

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924
The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor

Robert J. Clooney, Director of Ministry of Music
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September 2016

Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, "Let me take the speck out of your eye," while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye. (Matthew 7:1-5)

If Jesus had never been born and these words had never been spoken, try to imagine what life in this world would be like—hard, harsh, hypercritical, and judgmental. But Jesus did live, and he did speak these words, and they are meant to change everything about the way we live with others.

I was delivering a casserole to a family that had gone through a rough week . It was filled to the very brim. I carefully belted it in the back seat and started driving very, very carefully. No driver is more loathed at rush hour than the one who drives very, very carefully. People honked, glared and made unfriendly gestures. I kept thinking, "If only they knew that I've got a casserole in the back seat, they'd understand." Now, whenever I encounter an annoying driver, I play this little game with myself. I tell myself, "Relax, they've got a casserole in the back seat." It helps take the edge off my naturally critical spirit.

I'm not sure I'd play this little game if Jesus hadn't said, "With the judgment you make, you will be judged." This statement is part of a larger collection of sayings that stand at the very heart of Jesus' entire ministry. Jesus returns again and again to the themes of managing anger, refusing revenge, resisting judgments, overcoming hatred, and forgiving as we have been forgiven.

Even people on the outer fringes of Christianity agree. From the mid-1980s to the early 2000s The Jesus Seminar orbited at the very edge of Christianity. They convened 150 scholars to determine the "historical facts" about Jesus. Astonishingly, they wrote off Jesus' divine nature, his signs, wonders, miracles, and resurrection along with 82% of his teachings and 84% of his deeds. But even after throwing out almost all of Jesus' life and teaching, The Jesus Seminar did agree that Jesus was passionate about showing mercy, resisting judgment, and extending forgiveness to others.

"Don't judge," isn't the only thing Jesus says. Life is full of circumstances where judgments are necessary. He doesn't just say, "Don't judge," but he goes on to say, "Be careful how you judge." It is especially interesting that when Jesus speaks of the "speck" and the "log," the word Jesus uses for "speck" is actually a small piece of the "log"; they are both from the same material. In other words, the flaw we see in another is usually a miniature version of the very same full-sized fault we have in ourselves. That's why we are usually guilty of the very things we judge most harshly in others.

If the world was a perfect place, then none of this would matter; but it's not and this does matter, a lot! So do your best to accept that the world is a broken and hostile place where everyone wounds and is wounded. One of the most powerful management tools Jesus gives us is the power of mercy. And always remember that there's a big difference between exercising wise judgment and being harshly judgmental.

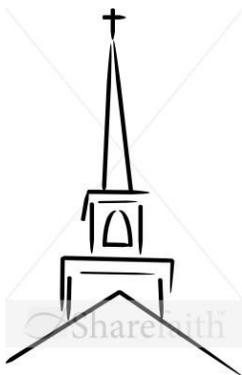
Here's the bottom line: No one likes being around judgmental people—not even God.

Pastor Kingsley

SEPTEMBER OPENS NEW DOORS IN ALL OUR LIVES

The summer months have literally flown by. We have taken time for rest, vacation, and having our spirits renewed by the abundance of growing life around us – green trees, the buzzing of locusts, flower gardens, fruits and vegetables. It is the bounty of summer and our legacy to take it all in. We now come to the change of seasons where nature slowly starts to die off which needs to happen in order to renew itself next year after a winter's rest. It is the cycle of seasons that we follow in our lives as well. September brings us back to the rhythm of school, Sunday worship, and fall activities.

I'd like to share with you an observation from my column two years ago at this time.



When I show up early to practice whether for a service, funeral or wedding, the sanctuary is empty. It's very quiet except for the creaking of the pew wood as I walk the aisle; and if I stand still, it is silent. Then, as people file in, the sanctuary takes on a life, it comes alive, and there is energy in the space. The elements of music, spoken word from the scriptures, prayer and fellowship fill the silence. It's a great uplifting feeling. And . . . then it all reverts back to silence once again. It is the energy and presence of each of us that fills the space—our personalities, our voices, our prayers and concerns all give life and meaning to an otherwise empty sanctuary space. Think about this and your role in ministering with your presence.

