

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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

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

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

Web Page: www.fpgoshen.org

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first, will have nothing to do with us . . . he refuses to welcome the brothers (3 John: 9-10)

One summer, several years ago, my eldest sons and I planned to spend some time together. Jeff, the eldest, was living in Wisconsin. Robert, who was just out of the Air Force, and I were going out to visit and spend a week having fun together. It started out with a warm welcome filled with hugs and smiles. These two sons had been like oil and water growing up and it was a pleasure to see they had, I thought, matured past those earlier conflicts.

I didn't know how long it would last, but I didn't care. I planned to enjoy every minute of their love-fest. Of course, I harbored hopes that it would be days, possibly weeks, before either of them cried foul for whatever reason. My hopes were short-lived.

I don't want to sound like I'm throwing my sons under the bus. They don't make a regular practice of treating each other as enemies. Only eighteen months apart in age, they always have been and still are the best of friends, most of the time. But they are still siblings. It doesn't take much to evoke conflict. Annoyances creep up from out of nowhere--they bicker; they compare and complain of perceived injustices. I'm not too bothered by this for this is what brothers do.

What happens in the family happens with troubling frequency in God's family as well. The difference is that we expect this kind of thing between siblings who have lived in the same house. But when it comes to the community of faith, to brothers and sisters who are joined by the Spirit of God and gathered in their common desire to worship and to love God, we expect better.

Being a community of grace is not easy. Explanations for our failure to obey Jesus and "love one another" are many. However, in the little New Testament letter of Third John we get a specific insight into what goes wrong and why we sometimes struggle to love our brothers and sisters.

The entire letter of Third John is only 13 verses long. Right near the middle John mentions someone in the church who seems to be causing trouble. Diotrephes won't have anything to do with John, and "he refuses to welcome the brothers." John diagnoses the problem with a simple observation. Diotrephes loves to be first (3 John: 9-10).

"Me first." The words sound like something we might hear from young children, especially brothers and sisters. And these words will almost always invite resistance. "Me first" is always answered by "No . . . me first." And on it goes.

As we grow older we outgrow those petty words, but we find different ways to say the same thing: "Me first." And when "me first" is resisted or denied, when that approach to life isn't working for us, we find that hostility

towards our brothers and sisters grows. James put it this way: "What causes fights and quarrels among you? You want something but don't get it" (James 4:1-2).

The presence of brothers and sisters in our lives means that we do not have unhindered access to our own way. Sometimes we have to give way, let others go first, attend to the needs of someone else before our own. To truly love our brothers and sisters, we'll have to wage war against pride and against self.

We all love to be first. Having brothers and sisters means allowing someone else to occupy that place. How can you do that today?

Pastor Kingsley

Christian Education Committee would like you to know.....

The **Bunny Breakfast** is coming up on Saturday, March 19, with two seatings. There are registration forms in the church bulletin and Tower Tie. Hope to see you there!

And to those of you who have volunteered, "Thank you!!" We could always use a few more volunteers.

March 15 is the last day we can decide on running VBS this year or not. That is the time we will have to tell the Episcopalians, as well. We have many returnees from past years for just about all of the adult volunteer jobs, and we also have many teen volunteer returnees.

We expect the dates to be July 5 through July 8 for a 4-day week after the Monday holiday.

We would transform the sanctuary Monday night, unencumbered by the dregs of Great American Weekend.

What we need is a firm commitment from one or two more people to actually be there the whole week to run it. If we don't get that core team member of two more members, we will have to cancel VBS for this year. We have two so far. Keep in mind that our new air conditioning system is in place and will make the prep work-week afternoons much more bearable, as well as the VBS stations indoors during the actual camp week.

Teen Voices will be at a retreat in Tuscarora, PA March 4, 5, 6. In April, they will also participate in a 30-hour famine event (only water, fluids for 30 hours) to try to experience what so many around the world and in the states experience as a matter of routine. We may have sponsors for them to raise money for the Goshen Ecumenical Food Pantry.

