

# THE SPIRE

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 10      DECEMBER 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the birth of Jesus, the host of heaven chorus, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors" (Luke 2:14). Peace is in short supply these days. Macrocosmically we have witnessed various struggles to overthrow dictatorships in the Middle East, and have seen blood shed from Tunisia to the West to Pakistan in the East. Indeed the color of the so-called Arab Spring is unambiguously red—a scarlet river of hurt. Further South, seemingly throughout Africa civil wars are the order of the day, and the genocidal label which Rwanda obtained in the early 90's has taken subtler, though no less virulent forms, in countries like the Sudan. I could go on, but one gets the picture. Recently outgoing Massachusetts Senator Barney Frank blasted an NBC interviewer, and blamed the media for reporting only bad news. I agree that televised negativity in all its forms is more profitable, and elicits more interest than the good, but, in this

day and age, one cannot avoid violence since it lodges, too, in our backyard. Mayhem has ensued, though not as greatly as it might, in the 'Occupy Wall Street' movement, and its countrywide spawns. One recent evening collegians from Penn State went 'to bat' literally for their besieged head football coach, overturning a television truck, and vandalizing cars and stores. For me the eeriest image of 2011 was of a police officer pepper spraying a seated group of young protesters. It appeared he did not act because of imminent danger to himself or other law enforcement officers. What was truly surreal is that he went about his business in what I can only call a relaxed, and placid state; spraying the inert line as if he were watering flowers around the parsonage. Finally scuffles on Black Friday, the busiest shopping day of the year, were once again part of our post-Thanksgiving 'celebration'.

From this sad litany, I don't want you to think that I think there is less peace than there once was, or that the world is becoming more violent. Indeed when I December shopped with my old buddy Noah, in the good old days, pre-Christmas fisticuffs was a tried and true staple, as people wrestled for that last Cabbage Patch Doll on



*O Come,*

*Let Us Adore Him*

*You and Your family are invited to  
join us to celebrate the birth of*

*Jesus Christ in our*

***Christmas Eve Services***

***7:00pm***

*A service of Carols and Candles to  
welcome the Light that  
comes in the Christ Child.*

***9:30pm***

*We celebrate His birth with  
a service of Carols, Candles, and  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

*Experience the Wonder in the beauty  
of the season as we join together in  
the sanctuary to welcome Him as the  
Babe of Bethlehem who comes to give  
us joy and peace, this night and all  
year long.*



*You are invited to join us at an*

***Open House at the  
Parsonage, Sunday,  
Dec. 18, 4:00-6:00pm***

*to share a bit of eggnog  
and fellowship.*

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

the shelf. The objects of our material affections may change; but the violence to acquire them has not. I

*The objects of our material affections may change; but the violence to acquire them has not.*

can't imagine that our present century can top the last which, in terms of carnage, was the worst in human history. And yet. We're off too a bad start! Christianity braces because it acknowledges the reality of evil--individually, corporately, systemically--, and puts the lie to delusional, or--to put it a bit more modestly-- soft headed thinking which believes humanity can improve on its own, without the One, God's Beloved, who came to bring peace on earth. The 1st Evangelist, Matthew, wants us to remember that after Jesus' birth, Herod the Great, ruler of Israel, enacted a genocide when he ordered the killing "of all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under" (2:16). The Bible tells us that evil has always been with us, and it is threatened not by material power, but by an infant who came unnoticed into the greater world in order to bring peace.

What does Christ's peace mean to

you especially at this time of the year? How do we attain it? During this season when we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:8), how can we discover or rediscover a peace which, in the Apostle Paul's words, "passes all understanding" (Philippians 4:7)? The birth stories hint at ways we can do this. Ultimate peace is found in stables hidden away from the hustle-bustle of the world. Heavily pregnant Mary and her husband were denied a room at the inn, and found themselves together alone, save, perhaps, for animals which shared their humble lodging. When was the last time you spent a period of quiet time by yourself? Where do you hide from the galloping noise to which we expose ourselves, especially at this time of year? Do we return to a place which connotes peace and quiet--a childhood haunt, perhaps, or a spot in a wood or lake which holds personal significance? My favorite time to walk the rail trail is before dawn, well before the hum of traffic and, the silhouetted presence of another pilgrim, when starlight streams solely for me, and I can hear my footfall, and the slight auditory up-tick from faster respiration. It is only in silence that it is possible to hear the sweet angelic strain which God-haunts the ages.

