to go and make disciples. Since Jesus has authority, we need to take seriously what he says. And if he says 'go,' we go.

But there is a different way that authority works in our lives, and this may be what Jesus wants us to know. His authority over all things doesn't simply compel obedience, it fills us with confidence. Without this confidence we will not go and carry out his mission.

If we skip this opening line and begin with 'go' we are likely to go in our own authority. And when we take on a spiritual calling in our own authority, things get weird. We become pushy. We do violence to others. We are not relaxed. We find it hard to love. We neglect prayer.

There is plenty to talk about when it comes to the word 'go.' What does going look like? Where does going lead us? These are good questions, but they are not a good beginning. Unless we are convinced that Jesus is indeed alive and actively accomplishing his will in this world, we will not go at all.

Maybe as you read this you're getting ready to go somewhere. Today, before you go, take a moment and give thanks to Jesus for his authority over all things. The decisions you're facing at work, the parenting tasks that consume your thoughts, the errands you need to run and the people you'll encounter – Jesus has authority over all of those things. He is already at work in those places and his commission is an invitation to join him there.

So go. But before you go, rest in his authority. And pay attention. Wherever you go, Jesus is already there.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Kingsley

MARCH STARTS OUR LENTEN OBSERVANCE



We continue the rhythm of the liturgical year as we live through the life of Jesus the Christ in his life-changing ministry on Earth. We begin the first Sunday in March with the **Transfiguration of the Lord** in which we recall how Jesus and three of his apostles go to a mountain, and Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then, the prophets Moses and Elijah appear next to him, and he speaks with them. He shows his disciples a glimpse of his heavenly glory.

We move immediately to **Ash Wednesday** on March 5. It is at this time we stop to reflect upon our mortal condition and to hear those familiar words, “Remember, from dust you are and to dust you shall return.” We come with penitent hearts indicating our desire to search our hearts and change our lives. We humble ourselves and receive the ashes in the shape of a cross on our foreheads reminding us of the good news of the gospel – forgiveness for all and life in Christ.



We leave and go back out into the world ready to do our soul searching in a positive way taking stock of our lives, our shortcomings, our separation from God and his will for our lives. It is during this time that we can make changes in how we live in relationship with God, ourselves, and with others. The season of Lent is a time to set things right.

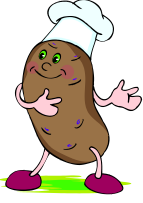
Our chancel choir will be supporting our Lenten journey with anthems to help us along the way. On Ash Wednesday we offer this sung prayer:

*Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.*

*Lord, take my life, and make it wholly thine;
Fill my poor heart with thy great love divine.
Take all my will, my passion, self and pride;
I now surrender, Lord, In me abide.*

Robert Clooney
Director of Ministry of Music

Join us for the **Ash Wednesday Service** on
March 5 at 7:00 p.m.



DEACONS' BAKED POTATO BRUNCH

Sunday, March 2
\$5.00 each, with all the fixins'

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER WILL BE OBSERVED ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014 AT 1:30 P.M.

The Goshen Christian Reformed Church, 2440 Rt. 17A, will host this year's service in the Youth Center. The WDP Egypt Committee invites us to search out "Streams in the Desert," finding living water in our world through Jesus. Volunteers are needed to read aloud during the litany and an offering will be taken. Light refreshments will be served. Please call Linda Buckbee at 986-5480 for more information.

DEACONS' 2ND ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

FRIDAY, MARCH 28th 5:30 TO 7pm

(Snow date Saturday, March 29th)



\$5.00: Children 4 -11 years \$10.00: Children 12 and older/Adults

Ages 3 and under: free

Tickets can be purchased in the office or from any Deacon

Take out available

Gluten Free Spaghetti/meatballs upon request

TRICKY TRAY

Friday, April 4, 2014

Fellowship Hall

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m.; calling starts at 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be available for purchase.

We are asking all committees of the church to donate two baskets for the Tricky Tray. Volunteers are also needed to go to local businesses to ask for donations of a basket or gift certificates. If you have any questions, contact Grover vonPentz (291-1932).

HAM/TURKEY DINNER FUNDRAISER

FOR

BABY DAKOTA

*Come and enjoy a good home cooked meal.
Bring your friends and family. Help support this family
through their journey to keep Dakota healthy with the
up-coming surgeries and expenses that insurance does not cover.*

Date – Sunday March 23rd

Time – 5:00 p.m.

Where - Fellowship Hall at - 33 Park Place, Goshen NY 10924

Cost - \$20.00 per person

\$10.00 for kids and seniors

Kids under 5 – free

There will also be baskets to be raffled.

