

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

THE SPIRE

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 6 JUNE 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In early April, I met my seminary roommate Steve, and his wife, Jan, and Jan's sister and brother-in-law at Gettysburg. Steve is a walking encyclopedia of Civil War facts and figures, and he served as a wonderful guide during our three day visit at the most famous battlefield of the Civil War. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the conflict which claimed as many lives as the total combined American fatalities in the Revolution, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Spanish American War, World War 1, World War 11, and the Korean War. Approximately 2.1 million northerners and 880,000 southerners fought each other between 1861-1864. The internecine carnage took the lives of 620,000 soldiers, a conservative estimate which does not account for the wounded, and missing in action. Gettysburg was the biggest single battle fought in the Western Hemisphere. From July 1-3, 1863, the Union force, numbering 93,534 engaged the Army of Northern Virginia, number-

ing 70,226. By the time the Rebel army trudged southward in a rain drenched, mud-sodden retreat on July 4, Meade's Army of the Potomac had sustained 22,813 casualties while Lee's Army had lost 22,874. What mind reeling tragedy!

Our group stayed at the Double-day Inn, which is the only B&B on the battlefield itself. Once upon a time bullets whizzed by the place where we ate homemade waffles. Less than 20 yards from the front door, a Union brigade mowed down several hundred North Carolinians composing Alfred Iverson's Brigade. Less than 200 yards away, the Rebel canons of Confederate Robert Rodes' division, set on a knoll overlooking the Gettysburg valley, drove Union divisions from farm fields and the village of Gettysburg itself. Steve and I would walk or bike around nearby battlefields at dawn before tourist buses, and private cars wended to major sites. On our last day, we hiked the field between Cemetery Ridge and Seminary Ridge where Confederate Major General George Pickett's division,

*Christian convictions
built great cathedrals;
secular opinions leave
us with little more
than lifeless middens.*

along with other brigades, charged the well fortified Union forces in one of the great military blunders of the war. That charge, which lasted from 2:55- 3:40 p.m. produced nearly 11,000 Confederate casualties, and ended southern hopes of bringing the war to northern states.

To say the least, my time at Gettysburg was sobering. Let me share a few thoughts in light of Memorial Day.

First, the Civil War reminds us of the horrors of armed conflict. Jesus' words, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be

(Continued on page 2)

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called children of God" (Matthew 5:9) rings true when I think not only of death's glut at Gettysburg, but also the way soldiers died. Suffering was intense, and unrelieved because physicians and makeshift hospitals could not palliate, let alone save many who were wounded seriously. I often think of panicked horses which died at Gettysburg as well. It seemed on these three sanguinary days in July, every living being was threatened, that all of sentient reality verged on extinction as birds and deer darted from woods scarred and charred by musket fire and canon. Gettysburg is a grim example of why the earliest Christians would not serve in the Roman Army. Loving one's neighbor as oneself required a removal from the instruments and policies of war. A more personal conflict revolved around early Christians who refused to renounce their faith, and pinch incense to the genius of the emperor in the first and second centuries. In great arenas which dotted the Mediterranean world they would not defend themselves

against being prey for wild animals, nor would they lift up sword to defend themselves in gladiatorial contests, the imposition for failure to renounce the Christian faith.

Second, Gettysburg was the place in which grand acts of heroism occurred. I was impressed particularly by generals, majors, and captains who led various charges instead of hiding in the background, safe from the dangers their troops experienced. Some were even willing to carry the representative flags of their states or regions; this was akin to placing a bulls-eye for enemy gunners to focus. At Gettysburg men were willing to put their lives on the line for causes greater than themselves. In our day and age, the secular gospel teaches one to put himself or herself first at all costs. In a materialist, and secularist society there are no causes worth dying for, or, for that matter, living for—apart from oneself. My father made me and my generation safe from despotism, and tyrannies by serving in World War 2, and Korea. That great and mighty generation understood the need for shared sacri-

