

THE SPIRE

October 2025



October is here. To be 100% honest I'm not entirely sure if that is a good thing or a bad thing. The days are getting shorter, and the nights are getting colder. The leaves are beginning to change, that is where the dryness of the past months haven't caused them to fall early. For me this fall means Football and Church History. Football, well that's flag and pads this year for the kids. Will is playing modified and flag and Barb is playing flag. I'm busy running the league and coaching. As for Church History, I'm teaching a class for the School of Christian Living and Serving.

As the air gets a little crisper (I'm speaking hopefully here). Every morning as I take Will to the bus I get to look up at the steeple. This morning when I did so it was with the great news that the work is done on it. After what feels like eternity the rot on the façade, the rotten steeple corners and most important the rotten structural beams are all repaired and replaced. And before I go any further let me offer all of you a BIG HUGE THANK YOU! On the one side many of you made gifts that helped to defray the cost of this repair. And even if you weren't able to make a gift you put up with birds in the belfry, with a lift that interfered with the daily life of the church, a lift on the columbarium, and all the noises and inconvenience that it brought.

I'm a firm believer that in everything there is a lesson to be found. And in this repair of the steeple there is one there as well. We had our patience tested as we waited to get what to us were obvious problems repaired. There were hiccups of weather, delayed start dates and even on the last day there was a leak in the hydraulics of the lift. Through all of this you all showed a resilience, flexibility and a willingness to adjust to an ever-shifting reality.

Life seldom goes and happens the way we

want it to. Sometimes things happen for the better and sometimes the worst that could happen does. I remember way back when the steeple was going to be a few weeks to fix with a guy hanging from a little rope chair and doing all the work, hopefully without heavy winds. Two years, a lot of grants, a whole lot of labor, a very generous congregation and more patience than many of us thought we had and it is finally done. It showed us how a very difficult almost impossible thing can be made possible. If you don't think that it was almost impossible ask Dennis about all the ideas that were put forward for repair.

As the steeple shines brightly to all who see it, it serves both as a sign of the body of believers below, and who their savior is. But it also shows how a congregation can through God's help do something almost impossible. As we look forward, as we put the church growth plan into action, and as we seek to bring the light of Christ to our world, I want you all to look up or look out and see that steeple. I want you to think about all that we all put into and put up with while it was repaired. And I want you to remember what Christ said in Matthew 19:26. He said, "for mortals it is impossible but for God all things are possible."

It is not going to be easy for us to work to grow this body of believers. It is going to be down right difficult. But, it is not impossible. It is possible through the one who went to the cross for us, who created us, and day by day sustains us. Amen.



Welcome to Fall.

The days are shorter and
the nights are cooler.

At Stickley Gardens the
flowers begin to fade.

But we all know, in the Spring
the garden will come to life again.

This is also true of those who
have passed on before us.
They still live in our hearts, in our
memories, and in our prayers.

Think Warm Thoughts!!!

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)



DEACON FOR OCTOBER
IS
TERRY GAFFKEN



**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)

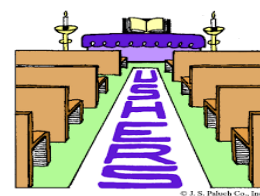
Lori Pinkham is Wingate at Ulster

Terry Conlin

Bill Hannis

Barbara Bondar

Lois Morehouse



October

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Oct. 5 | Wally Cook and Bill Baldinger |
| Oct. 12 | Jeanne Quenzer and Chris Decker |
| Oct. 19 | Dennis Croswell and Dino Sumerano |
| Oct. 26 | Aileen Helsley and Terry Gaffken |

Church Growth Committee

Signage

- Better signage/local advertising/media presence, etc. (Includes Rt. 209 signs)
- Add church information to the handout we give to the Brooks BBQ attendees
- Upgrade and maintain the bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs (one target would be nursery school families)
- Add signage with church information to the walls of Schadewald hall
- Add permanent lawn sign(s) in front of church with church info and current events

Website/Social Media

- Upgrade and modernize our church website
- Develop an email list to publicize church happenings and current events
- Promote/Advertise our Sunday School Nursery
- Promote/Advertise the benefits & advantages of our Sunday School

Celebration Committee

- Start a Celebration Committee to coordinate the celebration of babies births, weddings, special birthdays, even deaths (i.e., After funeral lunches)

Welcome Wagon

- Create a "Welcome Wagon" type process for new people in the area
- Develop/reprint a church informational pamphlet for new members and guests
- Create visitor welcome bags (i.e. cups, bookmarks, informational pamphlets, etc.)
- Gather contact information from new guests for follow-up
- Meet & greet new families during fellowship time. Sit with them at their table
- Reach out to regular church goers that have not shown up in a couple of weeks
- Connect with inactive members

Kids Events

- Reinstate church wide picnic, Easter egg hunt, bazaar, etc.
- Expand/initiate a vacation Bible School
- Plan sports activities for kids and for adults (i.e., pickleball)

Worship/Music

- Invite outside groups/schools/choirs to sing in church
- Have guest readers for scripture reading
- Ensure that we have coverage for altar flowers & fellowship hour snacks
- Develop an Acolytes program for candle lighting
- Ensure that we keep theology in sermons/other activities



