THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924

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

Livestream: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe5wix1p382GVIT6fXEnNwg

October 2023



The organ recital series began on July 11 and has continued since then. So far, it has been a success, with a steady and solid attendance and very good feedback.

The Lord said that a city on a hill cannot be hidden...that no one lights a lamp and puts it under a bushel (Matt. 5:14-15). Isn't a pipe organ in a similar situation? How

do you hide the largest and loudest musical instrument in the world?

In other words, shouldn't we be sharing this great instrument that we have now restored with so much care and love...and so many contributions? Why not make it an instrument of community? An instrument of *peace*? "Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace." Amen!

I'm always delighted to see members and old friends of the church attend the recitals, but there is also a wonderful, steady group of new friends...non members. This shows, I think, that music speaks directly to the human spirit, and can bring people together without judgment or conflict. I hope I can keep the focus on that.

The organ project still isn't finished. Austin is reliable and respected, but there are apparently serious labor issues for the Hartford-based company. Our final items are, I am told, done and ready to transport and install. I am concerned, as we all are, that this happen soon. I am in regular contact with the company and will see this through.

At the service on September 17, George Hankins gave a magnificent testimony about his love of the choir at First. I was touched beyond words. Please take his advice to heart and consider joining us!

I'm reading *Singing the Faith* by Carl Schalk, a distinguished Lutheran sacred musician. Subtitled "A Short Introduction to Christian Hymnody," it covers the proverbial waterfront from the Book of Psalms to the recent "hymn explosion" of the last decades. It doesn't address contemporary music *per se*—this involves different cultural assumptions, forms, genres, and instruments—but it is, so far at least, an excellent summary and introduction of what, for most of us, constitutes the enduring foundation of Christian musical expression.

I'll have more to say when I'm finished!

At the end of October, I will remember forty years since my father died—too young. I have always been his "spitting image," and this makes me happier the older I get. Sometimes, when I walk down

the office hallway at church and see myself in that antique mirror, I am actually startled by the resemblance. "Honor thy father and mother" isn't just a commandment, it's also *thy* destiny.

Blessings,

Jonathan

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

<u>The following members or friends are going through a time in which they have asked</u> <u>for prayer by the church. Please keep the following people in your prayers:</u>

Mitch Weintraub's brother, Keith Lorraine – recovering from brain cancer Trey Long – diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer that has metastasized to his liver Christian Valentine (friend of Ken Skyer) Ken Skyer

Supply Ministers for October

- October 1 Lynn Costa
- October 8 Bill Powers
- October 15 Bill Powers
- October 22 Jody Kopec
- October 29 Jody Kopec



First Presbyterian Church Yard Sale is Back!

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Saturday, October 28, 2023, 9am – 2pm; setup 8 am

(No Rain Date)

Bring your items to sell, we will do the advertising!

Cost of 12' x 12' space is \$30 + \$30 deposit

Deposit to be refunded when your space is cleaned (please provide a separate check)

Limit 2 tables per space

Tables are available to rent at \$10.00 each

Please return the completed form to First Presbyterian Church of Goshen,

33 Park Place, Goshen 10924

Deadline to Register is October 15, 2023

Name	
Address	
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Phone	
Phone	
Email Address	
# of spaces at \$30 each	
#of tables at \$10 each	
Deposit	\$30.00 (refundable)
Total	\$
	т

Please write checks to The First Presbyterian Church. Please write a separate check for \$30 for the deposit/clean up. It will be returned at the end of the day once your area is cleaned.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

- Dom Fontana 1
- Brendan Donohue 4 Sheila Heal
- Anna Boese 7 Margaret Dickover
- Mitch Weintraub 12
- Diane George 16 Karen Bende

- Diane Church 20 Teresa von Pentz
- Carl Johnson 24 Nancy Buckley Susan Whitson (Paffenroth)
 - Taylor Panebianco
- 25 Rob Person
- 28
- Wendy Donohue 30

HAPPY OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

- Wayne and Diane George 3
- Rob and Nancy Warner 4
- Alan and Elizabeth Sproul 8
- Adam and Sue (Paffenroth) Whitson 10
- John and Maryellen Bruno 13
- Dave and Wendy Paffenroth 17
- Carl and Elfriede Johnson 22 **Richard and Robin Paulus**
- Dom and Amy Fontana 23

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 <u>dianeschurch@gmail.com</u> 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.** Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

OCTOBER UPDATE



This time of the year is especially inviting at the 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 OCTOBER and early NOVEMBER Steward's Schedule:

