

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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

Telephone: (845) 294-7991; fax: (845) 615-1239
email: fpgoshen@frontiernet.net

Robert J. Clooney, Director of Ministry of Music
Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

December 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's interesting, don't you think, that quite often when budgets are tight and things need to be cut, art and music are often the first to go. In today's world, so focused on productivity and outcomes assessments, we no longer seem to possess the capacity to appreciate and value the relevance of beauty itself. By beauty, I mean the depth and creativity of the human soul as it tries to express itself in relationship to this amazing world we live in. For example, when the early church wanted to touch people's hearts and lift their eyes to God's grace and glory, they hired artists to create wonderful works of art (and yes, those in power often sought their own glory this way). Take the Sistine Chapel, for instance, and how you must look up at the ceiling to see the richness of those paintings portraying the story of God bringing human beings into fullness of life and the history of God's relationship with the world. Or think of the incredible use of light and space in Bernini's sculpture of the *Ecstasy of Saint Teresa*.

What about the music of Bach, which celebrates the beauty, glory, pain, grace, and love of God in our lives of faith? How would we measure these works of art in terms of outcomes assessments? Perhaps now, centuries later, we can speak of their value in human culture and history, but at the time they were created, they were "merely" works of human art with no real productive value.

As you and I journey in this spiritual life of faith with Christ, it is good and necessary to take time to remember beauty and creativity. Without them, life would become an expressionless void of soulless productivity. Jesus himself was artistic, I would say primarily with his words, creating images and scenes and stories that allow his followers to see, feel, and taste the reality of the life he is describing. His words ring with both beauty and realism. Words from everyday life such as *lilies, dogs, fields, treasures, money, profit, grief, illness, judging, food, clothing, courage, and fear*, to name a few, all become the paint and the notes he uses to create the images for our minds and hearts. These images lift up drooping faith and weak knees. And yet, to a culture lost in pursuit of productive outcomes, how would we measure his words? By what metric can we determine the scale of success of his ministry at that time? The confusion, of course, is that we think all things can be equally measured, forgetting that the depth of the human soul and our relationship to God is a more profound and deeper metric than any we might create.

All of this is to say, remember to take time for creativity and the nurture of your soul. Take a day and allow yourself the gift and the freedom to be fully present to God in some expressive and deep way. The re-balancing that occurs within you, as you remember that part of yourself which is so parched, is refreshing and enlivening in ways we can't measure. Such things are God's "productivity," and it's good to be reminded that there is beauty in the world where deep calls to deep within our very souls.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Kingsley



ADVENT USHERS IN A NEW CHURCH YEAR

December starts us off with Advent II as we continue to reflect in song and word our longing for the coming of the Christ in human form as Jesus. It is only at this time of year that we sing “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” and “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus.” It is a special time of expectation as we look toward the birth of Jesus.

Our chancel choir members are experiencing life and health issues, and we may not have a full choir each time we sing. However, we continue to give it our all and appreciate your support.

Robert Clooney

Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols
With Christmas Meditation from Pastor Kingsley
December 24 7:00 PM

SERMONS FOR THE SEASON

December 5 – **THE PEACE OF CHRISTMAS** – Isaiah 11: 1-10

December 12 – **THE GOD OF CHRISTMAS** – Isaiah 35: 1-10

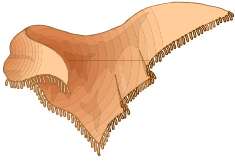
December 19 – **THE MESSIAH OF CHRISTMAS** – Isaiah 7: 10-16; Matthew 1: 18-25

December 24 – **THE CHILD OF CHRISTMAS** – Isaiah 9: 2-7, Luke 2: 1-14, (15-20)

There will be no Wednesday at the Well Service on December 22 or 29.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

With Christmas coming, it's a perfect time to purchase The First Presbyterian Church Christmas cards. For our newer members who may never have seen them, you can purchase 25 cards and envelopes that include beautiful pictures within our church. Each package is \$3.00. They are available for purchase in the church office.