They have relocated the old Sunday school closet to the old computer room and tore down that closet wall to make more space for their growing numbers. They have new chairs and a TV screen for their curriculum presentations now; paint will come next. Many thanks to Pati and Mark Glasse and Michele and Brian Meek for all the serious help!!

Remember, March 15 is the last day to keep VBS alive. If you can be one of the people who is on hand for the prep week afternoons the week before and the week of the actual VBS camp, please call either Linda Boardman at 469-6063 or BA Long at 343-7571.

In Hope,
BA Long

Our Lenten Journey Continues . . .

Our ever-faithful Chancel Choir has been ministering to our souls with anthems reflecting themes of Lent. We sang “Take Time to Be Holy” on March 6 followed by “Panis Angelicus” on March 13.



On March 20 we arrive at **Palm Sunday** and the beginning of **Holy Week**. The service begins celebrating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem singing the joyous entrance hymn, *The Palms* as the youth wave their palm branches in procession and lay them on the chancel. However, just as events took a sudden turn for Jesus as he faced his trial and ultimate crucifixion, our service turns more somber as we anticipate the events of Holy Week with the sublime choral anthem, “Ave Verum,” followed by the much-loved “Pie Jesu” and a tender communion anthem, “In Remembrance.”



We then continue our Lenten journey with the services of Holy Week. First, we observe **Maundy Thursday**, which derives from the Latin word “mandatum,” meaning “commandment.” The events of Maundy Thursday highlight the humility and servanthood of Jesus. His command to His disciples is a command that He leaves for us as well, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:34-35). As we enter, we extend our hands to be cleansed by our pastor. The chancel is transformed into a glowing candlelit space in which to experience the Passover Meal, the last supper or communion before Easter. At the conclusion of the service, the altar is stripped of all elements and windows are blackened out in preparation for the somber tone of the service on Good Friday.

On **Good Friday, March 25**, the service presents a dramatic reenactment of the events of Jesus’ trial and crucifixion in word and music. It is a moving and emotional experience for all. We depart in silence and darkness not to reenter the sanctuary until Easter Sunday morning.



March 27 brings us to the glorious celebration of **Easter**. We enter the sanctuary in darkness and silence, the first fire of Easter is lit, the choir sings an Easter acclamation, then -- the black curtains are pulled from the windows, the Easter lilies are revealed, and we join in our processional hymn, “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!” The choir will be presenting an Easter anthem, *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!* and Mary Lee Farris will be singing, *The Holy City*. Easter Sunday is always a joyous occasion in word and song as we celebrate the foundation of our Christian faith – the Resurrection of Our Lord.

He is Risen! He Is Risen, indeed!

Robert Clooney
Director of Ministry of Music



REMINDER

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION MEETING

Monday – March 7, 2016

7:00 p.m. in the parlor

Come and join your sisters of the church for fellowship

DEACONS' 3rd ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 5PM TO 7 PM



\$5.00: Children 4 -11 years \$10.00 Children 12 and older/Adults

Ages 3 and under: free

Tickets can be purchased in the office or from any Deacon

Includes salad, bread, beverage, and ice cream sundae for dessert

Take out available

Gluten Free Spaghetti/meatballs upon request

THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ON GOING!



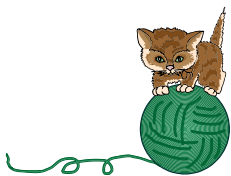
When you buy ShopRite gift cards through the church you can help fund our mission trips. The church sells gift cards at full face value, and we receive a 5% discount from ShopRite when the cards are purchased. If you buy groceries at ShopRite, PLEASE purchase gift cards from the church. If you spend \$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

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2016

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 **354** and **our assessment per member** (not per family) **for 2016 is \$31.50**, which is a total of **\$11,151.00** to be taken from our operating budget. 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.



Prayer Shawl Ministry News

Recently the Prayer Shawl Ministry has been working overtime. While we appreciate your donation of yarns, know that a lot of the little left over balls of yarn cannot be used in the shawls as putting those together makes too many connections for a smooth-flowing item. What we did was-- Joan Howell, Lisa Montalbano, and I went through all the donations and pulled out the larger skeins. Then we donated the small balls of yarn to some local art departments, Girl Scout troops, and a few other organizations that do crafts. Then we organized what was left so we now have a good handle on what we have and what we can use. Soft pastel colors are often used for baby blankets and most welcomed. These are made for items to give at baptisms. We sincerely appreciate all of your gifts and work hard to make sure that they get made into a gift of love that goes from our church doors.

