

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

THE SPIRE

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 7 SEPTEMBER 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, mation about this learning opportunity in the newsletter.

Hurley Reformed Church will be a 'happening place' this Fall. We welcome our seminary intern, Linda Miles, who is studying to be a minister in the Reformed Church. Linda will be starting a cancer support group for women as well as leading a three week education program on spiritual direction. The latter program is slated before church because we want to explore the possibility of continuing education at this time, and whether a before-service opportunity would be of interest. Last March our consistory had a nearly all day retreat in the Dutch Room; we worked hard to set goals for this new church year. Consistory considered the importance of sending me out to the greater community to teach on various topics. Certainly we're on the same page: Nothing excites me more than teaching--with the exception of preaching, and, oh yes, body surfing, cycling, cooking, reading writing hiking et. al, all of which I had time to pursue this summer! In November I will be teaching a one day a week course on Creation Myths of the Ancient Near East at the Kingston Library on Wednesday mornings. Besides the Genesis account we will explore texts from Babylon, Assyria and Egypt. You'll find more infor-

I would also like to teach in a more intimate setting, and believe the parsonage is truly conducive to learning as well as fellowship. We might have a wine and cheese party, as we've done several times this past church year, and add a teaching component to our celebration. We could also add a potluck dinner when the wine and cheese have run out! I'm open to any topics you suggest, which, in one way or another, broach Christianity. Here are a few samples which come to mind: 'Your Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit: Exercise and Faith'; "Managing Overload from a Biblical Perspective; "How Do We Present Our Faith to the Atheist, and Agnostic Especially When They're Hostile to Our Church Going Ways? (That's the longest course title I've ever given)! "Christianity and Buddhism: Convergence and Divergence," "Freud's (Darwin's) Quarrel with Christianity". I need your help recruiting about 15 people who want to gather and learn. Friday evenings, and Sunday afternoons are good for me. Our purpose is not simply to grow in faith, and knowledge, but also to attract friends and neighbors who might be more amenable to fine wine and Freud than to hard back

pew sitting on a Sunday morning. Remember, we are called to seek and gather the lost. From my perspective there are a lot of isolated, hurting people out there who need the fellowship and mind expanding possibility which the Hurley Reformed Church can provide.

*Remember, we are
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gather the lost.*

There are two other subjects of particular interest to me. A year and a half ago, I lectured at the YMCA on mountain climbing. Our faithful, and very creative IT volunteer, Jon McGrew assisted by projecting photos of various mountains around the world. Because it wasn't geared for Christians per se, the lecture can be a rather subtle introduction to Christian life and work. Jon and I will also be putting together pictures from my second journey to Turkey. On this last junket I explored some ancient cities off the tourist route, some of which are occluded in a tangle of trees and vines. My hope is that we can project both on my living room wall.

(Continued on page 2)

Dear Hurley Reformed Church Friends,

I'm writing to introduce myself as an intern who will be doing supervised ministry at the Hurley Reformed Church for the next 9 months or so. My name is Linda Miles and I am a student at New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Jersey working toward a 96 credit Master of Divinity degree. I am about half way through my seminary education and as part of that education am required to get some practical experience by serving a local church.

With the help and supervision of Rev. Dr. Gram, I will be participating in worship and leading some small group educational classes. My covenant with the church involves 8-11 hours a week of hands-

on experience, preparation and supervision. I am looking forward to getting to know you all and offering my gifts in whatever way God leads us this year.

A retired special education teacher, I am married to Nick, newly retired former pastor of the United Reformed Church in Bloomington. We have two sons and three grandchildren, 4, 7, and 9. We have a home in Ulster Park. I am an experienced spiritual director, Christian educator, and presenter of women's spirituality programs. Last year I completed one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education as a chaplain at Albany Medical Center. I enjoy preaching, having provided pulpit supply in the Classis for the past 4 years. This year my classes at New Brunswick will focus on theology and pastoral care. Seminary has really ener-

gized me and I enjoy the balance of study and service.

Despite some serious health challenges this summer, I feel called to serve the Hurley Church at this time as a student pastor and pray that our time together may be a time of blessing and growth for the church and for me. I believe that the Hurley Reformed Church will be a wonderful place for us to follow Christ together through whatever the year brings to each of us. If you wish to speak to me about the internship or have suggestions as to where I can be of help, please feel free to contact me at 845-430-3348.

Your servant in Christ,
Linda Miles

PRAYER CHAIN

We hope that everyone had a marvelous summer and know that even though we held no meetings in July and August, our duties still went on. We continue to thank GOD for His goodness and mercy. We thank you for seeking us out in filling out the Prayer Request cards, calling or leaving a message with Debbie.

Our first meeting will be on September 2, 2012. We meet every first Sunday unless otherwise stated. Won't you come and join us?!

