

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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May 2020

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

"Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!

All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!

Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!

Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!

Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

*"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" by Charles Wesley
Hymn 245, Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*

This hymn is one of my favorite hymns that we sing, and not only because we do not say "Alleluia" during the season of Lent and so I am parched for it by the time Easter finally arrives. No, I particularly relish the holy rebelliousness of this hymn. Now, you might not sense the rebellion at first glance. But look closely and you will spot it. I see it throughout each verse—the rebellion of goodness, of life, of praise against any power or force that might try and negate those holy things. "All creation join to say: Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia! Death in *vain* forbids him rise, Alleluia! Where, O death is now your sting, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!"

As I sing those verses in my head, I feel this rush of courage and hope fueled by God's promise that the brokenness we see and experience now all around us will not be forever. Rather, because of what we see revealed through Easter, we know the day is coming when all of creation will fully embody this hymn of praise in full and "Alleluias" will replace any weeping—and healing, any pain.

But until that day is all in all, we will keep singing this hymn with every ounce of holy rebelliousness we've got, declaring to our world that "though we may try and kill God's Love, we cannot keep it dead and buried." (my favorite William Sloane Coffin maxim)!

Pastor Kingsley



Music Notes

We've settled into a new (ab)normal. I'm wishing I had majored in film studies, with all my videos for the church and for NYU. In my heart, a fierce and healthy desire to get back to normal competes with a sense of heavy responsibility to help defeat the "invisible enemy." I'm beyond eager to return to my regular life--"champing at the bit" as they used to say, spelled with an "a"-- and chastened by the sharp remembrance of the fragility of life.

What's precious? Music, singing together, worshiping together, a living relationship with God, a living relationship with other people, a continued struggle to improve oneself and assist others, good food, safety, health, security. Students. Colleagues. Family. Friendships.

The American Guild of Organists has canceled its summer convention in Atlanta. I'd been so looking forward to my overnight train trip, in a sleeper car--a major item on my bucket list. That's now deferred...as is the workshop I was supposed to give.

On the bright side, I've gotten in touch with some societies in which I've been almost entirely inactive due to lack of time. There have been online cocktail parties, and there might even be a new club in my future. I'm never sure whether I'm a "joiner" or not. Right now, I am. Maybe this is the time when the truth comes out.

Musically, I miss the organ and am loath to drive to Goshen more than once a week. I have my piano and harpsichord, but mainly I am tethered to this computer. I am trying to see it as another musical instrument, as well as a glorified typewriter.

The choir might be trying an online performance sometime soon. Stay tuned, in every sense of the word. This will end and we will be back together. Happy Easter--all fifty days of it.

Pax, Jonathan

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

The FPG Nominating Committee is in the process of looking for Elders and Deacons for the class of 2023. If you would like to be considered or would like to submit a name for consideration please email, text or call Mark Glassé, Chairperson of the FPG Nominating Committee 2020. Submissions must be made by May 1, 2020. All submitted names will be considered by the committee. Please remember the following: the term is for three years, the Deacons meet on the first Sunday of each month, and the Elders meet for Session on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Elders also meet with their respective committees once a month.

Please prayerfully consider this responsibility.

Respectfully,

Mark Glasse

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TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO:

2	<i>Carol Gabella</i>	15	<i>Evelyn Kromm</i>
3	<i>Barbara Munhall</i>		<i>Barbara von Pentz</i>
5	<i>Mike Coyne</i>	17	<i>Morgan Serkes</i>
	<i>Kelsey Ellis</i>	19	<i>Mary Kate Dickover</i>
	<i>Haley Wilton</i>	20	<i>Bill Gruber</i>
6	<i>Matthew Csernai</i>	21	<i>Analiese Boardman</i>
7	<i>Christine Hahn</i>	26	<i>George Hankins</i>
9	<i>Scott Dickover</i>	28	<i>Jennifer Ellis</i>
	<i>Jack Meek</i>		<i>Susan Sitler</i>
	<i>Erica Walsh</i>		
12	<i>George Schust</i>		
	<i>Charlie von Pentz</i>		

HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

3	<i>Chuck and Lori Kilmer</i>
19	<i>Mark and Paty Glasse</i>
22	<i>Ron and Kathy Alevras</i>
27	<i>Donald and Ashley Dinsmore</i>
28	<i>Ginny and Ed Gallet</i>
	<i>Mal and Sue Stewart</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.*

PLEASE NOTE:

The church's email address has changed.