HUG HAPPENINGS

News of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

It is so hard to believe that another month has rolled around and we are at the end of the year already. Shawls continue to roll out the front door as well, and many have been mailed to various locations in the country.

We welcome Joan Butensky to our group. Joan Howell is taking her under her crocheting wing and showing her some of the stitches to get going. Word is, she is picking it up really quickly - no pressure Joan, but we are so glad to have you helping out in our ministry. Remember, **we are willing to teach anyone** who wants to learn this skill. Our next gathering is Sunday, December 5, after church in the parlor. All are welcome. Each of our members has a personal style, so each of the products we make is unique and special.

Again, I thank those who have purchased yarn, gift bags, tissue, and ribbons for us. These little touches add so much to the gift when it is presented from our church. In February, we will hold another yarn drive in the church. Keep watching those sale racks for nice colors and special yarns. Our ladies are amazing with their color designs.

A month ago, I decided to make a shawl for the dental hygienist at our dental practice. She had talked about starting a ministry in her church but was unsure what it was and how it would be received. I thought that if she had a shawl to take and show her friends in the church, another ministry just might blossom. A few days later, I stopped back for my dental work, and she came to me and said, "I gave your shawl away." At first I was taken by surprise, and then she explained. They had a young widow in the office that had lost her husband to cancer. She was going through some tough times. She lost her job, her home was being foreclosed on, and she, too, now had cancer. Nancy took the shawl from the gift bag and put it over her shoulders. She said the lady started to cry but turned to her and said, "I am going to be all right; I have been wrapped in **angel wings**, and God is going to see me through this time of my life." Nancy thanked me and said she can now see the satisfaction we get from our ministry.

Everyone seems to know about the little angel pins I crochet, and while working on some for friends to give out, the phrase "angel wings" kept spinning in my head. The results follow. We now have yet another prayer we can give with our gifts. Soon we will have a prayer for every occasion. *I hope you like "Angel Wings."*



ANGEL WINGS

I was given a gift - shawl to wrap around my shoulders.

**When it was placed on me, I felt different. I was not alone
in my life. Someone cares. I stroke the stitches and notice that
they come together in a pattern. Some stitches are close together for
when life was racing at me from every direction; others are open for
when my life was carefree and relaxed.**

The yarns cross and mingle - like the people who come into my life.

I also notice that the pattern moves forward, just as life does. I cannot go back.

There is no “do over” today, I must continue on this journey and face what the future holds.

God sends his light through the open holes and warms my soul.

He was part of the making of this gift I was given. He guided the hands that made my gift.

**Although this is in a triangle for the Trinity, when it is over my shoulders, the
shape changes and it reminds me of angel wings. It helps to lift me up, gives me
strength, shows me there is hope, reminds me of having faith in life, and takes away my worries.**

I feel blessed by this gift I am embraced in...

Thank you for lifting me up on ANGEL WINGS.

Amen.

(COMPOSED BY W.L. PAFFENROTH- 2010)

Thank you also to all the members of our group, whether you crochet, donate money for yarn, deliver shawls to hug those in need, or just pat us on the back when we are busy creating. We are truly blessed to be part of this wonderful church that supports this outreach. God bless each of you and...

...consider yourselves hugged. Have a truly wonderful holiday season.

Wendy Lee Paffenroth

Shawl Ministry Secretary



QUILT SHOW REPORT

The quilt show on November 20 was an overwhelming success. It was **so** successful that the visitors came to us, after walking the aisles of the sanctuary, wanting to know the date for next year's show. They were putting it on their calendars and planning to bring friends and family who missed this year's show.

We displayed a total of one hundred quilts and at least a dozen pieces of handiwork, such as pillows and needleworks. Many of our guests asked us if they could display one of their treasures next year. Of course we told them we would be honored if they wanted to display pieces. We plan to expand the show next year to include more of the smaller handiwork, cross-stitches, crewel works, needlepoints, etc.

