

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924
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Robert J. Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music
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November, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's that time of year again! Football season? Halloween? Well, yes, it's time for those things, too, but the event to which I refer is...drum roll, please...First Presbyterian's Annual Stewardship Campaign! (Please try to contain your excitement.)

Okay, I admit it's a little harder to get enthused about a stewardship drive than it is for the other harbingers of autumn, but it's an important piece of the church puzzle that helps enable everything that happens here. Just like two-a-days help get a football team ready and cleaning out the gooey pumpkin innards is necessary for a good jack-o'-lantern, so a stewardship campaign is vital to help us do the really neat stuff we love to do for God and each other.

As we move through this campaign, I want us all to remember that it is our support that enables the ministry of our church every day. So, as we look at 2010, let us also look at what is happening in 2009, made possible by your support in last year's stewardship campaign. Here are just some of the things that we've done over the past few weeks:

- Held weekly church school classes
- Held choir practices
- Distributed food from the food pantry
- Hosted a free community dinner for all who wished to walk in
- Hosted board and committee meetings
- Had a plant sale to raise funds for mission
- Provided space for thirty-seven nonprofit meetings
- Celebrated a wedding
- Visited and assisted members and community members in need
- Made emergency hospital calls
- Attended, presented, and voted in a Presbytery meeting
- Did an Appreciative Inquiry Review with the Presbytery
- Provided leadership guidance to several small congregations in our area

In addition, between now and the next newsletter, we will see our Prayer Shawl Ministry continue its effective ministry of caring, continue to offer weekly worship and Christian education, plan for the upcoming confirmation class, continue to witness to the love of God through visits and counseling, have more board and committee meetings, kick off the youth group program, welcome new members, and more.

All this is made possible because of your support and God's blessing. Please remember, when you are asked to support the various ministries of the church, the above list is just a sampling of the ways your church reaches out to others with God's love, not only within our community but, from here, our ministry reaches out all the way around the world.

There are so many more ways we wish to be Christ's presence in this place. Help us make that possible through your support of the 2010 Stewardship Campaign and your participation in the life, health, and ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Kingsley

NOVEMBER BRINGS THE CHURCH YEAR TO A CLOSE



In November, we can feel the darkness and cold of winter setting in. It is in this month that we, as a nation, give thanks for our blessings on Thanksgiving Thursday. On Sunday, November 22, we come together to offer our corporate thanks to God for his blessings. We are all blessed in many ways, and yet, we do not often stop to take stock of the many blessings in our lives. Think along with me for just a moment. Daily, we experience the beauty of nature, nurturing relationships, our ability to earn a living, good food, music, the sun that rises each new day, the fact that we wake up in the morning, and the fact that we still have our wits about us. We get a fresh start each day to improve our lives and love more in our relationships and interactions with others. Isn't that what it is all about? Let us come together to offer praise, worship, and thanksgiving to our God, who has so richly blessed us.

*For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.*

~Ralph Waldo Emerson



I thank each of you for your positive comments on the growth of our choir. We welcome each new voice and celebrate the enhancement of our music ministry at this time. Our congregational singing is sounding strong as well. Let's keep it up, and we may soon have to fill both sides of the choir stalls! We've got the space.

On Sunday, November 29, we begin the new church year as we celebrate Advent I. The Sundays of Advent lead us to prepare for the birth of Christ as he incarnates upon the Earth. We anticipate and look forward to his birth, which culminates in the celebration of Christmas.



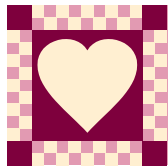
INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

There will be an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. The offering collected will benefit the Goshen Ecumenical Food Pantry.



YUMMY, HOMEMADE COOKIES NEEDED

Cookies are needed for the Christmas baskets that the Presbyterian Women's Association distributes each holiday season. Please call Carol Gabella at 342-4367 (evenings), or e-mail her at calgabel@hotmail.com, if you can bake two dozen (or more) cookies during the week of December 7. If you can help arrange the baskets and/or help with their delivery, please tell Carol or Pat (the church secretary).