The choir begins a regular rehearsal schedule on Thursdays in the parlor at 7:30 p.m. We will be preparing introits and anthems for our Sunday worship service. Please think about joining and helping us expand our sections. We take our time learning the parts, and we help one another along. We'd love to have you sing with us this coming fall!



At this time, I look forward to seeing what doors may open for me in my retirement. The choir will still be singing here, the organ being played, and a strong vibrant church life will continue on in worship, praise, and service.

Robert Clooney
Director of Ministry of Music



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY NEWS

Our summer has come and gone, but the ladies continue to work on their labors of love in making shawls, lap robes, and baby blankets.

Elfriede Johnson crocheted her way back and forth to South Carolina while Darlene Bartley did the same except to Tennessee. Some of the gifts they brought back have already found shoulders to hug. Jo Wolfe found a way to use up the little balls of leftover yarn and made a great lap robe blanket. Like Joseph's "Coat of Many Colors," it will warm someone in need. Joan Howell and several of her friends have been busy as well and also making small blankets for area hospitals for preemies. Barbara Hankins, who seems to always have a crochet hook in her hand if not a song book, keeps the bins in the shawl room ready for needed gifts. Pam Pylant has also been using her talents to make gifts. Lisa Montalbano is busy working on a thank you shawl for someone who was there in her time of need. I have mailed quite a few this summer to faraway places and recently been asked for a few for cancer patients. I feel when one starts a shawl God already knows who it will hug.

I recently received a box of yarn from the local Pine Island seniors. It was brought to the Narthex and is ready to be turned into loving hugs. Thank you to those who continue to donate yarn for this purpose.

Wendy Lee Paffenroth
PSM Correspondent



THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ON GOING!

When you buy ShopRite gift cards through the church you can help fund our mission trips. The church sells gift cards at full face value, and we receive a 5% discount from ShopRite when the cards are purchased. If you buy groceries at ShopRite, PLEASE purchase gift cards from the church. If you spend \$100, the mission fund will grow by \$5. We all buy groceries so why not help fund our mission trip in the process? See me on Sundays to purchase them or stop by the church office during the week.

Any questions/please feel free to contact me.

Mark Glasse' (845)325-4439 or mpglasse@optonline.net

Please remember...

To save box tops for school supplies. A red container to place them in is located by the yarn basket in back of the Narthex.

Christian Education News...

The first day of **Sunday school this year is September 11th!** We look forward to seeing you all as you begin a new year of Christian Education. The first meeting will be in Fellowship Hall to meet our classes and teachers for the year.

Teen Voices will meet on their usual schedule with Paty and Mark Glasse upstairs. (**Teen Voices will not meet the first Sunday in September, but will meet on September 11th and 18th.**)

It will be exciting to reconnect after the summer!

Confirmation class this year will be held after church with Darlene Bartley and Pastor David co-teaching the new curriculum. Trips are being planned as I write! If you have not yet talked to Darlene to sign up, please call the church office (294-7991). Anyone in 7th or 8th grade is eligible to take this course to ready yourself for joining our congregation.

The **Nursery** is up and running with a newly shampooed rug and new changing table and crib.

Theresa von Pentz, who works with nursery-age children, will be taking care of your little ones.

Thank you, Theresa!

The Nursery is on the lower floor of Fellowship Hall just to the left of the stairs as you come down.

Patents, please avail yourself of this opportunity.

Love an Elder Day falls this year on October 1st in the United Nations, but we will celebrate that Sunday, October 2nd. Bring a few older friends to church!

TEEN VOICES

We are looking forward to starting a new year with Teen Voices! Once again, we will be meeting the first and third Sunday's of the month at 9:30 am. Follow the signs to the teen room above the chapel. Teen Voices includes grades 7 through 12. We look at current events from a Biblical perspective. This is a great opportunity for teens to explore their faith together. Our goal is a loving, supportive, safe and fun environment for all.

This year we will be exploring our faith through a program called Hands-on Faith. We will meet separately from the classroom and look at ways to express our faith through the arts-visual, culinary, music, etc. We really need someone who is willing and able to support this effort from the music perspective. If you have any interest in helping with the music, talk to us and we can explore further. This is a limited commitment of time.

We hope the teens will help prep and serve at the community dinner held at FPG September 10th. The dinner is at 4pm. Please let us know if your teen can help as we will be there.

