

# 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, Church Secretary

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

email: [fpgoshen@gmail.com](mailto:fpgoshen@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.fpgoshen.org](http://www.fpgoshen.org)

October 2020

## *NEWS FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE ....*

We'd like to give all of you a quick update from the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC).

Many of you may be unaware of the process behind finding a new pastor in a Presbyterian church, so here's a quick summary. In many faith traditions, when you need a pastor or priest you call the head office and they send you one. In the Presbyterian Church, the Session hires a pastor with advice and supervision of Presbytery. The church advertises the position to candidates that are Presbyterian ministers with the proper education, training and experience. Interested applicants apply and are interviewed. Eventually, with the help of Presbytery, a selection is made and a call is placed.

You also may be unfamiliar with the concept of an Interim Pastor. In the Presbyterian Church, when a pastor leaves, we call an interim for a short period of time, generally about 2 years. This gives the church time for a full mission study to prayerfully consider its mission and purpose in the community and then spend an appropriate amount of time looking for the best possible minister to fulfill that mission.

When Pastor Kinsley retired the Session took immediate action, creating the IPNC to start the process. The committee consists of Session members, Deacons and members of the congregation. The IPNC is chaired by Linda Boardman and has BA Long, Kevan Ottochian, Patty Glasse, Margaret Dickover, and Ken Phelan as members. Judy Anderson, the current pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Florida serves on the committee as an advisor from Presbytery.

The IPNC has been meeting weekly to get an Interim Pastor as quickly as possible. In order to do this they are working on the following items:

- An introduction to our church
- A review of our mission and where we see ourselves going
- The role of an interim minister in that process
- The qualities we would need a successful interim pastor to possess
- A job description and rough compensation guidelines

Luckily for the IPNC many of the items have already been created. A leadership retreat held a year and half ago for Sessions and Deacons provided great information about our mission and direction, for example.

Once the proper paperwork is assembled it needs to be reviewed and approved by Session and then the Presbytery. After that we can post the position and begin reviewing candidates. We hope to be in that stage in October.

We want to thank the congregation for its support and ask for continued prayers. If you think of it, every Tuesday at 7:30pm, say a quick prayer for us. We'll be doing the best we can to take the next step on First Presbyterian Church in Goshen's journey.

Thanks,

The IPNC



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN GOSHEN

33 PARK PLACE, GOSHEN, NY 10924

(845) 294-7991 • FAX (845) 615-1239

EMAIL: [FPGOSHEN@FRONTIERNET.NET](mailto:FPGOSHEN@FRONTIERNET.NET)

### COVID Reopening Plan

September 22, 2020

*The Session has approved the following plan to reopen the church for in-person worship and is now taking the necessary steps to resume indoor worship on or after October 4. However, we will continue to hold outdoor worship services by default for as long as possible, weather permitting. Please read the following plan carefully so that we are able to gather safely at that time and direct any questions to [fpgoshen@gmail.com](mailto:fpgoshen@gmail.com) for follow-up by a Session elder.*

#### **Background:**

As we move forward to the day that the threat of COVID-19 is reduced and/or removed, church leadership has prepared reopening plans to ensure that the needs of our congregants and community are met. As of this writing, our church gatherings are slowly moving forward to the day when we can fully worship together in our sanctuary with safety and peace of mind. This reopening plan is required by New York State Order. The plan outlines the steps and requirements needed to reopen our church per NYS and CDC rules and guidelines. It cannot cover all incidences that may occur and will be considered a living document that will be updated as information and best practices become available. At this time, the church is pursuing what would be considered a soft opening. We have started in small increments (outside services) and will continue to open to our fullest extent based on best available information and NYS rules. We ask that you be patient with the Session as we navigate through these uncharted waters. As with all of us, Session members have not had experience dealing with a pandemic. We will however endeavor to fulfill the needs of the people of this church with God's Blessing.

#### **Social Distancing:**

- In-person presence of staff will be limited to only those employees or volunteers required to perform minimum safe functions.
- All people (members, employees, visitors, and volunteers) are required to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other people. There are few exceptions to this.