Quilts of the Congregation & Friends

Dear Members of the Church,

At our craft fair last year, we had a quilt display in the sanctuary. It was such a beautiful and serene place to visit. Over fifty quilts from all over the country were displayed. So many people came and visited. Our deacons decorated beautifully, so the sanctuary looked like an old-fashioned Christmas card. We asked \$1 or a food item to see the display, and the items and money went to the local food pantry.

We will be doing this again on November 21. In order to plan ahead, we would like to know if you want to display your treasure. We would love to have quilts from last year and also additions of others. Please fill out the bottom of this sheet and, **by November 1**, drop it in the offering plate or leave it in the office so we can plan on how many cards to make describing your cherished heirlooms. We will take new quilts, and we also had a lovely display of baby quilts last year. If you have friends, neighbors, or relatives who might loan us their treasures for the day, let us know. Any item that is done in a quilt fashion is welcome to be displayed.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. We can still use many helpers for Friday evening (set-up), early Saturday morning, and throughout the day of the event. Project Linus will also have a display for the day with us.

God bless you for sharing your gifts with others.

Wendy Paffenroth
Barbara Hankins
Quilt Show Coordinators

Name: _____

Address: _____

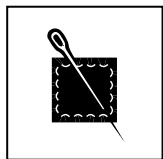
Phone: _____

I have an item to display _____ **How Many?** _____

Type of item(s) (baby quilt, full-size quilt, quilted jacket, etc.)



QUILTS OF THE CONGREGATION



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

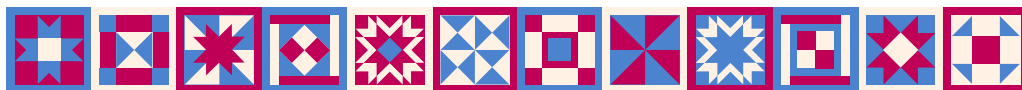
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
33 PARK PLACE, GOSHEN, NY 10924
(845) 294-7991**

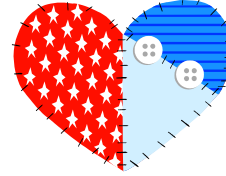
Come and see HEIRLOOM QUILTS and beautiful handmade items of yesteryear. We will also feature many newly-made quilts. Displayed will be shared treasures of the members of the congregation and friends.

**Also: Prayer Shawl Ministry display
(handmade shawls)
&
Project Linus display**

To be admitted, it is suggested that you please bring a non-perishable item or a donation of \$1. All donations will be given to the local food pantry.

During the quilt show, the craft fair and bake sale will be ongoing in the Fellowship Hall.





The Board of Deacons is sponsoring their

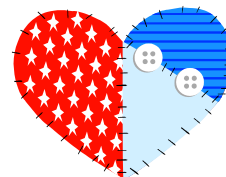
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR
HARVEST BAKE SALE
QUILTS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
33 PARK PLACE
GOSHEN, NY 10924**

If you have any questions, please contact Edith Bush at 695-1763
or the church office - 294-7991

- ❖ Many vendors with holiday gifts, crafts, and jewelry
- ❖ Presby-Crafters table (new this year)
- ❖ Outstanding baked goods for your harvest celebration
(made by the ladies of the congregation)
- ❖ Second Annual *Quilts of the Congregation* in the sanctuary (suggested donation of a food item or \$1 for the food pantry)



Presbyterian Women's Association (PW)
News Notes

PW has decided to have a meeting on November 2 to decide on our 2010 meeting dates. We have found that many in the group do not like to come out at night during the winter months, and we are looking to find meeting times that are more convenient for the group. It has been discussed that we might meet quarterly or every other month. We need the women of the congregation to come to this meeting and help us decide what is best for all members.

