

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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

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April 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Ready When Willing

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him. (Matthew 1:24)

Many craftsmen have a favorite tool. They use it often and trust that it will do the job, and do it well. It stands up to heavy use, day in and day out. It's easy—even satisfying—to operate. A craftsman might even see his favorite tool as an extension of himself, as a reflection of his skill as a worker.

Now, suppose the craftsman is the Lord, and his trade is building the kingdom, God's house. Surely Joseph was one of God's favored tools! Why? Because he was flexible, obedient, and faithful.

Did you notice that God didn't forewarn Joseph about Mary's unexpected pregnancy? God let him discover the news himself. Rather than panicking, Joseph was flexible; he trusted God and responded peaceably and discreetly. It was only later that God sent the angel to reassure Joseph in his dreams. Then, after he awoke, Joseph promptly obeyed God and brought Mary into his home. He accepted the child God entrusted to him, and raised him in humility and faithfulness to the Lord.

As God goes about plying his trade of kingdom-building on earth, he has many other favored tools—us. Like Joseph, we can be an extension of his hands and feet if we are available and obedient. He relies on us to display his love and peace in trying situations, and to obey when we're called forward. He has even entrusted the next generation of Christ's followers to us.

Tools belong near their master's side, ready for use. That's why we need to spend time with the Lord in prayer every day. Now, we can't always be praying—we do have other responsibilities, just like Joseph! So as you go about your day, keep lifting your heart up to God. Be attentive and listen for his guidance. Wherever the day carries you, maintain an attitude of availability. You may not always sense his presence, but you'll be at his side, ready to respond in faithful obedience when he nudges you.

Pastor Kingsley

Music Notes...



Lent lasts for forty days, and Easter for fifty! That arithmetic alone should bolster our spirits. I love preparing for Easter morning. This year we will introduce a new joyful anthem at the Easter service, and I have every hope that the organ will be running on a new, non-vibrating, long-lasting blower. I will enjoy practicing without being afraid of shaking the building down à la Sampson and the Philistines. Warm

thanks and congratulations to Brian Meek and the other church leaders who have worked so hard to make this project happen.

Please see the announcement below with an appeal for financial assistance with this worthy and important project.

The Emmaus Ringers – First Church’s very own handbell choir– are going to play on Easter, too! It will be our debut performance after a hiatus of over a decade. I would love to have more people share the joy of handbell ringing. Speak to me about it!

I’ve been hearing about talented young people who might be willing to share their musical gifts with us. I’m working on that as well.

If you play an instrument, and would like to play in church, please speak to me about it—I would love to discuss the possibilities with you.

Looking forward to celebrating Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter with you!

–Jonathan

An Organ Update....

As you may know, our organ urgently needs a new blower. The old one is vibrating very severely, and this may cause long-term damage to the building. A new one is being put in soon. The 1931 Austin organ here at First Church is a beautiful, historic instrument, and we should commit to its long-term maintenance. Any financial assistance you can render would be enormously appreciated. Please speak to the Pastor if you are so moved.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY – APRIL 9 – 9:30 A.M.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SERVICE – APRIL 13 - 7:30 P.M.

SERVICE OF DARKNESS - GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 14 – 7:30 P.M.

**ECUMENICAL EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT THE HISTORIC TRACK –
APRIL 16 – 6:30 A.M.**

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP – APRIL 16 – 9:30 A.M.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY NOTES

The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to send out gifts from the church as requested. This past month several shawls have been given along with several baby blankets.

The need continues, and we thank all the ladies who fill the need; however, we are in need of more people to make the gifts. Yarn has been donated, but getting that yarn made into shawls, lap robes, and baby blankets has slowed down due to the loss of several dedicated members of our ministry. We will continue to do what we can, when we can. We thank all of you for supporting our ministry. Lisa Montalbano will continue to keep track of where gifts are sent as well. God bless the hands that work so hard to make hugs to give.

Wendy Lee Paffenroth - PSM Correspondent



NOTES FROM OUTREACH

If you know of anyone who would like to join our church family or has questions, please have them speak to any one of the committee members - Darlene Bartley, Cliff Bartley, Deb

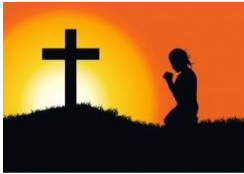
Hourahan, Mary Kingsley,
Lisa Montalbano, Steve Coon, Wendy Bynum-Wade or Grover von Pentz.

We are having our annual **Spring Community Yard Sale on Saturday April 29**. If you know anyone who would like a space, please contact the church office for the application.

The confirmation class hosted the **Community Dinner** for March, and we fed over 60 people, including those who were going on the Midnight Run. We also had entertainment - some Irish Step Dancing and a violinist from the middle school; a great job and everyone enjoyed it! The Girl Scouts will host April's **Community Dinner**, and our rep from Outreach is Grover von Pentz. Come out and enjoy the home cooked meals!

Thank you,

Darlene



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Our meeting on March 6 had a few dedicated members of PW attend.