A second point. That time in the stable was peaceful, too, because in a sense, it was timeless. Neither Mary nor Joseph did anything more, I believe, than swaddle their baby. Birth-time negated multi-tasking, laundry listing, Facebook-ing and the host of ways we seg-

ment, order and structure our lives so that we can squeeze an eternity of non-stop busyness into 24 hours. When was the last time you 'unstructured' yourself? When was the last time you allowed yourself time to gaze at the fading glory of a hearty mum, or stand entranced before the blazing red and pink smears of a setting winter sun? When have we resisted successfully the instinct to 'run and do' and chosen to sit and ponder the way Mother Mary did on that holy night?

My final point may be most significant given what I've written about the ubiquity of violence and evil in the world. Jesus calls us not simply to seek peace for ourselves, but to be peacemakers (Matthew 5:9). Many religions believe that if we can attain personal peace, this will ipso facto change the world. I agree to a point. But it seems to me that the Bible, in its realistic assessment of evil, calls us as the apostle Paul writes-- "to struggle against the rulers, the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this

*When was the last time you 'unstructured' yourself?*

present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil..." Ephesians 6:11--which means a proactive engagement against the sins which

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# S T I C K L E Y G A R D E N S

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*

*John 3:16*

As we celebrate Jesus' birth, the gift of all times, our savior, our personal gift from God. We think of the other blessings in our lives and give thanks for family and friends. The people who mean the most to us, those who have formed our lives here on earth. They too should be celebrated. They should be remembered in life and in passing and we shall hold them close in our hearts forever.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COLUMBARIUM, PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

LISA LONGTO (331-1438) CHAIRPERSON • JIM PIRRO (383-0079) TREASURER • ESTHER STICKLEY (331-2919)

JERRY FINK (246-6567) SECRETARY • DIANA CLINE (338-7276) CONSISTORY LIAISON

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

## BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Micaela Ryan      | 5, '96  |
| Christine Lemus   | 9, '93  |
| Calvin Lemus      | 9, '93  |
| Brent Jordan      | 11, '94 |
| Lauren Rubino     | 16, '97 |
| Delaney Cox       | 17, '97 |
| Brian Rafferty    | 22, '95 |
| Avery Herzog      | 24, '95 |
| Megan Christiana  | 28, '93 |
| Jada Nekos        | 30, '08 |
| Daniel Waligurski | 31, '97 |
| Coty Burgess      | 2       |
| Toni Hedges       | 2       |
| Carolyn Cranfield | 3       |
| Pat Baker         | 4       |
| Susan Hutton      | 4       |
| Mary O'Dell       | 5       |
| Thomas Horvers    | 5       |
| Hal Hauck         | 6       |
| Caitlin Decker    | 7       |



|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Sissy Schiff          | 7  |
| Joyce Ann Leverenz    | 7  |
| Callie Rockwell Ashby | 8  |
| William Rockwell      | 11 |
| Renee Nekos           | 11 |
| Rich Little           | 11 |
| Jennifer Mayfield     | 14 |
| Linda Moon            | 16 |
| Jamie Hopper          | 20 |
| Mary Lou Vogt         | 20 |
| Kathleen Pfeiffer     | 23 |
| Don Kent              | 25 |
| Beth Alden            | 27 |
| Jim Prentice          | 27 |
| Bill Baldinger        | 28 |
| Lia Sumerano          | 28 |
| Frieda Constant       | 29 |

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Dawn O'Brien    | 29 |
| Florence Prehn  | 29 |
| Judy Horvers    | 30 |
| David Szekeres  | 30 |
| Alyson Rafferty | 31 |

### January

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Andrew Maxwell    | 1 |
| Nicole Provenzano | 4 |
| Russ Lewis        | 7 |