We will also discuss the annual Christmas gathering, during which we will honor one of the women of the church. This dinner will be held on December 6, and all women of the church are invited. More details will be in the bulletin after the November calendar meeting.

Remember to mark your calendars for the bake sale on November 21. We will again gather "real" plates, baskets, and bowls in which to put donations. We have found that we can get a dollar or two more for our items by using real plates. Plates will be available at coffee hour beginning on November 1.

Please take as many as you want.

Last year, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our great bakers. Let's do it again this year. Also, please tell Barbara vonPentz if you can work at the bake sale on November 21. It is a long day, and we would like to take turns sitting at the table.

Remember to join us for our calendar meeting on November 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.

Thank you,
Wendy Paffenroth
Secretary, PW

TALENTED BAKERS



The Presbyterian Women's Association needs your HELP.

It is bake sale time again, and everyone knows we have some of the best bakers in the region.

We are looking for pies, cakes, cookies, brownies, bars, muffins, yeast breads, gingerbreads, jams, jellies, candies, etc. Plates for your donations will be available at coffee hours starting in November. Pick up as many plates as you want for your donations.

Please offer to donate your specialties to the bake sale at the craft fair on November 21.

Thank you in advance.

We are counting on you again. If you have any questions, please contact President Barbara vonPentz at 294-5730 or Secretary Wendy Paffenroth at 258-4826 or mapaff@hotmail.com.



FUNDRAISING NEWS

We are involved in more than one fundraising activity at the present time. One is the Yankee Candle products sale, which ended on October 25. Our church receives 40 percent of the total sales from this. Another fundraiser is the sale of \$5 tickets to get into the Galleria at Crystal Run after hours on Sunday, November 15, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We keep the \$5 from each ticket sold, so this fundraiser is simple and easy for us. The obvious thing that is required is that we sell all of the tickets that we have, so please be sure to help out with this ticket sale! If we do well on both of these fundraisers, we should be able to afford the repair of at least one window in the sanctuary.

A big **THANK YOU** is extended to Glynnis Jorgensen for chairing the fall rummage sale again! It takes many hands to make the rummage sale a success, and I truly appreciate all the people who helped set up, who worked during the sale, and who helped with the cleanup. And, of course, I thank everyone who saved items for the sale!

This year's Breakfast with Santa will take place on Saturday, December 5. Kathy Stringer and Rachael Quick have agreed to chair this event this year. **THANK YOU**, Kathy and Rachael! Many of you have been involved in this event in the past, and I so hope that you will once again volunteer your time to make this a fun-filled morning for the children of our church and our community!

The Fundraising Committee and some supportive members of the congregation met after church toward the end of September. Several ideas were proposed, such as the Yankee Candle sale and the sale of tickets to the Galleria at Crystal Run. We are exploring other ideas, so we will keep you informed when they take shape.

Loretta Richner
Fundraising Coordinator

SANTA'S BREAKFAST
Saturday, December 5th

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH OUR UPCOMING SANTA'S BREAKFAST IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

_____ I'm available to help setup on Friday, December 4th at 5:30 p.m. (*tree and room decorating*)
(*we need some men to help put up the tables & chairs, too!*)

_____ I'm available to help in the kitchen and will arrive by 7:30 a.m. (See Grover vonPentz)

_____ I'm available to help the morning of the breakfast and will arrive by 8:00 a.m.

_____ I'm available to help cleanup after the breakfast at 11:30 a.m.

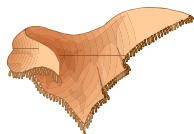
_____ I have some gift items or will make a cash donation for the purchase of gift items for Santa's Gift Shop. If you make a cash donation, please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church. Gifts can be left in the church Office.

*(The gift shop is for the children to shop for one gift for a parent or special relative
and therefore should be adult items ... a value of no more than \$10.)*

We are also looking for donations of bows, ribbons, tape and wrapping paper.



Please place in the offering plate or give to: Kathy Stringer or Rachael Quick
Thanks for your help.



