

THE SPIRE

July 2024



First I'd like to say thank you all for your prayers. You all have been praying a lot for me in the last month because of surgery, a procedure and biopsy and General Synod. On the medical front all is good. On the General Synod front things are well different. On the whole it was a wonderful trip and a good time to touch base with people who I hadn't seen in a while. The location was one where all of us attending were put at ease and few if any had a "home" advantage.

While General Synod met big decisions happened. Not necessarily earth shattering ones but ones which will change how things work for our denomination. Among those decisions were that General Synod would meet in person every 3 years and the two years between would meet virtually, create an equitable cross cultural process for ordination, not placing a hard cap on the amount of denominational responsibility and allowing Elders to supervise congregations without a minister.

The biggest thing that happened was that we voted to eliminate Regional Synods and Classis and replace the two with one body known as a middle assembly. This is *not* a small change. It carries with it several layers of changes and shifts. If you want to have any inkling on the level of discussion which this had with it, we spent almost an hour debating and discussing what in the world this new body would look like. What does it all mean, what are the implications? None of us knows the answer to any of this. Will it change things much at the local church level? I am not all that sure, that it will.

Its not easy to have such a big denominational change in the offing. Its even more anxiety driving and possibly worry inducing when you think about the fact that there is the possibility that the classes will not approve this change. That is a whole lot to not know and or see how it is going to play out. While we may take the approach of not worrying until you have something to worry about, or that if it doesn't really change the local church why should we care, that doesn't change the list of

unknowns or worries that some of us bear. And the hard reality is that while the change might not touch the church, the waves or ripples will.

There are those who look at these changes and are excited, they welcome them and see in them hope and welcome changes. Others are fearful of what might happen and what might come of the changes. Unfortunately, none of us knows what is going to happen. We don't know if the Middle Assembly is going to look like one thing here in New York and the same or different in Michigan. With all of the things we don't know or cant know at this moment those actively involved in the classis will likely be feeling things. Those of us who have questions are probably wanting some sort of answers. The difficulty is that at the moment as a denomination the only thing that we really know is in who's hands we are in.

That doesn't give us the answers that we want. And it doesn't push those answers any closer to us on the table. It doesn't tell us the specific ways in which the Middle assembly will be like a classis or like the Regional Synod of New York. All that it does is point us to the reality that God is with us in this point or time of transition. God is with us isn't a complex or complicated reality. Holy Scripture tells us again and again of how God has been present through good times, bad times, and all the times in between. As we as a denomination look forward, it is good to look back to remind us not of what or who we used to be, not for past hurts or successes, but for reminders of how God was present. In those reminders we can move forward in whatever way the Spirit is moving us, and we are doing so with God. That doesn't perhaps give us a map for how the next ten years will look, but it does tell us who will travel those ten years with us. Amen.



DATES TO REMEMBER

July 7,14,21,28	Worship
July 7	Communion
July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Bible Study
July 8	Consistory Meeting
July 10	Social Solos



Hymnals!

In the process of cleaning up the loft of the sanctuary we came across several old hymnals.

They are copyrighted from way back in 1946 and 1952. They are in boxes in the narthex if you would like to take one or two.

If you feel led to make a donation feel free.

For July

July 7 Glenn Decker and Bob Kindt
July 14 Alan Dumas and Russ Voigtlaender
July 21 Linda Moon and Bill Baldinger
July 28 Dennis Croswell and Marilyn More



Deacon For July
is
Alan Dumas



Bonnie Dumas 3
 Rachel Cline 4
 Bill Beesmer 4
 Nancy Salzmann 5
 Teagan Helsley 6
 Debbie Tucker 6
 Nicholas Rockwell 13
 Alyssa Kurtz 14
 Bryan Hill 15
 Lori Decker 16
 Win Morrison 20
 Dan Stott 24
 Brayden Horvers 24
 Daniel Nekos 25
 Midge Stott 27
 Spencer Herzog 28
 Caitlin Cox 28
 Matthew Horvers 28



Joyce & Frank Pinckney 6
 Rev. Bill and Sara Appleyard-Pekich 11
 Rebecca & Allan Masters 27



**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
 Shirley Ruth is in Golden Hill
 Lori Pinkham is Wingate at Ulster
 Terry Conlin
 Shirley Burns
 Debbie Tucker
 Annmarie Kurtz



We are grateful and want to extend a sincere thank you to Ron Augustine and Augustine Nursery for donating the new plantings and mulch that now adorns the front of the church. This is a vast improvement over the previous old overgrown shrubs.



Celebrating our Graduates!

Marco St. Martin-Shook of Longview, WA graduated from Mark Morris HS June 8th. He will be attending Mantano St. University in the fall. Marco is the grandson of Linda Shook.

Marla, Emma, Brogan McLain graduated from KHS this June. From their grandparents Bill Hannis and Barbara Bondar.

