

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor

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May 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was cruising through hymns looking for one to which I knew some of the words, but knew neither the title nor was I sure of the first line...one or the other being needed to find it in the indexes. I paused for a moment when I turned to *Amazing Grace* and mused over the words. "Just as I am..." struck me again. We come as we are, not as we wish we were.

Given our familiarity with the language and title of this hymn, there is a peculiar phrase in Mark 4: 36. Jesus and his disciples are preparing to cross the Sea of Galilee after a long day of teaching. Mark tells us that "leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was." We are accustomed to thinking and singing about ourselves and just as we are. What does Mark mean by telling us that Jesus got into the boat "just as he was?"

When I sing about coming to Jesus just as I am, I'm usually thinking about things that I'd be pleased to forget about. To come just as I am, means that I'm coming with plenty of regrets and more than a few failures. There's not much here to brag about.

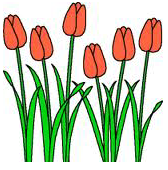
When Jesus stepped into the boat just as he was, he wasn't 'going' in the same way that I'm 'coming.' "Just as he was" means his sinless self – but it also hints that he was very much like you and me. Fred Craddock explains the phrase this way: "Just as he was" meant that when Jesus got in the boat he was "whipped down, bedraggled, hungry, bent over already half asleep...no time to clean up, freshen up, dress up, change clothes...He's worn out." (Collected Sermons, 117) Jesus was neither glowing nor levitating as he got in the boat at the end of the day. He found his seat and leaned back, weary and just wanting a few moments to close his eyes.

Because Jesus entered the boat just as he was, we know he will be merciful when we come to him just as we are. That includes when we come to him doubting, questioning, cautious. Jesus is not aloof. He is with us. He shares the experience of living a truly human life. And because of this, we can call to him not only when the "furious squall" comes, but when the teapot tempest comes as well.

Make it a great week.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Kingsley

May Opens Our Eyes Anew to the World Around Us



May brings us flowers, green, and relief from the cold and chill of winter. We revel in the warmth, the breezes against the skin, and a feeling of aliveness. Breathe in the freshness of new life and let God's magnificent creation warm and speak to your soul.

May 12 . . .

It's **Mother's Day** or, as I like to think of it, "nurturing Sunday" to celebrate all those who care for and nurture others albeit family members, our friends, or pets. It is about the quality of being a nurturer to others in our lives.



May 19 . . .

It's **Pentecost** – a time in which we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the twelve apostles and other followers of Jesus. It is often called the "birthday of the church." It is at this time that we welcome confirmands as they continue their Christian journey from youth into adulthood.



May 26 . . .

It's **Presbyterian Heritage** Sunday in which we remember all those who came before us, who sat in our very pew during wars, who prayed for peace, who came for healing in their lives. We honor them and pass along this heritage to future generations as we support our youth.

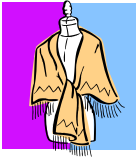


Let's get outside, enjoy the weather and being outdoors, plant and watch our gardens grow. The earth has sprung to life; embrace it in joy and celebrate!

Robert Clooney
Director of Ministry of Music

PRESBYBUILD TALENT SHOW

Tickets for the PresbyBuild Talent Show at the Union Church in Newburgh on May 11 are available from Sue Varden or Louise Spencer. Our own, Marty Bowe and Jessica Ptak are scheduled to perform. \$15.00 will get you food and entertainment. Please join us.



HUG HAPPENINGS – NEWS FROM THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We hope everyone will enjoy some spring-like weather this month and get outside and take in some of the beauty that God has sent to us. Take a little time to enjoy nature.

The **Shawl Ministry** has been blessed once again. Last month, we sent a shawl to a lady in Warwick who has lung cancer. Sally loved her shawl and it seemed that she lived in a senior community where she shared what we sent to her. The ladies of **Liberty Green** in Warwick blessed us with numerous blankets, lap robes, and shawls, all graciously donated to our ministry. I personally stopped over to thank them at one of their meetings; they meet twice a week to crochet and knit. They are fabulous ladies and I hope in the future we can plan a get-together so we can thank them personally. We look forward to a long relationship with these lovely gals.