Teen Voices will not meet the first Sunday in September (Labor Day weekend). However, we will meet on September 11th and 18th.

Paty and Mark Glasse'

(845)986-1460

mpglasse@optonline.net



Hosts needed!

Our committee is committed to our coffee hours! Fellowship is the key to keeping our church flowing with good times!

The **first Sunday** of each month is the congregational coffee hour which means that the congregation will provide the food, and we will be there to help set up and clean up. On the other Sundays we are asking for families, friends, pew friends, other committees, **mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, grandparents and grandchildren**, etc., to sign up! There is always someone in the kitchen to show you the ropes. You as hosts can choose to be as simple as a few boxes of donuts or more elaborate. We don't care what you bring as long as we continue this great tradition!!! When you sign up for the first time, we email you directions and ensure that a person from our committee will be there to help you. We even have simple directions on the kitchen bulletin board.

Our committee has a lot of fun, and we are always looking for new members. For any questions please look for us at coffee hour.

Your fellow friends,

Robin Knoblock, Brad McLeland, Linda Clark, Lisa Montalbano, Maureen Johnson, Jane Geyer, Dom Fontana, Jo Wolfe, Felicia Van Doran, Pam Pylant



NEW ADDRESS

**Pat Green
128 Warwick Dr.
Lutherville, MD 21093**

(This is her address in the United States. She is living permanently in Mexico.)

Her cell phone number is: 914-261-4923 and her e-mail is: green.patricia18@gmail.com

Check out her blog at www.mex-pat.org



PREBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Summer News:

As usual, the women do not hold monthly summer meetings, but that is not to say we don't seem to run into each other and get together.

GREAT AMERICAN WEEKEND was again a success and we set up the two donated tents under the steeple. We worked hard, had great fellowship, and our products were well received by the people attending. Iced and hot coffee, sweet southern tea, and mock Mint Juleps were sold out. We thank everyone who not only worked, but also those who made generous donations to our sale with items needed for the day's events. We have some ideas on how to improve as each year we are better and better. Come to our meeting on September 12, and we will go over details of the day.

The PW Honoree Luncheon to celebrate our auxiliary member Dave Paffenroth, has been set at Glen Arden for Sept. 24. There will more information on the event. Dave thanks you for the honor and is humbled by it all.

Tours of the church with some of our ladies went well. A big hand to those who took people through the church and gave a history lesson about us. We received many fine compliments and we hope some of the people who came will join us for services on Sunday if they do not have a church home. It was estimated that about 500 people toured the church on Great American Weekend.

Patty and Mark Glasse' have invited PW to help them this year with their TEEN VOICES in preparing boxes of cookies for our college students. Please consider helping this wonderful endeavor. I think we might even be able to sample some of the broken cookies. Get your aprons ready and watch the bulletin for the upcoming event. Let's get together and share each other's recipes and have some fun.

Ladies, mark your calendars for our upcoming bake sale at the **Holiday Fair** this year on **November 19**. We need bakers, people to run the table, and just a good group to get it all together. We will go over more of this at our monthly meeting on **Monday, September 12** in the parlor around 7:00 p.m. or when you can get there. Please join us. All ladies are welcome, and we truly need your input.

Fondly,
Wendy Lee Paffenroth – PW secretary

LADIES, MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW:

**PW'S HONOREE LUNCHEON FOR DAVE PAFFENROTH WILL BE ON SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 24.**

Details later – Save the Date



SHARE PAGE

If you have something you want to share - a recipe, poem, prayer, or something that touched your heart - just email me by the 15th of the month, and we will try to get it into the next newsletter. Email me at: wendypaffenroth@gmail.com

Thank you, Wendy Lee Paffenroth

Thank you to John Redman for overseeing the cleaning of the Tiffany Windows. Joan Howell and I went into the church early on the Saturday of Great American Weekend; and, when we got down the aisle by the piano, we looked up and, in all her glory, the Angel was dripping in gold. Every detail of her wings and robe were ablaze in shimmering gold. In over 50 years I had never seen the angel looking so impressive and beautiful. We rushed outside and brought in anyone who was there to see it. It only happens when the sun is at a certain angle, usually early in the morning. By the time we did tours, the gleam was gone. We all tried to take photos, but she is too bright for you to capture on film. We should do a sunrise service sometime in the sanctuary, but I am afraid everyone will be so captivated by the blaze of glory we will miss the service.