GOD Bless!

Deb Zuill, Chairperson

(Continued from page 1)

Bishop Irenaeus of Lyon penned the statement in the 2nd Century of the Christian era: "God delights in the glory of a well lit mind." The great theologian of the Middle Ages, Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury (1033-1109), once noted, "Faith is always seeking understanding." May we grow in love and knowledge of our God and the faith which sustains us.

In Christ's Service,
Doc Bob

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. 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.

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

I have stopped at the columbarium, not because I had to, but because I wanted to just sit and to recall the lives of those who rest there. They were a part of the church and community, and now they find a serene place to rest from their labors, as the Scripture says. It was also a place and time for me to do the same and to let the surrounding gifts of the place calm my life and give rest to my soul. The fountain gently gives a sound of peace and tranquillity ... the niches before me tell of the lives of people in the past and in the days ahead ... It's a place to recall ... to reflect and to restore some of the areas of life and faith that we all may need now and then ... So, I urge you to do what I did ... stop ... sit on the bench and let the significance and the peacefulness sink into your soul ... rest from your labors of life for a moment and contemplate a God who loves you and who cares for you always, in life and in death. In the knowledge of that promise we can be refreshed and sustained by our surroundings and by His love and presence ... **It's His promise to all of us ... " we can find rest for our souls."** Take a few minutes and enjoy Stickley Gardens.

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)
 SANDIE GREGORY (338-7626) • DIANA CLINE (338-7276) CONSISTORY LIAISON • REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY
 A SACRED PLACE OF BEAUTY AND CONTEMPLATION. (LOCATED ON THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE CHURCH)

STONE HOUSE DAY 2012

All tours and houses great! Events great! Everyone welcoming. Tours interesting and fun! Phenomenal food! Cafeteria clean, well-organized and comfortably cool. Parking very efficient.

These are just a few comments from the comment cards that our visitors left behind and which showed us that our concerted efforts had produced what we had all been hoping for: a beautiful and successful Stone House Day. All individual contributions came together beautifully so that our more than 600 visitors could enjoy a fun day. By the grace of God, we even had sunshine!

Many thanks to the dedicated members of the SH committee and the countless volunteers who helped to make this year's Stone House Day a historical and culinary success! Their experience and commitment to this event make it what it is.

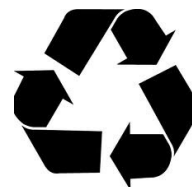
This year, even our youth group actively contributed to the event by selling refreshments on Main Street. They generously donated all the proceeds to Stone House Day. Thank you!

Because of all your efforts and God's blessing, the church took in \$5080 in profit.

Thanks be to God.

Karin Lamb, Director of SHD

Thanks to our **recycling program** I was able to present the Ulster County Mental Health Association with the amount of \$161.00. This amount was for January - June 2012. Thank you for your continued support in this worthy cause.
 Terry Gaffken



EXPLORING SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Spiritual direction is a practice that addresses our need to be in daily intimate relationship with God. Emerging from the monastic tradition, present day spiritual direction involves listening for the voice of God in our everyday experiences with a trained spiritual director. It is a kind of "holy listening" in a confidential and safe environment usually individually, but sometimes in small groups.

You are invited to learn more about the practice of spiritual direction in a small group setting during three introductory classes on the Sundays of Sept. 16, 30, and Oct. 14 at the church in Room 5 from 9-9:50 AM before church service at 10.

For more information please contact Linda Miles by email at lindajmiles@yahoo.com or call 845-430-3348.

Mission for September: Family of Woodstock

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

Family of Woodstock began in 1970 and is the lead agency/organization that has been committed to helping people gain the skills and support necessary to move forward in their lives. There is a broad array of services under one umbrella among them: Emergency Food Pantry, Children's Services, Adolescent Services and Domestic Violence Services through the Washbourne House Shelter.

Please consider supporting this very worthy organization by using the Mission envelope in your box or in the pew. Again thank you for your support of the local monthly missions. Linda Dux, Mission Chair



Kitchen Committee: Natalie Woodard, Shirley Burns, Roberta Falatyn, Matt Ten Eyck, Russ Lewis - Always looking for new ways to improve the kitchen; new lights, storage cabinets, clean up days!

Choir: Always looking for new members, all voices, particularly bass & tenor. Rehearsals resume on Thursday, 9/6 @ 7:30 in the Dutch Room. Join us!

WOMEN JOURNEYING WITH CANCER

Receiving the diagnosis of cancer and facing a series of treatment is an experience many women are facing due to the improvements in early detection and treatment of cancer. How do we choose to travel through this experience?

What are its lessons and gifts for us and for the ones we love? How can we help each other?

