

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

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

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

February 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.”

Reflection

The book *Obama: An Intimate Portrait* compiles three hundred photos taken by Pete Souza, the chief official White House photographer during Barack Obama’s presidency. Many of them depict historic moments: World Summit meetings, intense conversations in the Situation Room or Oval Office, addressing Congress. More surprising are intimate moments: Obama holding hands in prayer with family around the bed of a wounded soldier, playing in a snowstorm with his daughters, laughing with staff about colorful batik shirts worn by previous presidents, eating a green tea ice cream bar with two Japanese women, coaching Sasha’s basketball team, leaning down to hear an elderly mother in a wheelchair whose daughter died in the church bombing in Birmingham. Many depict his interactions with young children: crawling on the floor, getting “zapped” by a three-year-old dressed as Spiderman, and the well-known photo of five-year-old Jacob Philadelphia rubbing Obama’s head so he could feel for himself that the president’s hair felt like his own. We all treasure finding something familiar, or in common with, another human being. These photos “humanize” the person who once held the most powerful position in the most powerful country of the world.

One great mystery about Jesus is that he embodied the Divine as a fully human being. This repelled some. After Jesus said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven” others complained, “Who does this guy think he is? We know where he came from; we know his parents.” How could someone so familiar claim such eternal

truths? It's not easy to understand the incarnation. Yet at the same time, I sense the Divine most in precisely the most human interactions—when compassionate, intimate moments of connection happen.

Pastor Kingsley



Music Notes

It's been a rough January, with pastor and secretary sick and the new year getting into high gear. Here's hoping that February will be a happy and healthy month! Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14—yes, Valentine's Day. There will be the customary evening service that day.

Music during Lent is properly less energetic than during other times of the year. While not a morose or gloomy time, Lent is a season of penitence, introspection, examination of conscience, and the resolve to do better. The Latin word "februare," where the word February comes from, means "to purify." It was the ancient Roman spring cleaning—a good analogy!

Nowadays we often hear dismissive commentary about Lent, usually something about "giving up candy." Well, candy is a great thing to give up, given the national epidemics of obesity and diabetes. However, doing something positive is also a proper way to observe the season. Give up the candy of gossip, of social media, of any emotional crutches we come to rely on. Replace it all with the nourishing food of supportiveness, positivity, self-reliance, faith, generosity, empathy. Come to church. Join the choir!

And as we sing the Lenten songs this year, think of the coming miracle of Easter, and remember that while Lent lasts for forty days (more or less), Easter season lasts for *fifty*. Joy always wins. That maxim guides me as a church musician, and I hope it helps you in the coming weeks.

As always, I'm grateful to the choir and handbell choir for their faithful and excellent work.

There will be a concert on Sunday, March 18, featuring our own Tower Trio—Mary Lee Farris, Bill Powers, and yours truly. I hope you can come!

Jonathan



From the Worship and Music Committee...

The Worship and Music Committee will host a musical presentation by the *Tower Trio*... Jonathan Hall,

Mary Lee Farris, and Bill Powers. This will take place on March 18, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary with a freewill offering supporting the organ fund. A small reception will be held in Fellowship Hall following the performance.

NOT JUST CHILI. . . for a Cause

This year the Mission Committee members are making it easy on congregants: we're not sponsoring a competition to determine who makes the best chili. No, no competition, so there's no work.

All you and your family have to do is come to Fellowship Hall and have a great dinner--one with a Mexican flair!

As an added bonus, the committee is pleased to announce that local restaurants, including Steve's Deli, Elsie's Luncheonette, LaCasita, Limoncello, and Delancey's are donating Mexican dishes to enhance this great dinner. Delancey's chili was voted best chili in the last Chili Challenge that was sponsored by the Mission Committee.

A full, satisfying dinner will include a choice of chili, enchiladas, chips & salsa, salads, all the fixings--rice, cheese, sour cream, onions--dessert and drinks--water or soda.

Details:

Date: Saturday, March 3, 2018

Where: First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

Time: 5:00—6:30 p.m.

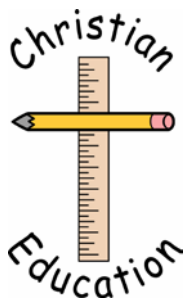
Cost: \$10 (drink & dessert included); children between 4 and 11, \$5.



So, save the date. Mark your calendars—don't be left out for this nourishing dinner—at a reasonable price.

All proceeds from this fundraiser go to PresbyBuild in Partnership with Habitat for Humanity in Newburgh.

Christian Education would like you to know:



Souper Sunday will be on February 4.

We will collect canned goods on Super Bowl Sunday for the Goshen Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Please bring something to donate to a very good cause!

Stone Soup Sunday is planned for March 4 (the story of sharing).

We are asking the congregation to bring desserts to share, with the possible addition of breads. We will have soup made from the Sunday school's contributions of veggies, etc. for sale to eat in Fellowship Hall or to take home.

Saturday, March 24 is the popular Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. There is a form to reserve your spots at one of two seatings elsewhere in the Tower Tie. Don't forget! It can fill up fast.

We are starting to plan for the Vacation Bible School taking place this early summer.