We hosted World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 3 with a reception following in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to Gina Gruber for playing the piano during the service and to Barbara Hankins who led us in the songs. Thank you to Fran Hoffmann, Carol Gabella, Karen Magee, Cecile Ayres, Geri Corey, and Joan Howell who did the reading of the program so beautifully. Over 30 were in attendance as we celebrated the country of the Philippine Islands. The decorations were lovely and the food with a tropical theme was so enjoyed by the ladies who attended. Everyone remained and had a wonderful time of fellowship. We sincerely thank all of those who donated food to the reception as well.

Discussion was held about the valences that will be purchased for the windows in the freshly-painted Fellowship Hall. We are still waiting for some "swatches" of fabric before the final decision is made, which should be soon. It will be the added touch to the room we need.

Carol Gabella brought in samples of colors for the new table linens for Fellowship Hall. It was decided previously that the ones we had been using needed an updating as they are worn beyond repair. Lisa and Bob Montalbano made a generous donation to help with the cost. These will be custom made to fit our tables in an ivory/cream shade, with a square of Presbyterian blue cloth to go on a diagonal over the center (if wanted). These will be ordered shortly and will be available for receptions when we use our hall.

It is our understanding that the stove in the kitchen will be replaced. The ladies will make a donation to help offset the cost. Carol Gabella, who has restaurant experience, will be our representative when they choose the stove needed. Thank you, Carol, for using your expertise in this area. We then shared a delicious strawberry shortcake before going home!

The ladies are wishing the congregation a wonderful spring and Easter season. Our next meeting will be April 3 in the parlor. Prior to the meeting, Carol Gabella will be teaching **line dancing** in the Bradner Room starting around 6:15 p.m. *Come on out everyone, learn something new, and have a little fun.* Hope to see you there.

With warm thoughts,
Wendy Lee Paffenroth – PW Secretary

FUNDRAISER

The Boese family is holding a Park Lane Jewelry fundraiser at their home (404 Sarah Wells Trail) on April 30, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. The purpose is to support Liese and her two daughters (Katherine and Anna) as they participate in the **Bridges to Community trip to Nicaragua** in June 2017.



The Bridges program will be building a medical facility in a remote area where there is a desperate need. The families currently must travel ten hours for medical care. This is the largest project ever undertaken by the Bridges organization. For this fundraiser the merchant will generously donate 50% of the proceeds to the

Church / Bridges effort. Please come out and support your fellow church members and engage in fun and fellowship. All are welcome as this is not just a fundraiser for women - men will be in attendance as well!



SHARE PAGE

If you have something you want to share -- a recipe, poem, prayer, or something that touched your heart, 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

*After my Mother passed last fall, my sister gave me her Bible, which was given to Mom by her Dad around the time of the Depression. In it were notes in margins and little pieces of papers of prayers and things she tucked away in her lifetime. This poem was among the items found. I don't know how long she had it, but it meant something special to her. With Easter upon us, I thought it was appropriate to share.
God bless, Wendy Lee Paffenroth*

The Hill of Calvary

**I heard two soldiers talking,
As they came down the hill,
The somber hill of Calvary,
Bleak and black and still.
And one said, "The night is late,
These thieves take long to die."
And one said, "I am sore afraid,
And yet I know not why."**

**I heard two women weeping
As down the hill they came,
And one was like a broken rose,
And one was like a flame.
One said "Men shall rue
This deed their hands have done."
And one said only through her tears,
"My son! My son! My son!"**

**I heard two angels singing,
Ere yet the dawn was bright,
And they were clad in shining robes,
Robes and crowns of Light.
And one said, "Death is vanquished"
And one in Golden Voice
Sang, "Love hath conquered, conquered all,
O Heaven and Earth REJOICE"**

Theodosia Garrison (1874 - 1944)



SHARE PAGE

Fran Hoffmann would like to share this poem with you.

WHO MOVED THE STONE?

When I can brush away the snow
And see a crocus bloom,
Its tiny head an inch above
Its icy, rock-hewn tomb,
I wonder as the cynics sneer
“Who moved the stone away?”
In questioning the miracle
Of that first Easter Day.

I’m not a learned scholar;
My name boasts no degree,
But as to “who had moved the stone”
Seems very clear to me.

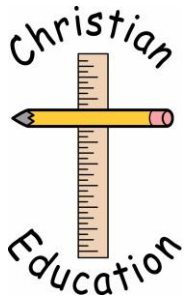
The power that frees the crocus
To see it stand alone,
Must find it very simple
To “move away a stone.”

By Winifred Brand

MOTHER’S DAY IS COMING ON MAY 14!

Will you be here? The men are planning to have a Mother’s Day brunch. Please let us know NOW if you plan on coming so we can get a head count. You can call the church office at (845) 294-7991 or let Mark Glasse know. If you have any questions, call Mark at (845) 325-4439.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW...



HAPPY SPRING!

Mother's Day will be the presentation of Bibles to the third grade class.

June 4th, students of the **Confirmation Class** who have completed all their requirements will become members of the Church.

June 11th will be the last day of **Sunday school** this year. Students will participate in a short presentation to the congregation.

