

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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

Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary

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September 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

John 6:41–51

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

There is much in the Gospel of John that I love. Yet there also is much that can be troubling. Sometimes we have to dig through layers of culture and context to find the beauty. I often can’t find the beauty without naming the ugly. If one is not careful, this text could be used to justify Christian supremacy. At this point in the text, the church does not exist and Jesus and his disciples are having a dialogue with their Jewish peers—because Jesus and the disciples were Jewish. The writer of John seeks to convince the readers of Jesus’ divinity. In his perspective, we find wisdom and meaning. But we must remember that when we read John criticizing “the Jews” in gross generalizations, that’s a problem we must not repeat towards Judaism or any other religion or group of people.

What I love about this passage is Jesus’ bread metaphor. Bread is made through a disruptive chemical reaction—flour, sugar, yeast, water. Its shape physically changes with the combination of ingredients and the appropriate temperature. Although bread tastes and smells delicious, the making of it is disruptive and transformative to its ingredients. Jesus refers to himself as the living bread, which he gives for the life of the world. It’s another way of trying to imagine the power of internalizing Jesus’ message of love, inclusion, justice, and healing. It literally transforms us. We become part of Jesus’ body and can join in the bread-making of the world. It’s hopeful to imagine how a little yeast and a little sugar—a little compassion for one another and the courage to seek change as Jesus did—can really make a difference in this world.

Pastor Kingsley



Music Notes

I hope your summer has been restful. The work of the church has gone on, and will continue! This is a great time to join the choir and/or handbell choir. The choir has met all summer and continued to sing for the sheer joy of it. As the fall begins, we are eager to welcome new members to our work. The handbell choir, too, looks forward to another year of substantive progress and wonderful music.

If you would like to sing a solo or play an instrument in worship, all you have to do is ask. I'm happy to talk to you, and would love to see you share your gifts.

We're hoping to start holding concerts and special programs as we begin to celebrate our big 300th birthday! Look for a repeat of last year's successful Christmas carol singalong, and there may even be a Halloween program, too. Various other programs will be announced soon.

I've enjoyed some really necessary "down time," but those quiet summer days did the trick and I'm eager to jump back to work. We must move the organ project ahead, and start to discover the many gifts God means to give us in the coming days. I'm happy to unwrap all those presents with you!

-- Jonathan



PRESBYTERAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The ladies have not met over the summer. Because of Labor Day, our first meeting will be on Monday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. Please mark your calendar for the first Monday of every month and try to attend our meetings. We look forward to seeing some new faces!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR... The Honoree Luncheon is on Sunday, October 7 at Glen Arden. Watch the bulletin for more details.



News from the Outreach Committee

New Member Classes

There will be a new member class in October for those looking for a new church home. If you know of anyone who is interested in joining, please encourage them to come or have them contact someone from the Outreach Committee or Pat in the church office. Watch for the dates in the bulletin.

Prayer Shawl Committee

We have been blessed with an abundance of yarn donations and it is very much appreciated. At this time our bins are full and we are asking if you can hold back on any further donations for the time being. We will let everyone know when we can accept more. If you wish to donate a completed item, we take lap robes, shawls, and white baby blankets for baptisms that are crocheted or knitted. Larger blankets are too big for lap robes.

We have been busy sending out numerous shawls that were sent to grieving and ailing members/families and two more baby blankets will go out for Ashley and Kelsey Ellis who are being baptized in September.

Community Dinner

The August Community Dinner was hosted by the Session. If your committee would like to host a Community Dinner, please let Grover von Pentz know as soon as possible. September through December is already filled. To sign up for the month of your choosing between January and December of 2019 (except July and October), please reserve now.

Advertising

Please remember that if your group is doing an event and it needs to be advertised, please let Wendy Bynum Wade know at least two to three weeks in advance, the earlier the better. She is happy to do this for us and it helps to get the word out.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!
Darlene Bartley



THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ONGOING!

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

PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2018

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 **343** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2018 is \$36.83**, which is a total of **\$12,632.69** 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. Thanks for doing your share.