We would welcome help in the planning and operation of this fascinating event.

There will be a meeting February 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor for those of us interested in being a part of this.

Consider yourself invited. ALL are welcome!!

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

WHEN: SATURDAY, March 24, 2018

TIME: 8:30 - 10:00 A.M. OR 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

WHERE: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN GOSHEN

COST: \$8.00 PER PERSON, PAID IN ADVANCE



Included in the price of each paying child's reservation will be tickets for crafts, games, and activities (for children of all ages), and an egg hunt.

The Easter Bunny will be on hand to greet everyone.

**BRING YOUR CAMERA TO CATCH THAT SPECIAL MOMENT ON THE
EASTER BUNNY'S LAP!**

LIMITED SEATING; DON'T DELAY!!

Reservations accepted in the church office through March 19.

Questions? Call 649-1029 or 294-7991

RESERVATION FORM for "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny"

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Preferred Seating Time
on **Saturday, March 24** _____ 8:30 to 10:00 **OR** _____ 10:00 to 11:30

Number of adults _____ Number **AND AGES** of children participating
and older children _____ in breakfast and activities _____

(Activities include an egg hunt. Please bring your own baskets.)

TOTAL NUMBER X \$8.00 COST PER PERSON = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church, 33 Park Place, Goshen, NY 10924.
Forms and checks can be dropped off at the church office.

DINNER CLUB AT THE RUSTIC WHEELHOUSE

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR DINNER AT THE RUSTIC WHEELHOUSE**

**39 Main Street
Chester, New York**

Sunday, February 11, 2018

5:00 p.m.

\$30.00 per person includes tax and gratuities

Cash bar

APPETIZER:

Mixed Green Salad

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE:

Chicken Parmigiana with linguini pasta
Parchment Baked Salmon with potato and vegetable
Marinated Steak with mashed potato and vegetable

DESSERT:

Apple Crisp
Coffee, tea or soda

Contact Linda Clark (294-7488) or Jo Wolfe (294-6652)
for reservations.

**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2018**

The congregation is asked to bring a dish to share.



Join us for the **Ash Wednesday Service** on
February 14 at 7:00 p.m.

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



News from Outreach

New Member Meetings - There will be a meeting on Sunday, February 18 in the Bradner Room (downstairs in the Fellowship Hall). Please get some refreshments at coffee hour and join us. The purpose of this meeting is to share with you, who we are and what we expect from you as a member, and to get to know you and what you expect from us. Those interested in joining the church will meet with the Session on Wednesday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and you will be received as a member during the service on Sunday, March 4. We hope to make our church family larger.

Prayer Shawls - We have been very busy with sending out prayer shawls. Shawls have gone to the following church family members: Allison Csernai, Richard Paulus, Caryl Swald, Mary Kopec for a family member. Shawls will also be going to Cheryl Zis, her mother-in-law and her husband, Nick. Lisa has given six shawls out to family and friends. We hope that everyone will feel hugged. There were also five baby blankets done for baptisms. If anyone likes to crochet and would be interested in helping to make shawls or baby blankets, in white with a pastel edging for baptisms, they would be greatly appreciated. If you need a shawl for someone, please see either Barbara Hankins, Lisa Montalbano or myself after church. We have them ready to go. I made a blanket for the glider that is in the back of the sanctuary for parents to use when sitting there with their child. Barbara Hankins is making one for the other glider.

Community Dinner - In January, the Elders hosted and we had lots of great food, fellowship and fun. We served 53 people who came out in the cold. In February, the Deacons will be hosting and I know there will be a wonderful meal as well. Please consider coming out for a wonderful home cooked meal and enjoy the fellowship. It is always the second Saturday of each month from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. and you are always welcome. I have August and September months open. If you know anyone that would consider hosting, please let me know.

Red Books - I would just like to remind everyone to sign the red books. Lisa does an awesome job of keeping track of the attendance. We care about you and if you have not signed in a few weeks and we have not seen you, you may have received a bright post card to let you know we miss you and hope you are ok. If you are sitting near someone new, please encourage them to sign the red register with their address and email if they have one. We would like to send them a visitor letter.

PS: We are always looking for new members for the committee. So if you would like to help with the community dinner, new members, crocheting, advertising for events...so many things, we meet on the second Sunday of the month after church in the parlor.

Thank you and have a wonderful month.

Darlene

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Our ladies decided not to meet in January, but will resume our monthly get together on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor. We invite all the ladies in the church to come out, join us, and help as we plan for the year.

Below is a calendar of our meetings and things we are doing this year. If there is anything you want to put on the ladies' calendar, see Wendy Paffenroth with the details.

Thank you – Have a wonderful Valentine's Day.

God bless,
Wendy Lee Paffenroth - Secretary PW



Presbyterian Women's Association Meeting Dates

Meetings are held in the church parlor at 7:00 p.m.

- February 5, 2018
- March 2 - World Day of Prayer – (not at our church this year)
- March 5 –
- March 11 – Ladies Coffee Hour FH – **Help Appreciated**
- April 2-
- May 7-
- June 4 - **Important Meeting**
- July GAW – Watch Bulletin for Details
- August – No Meeting - Summer Break
- September 10 (2nd Monday due to Labor Day)
- November 5-
- November 17- Holiday Fair-Bake sale/Soup Chili Sale
- December 3-
- December ? – Pack Christmas boxes/ need cookies etc.

