**This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent!**

**We move closer to the coming of Christ** as Christ moves closer to us in His

advent. It is a time of expectation and a time of wonder as we are filled with awe at the gift of God. For that gift we gather in worship to give Him our praise and to bow down before him.

**Greeting** youtoday are Jim and Betty Pirro. Ushers assisting in the service are Hal Hauck and Marilyn More.

**Join us in Schadewald Hall** after worship for our Annual Christmas Pageant

presented by the Sunday Church School under the direction of Christine Henning.

**Nursery Care for toddlers and infants** is available in Room 7 and is provided

by Keri Decker, an experienced caregiver. If your little one would rather play or needs a break, please feel free to have them join the fun in the nursery.

**Deacon of the month is Bill Beesmer.** Call Bill at 914-388-3246, if you need a

deacon’s assistance.

***Activities this week:***

 *Today: Before worship: Choir Practice*

*11:15 Christmas Pageant*

 *Tuesday: 9:30 am Badminton*

 *11:00 am Balance for Life*

 *7:00 pm Bible Study*

 *Thursday: 7:00 pm & 9:30 pm Christmas Eve Services*

 *Friday: Merry Christmas*

**Poinsettias that adorn the altar** are presented as described on the insert.

**Join us in Schadewald Hall** after worship for our Annual Christmas Pageant presented by the Sunday Church School under the direction of Christine Henning.

**Thank you to the Jordan Family** and to Herzog’s Home Improvement for the

donation of the Christmas tree and wreath on the outside of the church.

**Thank you** to Matt Sirni and Dave’s Tree Service for installing the wreath.

**A display of the gingerbread churches** by Alana Mayhon is in Schadewald Hall.

The likenesses of the old stone church in Hurley and the 1854 church were made for the Gingerbread Exhibition at the Ulster County Historical Society.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study** is not meeting this week or December 30.

**No Sunday Church School** next week, Dec. 27.

**New Consistory Members** have been approved by the congregation. They are: Elder: Kathleen Jansen, Barbara Kindt; Deacon: Greg Laib. If anyone knows of any legitimate objections they should contact a member of the Board of Elders.

**2016 Envelopes** are available in Schadewald Hall.

**Our Mission of the Month for December** is the Samaritan's Purse Refugee

Relief Mission. Samaritan's Purse is highly rated for their spending directly on needs.  During their efforts to help the refugees, one volunteer said, "We are the first faces that they see...probably a lot of them have never even met a Christian." This effort demonstrates the true meaning of our faith! We can pray that our positive actions impact others in many ways.

**The Women's Guild would like to thank** everyone that purchased pecans over the past few weeks & cookies during the cookie walk last week. Your support that you give us is truly appreciated. Thank you so very much!

**A Christmas Eve Celebration** is planned at the parsonage after the last

Christmas Eve Service. A sign up sheet is in Schadewald Hall.

**A Date Change:** Dr. Gram will continue his study of how Nazi leaders and

theologians used Jesus to further their evil aims. The writings of Nazi theologians like Gerhard Kittel and Paul Althaus will be explored as well as their theological antecedents in the 16th and 19th centuries.  Special attention will be paid to the Reformation Theologian, Martin Luther (1483-1546) and his book, "The Jews and Their Lies".

Criminal Christologies:  The Nazification of Jesus, Part 3

When Tuesday, **December 22nd , 7-9 pm**

**Advent Sermons: Joyous News**

 Christmas Eve Message: “The Courage to View Yourself Positively” (Luke 2:1-20)

**Prayers and comfort** are requested for Tony Peralta and family. Tony is Julie

Provenzano’s son-in-law and is quite ill with cancer.

**Reach out to those who need your support** in their day to day needs: Gordon

Kent in Ten Broeck; Friedel Borst; Andrew Holbrook; Don Hornbeck (Barbara Hornbeck’s father); Dolores McGoldrick at Ferncliff; Esther Keator; Florence Prehn at Hudson Valley Senior Residence; Lori Pinkham in Wingate at Ulster; Tony Peralta (Julie Provenzano’s son-in-law).

**Bulletin Announcements on line:** Check out the announcements from this

week’s bulletin on the church’s website! Go to the church’s website hurleyreformedchurch.org. Click on calendars under website navigation (on left side of page). They are listed in reverse date order (most recent first).

