

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924
Todd Young, Pastor

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October 2024

From the Pastor's Desk....

I cannot believe it has been a month since the last Tower Tie article I wrote. It has been a very busy, exciting and fulfilling month. I am learning names to put with faces, especially our children. Catching up on all we have going on here at FPC Goshen and learning the committee structures and who does what, when and where. All things considered I am having a blast. I am so pleased to be here with everyone. The future looks so bright we all need sunglasses. 😊 A quick reminder about my upcoming commissioning service. October 13th @ 4pm. I hope you can all make it; seems like a very exciting time should be had by all.

As David put it in Psalm 31:24, 'Be strong and let your heart take courage...'. Many people look for strength but look in the wrong places. So how can we be strong and take courage? We look at the whole of Psalm 31. We can be COURAGEOUS because we TAKE REFUGE in the Lord. Vs. 1, 'In You, O Lord, I have taken refuge;' & vs. 20, 'You hide them (Your people) in the secret place of Your presence from the conspiracies of man.

We daily commune with God by reading His Word and praying to Him. Doing those things reminds us of where our help truly comes from. As we find refuge in Him, we find we won't be ashamed, we'll be protected, He'll listen to us, save us, lead and guide us. He will help us to avoid traps, and we find that He is our strength. We find courage from God because we are safe in Him.

We can be courageous because we trust in the Lord. Vs. 5, 'Into Your hand I commit my spirit;' and Vs. 14, 'But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord.' There is nothing more valuable to a person than their spirit, as we will live forever. This verse shows that we should completely trust in God by committing our most valuable thing to Him, just as Jesus did from the cross. We find courage from God because we can trust Him.

The Bible lets us know that we love God because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). God's perfect love is the one thing that can give us the courage to face anything. When we are in a battle and we know that He loves us, we know that no matter what losses we may endure we have, and will have, His love. Without His love, the universe ceases. But with His love, the Bible proclaims that all things are possible. And we know that all means all and that's all that all means. Amen?

Praying you find courage in Christ today,
God Bless You All,
Pastor Todd



I write this a week before the fall equinox. Summer has been mild and beautiful, mostly, and I am hoping for a serene autumn. Church is back in full swing and there are signs of new life among us. This is a wonderful time to reclaim the joy of communal singing and music-making.

Why engage music passively—why just buy a song online—when you can feel the deep joy of making it yourself? Of course, you can do both, but the experience of music is so satisfying. Try it if you haven't! Remember: if you can say "I don't have a voice," obviously you do!

As far as time commitments, handbells and choir do rehearse for an hour a week. Normally the Emmaus Ringers, our handbell ensemble, meets in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays, when in session (not all year round). Choir meets either in the Sanctuary or the parlor at 7:30 p.m. On Sundays, choir warms up right at 9:00 a.m. in the Chancel, and if there are bells that day, the ringers warm up about a quarter to nine, also in the Chancel.

If your busy life takes you away for some of the time, and that schedule is difficult, consider joining us for the festive times of Christmas and Easter.

For Christmas Eve, I know people sometimes like to jump in and sing with the Choir, but if you do, please remember we've been rehearsing some of the music for weeks and it's not easy, or helpful to others, to try to "get up to speed" in fifteen minutes! You could always sing the carols if you like. Why not commit to a month of Thursday rehearsals before Christmas?

It's at the holidays that our cultural traditions shine the brightest. We unpack them like ornaments and they remind us how deep our roots go. Surely getting together and singing the beloved carols can make the holy time sparkle more brightly.

The Tuesday recitals continue on, surpassing fifty and still counting. If you're free on a Tuesday at 12:15 p.m., come celebrate the beauty of music, the beauty of our sanctuary, and the beauty inherent in life itself.

Have a beautiful fall, and see you in church.

Jonathan

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All are invited to a most joyous occasion. On **October 13, 2024** at **4:00 p.m.**, there will be a commissioning service for our new Pastor Todd Young. There will be the regular service at 9:30 a.m. also. So if you can only go to one, please come to the 4:00 p.m. special service.

A Message From Our Clerk of Session...

Hello everyone,

My name is Felicia Van Doran, and I have the honor of serving as the Clerk of Session. I've been in this role for nearly a year now, and I'm delighted to be part of this wonderful community.

A bit about me: I'm the proud parent of two grown sons who are both married and have moved away. I'm currently engaged to Michael Coyne, and we live in Milford, PA. Although I initially joined the church while living in Goshen, I found so much to love about this place that I couldn't bear to leave even after relocating.

I truly believe this church is exceptional and I consider it my extended family. I am especially excited to be working alongside Pastor Todd. As a member of the PNC, I can assure you that we took great care in selecting the best person for this role. We waited patiently for the right fit, and I genuinely feel that Pastor Todd was worth the wait. I hope you will share in my enthusiasm.