- Masks are to be worn at all times inside the church buildings and must be worn outside if a minimum distance of 6 feet cannot be maintained. This is per NYS order. Please be considerate of your family, friends and neighbors. The only exception to this is the pastor and lay reader while speaking. The church will provide masks and/or gloves only as required.
- Seating will be modified so only family members can be seated together. All other groups and individuals will be staggered in the pews to provide 6 feet of separation.
- Please do not converse with other people while in the church building.
- The passing of the peace, holding or shaking hands of members of different households and other physical contact during services is not permitted at this time.
- The church will remove all hymnals, Bibles and paperwork from the pews.
- The church will remove most paperwork from tables in the narthex and the foyer for Fellowship Hall. Items such as the Tower Tie will be available for people who can't print their own.
- Bulletins will be limited. Church members will be asked to print their own if possible. Receptacles for the disposal of all used paperwork will be provided.
- All people will be asked to limit touching of pulpits, podiums, seating, doors, railings, and other shared surfaces.
- All people will be asked/reminded to use hand sanitizer on a frequent basis while inside our church buildings. Hand sanitizer will be available and conveniently located.
- Baskets/Plates will be provided at the front and rear of the church for collections/donations.
- Communion will be by "demonstration" at the worship leader's discretion until further notice. No shared or passed communion.

### Size Gathering:

- Gathering must be limited to 25% of maximum capacity.
  - The **Sanctuary** has a capacity of 400. Therefore 100 people are the maximum that can be seated. This includes the pastor, musicians, deacons, etc.
  - **Fellowship Hall** has a capacity of 225 persons. Therefore 56 people can be in the room at a time. This includes the kitchen area.
  - The **Bradner Room** has a capacity of 40 people. Therefore 10 people can be in the room at a time.
  - The **Parlor** should have no more than 6 people at a time.
  - The **Church Office** should have no more than 2 people at a time.
  - All other meeting rooms shall be closed at this time. (The Christian Education Committee will determine what will be needed to support Sunday School, etc. Use of the smaller rooms will be dependent on their recommendations.)
  - Only the Sanctuary and the Office will be open until further notice. The other above rooms will be used by permission on a case by case basis.
- The rooms must each have a plan posted in the room to show how the maximum amount of people can be supported.
- A contingency plan must be posted to deal with overflow.
- The Session, at its discretion, will decide if outdoor services or alternate multiple services will be provided based on the number of people.
- The church will continue to provide online services.

### Housekeeping:

- Designated people will collect the collections/donations from the baskets at the rear and front of the church with gloves on. The collections/donations will be placed in plastic, dated, and stored in the safe for a 4-day period or as required before being handled/counted.
- Normal cleaning of the church will be performed on the Saturday following the Sunday Service. All high frequency items such as door knobs will be routinely cleaned with appropriate anti-viral cleaning agents.

- When other rooms have been opened for group use, all rooms are to be cleaned with appropriate anti-viral cleaning agents immediately following the use of the room by the designated user group. A sign off sheet will be posted. The sign off sheet will include the date and times of the meeting, the date and time of cleaning provided after the meeting concludes and the person authorized and trained to perform cleaning.
- Restroom use is discouraged, but in the event it is necessary, signage will provide instruction for users to wipe down toilet seats, handles, sinks and faucet handles and door knobs after use and before leaving the room. Wipes will be provided, along with hand sanitizer.
- This plan will be posted in large format at all entrances, in addition to distributed to all those on our mailing lists to prepare people using our buildings of what to expect when they return to our buildings.
- Air handling units in the Sanctuary have been equipped with MERV-13 filters, designed to prevent aerosol droplets from being recirculated in the air. Such filters will be changed as per manufacturer's specified schedules. The air handling units in the narthex and the office area have been equipped with MERV-11 filters. MERV-11 filters are slightly less effective than MERV-13 filters. Using MERV-13 filters in these two units is considered to be detrimental for the operation of this equipment.

