

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924

Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Office Administrator

Telephone: (845) 294-7991; fax: (845) 615-1239

email: fpgoshen@gmail.com

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe5wix1p3S2GVIT6fXEnNwg>

November 2023



The recital series, begun on Tuesday, July 11 this year, is forging on ahead and is attracting new friends and increasing our visibility. Part of its success is due to longtime member Wendy Bynum-Wade to thank for so much support in the local press. Another part is the simple fact that if you have a glorious stone church and historic pipe organ...why don't you turn on the lights, open the doors, and see what happens?

This is the first time I've prepared weekly recitals on an ongoing basis, though I'm far from the first or last organist to do so. I have enjoyed the challenge and the fun! Above all, it's a joy to share our pipe organ with the community.

If you are interested in trying out the choir and/or handbells, please let me know as soon as you can. I'm always glad to talk to you. Both groups offer a great musical experience as well as an experience in church leadership. Music is essential to Christian worship, not an add-on or "frill." Come be part of it!

Also, if you play an instrument and would like to share, please let me know about that too!

I'm looking ahead to Advent and Christmas and can't wait to share these times with you again. Look for our well-loved Christmas carol sing-a-long on December 17...watch for the announcement soon.

In the meantime, let's look forward to a happy Thanksgiving and the glories of another autumn in the Hudson Valley.

Blessings,

Jonathan



Have you ever rung a handbell? Have you ever held one in your hands--felt its weight, admired its beautiful balance--seen its gleam?

A handbell is a beautiful object, and a pleasure to behold. But it's even nicer when you learn the basic trick of ringing one--the relaxed shoulder, gentle flexing of the elbow, quick snap of the wrist—and heard its pure tone ring out.

For many, it's "love at first ring." That's what it was for me, many years ago.

The basic technique of handbell ringing is easy to master, and it's also easy to add advanced techniques.

Here's a basic tutorial on YouTube. It's a little more than two minutes long. Why not watch it and see what you think?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_Gv0ZmkpHE

Blessings,
Jonathan

Midnight Run Rides Again **Save the Date**

Save your old coats and any other warm clothing that may get replaced this holiday season for you or member of your family. We have a Breakfast Run scheduled for Saturday, January 6 or January 13 and will begin seeking donations in November and December.

Coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, new packages of men's underwear (size L and XL) and socks are needed most. We will be taking inventory over the next few weeks and will come out with a more detailed list in December's *Tower Tie*.

At that time we will also be looking for pledges to donate specific food items for the lunch bags we take with us. We will need help sorting clothing donations as well as volunteers to drive to NYC and help with distribution of toiletries, clothing, and food. It's a great time for your teens to earn volunteer hours for school as well as develop a new perspective of how blessed we all are to live and/or worship in Goshen.

Bins or baskets will appear in the Narthex and office hallway in early November to make donating more convenient.

Thank you in advance for any help you can provide. Feel free to contact any of us with any questions you may have.

In the Lord's service,
Wendy Bynum-Wade
Arlete Shaeffer
Carol Gabella
Co-Coordinator/Midnight Run

Join the Fellowship Committee and make an Advent Wreath



Sunday, November 26, 2023 - during coffee hour, following church services

Approximately 10:45am

Cost: \$25 per family (one wreath per family)

Please bring a dish to share.

Reservations and payment due by November 12, 2023.

Contact Diane Church (774) 279-0470 or Carolyn Keller (845) 294-5508 with questions.

*Please consider donating a wreath to a member of our church family that are
not able to attend services.

Name _____

Number of wreaths: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Additional contribution for those less fortunate _____

Please make checks out The First Presbyterian Church of Goshen and write "advent wreath" in the memo field.
Please hand to Diane Church or Carolyn Keller, leave in the offertory plate, or leave with Pat in the office.

Prayer Chain

It is vital for any congregation to be in prayer for the church and for individuals affiliated with the church who have a need for God's intervention in some way. This is why churches such as ours have prayer chains. But the prayer requests must stay current if individuals are to be asked to pray for everyone on the list. We have changed the way we update the prayer chain. Once a request has been made for a member of the church, a friend, a neighbor, a family member, etc. to be met with prayer, that name will remain on the prayer chain list for 2 months. If you want continued prayers for another 2 months, please contact the church office to make that request. Use the church email address fpgoshen@gmail.com or phone the office with your request at 845-294-7991.