PLEASE SAVE BOX TOPS FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

If you do not already save your box tops for anyone, I would appreciate you saving them for me to give to my niece who is trying to get much-needed supplies for her kindergarten classroom in Liberty, or to treat them to an educational program. The box tops can be found on many foods and household supplies such as Progresso soups, Betty Crocker products, Scott paper towels, General Mills cereals, etc. I also will take Campbell soup labels.

I have a box for collection in the back of church by the yarn basket, or you can hand them to me in church.

Thanks so much! Carol Gabella



COME JOIN US FOR OUR 2nd ANNUAL CLAM BAKE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 300th ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CHURCH

Will be held at the ***Long Lot Brewery on Johnson Road in Chester, NY***

Date – Sunday, September 9, 2018 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. (last serving at 4:30 p.m.)

Rain date – Sunday, September 16, 2018

Price per ticket is \$40.00 per person; kids under 12 - \$10.00.

If you would like to add a lobster the ticket is \$60.00.

If you would like to reserve your tickets, please email Darlene at bartley51@yahoo.com

Tickets are also available in the church office.

There will be a cash bar serving beer and wine.

Menu is as follows:

NEW ENGLAND CLAM CHOWDER

LITTLE NECKS AND STEAMER CLAMS

FRESH FRUIT MEDLEY

RED BLISS POTATOES (HOT OR COLD)

HOMESTYLE BAKED BEANS W/ BACON

GOURMET GARDEN SALAD

CORN ON THE COB W/ PARM & PARSLEY

BBQ GRILLED CHICKEN BREASTS & THIGHS (BONELESS)

ITALIAN SAUSAGE W/ PEPPERS & ONIONS

CONDIMENTS

SODA, WATER, COFFEE AND TEA

OPTION IS TO ADD 1.25# LOBSTER BY PREVIOUS RESERVATION

We hope that you will come out and enjoy the fun and fellowship and kick off this wonderful celebration.

The Clam Bake Committee – Darlene, Cliff, John, Mary Lee, Orra, Wendy, Mark, Linda



12th Annual Community Yard Sale

The First Presbyterian Church is holding its 12th Annual Community Yard Sale.

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

The proceeds from the spaces and tables will go toward the replacement of the church roof.

Date – Saturday, September 22, 2018

From 9am – 2pm

Set up – 8am

Cost of space - \$30.00 – (12' x12') **two tables per space (not included in fee)**

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 # _____

Email address _____

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



SHARE PAGE

AN ANSWER TO 'WHY GO TO CHURCH?'

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. 'I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.'

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: 'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!'

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

Did you know...?

B.I.B.L.E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!



COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR 12th COMMUNITY YARD SALE

WHERE – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

33 PARK PLACE, GOSHEN, NY

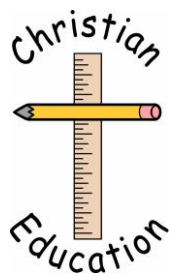
WHEN – SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

TIME – 9AM – 2PM

This fundraiser is to help with our Missions of the church. The proceeds from the space and table fees go to help the missions we do. This year's mission is to raise money for a new roof. We do many things such as providing space for meetings for scouting and groups who need a place to meet. We host a Community Dinner every month, Midnight Runs to the city and help build homes with Habitat and much more.

If you are interested in selling and would like to get a space please call the church office at (845) 294-7791 for more information. There is an application in this Tower Tie.

Christian Education would like you to know:



1. The first day of Sunday school is September 9th.

2. Sunday school registration is available on line through the web site at:
<https://fpgoshen.org/programs/sundayschool/>

The completed form will be sent directly to the Sunday school office once submitted.

3. The first Christian Education meeting of the year will be held Sunday, September 16th during coffee hour.

4. The kick off for the Friday Night Friends program, information meeting date to be announced. Watch for email with the date and time.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Boardman

Invitation

We are so excited to announce our New Youth Program
For Kindergarten through 6th Grade

Friday Night Friends

When: The second Friday of the month - starting in October

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: 6 - 8 pm

Activities: MUSIC, DINNER, CRAFTS and FUN

Fee: \$5.00 per child to cover dinner and supplies

September information meeting will be announced for more details

Allison Csernai – Program Director

CALLING ALL TEENS GRADES 7 THROUGH 12.....

Join us for Teen Voices on September 9th at 9:30 a.m.