### **Entrances & Exits:**

- Enter the building for worship service at the front of the building through the main doors leading into the narthex. Those who need handicapped access may enter through the doors at the side of the building leading into the John Knox Building.
- Those seated in the front of the sanctuary should exit to the side and use the John Knox Building doors. Those seated in the rear of the church should exit out the front of the building.
- Signs for traffic direction and spacing will be posted in the sanctuary to reduce bi-directional foot traffic.
- Deacons or other designees shall log all persons by name, address, and phone number to allow for contact tracing by the local Health Department if a contact tracing issue arises.
- Conspicuous signs will be posted at all entrances stating the following:
  - Due to COVID-19 concerns all people entering the building are at Their Own Risk in the event of a COVID-19 spreading event.
  - Do Not enter the building if you are not feeling well. The following symptoms may be caused by COVID-19:
    - Fever
    - Persistent Cough
    - Discomfort or Tightness in the chest
    - Muscle Aches/Pains
    - General "Flu-Type" Symptoms
  - Do Not enter the church if you have been in a State that is listed by NYS as a "restricted" State or Country. You must self-quarantine for 14 days and be free of any symptoms after arriving from one of these "restricted" States or Countries.
  - Do Not enter if to your knowledge you had Close Contact\* within the past 14 days with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
  - \*Close Contact is defined as having cared for, having lived with, or having close physical contact with someone known to have been diagnosed with the coronavirus/COVID-19 (Including contact by having taken the same plane, train, automobile, etc).
- The outside door leading to the office hallway will be locked to prevent entering on Sundays. As always the door can be used for emergency exit.
- All congregants are expected to maintain a 6 foot social distance when entering and exiting the worship service. Masks are to be worn at all times.
- All doors are to be open during peak periods when people enter and exit the building to minimize the touching of door handles.
- The outside door leading into the hallway and the church office will be locked at all times during the week. Those with business to conduct in the office should call the church secretary prior to arrival (845-294-7991) at the phone number posted on the door, in order to be let in.

## Choirs and Singing:

- After significant discussion and research, as of this writing, neither singing, nor the playing of woodwind and brass instruments, will be allowed indoors. Congregants are asked not to sing even with a mask on while indoors. We are aware that singing from our hymnals and listening to our choir are cherished parts of our worship service, however singing is considered one of the highest prevalent modes of the spread of COVID-19 per the CDC. The CDC does not recommend singing under any conditions at this time. The Session and the Worship and Music Committee will continue to think outside the box in order to fulfill the need for music during our services.

## Outside Organizations and Groups:

- As of this writing no outside groups will use the facilities with the following exceptions:
  - Goshen Ecumenical Food Pantry – The food pantry will continue to store and distribute food as required. The Food Pantry will have to abide by the rules of this document. The Food Pantry is expected to deep clean any areas that it uses after all gatherings and/or distributions. The Food Pantry will distribute out the entrance and/or Main Street side doors to the Knox Building.
  - GAPNS – The Goshen Area Parent's Nursery School uses an isolated part of the church facilities with its own entrance and is expected to follow all NYS and CDC guidelines and have a reopening plan of their own that they will adhere to.
- All future use of the facility by outside organizations and groups will be authorized by Session after discussion on a case by case basis. The primary concern of Session is for the safety and well being of the Congregants of the church at this time.

Sincerely,  
The First Presbyterian Church in Goshen Session

\*\*\*\*\*



### Music Notes

Join us next Sunday, September 27, at 2 PM on the front lawn of the church for a free concert! Weather permitting, your very own Powers and Hall Duo will entertain and delight with their usual variety of music for woodwinds and keyboards. Bring a chair and/or blankets and stay safe, of course!

Sunday worship is slowly coming back to life, at least so far, and online worship continues to receive very positive reviews from many who appreciate it. What the future holds we don't know, but we travel forward in faith. I think of the Israelites in the desert, looking for their promised land for forty years. Somehow I think our wandering will be shorter than that.

All programming is on hold, including Halloween and Christmas caroling, but we are talking about creative and health-compliant alternatives. What we're never going to do is give up.

Hope to see you all again soon!