The oldest piece in the show was from Pastor Kingsley and his family, a cross-stitch from 1830. Just about all of the displayed pieces had interesting stories behind them. Several of our guests took more than an hour just admiring the pieces. Others went home to get their cameras or bring their grandchildren. All in all, we met some wonderful people and had a day of interesting conversations.

To make the day extra special, we got to meet a group from the Milford Methodist Church in Pennsylvania. They have a prayer shawl ministry in their church. We shared our prayers and ideas with them and are hoping that, in the spring, we might be able to get the two groups together for an afternoon of fellowship and maybe a tea or a potluck luncheon. They were so happy they made the trip and connected with us, and they wished they had brought the rest of their group with them.

Again, thank you to everyone who helped us in any way (setting up, letting us display your treasures, greening our sanctuary and making it look like an old-fashioned Christmas card, taking donations for the food pantry, helping take down the show, and cleaning up). It was a wonderful day of meeting and greeting new people and old friends. We heard we were the "talk of the town." We do it all again next November.

God bless each of you,

Kathy Alevras, Barbara Hankins, and Wendy Paffenroth
Show Coordinators

For the Board of Deacons,

Everyone involved with the quilt show on November 20 greatly appreciates your time, energy, and efforts it took to "green the sanctuary" for the show. Comments were **all positive**, and because many people were so impressed with the show, photos were being taken all day long.

Everyone thought that he or she stepped back in time into an old-fashioned Christmas. You helped bring JOY to many of our visitors. **Thank you again.**

Kathy Alevras, Barbara Hankins, & Wendy Paffenroth –Show Coordinators

A FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The fall rummage sale went really well thanks to Glynnis and Al Jorgensen and their family members, who are all devoted to this particular fundraising event. A profit of nearly \$2,700 was realized, and this money will go into the general operating fund. Thank you so much, Glynnis, for chairing the rummage sale for us again! And thanks to all of our church members who gave their time to work at the sale!

I also want to thank Gina Gruber, Betty Lobb, and Barbara Hankins for organizing the bake sale that took place during the church fair. The \$688 profit will go into the fund targeted for the repairs of our church's windows. Thank you, ladies, for overseeing the bake sale, and thanks to all of you who took the time to bake for it!

We are currently working on a new fundraiser that will bring in money earmarked for the restoration of the Tiffany windows and the casings of all of our sanctuary's windows. We are going to conduct a raffle of an original piece of art done by John Gould. The painting depicts Harriman Fountain in the early 1900s, and our church is in the picture. We will be raffling the original painting for a ticket price of \$100. There will be second- and third-place prizes, and a small, gift-wrapped version of the painting will be given to everyone who purchases a ticket. If ticket sales take off like we anticipate, we stand to raise a large amount of money, which will all go to the preservation of our beautiful Tiffany windows. We have learned that the window restoration is going to be a very costly endeavor, so we have to work hard to generate the funds for such a lofty and worthwhile project.

I am appealing to our congregation to be on hand to help us because we plan to have the painting on display in various businesses in Goshen. We will need to have people on hand during the hours that the painting is displayed, and, of course, the more tickets we sell, the more money we bring in! Once all the details of this raffle have been completely laid out, you will be told about them. This is a wonderful opportunity for our church. Also, someone will be the lucky winner of an expensive, original work of art by famed painter John Gould!

Loretta Richner
Fundraising Chair

DEACONS' DOINGS...

Thank you to everyone who helped green our sanctuary and set up our Christmas tree.

We recently fed the vendors at the craft fair to raise money for the Minister's Discretionary Fund. We will soon send our annual Advent letter to all of you. This time of year sees us all reflecting on a lot of things in our lives: our homes, families, and church. We tend to forget, though, that there are those who are much less fortunate than we are. We have people within our church and the local community who are struggling daily to pay their most basic household bills. If one small crisis of any kind were to come up, they would have no resources to handle that situation.

