

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

# THE SPIRE

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MAY 2013

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month brings not only the proverbial floral sprouting watered by April showers, but also a comprehensive revision of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the Bible of the American Psychiatric Association, the focal point for mental health workers and medical practitioners in this country. 'Focal point' means a medical and mental health convergence in which surgeons, internists and nurses, say, can interact with psychologists, and clinical social workers because we agree to the definitions and numerical coding of every mental condition delineated by the DSM. For example, as a clinician, I can dialogue with an obstetrician or psychologist about a woman who exhibits criteria for Major Depressive Disorder/Recurrent episodes (296x3) with Postpartum Onset. Or I can confer with a psychiatrist about the best psychotropic medication for a client diagnosed with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (300.3), or Panic Disorder With Agoraphobia (300.21)—the specifier, taken from the Greek of Jesus' day, literally means 'fear of the market place'. Sufferers experience panic wherever crowds gather, often in supermarkets and shopping centers.

The DSM 4 which has been around since the early 90's as well as its Text Revision (2000) is being replaced, as I write, by the DSM 5, the newest incarnation of psychiatry's master tome. Its earliest ancestor, the DSM 1, was produced in the early 50's as a response to Freudian theory which had dominated psychiatry and mental health theory during the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. It was thought that psychoanalytic understandings lacked scientific foundation, and needed to be replaced by a compendium of diagnoses which bore the stamp of medical research. Although our Bible has gone through revisions in terms of translations, the content has remained the same even though different definitions of the Hebrew and Greek may modify our understanding of Scripture. Nevertheless our unexcised text still stands. Not so for the DSM. It has undergone major revisions in content. Thus, for example, homosexuality, once considered a mental disorder, had been stricken from that category by the time the DSM 4 rolled off the presses. Similarly passive aggressive behavior was elevated to a personality disorder in DSM 3, I believe, although it has now returned to its humbler place in the psychiatric hierarchy.

One could say that the DSM 5 is the result of newer research but, like earlier versions, politics and pride may shade objectivity. If, as a researcher, one's grants and funding come from pharmaceutical companies which manufacture stimulants to control ADHD, for example, the researcher may want the DSM to reflect his or her findings in particular and how pills enhance psychotherapy in general. I am sure that those who wrote the DSM 5 are honest, but one may wonder whether funding skews ideology ever so slightly.

The various incarnations of the DSM also are affected by the elevation of certain mental disorders which ignite public interest. Thus PTSD assumed pride of place in research during the 80's and 90's because of the emotional shattering of many returning Viet Nam veterans. During that period PTSD diagnoses rose in the civilian population, among people at home who never suffered the kind of trauma seen on a battlefield. The parameters of certain disorders were stretched to such a degree that people suffering from mild anxiety were self-

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diagnosing as having PTSD. More recently there has been a similar democratization of Bipolar Disorder—it is a fashionable diagnosis, although the individual snared in full blown manic depression is far, far different from claimants who are able to negotiate the daily demands of living. And the issue which exorcises mental health professionals presently is whether there is such a “beast” as childhood bipolarity or whether it is bogus. Then there’s ADHD. Everyone has it these days. If you don’t, there’s something really wrong with you! Certainly ADHD is a serious mental health issue, but the number of sufferers may be less than media driven figures present. All this is to say that our cultural understandings of the moment shape our understanding of mental health, and the financial weight we place behind the latest ‘fad’ disorder.

I love the DSM 4. Although some practitioners believe that it doesn’t do justice to the individual, and his or her uniqueness, I do believe we need a common text to help us work together in diagnosing and treating patients. I’m not sure about paying \$199 for the hardcover version of the DSM 5, however, or its softcover sister which costs \$149. From the portions of the DSM 5 which I have read, along with the critiques of others who know far more about mental health than your pastor, I do have problems with the newest version. It raises issues which draw my attention to theological understandings of the mental worlds we inhabit.

First some mental health experts believe that the DSM 5 shortchanged research. They believe that field testing is missing, in part, because the APA needed to rush the DSM 5 into print to cover the twenty five million dollar cost of producing the manual. In other words money, or the lack of it, may have accelerated production so that empiric

## Our Mission Project

Our mission offerings for May will be directed to Family of Woodstock. Since 1970, FAMILY has been an anchor for area



residents - a place where people are respectful and caring, and where the search for solutions is creative and tireless. FAMILY's shelters, emergency food pantries, court advocates, counseling and case management services, hot-lines, and child care supports all work together to help people achieve the changes they seek.