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### December

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Carolyn & Gene Matheus   | 2  |
| Nancy & Rick Salzmann    | 15 |
| Barbara & Jim Mayfield   | 19 |
| Mark & Carolyn Cranfield | 20 |
| Steve & Kristen Helm     | 21 |
| Clarence & Faye Jansen   | 27 |

#### January

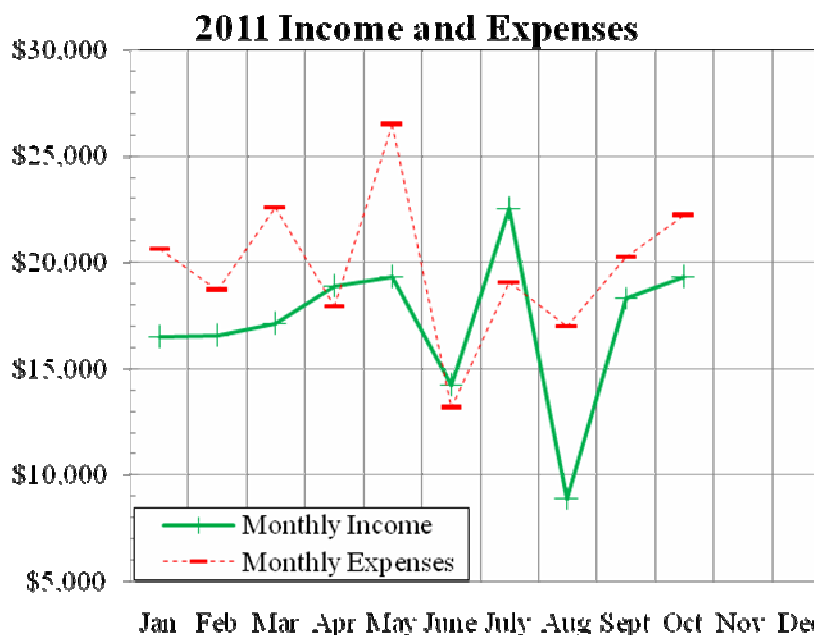
|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Rev & Esther Stickley | 2 |
| George & Renee Nekos  | 4 |
| Tom & Ruth Harkin     | 6 |

## Finance Committee

To briefly recap the Finance Committee Report from this year's Congregational Meeting, our expenses for 2011 will exceed our income and we will once again have to use money from our savings account to make up the difference. The chart shows how for most months in 2011 our expenses exceeded our income. We anticipate we will need to move a total of about \$24,000 from our savings this year. While many of the smaller budget lines were coming in under budget for 2011, fuel oil costs and maintenance were much higher than projected. Also income for Stone House Day and our Fund Raising Dinners was \$3100 below projections. Another area in which we fell short in 2011 was collecting for our Denominational Fee Responsibility (previously known as Classis Dues). As part of the Reformed Church in America (RCA),

the Hurley Reformed Church has a financial obligation to help support the RCA, and we are assessed an annual fee for this each year. For 2011 the fee for us was \$19,538

(\$89.00 per adult member). We will collect about a third of this total through the specially designated "Classis Dues" envelopes, and the rest must be made up through our



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### Weekly Bible Study

Tuesday Evening @  
7:00pm

Or

Wednesday Morning @  
7:30am

*"Nehemiah"*



Where: Dutch Room

## December Mission

"What you have done  
for the least of these  
you have done for me."  
Matthew 25:40

FOOD BANK OF THE  
**Hudson Valley**



The Mission for December is the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. The money you contribute in the Mission envelope will provide food to the Food Bank who in turn distribute food to the many food banks, soup kitchens, and pantries throughout the Hudson Valley.

Thank you for your generous giving in the monthly Mission Envelopes this year. Your generosity has touched many lives in 2011. The hungry, homeless, flood, hurricane, earthquake, and tornado victims. Many thanks!