Jonathan

## TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

### **HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS TO:**



1	<i>Dom Fontana</i>	20	<i>Diane Church</i>
3	<i>Stephen Van Doran</i>		<i>Teresa von Pentz</i>
4	<i>Brendan Donohue</i>	24	<i>Carl Johnson</i>
	<i>Sheila Heal</i>		<i>Nancy Buckley</i>
7	<i>Anna Boese</i>		<i>Susan Whitson (Paffenroth)</i>
	<i>Margaret Dickover</i>	25	<i>Taylor Panebianco</i>
9	<i>Fred Smith</i>	28	<i>Rob Person</i>
12	<i>Mitch Weintraub</i>	29	<i>Loretta Gould (Richner)</i>
14	<i>Sarah McDowell</i>	30	<i>Wendy Donohue</i>
16	<i>Diane George</i>		
	<i>Karen Bende</i>		

### **HAPPY OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:**

2	<i>Mark and Christine Hahn</i>
3	<i>Wayne and Diane George</i>
4	<i>Rob and Nancy Warner</i>
8	<i>Alan and Elizabeth Sproul</i>
10	<i>Adam and Sue Whitson</i>
13	<i>John and Maryellen Bruno</i>
	<i>Kyle and Amber VanGrol</i>
17	<i>Dave and Wendy Paffenroth</i>
19	<i>Bob and Lisa Montalbano</i>
21	<i>Cliff and Darlene Bartley</i>
22	<i>Carl and Elfriede Johnson</i>
	<i>Richard and Robin Paulus</i>
23	<i>Dom and Amy Fontana</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.***



## **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  
Robert Clooney  
Jean and Bruce Crandall  
James, Max, and Liam Feragola  
Charles Fritz  
Barbara and George Hankins  
Rosemary Joy  
Jeff Kott and Natalia  
Patricia Lawlor  
Evelyn Mercado  
Eileen Myslinski  
Owen  
Carlos and Miarose Reyes  
Tom Sawyer  
Eva Sickler  
Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch  
Lori Kilmer's mom, Learle VanEmburg  
Kenneth Van Etten  
Jo Wolfe

Susan Ambrsino  
Richard Brahs  
Barbara Cody  
Dori Dodson  
Mary Lee Farris and her sister  
Carol Gabella's nephew, Frank  
Kevin and Sara Hankins  
Regina Kenny  
Brenda Kujawski  
Maggie and Quinn  
Richard Montalbano  
Amy (Thompson) Nguye  
Dave and Wendy Paffenroth  
Carolyn Reynolds  
Matt Skyer  
Gary Smith  
Sam Wallis  
Orra Wood

Janet Begnoche  
Linda Clark's brother, Bill DeBlock  
Peter Coyne  
Everyone serving in the Military  
Judy Fazio  
Charlene Gooden  
Susan Johnson  
Mary Kopeck's cousin, Cathy  
Maria Kurt  
Jim Magee  
Kevin Murphy  
The Family of Eric Ottochian  
Josephine Pecoraro  
Karen Saleski  
Mary Rita Schlagel  
Louise Spencer  
Christopher Tucker  
Charles Velzy  
Jerry Westphal

***(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.)***

## **WORSHIP SERVICES**

Worship services will continue on the lawn, while weather permits. We hope you can join us in Church Park at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. Bring your own lawn chair and sit with us out in the sunshine or under the shade trees. We ask that you continue to wear face masks and that you observe social distancing.

We also provide worship services on "YouTube" that have been pre-recorded earlier in the week. These services can be accessed at 9:30 a.m. Sundays and then throughout the week. If you've missed earlier services, you can still find them on "YouTube."

The October worship schedule includes:

- October 4: John Redman, Commissioned Ruling Elder
- October 11: Lynn Costa, Commissioned Ruling Elder
- October 18: Edgar Hayes, Commissioned Ruling Elder
- October 25: Betsy Bostwick, Commissioned Ruling Elder





## Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

### OCTOBER UPDATE

---

The Meditation Garden is here for us all. Enjoy its tranquil beauty and serenity in the fall. Please visit your 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<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 OCTOBER/early NOVEMBER Steward's Schedule:**

Bill Eustance	October 1 – October 15
Barbara and George Hankins	October 16 – October 31
Bill Eustance	November 1 – November 15