We received this lovely thank you that should be shared with all of you: *Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry, Thank you for the beautiful shawls we each received upon the passing of Russell House. Each one was unique & they meant so much to our family. That feels like a warm hug from the church. We had picked up a blue lap robe when Russell was first diagnosed. He wore it when he was in the hospital and had it with him at the time of his passing. Please know that all of your hard work is appreciated! Love, Cheryl Zis, Diana Bowe, Denise Quinn, Julie Goemaere, Judy House, Taya House and Deb Jankowiak.*

We sent two shawls for grief in the past few weeks. Danielle is a young lady who was raised by her grandmother. In the past few months, her grandmother was placed in a nursing home and, due to family problems, she lost touch with where she was located. Unfortunately, a neighbor saw the grandmother's obituary in the paper and passed on her condolences. Danielle had not known that her grandmother had passed ten days before. The poor young lady was devastated. She was inconsolable. A shawl has brought her the hug that she so needed and the prayers helped her over such a tough time. She truly thanks us for our gift of love.

A shawl was given to a mother from Greenwood Lake. Kathie's husband died suddenly at age sixty-one. She was pleased to have someone send her the hug. Although it won't replace the one that she so misses, it will let her know that there are people who care.

A beautiful blue shawl was given to Toni Niedel to present to her Mom. Toni's dad recently passed away and her mom needs that extra hug to get her through the long nights. Toni said her mom is ninety-three and she is missing her partner, which of course, we all understand. We hope our hug will get her over some difficult hours.

Another shawl was sent to a lady named Mary Lou, a mother of a 7th grader, who has fourth stage cancer and is dealing with so many difficult decisions in her life. She too thanks us for giving her that dearly needed boost.

A lap robe was given to a ninety+ year old lady at Valley View. She had a stroke that left her speechless. Her nieces visit each weekend. They told me that she almost always has the shawl we sent to her a month ago, wrapped around her. But when she was in the wheelchair, her legs were exposed or covered by a "hospital type" blanket. She is thrilled to have something so comfortable and colorful to put on her lap now.

Others have also been distributed along with some of the "pocket prayer shawls" available for the taking in the basket on the table in the Narthex. If you need a shawl or know of someone who might like one to help them, please let us know or tell Pat in the office and she will relay the information to our ministry. Thank you again to all in the congregation for supporting this good cause.

Consider yourselves hugged,

Wendy Lee Paffenroth - shawl secretary



Presbyterian Women's Association (PW) News

Eleven dedicated members attended the April meeting of PW. We all decided that we are ready for spring to finally come. We talked about upcoming events in the next few months.

First, we will have the **Memorial Day Bake Sale**. This will be held on May 24, the Friday before Memorial Day, in the church park in conjunction with the opening of the Farmer's Market in Goshen. We do quite well each year, but are always looking for new and exciting baked items to sell. We talked about getting garage sale and rummage sale dishes to put our delectable items on. If you plan to take some dishes, baskets, etc. to the rummage sale in May, think about the PW group. We will be more than happy to take them off your hands and find them new homes complete with a baked treat on top. We are planning to distribute our extra dishes to our wonderful bakers the Sunday before the bake sale. Please mark your calendars to bake for us or come and sit for a bit while we sell. We ask that nothing you donate requires refrigeration, as we really do not have a way to keep things cold. All help is greatly appreciated and the fellowship is always wonderful. More information will be in the weekly bulletins.

We discussed our **Honoree Luncheon** and several of the ladies who were in attendance will look into locations to hold this great annual event which honors one or two women in our congregation. Watch for the announcement in the bulletin. Make sure you sign up and come to enjoy a lovely afternoon of friendship with your sisters in the church.