fice, and a vision of what corporate caring truly meant in the terrible contexts of war. We also stand in great admiration of the sacrifices of our women and men in Viet Nam, the Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan. Memorial Day reminds that we must never become people of opinions rather than convictions. Christian convictions built great cathedrals; secular opinions leave us with little more than lifeless middens. I pray that we will honor not only those who have fought for our freedoms in this country. My hope is that we will remember the early Christians whose martyrdoms betokened the strength of their faith. In the light of their persecutions and as the North African theologian Tertullian (160-225 AD) once wrote, "The seed of the church was nurtured by the blood of the martyrs." May we neither take American liberty nor the sacrifices of our Christian ancestors for granted.

In Christ's service,

Doc Bob

*I don't care if you're
dead!*

JESUS IS HERE,

And he wants to

Resurrect somebody.

☞Rumi

Contemporary Praise and Worship

Featuring: **"The Stillwell Project"**

Sunday, June 5, 2011, 6:00pm

Hurley Reformed Church, Schadewald Hall

Held the First Sunday of the Month

Our mission is to bring the life-changing message of the Gospel to people in our local area who seek to know God. We will do this through contemporary music and biblical teachings which are relevant to a modern generation.



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

With great expectations, we are eagerly awaiting the new more majestic and elegant columbarium wall which is slated to arrive in July or August. This will elevate the look and provide a bit of grandeur to the feel of the area. We are also working very hard to assist the Consistory in the planning and installation of a new sidewalk along the roadway. The Town of Hurley has thrown many obstacles in our path but we will press on, to keep improving. Our next venture is the decorative fence and shrubbery, after the sidewalk is in place.

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)

Thank You ...

The bottle and can drive resulted in a donation of \$253.00 to the American Cancer Society. You may continue to bring in



Clean Deposit Bottles & Cans and drop them in the container in Schadewald Hall.

A new charity will be chosen for the next round .
Terry Gaffken

Birthdays

JUNE

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------|-------------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| Joseph Orlando | 5, '07 | Julie Lasher | 6 | Helen Mackey | 26 |
| Bobby Ryan | 15, '99 | Larry Herzog | 7 | Dolores Wolven | 27 |
| Kyla Burns | 18, '01 | Rebecca Masters | 8 | James Gregory | 28 |
| Christina LaFiandra | 19, '04 | Bobbi Checksfield | 8 | ANNIVERSARIES | |
| Brandt Kurtz | 21, '03 | David Giles | 8 | Rich & Angie Rockwell | 4 |
| Shawn Hinsdale | 24, '03 | Steven Coddington | 8 | Barbara & Dick Baker | 7 |
| Cailin Ryan | 24, '95 | Dennis Croswell | 9 | Drew & Su Wonderly | 12 |
| Elizabeth Salzmann | 25, '96 | Mimi Croswell | 11 | Wally & Linda Cook | 14 |
| Gregory Merrill | 27, '95 | Bob Alden | 13 | Tom & Judy Horvers | 16 |
| Dakota Butler | 27, '96 | Sarah Longto | 14 | Barbara & Bob Kindt | 17 |
| Gordon Kent | 1 | Annemarie Kurtz | 15 | Bobbi & Don Checksfield | 21 |
| Su Wonderly | 2 | Emily Horvers | 20 | Frieda & Doug Constant | 23 |
| | | Marilyn Lowe | 21 | Harriet & Wesley Drake | 26 |
| | | Patti Gilpatric | 23 | Terry & John Gaffken | 26 |
| | | William Mergl | 23 | Paul & Cheryl LaFiandra | 27 |
| | | Aaron Ulrich | 24 | Steve & Phyllis Bliss | 27 |
| | | Bev Chrisey | 24 | Christie & Jim Prentice | 28 |
| | | Aileen Helsley | 25 | Steve & Valerie Nekos | 29 |
| | | Charles Woodard | 26 | Todd & Katrina Rubino | 30 |
| | | Steven Kurtz | 26 | | |



Youth Group

Is summer just around the corner already? It sure doesn't seem like it with all the rain we have been having! Summer will be here before we know it...at least we hope so!