Contact us with questions: Paty and Mark Glasse'

mpglasse@optonline.net

(845)325-4439 (Mark's cell) (845)325-5229 (Paty's Cell)

The New Guy on Stewardship

Hi! I'm Ken Phelan, your newly minted Elder and I'm here to talk to you a little about Stewardship.

First, a quick public service announcement for any of you who have not served on a Presbyterian committee. Apparently, when someone voices an idea, like "Hey, we should put something in the newsletter about stewardship," what that really sounds like to the committee is "Hey, I'd really like to write something about stewardship for the newsletter." Just so you know, be prepared to actually do stuff or keep your bright ideas to yourself.

Anyway, stewardship is a difficult conversation. I'm guessing that you and I share a couple things in common. First, we work hard for our money, and second we really don't have any extra at the end of the month. I do have a recurring dream that I'm in my office paying bills and I call up to my wife and ask if there's any more room under the mattress for all the extra money we have in the checking account but so far, it hasn't happened. I guess God knew what he was doing when he asked for our first fruits instead of our leftovers.

Having said that, I think it's important that we prayerfully consider our giving and I'll share a couple of things that I keep in mind about giving to the church.

Churches spend their money in a lot of ways but I often break it into two buckets, inside and outside. Inside spending has to do with the stuff we need as a church and we need a lot. The building, the pastor, the roof, etc. Outside spending is the money we spend helping our neighbors in the world. At First Presbyterian Goshen, we do a lot of this, too; Community Dinners, schools in Albania, Midnight Runs, Habitat for Humanity, etc. Too often, our giving stops at inside issues and fails to support outside issues sufficiently. The inside stuff has to be where we start, not where we end. I believe that as Christians it's our job to fund a church that can be generous outside.

I also try to contextualize my giving with the rest of my spending. As a kid, my family went to a small financially struggling Episcopal church. As many of you probably know, when you're involved with a church like that, you're fully involved. Growing up, I mowed the lawn, cleaned the church, and did every fundraiser. I felt like I practically lived at the church. When I was lucky enough to find someone to marry me, I went to the priest, who I had known almost my whole life, to make the arrangements. I was shocked and frankly insulted when he told me that he expected me to pay to get married in **my** church. Really!?! I hadn't done enough? He looked me in the eye and said, "Tell me about the reception." So I told about the super nice place we had picked out and all the stations at the cocktail hour. Then he said, "What about the band?" Oh, great band, 9 pieces, going to be fantastic. "And the flowers?" Great too. He looked me in eye and said, "You can pay whatever you want. I know the church and the service isn't nearly as important as the reception, I get that. We certainly can't compete with a 9 piece band. But maybe you can put us on the same level of importance as the flowers? What do you think?"

So, when I think about giving, I think about the other places my money is going and how that fits into what's important in my life. I'm not trading one thing for the other, just trying to level the playing field. I'm not giving up going out for dinners or my kid's karate classes, but maybe my church giving can be somewhere in that neighborhood.

Anyway, that's just a couple of thoughts I have. I know that we have a generous and thoughtful congregation, that's why I joined and why I'm glad to be an Elder. I'm confident that the work of the Stewardship Committee combined with the nature of our congregation will provide all that we need to meet our mission as a church family. Look forward to seeing you on Sunday.



SERVING THE CHURCH AS SESSION MEMBERS

Linda Boardman	469-6063	Chairperson of the Christian Education Committee
Mark Glasse	986-1460	Member of the Christian Education Committee
Brad McLeland	782-5273	Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee
Mal Stewart	294-7243	Member of the Fellowship Committee
Scott Roper	914-426-8574	Chairperson of the Finance and Administration Committee
Bill Hodges	782-6816	Member of the Finance and Administration Committee
Ken Phelan	986-3203	Member of the Finance and Administration Committee
Robyn Farley	469-9067	Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee
Bill Eustance	294-5745	Member of the Fundraising Committee
Lori Kilmer	692-0426	Chairperson of the Mission Committee
Geri Corey	294-8414	Member of the Mission Committee
Sue Varden	649-7830	Member of the Mission Committee
Darlene Bartley	238-4368	Chairperson of the Outreach Committee
Deb Hourahan	240-1344	Member of the Outreach Committee
John Redman	651-1207	Member of the Personnel Committee
Mal Stewart	294-7243	Member of the Personnel Committee
Brian Meek	978-5600	Chairperson of the Property Management Committee
Rob Warner	294-3248	Member of the Property Management Committee
George Hankins	294-8410	Chairperson of the Worship and Music Committee
John Redman	651-1207	Member of the Worship and Music Committee