A little church humor:

A florist's mistake: Joe was opening a new location for his business, and his friend decided to send him flowers to celebrate the occasion. When Joe opened the card, it read "Rest in Peace." So Joe called the florist to complain. The florist said, "I am so sorry for the mistake, but imagine if there were a funeral going on and the card on the flowers said: "Congratulations on your new location!"

Mark Your Calendars!

On September 18 the Reverend Dick Thompson, who was pastor of this congregation for 24 years and Pastor Kingsley's predecessor, will be with us in our worship service and we will be dedicating a beautiful Weeping River Birch tree to honor his many years of service to this church.

A special coffee hour is planned and we are asking everyone who can to be present to honor Dick. Let's make it a special day of tribute.

Editor's Note: "Church Members Live Their Faith" is another of a series of columns appearing periodically in "The Tower Tie" highlighting the mission work that takes place in our church. Elder Geri Corey, who was the Chair of our Mission Committee for the past several years, wrote the following story that appeared in "The Chronicle" in August and gave her permission to reprint it here.

Sue Varden

Church Members Live Their Faith

By Geri Corey

GOSHEN – Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Goshen strive to live their faith and helping others is the essence of their faith. Strengthening their commitment, congregants spent a week in Newburgh this summer working on homes for Habitat for Humanity.

Each year, the Church's Mission Committee chooses a destination spot for a mission trip. Recent past spots in the U.S. include tornado-ravaged Joplin, Missouri in 2012 and New Orleans in 2010 and 2014 doing home repairs after Hurricane Katrina hit. In 2017, a group will be heading to Nicaragua, the church's mission site abroad.

Realizing local needs, the committee decided to support their neighbors in Newburgh this year. Twenty-six volunteers filled time slots to work on two houses, one at 123 Washington Street and the other at 26 South Miller Street. Another 15 members prepared and served lunches.

"I'm trying to do my small part to help Newburgh rebound from its blight by working to re-establish viable neighborhoods – neighborhoods without violence," said parishioner Rob Warner. "We want to create a safe place for people to live, one house at a time."

"I'm here because everyone deserves to live in a decent home," said congregant Michele Meek, carefully filling in the seams of molding framing a window. "It's such a good feeling to live in your own home, to feel safe and be proud of it. I want others to feel the pride." After years of living in an old house, Meek said she's comfortable doing her job.

A young man with an interest in photography qualified for the Washington Street house, which comes with an attached studio on the first floor. He plans to open up the studio to the community as a gallery. He's of Mexican decent; his mother brought him and his siblings to Newburgh to live when they were young. Soon he'll be living with the family in their new home.

Before taking possession of a Habitat home, qualified homeowners must take courses at Orange County Community College on home maintenance and budgeting. All homeowners are required to work a certain number of hours on their homes during construction before moving in.

"I'm here to help people get a leg up on life," said the Rev. David Kingsley, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, as he stained the banister leading to the second floor. "Here's a studio with living quarters upstairs. It's exciting to be a part of this, having room for him and his extended family – wife, mother-in-law and an aunt."

As house captain, Jim Ferguson oversees construction and assigns volunteer jobs at the house under renovation. Working for years to make over homes in Newburgh, he's part of the area's transformation from boarded up homes and factory buildings to being a beautiful neighborhood. Twenty-four homes on East Parmenter Street have been refurbished with families now living in them, Ferguson proudly points out.

“This job is a perfect fit for me,” said Ferguson. “I'm back in my community. But it's not about making myself feel good. It's about making others' lives better.”

People of all ages from 18 – or age 16 with a parent – and up, and from all walks of life, have volunteered to work, said Ferguson. They include retired teachers, attorneys, West Point cadets, college students, civic groups and medical staff.

“They all check their egos at the door,” Ferguson said. Wednesday and Saturday are workdays for Habitat volunteers.

Habitat has built 79 homes in Newburgh. PresbyBuild, consisting of 18 Presbyterian churches working in partnership with Habitat Newburgh, will begin its eighth house this fall, said Sue Varden, parishioner and organizer of this trip.

Anne Wood, a church member who also does pastoring at the First Presbyterian Church in Jeffersonville, N.Y. works summers when she has the time. As a regular participant in mission trips, Wood said, “I go wherever they're working. Work is there to be done – needed to be done. Jesus says, 'Whenever you did this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine you did it for me.' That's good enough for me to be here.”