Our church's Minister's Discretionary Fund is governed by the deacons and supports our church members and the community in times of need. We ask that, when you receive your Advent letter, you pause to reflect on how generous our church and God have been to you throughout this past year. Then please give what you can, as your generous gifts will help many others through some very tough times.

I want to thank all of the deacons for a job well done this year, from ushering and communion to just doing a little bit of everything around the church. You have all done a fantastic job, and I am glad to be a part of such a wonderful group of hardworking people.

The deacons wish you all a very safe, blessed, and merry Christmas and the happiest, healthiest of new years.

Lori Turner
Moderator 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:

Vince Ahrens	Dedra Altizer	Dennis Baker and daughter
Emily Barry and Family	Mary Lee and Ted Berry	Gabriel Bittner
Lorraine Boardman	Karen and Paige Brooks	Our brothers and sisters in Haiti & Chile
Haley Buckley	Sarah Burrows	Winnie Bynum
Mary Carr	Susan Caslick	Dan Conley
Grace Cook	Bruce and Jean Crandall	Wesley Cudrow
Phyllis Cummings	Sylvester Damiani	Mary Jane DeFreece
Bob Dennis	Joe Destefano	Everyone serving in the Military
Pat Farley	Kevin Fenner	Judy Hankins Feragola
Steve Fischbein	Ben Fisher	Norm and Sharon Frelinger
Gabby	Fran Genovese	The George Family
Barbara and George Hankins	Kevin and Sara Hankins	David Jacks
Curtis and Heather Johnson	Carolyn Keller's parents	Kim
Don and Ella Kimble	Carol Kingsley	Evelyn Kingsley
Lyndsay Krutki	B.A. Long	Grace, Frank and Fran Leva
Charles Li	Margaretta Macica	Ursula Maletz
The Family of Melissa Martucci	Andy Marussich	The Family of Anita McCarthy
The Family of Tom McCombs	Josephine and David Medlar	Evelyn Mercado
Jeff Monroe	Lisa and Bob Montalbano	Heather Mustavs
Eileen Myslinski	Richard Nash	Steven Neil
Nina and Jason	Amy (Thompson) Nguyen	Ann Ott
Amy Pemberton	The Family of Marina Petersen	Susan Pierce
The Family of Madeline Pillmeier	Jack Richner	Trudi Roach
Ted Sandstrom	Kevin Schuler	Fred Schwarz
Bryan Scott and Family	Dorothy Sevcik	Marguerite Shaw
Sara Simas	Walter and Louise Spencer	Peggy Srirach
The Smith Family	Bill and Jean Strong	Shawn Thatcher
Braiden Thew	Judy Thompson	George Tietz
Brenda Travers	Lori Turner	Kim Valentini and Family
Kenya VanZandt	Wendy-BynumWade and Family	Jean Wade
Molly Wanat	Jo Wolfe	Orra and Dale 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.)

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2010

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 348 and *our assessment per member* (not per family) for 2010 is \$26.51, which is a total of \$9,225.48 to be taken from our operating budget. ***As of November 14, \$2,975.93 has been given.*** 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.

EXTRA MILE GIVING TREE

Our Extra Mile Giving Tree still stands in the Narthex and continues to be a great source of giving opportunity for many of our members and friends. Check out the Giving Tree located on the table by the front entrance and make your donation toward a special project of your choice. There are envelopes beneath the tree and can be used to either mail back to the church or place in the offering plate. Thanks for your support.

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

DECEMBER UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

As the Christmas holiday approaches, a paver to remember or honor a loved one is a meaningful and eternal gift to purchase. Please see Pat in the church office to order; the cost of each paver is \$100. We are collecting orders through January for the February order of new pavers, which will be installed in the early spring.