Our Session meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend—just let either me or Pastor Todd know in advance. We're also in the process of staffing committees for the 2024-2025 year, and we're particularly in need of volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Every committee would benefit from new ideas and help, so please consider getting involved. Your contributions are invaluable and deeply appreciated.

If you have any questions or if there is something you'd like to have brought up at a Session meeting, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for being part of this special community.

Warm regards,

Felicia Van Doran

***Jo Wolfe Memorial Dinner Club
Sunday, October 6
at the
Rustic Wheelhouse in Chester
4:00 p.m.***

The price is \$45.00 per person. You have a choice of Parchment Salmon, Chicken Marsala, or Penne alla Vodka. Salad, bread, dessert, and coffee/tea are included in the price. Contact George Schust for reservations at 845-728-2246 by October 1.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN GOSHEN**
33 PARK PLACE, GOSHEN, NY 10924
(845) 294-7991 • FAX (845) 615-1239
EMAIL: FPGOSHEN@GMAIL.COM

First Presbyterian Church Yard Sale is Back!

Saturday, October **19**, 2024, 9am –
2pm; setup 8 am

(No Rain Date)

Bring your items to sell, we will do the advertising!

Cost of 12' x 12' space is \$30 + \$30 deposit

Deposit to be refunded when your space is cleaned
(please provide a separate check)

Limit 2 tables per space

Tables are available to rent at \$10.00 each

Please return the completed form to First Presbyterian Church of Goshen,

33 Park Place, Goshen 10924

Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email Address	
# of spaces at \$30 each	
#of tables at \$10 each	
Deposit	\$30.00 (refundable)
Total	\$

Please write checks to The First Presbyterian Church. Please write a separate check for \$30 for the deposit/clean up. It will be returned at the end of the day once your area is cleaned.

Questions: Barbara Schust at 845-728-3378 or Church Office 845-294-7991

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 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:

Trey Long

Juell Powers

Bob Hourahan, Jon's Dad, who had a heart attack and needs stents put in.

Nancy Mason

The Family of Karen Thurston

Arlete Shaeffer's in laws. Gloria, the caregiver of Jerry (dementia) fractured her hip.

PresbyBuild Talent Show **Saturday September 28**

To Benefit Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh

A Talent Show will be held at **Calvary Presbyterian Church** on **Saturday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m.** with proceeds going toward the new 12th PresbyBuild house transformation.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh is celebrating 25 years of affordable home building this year. PresbyBuild has been a partner for all of these 25 years. Habitat Newburgh has completed 107 homes in these 25 years and PresbyBuild has supported 11 of those homes and is looking forward to #12!

The Talent Show will include musical, theatrical, and spoken word presentations. The program is planned for 90 minutes. There will be light refreshments after the program.

Calvary Presbyterian Church is at the corner of South St. and Grand St. in Newburgh. The Sanctuary entrance is on Grand St.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS TO:



1	<i>Dom Fontana</i>	20	<i>Diane Church</i>
4	<i>Brendan Donohue</i>		<i>Teresa von Pentz</i>
	<i>Sheila Heal</i>	24	<i>Carl Johnson</i>
7	<i>Anna Boese</i>		<i>Nancy Buckley</i>
12	<i>Mitch Weintraub</i>		<i>Susan Whitson (Paffenroth)</i>
16	<i>Diane George</i>	25	<i>Taylor Panebianco</i>
	<i>Karen Bende</i>	30	<i>Wendy Donohue</i>

HAPPY OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

3	<i>Wayne and Diane George</i>
4	<i>Rob and Nancy Warner</i>
8	<i>Alan and Elizabeth Sproul</i>
10	<i>Adam and Sue (Paffenroth) Whitson</i>
13	<i>John and Maryellen Bruno</i>
17	<i>Dave and Wendy Paffenroth</i>
22	<i>Carl and Elfriede Johnson</i>
	<i>Richard and Robin Paulus</i>
23	<i>Dom and Amy Fontana</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.*

Friday Night Friends

Friday Night Friends will meet again on October 11 in the Fellowship Hall. This group is for elementary age children. Registration starts at 5:30 p.m. and the program runs from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. We meet on the second Friday of every month.

Each month has a theme. October's theme is "Taking Care of God's Animals."

We offer dinner story, craft, STEM project, and FUN! FUN! FUN!

The cost is \$5.00 per child – max. family cost is \$15.00 (to cover dinner and supplies)

For questions or if you want more information contact Linda Boardman at:

Linda.Sundayschool@gmail.com or call at 845-665-9545.