Recently a friend lost her sister-in-law who was only 32. Her daughters were devastated to lose their godmother and aunt. To comfort the girls, two shawls were given; they were thrilled that the shawls had purple in them, their aunt's favorite color. The following was written for the girls who appreciated their "blankets to sleep with."

A HUG FROM HEAVEN

I received a shawl from Heaven,
It came from an angel I know,
This angel will always be part of my life,
She will help to make me grow.

This shawl is a reminder,
Of how our hearts had touched,
It will wrap me up and keep me warm,
It tells me I am loved so much.

Thank you Lord for blessing me
With this lady -- lovely and true,
She is my Guardian angel now,
And will comfort me when I am blue.

I know she isn't far from me,
As I carry her in my heart,
For those who loved us down and deep,
Will never be far apart.

So this hug I have is just a gift,
That reminds me of her love,
It holds me up and gives me a lift,
She's smiling from above.

God Bless You - Amen

(Composed by Wendy Lee Paffenroth – 1/20/16)

- A baby blanket was sent to a baby in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina - - the mom is a friend of a congregant. The mom found out she had cancer when she had just become pregnant and endured chemo throughout the pregnancy. The little girl arrived suddenly in the ambulance a month early weighing 3 lb.7 oz. and is thriving. Her mother now has 33 radiations to go through. All is well and they welcomed the pink blanket to cuddle her in. It has been a long hard road for this family and the gift was appreciated.
- Shawls were given to Jean Strong's daughters, Kathy and Ann, before Jean's memorial service on February 13. Kathy mentioned that we "chose" the perfect colors for the shawls, and they will treasure them. Thank you ladies for getting these done.

- Also, a shawl was sent to Betty Lobb and her daughter at the passing of their beloved husband/father Rick in February. Our condolences to the family as well. We hope the hug helps you through some long nights.
- A shawl was sent to the Leonard family in Warwick. Mrs. Leonard lost her husband recently and the gift was gratefully received. Also a shawl was given to Mrs. Dickten in the nursing home in Warwick, NY. She had left her home to go into the nursing home thus losing her beloved independence. She was most appreciative of the hug she received and in her favorite color. Her daughter-in-law tells me she has it on whenever she visits and likes to show it off to the other residents. It is helping her to make the transition a little easier.

Other shawls and lap robes have been taken for giving from the Shawl Room. We are glad the members of the congregation can help fill the need when they see it. Each is a labor of love.

We do have prayers for every occasion and, if anyone in the congregation can make copies to put into the shawl room, it would be most welcomed. Just let me know and I will supply the originals to be copied or I can email you the most popular ones. How nice it is when the gift is given with the letter explaining why we do what we do, what the colors mean, and several prayers for the situation. We can also use some nice file folders to put them in. Thank you.

As we begin our ninth year of this ministry, we hope to find a few more people who want to crochet (or knit) gifts that we give. You will find that the satisfaction of making these is wonderful. God bless each of you and keep the love going out!

Consider yourselves HUGGED,
Wendy Paffenroth, Shawl Secretary

Corned Beef! Burgers! Hot Dogs! Come and Get'em!

On Sunday, March 13, the St. Patrick's Day parade will march down Main Street, alongside our church. This exciting event offers the perfect opportunity for us to raise some money.

For the past few years, the church has offered fresh made corned beef sandwiches for spectators to purchase. The money collected is then used to offset costs for the mission trip of the year. This year the mission trip is to Newburgh for us to work for Habitat for Humanity.

If you'd like to help with this event—which is everyone in the congregation, since we're hoping that all will pitch in to make this year's trip a phenomenal success--please call Sue Varden at 649-7830.

The complete menu is corned beef sandwiches, hamburger/cheeseburgers, hot dogs, fries, water and soda; if cold weather, coffee and hot chocolate.