The congregation holds fundraisers like sandwich sales at the St. Patrick's Day Parade, plant sales and car washes throughout the year to offset the cost of traveling to various destinations. Every year the Mission Committee organizes and sponsors the Goshen Chili Challenge and donates the proceeds to Habitat for Humanity in Newburgh.

“I began volunteering for Habitat six years ago when I returned from our church's first mission trip to New Orleans in 2010,” said Varden. Noting that the Habitat affiliate in Newburgh is considered one of the best-run and most productive in the country, she said: “We all take pride in what it accomplishes and are touched, and changed, when we see these proud, hard-working families move into the home we have helped them build. In the process many bonds are formed between the volunteers and the partner families.”

(The 2016 Mission Trip work team included Diane Church, Geri Corey, Jim Ferguson, Carol Gabella, Mark Glasse, Paty Glasse, Frances Hill, Rev. David Kingsley, Jody Kopec, Matt Kopec, Betty Lobb, Tom McDowell, Evan McDowell, Brian Meek, Michele Meek, Scott Roper, Ken Skyer, Matt Skyer, Alan Sproul, Sue Varden, Grover vonPentz, Charlie vonPentz, Rob Warner and Ann Wood. Congregants who prepared and served lunches include Mary Kopec, Geri Corey, Linda Boardman, Abby Boardman, Emma Boardman, BA Long, Orra Wood, Pam Pylant, Mark Glasse, Paty Glasse, Maureen Johnson, Matt Csernai, Joan Howell, Evan McDowell, Nancy Warner and Louse Spencer.)

“OPUS”: a 7-piece Horn Band from the 70s to perform Meditation Garden Benefit Concert on November 5th

**Wayne George & high school musician-buddies reunite after 40+ years to perform
for First Presbyterian Church members and friends!**

They will be coming in from all over the country (San Francisco, South Carolina, Virginia, Connecticut, New Jersey and Long Island) to perform for us! “OPUS” is a group of lifelong musician-friends who started playing together in 1970 as teens at JFK High School in Plainview, NY and took the area by storm...winning several “Battle of the Bands” on Long Island, culminating in a concert performance at the famed “Lakeside Theatre” at Eisenhower Memorial Park in Westbury. OPUS went on to perform at countless nightclubs and events until “*college called*” and the group went their separate ways in the mid-70s to pursue higher education degrees. Today, they are doctors, business owners, music producers, recording artists, designers, sales and marketing professionals...but most of all they are life-long friends, parents (some grandparents) and musicians!

Fast-forward from the 1970s to only 5 years ago and the band members decided it was “well-worth-the-trip” to begin annual reunions to play those horn-classics and reunite face-to-face to catch-up on each other’s families, escapades, triumphs and tragedies. That has become an annual tradition and this November 5, they will be performing a benefit concert with 100% of the proceeds going to help support our church’s beautiful Meditation Garden.

OPUS will be performing classic horn-band hits by Chicago, Blood, Sweat & Tears, The Beatles, Steely Dan, Wilson Pickett, Otis Reading, Billy Joel and will also have a few musical surprises! With these musicians travelling from all directions to Goshen, it’s very important we, as a church support their efforts the best we can by filling the sanctuary with people and raising as much for the garden as possible. The cost to maintain the Meditation Garden is \$2,000 per year. Since its completion in June 2009, the entire cost of the garden and maintenance costs have been paid for by the Garden Fund which functions totally outside the church’s operating budget. It would be fantastic if the concert could raise several thousand dollars for this great cause!

Admission for the benefit concert will be: \$15 Adults, \$12 Senior & Students (at-the-door). Children under 6 are FREE. Discounted Advance Tickets will be: \$12 Adults, \$9 Seniors & Students and will be sold in the church office and at coffee hours in the weeks leading up to the concert.

There will be additional efforts made to offer additional fund-raising activities surrounding this garden benefit the day of show There will be a spaghetti dinner before the show and “make-your-own-sundaes” during intermission. Anyone interested in helping to make these events happen, please contact Rev. Kingsley or Wayne George at 914-213-4093. Let’s all roll-up-our-sleeves to make this exciting event a success by delivering a huge crowd and raising a bunch of money!

