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: <u>fpgoshen@frontiernet.net</u>

May 2014

Robert J. Clooney, Director of Ministry of Music Patricia Schwetje, Church Secretary Web Page: <u>www.fpgoshen.org</u>

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

EVER WONDER...?

John 20:24-31

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Have you even wondered why Thomas wasn't with the rest of the disciples when Jesus appeared to them? It had been such a big event. The resurrected Christ had blown right through the closed doors of the room. He showed them his wounds, breathed the peace that passes all understanding on them, and commissioned them. If I had missed that, I would have spent a fair amount of time berating myself. And I probably would have dismissed the excitement of the others, doubted it, simply to protect myself so that I wouldn't feel so bad about missing something so important.

Thomas missed Easter. I assume he had been with the others on Good Friday, but when the resurrected Christ appeared in that room the first time, Thomas missed it. The fact is, we all missed that first Easter. None of us were there. And at some level, just like Thomas, we carry around this internal doubt. How does it make sense? Could it have really happened? Are these other people a bit crazy?

The part of the story that brings me to tears is that Jesus graciously came again to that same house. This time Thomas was there, and Jesus invited Thomas to touch his wounds, to see for himself.

We all missed that first Easter, but over the centuries Jesus has continued to come into our lives, one by one, with his mark on experiences we can touch and see and with the gift of a peace that passes all understanding. When this happens, we can't physically see him or touch him, but we know it—or at least we have a gut sense of it. We all missed that first Easter. But Jesus keeps showing up with the words, "Do not doubt but believe."

Peace in Christ, Pastor Kingsley

MAY OPENS OUR EYES ANEW TO THE WORLD AROUND US



We have journeyed through Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the glorious Feast of the Resurrection. And now, May brings us flowers, green, and relief from the cold and chill of winter. We revel in the warmth, the breezes against the skin, and a feeling of aliveness. Breathe in the freshness of new life and let God's magnificent creation warm and speak to your soul!

On May 11 . . .

It's **Mother's Day** or, as I like to think of it, "nurturing Sunday" to celebrate all those who care for and nurture others albeit family members, our friends, or pets. It is more about the quality of being a nurturer to others in our lives.



On May 18 . . .

We all participate in **Celebration of the Ministry of Music** as we join together using our voices and gifts to the glory of God.

On May 25 . . .

It's **Presbyterian Heritage** Sunday in which we reflect upon and remember all those who came before us, who sat in our pews during wars, who prayed for peace, who came for healing in their lives as they lifted their voices in song. We honor them and pass along this heritage to future generations as we support the youth in our Christian Education Program—the next generation.

Let's get outside, enjoy the weather and being outdoors, plant and watch our gardens grow. The earth has sprung to life; embrace it in joy and celebrate!



Robert Clooney Director of Ministry of Music

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2014

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 2014 is \$30.50,* which is a total of *\$10,461.50* 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.



April was a busy month again for the "shawl ladies" of the church. First, our wish for yarn was answered by many. Dorothy Sevcik sent over, (by way of Fran Hoffmann), two big bags of yarn that will be put to good use as more gifts are made and sent out from the church. Thanks to all who left yarn in the bin in the Narthex.

While we try to honor all requests, sometimes they don't get mailed out when they asked for. We do not have funds for shipping and many of our ladies take it upon themselves to ship shawls out on their own 'dime.' Please understand that we are a small group and try to do the very best we can. Often another church will ask for a shawl and we gladly give it with our prayers, etc. But it is their responsibility to get it to the person in need. We do try very hard, but bear with us if things don't always happen immediately.

Shawls did go out to several in our community. Maureen and Bob Johnson took one to a neighbor who is in a wheelchair. The color was perfect and the family was so touched by the generosity of the gift. We hope the hug warms him and he gets well.

Mary Lee Berry was hugged by all of us as a shawl was delivered to her. We are all praying for her and thinking of her each and every day. God bless you, Mary Lee and enjoy your hug from the entire congregation.