HUG HAPPENINGS

News of the Prayer Shawl Ministry (PSM)

The shawl ministry is back on track and plans to meet the first and third Sundays of each month after services. We have tried to catch up on our journal as to where the shawls were distributed over the summer months and are now working on getting a supply back into the shawl room for future use. Baby blankets and lap robes have also been made and will continue to be sent when the need arises.

We plan to display our gifts at the quilt show, and hopefully we can encourage other groups to start ministries in their churches. We continue to accept monetary donations and donations of yarns, gift bags, tissue paper, and gift cards so that this ministry will keep moving forward. All of your gifts are so appreciated. Thank you so much for thinking of our group.

Shawls are also being sent for many occasions other than illnesses. This summer, some shawls were given to some young ladies leaving home for the first time to go to college. I have since heard from them that when they miss home, they wrap their shawls around them and feel good again. It seems there is a lot of love in those hugs we make.

I had been asked to go to Tarrytown, New York, to a group that crochets items for children in need. They are interested in adding shawls to the items that are made. I purchased a book about prayer shawls for the one gal that asked me to come, and they are starting to make them. Our little group is spreading the word more than we know. I am also sending copies of our prayers to share with a group in upstate New York, near Niagara Falls, as they are considering starting a ministry as well.

Remember, the winter will be upon us soon. If you would like to learn the art of crocheting to help pass the long nights, come on any Sunday we meet, and we will start you on a new and wonderful hobby.

Until next month, consider yourselves hugged.

Wendy Paffenroth
Journal Keeper, PSM

PRESBY CRAFTERS NEEDED!!

Calling all Presby Crafters!! We are looking for donations of NEW crafts, made by our congregation and friends, that we may sell at the craft fair. The proceeds from this will be used for repairs of our church.

If you have questions, would like to donate crafts, or have time available to sit and work our table, please call Lori Turner at 692-8660, or e-mail her at monkeybusiness@frontiernet.net.

THANKSGIVING 2009

If you are not sure what you are doing this year for Thanksgiving and want to be with friends and enjoy their company, eat, and watch some wonderful movies or play games, then please join us in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, November 26.

We will start the day around 1:00 p.m. with appetizers and will enjoy the smells of a turkey dinner cooking with all the trimmings.

Yes, there are a few catches...

- 1. We need to know how many are coming by Sunday, November 22. Please fill out the form below and give it to Darlene Bartley.*
- 2. If you can get and cook a free turkey to bring on Thursday, that would be great. We will carve the turkeys. (We will know how many we will need by November 22.)*
- 3. We will need pies, appetizers, rolls, and apple cider for the dinner. All the rest will be cooked by Darlene, Barbara, and those who would like to help.*

I am looking forward to sharing this holiday with church family and friends who may have family too far away to visit. I hope that you will join us.

Thank you,

Darlene

Please fill out, tear off, and return to Darlene or give to Pat in the office.

I would love to come to Thanksgiving dinner. There will be _____attending.

I can bring the following:

---- turkey already cooked

---- dessert (apple pie, pumpkin pie, pecan pie (circle one)) and whipped cream

---- dinner rolls

---- apple cider

---- appetizer (cheese and crackers, olives and pickles dish, shrimp cocktail

(circle one))



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

- ❖ Saturday – December 5, 2009
- ❖ The First Presbyterian Church in Goshen
33 Park Place – Goshen NY 10924
- ❖ Seatings- 8:30 & 10:00 AM
- ❖ Tickets- \$6.00 Per Person – **PAID IN ADVANCE-**
Each child's ticket includes - pancake breakfast, face painting & shopping for a special gift in the North Pole Gift Shoppe for that special someone.

***PROFESSIONAL – QUALITY PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES
WILL BE AVAILABLE TO CAPTURE THAT SPECIAL
MOMENT ON SANTA'S LAP.***

Pictures are \$6.00 and to be paid at the time of service.