Niches are available in the memorial columbarium. Plan now for your family's future... Each niche is 11¼ inches cubed, allowing for double or single interment.

Four purchase options are available:

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 the Garden”

Please feel free to “lend a helping hand” at the garden! Just stop by and remove a bag of dead leaves that have fallen on our sacred space. The December/January schedule is below for our Stewards.

SCHEDULE:	Loretta and Jack Richner:	December 1 – December 16
	Barbara and George Hankins:	December 17 – December 31
	Wayne George:	January 1 – January 16
	Beryl Yungman and Sue Varden:	January 17 – January 31

This schedule will be posted outside the church office.

If anyone is interested in joining the “Stewards,” please contact Wayne George (914-213-4093).

Please call the church office (845-294-7991), Pastor Kingsley, or Wayne George for any additional information you may need about the Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden.

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is back in the narthex! Last year, thanks to the generosity of the congregation, we donated over fifty presents to the Salvation Army. We hope to match that number again this year. Once again, our Sunday school students have decorated bright and cheery tags. Please consider taking a tag (or two, or more!), buying a gift (\$12 suggested price minimum), and making Christmas a little brighter for a child in need. All presents need to be beneath the tree by noon on Sunday, December 12. If you have any questions, please call Beth Laskoski (651-3294). Thank you in advance for supporting this worthy cause.

PHONE NUMBER UPDATE:

**Sue and Bill Stenson
520-575-9646**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

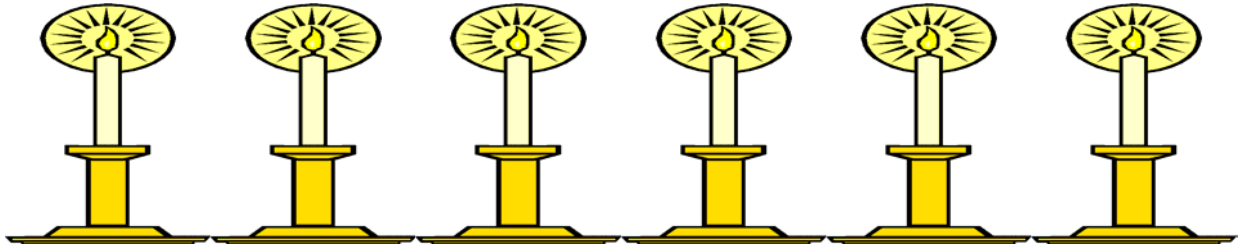
CHRISTMAS BOXES

Presbyterian Women will be packing Christmas boxes in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, December 15 at 1:30 p.m. This year, we are giving the Christmas boxes in honor of Dorothy Sevcik, who started this project many years ago. We take the boxes to people who are ill, alone, or in nursing homes. Each box usually contains small, useful gifts such as toiletries, jam, a book, stamps, cards, cookies, and a plant. Everyone is welcome to help pack the boxes. We are also thankful for donations of gifts such as the above items or monetary help toward the cost of the plants. For information, please call Fran Hoffmann at 294-6470.

The Presbyterian Women will be meeting on Monday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor. **All women of the church are invited. Please join us.**

Presbyterian Women (PW) is pleased to announce that \$688 was raised for the church at the recent bake sale. Our sincere appreciation is extended to all those who baked and bought our goodies. Jean Strong's donation of apple cider from Soon's Orchard was popular, as always. A new addition to our sale this year was homemade soup. Special thanks goes to Carolyn Keller and Carol Gabella for organizing this. What a wonderful way to use those canning jars you've been saving - thanks to Fran Hoffmann! A few leftover "treasures" from the rummage sale also found their way onto the sale table. Thanks to Glynnis Jorgensen for having a keen eye for what sells. And to those who helped us price and sell items, you helped make the bake sale a great success. Thanks to all!