But we are still busy & active doing many different things... such as:

Don't forget our annual car wash on June 4th from 10am to 2pm at Stage One Auto on Rt. 9W in Lake Katrine. This is a fund raiser for our local SPCA. Hot dogs, pop corn and drinks will be available for purchase while your vehicle is being washed. Mark your calendar and come out to support this great organization.

The bus is FULL for our Six Flags New England bus trip on June 18th. We will leave the church at 7:45am and return around 7pm. We even have two car loads of people fol-

lowing the bus. The area Youth Group from the Fair St Reformed Church is joining us. We are so excited that they could come.

For the month of June we will continue to collect ice tea and/or lemonade for our coffee hour. With the summer approaching a cool drink after church will be a great! Please put your donation in the box in Schadewald Hall.

There will be a Youth Group meeting on 9/11 right after to church to discuss and plan our upcoming year. It is sure going to be an exciting one. We will be holding a clothing drive and a penny social again so don't get rid of those unwanted items just yet as we will take them off of your hands very soon. Watch for the announcement.

Lisa Longto and Sandy Emrich would like to thank Ricki Maggione

and Kellen Hauck who have been writing the Youth Group articles on an alternating schedule since last September. The girls have done a great job and we really appreciate all their hard work - wonderful job, well done ladies!

We wish you a wonderful summer! Get some rest as when we start back up in September we will be running full force!

Youth Group

Upcoming Activities

- 6/4 Car Wash @ Stage One Auto
- 6/18 Six Flags New England
- 9/11/11 Meeting

Missions: *"He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."* Proverbs 14:31

Mission for June - Victims of Spring Storms in the US

Our neighbors in the South, areas along the Mississippi, the Plains and mid-America have been devastated by violent storms, flooding and deadly tornadoes. Along with our prayers these folks who have lost everything including their homes, possessions and in many cases loved ones, need assistance to get back on their feet. In June we are asking you to be as generous as you have been in the past when tragedy of this proportion strikes, and use your Mission envelope to assist the many counting on us.

Thank you! Linda Dux, Mission Committee Chair



In Search of -

If you are cleaning out your house and/or garage this spring and come across containers suitable potting up flowers and plants: for example, toolbox, wooden box, old watering can, or anything else that has to do with gardening, please save them for me, or bring them to Church and just put my name on them.

(Please, no garden tools.) Thank you for your help.

Ellen Richards



Please bring a red geranium to worship on June 12 in celebration of Pentecost. Flowers will be planted on the grounds of the church after services.



*Two are better than one, if one falls
down her friend can help her up.*



*A cord of three strands cannot be broken.
(Ecc 4:9,10,126)*

Our six (6) month commitment for The Woman to Woman Mentoring program ended Sunday, May 22nd, with a "Pot Luck" celebration. Everyone who participated had a lot of fun.

Here is some of the feedback received:

- "It encouraged me to read my Bible and to pray more often."
- "We have shared our hearts, thoughts, prayers and children through this experience." (When the pair met for sharing the children had a play date.)
- "Just the way we were matched made me see how God works."
- "Our partnership provided accountability, and together we were able to share our reflections and give each other new insight on how God is working in our lives and in our marriages."
- " It was just what I needed and was such a blessing to me."

This small group of women has been such a blessing to me. Since this program has been such a success, there will be another Woman to Woman Mentoring session in the Fall. This program would benefit all women, no matter your age. Come join in this experience and I am sure you also will be blessed.

In order to find out more information about this program, please contact Karen Schiff 339-4908.

Karen Schiff, Chair
Woman to Woman Mentoring

Stone House Day July 9, 2011

This year we continue with the primary feature of the first SHD - tours of privately owned historic homes. The homes change year to year and this year we have added the Houghtaling home on Route 209 formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gil Richter. There will be a total of eight houses on the tour and we are grateful to the owners who have opened their homes to the public over the years.