Seating is Limited! Reservations required and accepted on a first come – first served basis through November 20, 2009.

Mail reservations or stop by the church office (294-7991) – Office hours are from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SANTA BREAKFAST RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Number Attending: Adults: Children: _____

Seating Preference: 8:30: 10:00: _____

(Please print information -& circle or check preferred seating time. Thanks)

Return to: First Presbyterian Church – 33 Park Place- Goshen NY 10924

Attention: **Santa Breakfast**

Make Checks Payable to: **First Presbyterian Church**

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
Haley Buckley
Mary Carr
Nancy Chase
Grace Cook
Phyllis Cummings
Bob Dennis
Joe Destefano
Kevin Fenner
Gabby
Ann Graham
Kevin and Sara Hankins
Carol Kingsley
Gloria Lupenski
The Family of Anita McCarthy
Lisa and Bob Montalbano
Richard Nash
Nina and Jason
Ann Ott
The Family of Marina Petersen
Trudi Roach
Kevin Ross
Kevin Schuler
Marguerite Shaw
The Smith Family
Braiden Thew
Donna Totton
Kim Valentini and Family
Jean Wade
Paul and Phyla Wright

Jefferson Billings
Sarah Burrows
Barbara Caruso
Jessica Chasen
Ethan Cox
Sylvester Damiani
Amy DePew
Everyone serving in the Military
Steve Fischbein
Fran Genovese
Mary Gray Griffith
The Family of Brian Kilpatrick
Evelyn Kingsley
Margaretta Macica
Evelyn Mercado
Richard Mudrick and Family
Toni Neidel's mother
Amy (Thompson) Nguyen
Amy Pemberton
The Family of Madeline Pillmeier
Robyn
Robert Ruckdeschel
Fred Schwarz
Walter and Louise Spencer
Bill and Jean Strong
Judy Thompson
Brenda Travers
Kenya VanZandt
Molly Wanat
Judy and Wayne Yendall

Karen and Paige Brooks
Cheryl Campbell and Family
Susan Caslick
Dan Conley
Bruce and Jean Crandall
Mary DeFreece
Joshua DePew
Pat Farley
Ben Fisher
The George Family
Barbara and George Hankins
Kim
Lyndsay Krutki
The Family of Melissa Martucci
Jeff Monroe
Eileen Myslinski
Steven Neil
Janet Oberg
Peter
Jack Richner
Dorothy Rose
Ted Sandstrom
Barbara Scott and Family
Peggy Srirach
Shawn Thatcher
George Tietz
Lori Turner
Wendy Bynum-Wade and Family
Orra and Dale Wood
Cheryl and Rebecca Zis

*(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.)*



THIS BASKET IS EMPTY... Please help fill it with goodies for our shut-in friends and neighbors of our church. Contributions of dried fruit, yummy canned soups, jellies, Christmas candy, toiletries, hand lotion, etc., would be most appreciated. Baskets will be distributed during the Christmas holiday.

Please call Dorothy Sevcik at 294-7783 if you know of anyone who would like a Presby basket. Contributions may be dropped off in the church office or in the narthex beginning in November.

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

NOVEMBER UPDATE

“Stewards of the Garden”

For the group of eight people who have graciously volunteered to become our first meditation garden stewards, please see the below schedule, which is for the remainder of 2009.

Note: Allegro Landscaping will be performing a final 2009 “clean-up, weeding, mulch rake, etc.,” during the last week of October. We would ask that, during your “volunteer period,” you visit the garden, pull any weeds, remove any debris from the beds, lightly rake the mulch, and perform a general “tidy-up” of the area. *But please don't hurt yourselves!*

It is not necessary to be there on any particular day other than to complete the work, as you deem it's needed sometime during your two-week period. Call Wayne with questions.