PRAYER CHAIN

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:

Trey Long – diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer that has metastasized to his liver
Bob Montalbano – quadruple bypass surgery on October 17
Ken Skyer – heart surgery on October 18.

Guest Preachers for November

November 5 – Lynn Costa

November 12 – Bill Powers

November 19 – Rev. Jeff Leininger

November 26 – Bill Powers

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

7	<i>Emma Glasse</i>	19	<i>Emma Boardman</i>
9	<i>Sara Hankins</i>		<i>Beth Laskoski</i>
	<i>Ashley Dinsmore</i>		<i>Julie Turi</i>
17	<i>Christine Person</i>	24	<i>Kathy Alevras</i>
	<i>Egidio Walsh</i>		<i>Amy Fontana</i>
		26	<i>Jon Hourahan</i>



HAPPY NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

4	<i>Rick and Sheila Heal</i>
8	<i>George and Barbara Schust</i>
11	<i>Craig and Arlete Shaeffer</i>
24	<i>John and Mary Lee Redman</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.*

Pastoral Care

While we are without a permanent pastor, John Redman will handle any pastoral care requests.

You can reach him at 914-474-0722.

Did you know that Session meetings are open to church members? If you are a member, you are welcome to attend regular meetings of the Session which are currently held in parlor on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m.

If you attend a Session meeting to express concern about a topic that is before the Session, please let the Clerk and the Moderator know of your desire to speak prior to the start of the meeting.

Financial Commitments

If you haven't made a financial commitment for 2023 but would like to support this congregation in fulfilling its work of worship, education, mission, outreach, care and fellowship, consider making a pledge using a commitment card found on the table in the Narthex or see Deb Hourahan.

Please Pay Your Per Capita Assessment For 2023

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 **206** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2023 is \$39.70**, which is a total of **\$8,178.20** 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. We ask that you pay this by February 1, 2023. Thanks for doing your share.

Electronic Giving Cards

There are giving cards for use during the offertory for those who give electronically each week/month/year. Your gifts are meaningful and necessary, and you should be able to participate in our weekly presentation of our offerings to the Lord.

Livestreaming Worship

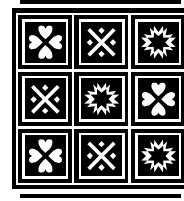
If you are unable to join us in person for worship, watch on our YouTube channel.
If you need help finding the Livestream, use the link on our Weekly Tower Tie.

Please Be Advised That We Do Live Stream Our Worship Services.

The Live Stream camera generally captures the first 4-5 (rarely 7-8) rows of the sanctuary in its feed. Normally we only see the back of your head. If you would rather stay out of camera range, please know that we do not capture the seating under the balcony (on either side) and we don't capture the back rows at all. Regarding the Children's Message: We keep the camera zoomed out. As children leave to go to Sunday school, we will pan up to the stained glass windows so no children's faces are caught on camera.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour will continue on Sundays after the worship service during the summer. Coffee hour hosts are needed. Please contact Diane Church at dianeschurch@gmail.com or (845) 294-5398 if you would be willing to host one week. There is also a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. **The last Sunday of each month we are asking the congregation to host coffee hour. Please bring something to share on that Sunday.**



What are you doing on Saturday, November 18, 2023?

If you said, **“NOTHING!”** or **“Sitting by the phone hoping someone calls and asks me to do something with them,”** then you’re the person we’re looking for.

That’s the day of our annual, decades long, traditional Holiday Fair from 9 am to 3 pm.

If you just thought to yourself, **“Oh yeah, I’ve always enjoyed going to that; shopping for early Christmas presents, looking at the beautiful quilts, visiting the other churches along the trail,”** then how about adding one more thought to that list. **“I wonder how I can help in some small way. After all, I’m going there anyway.”**

Hey that’s a great idea.

There’s so many ways for you to help, even if you’re busy that day.

First, we need people to make goodies for our church to sell. Soups, cookies, cakes...you know the drill.

Second, we need people to man our table. You don’t need to be there long or a man (man our table is just an expression).

If you can only give 30 minutes, we can use you. The only qualifications are that you are able to stand or sit and stay awake for most of it Narcoleptics need not apply.

Third, there’s cleanup at the end of the event. This actually goes quickly, but the more people the better.