You can support this agency by using your Mission envelope.

~Linda Dux, Missions Chair

study was slighted. One wonders whether greed, a problem which the Bible expounds, is at work in this area.

Second, there is a tendency in the DSM 5 to pathologize emotional states which are part and parcel of living. For instance normal grief, has now been classed under the rubric of Mood Disorders, specifically Depression. Allen Francis, M.D., a former professor of Duke Medical School, and Chair of the DSM 4 Committee writes that: “Normal grief will become Major Depressive Disorder, thus medicalizing and trivializing our expectable and emotional reactions to the loss of a loved one and substituting pills and superficial medical rituals for the deep consolations of family, friends, RELIGION (emphasis mine), and the resiliency that comes with time and the acceptance of the limitations of life.”

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**eSpire:** In order to save money and reduce our impact on the environment, you may 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.

## STICKLEY GARDENS

Our committee is still working on solutions for a fence that will please the Historic Preservation Committee. If anyone knows a source for **wrought iron fencing** or has ideas, please contact us.

We are very blessed with people who continually make a dedicated effort in keeping the Columbarium area beautiful and functional. You know who you are ... thank you so much.

Take a minute to feel the peace and remember those who passed before us. God holds them close.

FOR MORE INFORMATION –  
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)



Bring a RED geranium to worship to adorn the sanctuary on Sunday, May, 19 to celebrate Pentecost.

Flowers will be planted on the church grounds afterwards.

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Everyday forgetting, characteristic of aging, also known as the 'Senior Moment', which so many of us share and which is not predictive of future dementia has now been given a new title: Minor Neurocognitive Disorder. My fear is that such a diagnosis will create a huge false positive population who are not at special risk. The only risk will be the unnecessary spike in anxiety. And one of the Seven Deadly Sins, Gluttony, will now be labeled as Binge Eating Disorder. Thus excessive eating on 12 occasions within a three month period will indicate pathology rather than a love of food in which one occasionally overindulges. There are other examples in which the disease diagnosis replaces experiences which were once simply part of the 'human condition.'

Treating mental health issues is extremely important. More of the national budget should be spent on increasing the number of practitioners, and the enhancing of counseling skills. I mourn every time an outpatient clinic closes. Certainly in the wake of Newtown, and Boston, it is critical to diagnose those who pose a threat to others. Nevertheless the issue

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### Strawberry Hill Fiddlers

(Loganberries & Huckleberries too!)

Saturday, May 11, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

Schadewald Hall

Bring your friends!!

Adults	\$15	Students	\$10
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## Women's Guild

I know the calendar says that it is spring but the weather sure isn't cooperating. But the flowers are beautiful; adds a little color around our town.



The Pot Luck Luncheon that was scheduled for 5/19 has been re-scheduled to June 2. This luncheon will be held right after church and is open to everyone. Just bring a dish to pass, your own place setting, something to drink, and have a great meal as well as fellowship.

Mark your calendars & see you then. See Ellen Richards if you have any questions and to sign up for this wonderful time.

We will not be meeting during the next couple of months but we won't be idle. Please support us during our upcoming events.

Look for the quilt raffle tickets in your mailbox in the next couple of months. I've seen the quilt and it is beautiful.

Blessings,

Sandy Emrich, President

Our calendar of events:

5/19/13 Pentecost Sunday—bring a red geranium

6/2/13 Pot Luck Luncheon

7/13/13 Stone House Day



**Reminder:** May 12th is Mother's Day. As is our tradition, fathers (and sons too) are asked to please bring refreshments for our Sunday Coffee Fellowship Hour.

*Thank you* to all who

came out for our Spring Clean Up Day. We had a record number of 30 volunteers and the church and grounds look wonderful. Special thanks to Jim Pirro - his organization ensured a very productive day!

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of mental illness must align itself with the equally important issue of personal responsibility. That great healer, Jesus, who had unbounded compassion for those who could not help themselves, the demon possessed in particular, could be uncompromising in his condemnation of those who sought excuses for unrighteous actions. As Christians it becomes critical for us to make careful distinctions between those who cannot control their behavior because of mental illness, and those who cannot do so because of moral bankruptcy. Even a flawed DSM can help with the former. Our perfect Scripture can help with both.

In Christ's service,  
Doc Bob

The Women's Guild is working on a new church directory. Please contact the church office, 331-4121 or [admin@hurleyreformedchurch.org](mailto:admin@hurleyreformedchurch.org), to update your information. Cell phone numbers and email addresses are especially lacking or out of date in our data base. This edition will not contain photos but will have all the necessary information to stay in touch with your church family. If you do not want to be included in the new directory you must let us know.