The church group will begin setting up on Sunday, March 13 at 10:30 a.m., immediately after service. The parade begins at 2:00 p.m. The best selling times are before the parade begins and right as it ends.

Of course, then there's some necessary clean up at the completion of the selling time.

Although we'd love it, we really don't expect volunteers to come for the entire day, but if you can spare even an hour or two on that day, give Sue a call. Welcome aboard!



SHARE PAGE

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

With spring approaching, this was shared with me. Please read and pass it on to others.

GARDEN PRAYER

First plant five rows of peas:

Preparedness, Promptness, Perseverance, Politeness and Prayer

Next to them plant 3 rows of squash:

Squash gossip, Squash criticism and Squash indifference.

The plant 5 rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful, Let us be unselfish, Let us be loyal,
Let us be truthful and Let us love one another.

And no garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for church,
Turn up with a smile, and
Turn up with determination.

Amen

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 20 – 9:30 A.M.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SERVICE – MARCH 24 - 7:30 P.M.

SERVICE OF DARKNESS - GOOD FRIDAY – MARCH 25 – 7:30 P.M.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE – MARCH 27 – 7:00 A.M.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP – MARCH 27 – 9:30 A.M.

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

WHEN: SATURDAY, March 19, 2016

TIME: 8:30 - 10:00 A.M. OR 10:00 - 11:30A.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 13.

Questions? Call 665-9545 or 294-7991

RESERVATION FORM for "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny"

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Preferred Seating Time

on **Saturday, March 19** _____ 8:30 to 10:00 **OR** _____ 10:00 to 11:30

Number of adults
and older children _____

Number **AND AGES** of children participating
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.

TEEN VOICES

Grades 7 through 12 meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 9:30am

"I'm So Tired!"

Almost every teen in our Teen Voices class doesn't get the recommended sleep for their ages - approximately 9 hours. Most reported getting two or three hours less sleep daily. Sleep is important for our health and to help make GOOD choices.

During one of our meetings, we looked to the Bible for guidance on how to sleep well: Get physical exercise and rest well (Ecclesiastes 5:12). We noted that video games and cell phones are stimulating, not relaxing. As one of our *wise* teens shared, video games are designed to stimulate the release of adrenaline.

Forgive others (Ephesians 4:26)-Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry.

Trust in God (Psalm 94:12,13)

What about us? Are we modeling good rest habits for our teens?

Coming Up....

*March 4-6 is the Teen Retreat at Tuscarora Retreat Center in Mount Bethel, PA. We look forward to learning and growing in our faith while having fun with teens from the Olivet Presbyterian Church, Staten Island, NY. *NO CLASS on the first Sunday since we will be away!

*We will meet on March 20 for Teen Voices

*April 16-17 is the 30 Hour Famine Lock-In at FPG

Thank you!!!

- To the teens and adults that cleared out the storage closet in our meeting space.
- To Brian and Michele Meek for knocking down the wall and extending our space so we can accommodate our teen group!
- To the anonymous donor that donated a large monitor and mounting bracket. This makes a big difference in the impact of the videos we use during our discussions.
- To all the donors that purchased chairs so that our meeting space is more comfortable.
- To our Pastor for his support.

**Look for an invite to come see the transition of the meeting space later in the spring when it is complete!*

Paty and Mark Glasse'
mpglasse@optonline.net

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Gina Gruber</i>	11	<i>Patrick Farley</i>
2	<i>Josephine Bartley</i>		<i>Ally Phelan</i>
4	<i>Jennifer Piller</i>	21	<i>Hannah Taylor</i>
	<i>Deborah Spencer</i>		<i>Mia Van Grol</i>
5	<i>Wendy Paffenroth</i>	24	<i>Maureen Johnson</i>
7	<i>Betty Lobb</i>	25	<i>Jeff Gati, Jr.</i>
8	<i>Connor Gati</i>		<i>Lilah Quick</i>
	<i>Robert Lobb</i>		<i>Caryl Swald</i>
	<i>Jean Musgrave</i>	26	<i>Robin Paulus</i>
9	<i>Karen Magee</i>	28	<i>Tyler Cox</i>
	<i>Logan Fuller</i>	30	<i>Michael Roper</i>
		31	<i>Jack Quick</i>

HAPPY MARCH ANNIVERSARIES TO:

11	<i>Jeremiah and Jacklynn Westford</i>
15	<i>Bill and Carolyn Keller</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 Kate Laskowski and Morgan Serkes for helping the Goshen girls indoor track team to a stunning 2nd place finish in the Orange County Interscholastic Athletic Association meet on January 30. Kate was the winner of the 55, 300-600 meter races.



