

# THE SPIRE

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 8

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020



## GRATITUDE

November. Looking out the window, I see the last of the leaves drifting steadily to the ground. I hear the unmistakable sound of cars driving on wet but not soaking roads. The gray of the sky pairs so well with the other elements to announce that November has come. And with it comes a celebration, a celebration of Thanksgiving. It is a time in which we often focus our attention on those things which we are most thankful for.

It has been a long several months hasn't it? The other day when I was sitting with Barb getting ready to put her to bed, I couldn't help but think about how the moment we are in will be a moment which the current generation of children speak of in much the way that we usually speak of momentous times in our lives. My generation that moment seems to be September 11. Every past generation has had their moment. It is a moment which shapes and shifts their lives. Generally when moments like these happen they are of the type which test our metal and character. It is times like this that we often struggle to see the forest through the trees.

If you're at all like me you've had a moment over these past eight months where these months have not felt like months but years. Many of us have lost friends or family during this very difficult time. Not a small number of us have undergone some major health moment. It has been a difficult year. Even the act of calling this past year difficult seems like it is understating what this year has been. We have seen our state all but grind to a halt. We have seen soaring hospitalizations. We are still in the midst of a very contentious election cycle which has polarized us like few events have. The list could drone on and on.

Now is the time of Thanksgiving though. Normally during the less chaotic time of Thanksgiving Day, Sara and I will ask the kids what they are most thankful for. We have gotten some lively answers,

from toys, to people to pets, usually focused in on whatever it is that the kids are thinking about in that moment. Once no matter how much we prodded Barb couldn't be moved past her answer of candy cans(canes). Another time it was Liam who wasn't thankful for anything else but the hotel pool. Seemingly every time the focus would be on whatever was most alive for them in the moment.

The challenge this year is to look out on all that is happening and not see all the chaos and bad, to not focus on the negatives which are so glaring. The challenge is to see the shape and hope and the many blessings we do have. It is in seeing all the small ways, perhaps too small for us to see; ways in which we have been blessed and could be thankful for.

I remember six years ago another Thanksgiving. Sara and I were still grappling with the too recent loss of our son Luka. It was our first holiday around extended family and we were filled with dread and foreboding. We were afraid of conversations where we would have to answer questions about how we were doing all day long, of empty platitudes, or worse someone being out of the loop and asking the question of where he was. The first thing that happened and the only thing that mattered that day was a hug. My grandfather-in-law said nothing, just walked over and hugged me.

The reality it that even with as hard and challenging as this year has been, we still have many things to still be thankful for. Maybe it's a regularly scheduled Face time or zoom call with the grandkids. Or a socially distanced conversation with a close friend which picked you up. Whatever it is, my brothers and sisters, this year especially take the time to be thankful. But most of all give thanks to God who keeps us and sustains us day in and day out. Amen.

Rev. Bill



## DECEMBER EVENTS

December 6, 13, 20, 27	Worship
December 6	Communion
December 9	Social Solos by Zoom
December 12	Breakfast with Santa
December 14	Consistory by Zoom
December 24	Christmas Eve Services By Zoom
December 25	Merry Christmas
December 1, 8, 15, 22	Bible Study by Zoom
December 2, 16	Women's Bible Study by Zoom

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

Keep them in your prayers.

June Van der Laan is in Vassar Hospital.  
Rev. Stickley at home recuperating.  
Mildred Mattison is at home after falling and breaking her wrist;  
Eugene Groelle is at Woodland Ponds.  
Jim and Sheila Craven are at home.  
Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade;  
Shirley Ruth is in Mountain Valley Manor;  
Fred Horvers at TenBroeck;  
Lori Pinkham in Wingate at Ulster;  
Anthony DiPietro (son of MaryAnn DiPietro),  
Marie Dressel.  
Phil Greer.

## USHERS FOR DECEMBER

December 6

Ushers: Glenn Decker, Roberta Falatyn

December 13

Ushers: Jim Pirro, Doug Constant

December 20

Ushers: Linda Clarke-Dido, Chris Decker

December 24 (7 pm)

Ushers: Sandy Emrich, Lisa Longto

December 24 (9 pm)

Ushers: David Kent, Russ Glass

December 27:

Ushers: Lisa Longto, Kathy Jansen

## DEACON OF THE MONTH:

Deacon of the Month is David Kent  
Contact David at 703-203-9583 if you  
need a Deacon's assistance.

## MISSIONS REPORT FOR THE REST OF 2020

November is Samaritan's Purse (no shoe boxes this year).

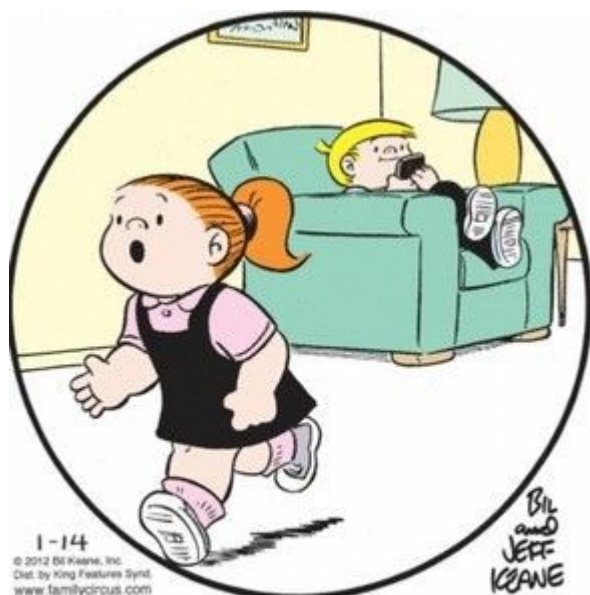
December is Angel Food East.

