

# THE SPIRE

January 2026



A new year has already begun. It's always difficult to sit down and think about where things are right now and wonder about where things are going to be. In some ways making guesses or predictions about what is going to happen over the next 365 or so odd days is a bit like looking at a new born and guessing their height and weight and career path when they graduate college. I saw a cartoon from several New Years back which featured the out going year getting the new year ready for its roller coaster ride. "Close your eyes and hold on tight," was the caption.

Its one of those things that we joke about, or ponder, asking ourselves what sort of year will it be. Not too long ago one of the kids asked me if I ever wanted to know what all would happen in a year. It's one of those questions that kids ambush you with that really has no good answer. If you say yes, the follow up which asks why you would want to know is coming quickly as well as asking what you hoped would happen. And if you say no, well expect them to fire back with a question about why you don't want to know and if there are things which you are afraid of happening this year.

Now there are a few things that we can safely state will happen. If we keep in the predicting a child to an adult there are those instances, those guesses about the child's size which can to some level be guessed at by looking at their parents. Just like we can predict but.....there are also enough outliers who have very tall parents and end up being 5 feet tall. What about the person you know whose parents were not very tall and they end up being six and a half feet tall. Yes, there is a level of educated in our guessing that happens but for the most part we don't know what will be.

Those moments we cannot predict,

which are the buckle up and hang on tight moments, always come. We just don't know what they will be or how long they will occur. Just like the moments which are normal and every day mundane. Each year presents us with both joys and challenges, successes and failures over the many days of the year. Just like the cartoon with the roller coaster there will be high's, lows and lots in between. I heard one minister on a podcast I listen to list off all the divisive things that have already happened this year. As he said it you could hear the worry in his voice as if these first few days and week plus will set the tone for how this year will be.

To all those looking out in fear and worry, know that it will be ok. Not because of what is or isn't going to happen. That is beyond our control. What will happen? None of us know. I mean we know that we will celebrate 225 years of our church's life, and our country's 250 years. But the unknowns will remain just that. What wont happen? Again, we have not a clue in the world. All that we do know is that we have a loving Lord and Savior who looks out for us and cares for us no matter how big or small things are this year. The challenge is to trust in God to see us through all of these challenges. As you look out at 2026, and see opportunity or challenges, know that there is one beside you all through whatever comes. Trust in the Lord, have confidence in God's support and care when you go through these things, and most of all know that God is with you. Amen



*Happy  
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.*

*Blessings for  
2026.*

#### **STICKLEY GARDENS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION – CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER:

LISA LONGTO (845-532-7570) CHAIRPERSON  
JIM PIRRO (845-383-0079) TREASURER  
ESTHER STICKLEY (845-331-2919)  
REV STICKLEY (845-331-2919) SECRETARY  
KATHY JANSEN (845-532-0908)  
JAMES SASS (845-849-4937)

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

## **DEACONS**

Leading through Serving.

DEACON FOR JANUARY  
IS  
RUSS VOIGTLAENDER



**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)

Lori Pinkham is Wingate at Ulster

Terry Conlin



## **January**

- Jan. 4 Chris Decker and Bill Baldinger
- Jan. 11 Jeanne Quenzer and Dino Sumerano
- Jan. 18 Maggie Sass and Kathy Jansen
- Jan. 25 Aileen Helsley and Russ Voigtlaender

## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 4	Communion
January 4, 11, 18, 25	Worship
January 6, 13, 20, 27	Bible Study
January 5, 12, 19, 26	TaiChi @1pm
January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Sew and So & Knitters
January 7	Soup for Seniors @ West Hurley Fire House
January 12	Consistory Meeting
January 14	Social Solos
January 21	Soup for Seniors @ Hurley Fire House
Tues, Thurs & Sat.	Karate



Social Solos meets on Wednesday,

January 14, 2026

At noon

Anyone wishing to join please contact  
Rev. Deb Zuill for an invite at  
[attitudema50@aol.com](mailto:attitudema50@aol.com) or 845-247-9157



When the time comes and you are faced with a funeral for a loved one, The Hurley Reformed Church would like to offer a hand.

We are happy to help you with the repose after the funeral service. We will do the set-up of the hall, serve the food (although we cannot supply the food), and we will do all the clean up afterward.