Gina Gruber and Betty Lobb



SPREAD the LIGHT....the word of our Lord! Sign up to serve your church as an acolyte. All children of the congregation in Grade 3 through confirmation age are eligible to serve as acolytes as long as:

YOU TAKE IT SERIOUSLY

This is an opportunity to serve God and your congregation. The candles are a very symbolic part of our worship service...they represent the presence of Jesus Christ “lighting” our way as we worship together.

YOU ARE DEPENDABLE

If you sign up for a week, please make every effort to honor your commitment AND be on time. Acolytes need to be in church NO LATER than 9:15 a.m. You will be dismissed from Sunday school a few minutes early to extinguish the candles at the end of the worship service.

The students of the Confirmation class are required to serve as acolytes at least once a month. Kathy Stringer will assign to them the Sunday that they will acolyte. If they cannot serve that Sunday, it is up to them to find a replacement.

Yes, I want to be an acolyte

Name _____ Phone # _____

GRADE _____

I understand that if I sign up to be an acolyte I will be at church that Sunday no later than 9:15 a.m. and that I will remain in Sunday school until the end of the worship service to extinguish the candles. I also understand that if an emergency arises and I cannot be there for one of my weeks, I will make every effort to find a substitute AND I will notify Mrs. Stringer (496-7765) or the church office as early as possible before that Sunday.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Dates I can be available: (please circle as many as you can. You will be notified as to which weeks you will serve as acolyte.)

December	5	12	19	26	
January	2	9	16	23	30
February	6	13	20	27	
March	6	13	20	27	
April	3	10	17	24	
May	1	8	15	22	29
June	5	12	19	26	

PLEASE RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE or put in the offering plate during worship.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Roger Tuthill</i>	15	<i>Rachael Quick</i>
2	<i>Joy Kissane</i>	16	<i>Linda Boardman</i>
3	<i>Craig Benson</i>	17	<i>Sergio Maturana</i>
4	<i>Greg Sitler</i>	18	<i>Barbara Thompson</i>
5	<i>Erica Gati</i>	19	<i>Joe Pietropaolo</i>
	<i>Kari Taylor</i>	20	<i>Nancy Leech</i>
6	<i>Lisa Montalbano</i>	25	<i>Jenn Serkes</i>
9	<i>Beryl Yungman</i>		<i>Wesley Sproul</i>
12	<i>Bruce Crandall</i>		<i>Mal Stewart</i>
	<i>Daphne Castellano</i>	27	<i>Kayla Farley</i>
14	<i>Jeanette McDowell</i>		<i>Paul Gruber</i>
	<i>Ken Skyer</i>		<i>Barbara Heiser</i>
	<i>Rob Dickover</i>	29	<i>Geri Corey</i>
	<i>Elise Frederick</i>		<i>Ethan Cox</i>

HAPPY DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

14	<i>Dave and Michele Castellano</i>
17	<i>Robert and Rebecca Boardman</i>
18	<i>Bruce and Jean Crandall</i>
23	<i>Bill and Gina Gruber</i>
28	<i>Jon and Deb Hourahan</i>
29	<i>Tom and Jeanette McDowell</i>
	<i>Greg and Deborah Spencer</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:

- *Jessica Spencer, a sophomore at Goshen High School, who was selected to play her violin in the Area All-State Orchestra.*
- *Judy Green who was honored by the Goshen Chamber of Commerce at its annual awards dinner, as the Person of the Year.*
- *Hartley Sawyer, son of Tom and Karen, on starring in a new show called "Glory Daze" to be aired on TBS on Tuesday nights at 10:00 p.m. The first show aired on November 16 and will run for nine weeks. Hartley was a graduate of Goshen High School and Emerson College in Boston where he graduated with a degree in Acting and Directing.*
- *Mary Lee Berry on receiving the Outstanding Service to People with Disabilities Award at Inspire's annual fundraiser, the Shining Stars Celebration, on November 20.*

