

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Acts 4:32–35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

As I read this passage from Acts, I find it terribly hard to comprehend what it would be like to be a part of this group of early believers. I try to envision this community of people, so willing to give up their possessions in order to help the group as a whole. Let's say I had been a part of that group: would I be willing to give up my personal possessions to help others in my community? Honestly, I have to say no. I like my things. I've worked hard for my possessions, and I'm very attached to many of them. I own things that I believe I could *never, ever* part with. I'm guessing that many of us feel that same way. Of course, our present-day faith community is very different from that of the early church, as is our society. But it's still interesting to think about what it would have been like to be with that group of early believers.

As we reflect on this passage in Acts, I want us to think about the compassion and generosity of the early believers. They cared deeply for each and every person and helped out others in any way possible. They were committed to spreading the gospel, and their compassion and action toward others did just that—they were living the gospel.

In our church and community how can we be like the early believers? What are ways that we can sacrifice our time, talents, or finances for a larger cause other than our own personal gain? Many of us make these sacrifices already, but it's always helpful to pause for a moment to think about what we do—and what we can do differently—to help spread God's love to others.

Pastor Kingsley



Music Notes

What a good year we've had. The handbell choir is doing fantastic work. The adult choir is singing with warmth and passion. There is hope for the organ. There have been successful musical programs, like the Christmas carol sing-a-long and the *Tower Trio* recital. Above all, you have been active participants by your singing and your cheerful support!

A new program awaits you at Great American Weekend. I will be giving a patriotic organ recital with audience participation. There is a lot of wonderful American organ music to be heard, and not all of it sounds like you'd expect. Even better, you will have a chance to sing the patriotic songs that we rarely sing together in this age of questionable social media and (it seems) a widespread aversion to the symbols of our country. So plan on turning out and singing at the top of your voice!

Other programs are in the planning stages for the fall, some of them intended to help raise funds for the roof and organ.

As of this publication, the Classic Choral Society is giving a concert in Blooming Grove on Sunday, May 6 at 4:00 p.m. Bill Powers and I will be involved, as will our own Kathy Alevras. The program will feature some fascinating recent work by Ola Gjeilo, a Norwegian composer now based in New York. His music is classical but up-to-date; it's catchy and uplifting. I think you'll like it!

Consider joining our music ministries at First. The choir can always accept new members, and has plenty of room (across the chancel!) to expand. Please challenge me to find enough music for all of you!

-- Jonathan

SAVE THE DATE

Great American Weekend Patriotic Concert

Saturday, June 30, 2018

11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The concert will be for a half hour. It will begin with the National Anthem and end with *America the Beautiful*. There will be renditions of American patriotic songs and the audience is encouraged to participate.



News from the Outreach Committee

Welcome Robyn Farley to the Outreach Committee! Robyn will be working on a communications group to inform the community of what good things our church does, for example mission projects, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, VBS, etc.

Prayer shawls and baptism blankets continue to go out to give warm hugs to those who need them. Two more baptism blankets will be given to the Dinsmore family on Sunday, April 22 and another to the Ellis family on June 24.

Prayer shawls went to Sue Stewart, Mary Kopec (for a friend), Barbara Schust who had knee surgery, Carol Hoffman, another to Carol Hoffman (for a friend) and Barbara Hankins (for her daughter-in-law).

We received two thank you notes as well: one was a thank you for a lap robe and prayer shawl given to the Zis family and another was from Carol Hoffman for a prayer shawl.

So as you can see, our fingers have been very busy.

A BIG THANK YOU to Nancy Sadowski (Darlene's son-in-law's grandmother) for donations of yarn and for four baby blankets.

The April Community Dinner was hosted by the Goshen Girl Scout Troop 791, Leader Jessica Horan. They always do a great job and we appreciate them hosting.

Thank you all for filling out the red registers each week. It is very much appreciated. Please remember that there are name tags in the Narthex and there is one especially for you. It helps the newer members and visitors to know who you are and put a face with a name.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, May 12 at the Community Dinner. You are welcome to join us.

Thank you from the Outreach Committee

Darlene and Cliff Bartley, Lisa Montalbano, Deb Hourahan, Steve Coon, Grover von Pentz, Robyn Farley, Orra Wood, Wendy Bynum-Wade

ADULT BOOK STUDY

You are invited to join an adult book study based upon the book, *“Be Not Afraid,”* by Johann Arnold. The foreword was written by Madeline L’Engle. It addresses grief and the fear of death, a subject we all deal with in one way or another.

We will meet in the parlor on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. beginning May 8. We will make the book available a week or so ahead of time. Participants should read the first three chapters, including the forward by Madeleine L’Engle (up to page 31) in time for the first meeting. The Warwick Bruderhof has loaned us 20 copies of this paperback, to be returned when we have completed the study.

Please consider becoming a part of this meaningful study. To sign up, speak to BA Long.

RUMMAGE SALE

The spring rummage sale is going to be on Saturday, June 23 across the street in the old GOVAC building.

Laura Colacci has once again volunteered to organize the sale. Thank you, Laura!