Bill Howell was presented with a beautiful lap robe specially made for him by Joan Howell. This was truly a gift of love and we hope he enjoys it. We hope you are up and walking into church soon, Bill.

I met with a lady (finally), who has been fighting cancer for several years. Her sister lives in Goshen and Susie lives in Warwick. She has gone through several years of chemo and has enjoyed her shawl from us. Since she and her sister are so close and are fighting this together, I made and sent them each identical pocket shawls in the shape of a heart, so they can hold it when they are apart. I got a hug back from Susie when I finally met her after so many years and she told me how she was so blessed by the gifts from our congregation. We will continue to pray for her and others as they continue to fight for good health.

A lovely note was received from a member of our congregation, Jean Crandall.

"Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry Members: Thank you so very much for your wonderful gift of a beautiful prayer shawl and lovely articles and poems that came with it. After experiencing such a warm glow inside on receiving this gift, such a feeling of being cared for and thought of that I so needed at that moment, such joy in my heart that is still there, I can assuredly tell you that your ministry is truly special. Thank you so very, very much. Fondly, Jean Crandall"

Bill Strong was sent a lap robe to Valley View Nursing Facility. We thank Fran Hoffmann for again being our delivery person. We also sent along a folder of our poems and prayers so that Bill knows he is thought of often by our congregation. God bless Bill.

A friend from a church in Rockland County told me of her best friend, Nora, in West Palm Beach, Florida who is fighting cancer. She needed some hope and love. Joan Butensky had just finished a lovely stole wrap shawl in various shades of blue – the healing color. I wrapped it into one of the pretty donated bags with a folder of poems and prayers and gave it to Esther, who will mail it to her friend. She said she is first going to show the ladies of her church the beautiful gift and is hoping some of them might want to start a ministry there. Thank you, Esther M.

Orra Wood told us of an accident her daughter, Sandra had and that she hurt her knee. Barbara Hankins had made a beautiful triangle light blue shawl recently which has been sent to Sandy with our hopes and prayers that she is much better soon. That blue healing color sure gets around these days. Let's hope it does the job we want it to. Feel better, Sandy.

We thank the congregation again for the donation of yarns, bags, folders, tissue papers, etc. that help to send the gifts from our doors in a beautiful fashion. It says a lot when the gift arrives and looks like a present from all of us. We appreciate the continued support of this ministry. God bless each of you and consider yourselves hugged.

Wendy Lee Paffenroth - Shawl Secretary





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The April 7 meeting was on a windy, rainy night, but we still had a great turn out. Most of our upcoming events will begin in May, so this was more of a fellowship gathering and informational meeting.

Updated meeting and event date sheets were passed around and a reminder about our

WOMEN'S SPECTACULAR COFFEE HOUR scheduled for May 18 after the church service. There will be several surprises, so this is a date to put on your calendar and not to miss. Women who are unable to attend the monthly meeting are asked to join in and bring a dish to share. We need everyone's help to pull this off and we are counting on the wonderful women of our church to do it. Watch your bulletins for more information.

Our wish for some dishes came through last month. Some very nice plates, baskets and bake ware will be available at the May 18 coffee hour for women to take to put their donations on for the Friday, May 23 bake sale. If someone would like to set up the table and hand out the dishes on May 18, please see Betty Lobb at church. We will still accept more if you are spring cleaning and find you have some odd dishes you want to get rid of. Speaking of the bake sale, this is always a good one and we hope this year the weather cooperates with us. Dorothy Sevcik is donating some lovely pot holders that she has made and we will sell that day, as well. Please volunteer to help sell our treats. Bring a chair, soak in some sun, and meet the people of Goshen.

Our treasurer, Sharlene Bischof filled us in on our financial status. Donations were made at Christmastime to St. Margaret's Soup Kitchen and the People to People Fund. The women discussed several ideas on a project we might fund in the future to help the church. More will be discussed at future meetings.

The honoree luncheon will be either the end of June or in July and all women who are former honorees are asked to consider someone for 2014. This will be discussed more in May. This is now done in conjunction with our summer get together. All ladies are invited to this wonderful afternoon of fellowship.

