

# THE SPIRE

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December 2024

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Her blonde curls bounce as she skips ahead of me down Main St. And it seems like with every bounce comes either a new question or a lyric to a song which I really do not want to get into my head. As Barb and I head to Myer the question that get asked relates to how far away Christmas is. I do my best to keep it liturgical, and reminder her that we are still in the season of Pentecost and that there is the four Sundays of Advent still to come. But then I do the math. And there is suddenly less than 50 days left until Christmas and only a week and change left until Advent.

Advent for us is supposed to be a season of preparation and getting ready. We are supposed to get ready for the coming of Christmas. As well as being reminded to make ourselves ready and prepare ourselves for the day when Christ returns. Often we see two responses to preparation. The first is on the day after Thanksgiving we grab everything out of storage and throw it all up as quickly as we can. The other is that we wait until the last minute, either due to procrastination or a very full calendar. In our house usually the decorations follow the first approach and the wrapping of presents follow the second.

But is that how we are supposed to move through Advent? I remember with amazing clarity the one Friday in Advent when in Seminary Chapel we walked in to see Mulder Chapel decorated. This surprisingly was an odd moment. The chapel was often forgotten because of how the class schedule fell and how busy staff and students all were during the season. Some even would joke that a particular retired seminary professor would not just have had a duck but a whole flock of them if suddenly there were flashing lights and more decorations than three wreathes. But lo and behold there were flashing lights as well as a

whole host of other decorations in the chapel that day.

The gist of the message that day was the visual removal of all the decorations, except for the three wreathes, and the statement that God desires preparation of ourselves more than preparations of our homes for Advent. There was a disconcerted feeling in the room when suddenly the class that was leading worship all stood up, grabbed a piece of décor and walked out of the chapel. There were several audible gasps when it happened. Personally I was torn between actively stopping it and also knowing that something more than what I saw was happening was going on.

Now things like this can happen in the safe laboratory space of a seminary where you can test out and engage with worship in a way that would not work in your average congregation. But just because you wont see anyone putting up or taking down a string of lights in the sanctuary doesn't mean that the question asked of us back then is any less pertinent now.

What does the Lord want more from us this Advent? Is it to have the best décor and an exterior light display which would make Clark Griswold jealous. Or is it to not just prepare our homes and trees for the coming of Christmas, but to use the time of Advent to make ourselves ready for the day when Christ comes in all his glory. May your Advent be filled with productive preparation not just in putting up your decorations, but in preparing yourself. Amen.



# DECEMBER *Events*



Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Worship
Dec. 1	Communion
Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Bible Study
Dec. 5	Hurley Seniors meeting
Dec. 9	Consistory meeting
Dec. 11	Social Solos
Dec. 14	Woodworkers Exhibit
Dec. 15	Cookie Walk
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Worship 7pm & 9pm
Dec. 25	Christmas Day



## USHER SCHEDULE

### December

Dec. 1	Alan Dumas and Russ Voigtlaender
Dec. 8	Linda Moon and Aileen Helsley
Dec. 15	Jeanne Quenzer and Bill Baldinger
Dec. 22	Alan Duma and Russ Voigtlaender
Dec. 24-7pm	Dino Sumerano and Lisa Longto
Dec. 24-9pm	Dennis Crosswell and Marilyn More
Dec. 29	Linda Moon and Aileen Helsley

Hurley Reformed Church — Main Street, Hurley, NY



# Cookie Walk!

12-15-24 after  
worship

\$8.00 per lb.



## Bakers Needed!

Contact Jeanne Quenzer 845-417-5676



Coty Burgess	2
Toni Hedges	2
Gillian Barnard	3
Pat Baker	4
Thomas Horvers	5
Bailey Kane	5
Dakota Stevens	5
Thomas Stevens	5
Hal Hauck	6
Caitlin Decker	7
Joyce Ann Leverenz	7
Brent Jordan	11
William Rockwell	11
Renee Nekos	11
Rich Little	11
Jezmain Hubbard	12
Jennifer Mayfield	14
Linda Moon	16
Reid Dumas	20
Brian Rafferty	22
Kathleen Pfeiffer	23
Bill Baldinger	28
Lia Sumerano	28
Megan Christiana	28
Frieda Constant	29
Dawn O'Brien	29
Judy Horvers	30
Jada Nekos	30
Alyson Rafferty	31
Daniel Waligurski	31



Nancy & Rick Salzman 15  
 Steve & Kristen Helm 21



Deacon for December  
 Is  
 Dino Sumerano



**Reach out to those who need your support  
 in their day to day needs:**

**Please keep them in your prayers.**

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom)  
 Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade  
 Lori Pinkham is Wingate at Ulster  
 Terry Conlin  
 Shirley Burns  
 Anmarie Kurtz

***It's That Time Again!!!***

Once again it's time to place your orders for poinsettia plants to adorn the sanctuary for the Holiday season.

