

THE SPIRE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

MAY 2018



A Mother's Day Musing

Growing up there were certain little traditions that seemed to exist. Christmas Eve was always for Mom's family and Christmas Day was for Dad's. Thanksgiving was always at Grandma's house, even though the one bathroom certainly made things difficult for a family of our size. The Fourth of July always found us with Dad lighting off fireworks, meanwhile the grandfathers each would lament how fireworks just weren't what they used to be.

Mother's Day always featured getting together after worship at our house, and having dinner. Now one Mother's Day I was confused. I was younger, about Liam's age, and I had just realized that one set of grandparents had a different last name than one another. There were Grandma and Grandpa Phillips, and Grandpa Pekich and Grandma Van (Woerkom). Being young and filled with questions I asked my mom. Now I'm not sure if she was seeking to avoid the hot potato or trying to let someone tell their own story, but she passed the story on to Dad. Dad's response was very simple and direct, "She's not my mom." I learned more when I visited Grandpa Pekich next. He took me to a cemetery and pointed to one specific headstone. "Bill, that's where your Grandma is."

Now the full story was that the woman I know as Grandma is my Great Aunt. My Grandmother died when my dad was less than two. She had had colon cancer. Faced with the loss of his wife and with two sons to care for my Grandfather approached his own family to see if they would help with his boys while he worked. The reply came back from each of his sisters that they had their own children and were not able to watch my Uncle and Dad. But suddenly came a blessing. My Great Grandfather Van Woerkom approached him and told him that Great Grandma, Great Aunt Helen and

he would love to take care of them.

She isn't my Grandma, but I thank God for the role of Grandmother that she played for me. She was there like a grandmother would, at birthdays, ballgames, she loved me and my siblings like we were her own. She loved my Dad and Uncle like they were her boys.

Mother's Day traditionally is a day we celebrate mothers. But what happens if someone doesn't know their mother, or doesn't remember her? What if their mother was an abuser or absent? The role of mother is filled for many of us by people who aren't our mothers. As there are women who yearn and long to become mothers but are unable.

One of the most beautiful stories in scripture is the story of Ruth and Naomi. Naomi loses everything and even drives off one of her daughters-in-law. But Ruth refuses to abandon her. Later when Ruth marries Boaz, they have a son Obed, who Naomi helps to raise. I'm sure Sarah would have struggled mightily on Mother's day as she waited at times not so patiently for the son which God had promised her and her husband, Abraham. Mother's Day can be a tender time for us, sometimes focusing us on what we have lost and forcing us to look at what we are not able to have. Mother's Day is a day of mixed emotions. If you feel like celebrating, do so. If you need to cry, do so. If you need to forget it then do that. But however you may be on Mother's Day, I hope that you will keep the day with God. If for whatever reason you feel sadness and grief that day bring that to God. That is the beauty of our God. Our God that is with us and will take whatever we dish out.

Grace and Peace

Rev. Bill

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE OLD REV.

As I sat and tried to think about what I could use as a theme for my charge to you as a congregation at Pastor Bill's installation I kept coming back to the word PRAY. I knew that you were a praying group of people, so how could I use that simple little word? It finally came to me—"Take it apart and put it back together." So my theme became PRAY. Each little letter in that word holds what I want to share with you as a charge to you as a congregation as you begin a new and exciting journey with your new pastor.

P... Pray every day for your Pastor, his family, the Consistory, members of this congregation and others who need your Intercessory prayers. As a framed needle point picture that was in my office stated, "Make prayer the key that opens your day and the key to close it for the night." You have plenty to pray for and each of you has a role to play to do what Paul says, "pray without ceasing."

R... Respond to the new leadership that God is sharing with you by being honest and open in a relationship with your pastor as you serve Christ and work with him to be the HRC. If you like what he does... tell your friends. If there are things that may not be to your liking, tell him or the Consistory. We believe that God has been at work in this whole process as a Search Committee has sought His will and now it is your turn to respond to what God has done for you as a congregation and as a church.