---

#### **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!**

***As fall arrives (and the leaves start falling), 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 2021**

**Mark Glassé  
Bill Hodges  
Lori Kilmer  
Ken Phelan  
John Redman  
Scott Roper**

### **Class of 2022**

**Linda Boardman  
Geri Corey  
William Eustance  
Deb Hourahan  
Brad McLeland  
Brian Meek  
Rob Person**

### **Class of 2023**

**Nancy Buckley  
Jennifer Ellis  
Kevan Ottochian  
Kenneth Skyer  
Sue Varden**

**Clerk of Session: Sue Varden**

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

### **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**

### **Class of 2023**

**Diana Bowe  
Jane Geyer  
Gina Gruber  
Carolyn Keller  
Mary Kopec  
Jonathan Laskoski  
Cheryl Zis**

**Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller**

## **STAFF**

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

# THE KID'S PAGE

Make a  
"harvest treat!"

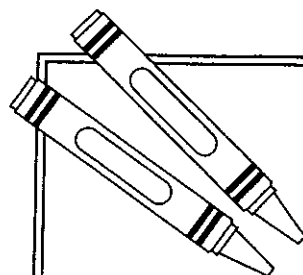
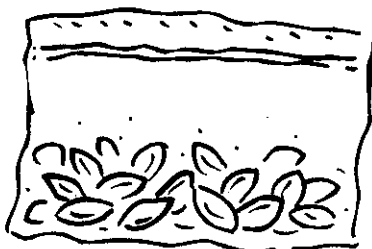
## Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

### You will need:

- 4½ cups raw pumpkin seeds
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- clear sandwich bags

### How to:

- Rinse pulp & strings from seeds. Drain.
- Mix seeds, oil & salt in a bowl.
- Spread on a cookie sheet lined with waxed paper.
- Let stand for 24-48 hours, or until dry. Stir once in a while.
- Remove waxed paper and toast seeds in the oven for 40 minutes at 325°. Stir once or twice.
- Drain seeds on paper towel.
- Store in plastic bags for a great treat!



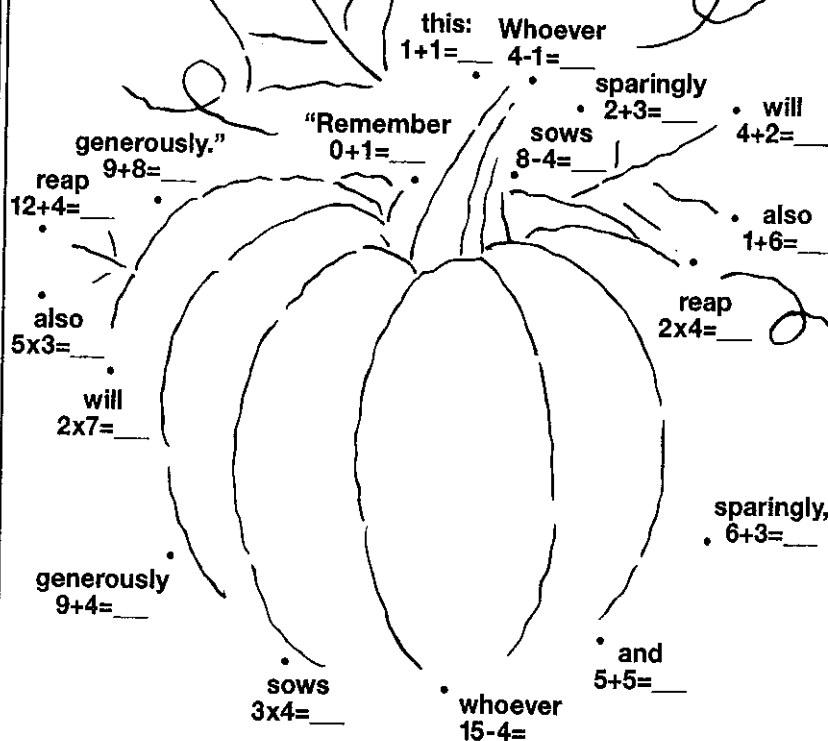
Just for

# KIDS

## Giving and Sharing

God gives generously to us. He wants you to do the same for others. The more you give, the more you receive!

Complete each math problem,  
then connect the dots in order.  
Find 2 Corinthians 9:6.



"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

[KID1099A.TIF]

[KID1099B.TIF]