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>
	<i>Emily Garbutt</i>	22	<i>Bill Hodges</i>
5	<i>Patrick Ellis</i>		<i>Grace Lanuti</i>
6	<i>Sarah Misir</i>		<i>Nancy Mason</i>
10	<i>Nancy Warner</i>	23	<i>Lucy Figueroa</i>
	<i>Gabriela Ukejanya</i>		<i>Owen Hourahan</i>
12	<i>Tom McDowell</i>	26	<i>Abigail Boardman</i>
13	<i>Michael Hagopian, III</i>		<i>Gianna Hagopian</i>
15	<i>Adriana Walsh</i>		<i>Pam Pylant</i>
16	<i>Michael Hagopian</i>		<i>Kiersten Warner</i>
17	<i>Matthew Kopec</i>	28	<i>Kevin Hankins</i>
	<i>Denise Panebianco</i>		<i>Nicholas Hagopian</i>
	<i>Daniel Serkes</i>	30	<i>Michele Meek</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>
17	<i>Kevan and Shannon Ottochian</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.*



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:

Colin Alevras	Ron and Kathy Alevras	Ed Berry
Ann (Strong) Blake	Sarah Bohling	Susie Bohling
Marilyn Borth	Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs	John Burleson
Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doebla	The Family of Lawrence Di Meo	Linda Di Meo
Barbara Drake	Everyone serving in the Military	James, Max, and Liam Feragola
Mary Lee Farris and her sister	Judy Fazio	Esther Glassé
Barbara and George Hankins	Kevin and Sara Hankins	Georgia Hickey
Jennifer and Andy Hine	Carol Hoffman	Susan Johnson
Joseph	Rosemary Joy	Regina Kenny
David Kingsley	Linda Koch	Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy
Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott	Brenda Kujawski	Margo Kumpf
James Lowry	Karen Magee	Kelly Magee Thrush
Ruth Maney	Evelyn Mercado	Richard Montalbano
Eileen Myslinski	Amy (Thompson) Nguye	Dean Oberg
Richard and Robyn Paulus	Josephine Pecoraro	Carlos and Miarose Reyes
Maritya Reyes	Marge (Chasen) Rolan	Jennifer Serkes and Family
Tom Sawyer	Gary Smith	Louise Spencer
Peggy Srirach	Kathy Stringer	Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch
Lise Suenson	Christopher Tucker	Danny Tucker and Family
Cindy Vanderplaat	Kenneth Van Etten	June Vautin
The Wade Family	Doris Weinberger	Jo Wolfe
Anne Wood's brother-in-law Dennis	Sandra Wood	Orra Wood
Phyla Wright	Vicki Yost	

(If you or someone you know would like to be on this list or if you would like to take a name off the list, please call the church office and the name(s) will be included/omitted next month.)



Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

SEPTEMBER UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

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

5 Niches Remain 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”

Special thanks to our dedicated Stewards for keeping the garden neat!

The SEPTEMBER/EARLY OCTOBER Steward’s Schedule:

Bill Eustance	September 1 – September 15
Barbara and George Hankins	September 16 – September 30
Beryl Yungman	October 1 –October 15

YOU can be a Steward of Our Garden on any day of the week! 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 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 2019

**Linda Boardman
Geri Corey
William Eustance
Brad McLeland
Brian Meek
Malcolm Stewart**

Class of 2020

**Darlene Bartley
Robyn Farley
George Hankins
Deb Hourahan
Sue Varden
Rob Warner**

Class of 2021

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

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2019

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

Class of 2020

**Diane Church
Carol Gabella
Jane Geyer
Gina Gruber
Mary Kopec
Betty Lobb
Charlie von Pentz**

Class of 2021

**Michael Coyne
Allison Csernai
Don Dinsmore
Patrick Ellis
Paty Glasse
Barbara Schust
George Schust**

**Moderator of Deacons:
Presbyterian Women:**

Carolyn Keller

STAFF

**Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County**