There are a few changes. She **does not want** any donation of **clothes**; just white elephant items. Please bring gently used, clean items in working condition. Only a limited amount of books will be accepted. Cookbooks are welcome. Any donations can be left in the hallway by the church office. She asks that you bring them on a Friday when she is available to pick them up and they won’t be cluttering the hallway for too long. Donations will be accepted through June 18.

Volunteers are needed to help the week of set-up and the day of the sale. Please call Laura for more information at 845-988-7657 or e-mail heavensgategarden@gmail.com.

“Seeking to put God's love into action Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.”

2018 Mission Trip

WHEN: Tuesday through Saturday, June 26-30.
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Lunch provided
We will carpool
Sign up for a day or several

WHERE: Newburgh, N.Y.

Skilled and unskilled are welcomed. If you don't have a skill...you will be taught one on site.

Ages 16-18 will need a parent signed permission slip/waiver.

Sign up now - Contact: Sue Varden at svarden@hvc.rr.com.

DINNER CLUB AT THE LANDMARK INN

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR DINNER AT THE LANDMARK INN**

**Route 94
Warwick, New York**

**Sunday, May 20, 2018
5:00 p.m.**

**\$30.00 per person includes tax and gratuities
Cash Bar**

APPETIZER:

Assorted Hors-d'Oeuvres
Salad with House Dressing

CHOICE OF ENTRÉES:

Pan Roasted Boneless Frenched Breast of Chicken with a
Wild Mushroom Madiera Wine Sauce

Sauteed Filet of Sole with a Lemon Tarragon Sauce

Grilled NY Sirloin with a Gorgonzola Crust
and Port Wine Demi Glace

All served with fresh vegetable medley, rice and potatoes

DESSERT:

Choice of three from the dessert menu

coffee, tea, or soda

Contact Linda Clark (283-2122) or Jo Wolfe (294-6652)
for reservations.

A New Way to Give to First!

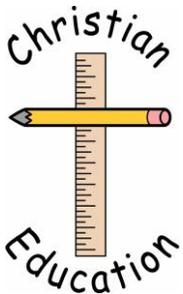
Thanks to members of the fundraising committee, in particular Jon Hourahan and Bill Powers, we have a wonderful new way to offer financial support to First Presbyterian.

Take a moment and visit our page at YouCaring.com. (It's like GoFundMe, but the fees are much lower.) Here's how:

1. Go to youcaring.com.
2. Scroll down to "search for a fundraiser" or just click the magnifying glass at the top right of the page.
3. Put in the name of the church and hit your "enter" key.
4. Voilà! See the big red bar that says "DONATE NOW"? Click it! Please note that the added payment to YouCaring (the "tip") is optional.
5. Tell everybody you know. Share on Facebook and other social media. Copy the URL and paste it into your emails.

Thanks for your support! And remember: *First things first!*

Christian Education would like you to know:



Vacation Bible School is coming!

Don't miss the form in this month's Tower Tie for signing your kids up for our VBS this year! The theme is "Shipwrecked = Rescued by Jesus."

There is a wonderful concept/theme and fabulous music!

Emma Hourahan will receive her third grade Bible in church on Mother's Day.

Adult Class Coming (evenings)

For adults, we have a book study concerning grief, based on "Be Not Afraid", written by Johann Arnold. We already have copies of the book, provided by the Warwick Bruderhof, via Mark Glasse' (Thank you!) We will meet Tuesday EVENINGS at 7:30 in the parlor starting May 8 for the next six weeks. Several have signed up already! We will have the books to be signed out at coffee hour the week before. Participants should read the first three chapters, including the forward by Madeleine L'Engle (up to page 31) in time for the first meeting. Please don't mark in the books, as we will be returning them to the Bruderhof.

Teen Voices would like to plan a famine retreat which involves a 30 hour fast. We hope you will support them by pledging for someone to make it through to Sunday morning. Money will go to the Goshen Ecumenical Food Pantry, of course, so appropriate.

The last day of Sunday school this year will be June 10, with a presentation in church and a picnic very kindly provided by the Deacons! A fun end to the Sunday school year!

Thank You to the Deacons.

Respectfully submitted, BA Long



THE SHOPRITE CARD FUNDRAISER IS ONGOING!

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

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

A PRESSING NEED

HONOR is a facility in Middletown that houses 130 – 150 homeless men, women, and children and is in need of single bed fitted sheets. Donations of sheets would be appreciated. Carol Gabella will be collecting the single bed sheets during the next several weeks and has volunteered to deliver them to the facility. See Carol in church or e-mail her at: calgabel1@frontiernet.net



PRESBYTERAN WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

A lovely group of ladies met in the parlor on Monday, April 2 to discuss upcoming events. We were wondering if we met on a different night could we get more ladies to come. We do a nice service supporting our church and we are hoping for more input from others in the congregation. Please consider joining us at our May meeting.

The Honoree Luncheon will be held at Glen Arden as in previous years. We are working on nailing down the date, so please keep an eye on the bulletin; when we know – you will know.