Thank you for your generous donations. --  
Kathy Jansen

## ADDED TO THE LIST OF SAINTS:

Mary Lou Vogt

. "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the  
strength of my heart and my portion forever." Psalm  
73:26



"Billy says he doesn't hafta go to church anymore 'cause his phone has an app for that!"

### Reminder:

Access to Sunday worship service is available through **Zoom**. Contact Rev. Bill for invitation.

*The members of the Columbarium Committee would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with God's love.*

### STICKLEY GARDENS

FOR MORE INFORMATION - CONTACT ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER:

LISA LONGTO (532-7570) CHAIRPERSON

JIM PIRRO (383-0079) TREASURER

ESTHER STICKLEY (331-2919)

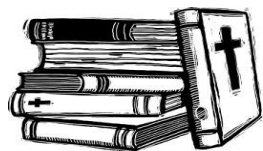
SANDIE GREGORY (338-7626)

REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

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

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study will be December 2nd, and then again on the 16th. The Wednesdays remain the same. The time has changed. We will begin at 10 am and it will be for an hour. This will be on Zoom and the Link will be given at a later date. All who wish to join us please contact Rev. Deb. Email address: [AttitudeMa50@aol.com](mailto:AttitudeMa50@aol.com) or 845-247-9157.



**WOMEN'S  
Bible Study**

### AND NOW SOME GOOD NEWS!

**Rev. Deborah Zuill** has accepted the position of stated supply pastor at Kaatsbaan Reformed Church. Blessings and Grace to her as she begins this long awaited journey.

**Italian Dinner:** Thank you to all who helped make this event so successful!



# NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

## BIRTHDAYS NOVEMBER

Chloe Dumas	14
William Schaffrick	14
Anne Glass	15
Bill Merrill	16
Daniela Sumerano	16
Jay Burgess	17
Drew Milne	17
Julianna Schaffrick	17
Joe Burns	19
James Gregory	22
Kathy Musialkiewicz	23
Allan Dumas	28
Matthew Croswell	30
Art Harder	30

## DECEMBER

Coty Burgess	2
Toni Hedges	2
Pat Baker	4
Thomas Horvers	5
Bailey Kane	5
Hal Hauck	6
Caitlin Decker	7
Joyce Ann Leverenz	7
Brent Jordan	11
William Rockwell	11
Renee Nekos	11
Rich Little	11
Jezmain Hubbard	12
Jennifer Mayfield	14
Linda Moon	16
Delaney Cox	17
Reid Dumas	20

Brian Rafferty	22
Kathleen Pfeiffer	23
Bill Baldinger	28
Lia Sumerano	28
Megan Christiana	28
Frieda Constant	29
Dawn O'Brien	29
Judy Horvers	30
Jada Nekos	30
Alyson Rafferty	31
Daniel Waligurski	31

## ANNIVERSARIES NOVEMBER

Todd & Julie Jordan	9
Leslie & Darryl Shambo	10
Shirley & Ron Burns	13
Sandie & Jim Gregory	30

## DECEMBER

Barbara & Jim Mayfield	19
Steve & Kristen Helm	21

## JANUARY

Rev Charles & Esther Stickley	2
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Hurley Reformed Church — Main Street — Hurley, NY



# Santa's Breakfast!

12-12-20 8-10am

Breakfast Bake Casserole  
Bagel & Hash Brown

**\$8.00**

Take a photo  
with Santa!



RESERVATIONS

**845-687-4006**

COVID COMPLIANT — **DRIVE THRU ONLY**



I wish you joy all though  
your holidays,  
I wish you good luck that  
forever stays.  
I wish you the love of  
family and friends,  
I wish you happy days  
that never ever ends.  
Merry Christmas to you!



## HRC Giving Tree

COVID SAFE GIVING — 2020

We will be supporting the  
**Myer Elementary School** again this year.  
Our contact, Karen Waligurski (the school nurse),  
has requested that we provide **gift cards only**.  
(Karen will make sure that the cards get to the families in need.)

Please purchase your cards from where you are  
comfortable shopping during these COVID times.

<u>Suggested Stores:</u>		<u>Suggested Amount:</u>
ShopRite	CVS	\$10.00
Hannaford	Walgreens	\$15.00
ALDI	Walmart	\$20.00
Target	Stewarts	\$25.00

Please put your card(s) in an **envelope marked  
Giving Tree** and drop them in the offering basket  
or send them to the church with your offering.  
Please make sure the \$ amount on the card is indicated.

**Donations are due 12/13/2020**

Your generosity will help many  
families right here in Hurley, NY



12-5

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Bill  
and  
JEFF  
KEANE

**"Putting Baby Jesus in swaddling  
clothes was the first Christmas  
present wrapping."**

Hurley Reformed Church, Hurley Reformed Church

Dec 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)

# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10am - Worship @ 6	4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ 7	9am - Bible Study @ 8	10am - womens 9	4:45pm - Dog 10		Breakfast with 12
10am - Worship @ 13	4:30pm - Dog 7pm - Consistory @ 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ 14	9am - Bible Study @ 4:15pm - dog 6pm - Nursery 15	10am - women's 16	4:45pm - Dog 17		
10am - Worship @ 20	4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ 21	9am - Bible Study @ 4:15pm - dog 22		Christmas Eve 24	Merry Christmas 25	
10am - Worship @ 27	4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @ 28	9am - Bible Study @ 4:15pm - dog 29		4:45pm - Dog 31		





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Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Pastor

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Hurley New York 12443  
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