Plants are one size, one color, and one price: red at \$8.00 each.



**POINSETTIAS**

Number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 each: Total due \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_



In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



We are requesting that you take your plant home or deliver it to someone special.



Make Checks Payable to: **Hurley Reformed Church**

Give to Kathy Jansen after worship or mail to:

223 Hidden Valley Road, Kingston, NY 12401

***Payment must be received by December 8, 2024***



# Patience!

We wait for the huge crane  
to get it's work done, knowing  
that it is saving our steeple.  
Our steeple is an icon for Hurley,  
it guides us down Main St.  
The Wise Men were guided by  
a star to our savior's birthplace.  
We are blessed by Jesus' birth and  
the everlasting life he gave us.

*Celebrate his birth and  
what it means to all of us...*

*Merry Christmas!*

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## STICKLEY GARDENS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION – CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER:

LISA LONGTO (532-7570) CHAIRPERSON

JIM PIRRO (383-0079) TREASURER

ESTHER STICKLEY (331-2919)

SANDIE GREGORY (338-7626)

REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

A SACRED PLACE OF BEAUTY AND CONTEMPLATION.  
(LOCATED ON THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE CHURCH)



Our Mission for December will be the Angle Food East. We will also have a mitten tree for people to place mittens, hats and gloves on and in our basket we will collect gently wore coats. Thank you for your support.



**Please join us for Worship  
every Sunday at 10am with Refresh-  
ments served after in the Hall.**

**Sign up sheets are posted in the Hall for  
flowers and refreshments.**



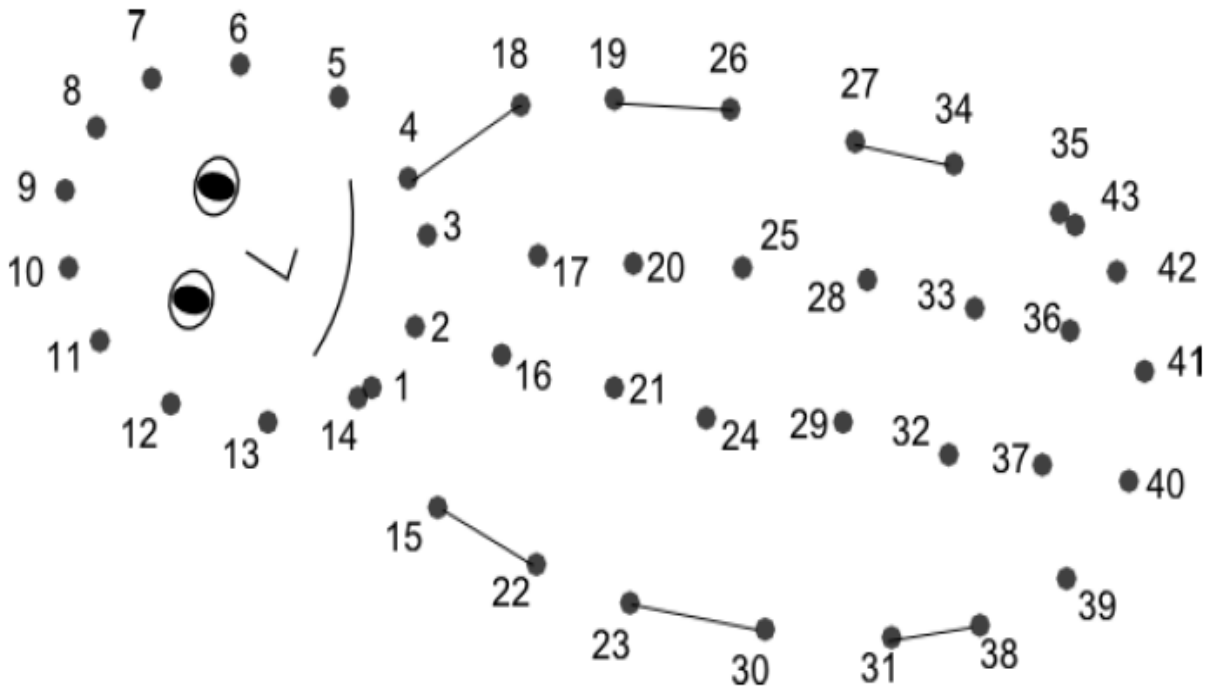
Social Solos meets on Wednesday,  
December 11, 2024

At noon

Anyone wishing to join please contact  
Rev. Deb Zuill for an invite at  
attitudema50@aol.com or 845-247-9157

# Children's Page

Connect the dots to see who was born in Bethlehem.