2016 - 2017 Sunday School Registration Form

First Day of Sunday School – September 11th

Please fill out and return by September 11th using any of the following methods:

- Drop in offering plate
- Return to Pat in the office
- Email back to me at: linda.sundayschool@gmail.com

Registration can also be done directly through church web site: www.fpgoshen.org

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Grade in school as of September 2016: _____

Parent's names: _____

Phone numbers: Cell: _____

Home: _____

*E-mail: _____

Student's talents or interests: _____

Parent's talents or interests: _____

Parent's help if/when needed (circle any): Art Music Snacks Pageant

Any concerns we should be aware of: (allergies, etc.)

3rd grader interested in being an Acolyte: Yes No

*Most communication will be through e-mail. I will send weekly reminders, list of upcoming activities and/or events, projects Sunday school is working on, etc.

Thank you,
Linda Boardman, Director of Sunday School

8th Annual Community Yard Sale

The First Presbyterian Church is holding its 8th Annual Community Yard Sale.

Bring your stuff and set up and we will do the advertising.....

The proceeds will be going toward the mission trip to Nicaragua.

Date – Saturday September 10, 2016

From 9am – 3pm

Set up – 8am

Cost of space - \$30.00 – (12' x12')

There is also a deposit fee of \$30.00 that will be refunded when your space is cleaned up.

Please send two checks for \$30.00 each.

We also will have tables for rent for your items for \$5.00 each.

Please return the bottom portion with your checks to
First Presbyterian Church, 33 Park Place, Goshen, NY 10924

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

of spaces _____ @ \$30.00 each Total _____

of tables _____ @ \$5.00 each Total _____

Plus – separate \$30.00 deposit for clean-up (check returned when you leave).

Further information: bartley51@yahoo.com or church office: 294-7991

Dear Church Family,

Hi, my name is Darlene, and I have been appointed as the new Outreach Committee chairperson. The former Fellowship/Outreach Committee has recently been split into two separate committees. I would like to invite you to join us. In order to accomplish our goals and be successful, we need you because we want our church family to grow.

Some of the responsibilities are:

- We do membership drives (we need to think of creative ways to do this)
- Watch for visitors, make them feel welcome, and invite them to participate in church activities
- Be aware of members who have not been in church for a few weeks and be sure they are contacted
- Review and update publications of what is going on in our church
- Oversee the Boy Scouts that meet in our church
- Bear the responsibility of doing the publicity for church events
- Produce a pictorial directory every five years
- Be responsible for securing groups for the community dinner and to open up the Fellowship Hall and keep supplies ready. We are looking for people to host the following months - January through September, 2017.
- Support the Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Oversee the inactive members

As you can see, there are a lot of responsibilities to cover and a difficult task for just two people.

The membership of this committee shall include Moderator and Vice Moderator who are Elders, a member of Presbyterian Women and Deacons. It would be great if we could also get someone from the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Other than Deb and me, if we could get seven to eight more people to join this committee, it would be awesome. It will be rewarding and yes it will be work, but together it is great fellowship and can be so much fun.

The Outreach Committee meetings will be on the second Sunday of every month at 8:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The first meeting will be on Sunday, September 11.

Please consider coming on board even if you have no knowledge; we will learn together and come up with great ideas. If you have any questions, you can reach me either at church, by email at bartley51@yahoo.com, or can text me at 845-238-4368.

With prayers and hope,
Darlene

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2016

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 **354** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2016 is \$31.50**, which is a total of **\$11,151.00** to be taken from our operating budget. As of July 31, 2016, **\$6,989.80 has been collected**. 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.

Project Making Connections – One Child at a Time

Please consider joining the effort to engage our children. To make this work every child needs a friend.

Goal: Have adults in the congregation connect with a Sunday school child so the children feel part of the church family.

History: Last year, Sunday school focused on the children's own family, it went along with the curriculum that family is there to love and support us. If you remember, we gave members an apple with a question, "What does family mean to you?" Then we put the apples on the tree in Fellowship Hall.

This year, the curriculum focuses on giving back, doing for others, outreach, community service and the church family.