It is now fpgoshen@gmail.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:

Ron Alevras

Ann (Strong) Blake

Linda Clark's brother, Bill DeBlock

Jean and Bruce Crandall

James, Max, and Liam Feragola

Charles Fritz

Kevin and Sara Hankins

Rosemary Joy

Jeff Kott and Natalia

Grace Lanuti

Evelyn Mercado

Eileen Myslinski

Dave Paffenroth

Carlos and Miarose Reyes

Matt Skyer

Gary Smith

Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch

Lori Kilmer's mom, Learle VanEmburg

Kenneth Van Etten

Jerry Westphal

Orra Wood

Susan Ambrsino

Richard Brahs

Barbara Cody

Jon Dollar

Mary Lee Farris and her sister

Charlene Gooden

Carol Hoffman

Regina Kenny

Evelyn Kromm

Patricia Lawlor

Richard Montalbano

Amy (Thompson) Nguye

Josephine Pecoraro

Carolyn Reynolds

Mary Rita Schlagel

Louise Spencer

The Wade Family

Sue Whitson

Cheryl Zis

The Family of Sharlene Bischof

Calvary Presbyterian Church

Peter Coyne

Everyone serving in the Military

Judy Fazio

Barbara and George Hankins

Susan Johnson

Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy

Brenda Kujawski

Maggie and Quinn

Kevin Murphy

Owen

John and Mary Lee Redman

Karen Saleski

Eva Sickler

Sue Stewart

Christopher Tucker

Charles Velzy

Sam Wallis

Jo Wolfe

(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

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 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 MAY/early JUNE Steward's Schedule:

Bill Eustance	May 1 – May 15
Barbara and George Hankins	May 16 – May 31
Bill Eustance	June 1 – June 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:**

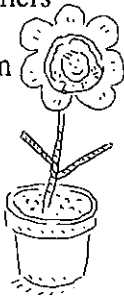
STAFF

**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**

photo Flower

You will need:

- ✿ colored construction paper
 - ✿ 2 green pipe cleaners
 - ✿ small flower pot
 - ✿ green florist foam (to fit in pot)
 - ✿ scissors
 - ✿ tape
 - ✿ glue
 - ✿ a photo of you!
- 
- A simple line drawing of a flower. The flower has five petals and a circular center. The center contains a small, smiling face with two eyes and a curved mouth. The flower is attached to a stem made of two pipe cleaners, which are crossed at the top and then spread out to form leaves. The flower is planted in a small, cylindrical pot filled with a textured material representing foam.




✿ Cut out your face from the photo. Make it a circle about 1-1/2" round.

- ✿ Fold a piece of colored paper in half and cut out 2 flower shapes.
- ✿ Glue your round photo in the center of one flower.
- ✿ Make a stem by folding a pipe cleaner in half and twisting it to make it stronger.
- ✿ Glue or tape the "stem" to the back of the flower that has your picture.
- ✿ Glue the other flower to the back of the first one. Make sure the "stem" is in between and sticks out from the bottom.
- ✿ Cut the other pipe cleaner in half to make leaves and then attach them to the "stem."
- ✿ Put the green foam in the pot.
- ✿ Plant your flower in the foam.
- ✿ Give the flower pot to someone you love.

Just for KIDS

Find the beautiful springtime words from Song of Solomon.
Use the flower code to fill in the blanks.

CODE



of
The
in
gone
are
season

“ ! ;

2 1 3 4 5

3 2 1 4 5 1

4 2 5 3 4

3 1 1 2 2 3

3 3 1 5 4

3 1 5 3

”

Answer: "See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."