I know some of you reading this are very disappointed. You’re the ones thinking, **“Gee, I have no skills what-so-ever when it comes to baking or cooking AND although I’m capable of standing or sitting by a table for 30 minutes or more, I won’t be around on Saturday, November 18, 2023.”**

Well, I’m here to tell you, **“THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY!!!!”** The fun starts way before Saturday. We have to set up for the Holiday Fair and the Quilt Show BEFORE SATURDAY. Just call and we’ll try to find a way to work with your schedule.

Who do I call? The usual suspects...Carolyn Keller at 845-294-5508 or Pat at the church office at 845-294-7991.

Anything else you need to know? Ummm? OH YES! Think how guilty you’ll feel if you show up but didn’t help for even 30 minutes. That could take a lot of the joy out of shopping. Maybe on Christmas day when you hand that present over to your loved one, you’ll be reminded of your shame and who wants to feel rotten even for a few minutes on that wonderful day. So yeah, help save your Christmas by joining in the free fun attainable here at your church on November 18th.

No animals were hurt while writing this, but one cat was very annoying and came close to being tossed out of the room.



Calling All Quilters and Owners of Quilts The Quilt Show Is Back!

Saturday, November 18, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We will be in the Sanctuary during the Craft Fair on November 18. Please share your quilts with us for the day.

Drop them off in the Sanctuary on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. when we will lay them out across the pews with our white glove on (Thank you, Deacons, for your assistance).

They will be safe and we don't permit visitors to touch them. We realize some are very old family pieces or that you worked very hard on them yourself.

You can pick them up on Saturday afternoon from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

We also display some framed embroideries and various other handiwork, so consider sharing some of those as well. We hope to see you Friday night, November 17!

Kathy Alevras and BA Long

POINSETTIAS to adorn our Sanctuary ORDERING DEADLINE DECEMBER

In honor of the birth of our Savior and in celebration of this glorious season, please consider helping us to decorate our Sanctuary with beautiful red, white, pink, and marbled poinsettias. They will be placed in the church for Saturday, Christmas Eve. One may take them home after the Christmas Service on Sunday.

Kindly consider ordering a plant in honor of or in memory of a special person(s) or loved ones, or simply to the Glory of God and in celebration of Christ's birth. **THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3. All orders must be accompanied with a check.** Please complete the form below and submit with your payment of \$15.50 per plant made payable to the **First Presbyterian Church in Goshen** (put **Poinsettias** in the memo). You may send in your order, drop it off to the office Mon.-Thurs. 9-12:45 or, put into collection plate on Sunday.

Thank you for helping us honor Christmas with festive flowers!

Yes, I would like to order Christmas poinsettias for the Sanctuary as follows:

Quantity **Color**

_____ **Red**

_____ **White**

_____ **Pink**

_____ **Marbled**

_____ **Total @ \$15.50 each = \$_____ due**



Please make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church in Goshen (put **Poinsettia** in the memo)

Given by: _____

*(Kindly **PRINT** as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.)*

To the Glory of God and:

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In celebration of: _____

To honor the birth of Jesus Christ: _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



NOVEMBER UPDATE

Break out your favorite sweater and spend a few moments meditating in your garden.

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.

The Memorial Columbarium

All niches in the memorial columbarium wall are sold. The congregation will need to consider if constructing a second/third wall is desired and/or financially possible. If it is, a new, current estimate for the work will need to be created, considered, approved and work coordinated.

“Stewards of Our Garden”

Special thanks to our dedicated Stewards who work hard to keep our garden beautiful!

The NOVEMBER and early DECEMBER Steward’s Schedule:

Bill Eustance	November 1 – November 15
Barbara and George Hankins	November 16 – November 30
Nancy Buckley	December 1 – December 15

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

If you’d like to help maintain our garden, just see Pat in the church office to sign-up and be added to our Steward’s schedule.

Call the church office (845-294-7991) for any information you need about
The Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We strive to be a welcoming, loving church family united by our faith and committed to service in Christ.