Happily, **VBS** is a go this year! The dates are July 10 to 14, so save the dates!

The theme is "A Mighty Fortress" and the message is excellent. Many of our adult volunteers will be coming back. We hope that you will all be able to support us in this project as strongly as you have in past years- with pre-cutting crafts, food contributions, and decorating the church - not to mention the picnic! More information to come.....

If you can volunteer to help during the actual VBS week or in any other way, please call Allison Csernai at (845) 341-8541 or Rebecca Boardman at (845) 537-6628.

BA Long

Teen Voices

In his hand are the deep places of the earth, the strength of the hills in his hand also. The sea is his, and he made it and his hands formed the dry land. (Psalm 95:4-5)

Nature is a healthy outlet!

In March we looked at the importance of spending time in nature as a way to celebrate God's gifts to us. We looked at the Bible and at some research from the book, *The Nature Fix: Why Being in Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier and More Creative*, by Florence Williams. This book looks at actual physiological measurements of how time in nature improves our health.

In Teen Voices, we often try to offer the teens healthy and Christian-based tools to reduce stress. So if your teen comes to you and asks to go hiking or camping, you will know they are reaching out to offer a healthy way to deal with stress for them and for you!

Coming Up . . .

On April 2, the Teens will come together to cook a meal. The teens are looking forward to this time of fun, learning, and sharing (and so are we!)

Paty and Mark Glasse'
mpglasse@optonline.net

9th ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE

The First Presbyterian Church is holding
its 9th 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 April 29, 2017
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

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO:

2	<i>Ingrid Warner</i>	17	<i>Ian Depew</i>
4	<i>Heather Case</i>		<i>Emma Hourahan</i>
	<i>James Magee</i>		<i>Tom Sawyer</i>
	<i>Jackie Quinn</i>	18	<i>Gregg Piller</i>
6	<i>Marge Rolan (Chasen)</i>		<i>Mark O'Hern</i>
8	<i>Ryan Fitzpatrick</i>	22	<i>Mary Kopec</i>
	<i>Stephen Quinn</i>	25	<i>Barbara Bruno</i>
9	<i>Jackson Diglio</i>		<i>Tina McCloud</i>
12	<i>Aiden Misir</i>	26	<i>Emmanuel Phillips</i>
14	<i>Gabby Donohue</i>	27	<i>Blayne Gibbons</i>
15	<i>Rebecca Zis</i>	28	<i>Carol Hoffman</i>
16	<i>Kaitlyn Gati</i>	29	<i>Elizabeth Sproul</i>

HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARIES TO:

13	<i>Brian and Michele Meek</i>
24	<i>Kevin and Sara Hankins</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 Dave Paffenroth who was honored by the Orange County Vegetable Growers Association with a Lifetime Achievement Award.



DEACONS' PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH – APRIL 9

Please join us in the sharing of food and fellowship following the worship service. - The Board of Deacons



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
Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs
Mike and Allison Csernai
Sharon Conlon
John DeGroat
Mary Lee Farris and her sister
Carole Garling
Barbara and George Hankins
Andy Hine
Laura and Tom Kennedy
Brenda Kujawski
Kelly Magee Thrush
Evelyn Mercado
Dean Oberg
Rachel Reeves
Gary Smith
Virginia Stubenrauch
Cindy Vanderplaat
Doris Weinberger
Sandra Wood
Vicki Yost

Ed Berry
Susie Bohling
John Burlison
Tyler Csernai
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Everyone serving in the Military
Robert and Brenda Faulls
Esther Glasse
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Susan Johnson
The Kingsley Family
James Magee
Diana, Riley, and Gavin Martin
Eileen Myslinski
Dave and Wendy Paffenroth
Maritya Reyes
Peggy Srirach
Gary Swinger
Kenneth Van Etten
Jo Wolfe
Orra Wood

Ann (Strong) Blake
Hannah Boorse
Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla
Laura Colacci
Suzanne DeBlock
Judy Feragola
Judy Fazio
The Family of Tom Griffith
Edith Hausmann
Rosemary Joy
Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott
Karen Magee
Nancy Mason
Amy (Thompson) Nguye
Josephine Pecoraro
Tom Sawyer
Elmer Stevens
Christopher Tucker
The Wade Family
Anne Wood's brother-in-law Dennis
Phyla Wright

(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.)

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2017

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 **357** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2017 is \$34.10**, which is a total of **\$12,173.70** 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.

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



APRIL UPDATE

The NEW Fence is in!

The garden's newest addition is an architecturally appropriate enclosure designed to protect the garden from not only deer, but also from skateboarders who have previously destroyed one bench. The gates will ALWAYS be open to anyone who desires to spend a few tranquil moments in meditation and prayer.

Memorial Pavers

Place your orders for a memorial paver to honor or remember a loved one. **Eight 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 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 APRIL and early MAY Steward's Schedule:

Barbara and George Hankins:	April 1 – April 15
Bill Eustance, Jen and Gregg Piller:	April 16 – April 30
Beryl Yungman:	May 1 – May 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 too can help keep our 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 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

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