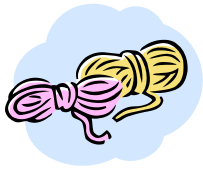
(A clean-up crew and a dishwasher is needed. If you can help, please contact Darlene Bartley at 238-4368)

Name _____

of tickets @ \$20.00 _____ **# of tickets @ \$10.00** _____

Checks can be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and mailed to 33 Park Place, Goshen NY 10924

Please write in memo "for Baby Dakota" RSVP by March 14th



Prayer Shawl Ministry News . . .

It was another month for those busy hands of the ladies who make the hugs that we send from our church doors. It seems like many of us are becoming known as “shawl ladies.” Here is where some of them were sent in the last few weeks:

- A beautiful blue and white (healing and peace) triangle shawl went to a young mother in the Greenville area who is battling stage 4 lung cancer. She has three children ages 8, 12, and 15. We also enclosed an angel pin which I understand she doesn't take off. She said the shawl and the prayers are giving her hope. We hope she takes a turn for the better very soon.
- Beryl Yungman sent a shawl to her daughter in Colorado, who in turn was delivering it to her grieving friend in Texas. Talk about taking a shawl on a long trip, but we heard this gift was well loved as were the folder of prayers the family all shared.
- As I said before, God knows where the shawl is going when we pick up the yarn and hook. One Sunday I started a shawl in teal, cream, and tan. The following Saturday I found out that a business lady and friend in our town lost her mother on the Sunday I started the shawl. I quickly packaged it up with a prayer for the “Loss of a Mother” and delivered it. It turns out that five years before, the mom was hit by a car and was in the hospital for months. We had sent a shawl to her then and she loved it. Now the daughter has one to hug her and bring her memories of her mom wearing one.
- Lisa Montalbano sent a shawl to her sister-in-law in Florida who had a friend in need of a hug. Our shawls do take flight as in angel wings and find the shoulders that need some comforting.
- Joan Howell made sure that Diana Bowe's granddaughter, Dakota, got a special made blanket from the church. Dakota has already had surgery and more are coming for this little lamb. Now we know she is covered up with all our prayers in the form of a blanket from the ministry.
- Barbara Hankins' and Joan Butensky's shawls have gone to residents at Orra Wood's Senior Care Facility. Robert Scharpf has gotten a wonderfully warm “man-colored” shawl to put around his shoulders, as well. Other residents there also are enjoying the warmth of the hugs made by these wonderful caring hands.
- One of Josephine Bartley's famous red/white/blue shawls will again drape the shoulders of a military mom who has a son about to be deployed. These are the hugs they need until their “soldier” returns safe. She said on receiving this, that she will snuggle with her two young children and read to them while they wait for word on daddy overseas.
- Darlene Bartley sent a shawl to Diane George who will send it on to a friend in Florida who is battling a serious illness. Our shawls do travel where needed.
- Lisa Montalbano did a lovely thing for our friend, Lori Baird. She made a shawl that Lori wanted. Lori has been going through a long recovery with her hand and had found a pattern she loved and Lisa put

it together for her. What could be better than two shawl ladies helping each other? I hope the shawl warms Lori and hugs her all the time. God bless girls.

We know there were other gifts that were sent out, but this is just a sample of where our good deeds are going and finding new homes. We thank everyone who graciously put yarn into our bin. We got some nice gift bags, etc. to help send these presents from our church. God bless everyone who received a shawl gift and the hands of those who are busy creating them.

Until next month, considered yourselves hugged.
Wendy Paffenroth PSM Secretary



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of PW will be on Monday, March 3, 2014. We have an open door policy and welcome all ladies of the church to join us. This year we will do our yearly events; Memorial Day bake sale, summer luncheon for an honoree from our church, Great American Weekend, bake sale/chili/soup sale in November and Christmas boxes for shut-ins. In addition, we will attend church teas in the area and help our congregation when there is a need, such as funeral receptions, etc. We look forward to new ideas and getting to know some of the newest members in our congregation. Our meetings are the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlor. Please come out and join us.

Wendy Paffenroth – Secretary (News notes)

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2014

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 **343** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2014 is \$30.50**, which is a total of **\$10,461.50** 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.

...33. Park ...

A Youth Group for "ALL" middle school and high school teens sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Goshen. Here are a few activities we've been scheming up:

SLEEP-OVER at FPC

Friday/ Saturday, April 25/26

RSVP by Friday, April 11 to the church office at fpgoshen@frontiernet.net

The date has been set, so plan to join us for games, treats, movies and maybe some actual sleep...yea, right! More details to follow.