Great American Weekend will be on July 6 and 7 and PW will once again be selling coffee and tea, hard rolls, bagels, etc. This year we are going to set up on the sidewalk under the tower, so we don't have to carry the coffee pots down to the field. We will be a bit more visible to the vendors in the morning and it will be easier for us to return to the kitchen when we need to. Again, if you are an early riser, we would love to have you come and help us out. We expect to be cleaned up by 10:00 a.m. each morning. This leaves the rest of the day for you to do whatever is on your schedule. More information will be in the bulletin as the date gets closer.

Our next meeting will be May 6 at 7:30 in the church parlor. We hope you can join us so we can get additional input on how we can help our church. See you there.

Wendy Paffenroth - Secretary



May 18th 5 - 7PM SPAGHETTI DINNER

Benefit: Deacon's Fund

Tickets available in the office: 294-7991, or see a Deacon at church

\$8:00 ADULTS \$5.00 CHILDREN (up to 7th grade) AGE 4 and under: free

Thank you for your support!



ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE
Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25
(Mark your calendars now!)

The chairperson for the Rummage Sale is again Glynnis Jorgensen. Glynnis would be grateful to anyone who can help with this annual event, as many hands are needed to set up during the week of the sale and also to clean up on Saturday, May 25, in the afternoon.

Remember, items can be brought in from the evening of Monday, May 20 through Thursday, May 23. **Please do not put anything on the stage before May 20. The stage is used every Sunday evening.**

We need saleable items, no junk. We have to dispose of all unsold items. Items brought in should be **CLEAN**, not broken. We cannot sell chipped glassware, toys with missing parts, books without covers, items with missing pieces, or items with frayed electrical cords. We also cannot sell used computers or exercise equipment.

The better the items look, the more money we can get for them, so run those excess dishes through a wash cycle before you donate them, and try to pack items that are similar in the same boxes. This makes it so much easier for those setting up. In the past, we noticed that the jewelry table does well, so clear out that costume jewelry from your jewelry boxes. New and usable items are always welcome as well. We accept toys with all the parts and furniture that is still in good condition.

Please offer a few hours of your time to this good fundraiser for your church. All church members should be able to donate an hour or two to help. Remember that **All HELP** is greatly appreciated, and you can bring a friend or coworker, too. Come out and share this fellowship with other church members.

Thank you again.

VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED TO HELP WITH SET-UP, SALE & CLEAN-UP

Please mark your calendars now for the week of May 20–25.

Sale set-up: May 20 – 23.....5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sale: May 24.....8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

May 25.....8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Clean –up: May 25.....2:00 p.m. - ? (more hands make light work)

Please call Glynnis Jorgensen (914-804-5476) and let her know when you can help.

STEWARDSHIP

We've ended the first quarter of 2013. As many of you know Pastor Kingsley, Barbara, and I attended the Kaleidoscope Stewardship Conference in St. Louis from March 11-13. There were many workshops and we split up our time so we could attend as many as possible.

Stewardship is a year round process. We frequently think of Stewardship as giving a portion of our earned income to help complete God's work, but stewardship is giving of our time and talents, as well. The idea of being a complete giver was stressed at the conference. Everywhere that Jesus went he was giving to others; healing the sick, casting out demons, letting the little children partake in the events (the loaves and fishes), dining with tax collectors, washing the feet of the disciples, and countless other activities.

Our congregants have served hamburgers, French fries and corned beef sandwiches at the St. Patrick's Day Parade. This fundraising activity will help support those going to Nicaragua this year.

Others served chili to raise money for PresbyBuild which is in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. These funds recondition homes for worthy families who in turn help recondition homes for others.

Still others hid eggs, served pancakes, and helped parents take pictures of the children with the Easter Bunny at the Bunny Breakfast. The Deacons had their annual Palm Sunday breakfast which continued after the Palm Sunday service and became a Palm Sunday brunch. This was a delightful time for our church families and visitors to converse and enjoy great fellowship.

As always, we hosted the Community Dinner in January, February, and March and the Ecumenical Food Pantry distributed groceries to families in need. The Fellowship Hall and the John Knox Building were highly utilized over the first quarter of this year. Your stewardship dollar does more than pay for the utilities. They help families and individuals who gather at our facilities to put their lives back together or just to have fellowship.