SCHEDULE:

Diane and Wayne George:	November 1–November 15
Beryl Yungman and Sue Varden:	November 16–November 30
Loretta and Jack Richner:	December 1–December 15
Barbara and George Hankins:	December 16–December 31

The schedule will also be posted outside the church office

Fifteen NEW memorial pavers have been ordered and will be installed in November to honor and remember loved ones. Pavers are only \$100 each, and we will be ordering the next round in February to be installed in the early spring. Please see Pat in the church office to order your pavers.

Four purchase options remain available to help make owning a niche more affordable:

Payment in Full = \$2,500

12-Month Payment Option = \$255/month for 12 months

24-Month Payment Option = \$125/month for 24 months

36-Month Payment Option = \$ 90/month for 36 months

Sixteen niches are available for sale in the columbarium wall. Each double-niche is 11¼ inches cubed and allows for either double or single interment. Call the church office (845-294-7991), Pastor Kingsley, or Wayne George (914-213-4093) for any additional information you may need.

NEWS FROM DAN

So sorry I haven't written in a while; there has been a lot of stuff going on. So on tsunami day, I woke up, started washing the dinner dishes from the night before, and all of a sudden, we got an earthquake. This one was big! Books on my shelves started falling; spices fell; stuff was moving; and since I'm so close to the ocean, I knew it was time to go. So I threw a bunch of stuff in my backpack, got on my bike, and Paul and I rode to high ground. All the people were telling us that Samoa doesn't get tsunamis, because God said He would protect Samoa.

Well, we got inland and started hearing bells and horns. That was the sign a tsunami was probably hitting us, so we were called and told by the Peace Corps to stay put for a few hours. When we were finally able to go home, we rode through the village, and, clearly, a big wave had come in. It pushed huge boulders all over the place, knocked down all the little thatched roof huts, but the concrete ones still stood. There were trees down; garbage was everywhere, along with a clear line of dirt and pebbles that showed how far the wave had come inland (probably fifty yards or so). Luckily, the school has a big wall in front of it, and it is kind of situated on a cliff so that the wave only partially damaged the wall, but left the school, kids, and all the houses, including mine, safe.

But then we started getting word about the other side of the island, about how much stuff had gone wrong there. So, two days later, a bunch of volunteers went to the south side of Upolu where the big waves hit. I guess they were thirty feet high. I'm sure you've seen the pictures in the newspaper and TV, but, oh my gosh, there is nothing left. Seeing it first hand, it is incredible how much damage was done. So we were there for two days passing out clothes and food to the refugees.

Then it was back to school on Monday. School is finished; kids have to pay fees for each term of school. This is the third term, when not much gets done; a lot of parents don't want to pay fees for a short term when not much happens. I'd say the school lost a quarter of all students; all the Tech 2 students are gone on work observations, so I only have three kids, which is nice, but they are lazy and don't want to do anything. We only have about three weeks until finals. There have been a lot of tremors in Samoa since the tsunami, and we keep getting evacuated to high ground for no reason. Sitting in the jungle for three hours every afternoon because people are overly cautious is not fun.

The new Peace Corps group got here Wednesday; there are twenty-four of them. We were only thirteen. There are twenty girls and four guys; we were four girls and nine guys. They are all going to be primary school teachers. I'm going out tonight to meet them. Should be cool to get some new people to talk to.

But that is it for now.

Dan

Join us for a...Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour Saturday, November 14

If you are interested in the work of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh and its partnership with PresbyBuild, JOIN US for a free, one-hour introduction to Habitat Newburgh's work and impact on the community. We will tour several completed Habitat homes in the city of Newburgh. Light refreshments will be available at 10:45 a.m. The tour will start at 11:00 a.m. at the Kimball Building at 125 Washington Street. We will carpool from Goshen. Please contact Bill or Carolyn Keller at 294-5508 or Sue Varden at 294-8638.

From the Outreach and Fellowship Committee:

BOO!

Did we scare you?

How about this: COFFEE HOUR HOSTING!

Frightened? Well, let's see if we can change how you perceive this important service to the church.