Linda Dux, Mission Committee Chair

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diminish our shared humanity. If we worship a savior who was born in a manger, we need be concerned for the health and well being of all vulnerable infants and children. If we care for Jesus' parents, we are called to ally ourselves with all who live in stables, or their equivalents or those who are reduced to itinerancy because of economic downturns. During this Christmas season, where might we find Christ's peace? Perhaps it's serving mashed potatoes at a soup kitchen or opening our home to a fellow sojourner who needs the comfort a family provides. Perhaps it's singing carols at a homeless shelter, or helping with the emotional as well as physical reconstruction of villages like

Prattsville which still reverberate under Irene's curse. And if we are faithful to Mary's amazingly prophetic speech, delivered shortly before her son's birth, Advent should be a time, surprisingly, when we pray that evil rulers, Herod the Great's lineage, will be overthrown (Luke 1:51-55).

Last year Christmas day was very special for me. I love preaching on Christmas eve, as well as greeting you at the parsonage celebration of our Lord's birth which ensues. I had plans to attend friends' home for Christmas dinner the following day. There was illness, however, and I felt I would be an encumbrance. I decided to eat out at my favorite restaurant, Le Canard, in-

stead. I rarely feel the weight of loneliness, although I live alone, but the moment before I walked through the restaurant door, it hit me that great cuisine could not compensate for the isolation which had begun to settle, or unsettle me. Suddenly my cell phone buzzed, and a familiar voice said, "I sensed you were eating alone. Please join us. Now." I did as ordered, and had a wonderful Christmas. An exile was made to feel welcome. May we be aware of the world's loneliness and counter it, like the open pantry door of Christ's heart, with a manger peace which only He can give.

In Christ's service,

Doc Bob



*Christmas is about much more than a baby in a stable. It is about being found in a stable. It is about being found by God. God has chosen to be with us, wherever we are, whatever we have done, and in God's good time we will be fully restored to our lost home. We will climb back into the lap of the One who loves us, and be held, embraced and fed.*

Gretchen Wolff Pritchard, *Christian Century*

**Christmas Cards** depicting our beautiful sanctuary adorned with poinsettias and candles are available at \$5 per pack of 20. Contact Linda Dux to purchase yours.



**eSpire:** In order to save money and reduce our impact on the environment, you may now receive The Spire by Email. Please request electronic distribution by sending your request to [TheSpire@HurleyReformedChurch.org](mailto:TheSpire@HurleyReformedChurch.org). If you no longer wish to receive the Spire please let us know at the same email address and we will remove you from our mailing list.

## Women's Guild

Blessings....during this holiday season we are reminded just how many we do have. At our last meeting I read this prayer to the ladies and wanted to share it with you:

*O God, when I have food,  
Help me to remember the hungry;  
When I have work,  
Help me to remember the jobless;  
When I have a home,  
Help me to remember those who have no home at all;  
When I am without pain,  
Help me to remember those who suffer;  
When I'm without someone to listen to me,  
Help me to remember I always have you. Amen*

I hope this touches you as much it did us during our meeting.

Thank you to everyone who supported our bake sale held during the turkey dinner. With your help we raised \$127. Hope you enjoyed your baked goods!!

Shirley Ruth & Helen Sgroi decorated the altar on 11/20 for Thanks-

giving in honor and memory of Guild members. It looked wonderful. All of the fresh vegetables where donated to Queens Galley to help them feed the hundreds of people for Thanksgiving. Thank you, ladies.

Cradle Roll--what is this? There is a bulletin board located in Schade-wald Hall listing all babies who have been baptized in our church. For the next 3 years of each child's life cards are sent to him or her to let them the church is thinking of them. Once the child turns 3 years of age we send a letter inviting him/her to attend Church School.

For the past many years, Joyce Pinckney has chaired this committee and now turns it over to Kristin Helm. We would like to thank Joyce for her past work & welcome Kristin. We know she will do a wonderful job!!

The Cookie Walk is fast approaching. It will be held Dec. 11 immediately after church services. Enter Schade-wald Hall, pick up an empty



cookie box & go down the aisles of tables & select your favorite cookies. We have hundreds of

cookies and always sell out. We encourage you to contribute 6 dozen of your favorite recipe.

