

# THE SPIRE

February 2024

# february

The other day I was reading a biography and got dragged down a rabbit hole. The rabbit hole ended up being a minor event in the scope of the biography but I must have spent several hours trying to understand the moment which was the rabbit hole. In case you're interested it was one of the many schisms in the history and life of the church. Now my confusion and need for understanding was a result of it being one of the eastern Christian denominations.

Now I read about the triggering moment, I read about the response and how people received that moment. In my head I struggled to figure out how one thing which in my eyes was so small could rip a denomination in two. Try as I might I couldn't see how such small things like a shift in liturgy or a change in how you might make the sign of the cross, i.e. using two fingers instead of three would cause people to persecute and attack one another. It really sounded so ridiculous to split apart over such small things. Now it might be that it was involving the Eastern Christian churches splitting up and so there was enough schools of separation that in the moment it seemed that way.

But then came a moment in a kids show which Liam and Barb were watching. It poked fun at how a minister, once when introducing a new prayer book from the king in an effort to bring the Church of England and Scotland, had to pull pistols on his congregation. Was it ridiculous? Surely. But was it serious, and on further thought closer to home? Yes it was.

It can be easy to look back at the divisions which have lead us to where we are as a faith, with more denominations than you can count and a denomination of loose affiliation called non-denominational, and say that those things that at that moment happened were ridiculous. But to those who were willing to fight and even die for what they believed it was very deeply serious. When you think about it, it is very difficult to negotiate and understand the various reasons why one side believe this and the other side just as strongly

believes the exact opposite. We might see silly or ridiculous, but to those so closely interwoven it is life or death.

The lesson for us isn't to try and see and understand immediately or even to convert to our way of thinking. It is important for us to listen. We might never understand why the old liturgy was so important. I never really understood why one of my former members in Illinois thought that the "Little Brown Church in the Vale," was the height of music. To this day I still don't. But I do understand that it meant the absolute world to her. I can still see all 4'9" of Lena beam with joy when the first notes of it began to play. Frankly I don't need to now what it was exactly, just that it did what it did.

When we listen to one another we cannot treat it as a desire to change their belief or move them to our understanding. The moment we do this we are no longer seen as listening. Faith is not about winning and losing a debate. It isn't like a board game when there are winners or losers. When churches fight the great loser isn't this denomination or that, or this church or that it is the faith as a whole. Just as the only loser when we fight is the church, the only winner when we work together and can talk about faith in a growing and positive way working towards understanding or at least being able to see that this that or the other matters the only winner is God.

Let us embrace working towards God together, understanding what we can, but more importantly ceasing from tearing down one another and in doing so tearing apart the church. In doing so we aren't giving up on what we believe, but we are living out and building up that which God has called us to do and be. May we listen to one another and in listening may we serve the Lord. Amen.





Feb. 4,11,18,25	Worship
Feb. 4	Communion
Feb. 1	Hurley Seniors meeting
Feb. 6,13,20,27	Bible Study
Feb. 12	Consistory Meeting
Feb. 13	Brooks Chicken BBQ
Feb. 14	Social Solos



### For February

Feb. 4	Linda Moon and Aileen Helsley
Feb. 11	Alan Dumas and Russ Voigtlaender
Feb. 18	Glenn Decker and Bob Kindt
Feb. 25	Dennis Croswell and Marilyn More



Deacon For February  
is  
Russ Voigtlaender

## Our Valentines:

The people we love dearly.

Our family.

Our sweethearts.

Our closest friends.

Special people in our lives.

Our favorite ancestors.

The people who form who we are.

The sparkles in our lives.

The souls of our heart.

The people we thank God for.

*Some have gone home  
but remain in our hearts.*

### STICKLEY GARDENS

FOR MORE INFORMATION – CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER:

LISA LONGTO (532-7570) CHAIRPERSON

JIM PIRRO (383-0079) TREASURER

ESTHER STICKLEY (331-2919)

SANDIE GREGORY (338-7626)

REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

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

Please join us for Worship  
every Sunday at 10am with Refresh-  
ments served after in the Hall.

Sign up sheets are posted in the Hall for  
flowers and refreshments.



Chris Decker	2
Drew Wonderly	3
Robert Kindt, Sr.	4
Morgan Schaffrick	7
John Mizel	12
Steve Helm	12
Colette Woodard	13
Todd Rubino	13
John Tucker	19
Leslie Shambo	19
Donna Horvers	19
Amanda Horvers	19
Lisa Longto	20
Shirley Ruth	27
Callie LeLay	27
Nikki Cline	29



Social Solos meets on Wednesday,  
February 14, 2024 at noon.

This month they will be meeting at  
Casa Vallarta on 9W.

Anyone wishing to join please contact  
Rev. Deb Zuill for an invite at  
attitudema50@aol.com or 845-247-9157



**If you are unable to attend Worship in person please join us through our Zoom link. It can be found on our webpage on the right side under our bulletin and on the left side under Worship Material.**



The mission for February will be collecting money which will be for the Reservoir Food Pantry.