One of the most intimidating parts of coffee hour hosting (CHH) is the fear of walking into an unfamiliar kitchen, figuring out where everything is, and trying to put it all together for a big group of people. So, we've created a system so those new to CHH won't need to feel alone in the task:

Step 1: There is a signup sheet on the table outside Fellowship Hall. Find a convenient Sunday and volunteer! Several people on each Sunday makes for an easier time, so be sure to bring the whole family, a group, or a few individuals together.

Step 2: Give us your phone number or e-mail address (either on the signup sheet or in person), and we will assign a CHH veteran to help you out. You will get an information sheet on what you need to bring and how to set everything up, and your CHH helper will explain everything to you—what you need, when to arrive, etc.

Step 3: On the morning of your CHH, the assistant will meet you at the church, show you how everything works, help you set up, and help you put everything back.

Step 4: Feel great about having hosted coffee hour!

CHH is one of the most rewarding ways of helping the church; you see firsthand the congregation enjoying the work you've put in, and you take great pleasure in being a part of the fellowship that your coffee hour provides.

We look forward to seeing you there!

START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING EARLY
AND HELP THE CHURCH RAISE MONEY

AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL NIGHT OF GIVING
ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15
AT THE GALLERIA AT CRYSTAL RUN
FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Night of Giving is a special shopping event to kick off the holiday season. The Galleria at Crystal Run will stay open late for this very special event. Ticket holders will have access to exclusive store discounts, special values, and fabulous prize giveaways.

How can our church get involved and benefit from *Night of Giving*? In order to take advantage of the exclusive discounts and great prize giveaways, you must purchase a ticket. Tickets are \$5 each. All the proceeds from our ticket sales will go directly to our church. **The money will be used for the restoration of one of our church windows.** The more tickets we sell, the more money we will have to help with this important project. Please help support this fundraiser. You can purchase your ticket from Darlene Bartley or at the church office.

Visit www.galleriacrystalrun.com for a complete list of participating stores.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

2	<i>Darcy McDowell</i>	19	<i>Emma Boardman</i>
3	<i>Emily Conley</i>		<i>Beth Laskoski</i>
5	<i>Joan Columbus</i>		<i>Julie Turi</i>
8	<i>Kathy Stringer</i>	21	<i>Robert Fitzpatrick</i>
9	<i>Michael Knoblock</i>	24	<i>Kathy Alevras</i>
10	<i>Jeff Totton</i>		<i>Amy Fontana</i>
11	<i>Sarah Grace Puelzl</i>	25	<i>Elizabeth Ukejianya</i>
14	<i>Ria Chionchio</i>	26	<i>Jon Hourahan</i>
17	<i>Taylor Knoblock</i>	27	<i>Beth Chevalier</i>
18	<i>Phyllis Cummings</i>	28	<i>Anthony Chionchio</i>
	<i>David Kingsley</i>		<i>Danielle Diglio</i>
	<i>Bob Montalbano</i>	30	<i>Sue Stenson</i>
			<i>Robert Kingsley</i>

HAPPY NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

11	<i>Craig and Arlete Shaeffer</i>
23	<i>Jack and Susan Pierce</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.

- If anyone has an allergy to the communion products we are using, please contact Lori Turner at 692-8660 and she will try to locate alternative products.
- Evelyn Kromm says, "Hi" to all of her friends at the First Presbyterian Church. She's all settled in and is enjoying her new home and all her family.
- After many moves and changes, Gertrude Cox is finally in a place where she can be safe and comfortable for a long time. Her address is: Elant, 46 Harriman Drive, Goshen, NY 10924 (845) 294-3064

NEW SIGN BY OUR DOORS...

Have you noticed the new sign in front of the church? It is there by the gracious donation of the Kingsley and Stringer families. David and Mary Kingsley had the board for the sign and Kathy and Ron Stringer took their God given talent and designed it.