A... Activate your faith by the service you give. What you give to the church will determine what you will receive from the church. You are not a part of a church to receive and you go to church to give to God the honor and praise He deserves for all He has shared with you. Everyone of you has a specific role to play in HRC and you need to find and fulfill the role which is yours. You are a part of the whole.

Y... Yearn for the working of God in your midst and for the new things God has on your horizon. Do not look for that old plateau of comfort or stagnation but look for what is yet to be revealed to you. Look for what God has in store for you as you live out your faith in a relationship in the church and with your new pastor. He is not here to do it for you, he is here to do it with you. As Isaiah tells us, "Seek the Lord while He may be found. Call upon Him while He is near." That time is here and now as the past is history and the future lie before us in the

Hurley Reformed Church. Now is the time! **GO FOR IT!!!!**



The Charge to the congregation given by Rev. Charles Stickley
at Rev. Bill's Installation, April 8, 2018

MAY EVENTS

May 3	Hurley Senior Citizens
May 7, 14	Basket Making Class
May 8, 22	Women's Bible Study
May 9	Social Solos
May 9	Lion Club's Diabetes Event
May 14	Consistory
May 18	Movies with Meaning
May 20	Soup
June 2	Town of Hurley Yard Sale



ANNUAL YARD SALE

Annual Hurley Yard Sale is coming up in June. The church will once again be selling spaces to individuals & retailers. With all of this winter weather still hanging on you can get to those boxes that you want to go through & see what you want to get rid of. More information on this in the months to come. So, get thinking of getting rid of some things & earning some cash. Any questions, see Sandy Emrich

God's delicate flowers have blossomed into their magical colors.

God's precious bees and birds are singing their grand symphonies.

God's warm sun is hugging us like the comfort of a mother's arms.

God's people are blessed with power and new strength, it's Spring!

Feel God through the Wonders of Nature.

STICKLEY GARDENS

FOR MORE INFORMATION - CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER:

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)

Geraniums for Pentecost

Pentecost Sunday is May 20. Don't forget to bring yours!

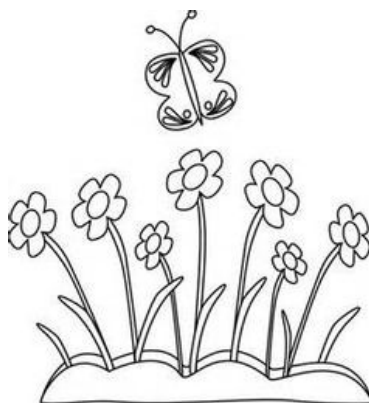


May

Birthdays

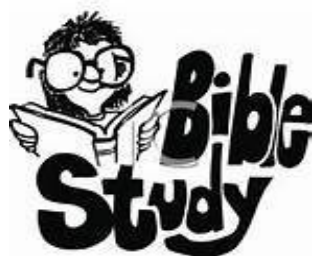
Cole Jordan	1
Terry Conlin	2
Kristen Helm	2
Mikayla Mellin	2
Lori Baker	3
Kathy Burns	4
Jonathan Helsley	5
George Nekos, Jr.	5
Elizabeth Wilson	7
Dolores McGoldrick	8
Jayne Ulrich	10
Marilyn Cox	11
Charles Jansen	11
Robin Brennan	14
Barbara Hornbeck	14
May Kowalenko	15
Kathleen Mayfield	15

Les Frost	16
Ruth Harkin	16
Taylor Robey	21
Ricki Maggiore	27
Lily DeKoskie	27
Brian Donnelly	28
Mackenzie Schoonmaker	28
Jerry Wyncoop	30



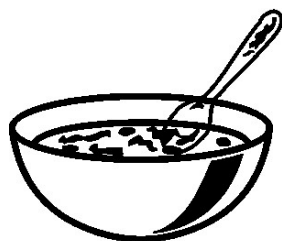
Anniversaries

Jim & Sheila Craven	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
Jennifer & Thomas Mann	11
Janet & Jake Croswell	13
Joe & Kathy Burns	15
Kevin & Jeanne Quenzer	17
Wayne & Karen Waligurski	20
Donna & Peter Harder	30



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

continues this month on May 8 and May 22 from 1-3 pm in the Dutch Room. We continue our reading of the book, "The Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible" The book is available at our meetings; its price is \$11. There are refreshments, laughter and fellowship! See Debbie Zuill.