Our calendar of events:

*12/11/11—Cookie Walk*

*No meeting for the months of Jan. & Feb.*

*1/8/12 Church Birthday Party*

We welcome & invite all women of the church to be apart of the Women's Guild. You don't have to be a member of the church. Our meetings are right after church in the Dutch Room. So, come & see what we are all about!

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year,

Sandy Emrich - President

Ms. Lisa Longto  
Ms. Debbie Decker  
Ms. Sandy Emrich  
November 28, 2011  
Hurley Reformed Church  
Hurley, NY

Re: Thanksgiving Drive donations

Dear Lisa, Debbie, Sandy and all at the Hurley Reformed Church:

We would like to thank you for the extremely generous contributions for our Thanksgiving food drive this year. We were able to provide meals to several needy families in the area by our drive this

year. We so appreciate your assistance.

We greatly appreciate your support this holiday season and your service in the community.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

Laura Walzer  
Nexis Program  
Children's Services  
Ulster County Department of  
Social Services

THANK-YOU





## Youth Group

Thank you to everyone who purchased Thanksgiving breads as well as donated to our six Thanksgiving baskets. Once again your support is overwhelming. We truly are blessed to have such a wonderful group of people. Thank you to the Hauck ladies for chairing the baking of the breads!!



The Giving Tree is up so let the giving begin. Please take a tag from the tree, purchase the item listed on the tag, and bring the unwrapped item with the tag attached to church by 12/18. The Youth Group will wrap it for you. Thank you... again... for helping us help others.

Caroling--As of the writing of this article we haven't gone yet by the time you read this we will have... so we will update you in January 2012 as to how it all went. We thank all families who welcomed us to their homes & let us sing a few carols.

Our upcoming events:

12/2 Caroling

12/9 Youth Group get-together

12/18 Last day to collect the Giving Tree items

1/8/12 Youth Group meeting

We would like to wish you & your family the Merriest of Christmas & the Happiest of New Years!! Thanks for everything!!

Sandy & Katie Emrich & Lisa Longto  
YG Co-Leaders



*Ultimately, we are reborn to love because in this expanding, gracious space within us, we arrive at the astonishing presence of God at the core of our life. We blunder into the heart of God and find our own.*

Sue Monk Kidd, *Firstlight:*  
*The Early Inspirational Writings of Sue Monk Kidd*

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general income.

If you would like to check where you stand with regard to your 2011 pledge, please don't hesitate to ask and we can provide an accounting.

At this time the church finances for 2012 looks to be similar to 2011. For 2012 we expect another income shortfall and anticipate we will need to transfer another \$22,500 from our savings to meet 2012 expenses. We are seeking ways to reduce this deficit, but there is no easy solution. For example, our 2012 Denominational Fee Responsi-

bility will be \$20,620 (\$92.88/adult member/year or \$7.74/adult member/month, if you use the monthly "Classis Dues" envelopes). One way members can help is by using the Pledge Card and making a pledge for 2012. This helps in the planning process. The box of envelopes contains an envelope for your weekly offering, plus there are monthly envelopes dedicated to three specific areas:

Classis Dues Envelopes- as mentioned above.

Missions Envelopes – funds are donated to local groups in need of our support, such as the local Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the Caring Hands Soup Kitchen.

Building Fund Envelopes - Funds are used to support the maintenance and upkeep of the church.

The envelopes for 2012 are now available for pick up, and if you don't have a set, but would like one for 2012, just check with the office and Debbie can provide them. Also, there are special holiday envelopes that are given out at Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas to provide additional gifts to the church, if you are able. As always, we thank you for your generous support because as you all know there is no better investment for the future than the Hurley Reformed Church.

