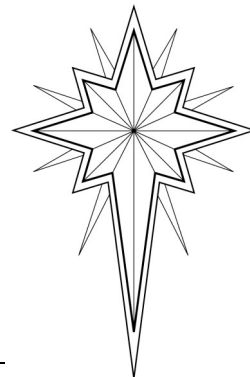


THE SPIRE

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2018



(Hi! This is Dorothy. Happy New Year!! Rev. Stickley offered to write the "pastor's letter." . . . So I let him . . .lol Peace.) From Rev. Charles Stickley:

I was in the church office getting ready for Christmas with bulletins and inserts and Dorothy mentioned that she was working on the Spire and needed the part that the minister usually writes. I replied that maybe that could be taken care of by the "fill in" minister, so I share my part of the Spire with you.....

The next important part of the celebration of the coming of the Messiah is what the church calls Epiphany. It's hard enough to say, but what does it mean. The dictionary defines it as "appearance--revelation" and goes on to connect the day with the coming of the Wise men on January 6 and the sharing of the Good News about the Messiah to the first Gentiles to know of His coming.

Historians see the story as taking place when Jesus was about 2 years old and it all takes place in a house in Bethlehem and not at the stable as so many portray His birth. We do not know how many Magi came to honor Him (I was glad to see that there were four of them in the Christmas pageant after church this past Sunday). How many is not important but what they do and how they are involved is what Epiphany really means to the church...their acts of seeking the King before He was born--the use of the stars and the Scriptures to show an act of God--the miles and miles of travel only to find this new King--the reason for it all so they can worship and honor Him. The first Gentiles to see Jesus and the message they would take home is what makes it important and that's why we celebrate Epiphany in the acts of the wise men or

the Magi as they present Him with gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

I saw a bumper sticker that really tells what Epiphany is all about. It said "WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM." The Magi are really our examples for us as Christians. They pose some questions or examples that we can well follow in the New Year we have begun.....

1. Do we prepare to find Him like the Magi?
2. Do we seek Him as they did?
3. Do we make some definite plans to honor Him in the New Year?
4. Will we have our gifts ready to present when we find Him?
5. Will we fall down and worship Him?
6. After we see Him how will our lives be changed?

We seek Him and when we find Him our Epiphany comes to life in our faith.

Christmas is not over when we leave the stable on Christmas eve. We will need to take a journey to find the child who is the King of God's creation. We need to find Him in the stable but we also need to find Him in that house in Bethlehem to complete our celebration of the birth of our Messiah. Best wishes on your trip and a Happy Epiphany. REV



*A New Year...
as we resolve to do better
and to be better. Let us
also remember those who
filled our lives with love and
now reside with our Lord.
Stop down and visit the Garden.
God watches over all.*

STICKLEY GARDENS

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)

KATHY JANSEN, CONSISTORY LIAISON

REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

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

JANUARY EVENTS

January 4	Hurley Senior Citizens
January 7	Prayer Chain
January 8	Consistory Meeting
January 10	Social Solos
January 14	Rev. Appleyard-Pekich preaches
January 20-28	Dorothy on vacation
January 29 & 31	Tai Chi Classes

THANKS. It has been a pleasure and an honor to be part of the Hurley Church again over the past weeks. I enjoyed making calls on those who can no longer get out to be in church. From a funeral service for a good friend, Jean Marrus to being part of those who united to the Hurley Church, it has been great to be part of the life and work of the Hurley Church. It was a joy to see so many friends and to meet people I did not know. It was great to "come home" once again and I thank you for the opportunity.

I wish you well in the seeking of a new pastor to lead you as a congregation in the events that lie before you. Love him and his family as you did ours. Share the joy, wonder and beauty of your faith as you did with us. Never lose sight of what you are all about as a church and as individuals serving the Christ who calls you. Continue to make the Hurley Church a place where love abounds and faith is something to enjoy as the children of God. Blessings on all of you and your new journey of faith. REV

SOUP: JANUARY 14, 2018



The Soup Elves are working overtime!
And all they are telling us is that it's a

Chicken soup

\$7/quart

January

Birthdays

Nicole Provenzano	4
Thomas Horvers	5
Carla Paton	8
Joe Ulrich	9
Dolores Wyncoop	12
Clarence Jansen	13
Doug Constant	15
Glenn Decker	17

Wally Cook	17
Linda Dux	18
Lee Gable	18
Wendy Helsley	19
Brandon Paton	20
Shannon Tucker	21
Alex Milne	22
Alma Strickland	23
Doris Alden	24
Kelly Maggiore	24
Sheila Jansen	25
Morgan Burgess	26
Tom Harkin	27
Mitchell Kurtz	30

Anniversaries

Rev Charles & Esther Stickley	2
George & Renee Nekos	4
Tom & Ruth Harkin	6



THE GIVING TREE: This year I tried to get back to the roots of the giving tree—going back to a mitten tree. So I contacted a local school nurse who is also a member of our church & asked her if there was a need for this at the school she works at. She got back to me with a “not really” but there is a BIG need for some of the basics for the students such as toiletries, hair brushes, soap, deodorant & other items. How the world has changed.