We discussed the Great American Weekend. Our tents will be set up under the steeple as in previous years and again we are looking for help with the Mint Julep tent. Next month we will have a list of things people can donate to help the ladies offset the costs to us. Already some items have been purchased which is great. Thanks in advance.

Carol Gabella brought up that the cutting boards in the kitchen are in dire need of replacement. Since she is our expert in restaurant items, we asked her to pick out what she knows would be good and lasting and the ladies will donate them to the kitchen. Thanks Carol.

The ladies are going to have a craft day at Gina Gruber’s home sometime in the near future. Watch the bulletin and e-mails for more information.

Hope to see you the first Monday of May at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. Bring some ideas.

Corresponding Secretary,
Wendy Lee Paffenroth

GREAT AMERICAN WEEKEND

Great American Weekend is on June 30 and July 1 this year. Please remember we will need many hands to make this fundraiser work. We’ll be selling French fries and chicken nuggets again under the food tent. We also have the rides and will need people to sell tickets.

Please save the date. Watch for more information in the next newsletter.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO:

2	<i>Carol Gabella</i>	15	<i>Evelyn Kromm</i>
3	<i>Barbara Munhall</i>		<i>Barbara von Pentz</i>
5	<i>Mike Coyne</i>	16	<i>Glynnis Jorgensen</i>
	<i>Kelsey Ellis</i>	17	<i>Morgan Serkes</i>
	<i>Haley Wilton</i>	19	<i>Mary Kate Dickover</i>
6	<i>Matthew Csernai</i>	20	<i>Bill Gruber</i>
7	<i>Christine Hahn</i>	21	<i>Analiese Boardman</i>
9	<i>Scott Dickover</i>	22	<i>Doris Weinberger</i>
	<i>Jack Meek</i>	26	<i>George Hankins</i>
	<i>Erica Walsh</i>	28	<i>Brian Diglio</i>
12	<i>Joseph Gruber</i>		<i>Jennifer Ellis</i>
	<i>George Schust</i>		<i>Susan Sitler</i>
	<i>Charlie von Pentz</i>		

HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

3	<i>Chuck and Lori Kilmer</i>
19	<i>Mark and Paty Glasse</i>
21	<i>Michael and Tanya Hagopian</i>
22	<i>Ron and Kathy Alevras</i>
23	<i>Dave and Michele White</i>
27	<i>Donald and Ashley Dinsmore</i>
28	<i>Brian and Danielle Diglio</i>
	<i>Mal and Sue Stewart</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.

BABIES WELCOME!

Have you noticed the glider chairs at the back of the sanctuary?

This is our way of trying to make parents and babies feel welcome during the church service. If your baby is a bit restless, feel free to try out the glider and still be able to be a part of our worship service! Thank you to the anonymous donor who purchased the gliders!



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:

Colin Alevras

Ed Berry

Susie Bohling

Tommy, Amy, and Makayla Brahs

Laura Colacci

Suzanne DeBlock

Judy Hankins Feragola

Esther Glassé

Barbara and George Hankins

Jennifer and Andy Hine

Regina Kenny

Jeff Kott and Wendy Henson-Kott

James Lowry

Evelyn Mercado

Amy (Thompson) Nguye

Richard and Robyn Paulus

Marge (Chasen) Rolan

Gary Smith

Sue Stenson's brother-in-law, Leo

Barbara Hankins' sister, Virginia Stubenrauch

Danny Tucker and Family

June Vautin

Jo Wolfe

Orra Wood

Ron and Kathy Alevras

Ann (Strong) Blake

Hannah Boorse

John Burleson

Lawrence Colacci

Barbara Drake

Mary Lee Farris and her sister

Miko Graham

Kevin and Sara Hankins

Susan Johnson

David Kingsley

Brenda Kujawski

Karen Magee

Richard Montalbano

Dean Oberg

Josephine Pecoraro

Tom Sawyer

Louise Spencer

Lori Steven's children

Cindy Vanderplaat

The Wade Family

Anne Wood's brother-in-law Dennis

Phyla Wright

Cliff Bartley's cousin, Jackie

Sarah Bohling

Marilyn Borth

Jessica Chasen and Jackson Doehla

Tina Davis and Family

Everyone serving in the Military

Judy Fazio

Lynne Gregor

Georgia Hickey

Rosemary Joy

Mary Kopec's cousin, Cathy

Margo Kumpf

Kelly Magee Thrush

Eileen Myslinski

Dave and Wendy Paffenroth

Maritya Reyes

Lisa Scheuermann

Peggy Srirach

Kathy Stringer

Christopher Tucker

Kenneth Van Etten

Doris Weinberger

Sandra 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.)

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



MAY 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.

6 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 MAY/ early JUNE Steward’s Schedule:

Beryl Yungman	May 1 – May 15
Barbara and George Hankins	May 16 – May 31
Bill Eustance	June 1 – June 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 Alevras
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
Paty Glasse
Gregg Piller
Jenn Piller**

Class of 2019

**Liese Boese
Margaret Dickover
Jon Hourahan
Carolyn Keller
Jody Kopec
Logan Quick
Felicia Van Doran**

Class of 2020

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