2024-2025 COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

	Session Member(s)	Moderator/Chair
Christian Education:	Marlene Gaynor Linda Boardman	Linda Boardman
Fellowship/Outreach:	Diane Church Kevan Ottochian Linda Clark Felicia Van Doran	Kevan Ottochian
Finance and Administration:	Mal Stewart Jennifer Ellis Jody Kopec	Mal Stewart (Chair) Jennifer Ellis (Co-Chair)
Fundraising:	Bill Powers Jon Hourahan	Jon Hourahan
Mission:	Diane Church	Geri Corey
Nominating:	Jon Hourahan	Jon Hourahan Bill Powers
Personnel:	Jennifer Ellis Michael Coyne	Michael Coyne
Property Management:	Jody Kopec	Jody Kopec
Stewardship:		N/A
Worship and Music:	Bill Powers	Bill Powers

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.

Organ Recitals

First Presbyterian offers free noontime organ recitals on Tuesdays from 12:15-12:45. There is ample parking, air conditioned sanctuary, and handicap accessible. Come Hear Great Music in a Great Space.

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



OCTOBER 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.

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.

“Stewards of Our Garden”

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

The OCTOBER and early NOVEMBER Steward’s Schedule:

Nancy Buckley	October 1 – October 15
Bill Eustance	October 16 – October 31
George and Barbara Hankins	November 1 – November 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.

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 2025

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

Class of 2026

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

Class of 2027

**Linda Boardman
Marlene Gaynor
Bill Powers
Mal Stewart**

Clerk of Session: Felicia Van Doran

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2025

**Cecile Ayres
Dom Fontana
Carol Gabella
Jennifer Serkes**

Class of 2026

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

Class of 2027

**Bill Keller
Charles Quick
Logan Quick
Natalie Signorelli**

Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Keller

STAFF

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

THE KID'S PAGE

Make a
"harvest treat!"

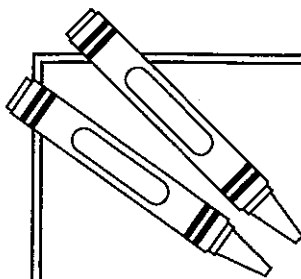
Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

You will need:

- 4½ cups raw pumpkin seeds
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- clear sandwich bags

How to:

- Rinse pulp & strings from seeds. Drain.
- Mix seeds, oil & salt in a bowl.
- Spread on a cookie sheet lined with waxed paper.
- Let stand for 24-48 hours, or until dry. Stir once in a while.
- Remove waxed paper and toast seeds in the oven for 40 minutes at 325°. Stir once or twice.
- Drain seeds on paper towel.
- Store in plastic bags for a great treat!



Just for **KIDS**

Giving and Sharing

God gives generously to us. He wants you to do the same for others. The more you give, the more you receive!

Complete each math problem,
then connect the dots in order.
Find 2 Corinthians 9:6.

this: Whoever
 $1+1=$ $4-1=$
 sparingly
 $2+3=$ will
 $4+2=$
 "Remember
 $0+1=$ sows
 $8-4=$
 generously."
 $9+8=$
 reap
 $12+4=$
 also
 $5x3=$
 will
 $2x7=$
 reap
 $2x4=$
 sparingly,
 $6+3=$
 generously
 $9+4=$
 sows
 $3x4=$
 and
 $5+5=$
 whoever
 $15-4=$

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship/Baptism @ 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	30 12:30pm - NA @ B	1 9:30am - Food Pantry 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - Bible Study @ Zoom	2 4:30pm - Mission Committee 6:30pm - NA @ B	3 6pm - NA @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @	4 12:30pm - NA @ B 10pm - NA	5 12pm - NA @ FH, K
6 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH 10:30am - Worship/Music 4pm - Dinner @ Rustic	7 12:30pm - NA @ B	8 9:30am - Food Pantry 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - Bible Study @ Zoom	9 7:30pm - Finance Committee	10 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @	11 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - Friday Night Friends @ 10pm - NA	12 9am - Food Pantry @ FH
13 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH 10:30am - Deacon's Mtg. @ B 4pm - Todd's Commissioning	14 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day Office Closed 12:30pm - NA @ B	15 9:30am - Food Pantry 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - Bible Study @ Zoom	16 7pm - Session @ P	17 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm - NA @ B 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @	18 12:30pm - NA @ B 10pm - NA	19 9am - Yard Sale @ Parking
20 Tower Tie Articles Due 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	21 12:30pm - NA @ B	22 9:30am - Food Pantry 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - Bible Study @ Zoom	23 12pm - Clergy Luncheon @ P	24 6pm - Food Pantry @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @	25 12:30pm - NA @ B 10pm - NA	26 10am - Joint Session @ 1pm - Diva Dance @ FH, K
27 9:30am - Church School 9:30am - Worship Service @ 10:30am - Coffee Hour @ FH	28 12:30pm - NA @ B	29 9:30am - Food Pantry 12:15pm - Organ Recital @ S 6:30pm - NA @ FH 7pm - Bible Study @ Zoom	30 10am - GAPNS @ FH	31 Halloween 10am - GAPNS @ FH 6:30pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal @	1 First Day of American Indian 12:30pm - NA @ B 6pm - Theater Group @ FH 10pm - NA	2