DEACONS' PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH - MARCH 20

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:

Vince Ahrens
Ed Berry
Susie Bohling
Jean Chang
David Crandall
Sally Dorritie
Evie and Family
The Family of Robert Fragola
Kate Goodspeed
Judy Feragola (Hankins)
Carol Hoffman
Bob and Maureen Johnson
Laura and Tom Kennedy
The Family of Rick Lobb
Gavin Martin
The McCloud Family
The Family of Joseph Montalbano
Jude Monteleone
Richard Nash
Amy (Thompson) Nguye
Velma Peters
Tim Richardson
Bryan Scott and Family
Matt Skyer and Family
Jackson Spradlin
Gary Swinger
Butch Turley
Cindy Vanderplatt
The Wade Family
Anne Wood's brother-in-law
Sharon Worden

Lori Baird
Ann (Strong) Blake
Aryanna Brahs
Sharon Conlon
Suzanne DeBlock
David Dzierzek
Mary Lee Farris' sister
Norm and Sharon Frelinger
Dorothy Gott
Kevin and Sara Hankins
The Hourahan Family
Susan Johnson
Jeff Knox
James Magee
Riley Martin
Evelyn Mercado
Lisa and Bob Montalbano
Jean Musgrave
Nina and Jason
Alice Paffenroth
William John Pink
Tom Sawyer
Dorothy Sevcik
The Smith Family
Peggy Srirach
Suzanne Thomas
The Family of Moses Ukejianya
Kenya VanZandt
Doris Weinberger
Sandra Wood
Phyla Wright

Rosa B.
Sarah Bohling
Mary Carr
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Joe Destefano
Everyone serving in the Military
Ben Fisher
Jane Geyer
Barbara and George Hankins
Andy Hine
Bill Howell
Rosemary Joy
Brenda Kujawski
Kelly Magee Thrush
Andy Marussich
Jeff Monroe
Richard Montalbano
Eileen Myslinski
Nick K.
Dave and Wendy Paffenroth
Rachel Reeves
Fred Schwarz
Sandy Shores
David Paul Spradlin
Elmer Stevens
Christopher Tucker
Kim Valentini and Family
Rebecca Vives
Jo Wolfe
Orra Wood
Vicki Yost

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

MARCH UPDATE

Memorial Pavers

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.

11 Niches Remain 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”

Thank you to our dedicated Stewards for keeping the garden neat!

The MARCH and early APRIL Steward's Schedule:

Bill Eustance, Jenn and Gregg Piller:	March 1 – March 15
Beryl Yungman and Karen Bende:	March 16 – March 31
Barbara and George Hankins:	April 1 – April 15

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 can help keep our garden beautiful! Contact Pat in the church office to sign up.

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 2016

**Cliff Bartley
Geri Corey
John Redman
Tom Sawyer
Mal Stewart
Jo Wolfe**

Class of 2017

**Robert Johnson
Robin Knoblock
Karen Magee
Anne Tuthill
Grover vonPentz
Rob Warner**

Class of 2018

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Mark Glasse
Bill Hodges
Elizabeth Long
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Orra Wood**

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

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Bill Eustance
Carol Gabella
Gina Gruber
John Gruber
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Lisa Montalbano**

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Lori Kilmer
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Paty Glasse
Tina McCloud
Gregg Piller
Jenn Piller
Hannah Warner**

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Presbyterian Women:**

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**Robert Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music
Pat Schwetje, Church Secretary
Deb Hourahan, Church Treasurer
Richard Paulus, Financial Secretary
Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County**