

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924

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

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

email: fpgoshen@gmail.com

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

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

September 2023



Another year begins! We've been through so much together, especially since 2020. It's good to see normalcy return, whatever that is...there are always going to be challenges. The biggest challenge is to try to grow in Christian love and community...a challenge I fail at often, to speak for myself.

This is a great time to join choir and/or handbells, or to speak up about other musical ideas you might have. For just about seven years I have had the joy of working with you in the music ministry. I look back with pride and gratitude, and look forward with hope and optimism.

The organ is still ALMOST done. There have been some logistical issues getting the final items taken care of. Austin is on the job and will be scheduling a final visit soon. Remember that the organ has many issues above and beyond the console and wiring project we have done. The main work is accomplished but we could always do more. Over time, incrementally, I hope to get everything, as in everything, back to perfect original condition. In the meantime, the organ is serving us well!

The Tuesday organ recitals have been very successful so far. I plan to continue them, barring illness or tornadoes, for as long as there is interest in them. Some churches have decades-long midweek recital series. I think of Saint Anne and the Holy Trinity on Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights—the oldest stained glass in the city (1847) and a five-manual Skinner organ. I played many a recital there as a guest artist.

To all who have come to this church for the recitals, thank you and please come again, and bring a friend!

Choir will resume early in September, date to be announced—either the 7th or 14th of September. Rehearsals are normally in the parlor, on Thursdays at 7:30. When handbells are practicing, they meet at 6:30 in the Sanctuary.

I'm hoping to do more music with the children this year, and to build some sacred music instruction into the Teen Voices program. It's important to provide young people with music and catechesis appropriate to their age and development, but it's also important not to silo them off from the main body of the tradition. It's also important to recognize the depth of their seriousness and the breadth of their curiosity about the important things in life...like religion!

Thank you again for all of your great support, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

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

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:

The Family of Mary Gray Griffith

The Family of Louise Spencer

Mitch Weintraub's brother, Keith

Lorraine – recovering from brain cancer

Trey Long – diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer that has metastasized to his liver

Supply Ministers for September

September 3 – Rev. Ruth Kent

September 10 – Rev. Glenn Henricksen

September 17 – Rev. Glenn Henricksen

September 24 – Rev. Glenn Henricksen

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.

2023-2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Christian Education:	Marlene Gaynor – (845) 469-4280
Fellowship:	Diane Church – (845) 294-5398
Finance and Administration:	Mal Stewart (Chair) – (845) 294-7243 Scott Roper (Vice-Chair) – (914) 426-8574
Fundraising:	Bill Powers - (210) 598-9169
Mission:	
Nominating:	George Hankins (Chair) – (845) 294-8410 Jon Hourahan (Vice-Chair) – (845) 239-9245
Outreach:	Kevan Ottochian (Chair) - (845) 494-8873 Michael Coyne (Vice-Chair) – (845) 238-4585
Personnel:	George Hankins (Chair) – (845) 294-8410 Jody Kopec (Vice-Chair) – (845) 542-7874
Property Management:	Jody Kopec – (845) 542-7874
Stewardship:	Scott Roper - (914) 426-8574
Worship and Music:	Bill Powers– (210) 598-9169

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Rebecca Boardman</i>	20	<i>Evan Gallet</i>
	<i>Elfriede Johnson</i>	22	<i>Bill Hodges</i>
	<i>Emily Garbutt</i>		<i>Grace Lanuti</i>
5	<i>Patrick Ellis</i>		<i>Nancy Mason</i>
10	<i>Nancy Warner</i>	23	<i>Owen Hourahan</i>
15	<i>Adriana Walsh</i>	26	<i>Abigail Boardman</i>
17	<i>Matthew Kopec</i>		<i>Kiersten Warner</i>
	<i>Denise Panebianco</i>	28	<i>Kevin Hankins</i>
	<i>Daniel Serkes</i>	30	<i>Michele Meek</i>



HAPPY SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY TO:

9 *Jody and Mary Kopec*

*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.*

Thank You

The lower windows in the John Knox Building have been replaced. I want to thank Alan Sproul for his unrelenting desire for perfection and a driving determination to complete our project in a timely manner.

Also the immense help from John (Haung Loo) and George Hankins, who without their help we would have not achieved our goal of installing the windows in one weeks time.