Overall Plan:

1. On the first day of Sunday school children write a "letter" to a member of the church introducing themselves to a member. They will share:
 - a. Name, age, grade, favorite color, favorite book
 - b. Sports they play
 - c. What they want to be...
 - d. Brothers/sisters
2. Children will put letters on a tree for adults to pick, no name on the envelope.
3. A member picks an envelope, and in turn does the same, puts their letter back on the tree with the child's name.
4. On "Love an Elder Day" (October 2nd) the children and adult will meet at coffee hour and get to know each other.

Moving Forward:

5. Weekly either at coffee hour or before service, adults connect with their child; how was your week, how was your game, etc.
 - a. Adults will have to be prepared to start conversation with children, they will not be too forth coming at first.
 - b. Casual conversation only, goal is to make the children feel part of our church family.
 - c. Make children feel valued in church – someone knows their name, not just a family friend.

Rewards:

1. Adults get to meet and bond with amazing children in our church family.
2. Children will feel like they have a place in our "Big" world.
3. As this group of children grow, they will be more willing to participate in projects /community service, fund raising or missions.
4. As they move up to Teen Voices and confirmation, the teens will be more likely to interact with members and be part of the church family.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me - 845 665-9545 or linda.sundayschool@gmail.com

Respectfully,

Linda

SERVING THE CHURCH AS SESSION MEMBERS

BA Long	343-7571	Chairperson of the Christian Education Committee
Kathy Alevras	496-9619	Member of the Christian Education Committee
Mark Glasse	986-1460	Member of the Christian Education Committee
Robin Knoblock	313-1319	Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee
Bill Eustance	294-5745	Member of the Fellowship Committee
Mal Stewart	294-7243	Chairperson of the Finance and Administration Committee
Bill Hodges	782-6816	Member of the Finance and Administration Committee
Scott Roper	914-426-8574	Member of the Finance and Administration Committee
Grover vonPentz	291-1932	Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee
Bill Eustance	294-5745	Member of the Fundraising Committee
Adam Boese	291-7324	Chairperson of the Mission Committee
Darlene Bartley	238-4368	Chairperson of the Outreach Committee
Deb Hourahan	240-1344	Member of the Outreach Committee
Brian Meek	978-5600	Member of the Personnel Committee
BA Long	343-7571	Member of the Personnel Committee
Karen Magee	294-6443	Member of the Personnel Committee
Brian Meek	978-5600	Chairperson of the Property Management Committee
Tom Sawyer	914-443-4503	Member of the Property Management Committee
Rob Warner	294-3248	Member of the Property Management Committee
Karen Magee	294-6443	Chairperson of the Worship and Music Committee
Orra Wood	374-6611	Member of the Worship and Music Committee

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! RUMMAGE SALE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 FROM 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 FROM 8:30 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

SET-UP WILL BE MONDAY – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 – 13 AT 5:00 P.M.

Help will be needed setting up, on the days of the sale, and clean-up. Please call Glynnis Jorgensen at 914-804-5476 and let her know when you will be able to help. Due to lack of space, please do not bring any donations to the church until the week of the sale. This is one of the church's biggest fundraisers and the money goes to the General Fund. All help is greatly appreciated!

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Rebecca Boardman</i>	18	<i>Louise Spencer</i>
	<i>Elfriede Johnson</i>	19	<i>Emma Jorgensen</i>
3	<i>Leslie Faulds</i>	22	<i>Bill Hodges</i>
6	<i>Sarah Misir</i>		<i>Grace Lanuti</i>
8	<i>Karen Brooks</i>		<i>Nancy Mason</i>
9	<i>Mary Sudul</i>	23	<i>Lucy Figueroa</i>
10	<i>Gabriela Ukejianya</i>		<i>Owen Hourahan</i>
	<i>Nancy Warner</i>	26	<i>Abigail Boardman</i>
12	<i>Tom McDowell</i>		<i>Gianna Hagopian</i>
13	<i>Michael Hagopian, III</i>		<i>Pam Pylant</i>
15	<i>Adriana Walsh</i>		<i>Kiersten Warner</i>
16	<i>Michael Hagopian</i>	28	<i>Kevin Hankins</i>
	<i>Kelly McCloud</i>		<i>Nicholas Hagopian</i>
17	<i>Matthew Kopec</i>	30	<i>Darren Baird</i>
	<i>Denise Panebianco</i>		<i>Michele Meek</i>
	<i>Daniel Serkes</i>		
	<i>Phyla Wright</i>		

HAPPY SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

8	<i>Alan and Glynnis Jorgensen</i>
9	<i>Jody and Mary Kopec</i>
10	<i>Chris and Dina Viebrock</i>
23	<i>Jeffrey and Erica Gati</i>
25	<i>Luis and Lucy Figueroa</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.