Jim Mayfield, Finance Chair

# SCIENCE *for* MINISTRY



During the beautiful fall weather of the first week of November, Dr. Gram and I went back to school at the Science for Ministry Institute at Princeton Theological Seminary. Although we had to miss the delicious Election Day Turkey Dinner, we still had an extremely interesting and educational week on the Princeton campus. We were taking part in the Science for Ministry Institute program (<http://www.ptsem.edu/Offices/ConEd/SciMin/index.aspx?id=1604>). The purpose of the program is to "support effective science education programs and resources for people active in ministry" and "seeks to promote an informed and productive dialogue around issues of theology and science within churches and other Christian ministry contexts." The program was originally seeking applications from partners with one being a ministry leader and the other being an interested scientist, and Dr. Gram suggested we apply as a team when he discovered I was a water quality scientist with NYC's DEP. The program was funded by a grant from the the John Templeton Foundation, so once we were accepted into the program, the cost to us including the course, meals, and lodging was only \$25/day.

The class included fifteen

other people, and was a mix of ministers and others from a science background, including a retired professor from the Agricultural Department of Virginia Tech, a microbiologist, and a pediatrician, and people came from as far away as Austin, TX. (One woman from near Chicago traced her family back to the Town of Esopus, so she was very interested to hear about Stone House Day). It was a very intelligent and very thoughtful group, and I would have felt a bit out of place, except they were also very friendly and caring. During the week we took part in two classes. The first course was **"Cognitive Science, Neuroscience and the Human Person,"** and focused "on the various ways in which these 'brain sciences' potentially shape our understanding of the human person, and the theological challenges and opportunities provided by such understandings." Among other things, we learned about the biology of memory and imagination, and how our neurons are "wired" for empathy. The brain is a social organ, and we influence the building of one another's brains in our interactions. The second course was **"The Human Person in a Technological Age,"** and the goal of this course was to look at the expanding role of "biotechnology" in our lives, such as medical or electronic de-

vices and beyond, and the ways in which such devices could both challenge and expand our theological perspectives on what it means to be "human." Each of these courses looked at questions of human nature (i.e., who are we?) from both a biological and a religious perspective, and Dr. Gram has already incorporated some of these ideas into his sermons with more to come. Overall, it was a very informative and thought-provoking experience, and I look forward to the possibility of attending some additional classes in 2012.

In addition to being very gracious hosts during our stay, the Seminary was also very generous and provided ten additional books at no cost. (From Amazon, the cost would have been over \$175.) These will be available to borrow from the bookshelf in the Dutch Room. The books are:

Allen, Diogenes. *Theology for a Troubled Believer: An Introduction to the Christian Faith*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2010.

Campbell, Heidi, and Heather Looy, eds. *A Science and Religion Primer*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2009.

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Cozolino, Louis J. *The Neuroscience of Human Relationships: Attachment and the Developing Social Brain*. New York: Norton, 2006.

Dowe, Phil. *Galileo, Darwin, and Hawking: The Interplay of Science, Reason, and Religion*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 2005.

Ferngren, Gary B., ed. *Science and Religion: A Historical Introduction*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002.

Graham, Elaine L. *Representations of the Post/Human: Monsters, Aliens and Others in Popular Culture*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2002.

Hayles, N. Katherine. *How We Became Posthuman: Virtual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature, and Informatics*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1999.

Hughes, James. *Citizen Cyborg: Why Democratic Societies Must Respond to the Redesigned Human of the Future*. Cambridge, MA: Westview Press, 2004.

LeDoux, Joseph E. *Synaptic Self: How Our Brains Become Who We Are*. New York: Penguin Books, 2003.

Sapolsky, Robert M. *Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers*. New York: H. Holt & Co., 2004.

Jim Mayfield, Elder

*We thank  
all of you!*

Dear Congregation,

We thank you so much for your donations to the Thanksgiving Baskets. There was enough food for all the families to enjoy for a week. We were able to make 6 families extremely happy in these tough times of struggle.

Blessings to you all!  
The Youth Group

Hurley Reformed Church Youth Group

# Family Tree

We are adopting 6 families  
in our area for Christmas  
and we need your help.

Please TAKE A TAG from the tree  
on the landing & shop!

All donations are requested  
under the tree by **12/18/11**.  
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

## We are still collecting CLEAN

empty cans and bottles in  
Schadewald Hall for recycling.  
The money will now benefit The  
Mental Health Association in  
Ulster County, Inc. (MHA).