BOARD OF ELDERS

Class of 2024

**Marlene Gaynor
George Hankins
Bill Powers
Mal Stewart**

Class of 2025

**Diane Church
Jody Kopec
Felicia Van Doran**

Class of 2026

**Jennifer Ellis
Michael Coyne
Jon Hourahan
Kevan Ottochian**

Clerk of Session: Felicia Van Doran

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2024

**Allison Csernai
Patrick Ellis
Bill Keller
Barbara Schust
George Schust**

Class of 2025

**Cecile Ayres
Michael Csernai
Carol Gabella
Jennifer Serkes**

Class of 2026

**Diana Bowe
Carolyn Keller
Cheryl Zis
Sam Fontana**

Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller

STAFF

**Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Office Administrator
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer
William Kozireski, Church Sexton**



Visit all 4 Fairs to be entered to win one of 4 prizes: \$100 in Gift Cards. Here's how:

1. Pick up a Fair Passport (available at each fair).
2. Visit fairs in any order. Get your Passport stamped at each fair.
3. Turn in your Passport with four stamps at the last fair you attend.

No purchase necessary. Winners will be drawn from the pool of passports.

Saturday, November 18, 2023



Christmas Fair ~ 10 AM to 3 PM

St. James Episcopal Church 1 St. James Place Goshen, NY 10924

845-294-6225 saintjamesgoshen.org

Treasures at amazing prices! Raffle Baskets! Homemade Luncheon!
Book Sale! Photos with Santa! Grab the kids and come on over!



Holiday Fair ~ 9 AM to 3 PM

First Presbyterian Church 33 Park Place Goshen, NY 10924

845-294-7991 fpgoshen.org

Start your holiday shopping with selections of Handmade Items from local vendors! Enjoy our wonderful Quilt Show! Bring your family and friends!



Holiday Fair ~ 9 AM to 3 PM

Grace Episcopal Church 12 Depot Street Middletown, NY 10940

845-343-6101 gracechurchmiddletown.org

More than just another craft fair! Vendors, Gift Baskets, Raffle Prizes,
Fish & Chips (11:30 AM to 1:30 PM), Bake Sale and More!



Holiday Bazaar ~ 9 AM to 3 PM

United Presbyterian Church 25 Orchard Street Middletown, NY 10940

845-343-2131 unitedpresby.com

Visit us to pick up delicious Holiday Baked Goods and shop a wide variety of Holiday Decorations, Jewelry, Household and Boutique items.










THE KID'S PAGE

Give thanks with music

Music is one way to give thanks to God.

Make these instruments to accompany your singing.

You will need:

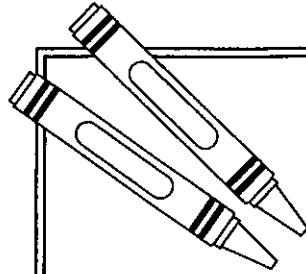
-  3 small coffee cans with lids
-  1/2 cup dry, uncooked pinto beans
-  1/2 cup uncooked popcorn
-  1/2 cup uncooked rice
-  heavy-duty tape
-  construction paper
-  glue
-  scissors
-  markers

How to make the instruments:

Put the beans in one can, the popcorn in another and the rice in the third can. Put the lids on and tape them securely around the rim. Cover the outside of the cans with construction paper, and glue in place. Decorate the cans with markers or crayons.

How to play:

Shake the cans while you sing your favorite songs!



Just for **KIDS**

David's Psalm of Thanks

Find what David said. Match the words in the list to the word shapes.

1 Chronicles 16:8

what	call	thanks	known	to
Give	among	the	the	Lord
he	on	nations	his	has
done	name	make		

Give thanks
 to the Lord,
 call on his name;
 make known among
 the nations what
 he has done.

Answer: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	10am - GAPNS @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ B	Halloween 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 10am - GAPNS @ FH 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B	First Day of American Indian 4pm - la Dia Muerte @ S 4:30pm - Mission Committee @ P 6:30pm - NA @ B	4pm - la Dia Muerte @ S 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P 7:30pm - NA @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - Friday Night Friends @ FH	4:30pm - Diva Dance @ FH
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Daylight Saving Time ends 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	Election Day 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 6:30pm - Outreach/Fellowship @ 7:30pm - PNC @ B	7:30pm - Finance Committee @ P	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	Veterans Day (substitute) 12:30pm - NA @ B	Veterans Day 9am - Food Pantry @ FH
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH 10:30am - Deacon's Mtg. @ B	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B	7pm - Session @ P	6pm - Food Pantry @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	Set-up for Craft Fair 12:30pm - NA @ B	9am - Craft Fair @ FH, B 9am - Quilt Show @ S
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Tower Tie Articles Due 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B		Thanksgiving Day	Native American Heritage Day 12:30pm - NA @ B	
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B		6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	12:30pm - NA @ B	