

# THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music

Patricia Schwetje, Office Administrator

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpreschurchgoshenny>

May 2024



It's May already! I ask myself where the year has gone. The answer comes right back: to doctors! I've learned more about physical therapy than I thought I'd ever need to know.

But still, every year, around this time, it hits me that the new year isn't new anymore. I look ahead to summer. The sun is streaming into the kitchen now, and getting higher and hotter by the day. The forsythia has been in bloom for a while now, and the redbud trees are starting to put out their gorgeous color. The paw-paws (native to New York, by the way) are putting out buds. They're still a few years away from producing fruit. I'll wait.

The lectionary and the prevailing color of green make the same point...we have to wait to bear fruit now. Green is the color of hope and of the summer season, called "ordinary time" as if any time were ordinary... the color of growing things.

I'm trying hard to schedule some leather work on the organ—not part of the restoration contract, but something that naturally happens and must be addressed. Thanks to you, we have the funds to do it. I'll keep you updated.

This is as good a time as any to join the choir and/or handbells. The church is there because you are there. If you're looking for the body of Christ, look in a mirror. If you're looking for the compassionate face of the church, look at your hands. If you seek glorious worship, dare to sing *mi-mi-mi*. We are members of Christ's body, and He has no face, no hands, no voice but ours.

Thanks again for your great support of the music ministries of the church, including the Tuesday programs. I'm looking forward to the summer and beyond.

Blessings,

Jonathan

## **Guest Preachers for May**

May 5 – Bill Powers

May 12 – Rev. Jeff Leininger

May 19 – TBA

May 26 – Todd Young

## **Prayer Chain**

It is vital for any congregation to be in prayer for the church and for individuals affiliated with the church who have a need for God's intervention in some way. This is why churches such as ours have prayer chains. But the prayer requests must stay current if individuals are to be asked to pray for everyone on the list. We have changed the way we update the prayer chain. Once a request has been made for a member of the church, a friend, a neighbor, a family member, etc. to be met with prayer, that name will remain on the prayer chain list for 2 months. If you want continued prayers for another 2 months, please contact the church office to make that request. Use the church email address [fpgoshen@gmail.com](mailto:fpgoshen@gmail.com) or phone the office with your request at 845-294-7991.



### **PRAYER CHAIN**

***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:***

*Nancy Mason who will be transitioning into assisted living at the Promenade in Middletown.*

*Amy Edmonson*

*Joyce Long on the death of her husband, Edward Long*

*The Family of Dom Fontana on the death of Dom's dad.*

*Lori Kilmer's mom and Lori*

*Brad McLeland had shoulder surgery*

*Randy*

*William Hankins recovering from a stroke*

*Margaret McCarty fell and broke her left arm and knee*

*Trey Long*

### **Pastoral Care**

While we are without a permanent pastor, John Redman will handle any pastoral care requests. You can reach him at 914-474-0722.

#### **Nancy Mason's New Address**

**The Promenade  
70 Fulton Street  
Middletown, NY 10940**

**Room 127**

## **NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE.....**



We are planning another Jo Wolfe Dinner Club on June 9 at 4:00 p.m. at the Rustic Wheelhouse. The menu includes a choice of eggplant, chicken francese, or baked salmon; salad; bread; dessert; coffee or soda. The tip is included and the cost is \$45 per person. For reservations contact George Schust at (845) 728-2246.

The Outreach/Fellowship Committee will meet on May 9 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Coffee hour hosts are needed. Please contact Diane Church at [dianeschurch@gmail.com](mailto:dianeschurch@gmail.com) or (845) 294-5398 if you would be willing to host one week. There is also a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

**The last Sunday of each month we are asking the congregation to host coffee hour. Please bring something to share on that Sunday.**

### **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>
4	<i>Kelly Magee</i>	17	<i>Morgan Serkes</i>
5	<i>Michael Coyne</i>	19	<i>Mary Kate Dickover</i>
	<i>Kelsey Ellis</i>	20	<i>Bill Gruber</i>
	<i>Haley Wilton</i>	21	<i>Analiese Boardman</i>
6	<i>Matthew Csernai</i>	26	<i>George Hankins</i>
9	<i>Scott Dickover</i>	28	<i>Jennifer Ellis</i>
	<i>Jack Meek</i>		<i>Susan Sitler</i>
	<i>Erica Walsh</i>		
12	<i>George Schust</i>		
	<i>Charlie von Pentz</i>		

#### **HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES TO:**

3	<i>Chuck and Lori Kilmer</i>
19	<i>Mark and Paty Glasse</i>
22	<i>Ron and Kathy Alevras</i>
27	<i>Donald and Ashley Dinsmore</i>
28	<i>Ginny and Ed Gallet</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.*

**Did you know** that Session meetings are open to church members? If you are a member, you are welcome to attend regular meetings of the Session which are currently held in parlor on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m.