We will also be collecting pasta for the Bread of Life pantry. The pasta can be placed in the basket at the top of the stairs.

Thank you for remembering those in need of our help and support.



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

**Please keep them in your prayers.**

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom)

Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade

Shirley Ruth is in Golden Hill

Lori Pinkham is Wingate at Ulster

Terry Conlin

Shirley Burns

Debbie Tucker



All proceeds benefit the Hurley Reformed Church, Main St, Hurley NY

Drive-Up  
Take-Out

# Brook's

## Chicken BBQ

from Oneonta, NY

Drive-Up  
Take-Out

Feb 13, 2024

4:00pm - 6:00pm

1/2 chicken, coleslaw,  
baked potato, dinner  
roll & dessert

**\$15.00**

To Pre-Order Call: **845-331-4121**



4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

Fall Shopping!

OCTOBER 5, 2024  
9AM - 4PM

Crafts Fair

Christmas Shopping!

FOOD & DRINKS  
AVAILABLE

GENERAL ADMISSION = \$3 (UNDER 12 FREE)

VENDOR FEE = \$35 (INSIDE ONLY)

SPACE RESERVATIONS CALL

CHURCH OFFICE **845-331-4121**

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH • MAIN STREET, HURLEY NY

## EASTER PLANTS

_____ 6" Easter lily	\$9.00
_____ 6" Tulip	\$8.00
_____ 6" Daffodil	\$8.00
_____ 6" Hyacinth	\$8.00
_____ 5" Mini Daffodil	\$4.50
_____ 4" Primrose	\$3.50
_____ 4" Pansy	\$3.50



Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly*

Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of:

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In honor of:

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We encourage you to take your flowers home. The church garden is getting full.

Please make checks payable to: Hurley Reformed Church.

Mail or give your order by March 24, 2024 to:

Doris Alden  
236 East Drive  
Hurley NY 12443



# Children's Page



## WAYS TO DESCRIBE GOD

- Love
- Father
- Great
- Marvellous
- Compassion
- Gracious
- Creator
- Righteous
- Strong
- Kind



Drop down, ye heavens,  
from above, and let the skies  
pour down righteousness:  
let the earth open, and  
let them bring forth salvation,  
and let righteousness spring  
up together; I the Lord  
have created it.

- ISAIAH 45:8, KJV -

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<div>10am - Worship by Zoom and</div> <div>4</div>	<div>1:15pm - Tai Chi</div> <div>7pm - 1st Capitol Corvettes</div> <div>7pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9</div> <div>5</div>	<div>9am - Bible Study @ Dutch</div> <div>4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall</div> <div>6</div>	<div> <div>First Day of Black History</div> <div>1:30pm - Hurley Senior</div> <div>4:15pm - Karate Class</div> </div> <div>7</div>	<div>4:15pm - Karate Class</div> <div>8</div>	<div>12pm - Knitters @ Dutch</div> <div>9</div>	<div>9am - Karate Class @ Hall</div> <div>10</div>
<div>10am - Worship by Zoom and</div> <div>11</div>	<div>11am - VFW @ Dutch Room</div> <div>1:15pm - Tai Chi</div> <div>7pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9</div> <div>7pm - Consistory @ Dutch</div> <div>7pm - Hudson Valley</div> <div>12</div>	<div> <div>Brooks BBQ</div> <div>9am - Bible Study @ Dutch</div> <div>4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall</div> </div> <div>13</div>	<div> <div>Valentine's Day</div> <div>12pm - social solos - Casa</div> <div>5:30pm - Local 1582</div> </div> <div>14</div>	<div>4:15pm - Karate Class</div> <div>15</div>	<div>12pm - Knitters @ Dutch</div> <div>16</div>	<div>9am - Karate Class @ Hall</div> <div>17</div>
<div>10am - Worship by Zoom and</div> <div>18</div>	<div> <div>Presidents' Day</div> <div>10am - Genealogy @ Rooms</div> <div>1:15pm - Tai Chi</div> <div>7pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9</div> </div> <div>19</div>	<div>9am - Bible Study @ Dutch</div> <div>4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall</div> <div>6pm - Nursery School Board</div> <div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>4:15pm - Karate Class</div> <div>22</div>	<div>9am - HNS play @ Hall</div> <div>12pm - Knitters @ Dutch</div> <div>23</div>	<div>9am - Karate Class @ Hall</div> <div>24</div>
<div>10am - Worship by Zoom and</div> <div>25</div>	<div>10:30am - Genealogy @</div> <div>1:15pm - Tai Chi</div> <div>7pm - Al-Anon @ Room 9</div> <div>26</div>	<div>9am - Bible Study @ Dutch</div> <div>4:15pm - Karate Class @ hall</div> <div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>4:15pm - Karate Class</div> <div>29</div>		<div>2</div>

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Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Pastor

NON-PROFIT ORG.

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THE SPIRE  
FEBRUARY 2024  
HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH  
Hurley New York 12443  
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Pastor