Any woman experiencing a cancer diagnosis for herself or a loved one is invited to a support group at the church in Room 12 on the second and fourth Thursdays at 7 pm. be-

ginning on September 13th, the group will meet Sept. 13, 27, Oct 11, 25, Nov. 8, (no meeting on Thanksgiving), and Dec. 13 (no meeting on Dec. 27).

Please contact Linda by email at lindajmiles@yahoo.com or 845-430-3348 for more information.

"IN THE HEIGHTS" - Lia Sumerano, daughter of Cindy and Dino and granddaughter of Gene Groelle, will be appearing at the Cohoes Music Hall, Sept. 13 – Sept. 23 playing the part of Vanessa. **"In The Heights"** is an award-winning musical about life in Washington Heights, a tight-knit community where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. A gripping story and incredible dancing, In The Heights is an authentic and exhilarating journey into one of Manhattan's most vibrant communities.

Cohoes Music Hall has a website for directions, tickets, etc.

Fall Clean Up

Please reserve the date

Saturday, Sept. 22, 9:00am - 12noon

Many clean up activities:

Raking · trimming · pressure washing ·
window washing · trim painting · etc.

All levels of skill needed!

Jim Pirro, Chair

Property & Maintenance

Youth Group News

Parent/Adult Meeting
September 11, 2012

7 p.m.

Meeting will be held at
Christine Henning's
house.

Please call or email
to RSVP and for
directions.

339-0509

eevorelovesclouds@yahoo.com

Shannon and I are very excited about this upcoming year and we would love to invite all who are interested in joining the adventure! We will be discussing the 2012-2013 calendar and are open to all ideas and suggestions!

There will also be snacks of course!!!!



Hurley Reformed Church
Roast Pork Dinner

9/22/12 5:00 - 8:00 pm
open seating

\$12.00 - Adults
\$10.00 - Seniors & Kids Under 12

Menu: Roast Pork with Maple-Mustard Glaze
Hash Brown Casserole
Roasted Butternut Squash
Sautéed Green Beans with Olive Oil & Herbs
Glazed Carrots with Chive Butter & a Touch of Maple Syrup
Salad - Apple Sauce - Roll & Butter - Coffee - Tea

Dessert: Homemade Bread Pudding with Vanilla Bourbon Sauce

Call 331-4121 to Sign-Up

Sunday Church School

Don't forget when getting ready for back to school to get ready for back to Sunday School too! Sunday School classes will begin on Sept 9th. There are classes for every age from 2-3 yr olds, Pre-K, and on up through grade 12! We have some wonderful and devoted teachers, so it should be a great year...Don't miss out.

PS If you would like to volunteer as a substitute teacher please see Barbara Hornbeck.

Sheila Wray Gregoire is a syndicated parenting columnist and a popular speaker. The author of four books, including *How Big is Your Umbrella?*, with more on the way. She loves encouraging women to forget about the dust bunnies under their beds and keep their focus on Jesus! She also has a passion for family, and together with her husband Keith speaks at Family Life marriage conferences around the nation. You can usually find her in Belleville, Ontario, where she home schools her two daughters and knits, preferable simultaneously.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

EXTREME MAKEOVER

HEART EDITION

(Based on: Philippians 3)



Video Presenter
Sheila Wray Gregoire

DATE: Friday, October 5th

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

& Saturday, October 6th

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location:

Hurley Reformed Church
Main Street, Hurley, NY

Registration: \$30 (includes snacks, continental breakfast and lunch on Saturday)

Mail to: Hurley Reformed Church
P. O. Box 328, Hurley, NY 12443

Contact:

Deborah Zuill (845)247-9157
or Church (845)331-4121



For more information search: Facebook.com for HRC Womens Ministry

Come for fun, fellowship and great teaching!

Bailey Jordan	3, '01	Fred Horvers	10	Mark & Beth Woodard	2
Halie Brennan	6, '96	Phil Greer	17	Bill & Karen Hogg	4
Elizabeth Mergl	10, '08	Ron Every	19	Ken & Stacy Schoonmaker	7
Daniella Helsley	14, '01	Kellen Hauck	19	Dennis & Mimi Croswell	11
Colin Rowdycz	18, '09	Jim Craven	20	Bill & Jane Merrill	13
Tessa Hauck	19, '97	Bradley Hill	22	John & Debbie Tucker	14
Marissa Rell	20, '06	Anna Goetchius	23	Jay & Kim Burgess	17
Rachel Gardner	1	Helen Sgroi	24	Lori & John Decker	22
Lindsay Woodard	2	Jim Mayfield	24	Tim & Karen Schiff	22
Cody Harder	2	Alice Presti	24	Dennis & Donna Horvers	23
Pam Schiff	2	Charles Woodard	24	Dean & Bernadette Baker	23
Cindy Sumerano	3	Wendy Stickley-Ocker	26	Jean & Henry Dussol	24
Russ Glass	4	Darrell Nicholas	27	Kyle Davenport	2, '01
Melinda Herzog	6	Christina Longto	28	Sandra Gregory	1
Bradley Horvers	6	Debbie Decker	29	Lucas Hopper	2
Karen Schiff	7	Sheila Craven	30	Amy Ryan	2
Wayzeta Stickley-Strouse	9			Christa Conlin	3
				Leigh Hill	4
				Alissa Sumerano	5
				Robin & Pat Brennan	10/3