## Ruby Tuesday Give Back

fundraiser has raised \$192.90. A nice evening out, no cooking, and we got paid for it! Thank you to all who participated.

**May****Birthdays**

Cole Jordan	May 1, '96
Mikayla Mellin	2, '96
Jonathan Helsley	5, '05
George Nekos, Jr.	5, '11
Mackenzie Schoonmaker	28, '99



Terry Conlin	2
Kristen Helm	2
Lori Baker	3
Faye McLane Jansen	4
Gil Hoppenstedt	4
Kathy Burns	4
Elizabeth Wilson	7
Dolores McGoldrick	8
Jayne Ulrich	10
Marilyn Cox	11
Charles Jansen	11

Robin Brennan	14
Barbara Hornbeck	14
May Kowalenko	15
Kathleen Mayfield	15
Les Frost	16
Ruth Harkin	16
Jo Sullivan	17
Taylor Robey	21
Dave Baker	22
Linda Shook	26
Ricki Maggiore	27
Brian Donnelly	28
Jerry Wyncoop	30

Gordon Kent	June 1
Su Wonderly	2
Joseph Orlando	5, '07

**Anniversaries**

Jim & Sheila Craven	May 5
Glenn & Debbie Decker	6
Kathy & Bob Pfeiffer	6
Elaine & David Szekeres	8
Christa & Terry Conlin	9
Marilyn & John More	9
Alice & Frank Presti	10
Janet & Jake Croswell	13
Joe & Kathy Burns	15
Wayne & Karen Waligurski	20
Christine & Bill Henning	22
Donna & Peter Harder	30

**HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH, HURLEY NY****TREAT  
YOURSELF!****BIG****TREAT  
YOURSELF!****BREAKFAST****Saturday, May 4, 2013 8-11am**

**Scrambled Eggs • Omelets • Pancakes • Bacon**  
**Orange Juice • Coffee • Tea • Buffet Style**

**\$8.00** FOR ADULTS    **\$5.00** FOR CHILDREN under 12

**Reservations Preferred – Please Call 331-4121**



## Handicapped Accessibility Project Update

As we walk into church it appears that nothing is being done to complete this important church/community effort to serve friends and relatives with mobility problems. However, though nothing is visible to the eye, activity has taken place in the background.



Enough donations have been received to place the order for delivery of the lift. One half of the cost was

payable for delivery. You have also funded professional services rendered to-date for the Architect and Construction Manager.

We are hopeful that our grant application will be successfully reviewed by Ulster Savings Bank and a grant award notification will be forthcoming by the time you are reading this spire.

Based upon cost estimates, the Consistory will need to approve a commercial loan in the area of \$50,000 in order to complete the work. Your prayers and continued support are still significant to the success of our project.

Dave Giles, Coordinator

## Stone House Day: July 13th.

This is the main fundraiser of the HRC and a wonderful opportunity to involve the entire church community. We will need hosts and hostesses for each home. Hours are 10am - 1pm or 1pm - 4pm. Of course, if you would like to work the full day, we're happy to have you do that too.

Children's activities were incorporated into the day's events a few years ago. If you enjoy working with children and families this would be perfect for you. Spinners, weavers and a blacksmith will demonstrate their skills on the parsonage grounds. A militia encampment with men and women in colonial outfits will show some of the things they needed to bring with them when called out to fight. Granny's Garret and jewelry will occupy the lower level of Schadewald Hall, along with the Women's Guild Bake Sale. The Churn Dash Quilt will be raffled at 4:pm - be sure to get your tickets. The kitchen will be busy preparing lots of food and snacks for lunch and those "in between" moments. Waiters and waitresses will keep the dining room ready for the next diner. Sojourner Truth will present her famous speech in the Sanctuary. Organ recitals will feature period pieces.