***We are also planning to go **snow-tubing** and **bowling** so please check the FPC website for updates about activities.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

It is that time of year again when the **Nominating Committee** will be meeting, recruiting, and recommending Elders and Deacons for the class of 2017. If you would like to be considered or would like to submit a name for these offices or for Nominating Committee members for 2015, please fill out the bottom of this form, and give it to Karen Magee, place it in the collection plate, or leave it in the office. Please remember the following: the term is for three years, the Deacons meet on the first Sunday of each month, and the Elders meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Elders also meet with their respective committees once monthly, generally the second Sunday of the month. The Session and the congregation expect active participation from the Elders and Deacons. It is truly an honor to serve the church. Commitment to active participation includes attendance at the Session/Deacon meetings and the meetings of the committee to which the officer is assigned. In addition to attendance at meetings, active participation on the committee includes working to accomplish the responsibilities of the committee as listed in the Operations Manual. Please see the description of officer responsibilities by Sue Varden, Clerk of Session, in the Tower Tie for further information. If you have questions, please contact Karen Magee at 294-6443.

Name _____ Phone # _____

YOU MAY BE ASKED TO SERVE

Spring is coming and we will be filling vacancies on our Board of Deacons and Session for 2014-2017. If you are asked by a member of your church Nominating Committee to serve, we would hope that you will give their request your prayerful consideration.

Below are some of the responsibilities of Session Elders and Deacons (this is not a complete list). Attendance and participation at meetings is essential.

ELDERS – A ministry of discernment and governance.

The Session is responsible for the mission and government of the church. It is responsible to the congregation. It is composed of the Pastor who acts as Moderator and 18 Elders serving three-year terms. The Session meets at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Each Elder is assigned to serve on a committee. There is a Moderator and Vice-Moderator (Session members) for each committee, appointed by the Pastor and confirmed by the Session. These committees are also made up of active members of the congregation. Committees meet monthly.

Elders are asked to serve on one of the following standing committees of Session.

- Worship & Music
- Christian Education
- Mission
- Outreach/Fellowship
- Property Management
- Finance & Administration

Elders are also expected to prepare and serve communion six months of the year, alternating with the Deacons.

DEACONS – A ministry of compassion and service.

The office of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness and service after the example of Jesus Christ. It is responsible to the Session for the welfare, oversight and relief of the needy and overall service to the church and its members. It is composed of 21 members, and lead by a moderator who is chosen by the group. Deacons meet once a month following worship service.

The Deacons prepare the sanctuary for all worship services. That includes taking care of the church linens and candles, polishing the brass, preparing the baptismal font, serving as ushers (also at funerals) and preparing and serving communion, alternating months with the Session.

The Deacons traditionally provide Palm Sunday Breakfast, host a congregational picnic in June and green the church in December. They also raise funds for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund for people in need.

(Information provided by Clerk of Session Sue Varden)

THE 5TH ANNUAL GOSHEN CHILI CHALLENGE

Here we are again! Once more the First Presbyterian Church Mission Committee is sponsoring the fun event of the season—The Goshen Chili Challenge!

~**Date: Saturday, March 15**

~**Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

~**Place: Church Fellowship Hall**

~**Price: \$7.00**

This is the fifth year that this rousing event is being held in Goshen, and the excitement is mounting. Come on March 15 and join in the fun. Your vote will help decide who makes the best chili in Goshen.

Included in the chili tasting are all condiments to make your meal spectacular—cheddar cheese, sour cream, chopped onions, rice, corn bread, and corn chips, water or soda.

To top it off, enjoy the ladies of the Mission Committee's fabulous homemade desserts, included in the meal.

To join in this night of friendly competition, purchase tickets at the office at the First Presbyterian Church of Goshen, 33 Park Place, Goshen between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays. (Office closed for lunch between 12:00 and 1:00). **Tickets also available at the door.**

(If you're interested in submitting chili in the contest, send your name and phone number with a \$25.00 check to the church office. Winners in the "Popular Individual Vote" or "Popular Organization Vote" categories, each win \$50.00. Winner of the "Judge's Super Chef Award" wins \$50.00.)

Proceeds to benefit PresbyBuild in Partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Newburgh.

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

WHEN: SATURDAY, April 5, 2014

TIME: 8:30-10:00 A.M. **OR** 10:00-11:30A.M.

WHERE: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN GOSHEN

COST: \$6.00 PER PERSON, PAID IN ADVANCE



Included in the price of each paying child's reservation will be tickets for crafts, games, and activities (for children of all ages), and an egg hunt.

The Easter Bunny will be on hand to greet everyone.

**BRING YOUR CAMERA TO CATCH THAT SPECIAL MOMENT ON THE
EASTER BUNNY'S LAP!**

LIMITED SEATING; DON'T DELAY!!

Reservations accepted in the church office through March 31.

Questions? Call 651-3294 or 294-7991

RESERVATION FORM for "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny"

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Preferred Seating Time

on **Saturday, April 5** _____ 8:30 to 10:00 **OR** _____ 10:00 to 11:30

Number of adults
and older children _____

Number **AND AGES** of children participating
in breakfast and activities _____

(Activities include an egg hunt. Please bring your own baskets.)