The MHA is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1959 by a group of physicians and concerned individuals to develop a coordinated citizens' movement to promote mental health and to work toward improved care and treatment for persons with mental illnesses. The mission of the MHA is to engage all people in optimal mental health by providing innovative programs and services that heal, prevent, educate and advocate.

Some examples of programs that MHA offers:

- Supportive housing for adults with mental illness
- Support & Skill Building Groups
- Home & Community Based Waiver Services
- Youth Booth at the Hudson Valley Mall
- Respite Services
- Transitions

Terry Gaffken

## Calling all kids!

We would love to have your children join us for this year's Christmas Pageant. We have a part (on stage and off) for every child that would like to participate. We also need help with the set, so if you like to work behind the scenes we would love to have you join us! A sign up sheet will be available in all of the Sunday School classes. You can also contact Shannon Butler at 845-399-2002 or Christine Henning at 845-339-0509.



We also welcome any assistance from the adults.

The pageant will be on December 18th immediately following the church service.

### Rehearsals

(These dates are tentative and we may not utilize all of them.)

Will be during Sunday School

December 16th 6-8 p.m.

December 17th 9a.m.-12p.m.

There will also be a final dress rehearsal on the 18th during Sunday School.

## Christmas gift suggestions:



To your enemy,  
forgiveness.

To an opponent,  
tolerance.

To a friend, your  
heart.

To a customer,  
service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a  
good example.

To yourself, re-  
spect.

-Oren Arnold

Deep peace of the running wave to you,  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.  
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.  
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.  
Deep peace of Christ,  
The light of the world to you.

-John Rutter

An arrangement of a Gaelic blessing

## Prayer Shawl Ministry ThankYou Notes

Dear Lee,

We just wanted to say thanks for the baptism booties.  
What a sweet gesture from the church. They are a per-  
fect fit. Hope you have a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Karen, Dan and Lily DeKoskie

Thank you so much for  
the adorable booties. I  
will cherish them.  
Thank you so much for  
helping make my bap-  
tism day so special!

Love,

Georgie (Nekos)



HURLEY REFORMED  
CHURCH

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The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Gram, LCSW  
Pastor

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

[WWW.HURLEYREFORMEDCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.HURLEYREFORMEDCHURCH.ORG)

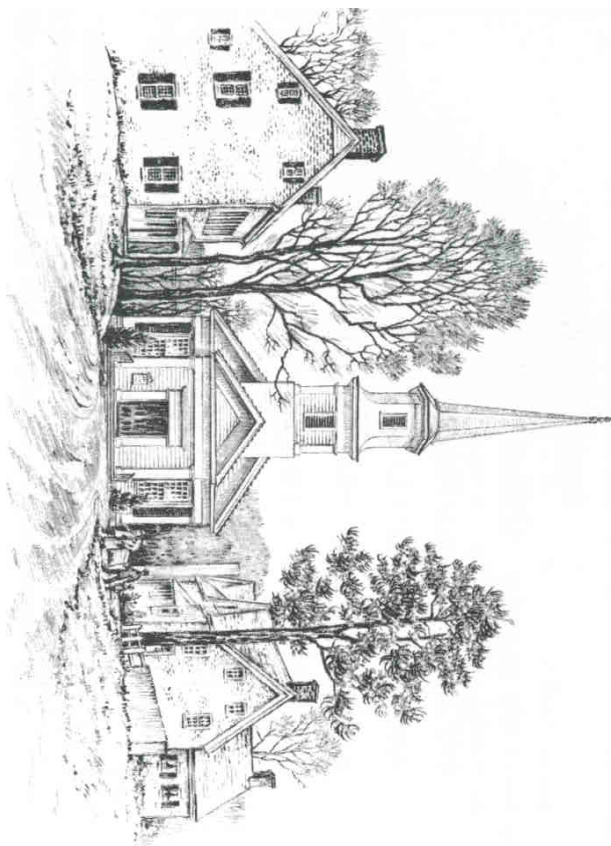
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HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

Hurley New York 12443

The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Gram, LCSW

Pastor

THE SPIRE  
DECEMBER 2011