Please do sign up to volunteer for an hour, or for the full day, to help with the activities mentioned above. Much occurs before the first ticket is sold: distributing publicity, prepping food, putting out signage, setting up and of course, breaking down at the close of the

day. Contact Ellen Richards or call the church office, 331-4121. You'll be glad you did!

admin@hurleyreformedchurch.org, Hurley Reformed Church, US Holidays

May 2013 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			7:30am - Bible 8:45am - Technology 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Wolf Den @	1:30pm - Hurley 3pm - Quilting @ 4:45pm - Dog 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7:30pm - Choir @	9am - HNS Play @ 10am - Badminton @ 4pm - Set Up @ Hall	9am - Big Breakfast
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Cinco de Mayo</b> <b>Youth Group @ Hall</b> 10am - Worship @ 11am - Confirmation 11am - Prayer Chain 6pm - AA @ Dutch 7pm - ACA @ Room	10am - Badminton @ 5pm - Dog Training 7pm - Little League 7:30pm - 1st Capitol 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	4pm - Hurley Purifiers 4:30pm - PC 101 @ 7pm - Bible Study @ 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - SCLS @ Room	7:30am - Bible 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Wolf Den @ 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Men's Group 7:45pm - Bagpiper	12:30pm - Little 3pm - Quilting @ 4:45pm - Dog 6:30pm - Order of 7pm - Order of the 7:30pm - Choir @	10am - Badminton @	9am - Set up @ Hall 10am - Genealogy @ 3pm - Wedding - 7pm - Strawberry
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>Mother's Day</b> 10am - Worship @ 11am - Confirmation 11:30am - Parent 6pm - AA @ Dutch 7pm - ACA @ Room	10am - Badminton @ 11am - VFW @ 1pm - Baskets @ 5pm - Dog Training 7pm - Consistory @ 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	8:30am - Hillside 4pm - Hurley Purifiers 7pm - Bible Study @ 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - SCLS @ Room	7:30am - Bible 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Wolf Den @ 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Hurley Lions	3pm - Quilting @ 4:45pm - Dog 7pm - NE 7pm - SCLS @ Room 7:30pm - Choir @	9:30am - Evacuation 10am - Badminton @	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>Pentecost</b> 10am - Worship- 6pm - AA @ Dutch 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Youth Group	10am - Badminton @ 10am - Genealogy @ 5pm - Dog Training 6pm - Foundation 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	4pm - Hurley Purifiers 7pm - Bible Study @ 7pm - Boy Scouts	7:30am - Bible 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Wolf Den @ 7pm - ACA @ Room 7pm - Men's Group	3pm - Quilting @ 4:45pm - Dog 7:30pm - Choir @	10am - Badminton @	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
10am - Worship @ 6pm - AA @ Dutch 7pm - ACA @ Room	<b>Memorial Day</b> 10am - Badminton @ 10:30am - Genealog 5pm - Dog Training 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	4pm - Hurley Purifiers 7pm - Bible Study @ 7pm - Boy Scouts	<b>John F. Kennedy's</b> 7:30am - Bible 9am - HNS 10am - Badminton @ 5:30pm - Dog 6pm - Wolf Den @	3pm - Quilting @ 4:45pm - Dog 7pm - SCLS @ Room 7:30pm - Choir @	9am - HNS 10am - Badminton @	

May 2013

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)

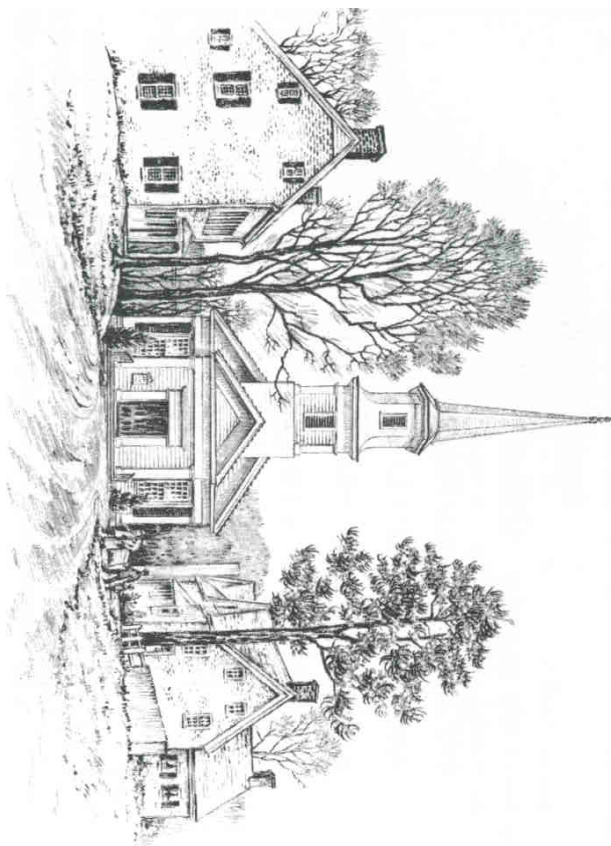
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Pastor

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