If you have a graduate you are celebrating please email admin@hurleyreformedchurch.org and let us know. So we can share all our graduation announcements!



4TH ANNUAL

Fall Shopping!

OCTOBER 5, 2024
9AM - 4PM

Crafts Fair

Christmas Shopping!

**FOOD & DRINKS
AVAILABLE**

GENERAL ADMISSION = \$3 (UNDER 12 FREE)

VENDOR FEE = \$35 (INSIDE ONLY)

SPACE RESERVATIONS CALL

CHURCH OFFICE 845-331-4121

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH • MAIN STREET, HURLEY NY



Our Mission for July will be hygiene items for Kingston High School. Any hygiene items would be appreciated and can be placed in the basket at the top of the stairs.

Thank you for your support.



Social Solos meets on Wednesday,
July 10, 2024 at noon.

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



**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.**

*God takes care of
the ones who touch our lives
now and forever...*

The people we love dearly.

Our family.

Our sweethearts.

Our closest friends.

Special people in our lives.

Our favorite ancestors.

The people who form who we are.

The sparkles in our lives.

The souls of our heart.

*Please come visit the people
we thank God for.*

STICKLEY GARDENS

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)

Easy 4th of July Word Search!





B A R B E Q U E S F
C S J L Q Y K K G R
R O U F M C R S A E
D G L X L O E C E E
W D Y O W A I R M D
Q T Z E N R G I D O
J D R B E I P F H M
V I Y M M R E L A W
F X A R T O L S R A
B K T L I B E R T Y



America Colonies Flag July
Barbeque Fireworks Freedom Liberty



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	7pm - 1st Capitol Corvettes 7pm - Al-Anon @ Hall except	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall		Independence Day 4:15pm - Karate Class	12pm - Knitters @ Dutch	9am - Karate Class @ Hall 12pm - Event @ Hall
10am - Worship by Zoom and <small>7</small>	11am - VFW @ Dutch Room 7pm - Al-Anon @ Hall except 7pm - Consistory @ Dutch <small>8</small>	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall <small>9</small>	12pm - social solos @ Lunch 7pm - Radio Club @ Hall <small>10</small>	4:15pm - Karate Class <small>11</small>	12pm - Knitters @ Dutch <small>12</small>	9am - Karate Class @ Hall 10am - Genealogy @ Room 12pm - Woodworkers @ Hall 3:30pm - Hurley Library <small>13</small>
10am - Worship by Zoom and <small>14</small>	10am - Genealogy @ Rooms 7pm - Al-Anon @ Hall except <small>15</small>	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall 6pm - Nursery School Board <small>16</small>	<small>17</small>	4:15pm - Karate Class <small>18</small>	12pm - Knitters @ Dutch <small>19</small>	9am - Karate Class @ Hall <small>20</small>
10am - Worship by Zoom and <small>21</small>	10:30am - Genealogy @ 7pm - Al-Anon @ Hall except <small>22</small>	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall <small>23</small>	<small>24</small>	4:15pm - Karate Class <small>25</small>	12pm - Knitters @ Dutch <small>26</small>	9am - Karate Class @ Hall <small>27</small>
10am - Worship by Zoom and <small>28</small>	7pm - Al-Anon @ Hall except <small>29</small>	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall <small>30</small>	<small>31</small>			

PO Box 328
11 Main Street
Hurley NY 12443

Phone: 845-331-4121

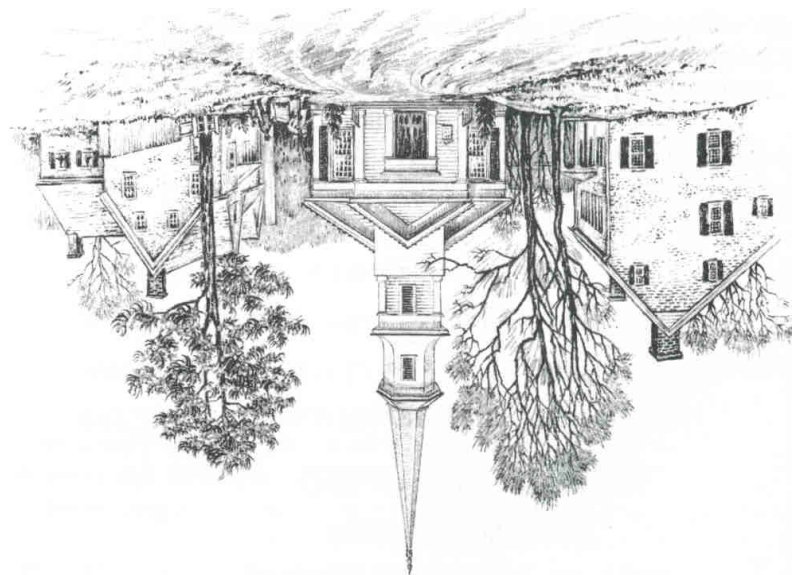
E-mail: admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Pastor

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HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

JULY 2024
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