Come to church on May 4 and, as you enter, each lady will be given a little gift from PW. The next meeting is on Monday, May 5, at 7:30 in the church parlor. It is one not to miss. Come out and find out what we have planned. Bring a friend as well. God bless each of you.

Wendy Lee Paffenroth, PW Secretary

MIDNIGHT RUN

Our next Midnight Run will be a Brunch Run on June 7.

Anyone wishing to go, should contact me by phone at 845-200-5640. We will need about four cars and will take four or five buffet tables with us. We will need someone with a rack on their vehicle, as well as mine.

The following are the needs at this time:

1 box of 50 black garbage bags Men's lightweight clothing, **NEW** underwear/undershirts, shoes, jackets: sizes M, L, XL Women's lightweight clothing, **NEW** underwear/undershirts, shoes, jackets: sizes M, L, XL

Updated Food List

Sliced deli turkey: 8 lbs. Sliced deli ham: 5 lbs. Sliced deli cheese: 5 lbs. Home fries (cubed): 8 bags Breakfast sausage links to equal 150: 10 boxes Hard boiled eggs: 9 dozen Raw eggs: 10 dozen Butter packets: 1 box from Sam's Club Cookies: 300 ShopRite Oreo type or oatmeal Milk: 1 gallon Mini donuts/mixed asst.: 8 boxes Mini juice boxes: 60 Fruit cups/mini cups: 100 Pudding cups: 40

If you can provide a portion of any of these items, please call me at 845-200-5640 and I will add your name to the list! Thank you for your generosity in helping us with this most important need.

Lori Baird





ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7

(Mark your calendars now!)

The chairperson for the Rummage Sale is again Glynnis Jorgensen. Glynnis would be grateful to anyone who can help with this annual event, as many hands are needed to set up during the week of the sale and also to clean up on Saturday, June 7, in the afternoon.

Remember, items can be brought in from the evening of Monday, June 2 through Thursday, June 5.

We need saleable items, no junk. We have to dispose of all unsold items. Items brought in should be **CLEAN**, not broken. We cannot sell chipped glassware, toys with missing parts, books without covers, items with missing pieces, or items with frayed electrical cords. We also cannot sell used computers or exercise equipment.

The better the items look, the more money we can get for them, so run those excess dishes through a wash cycle before you donate them, and try to pack items that are similar in the same boxes. This makes it so much easier for those setting up. In the past, we noticed that the jewelry table does well, so clear out that costume jewelry from your jewelry boxes. New and usable items are always welcome as well. We accept toys with all the parts and furniture that is still in good condition.

Please offer a few hours of your time to this good fundraiser for your church. All church members should be able to donate an hour or two to help. Remember that **All HELP** is greatly appreciated, and you can bring a friend or coworker, too. Come out and share this fellowship with other church members.

Thank you again.

VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED TO HELP WITH SET-UP, SALE & CLEAN-UP

Please mark your calendars now for the week of June 2–7.

Sale set-up:	June 2 – 55:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Sale:	June 68:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	June 78:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Clean –up:	June 72:00 p.m ? (more hands make light work)
Please call Glynnis Jor	gensen (914-804-5476) and let her know when you can help.



6th Annual Community Yard Sale

The First Presbyterian Church is holding its 6th Annual Community Yard Sale. Bring your stuff and set up and we will do the advertising. The proceeds will be going toward the roof fund.

> Date – Saturday May 3, 2014 From 9am – 4pm Set up – 8am Cost of space - \$25.00 – (12' x12')

There is also a deposit fee of \$25.00 that will be refunded when your space is cleaned up. Please send two checks for \$25.00 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

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Name			
Address			_
Phone #			
# of spaces	@ \$25.00 each	Total	
# of tables	@ \$5.00 each	Total	

Plus – separate \$25.00 deposit for clean-up (check returned when you leave).