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

In honor of the birth of our Savior and in celebration of this glorious season, please consider helping us to decorate our Sanctuary with beautiful red, white, pink, and mixed poinsettias. They will be placed in the church for Christmas Eve, December 24 and may be taken following the 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service. Kindly consider ordering a plant in honor of or in memory of a special person(s) or loved ones, or simply to the Glory of God and in celebration of Christ's birth. **The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, Dec. 7.** Please complete the form below and submit with your payment of \$12.99 per plant made payable to the First Presbyterian Church (put PW in the memo) or call the Church Office (294-7991), Betty Lobb, 294-6344, Carolyn Keller 294-5508 or Carol Gabella (after 4PM) 342-4367.

Thank you for helping us honor Christmas with festive flowers!

Yes, I would like to order Christmas poinsettias for the Sanctuary as follows:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u>
_____	Red
_____	White
_____	Pink
_____	Mixed
_____	Total @ \$12.99 each = \$_____ due

Please make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church (put PW in the memo) and place in the offering plate or give to Betty, Carolyn, or Carol

Given by: _____

(Kindly PRINT as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.)

To the Glory of God and:

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In celebration of: _____

To honor the birth of Jesus Christ: _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

For those who were unable to attend, this is what I shared with the congregation at the October 24 service.
Cecile Ayres

A Tribute to Florence Fletcher

Those of us who knew Florence, or “Flo,” Fletcher were blessed to know a very special, very beautiful, person. On October 22, Richard and I attended her funeral, which was held at the Scarborough Presbyterian Church, a building with a sanctuary about the size of ours and with someone filling every pew. The former pastor of the church flew in from Louisville, Kentucky and gave the Meditation. Pastors Stark and Kathy Jones attended, and Stark gave the closing poem and prayer following the reception. Our pastor, David, did the final blessing at Flo’s interment. I’m going to share with you two messages from the service.

Our family thanks all who have opened their hearts and their lives to Florence throughout the years. Florence’s family was comprised not only of relatives but of everyone who shared in her life. She embraced and provided unconditional love and support to any soul in need. She demonstrated an acknowledged goodness which carries through life and death. Her legacy will live on through the congregation and her family. Florence taught us to live life with grace and to embrace every day with open arms. She received an enormous amount of love and respect with every relationship she fostered. Thank you for enriching her life. We thank everyone who has provided support and unconditional love to our family as Florence would have done for others.

What God Hath Promised

God hath not promised skies always blue, flower-strewn pathways all our lives through.
God hath not promised sun without rain, joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
But God hath promised strength for the day, rest for the labor, light for the way, grace for the trials, help from above, unfailing sympathy, undying love...

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Walt and I wish to extend special thanks to Reverend Kingsley and all of you for your prayers and expressions of concern during the months Walt was in the hospital. He may even once again be able to walk the dog!

Louise and Walter Spencer

The Harriman Fountain

The Good Old Days in Goshen, New York

Anyone who has ever lived in Goshen, or even just visited, will be nostalgic about the perspective of life in Goshen at the beginning of the twentieth century. Back then, the First Presbyterian Church, with its surrounding park, was the focal point and defining structure of the Goshen “villagescape.” Now, First Presbyterian Church in Goshen, in conjunction with The Bethlehem Art Gallery, will be giving you a chance to take home the original painting by renowned artist John Gould. What a terrific Christmas gift, a wonderful slice of Goshen for your home, not to mention a great investment. Close your eyes and think of your time in Goshen. Whether you’re a third-generation resident or a visitor, the image you’ll see in your mind will be very similar to the one above, with perhaps a lot more traffic in the Village Square! Don’t miss out on your chance to own your piece of Goshen history. Fill out the order form below and return to:

First Presbyterian Church
33 Park Place
Goshen, New York 10924

If you have any questions, call the church office at 845-294-7991

Gould’s View of Goshen Raffle Tickets *** \$100 each

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (day) _____ (eve) _____ (cell) _____

EMAIL _____

Total tickets _____

Total enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to “First Presbyterian Church in Goshen” and write “Gould raffle tickets” in the memo area.)