We are sure that everyone noticed how lovely it makes the entrance to our sanctuary. The last sign lasted almost forty years with a slight update a few years ago. It was in dire need of replacing. Thank you to the Kingsley and Stringer families from the entire congregation.

YOUTH GROUP??

Last year, the youth group combined middle school ages with high school ages for group church activities, games, and some fun trips. When people turned out, it was great. However, there were several events planned that no one attended (except one—thanks, Evan!), which is unfortunate because it involved planning time and interrupting schedules for Liese and me. E-mails were sent asking for responses about upcoming activities so that we could know in advance who would be coming. Responses were scant to none at all.

In light of this, Liese and I are hesitant to commit to organizing and planning youth group activities this year. The reliable people who attended the activities last year were Liese's teenagers and my daughter and her school friends (non-church-members came more than church members on many occasions). They are now in college and the Navy.

Liese and I have decided to conduct an informal e-mail survey. Please let us know your age, interests, and commitment level. If people are too busy with other activities, perhaps meeting once a month is more agreeable. If we do not get a substantial response to this call, Liese and I will be hesitant to commit our time and energy.

In addition, there may be other parents who would like to help in this effort. Any parent who would like to plan a specific activity is more than welcome to do so. Making this a group adult effort (as opposed to just Liese and me) might interest a wider variety of kids to join in.

Please e-mail your thoughts regarding this to Liese at lboese@gmail.com.

Thanks to all who made youth group fun last year!
Barbara Lippert

Youth Group Update

As of October 18, no one has expressed interest in participating in youth group activities. Ken Skyer offered to help organize group activities, so there will be an initial group meeting on November 8 in Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. It will be a game night. I will bring *Apples to Apples* and *Pictionary*, but anyone who has another game idea is welcome to bring it. I will provide the snacks. **This will be your chance to make the youth group happen this year!** Anyone interested in joining or planning youth group activities should contact Liese Boese as soon as possible so that we can plan accordingly.

Get to Know the Presbytery of the Hudson River

We are one of ninety congregations in eight counties that come together to support the Presbytery of the Hudson River. As part of our support, the First Presbyterian Church pays an annual assessment for each of its members to the Presbytery. For 2009, the annual assessment is **\$26.42 per member** (\$9,960.34 for all members). We ask you to reimburse the church for your share of the annual assessment if you have not already done so for 2009.

In addition to the annual assessment, the First Presbyterian Church makes an annual contribution of \$2,000 to support the many worthy ministries and mission projects of the Presbytery. Through these projects, the Presbytery provides substantial assistance to communities in need throughout our country and around the world. When you support our church, you also support the Presbytery. This month's edition of the Tower Tie includes a brochure that describes many of the ministries and mission projects of the Presbytery. To learn more, please read the brochure and log on to the Presbytery's Web site, www.hudrivpres.org.

Peace be with you,

Scott Roper
Chair, Finance and Administration

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.

ELDERS

Class of 2010

Loretta Richner
Scott Roper
Barbara Skyer
Doug Wade
Rob Warner
Orra Wood

Class of 2011

John Bruno
Linda Clark
Geri Corey
Dominick Fontana
Bill Hodges
Kathy Stringer

Class of 2012

Craig Calzaretta
Tyler Cox
Bill Keller
Tom McDowell
Sue Varden

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2010

Diana Bowe

Andrea Branson- Snook
Deb Hourahan
Jon Hourahan
Lisa Montalbano
Lori Turner
Cheryl Zis

Class of 2011

David Castellano

Jean Crandall
Patrick Farley
Barbara Lippert
Ken Skyer
Grover vonPentz

Class of 2012

Linda Boardman

Jessica Bowe
Glynnis Jorgensen
Carolyn Keller
Marni Lewis
Rebecca Zis

Moderator of Deacons:

Lori Turner

Presbyterian Women:

Barbara von Pentz, President

STAFF

Robert J. Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music
Pat Schwetje, Church Secretary
Kim Hoernig, Church Treasurer
Nancy Smith, Financial Secretary