TOTAL NUMBER X \$6.00 COST PER PERSON = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church, 33 Park Place, Goshen, NY 10924.
Forms and checks can be dropped off at the church office.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Gina Gruber</i>	11	<i>Patrick Farley</i>
2	<i>Josephine Bartley</i>		<i>Ally Phelan</i>
4	<i>Jennifer Piller</i>	13	<i>Matthew Quinn</i>
	<i>Deborah Spencer</i>	21	<i>Hannah Taylor</i>
5	<i>Wendy Paffenroth</i>	22	<i>Jeff Kingsley</i>
7	<i>Betty Lobb</i>	24	<i>Maureen Johnson</i>
8	<i>Connor Gati</i>	25	<i>Jeff Gati, Jr.</i>
	<i>Robert Lobb</i>	25	<i>Caryl Swald</i>
	<i>Jean Musgrave</i>	26	<i>Robin Paulus</i>
9	<i>Karen Magee</i>	28	<i>Tyler Cox</i>
	<i>Logan Fuller</i>	30	<i>Michael Roper</i>
		31	<i>Jack Quick</i>

HAPPY MARCH ANNIVERSARIES TO:

15 *Bill and Carolyn Keller*

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:

- *Jackson Diglio who won this year's championship of the school-wide National Geographic Bee at the Goshen Intermediate School.*
- *Our newest members who joined the church on February 2: Bob Johnson, Maureen Johnson, Caryl Swald, Felicia Van Doran, Paul Van Doran, Chris Viebrock, and Dina Sena-Viebrock*



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
Rosa B.
JoAnna Becerril
Mary Carr
Shannon Decker
Joe Destefano
Everyone serving in the Military
Ben Fisher
The George Family
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Rosemary Joy
Laura and Tom Kennedy
Jeff Knox
James Magee
Evelyn Mercado
Heather Mustavs
Nina and Jason
James Paffenroth
The Family of Marina Peterson
Ted Sandstrom
Fred Schwarz
Peggy Srirach
Bill and Jean Strong
Kim Valentini and Family
Wendy-Bynum Wade
The Weinberger Family
Orra and Dale Wood

Dedra Altizer
The Barron Family
Mary Lee and Ted Berry
Carol Coon
Mary Jane DeFreece
Sally Dorritie
Evie and Family
Norm and Sharon Frelinger
Kate Goodspeed
Carol Hoffman
Carolyn Keller's father
Kim
Robert Lobb
The Family of Melissa Martucci
Jeff Monroe
Eileen Myslinski
Amy (Thompson) Nguyen
Jessica (Bowe) and Jason Ptak
Tim Richardson
Tom Sawyer
Bryan Scott and Family
The Smith Family
Jean Stukey
Kenya VanZandt
Jean Wade
Jo Wolfe
Sharon Worden

Millie Augere
Emily Barry and Family
Sarah Burrows
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Bob Dennis
David Dzierzek
Mary Lee Farris' sister
Fran Genovese
Barbara and George Hankins
Susan Johnson
Bob and Barbara Kennedy
Roberta Kinnamon
Margaretta Macica
Andy Marussich
Jude Monteleone
Richard Nash
Ann Ott
Velma Peters
Loretta Richner
Kevin Schuler
Dorothy Sevcik
Elmer Stevens
George Tietz
Ashley Wade
Molly Wanat
Anne Wood's dad
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.)

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

MARCH UPDATE

Niches are 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)

Memorial Pavers

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 \$100. We currently have four orders on-hand. The next order for pavers will be placed when we have a total of ten.

“Stewards of Our Garden”

Thank you to our dedicated Stewards for keeping the garden neat!

The MARCH/early APRIL Steward’s schedule:

Jen and Gregg Piller:	March 1 – March 15
Beryl Yungman and Karen Bende:	March 16 – March 31
Barbara and George Hankins:	April 1 – April 15

It takes only a few minutes of your time to pick up any litter, pull a weed, or sweep a few pavers clean, and you can help keep our garden beautiful! Contact Pat in the church office to sign up.

Please call the church office (845-294-7991), Rev. Kingsley, or Wayne George (914-213-4093) for any information you 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 2014

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

Class of 2015

**Kathy Alevras
Wendy Bynum-Wade
Elizabeth (BA) Long
Louise Spencer
Sue Varden
Orra Wood**

Class of 2016

**Cliff Bartley
Geri Corey
John Redman
Tom Sawyer
Mal Stewart
Jo Wolfe**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

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
Tina McCloud
Gregg Piller
Jennifer Piller
Nancy Smith**

Class of 2016

**Wendy Donohue
Bill Eustance
Gina Gruber
John Gruber
Carolyn Keller
Kathleen Kingsley
Lisa Montalbano**

**Moderators of Deacons: Carolyn Keller and Carol Gabella
Presbyterian Women:**

STAFF

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