Further information: <u>bartley51@yahoo.com</u> or church office: 294-7991

Note- There will also be a plant sale going on that day.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO:



- 2 Carol Gabella
- 3 Barbara Munhall
- 5 Haley Wilton
- 6 Matthew Csernai
- 7 Christine Hahn Kaeli Varden
- 9 Aaron Bush Scott Dickover Jack Meek Erica Walsh
- 11 Riley Grob
- 12 Joseph Gruber Charlie vonPentz
- 13 Kate Skyer
- 14 Ray Ruckdeschel

- 15 Evelyn Kromm Barbara vonPentz
- 16 Glynnis Jorgensen
- 17 Morgan Serkes
- 19 Mary Kate Dickover
- 20 Joan Butensky Bill Gruber
- 21 Analiese Boardman
- 22 Doris Weinberger
- 23 Paige Brooks
- 26 George Hankins
- 28 Brian Diglio Susan Sitler
- 30 Kayla Fenner
- 31 Jennifer Fitzpatrick Mary Kingsley

HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

- 3 Chuck and Lori Kilmer
- 13 Gregg and Jennifer Piller
- 20 Kevin and Christine Fenner
- 21 Michael and Tanya Hagopian
- 22 Ron and Kathy Alevras
- 23 Dave and Michele White
- 28 Brian and Danielle Diglio Mal and Sue Stewart

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:

Kimberly and Jordan Cretaro on the birth of their son Jacob Andrew Cretaro. He was born on April 21, 2014 at 3:44 p.m., weighed 7 lbs. 13 oz. and was 19 ³/₄" long. The proud grandparents are Cheryl and Nicholas Zis.

OOPS.... ADDRESS CORRECTION

In the updated phone directory of March, 2014, Cliff and Darlene Bartley's address was incorrect. They still live at 41 Police Drive in Goshen, New York.

<u>A SPECIAL THANK YOU</u>

When a pregnant woman goes to her 20 week ultrasound, the anticipation of possibly finding out the gender is usually all she can think about. She doesn't expect to have to come back for a closer look, for more detailed pictures, for anything at all.

She does not plan to look at the screen in front of her, only to count three chambers of her baby's heart instead of four, no matter how many times she counts and how closely she studies the image.

No one plans on entering a doctor's office where happy news is of the ordinary, only to leave with a stack of information detailing congenital heart defects, the many options available, and the tests that are to be done.

When we first found out about Dakota's heart, time stood still. We couldn't understand why this was happening to our child or how we would know the right decisions to make. The plan we had made for our young, growing family was threatening to fall down around us.

As difficult as this journey has been for Jay and I, we believe that everything happens for a reason. Dakota's diagnosis is a blessing in disguise. It teaches us to slow down, to appreciate every moment, to focus on what really matters and to discard what doesn't. We hold on to every second we have with our daughter; whether she's here for a short time or hopefully outlives the two of us.

We want to thank the church for the continuous support we have received, even before Dakota was born. It hasn't been easy to accept the help we have been offered, as we always feel the need to give back; this becomes difficult when there isn't much to send back. What we do have is our gratitude, and our gratitude for your prayers and positive energy is endless.

Dakota will have a second surgery sometime by the end of this summer, and I know that your thoughts will summon positive healing for her and will keep our family holding onto all of the tomorrows we have to look forward to with optimism and hope. Her angels will be surrounding her always, and the actions of this community and church will never be forgotten.

Jess Ptak

SPRING PLANT SALE IN THE CHURCH PARK

May 2 and May 3 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. May 4 – 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For more information, call Grover vonPentz at 291-1932

FOCUSED SPRING CLEAN UP

The Deacons will be sponsoring a focused spring clean up in the Sunday school areas of the Knox Building on May 17 starting at 8:30 AM until..... The areas to be cleaned will be the Sunday school office, stairs, hallway, and the Bradner Room. The Sunday school is the future of our congregation and has been in need of a little TLC. Grab your favorite cleaning bucket and supplies, and come on out and help the Deacons make it look world class!

Please contact Pat at the church office (fpgoshen@frontiernet.net) if you intend to come out and help. We also intend to get a coat of paint on the walls of the hallway. Anyone wishing to help paint is also welcome later in the day. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me.