Much appreciation and love to Carol Gabella, Mitch Weintraub, and George Hankins for their help with cleaning the entire downstairs of the John Knox Building. We mopped, washed chairs and windows and dusted. Thanks so much!

Thank you to my good friend, Brian Meek, who donated materials, made the exterior trim and added his expert advice to the project.

Lastly to those who made financial contributions to the project; the Deacons, the Yard Sale and other donors who may want to remain anonymous.

Thank you all and God bless,

Jody Kopec

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 Fellowship Hall on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m.

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

Financial Commitments

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

Please Pay Your Per Capita Assessment For 2023

Every year, the Presbytery of the Hudson River charges every member church an assessment according to the current active membership. Our recorded active membership is currently **206** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2023 is \$39.70**, which is a total of **\$8,178.20** to be taken from our operating budget. Please assist with this expense and write a check for your family assessment and either mail it to the church or place it in the Sunday offering plate. We ask that you pay this by February 1, 2023. Thanks for doing your share.

Electronic Giving Cards

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

Livestreaming Worship

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

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

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

Coffee Hour

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

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



SEPTEMBER UPDATE

The fall welcomes you back to your garden!

Memorial Pavers

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

The Memorial Columbarium

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

“Stewards of Our Garden”

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

The SEPTEMBER and early OCTOBER Steward's Schedule:

Nancy Buckley	September 1 – September 15
Bill Eustance	September 16 – September 30
Barbara and George Hankins	October 1 – October 15

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

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

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

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

BOARD OF ELDERS

Class of 2024

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

Class of 2025

**Diane Church
Jody Kopec
Scott Roper
Felicia Van Doran**

Class of 2026

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

Clerk of Session:

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2024

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

Class of 2025

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

Class of 2026

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

Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller

STAFF

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



Save - the - Date & Call for Talent

for the
PresbyBuild
Talent Show

Saturday, September 30th

at 3 pm

***Calvary Presbyterian Church
120 South Street / Newburgh, NY***



to benefit
Habitat
for Humanity®
of Greater Newburgh

We are looking for groups and individuals from area churches that would like to perform. The performances can be musical, theatrical, or spoken word. They will need to be relatively brief as we want to keep the overall length of the show to about 90 minutes.

EMAIL: marciawithacia@yahoo.com

THE KID'S PAGE

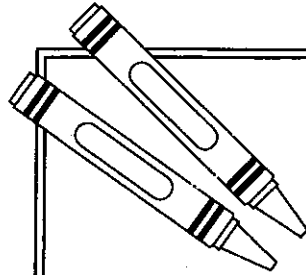
Play a "Listening" Game

*Here is a game that
you can play by
yourself or with a
group of friends.*

You will need:
white paper
pencil or
markers or
crayons

How to play:
Draw a large ear on your
paper. Make it as big as
the paper! *Sit quietly.
Just listen.*

Draw all the
sounds that you
hear on your "ear."
Choose different places to
play. Set a time limit. If
you're playing with friends,
share what you heard.



Just for KIDS

Psalm 46:10

Sometimes our lives are so busy that we cannot seem to fit another thing into the day! But there is something very important that we need to do each day.

Find the answer using the code below.

A D	B 1 E	F H	G 2 I	K M	L 3 N	O S	R 4 T	U W	V 5 Y
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W

5 1 3 5 4 4

4 1 3 3 4 4 2 4 1

1 3 1 3 2 4 4 1 3

2 4 4 2 4 1

" 1 1 4 4 2 3 3 1 3 1

3 3 4 5 4 2 1 4

2 1 3 2 4 1

We must talk to God and listen for God. "Be still, and know that I am God."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - Goshen Presbyterian's 7:30pm - PNC @ B		7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	12:30pm - NA @ B	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am - Worship Service & 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	Labor Day 12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B	6:30pm - NA @ B	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P 7:30pm - NA @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9am - Food Pantry @ FH
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH 10:30am - Deacon's Mtg. @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B	7:30pm - Finance Committee @ P	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	First Day of Hispanic Heritage 12:30pm - NA @ B	10am - Spencer Memorial Service 1pm - Diva Dance @ FH
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Tower Tie Articles Due 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B	7pm - Session @ P	6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	12:30pm - NA @ B	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service & 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	12:30pm - NA @ B	9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7:30pm - PNC @ B	7:15pm - GAPNS Meeting @ FH	6pm - Food Pantry @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	12:30pm - NA @ B	