SOUP: MAY 20, 2018

The Soup Elves present this month's soup:
Lemon Chicken soup
\$8.00 a quart. Next soup will be in the fall.

Social Solos

Next Lunch date:
May 9, 2018 at 12 Noon.
Restaurant TBA



MOVIE WITH A MEANING & POTLUCK DINNER

Now Showing: **Amazing Grace**

May 18, 2018

Dinner at 5:30 pm

Movie at 6:30 pm

Amazing Grace is a 2006 British-American biographical drama film about the campaign against the slave trade in the British Empire. Led by William Wilberforce, who was responsible for steering anti-slave trade legislation through the British parliament. The title is a reference to the hymn "Amazing Grace". The film also recounts the experiences of John Newton as a crewman on a slave ship and subsequent religious conversion, which inspired his writing of the poem later used in the hymn. Newton is portrayed as a major influence on Wilberforce and the abolition movement.



After church on **Sunday, June 10th**, join us for a potluck luncheon and program in Schadewald Hall. The program will be presented by Lori Baker, Rev. Bill and Rev. Sara, entitled "When Others Can No Longer Remember." It will be very informative, with helpful hints, facts and even view some role playing. Become educated in communicating with seniors that have dementia-type memory concerns. Learn how to approach and talk with your loved ones or friends and therefore making the visit enjoyable. This event is sponsored by Women's Ministries. You can sign up for the potluck/program in Schadewald Hall after church on the following Sundays: May 20, May 27 or June 3rd.



May will be "Bag Summer Hunger" program which we participated in last year. This year is even more important what with the numbers of hungry children increasing. For the Fourth year, People's Place will be receiving our donations in the form of granola bars. Christine Hein, Executive Director, was beyond happy to see all those boxes of bars coming out of our cars once we had shopped at Sam's for them. The program provides breakfast, lunch and snack foods for families with school age children in Ulster County. They can come to the food pantry at [17 St. James St](#) in Kingston once a week, no questions asked, to pick up the free foods.

Last year People's Place distributed over 60,690 meals and over 40,390 snack over the 10 week period of Bag Summer Hunger. When school is out, these children who get free and reduced lunches during the school year no longer get the free lunches so the families who are already under a financial stress feel it even more.

March mission, Walk for Water, was a great success and April will be donated to Walk for Water as well. So far, the total is nearly \$1,000 for projects to help those with no water or dirty water to help themselves by teaching them new, innovative ways to produce drinkable water. Rebecca Masters and I had a warmish day carrying containers of water the mile or so that was part of the Saturday walk with so many other wonderful people doing the same thing. I do believe Hurley Church was right up there at the top for donations. Thank you all so very much.

Keep up the good work, everyone!

Marilyn Lowe, Chair

**REACH OUT TO THOSE WHO NEED
YOUR SUPPORT IN THEIR DAY TODAY
NEEDS:**

Keep them in your prayers.

Lorraine Denis has fallen and is in the hospital in Michigan. Dolores McGoldrick is at Ferncliff Stephen Bliss is home; MaryLou Vogt is in Hudson Valley Senior Residence; Clarence Jansen and Shirley Ruth are in Mountain Valley Manor; Bud Dussol at Golden Hill; Don Kent at the Terraces at Brookmeade; Roger Vogt, Betty Pirro, Bev Chrissey, Friedel Borst, Audrey Hornbeck and Fred Horvers at TenBroeck; Wayne Waligurski; Charlotte Gill; Tony Peralta (Julie Provenzano's son-in-law); Esther Keator; Lori Pink-ham in Wingate at Ulster, Peter Jackson from Hurley, England; William Wiacek (Cathy McGraw's brother).