Please watch the bulletin for any changes. All ladies in the congregation are members of PW.
Don't wait to be asked – please come and share fellowship at meetings with us and bring a friend too.

Thank you, PWA

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO:

1 Grover vonPentz
3 Kat Kingsley
4 Todd Countryman
Garfield Clark
Arlete Shaeffer
5 Morgan Case
6 Dan Esposito
Anne Lavell
10 Linda Clark
12 Jo Wolfe
13 Alice Kwiecinski

14 Laura Colacci
Andrea von Pentz
Doug Wade
16 Cliff Bartley
Robyn Farley
20 Beth Phelan
Anne Tuthill
21 Jack Calzaretta
Kimberly Zis
24 Mackenzie Sproul
Amber Countryman

HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

9 Mike and Allison Csernai
14 Sean and Janet Linton



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 Kevan Ottochian who was inducted into St. Thomas Aquinas College Hall of Fame on Friday, January 26, 2018. Kevan was celebrated for his hard work and dedication to education. He is a high school social studies/history teacher at Warwick Valley High School.



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

Bill Hodges wanted to share this poem with you.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting, "I've been saved!"
I'm whispering, "I get lost sometimes
That's why I chose this way."

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I don't speak with human pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble –
needing God to be my guide.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
and pray for strength to carry on.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting that I've failed
and cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I don't think I know it all.
I submit to my confusion
asking humbly to be taught.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect.
My flaws are far too visible
but God believes I'm worth it.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartache
which is why I seek God's name.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I do not wish to judge.
I have no authority
I only know I'm loved.



Written by Carol Wimmer



THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ON GOING!

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

Any questions/please feel free to contact me.

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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is seeking names of members for **CONSIDERATION** for a 3 year term on either the Session or Board of Deacons and a 1 year term for the Nominating Committee. Please, when submitting names, remember that the Session meetings take place on the 4th Wednesday evening of each month and the Board of Deacons on the 1st Sunday after church. We know that some people have extended hours for work, but it is important to the board that you are serving on that you are available for these meetings.

Thank you.

Darlene Bartley - Nominating Committee, Chair

Name of person to be considered for:

Elder _____

Deacon _____

Nominating Committee _____



PRAYER CORNER

The following members or friends are going through a time in which they have asked for prayer by the church. Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Ron and Kathy Alevras

Sarah Bohling

Marilyn Borth

Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla

Sharon Conlon

Suzanne DeBlock

Everyone serving in the Military

Judy Fazio

Miko Graham

Kevin and Sara Hankins

Jennifer and Andy Hine

The Kidney Family

Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott

Kelly Magee Thrush

Richard Montalbano

Dean Oberg

Josephine Pecoraro

Marge (Chasen) Rolan

Lisa Scheuermann

Peggy Srirach

Virginia Stubenrauch

Christopher Tucker

Kenneth Van Etten

Doris Weinberger

Sandra Wood

Ed Berry

Susie Bohling

Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs

Laura Colacci

Winifred Coyne

John DeGroat

Judy Hankins Feragola

Bob Geyer

Lynne Gregor

Edith Hausmann

Susan Johnson

David Kingsley

Brenda Kujawski

Diana Martin

Eileen Myslinski

Dave and Wendy Paffenroth

Rachel Reeves

Aimyna Jade Royce

Gary Smith

Sue Stenson's brother-in-law, Leo

Caryl Swald

Danny Tucker and Family

June Vautin

Jo Wolfe

Orra Wood

Ann (Strong) Blake

Hannah Boorse

John Burluson

Lawrence Colacci

Allison Csernai

The Family of Marianne Eidel

Mary Lee Farris and her sister

Esther Glassé

Barbara and George Hankins

Georgia Hickey

Rosemary Joy

Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy

Karen Magee

Evelyn Mercado

Amy (Thompson) Nguye

Richard Paulus

Maritya Reyes

Tom Sawyer

Louise Spencer

Kathy Stringer

Gary Swinger

Cindy Vanderplaat

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.)

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



FEBRUARY UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

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

7 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 FEBRUARY/ early MARCH Steward’s Schedule:

Beryl Yungman

February 1 – February 14

Barbara and George Hankins

February 15 – February 28

Bill Eustance, Jen & Gregg Piller

March 1 – March 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 2018

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

Class of 2019

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

Class of 2020

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

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2018

**Wendy Bynum-Wade
Laura Colacci
Donald Dinsmore
Wendy Donohue**

Class of 2019

**Liese Boese
Margaret Dickover
Jon Hourahan
Carolyn Keller**

Class of 2020

**Diane Church
Carol Gabella
Jane Geyer
Gina Gruber**

**Paty Glasse
Gregg Piller
Jenn Piller**

**Jody Kopec
Logan Quick
Felicia Van Doran**

**Mary Kopec
Betty Lobb
Charlie von Pentz**

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

STAFF

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