If you would like more information about this, please speak with Rev. Appleyard-Pekich.



### Chile Share-February 15th

Come and have chili during coffee hour-bring a side or a chili to share. Sign up sheets will be posted in the hall.



### HRC History Presentation

Join us during coffee hour on March 8th for presentation on the history of our church.



Nicole Provenzano	4
Rev. Bill Appleyard-Pekich	5
Delaney Dockery	8
Carla Paton	8
Dolores Wyncoop	12
Doug Constant	15
Glenn Decker	17
Wally Cook	17
Lee Gable	18
Wendy Helsley	19
Brandon Paton	20
Shannon Tucker Goodrich	21
Alma Strickland	23
Doris Alden	24
Kelly Maggiore	24
Levi Emrich	24
Sheila Jansen	25
Morgan Burgess	26
Mitchell Kurtz	30



Rev & Esther Stickley	2
George & Renee Nekos	4



Our Mission for January is Josh Bode Missions. Josh Bode was originally from Woodstock Reformed church, and now he and his family are missionaries in Oman.

We also will collect peanut butter and jelly (regular size please, not extra large) for the Clinton avenue food pantry.



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

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

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.

## Church Growth, and Getting To Know You...

As we embark on our mission of church growth and retention, we are looking at ways to get to know you better. We would like to create a database that would give us a better idea of who you are. For starters, If we want to reach out to you, what's your address? Can we reach you by phone? When is your birthday? Do you have children who have been baptized and confirmed?

We have created a very easy form to help us gather some information. We would be happy if you would please take a few minutes to fill this form out, and return it to the church. It will help us to work toward our goal of growing our congregation, and more importantly, to be able to reach out to you and get to know you better. Please know that this form is completely optional.

You can either drop this completed form at church anytime, or you may mail it to the church at: Hurley Reformed Church, PO Box 328, Hurley, NY 12443. We also will soon have a link to this form on our Church website so you can complete it online. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Rev. Appleyard -Pekich.

### Hurley Reformed Church

#### Family Profile

**Family Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone – Home \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name (Spouse)** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Yes No

Confirmed Yes No

Member of Hurley Reformed Church Yes No

**First Name (Spouse)** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Yes No

Confirmed Yes No

Member of Hurley Reformed Church? Yes No

**Child** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Yes No

Confirmed Yes No

Hurley Reformed Church Member? Yes No

**Child** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Yes No

Confirmed Yes No

Hurley Reformed Church Member? Yes No

**Child** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Yes No

Confirmed Yes No

Hurley Reformed Church Member? Yes No

**Child** \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Yes No

Confirmed Yes No

Hurley Reformed Church Member? Yes No

Do you have offering envelopes: Yes No

If yes, what is your envelope number? \_\_\_\_\_

If No, would you like offering envelopes? Yes No

May we print your family Birthdays and Anniversaries in our Spire? Yes No

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Church Profile 2025

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. 10, 2026**  
**4:00pm - 6:00pm**

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

**\$15.00**  
Cash or Check

To Pre-Order Please Call By 2/8/25

**845-331-4121**



**Come celebrate our 225th Anniversary with us!**

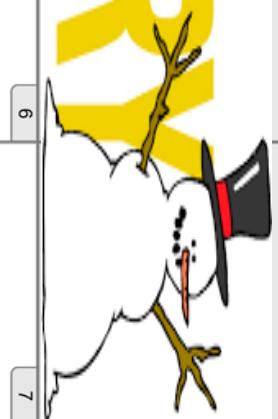
**-225th Community celebration-May 30th from 10am-2pm**

**-225th Worship Celebration June 7th-During normal worship**

**-Church Cookout- August 30th after Worship**



# JANUAR



PO Box 328  
11 Main Street  
Hurley NY 12443

Phone: 845-331-4121

E-mail: [admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org](mailto:admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org)

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Pastor

**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 emailing [admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org](mailto:admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org). If you no longer wish to receive the Spire please let us know at the same email address or call the church office and we will remove you from our mailing list.

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Pastor  
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Hurley New York 12443  
HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

JANUARY 2026  
THE SPIRE