Tickets may be purchased during coffee hour or at the church office during the week.



Reprinted with permission

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

We'd like to again highlight two of our member families to help the congregation learn something about both new and old members. This month we interviewed Don and Fran Hoffmann and Dave, Michele, Dylan and Daphne Castellano.



Name:

Don and Fran Hoffmann

In what town do you live?

Goshen, New York

What are your places of birth?

Don – Berne, Indiana

Fran – Sharon, Pennsylvania

What are your favorite foods?

Don – deep fried pork tenderloin on a bun

Fran – any kind of pasta

If you got a chance to perform on “America’s Got Talent,” what would your talent be?

Don – directing an orchestra

Fran - teaching

Do you have a favorite hobby or activity?

Don – woodworking, repairing broken or damaged anything to make it usable

Fran – crewel embroidery

Do you have any pets?

Family allergies resulted in loss of pets

If you could go on vacation to ANY place in the world for one week, where would it be and why?

Costa del Sol in Spain or revisit Bruges, Belgium and Scotland

What is one thing most people don’t know about you?

Don – was a music major prior to 45 years as a practicing optometrist

Fran – was a substitute teacher for many years in high school English and Math



Name:

Dave Castellano Dylan Castellano
Michele Castellano Daphne Castellano

In what town do you live?

Goshen, New York

What are your places of birth?

Dave – Connecticut Dylan – New Jersey
Michele – New Jersey Daphne – New York

What are your favorite foods?

Dave – spaghetti Dylan – pizza
Michele – steak Daphne - meatballs

If you got a chance to perform on “America’s Got Talent,” what would your talent be?

Dave – piano Dylan – comic act
Michele – clarinet Daphne - dancing

Do you have a favorite hobby or activity?

Dave – running Dylan – computer
Michele – running, crossword puzzles Daphne - drawing

Do you have any pets?

Yes, a cat

If you could go on vacation to ANY place in the world for one week, where would it be and why?

Dave – Alaska – peace and quiet
Michele – New Zealand – always wanted to go and wanted to go for our honeymoon

What is one thing most people don’t know about you?

Dave – I never drank a cup of coffee
Michele – I am very conservative

What question do you wish this questionnaire asked, but did not?

Dave – How did you end up living in Orange County, New York?
Michele – How did you end up at our church?

CANNING JARS NEEDED...

The soup and chili sale at the craft fair was so successful that our good cooks plan to expand the sale next year. If you have any pint or quart canning jars that you no longer need, please drop them off in the hallway by the church office. Please write "For Carolyn Keller" on top of the box or bag. Carolyn will store them until they are needed again. Also, if you see canning jars at garage sales during the year and they appear to be in good shape, please buy them and donate them to the church. Thank you in advance for your help.

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 2011

**John Bruno
Linda Clark
Geri Corey
Dominick Fontana
Bill Hodges
Kathy Stringer**

Class of 2012

**Wendy Bynum-Wade
Craig Calzaretta
Tyler Cox
Bill Keller
Tom McDowell
Sue Varden**

Class of 2013

**Cliff Bartley
Barbara Hankins
John Redman
Loretta Richner
Scott Roper
Rob Warner**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2011

**David Castellano
Patrick Farley
Grover vonPentz**

Class of 2012

**Linda Boardman
Jessica Bowe
Carol Gabella
Glynnis Jorgensen
Carolyn Keller
Marni Lewis
Rebecca Zis**

Class of 2013

**Gina Gruber
John Gruber
Kari Taylor
Lori Turner
Moses Ukejanya
Ashley Wade
Anne Wood**

**Moderator of Deacons:
Presbyterian Women:**

Lori Turner

STAFF

**Robert Clooney, Director of Ministry of Music
Pat Schwetje, Church Secretary
Kim Hoernig, Church Treasurer
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