Since this wasn't going back to a mitten tree I got in touch with a counselor at the same school who gave us information on 3 families for us to adopt. Once again their needs were for the basics: warm clothing, shoes, a baby doll & a Barbie for a 2 little girls & musical toys for an infant (yes these might not be the basics but you have to have a toy at Christmas).

So, with all of this there are an organization that I heard of late last year & wanted to get more information on. So Lisa Longto, me & a family that gave me a donation adopted a family. As the weeks went by I learned more & more about this organization. In fact it made the Kingston Times. The organization is called Christmas Wishes Ulster County. This woman started this organization as a way of giving back. When she & her son were down on their luck one Christmas season she turned to folks for a helping hand. She received assistance plus put herself back to college, got a degree, a better job & was able to get off of assistance. She then wanted to return the favor that she & her son received that one Christmas by helping other families that found themselves in the situation that she was in many years ago. I like to think that perhaps one of our gifts that we gave to families also many years ago might have gone to them (I know that is a BIG stretch but you just never know). This woman kept receiving additional names that needed help so Lisa & myself adopted another child. After everything was said & done the final total of children this organization helped was 4,000 gifts wrapped for 878 local children. Now I call that giving. Strangers ... all over Ulster County helping one another. That truly is a Christmas blessing.

In conclusion, Hurley Reformed Church, you have helped the Giving Tree help many children & adults outside of our church doors. For that we all helped spread some Christmas magic!! As tiny Tim said: **God** bless us, every one!

Sandy Emrich

WOMEN'S GUILD

The below article was to appear in the December Spire but for some reason I thought I submitted it but I didn't... sorry about that

Pecans... get your pecans!!! They are in & we have been selling them. We do have extras still available such as the plain, milk & dark chocolate, cinnamon and chocolate cluster pecans for \$10 a bag. With the holidays just around the corner they will make great gifts &/or stocking stuffers. Thank you for your support.

Operation Christmas Child has come to an end. What a HUGE response we had this year. We collected 90 boxes this year. Thanks again to everyone that supported this great organization. Thanks to James & Sandie Gregory for taking the lead on this!

Thank you to all of the bakers for the Election Day bake sale held during the dinner. We raised \$125 because of your support!! Thanks so very much!!

Cookies... get your cookies!! The annual cookie

walk is coming up on December 10. During coffee hour pick up a box & start filling up your box with delicious cookies. Thanks for your support!!

So another year is coming to an end. Wow... where does the time fly to? I would like to thank all of the ladies of the Women's Guild that make up this wonderful group!! You all are special & the talent that you all bring to our group is so much appreciated!!! Thank you!!! Thank you!!! I truly am honored to know you all!!

Our calendar of events:

December 10	Cookie Walk
March 3 2018	set up for Church birthday party
March 4 2018	Annual Church birthday party
March 25 2018	Meeting

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year,
Sandy Emrich-President



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

We had our second annual "Breakfast with Santa Claus" on December 16, 2017. Last year we had about 45 guests; this year we had 84. We served a full breakfast: pancakes with real maple syrup, scrambled eggs, potato casserole, and sausage patties. The cost was \$10 for adults; \$5 for children over three; under 3 were free. A great time was had by all! Our Santa had a small gift for each child. Even parents and grandparents had a good time; talking with each other, taking pictures and watch-

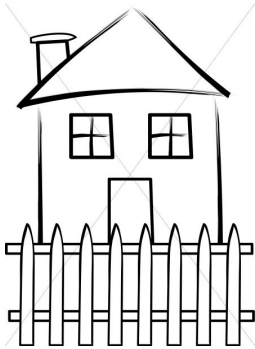
ing the kids enjoying themselves. This is an event for everyone: the food is good and the kids are fun to watch! Proceeds from this event went to Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief and to the Sunday School.

Ellen Richards, Supt., Sunday School



NEW MINISTER UPDATE

Our candidate Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich will preach before our congregation on January 14, 2018, **next Sunday**. A congregational meeting will be held immediately after service to determine the congregation's desired direction for the Consistory. Informal meetings with the various organizations within the church and the candidate will be held on Saturday (**this coming Saturday, January 13**) to provide an opportunity for members to meet him and his family and to ask questions. A signup sheet is in Schadewald Hall. See Doug Constant to sign up.



SPECIAL PARSONAGE RENOVATION FUNDRAISER 2018

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the Parsonage Project.

We have heard very positive comments from you concerning the renovation anticipating the new pastor. Continued upkeep and further renovation is in the works. You will find specially designated envelopes in the pews and enclosed in this Spire for your continued support.



The Mission Committee collected \$650 for Drs. Without Borders in November. Thank you all for such super donations. It is sorely needed. December's mission, Family of Woodstock, which includes the teen shelter and safe house for woman called Washbourne, will be a local mission. January is the Deacon's fund used for local communities and individuals who need immediate help, such as heating oil.