In an effort to keep the SHD event fresh and attractive there will be 1st person presenters from the Ulster County Historical Society. They will portray a

local 18th century land -owner, a housewife and a refugee from the burning of Kingston. For the young at heart, the Gateway Puppeteers will perform two shows. Also, the ever-popular 3rd Ulster Militia, Sojourner Truth, crafts, games, music and cafeteria will be on the schedule of events.

Recent surveys have shown that many of the attendees have learned about SHD from family and friends. We ask that you continue to recommend SHD and invite you to pick up some brochures, in the upper lobby, to pass on. Also, visit www.StoneHouseDay.org for more information and to order early bird discount tickets. Ben Franklin Stores in Kingston and

Saugerties will also sell early bird tickets.

To make SHD a success we depend on volunteers. There are a variety of jobs: cafeteria, kitchen, parking, traffic, set-up, take down, hostess, tickets. Many jobs can be divided into ½ day shifts. Take your pick - sign up early!

Jim Craven



4th Annual Hurley Reformed Church Golf Tournament

Sunday, July 17, 2011, 3:30pm

Alapaha Golf Course
Sawkill Road, Kingston



For more information, see or call Natalie Woodard
338-5909

Church School ends with an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 12.

Youth Group Car Wash

Saturday June 4th

At

Stage 1 Auto

Route 9W

Lake Katrine

From

10:30am - 2:00pm

All proceeds will benefit the
Ulster County ASPCA



Graduates

We would like to recognize high school and college graduates within our church family. Please call the office (331-4121) to have your graduate included.



Come join us for a fun-filled weekend as we learn how to love well. Through video we will hear from best-selling author and teacher Beth Moore, enjoy fun and fellowship with other women, laugh our heads off, shed a few tears, eat, make new friends, and enjoy old friends. This is a weekend you don't want to miss!

SAVE THE DATES

Friday evening, November 4th

&

Saturday, November 5th
at Hurley Reformed Church

Any questions contact Karen Schiff at
339-4908.

Ladies Tea

Saturday, October 1st
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

at Hurley Reformed Church

Fall introduction of :

Loving Well Retreat

Woman to Woman Mentoring

The Significant Woman

Creativity for Christ

Music and Song with Ricky Herb

For additional information contact Karen Schiff.





Summer Birthdays

July

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Teagan Helsley | 6, '08 |
| Claire Orlando | 10, '10 |
| Nicholas Rockwell | 13, '94 |
| Alyssa Kurtz | 14, '01 |
| Brayden Horvers | 24, '98 |
| Daniel Nekos | 25, '04 |
| Spencer Herzog | 28, '92 |
| Caitlin Cox | 28, '91 |
| Paul LaFiandra | 1 |
| Bonnie Dumas | 3 |
| Rachel Cline | 4 |
| Bill Beesmer | 4 |
| Nancy Salzmann | 5 |
| Kenneth Odell | 5 |
| Kacey Gardner | 6 |
| Athena Groelle | 6 |
| Debbie Tucker | 6 |
| Mark Woodard | 9 |
| Roger Vogt | 14 |
| Bryan Hill | 15 |
| Barbara Mayfield | 16 |
| Lori Decker | 16 |
| Sandra Emrich | 19 |
| Win Morrison | 20 |
| Dan Stott | 24 |
| Pat Manley | 24 |
| Katherine Emrich | 25 |
| Gay Gravina | 25 |
| Midge Stott | 27 |

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Ronald Burns | 28 |
| Matthew Horvers | 28 |
| Donald Briggs | 30 |