If you attend a Session meeting to express concern about a topic that is before the Session, please let the Clerk and the Moderator know of your desire to speak prior to the start of the meeting.

### **Recitals Return!**

Jonathan has resumed the popular series of free noontime recitals on Tuesdays at 12:15 pm. Since he still has limited mobility, the programs will be “organ plus” – they will include piano and other surprises. Come one, come all, and tell your friends!

### **Financial Commitments**

If you haven't made a financial commitment for 2024 but would like to support this congregation in fulfilling its work of worship, education, mission, outreach, care and fellowship, consider making a pledge using a commitment card found on the table in the Narthex or see Deb Hourahan.

### **Please Pay Your Per Capita Assessment For 2024**

**A message from the Treasurer:** Please consider paying your **per capita assessment for 2024** to offset the more than \$8,000 the church must pay out to cover expenses for the Presbytery of Hudson River, Synod of the Northeast and General Assembly of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This year it remains at **\$39.75 per member** (not per family). 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. We ask that you pay this by February 1, 2024. Thank you for doing your share to support the expense of being a church in active ministry.

### **Electronic Giving Cards**

There are giving cards for use during the offertory for those who give electronically each week/month/year. Your gifts are meaningful and necessary, and you should be able to participate in our weekly presentation of our offerings to the Lord.

### **Livestreaming Worship**

If you are unable to join us in person for worship, watch on our YouTube channel.  
If you need help finding the Livestream, use the link on our Weekly Tower Tie.

### **Please Be Advised That We Do Live Stream Our Worship Services.**

The Live Stream camera generally captures the first 4-5 (rarely 7-8) rows of the sanctuary in its feed. Normally we only see the back of your head. If you would rather stay out of camera range, please know that we do not capture the seating under the balcony (on either side) and we don't capture the back rows at all. Regarding the Children's Message: We keep the camera zoomed out. As children leave to go to Sunday school, we will pan up to the stained glass windows so no children's faces are caught on camera.

## Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden



### **MAY UPDATE**

#### Memorial Pavers

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

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#### The Memorial Columbarium

**PLEASE NOTE: A niche in the Memorial Columbarium has become available.** If you are interested in purchasing it, please contact Pat in the church office.

The price of the niche is \$2,800. There are two payment options:

12 month = \$250/month for 12 months (\$3,000)

18 month = \$180/month for 1 month (\$3,240)

**Once this niche is sold, the Session/Congregation will need to consider if constructing a second/third wall is desired and/or financially possible. If it is, a new estimate for the work will need to be created, considered, approved and project timeline established.**

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#### “Stewards of Our Garden”

*Special thanks to our dedicated Stewards who work hard to keep our garden beautiful!*

#### The MAY/and early JUNE Steward's Schedule:

Barbara and George Hankins	May 1 – May 15
Nancy Buckley	May 16 – May 31
Bill Eustance	June 1 – June 15

### **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!**

***If you'd like to help maintain our garden, just see Pat in the church office to sign-up and be added to our Steward's schedule.***

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Call the church office (845-294-7991) for any information you need about  
The Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

## **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

**We strive to be a welcoming, loving church family united by our faith and committed to service in Christ.**

### **BOARD OF ELDERS**

#### **Class of 2024**

**Marlene Gaynor  
George Hankins  
Bill Powers  
Mal Stewart**

#### **Class of 2025**

**Diane Church  
Linda Clark  
Jody Kopec  
Felicia Van Doran**

#### **Class of 2026**

**Jennifer Ellis  
Michael Coyne  
Jon Hourahan  
Kevan Ottochian**

**Clerk of Session: Felicia Van Doran**

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

#### **Class of 2024**

**Patrick Ellis  
Bill Keller  
Barbara Schust  
George Schust**

#### **Class of 2025**

**Cecile Ayres  
Carol Gabella  
Jennifer Serkes**

#### **Class of 2026**

**Diana Bowe  
Carolyn Keller  
Cheryl Zis  
Sam Fontana**

**Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller**

### **STAFF**

**Jonathan B. Hall, Minister of Music  
Patricia Schwetje, Office Administrator  
Deborah Hourahan, Church Treasurer**



**First Presbyterian Church of Goshen** invites you to Harry Potter Night! at  
Boulders Stadium. **June 1, 2024, 6:30pm**

For \$18 (plus processing fees) you will enjoy:

A box seat ticket to Capitales @ Boulders

Each \$18 ticket purchased gives back \$5 to First Presbyterian Church in Goshen,  
and once 100 tickets are sold each ticket retroactively gives back \$10!