Marilyn Lowe

GUEST PASTORS FOR JANUARY

January 21 Rev. Nick Miles

January 28 Rev. Nick Miles





Hurley Reformed Church

HURLEY, NEW YORK 12443
ORGANIZED 1801

CHURCH OFFICE
845-331-4121

FAX
845-331-4153

January 5, 2018

Dear Friend:

I am writing to update you on some exciting changes at the Hurley Reformed Church.

On October 31, 2017, Rev. Dr. Robert Gram retired from ministry after 9 years with us. In anticipation of his retirement, a transition team/search committee was formed. After review of profiles and interviews, a candidate has been selected for consideration as the new pastor. We are pleased to announce that at the 10:00 am service on January 14, 2018, Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich will preach and at the end of the service, members of the congregation will provide consistory with their desired direction regarding offering Rev. Appleyard-Pekich a call. Please plan on attending to hear him and to be part of this vital decision making process.

In the meantime we are using visiting ministers for our Sunday services. Rev. Charles Stickley, pastor emeritus, will conduct services on January 7, 2018.

I encourage you to join us in this new and exciting time in our church's life. You may contact the church office at 845-331-4121 or me at 845-331-5944 if you have any questions.

I look forward to seeing you.

With God's love,

Dennis Croswell

Senior Elder


WWW.HURLEYREFORMEDCHURCH.ORG

PASTOR@HURLEYREFORMEDCHURCH.ORG

ADMIN@HURLEYREFORMEDCHURCH.ORG

Hurley Reformed Church, Contacts, Hurley Reformed Church

Jan 2018 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>31</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-Anon @</div> <div>  </div>	<div>1</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>11am - balance</div> <div>4:30pm - PC 101 @</div> <div>7pm - Boy Scouts</div>	<div>2</div> <div>7:30am - Bible</div> <div>9am - finance</div> <div>5:30pm - Dog</div> <div>7pm - Boy Scouts</div>	<div>3</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>1:30pm - Hurley</div> <div>4:45pm - Dog</div> <div>7pm - Choir</div> <div>7pm - Sisters in</div> <div>7:30pm - 1st Capitol</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>7pm - Motorcycle</div>	<div>5</div> <div>swing dance</div>	<div>6</div>
<div>7</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div> <div>11am - Prayer Chain</div>	<div>8</div> <div>9:30am - Guild</div> <div>11am - VFW @</div> <div>3pm - Quilting @</div> <div>5pm - Dog Training</div> <div>7pm - Consistory @</div> <div>7pm - Hudson Valley</div>	<div>9</div> <div>8:30am - Hillside</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>11am - balance</div> <div>7pm - Boy Scouts</div>	<div>10</div> <div>7:30am - Bible</div> <div>12pm - social solos</div> <div>5:30pm - Dog</div>	<div>11</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>4:45pm - Dog</div> <div>6pm - nursery</div> <div>7pm - Choir</div> <div>7pm - Sisters in</div>	<div>12</div> <div>9am - soup</div> <div>10am - Genealogy @</div> <div>3pm - Hannah</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>14</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div> <div>11am - Women's</div>	<div>15</div> <div>9:30am - Guild</div> <div>10am - Genealogy @</div> <div>10am - lions club</div> <div>3pm - Quilting @</div> <div>5pm - Dog Training</div> <div>7:30pm - 1st capitol</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-Anon @</div>	<div>16</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>11am - balance</div> <div>1pm - Women's</div> <div>7pm - Boy Scouts</div>	<div>17</div> <div>7:30am - Bible</div> <div>9am - Finance</div> <div>5:30pm - Dog</div> <div>7pm - Hurley Lions</div> <div>7pm - men's group</div>	<div>18</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>4:45pm - Dog</div> <div>7pm - Choir</div> <div>7pm - NE</div> <div>7pm - Sisters in</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Brandon Paton's</div> <div>dorothy on vacation</div> <div>eagle court of honor</div>	<div>20</div>
<div>21</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>
dorothy on vacation						
<div>10am - Worship @</div> <div>11am - SHD</div> <div>5pm - indian</div>	<div>9:30am - Guild</div> <div>10:30am - Genealog</div> <div>3pm - Quilting @</div> <div>5pm - Dog Training</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-Anon @</div>	<div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>11am - balance</div> <div>7pm - Boy Scouts</div>	<div>7:30am - Bible</div> <div>5:30pm - Dog</div>	<div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>4:45pm - Dog</div> <div>7pm - Choir</div> <div>7pm - Hurley</div> <div>7pm - Sisters in</div>	<div>4pm - Baby Shower</div>	
<div>28</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div>	<div>29</div> <div>9:30am - Guild</div> <div>1:15pm - Tai Chi</div> <div>3pm - Quilting @</div> <div>5pm - Dog Training</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-Anon @</div>	<div>30</div> <div>9:30am - Badminton</div> <div>11am - balance</div> <div>1pm - Women's</div> <div>7pm - Boy Scouts</div>	<div>31</div> <div>7:30am - Bible</div> <div>1:15pm - Tai Chi</div> <div>5:30pm - Dog</div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>

January 2018

PO Box 328
11 Main Street
Hurley NY 12443

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

Pastor

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Pastor

HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH
Hurley New York 12443

THE SPIRE
JANUARY 2018