**Events at other churches:**

December 20 Ted Keegan Concert at Old Dutch Church, mix of Broadway and

Christmas Songs. 2:00 pm

January 2, 2016 Reformed Church of the Comforter, Saturday Night Matinee,

 *Inside Out*, 6:00 pm

At one time, most of my friends could hear the bell, but as years passed, it fell silent for all of them. Even Sarah found one Christmas that she could no longer hear its sweet sound. Though I've grown old, the bell still rings for me, as it does for all who truly believe.” – Chris Van Allsburg, *The Polar Express*

*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.*

***CHRISTMAS***

*****POINSETTIAS***

**2015**

Robert and Doris Alden in loving memory of our son, Robert, and other loved ones

Bill Beesmer in memory of Naomi Lillian Beesmer and in honor of Anthony Cruise

Barbara Bondar and Bill Hannis in memory of loved ones

Linda Caddy in memory of Hazel and Al Motter

Linda Caddy in memory of Raymond L. Caddy and Ray, Jr.

Christa and Terry Conlin in memory of our son Mark

Glenn and Debbie Decker in memory of Tom, Chet Decker and Carol Stella

Chris, Keri and Caitlin Decker in memory of grandparents, Chet and Hazel Decker and Teri Mundy

Lori and John Decker in memory of John Decker, Doramae Saile, Harry, Esther, Gary and Carl Mickle, Eleanor Morehouse and loved ones; and in honor of our parents, Herb and Lois Morehouse and Teresa Decker

Lorraine Denis in memory of Uncle Egbert and Joe Maxwell

Linda Clarke Dido in memory of my parents, Simon and Helen Clarke

Dorothy Draper in memory of my mother, Helen Draper

Allan, Bonnie, Chloe, Allan IV, and Reid Dumas in memory of Allan and Virginia Dumas

Linda Dux in memory of parents, Helen and Harold Conlin, and in memory of nephew, Mark Conlin

Emrich Family in memory of loved ones

Ron and Ann Every in memory of Howard and Nettie Every and in memory of Thomas and Anna McAuliffe

Muriel Ferraro in memory of loved ones

Andrea Littleton Foster in memory of Mary S. Littleton

Lee Gable in memory of my parents, John and Beverly Loser and in honor of my grandchildren

Rev. Robert Gram in memory of my parents, Torger Augustine Gram and Mildred Elizabeth Wolf

The Gregorys in loving memory of Ernest and Mabel Myer

Ruth and Tom Harkin in memory of our parents

Kathleen and Hal Hauck in memory of Ken and Frieda Hauck and Theodore Carlson and in honor of Dorothy Carlson

Kathy and Craig Jansen in loving memory of Richard Ruth Jr., Nancy Jansen, Tom Jansen and Faye McLane Jansen

Nancy Kellerhouse in loving memory of daughter Cheryl and husband

Earl

Don Kent in memory of Frank and Marge Miller and in honor of the Youth Group

The Kent Family in memory of Mary and Della Kent

Barbara and Bob Kindt in memory of loved ones and in honor of our granddaughter, Lily Barra

Gregory Laib in memory of Eileen and Cloyd Laib

Gregory Laib in memory of Imogene Bush and Doyne Laib

Rich Little in memory of Alida and Clifford Little

Jay and Jean Marrus in memory of our daughter, Victoria

Rebecca and Alan Masters in honor of Don Kent’s 98th birthday

The Mayfields in memory of John P and Anne O. Castner and Betty Jean Mayfield

Bill, Jane, Brad and Greg Merrill in memory of father/grandfather, Fred Doty

John and Marianne Mizel in memory of Bernard and Isabel Mizel

Julie Provenzano in memory of husband, Steve Provenzano and in memory of mother, Julie Snyder

Marcy, Marissa, Mackenzie and Barry Rell in memory of our grandparents and in honor of our parents

Shirley Ruth in memory of her parents, Myron and Jane Boice and in memory of her husband, Richard

In memory of Bill and Sissy Schiff from their grandchildren, Billy and

Pokey Schiff, Terry and Emily Schiff, Sarah and Rusty Hernandez, Tim and Chelsea Schiff, and their great-grandchildren, Riker and Seldy Schiff, Mariah, Christian, Lylah, Piper and Charlotte Hernandez, Addie Schiff, Cooper and Jeanette Schiff from Bill Schiff

In memory of Terry Schiff from his brother, Bill

In memory of Jim Farrell and Catherine and Arthur Glessmer from Bill Schiff

Bob and Helen Sgroi in honor of their children and grandchildren

Richard and Linda Shook in memory of Scott and in honor of Simon and Marco

Reverend Charles and Esther Stickley in memory of Loved Ones, our parents and our siblings. In honor of our whole family in thanksgiving for our many blessings

Paul S. Vonderheide in memory of Mom and Dad

Leanne and Frank Warren in memory of Audria and John Warren

Drew and Su Wonderly in loving memory of mother, Joyce Campbell and Scott and Todd Wonderly

Mrs. James W. Woodard and children in memory of her husband, Jim, and her parents, Arnold and Alice van Laer