Every ticket comes with a complimentary Boulders Promotional Cap.

**The night will culminate with fireworks!**

To purchase tickets:

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/Firstpresbyterian6>

Or scan the QR code:



Questions: Felicia Van Doran  
914-443-4704 \* Feliciav99@yahoo.com



# THE KID'S PAGE

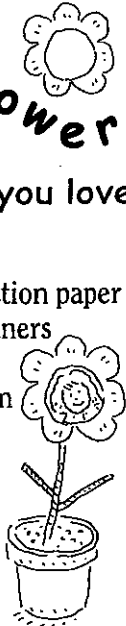
Make a

## photo Flower

for someone you love

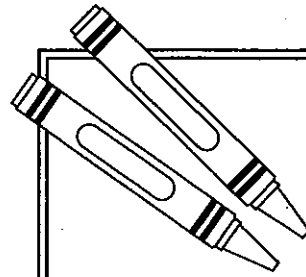
You will need:

- ✿ colored construction paper
- ✿ 2 green pipe cleaners
- ✿ small flower pot
- ✿ green florist foam (to fit in pot)
- ✿ scissors
- ✿ tape
- ✿ glue
- ✿ a photo of you!



How to make it:

- ✿ Cut out your face from the photo. Make it a circle about 1-1/2" round.
- ✿ Fold a piece of colored paper in half and cut out 2 flower shapes.
- ✿ Glue your round photo in the center of one flower.
- ✿ Make a stem by folding a pipe cleaner in half and twisting it to make it stronger.
- ✿ Glue or tape the "stem" to the back of the flower that has your picture.
- ✿ Glue the other flower to the back of the first one. Make sure the "stem" is in between and sticks out from the bottom.
- ✿ Cut the other pipe cleaner in half to make leaves and then attach them to the "stem."
- ✿ Put the green foam in the pot.
- ✿ Plant your flower in the foam.
- ✿ Give the flower pot to someone you love.

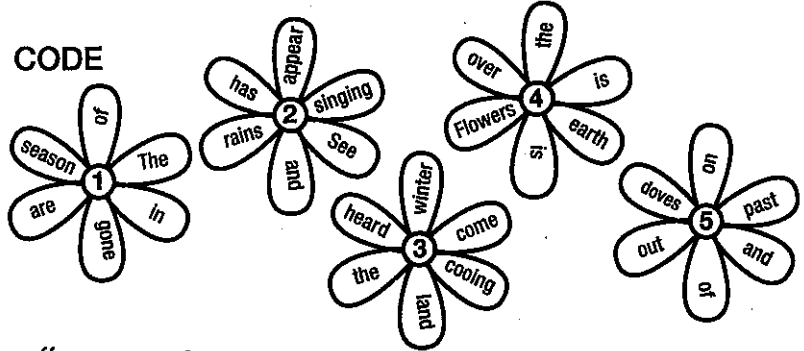


## Just for KIDS

### Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Find the beautiful springtime words from Song of Solomon. Use the flower code to fill in the blanks.

CODE



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1

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3
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4

\_\_\_\_\_ .

3
1
5
3

Answer: "See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooling of doves is heard in our land."



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	29 12:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - PNC @ Virtual	30 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 6:30pm - NA @ FH	1 First Day of Asian Pacific 4:30pm - Mission Committee @ P 6:30pm - NA @ B 7:15pm - GAPNS Meeting @ FH	2 6pm - NA @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 6:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	3 12:30pm - NA @ B	4
5 Cinco de Mayo 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH 10:30am - Worship/Music	6 12:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - PNC @ Virtual	7 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH	8 7:30pm - Finance Committee @ P	9 9am - GAPNS @ FH 5:30pm - Outreach/Fellowship @ 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	10 9am - GAPNS @ FH 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - Friday Night Friends @ FH	11 9am - Food Pantry @ FH
12 Mother's Day 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH 10:30am - Deacon's Mtg. @ B	13 12:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - PNC @ Virtual	14 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH	15 7pm - Session @ P	16 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	17 12:30pm - NA @ B 4pm - Wedding Rehearsal @ S	18 1pm - Ottochian Wedding @ S
19 Tower Tie Articles Due 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	20 12:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - PNC @ Virtual	21 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH	22	23 6pm - Food Pantry @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	24 12:30pm - NA @ B	25 1pm - Diva Dance @ FH, K
26 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ S 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	27 Memorial Day Office Closed 12:30pm - NA @ B	28 9:30am - Food Pantry Shelving 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH	29	30 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal @ S 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @ P	31 12:30pm - NA @ B	1 First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride Month