Barbara and George Hankins October 1 – October 15 October 16 – October 31

Nancy Buckley

Bill Eustance

November 1 – November 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

Class of 2025

Class of 2026

Marlene Gaynor George Hankins Bill Powers Mal Stewart Diane Church Jody Kopec Scott Roper Felicia Van Doran 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

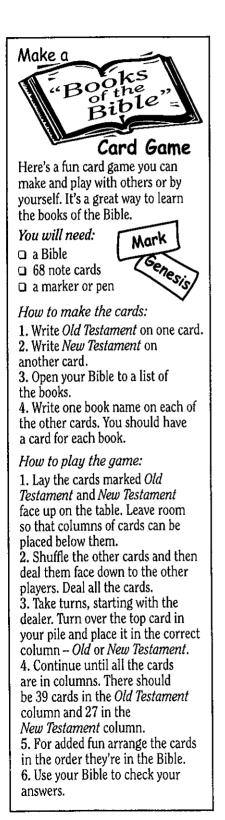
Moderator of Deacons:

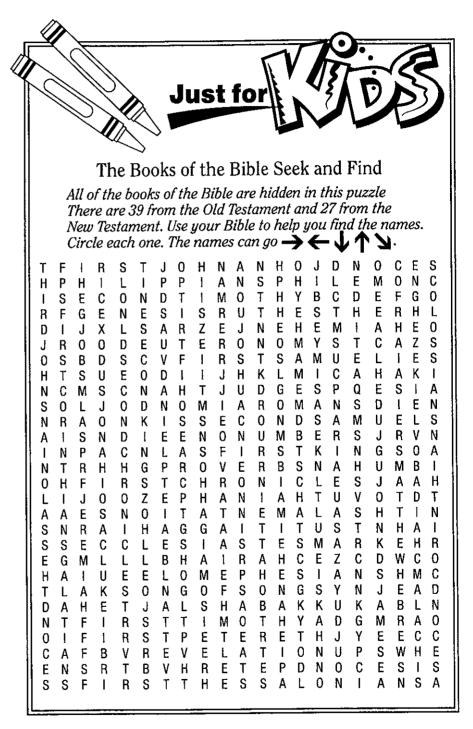
Carolyn Keller

<u>STAFF</u>

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

THE KID'S PAGE





The answer is on our Web site: www.NewsletterNewsletter.com

First Presbyterian Church Goshen-NY, Birthdays, Holidays in United States

-irst Presbyterian Church Gosnen-NY, B Sun	Mon	55	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	[2	3	4	5	6	7
9:30am - Church School	12:30pm - NA @ B		9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving	4:30pm - Mission Committee @	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S	12:30pm - NA @ B	
9:30am - Worship Service @ S			12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S	6:30pm - NA @ B	6:30pm - NA @ FH		
10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH			6:30pm - NA @ FH		7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P		
10:30am - Worship/Music Comm.			7:30pm - PNC @ B		7:30pm - NA @ FH		
8		9	10	11	12	13	14
9:30am - Church School	Columbus Day		9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving	7:30pm - Finance Committee @ P	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S	12:30pm - NA @ B	9am - Food Pantry @ FH
9:30am - Worship Service @ S	Indigenous Peoples' Day	\equiv	12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S		7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P		9am - Illuminate Goshen @
10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B		6:30pm - NA @ FH				
10:30am - Deacon's Mtg. @ B			7:30pm - PNC @ B				
15	Į	16	17	18	19	20	21
Tower Tie Articles Due	12:30pm - NA @ B		9am - GAPNS Photos @ B	9am - GAPNS Photos @ B	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S	12:30pm - NA @ B	5:30pm - NA Dance @ FH
9:30am - Church School			9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving	7pm - Session @ P	6:30pm - NA @ FH		
9:30am - Worship Service @ S			12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S		7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P		
10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH			6:30pm - NA @ FH				
			7:30pm - PNC @ B				
22	l	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:30am - Church School	12:30pm - NA @ B		9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving		6pm - Food Pantry @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9am - Yard Sale @ Church Lawn
9:30am - Worship Service @ S			12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S		6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S		
10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH			6:30pm - NA @ FH		7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P		
			7:30pm - PNC @ B				
29		30	31		2	3	
9:30am - Church School	10am - GAPNS @ FH		Halloween	First Day of American Indian	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S	12:30pm - NA @ B	
9:30am - Worship Service @ S	12:30pm - NA @ B		9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving	6:30pm - NA @ B	6:30pm - NA @ FH		
10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH			10am - GAPNS @ FH		7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P		
			12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S		7:30pm - NA @ FH		
			6:30pm - NA @ FH				
			7:30pm - PNC @ B				