We brought back many ideas from the conference and hope to implement some of them in the coming quarter. Look for changes and give us some feedback.

As always yours in Christ,

George Hankins Stewardship Chair

ROOF FUND

\$4,000 has been collected in the Roof Fund. We are halfway there! Thank you all for your support!

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2013

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 **348** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2013 is \$30.00**, which is a total of **\$10,440.00** 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.

Youth Group



We are interested in starting a Youth Group (YG) at FPC for middle school and high school students. Since this is new territory for us, we thought a good place to start would be to ask a lot of questions to see if there is enough interest to start one. So here goes...

Who are you?

Name of Family: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone : _____

What is/are the age(s) of your child/children that would be involved with the YG? _____

Are there any older children in your family that might be interested in getting involved as a YG Leader? _____

Are you interested in helping out with a YG? _____

What type of programs would you like to see our YG involved in? _____

What type of outings would you like to see the YG go on? _____

What days and time would best fit into your families' busy schedule? _____

Further thoughts, questions, concerns, or anything we didn't think to ask....

What is your vision for a Youth Group? _____

Thank you in advance for your input!

Sincerely,
Michele Meek and Linda Boardman

ATTENTION ALL PIE BAKERS!

Do you have the BEST pie in town?

***Enter one or more at this year's Great American Weekend
First Annual Pie Judging Contest***

***Great American Weekend will be on July 6 and 7
Held on the Square in Goshen, New York***

Fee for entering is \$10.00 per pie entry

***There will be two categories:
Best Fruit Pie and Best Non-Fruit Pie***

***1st place \$50.00 cash prize goes to the
Best Pie in each category***

2nd and 3rd place will receive ribbons

There will be three judges tasting all the wonderful pies.

***After the judging the remainder of the pies
will be sold by the piece.***

***If interested, please see the attached instructions and entry form and
submit as soon as possible.***

INSTRUCTIONS AND ENTRY FORM FOR PIE JUDGING CONTEST

- There will be two categories for the pies: fruit pie and non-fruit pie
- Must be homemade with fresh ingredients
- Should be at least a 9" pie
- Pies should be delivered to the tents in front of the church by 1:00 pm on Saturday July 6 and labeled with name, phone number, type of pie, and ingredients.
- Judging will take place at 1:30 pm and winner will be announced when complete. (You do not have to be present to win)
- There will be a \$50.00 cash prize for 1st place and Blue Ribbon in each category
- Ribbons will be presented for 2nd and 3rd place pies in each category
- There will be three judges
- Remainder of pies will be sold by the slice

Deadline for entry is June 15

Send in bottom portion of this flyer with your check made out to the

First Presbyterian Church

In memo please note

"Pie Judging GAW"

For more information, contact Grover vonPentz at 978-5153 or by email

hotshot63rdson@yahoo.com

Name _____ Phone # _____

Email address _____

Type of pie _____

Fruit _____ Non-Fruit _____

#of pie (s) @ \$10.00 each _____ Total amount enclosed _____

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO:

3	<i>Barbara Munhall</i>	15	<i>Evelyn Kromm</i>
5	<i>Haley Wilton</i>		<i>Barbara vonPentz</i>
6	<i>Matthew Csernai</i>	16	<i>Glynnis Jorgensen</i>
7	<i>Christine Hahn</i>	17	<i>Morgan Serkes</i>
	<i>Kaeli Varden</i>	19	<i>Mary Kate Dickover</i>
9	<i>Aaron Bush</i>	20	<i>Joan Butensky</i>
	<i>Scott Dickover</i>		<i>Bill Gruber</i>
	<i>Jack Meek</i>	21	<i>Analiese Boardman</i>
	<i>Erica Walsh</i>	22	<i>Doris Weinberger</i>
11	<i>Riley Grob</i>	23	<i>Paige Brooks</i>
12	<i>Joseph Gruber</i>	26	<i>George Hankins</i>
	<i>Charlie vonPentz</i>	28	<i>Brian Diglio</i>
13	<i>Kate Skyer</i>		<i>Susan Sitler</i>
14	<i>Ray Ruckdeschel</i>	30	<i>Kayla Fenner</i>
		31	<i>Jennifer Fitzpatrick</i>
			<i>Mary Kingsley</i>



HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

3	<i>Chuck and Lori Kilmer</i>
13	<i>Gregg and Jennifer Piller</i>
20	<i>Kevin and Christine Fenner</i>
21	<i>Michael and Tanya Hagopian</i>
22	<i>Ron and Kathy Alevras</i>
23	<i>Dave and Michele White</i>
28	<i>Dick and Cecile Ayres</i>
	<i>Brian and Danielle Diglio</i>
	<i>Mal and Sue Stewart</i>

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- *Lt. Cmdr. James D. Paffenroth who graduated from Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California on March 29, 2013. He received his Master's Degree of Science in Management. Jim is now stationed at Millington Naval Air Station in Tennessee.*
- *Jillian Grosso who was just promoted to the General Manager at Ted and Honey's Restaurant in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn, New York.*

NEW ADDRESS:

*Lt. Cmdr. James Paffenroth
5253 Ivy Creek Lane
Lakeland, TN 38002*

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:

*Loretta Richner
9230lmr@epbfi.com*



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
The Barron Family
Mary Lee and Ted Berry
Haley Buckley
Laura Colacci's father
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Bob Dennis
Everyone serving in the Military
Ben Fisher
Fran Genovese
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Rosemary Joy
Laura and Tom Kennedy
Mae Kratz
Grace, Frank and Fran Leva
Steven Longobardo
The Family of Melissa Martucci
Jeff Monroe
Eileen Myslinski
Nina and Jason
Ann Ott
Velma Peters
Tim Richardson
Tom Sawyer
Bryan Scott and Family
Megan Slasinski
Sue Stenson
Judy Thompson
Joe and Mark VanZandt
Wendy-Bynum Wade
The Weinberger Family
Orra and Dale Wood

Dedra Altizer
Emily Barry and Family
Gabriel Bittner
Sarah Burrows
Grace Cook
Shannon Decker
Joe Destefano
Evie and Family
Norm and Sharon Frelinger
The George Family
The Hartzel Family
Carolyn Keller's parents
Kim
Jeff Knox
Charles Li
Margaretta Macica
Andy Marussich
Lisa Montalbano and Family
Richard Nash
Amy (Thompson) Nguyen
Jim Paffenroth
The Family of Marina Peterson
Loretta Richner
Kevin Schuler
Dorothy Sevcik
Peggy Srirach
Bill and Jean Strong
George Tietz
Kenya VanZandt
Jean Wade
Jo Wolfe
Phyla Wright

Millie Augere
JoAnna Becerril
Brandy Bond
Mary Carr
Carol Coon
Mary Jane DeFreece
Sally Dorritie
Mary Lee Farris' sister
Gabby
Barbara and George Hankins
Audrey Howell
Bob and Barbara Kennedy
Roberta Kinnamon
Lyndsay Krutki
Robert Lobb
James Magee
Evelyn Mercado
Heather Mustavs
Toni Neidel and Family
Oretsky Family
Amy Pemberton
Ilona Reichl
Ted Sandstrom
Fred Schwarz
Sara Simas
The Smith Family
Shawn Thatcher
Kim Valentini and Family
Ashley Wade
Molly Wanat
Anne Wood's dad

(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

MAY UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

Thirteen new engraved pavers will be installed in the next month. To order a memorial paver for later this year to honor or remember a loved one, please see Pat in the church office. The cost of each paver is \$100.

Niches are Available for Purchase in the Memorial Columbarium

Fifteen niches remain available 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”

Why not lend a hand in helping to keep the church’s garden neat?

It takes only a couple minutes each month 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.

The MAY/ early JUNE schedule:

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

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.

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
Richard Paulus, Financial Secretary
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County