born in
September

September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10am - Worship @ 11am - Prayer Chain 6pm - AA @ Dutch	27 Labor Day 10am - Badminton @ 7pm - Little League 7:30pm - 1st Capitol 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	28 4:30pm - PC 101 @ 7pm - Boy Scouts	29 9am - HNS @ Dutch 10am - Badminton @ 12:30pm - HNS @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Baskets @ 6:30pm - Girl Scout 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Boy Scouts	30 1:30pm - Hurley 4:30pm - Dog 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7:30pm - Choir @	31 10am - Badminton @	1 10am - Genealogy @
9 10am - Worship @ 11:30am - Parent 6pm - AA @ Dutch	10 10am - Badminton @ 11am - VFW @ 12:30pm - Basket 7pm - Consistory @ 7pm - Hudson Valley 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	11 Patriot Day 8:30am - Hillside 7pm - Boy Scouts	12 8:45am - Technology 10am - Badminton @ 10am - Warwick 6pm - Baskets @ 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Men's Group	13 6:30pm - Order of 7pm - Order of the 7pm - Women's 7:30pm - Choir @	14 10am - Badminton @ 11:30am - Tables &	15 350th Anniversary 1:30pm - HV DXre @
16 9am - Spiritual 10am - Worship @ 6pm - AA @ Dutch	17 10am - Badminton @ 10am - Genealogy @ 5pm - Dog Training 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	18 7pm - Boy Scouts	19 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Baskets @ 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Hurley Lions 7pm - Men's Group	20 7pm - NE 7:30pm - Choir @	21 10am - Badminton @	22 9am - Clean Up Day 1pm - Pork Dinner @
23 10am - Worship @ 6pm - AA @ Dutch	24 10am - Badminton @ 10:30am - Genealog 5pm - Dog Training 6pm - Foundation 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	25 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - SCLS - 7pm - SCLS -	26 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Baskets @ 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Men's Group	27 4:45pm - Dog 7pm - Women's 7:30pm - Choir @	28 9:30am - Flu Clinic 10am - Badminton @	29
30 9am - Spiritual 10am - Worship @ 11am - Women's 6pm - AA @ Dutch	1	2	3	4	5	6

Bible Study will resume 9/11 and 9/12 meeting on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Dutch Room finishing up Paul's letter to the church At Rome and Wednesday mornings at 7:30am in the Dutch Room, beginning Henri Nouwen's "Can You Drink the Cup?" Please join us!

HURLEY REFORMED
CHURCH

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Hurley NY 12443

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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

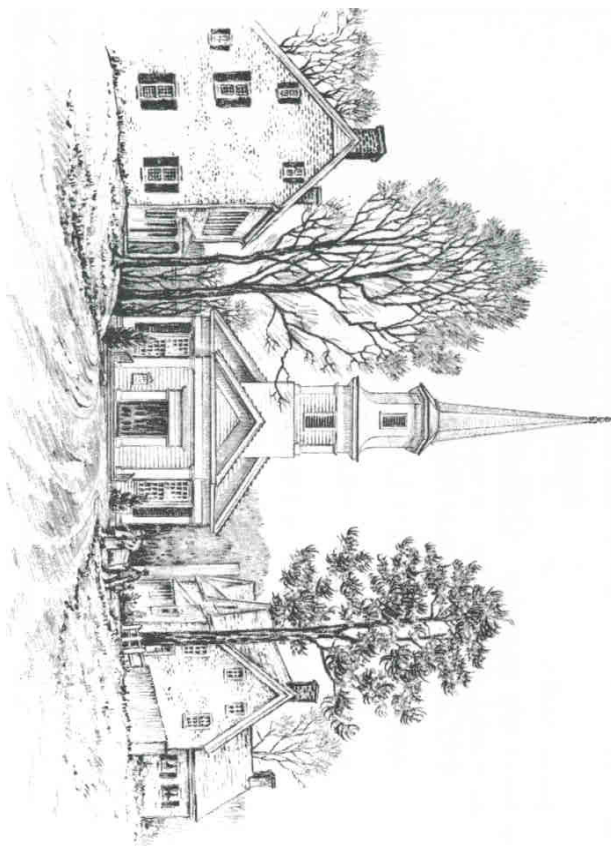
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