August

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Ryan Coddington | 3, '10 |
| Reid Jordan | 3, '99 |
| Baylee Szekeres | 4, '10 |
| Aubrey Horvers | 16, '96 |
| Alison Cline | 22, '94 |
| Charles Emrich | 23, '94 |
| William Hutton | 24, '01 |
| Roberta Falatyn | 1 |
| Kevin Hill | 1 |
| Jim Pirro | 2 |
| Donna Harder | 10 |
| Florence Kurtz | 10 |
| Frank Pinckney | 12 |
| Rev. Charles Stickley | 13 |
| Kathleen Jansen | 15 |
| Gregg Moon | 16 |
| Roslie Gilpatric | 19 |
| Audrey Frost | 20 |
| David Emrich | 20 |
| Jim Macarille | 22 |
| Alice Bell | 23 |
| Pam Milne | 25 |
| Jennifer Macarille | 27 |
| Barbara Kindt | 28 |
| Gary Longto | 28 |
| Richard Rockwell | 29 |



| | |
|---------------|----|
| Helen Richter | 30 |
| Dick Baker | 31 |
| Joel Lasher | 31 |

ANNIVERSARIES

July

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Joyce & Frank Pinckney | 6 |
| Roger & Mary Lou Vogt | 11 |
| Gerard & Dolores Wyncoop | 22 |
| Rebecca & Allan Masters | 27 |

August

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Bryan & Leigh Hill | 1 |
| Barry & Marcy Rell | 2 |
| Sheila & Terry Read | 6 |
| David & Gretchen Giles | 6 |
| Hal & Kathy Hauck | 6 |
| Annemarie & Fred Kurtz | 15 |
| Kathy & Ted Musialkiewicz | 16 |
| Leanne & Frank Warren | 16 |
| Jim & Roslie Gilpatric | 19 |
| Gene & Athena Groelle | 22 |
| Melinda & Larry Herzog | 22 |
| Jeffrey & Alyson Rafferty | 24 |
| Dahlia & Rick Soshensky | 24 |
| David & Sandra Emrich | 29 |
| Cindy & Dino Sumerano | 30 |
| John & Elsie Kemble | 30 |

*Missing? Prefer not to be listed?
Call the church office, 331-4121.*

Hurley Performance Chart

June 2011

[illegible][illegible]

HURLEY REFORMED
CHURCH

PO Box 328
11 Main Street
Hurley NY 12443

Phone: 845-331-4121
Fax: 845-331-4153
E-mail: admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org

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

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

WWW.HURLEYREFORMEDCHURCH.ORG

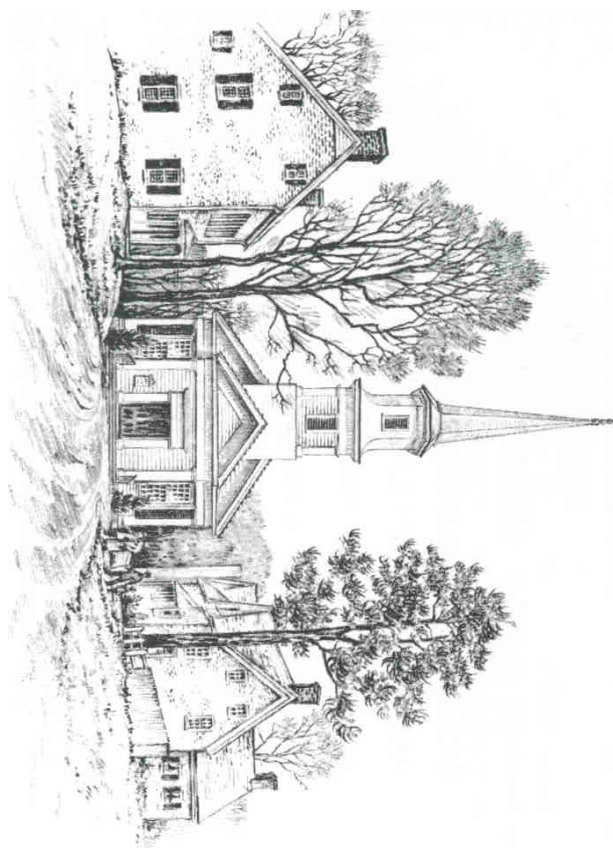
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THE SPIRE
JUNE 2011