Finish the story with the words at the right.

M \_\_\_\_\_ and J \_\_\_\_\_ traveled to

B \_\_\_\_\_.

M \_\_\_\_\_ had a baby and named him

J \_\_\_\_\_. He was God's Son.

She placed J \_\_\_\_\_ in a m \_\_\_\_\_,

which was a place for animals to eat.

He was wrapped in s \_\_\_\_\_

clothes, which were strips of cloth.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am - Worship by Zoom and 3pm - Event	2 12:45pm - Tai Chi 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall 7pm - 1st Capitol Corvettes	3 9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall	4 3:30pm - Dog Training Class 7pm - Radio Club @ Hall	5 1:30pm - Hurley Senior 4:15pm - Karate Class	6 12pm - Knitters @ Dutch 12pm - Office of the Aging-	7 9am - Karate Class @ Hall 12pm - Event?
8 10am - Worship by Zoom and 3pm - Event	9 11am - VFW @ Dutch Room 12:45pm - Tai Chi 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall 7pm - Consistory @ Dutch	10 9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall	11 12pm - social solos @ Lunch 2pm - Local 1582 Trailways 7pm - Radio Club @ Hall	12 4:15pm - Karate Class	13 12pm - Knitters @ Dutch	14 9am - Karate Class @ Hall 9am - Woodworkers Exhibit 10am - Genealogy @ Room
15 10am - Worship by Zoom and	16 10am - Genealogy @ Rooms 12:45pm - Tai Chi 5pm - Girl Scouts @ Hall 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall	17 9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall 6pm - Nursery School Board	18 9am - HNS	19 4:15pm - Karate Class	20 9am - HNS rain date for 18th 12pm - Knitters @ Dutch	21 9am - Karate Class @ Hall 12pm - Event?
22 10am - Worship by Zoom and	23 10:30am - Genealogy @ 12:45pm - Tai Chi 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall	24 9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall 7pm - Worship 9pm - Worship	25 Christmas Day	26 4:15pm - Karate Class	27 12pm - Knitters @ Dutch	28 9am - Karate Class @ Hall
29 10am - Worship by Zoom and	30 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall	31 9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall				

PO Box 328  
11 Main Street  
Hurley NY 12443

Phone: 845-331-4121

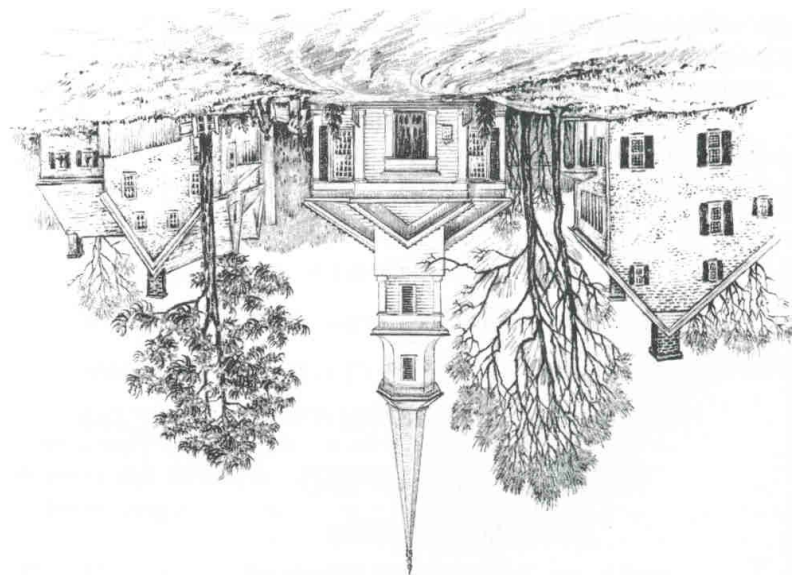
E-mail: [admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org](mailto:admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org)

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Pastor

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
KINGSTON, NY  
PERMIT #44301

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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Pastor  
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Hurley New York 12443  
HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH  
DECEMBER 2024  
THE SPIRE