Brian Meek (mmeek@hvc.rr.com)

LADIES SPRING TEA

Friday, May 2, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

Please join the women of Goshen churches for fellowship and delicacies and to celebrate spring. Wear your favorite springtime hat and bring a friend!

> St. James' Episcopal Church 1 St. James Place Goshen, NY

For more information or to let us know you are coming, please contact Sharon Lunden. 845-615-1330 or <u>mrsfathercarl@qmail.com</u>



PRAYER CORNER

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

Vince Ahrens Rosa B. JoAnna Becerril Mary Carr Shannon Decker Sally Dorritie *Evie and Family* Norm and Sharon Frelinger Kate Goodspeed Kevin and Sara Hankins Susan Johnson Bob and Barbara Kennedy Roberta Kinnamon James Magee Evelyn Mercado Jude Monteleone Richard Nash Amy (Thompson) Nguyen Velma Peters Loretta Richner Kevin Schuler Dorothy Sevcik Elmer Stevens George Tietz Kenya VanZandt The Weinberger Family Orra and Dale Wood Larry Zakreski

Dedra Altizer The Barron Family *Mary Lee and Ted Berry* Carol Coon **Bob** Dennis David Dzierzek Mary Lee Farris' sister Rebecca Garloch Dorothy Gott Carol Hoffman Rosemary Joy Laura and Tom Kennedy Jeff Knox The Family of Melissa Martucci Jeff Monroe Heather Mustavs Nina and Jason Ann Ott The Family of Marina Peterson Ted Sandstrom Fred Schwarz Peggy Srirach Bill and Jean Strong Kim Valentini and Family Jean Wade Jo Wolfe Sharon Worden

Millie Augere Emily Barry and Family Sarah Burrows Bruce and Jean Crandall Joe Destefano *Everyone serving in the Military* Ben Fisher Graham Glasse Barbara and George Hankins **Bill Howell** Carolyn Keller's father Kim Robert Lobb Andy Marussich Joseph Montalbano Eileen Myslinski Nick K. Jessica (Bowe) and Jason Ptak Tim Richardson Tom Sawyer Bryan Scott and Family The Smith Family Jean Stukey Felicia Van Doran and Family Molly Wanat Anne Wood's dad 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

MAY UPDATE

New Lighting for the Garden

New LED lights will be installed in the garden over the next few months. This will not only provide improved night viewing, but reduced electricity costs and a more durable, long-lasting lighting system.

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 \$100. We currently have four orders on-hand. The next order for pavers will be placed when we have a total of ten.

Niches are 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"

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

The MAY/early JUNE Steward's schedule:

Beryl Yungman and Karen Bende:	May 1 – May 15
Barbara and George Hankins:	May 16 – May 31
Jen and Gregg Piller:	June 1 – June 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.

Please call the church office (845-294-7991), Rev. Kingsley, or Wayne George (914-213-4093) for any information you 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

<u>Class of 2014</u> Linda Clark Dom Fontana Pat Green Bill Hodges Karen Magee Grover vonPentz <u>Class of 2015</u> Kathy Alevras Wendy Bynum-Wade Elizabeth (BA) Long Louise Spencer Sue Varden Orra Wood <u>Class of 2016</u> Cliff Bartley Geri Corey John Redman Tom Sawyer Mal Stewart Jo Wolfe

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

<u>Class of 2014</u> Diana Bowe Brendan Donohue Lori Kilmer Brian Meek Jude Monteleone Richard Paulus Cheryl Zis <u>Class of 2015</u> Laura Colacci Carol Gabella Jonathan Laskoski Tina McCloud Gregg Piller Jennifer Piller Nancy Smith <u>Class of 2016</u> Wendy Donohue Bill Eustance Gina Gruber John Gruber Carolyn Keller Kathleen Kingsley Lisa Montalbano

Moderators of Deacons: Presbyterian Women: **Carolyn Keller and Carol Gabella**

<u>STAFF</u>

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