Poetry Corner:

What I Learned From My Mother

BY JULIA KASDORF

I learned from my mother how to love the living, to have plenty of vases on hand in case you have to rush to the hospital with peonies cut from the lawn, black ants still stuck to the buds. I learned to save jars large enough to hold fruit salad for a whole grieving household, to cube home-canned pears and peaches, to slice through maroon grape skins and flick out the sexual seeds with a knife point. I learned to attend viewings even if I didn't know the deceased, to press the moist hands of the living, to look in their eyes and offer sympathy, as though I understood loss even then. I learned that whatever we say means nothing, what anyone will remember is that we came. I learned to believe I had the power to ease awful pains materially like an angel. Like a doctor, I learned to create from another's suffering my own usefulness, and once you know how to do this, you can never refuse. To every house you enter, you must offer healing: a chocolate cake you baked yourself, the blessing of your voice, your chaste touch.



Happy Mother's Day!!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
May 2018						
10am - Worship @ 11am - Prayer Chain @ 12:30pm - bridal shower @	9:30am - Guild Quilters @ 1pm - basket class @ 3pm - Quilting @ Dutch 5pm - Dog Training @ Hall 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room	8:30am - Hillside Acres 9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 9:30am - Badminton @ 11am - balance class @ 1pm - Women's Bible Study 7pm - Boy Scouts Troop 20	5:30pm - Dog Training @ 7pm - Boy Scouts Troop 20	9:30am - Badminton @ 1:30pm - Hurley Senior 4:45pm - Dog Training @ 6pm - English as a second 7pm - Choir Rehearsal @ 7pm - Sisters in Solution @ 7:30pm - 1st Capitol	7pm - Motorcycle Club @	use of parking lot for 4:30pm - Shapiro CD party
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10am - Worship @ 11am - Women's Ministry @ 1pm - Communion Party	9:30am - Guild Quilters @ 11am - VFW @ Dutch Room 1pm - basket class @ 3pm - Quilting @ Dutch 5pm - Dog Training @ Hall 7pm - Consistory @ Dutch 7pm - Hudson Valley 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 9:30am - Badminton @ 11am - balance class @ 7pm - Boy Scouts Troop 20	5:30pm - Dog Training @ 7pm - Hurley Lions @ Dutch 7pm - men's group @ Dutch	9:30am - Badminton @ 4:45pm - Dog Training @ 6pm - English as a second 7pm - Choir Rehearsal @ 7pm - NE WoodWorkers @ 7pm - Sisters in Solution @	4pm - movies with meaning	9am - soup making @ 1pm - baby shower @
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10am - Worship @ 11am - SHD Committee @ 11am - Women's Guild 5pm - baps.org @	9:30am - Guild Quilters @ 10am - Genealogy @ Rooms 10:30am - Lion Club 3pm - Quilting @ Dutch 5pm - Dog Training @ Hall 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 9:30am - Badminton @ 11am - balance class @ 1pm - Women's Bible Study 7pm - Boy Scouts Troop 20	5:30pm - Dog Training @	9:30am - Badminton @ 4:45pm - Dog Training @ 6pm - English as a second 7pm - Choir Rehearsal @ 7pm - Sisters in Solution @		
20	21	22	23	24		26
10am - Worship @	9:30am - Guild Quilters @	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch	5:30pm - Dog Training @	9:30am - Badminton @		
27	28	29	30	31		2
10am - Worship @	9:30am - Guild Quilters @ 10:30am - Genealogy @ 3pm - Quilting @ Dutch 5pm - Dog Training @ Hall 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ Room	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 9:30am - Badminton @ 11am - balance class @ 7pm - Boy Scouts Troop 20	5:30pm - Dog Training @	9:30am - Badminton @ 4:45pm - Dog Training @ 6pm - English as a second 7pm - Choir Rehearsal @ 7pm - Sisters in Solution @		



PO Box 328
11 Main Street
Hurley NY 12443

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

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Pastor

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HURLEY NY 12443
PERMIT #44301

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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 TheSpire@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.*

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

THE SPIRE
MAY 2018