Congratulations to Jillian Leigh Grosso and Jake Levine on their recent engagement. Jillian is the daughter of Alison and Tom Grosso. A spring 2018 wedding is being planned.

BEAUTIFUL NEW SEASONAL FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Thank you to Darlene Bartley for creating and donating several new silk floral arrangements for the chancel. She also revitalized some of the currently used bouquets. Thank you for sharing your talents, Darlene!

*Karen Magee, Chair
Worship and Music Committee*



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 and Kathy Alevras

Sarah Bohling

Sharon Conlon

John DeGroat

Judy Fazio

Matthew Gould

Kevin and Sara Hankins

Susan Johnson

Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott

Karen Magee

Diana, Riley, and Gavin Martin

Richard Montalbano

Amy (Thompson) Nguye

Rachel Reeves

Peggy Srirach

Gary Swinger

The Wade Family

Anne Wood's brother-in-law Dennis

Phyla Wright

Ed Berry

Susie Bohling

Jean Crandall

Everyone serving in the Military

Carly Glasse

Mary Gray Griffith

Andy Hine

Rosemary Joy

Brenda Kujawski

Kelly Magee Thrush

The McCloud Family

Jean Musgrave

Dave and Wendy Paffenroth

Tom Sawyer

Sue Stenson

Christopher Tucker

Doris Weinberger

Sandra Wood

Vicki Yost

Ann (Strong) Blake

Hannah Boorse

Suzanne DeBlock

Mary Lee Farris and her sister

Dorothy Gott

Barbara and George Hankins

Bill Howell

Laura and Tom Kennedy

James Magee

Victoria Manteaw

Evelyn Mercado

Eileen Myslinski

William John Pink

Dorothy Sevcik

Elmer Stevens

Cindy Vanderplaat

Jo Wolfe

Orra Wood

(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.)

PRAYER HOTLINE –

Continuous Prayers When You Need Them

If you have a sudden need for prayer – an emergency, an accident, an illness, a fear – start a prayer chain by calling:

Fran Hoffmann – 294-6470

Louise Spencer – 615-0983

Mary Gray Griffith – 294-9288

Orra Wood – 374-6611



Prayer contacts will begin immediately.

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

SEPTEMBER UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

Place your orders for memorial pavers to honor or remember a loved one! **Four** NEW paver orders have been placed. We will order engraving after we have ten orders on hand.

To order a memorial paver to honor or remember a loved one, please see Pat in the church office. The cost of each paver is only \$100.

8 Niches Are Available for Purchase 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”

Thank you to our dedicated Stewards for keeping the garden neat!

The SEPTEMBER and early OCTOBER Steward's Schedule:

Bill Eustance, Jen and Gregg Piller:	September 1 – September 15
Beryl Yungman and Karen Bende:	September 16 – September 30
Barbara and George Hankins:	October 1 – October 15

Anyone can be a Steward of Our Garden any day of the week! It takes only a few minutes of your time 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.

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 2017

**Darlene Bartley
Deborah Hourahan
Robin Knoblock
Karen Magee
Grover vonPentz
Rob Warner**

Class of 2018

**Kathleen Alevras
Mark Glasse
Bill Hodges
Elizabeth Long
Scott Roper
Orra Wood**

Class of 2019

**Adam Boese
William Eustance
Brad McLeland
Brian Meek
Thomas Sawyer
Malcolm Stewart**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2017

**Diana Bowe
Diane Church
Lori Kilmer
Mary Kingsley
Charlie vonPentz
Nancy Warner
Cheryl Zis**

Class of 2018

**Wendy Bynum-Wade
Laura Colacci
Ian Depew
Wendy Donohue
Paty Glasse
Gregg Piller
Jenn Piller**

Class of 2019

**Liese Boese
Margaret Dickover
Jon Hourahan
Carolyn Keller
Jody Kopec
Logan Quick
Felicia Van Doran**

**Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller
Presbyterian Women:**

STAFF

**Robert Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County**