Social Solos meets on Wednesday,
October 8, 2025

At noon

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



October 2	Hurley Seniors Meeting
October 5	Communion
October 5, 12, 19, 26	Worship
October 7, 14, 21, 28	Bible Study
October 8	Social Solos
October 11	Church Clean Up Day
October 13	Consistory Meeting



BIRTHDAYS

Kyle Davenport	2
Amy Ryan	2
Christa Conlin	3
Barbara Appleyard-Pekich	4
Leigh Hill	4
Alissa Sumerano	5
Terry Voigtlaender	7
Hannah Shambo	8
Terry Gaffken	10
Stanley Brooks	14
Marilyn More	15
Diana Cline	17
Maria Rutski	18
Juanita Rockwell	20
Ryan Milne	20
Ron Chrisey	20
Julia Tucker	21
Katie Christiana	22
Sarah Harder	22
Kelsey Christiana	24
Linda Cook	25
Julia Helm	27
Jordan Cline	28
Nancy Sweeney	28



ANNIVERSARIES

Pat & Robin Brennan	3
Kathy & Craig Jansen	7
Charles & Colette Woodard	8
Wendy & Steve Helsey	19
John & Marianne Mizel	21
Jim & Maggie Sass	23
Emily & Art Harder	26



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.

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.



Our Mission for October, Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child will begin this month. Boxes will be available today after church and will be due back by Nov. 9. Operation Christmas Child has collected over 232 million shoeboxes since 1993, filled with toys, school supplies, and personal items for children around the world. The project delivers the joy of their first gift ever and also gives them a tangible expression of God's love. All mission envelopes will go toward Operation Christmas Child.

If you choose, you may build a shoebox online rather than physically filling a box.

Please see samaritanspurse.org/occ

Girl Gifts

A "WOW" ITEM

- Small backpack or purse
- Doll
- Soccer ball and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Jewelry making or hobby kit
- Large toy



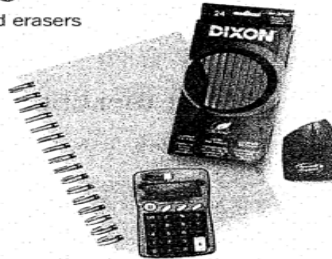
PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Comb and brush
- Nail clipper and file
- Water bottle
- Flashlight



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils, sharpener, and erasers
- Pencil container
- Pens
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small adhesive tape
- Drawstring bag



CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Flip-flops or shoes
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Wristwatch
- Costume jewelry
- Hair accessories
- Clothing and undergarments
- Winter cap, scarf, and mittens



GAMES & ACTIVITIES

- Puzzles
- Coloring books or pads
- Dry watercolor set
- Binoculars and compass
- Musical instruments
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Jump rope
- Stickers
- Games



TOYS

- Small ball
- Building blocks or LEGO® sets
- Slinky® or yo-yo
- Plastic animals
- Magnets
- Finger puppets
- Interactive toys
- Other small toys and figures



DO NOT INCLUDE

- Soap
- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
- Used or damaged items
- Scary or war-related items
- Wearable traditional camouflage
- Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids
- Medication
- Money
- Breakable items
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knives, saws, or razor blades

(Wondering if an item will fit in an Operation Christmas Child preprinted shoebox?

Cardboard dimensions: 12 x 7 x 4.38 inches
Plastic dimensions: 13 x 7.5 x 4.7 inches

Boy Gifts

A "WOW" ITEM

- Small backpack
- Soccer ball and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Hobby kit
- Large toy truck or car
- Other large toy



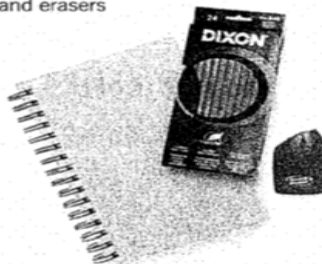
PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Comb and brush
- Nail clipper and file
- Water bottle
- Flashlight



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils, sharpener, and erasers
- Pencil container
- Pens
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small adhesive tape
- Drawstring bag



CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Flip-flops or shoes
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Wristwatch
- Clothing and undergarments
- Winter cap, scarf, and mittens



GAMES & ACTIVITIES

- Puzzles
- Coloring books or pads
- Dry watercolor set
- Binoculars and compass
- Musical instruments
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Jump rope
- Stickers
- Games



TOYS

- Small ball
- Building blocks or LEGO® sets
- Slinky® or yo-yo
- Toy cars
- Plastic animals
- Magnets
- Interactive toys
- Other small toys and figures

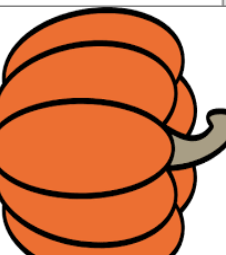


DO NOT INCLUDE

- Soap
- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
- Used or damaged items
- Scary or war-related items
- Wearable traditional camouflage
- Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids
- Medication
- Money
- Breakable items
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knives, saws, or razor blades

Wondering if an item will fit in an Operation Christmas Child preprinted shoebox?

Cardboard dimensions: 12 x 7 x 4.38 inches
Plastic dimensions: 13 x 7.5 x 4.7 inches

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
O G T O B E R						
10am - Worship 5	6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall 7pm - 1st Capitol Corvettes @ 6	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 9am - Card Party? @ Hall 1pm - Meeting @ Dutch room 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall 7	8:30am - Meeting @ 8	1:30pm - Hurley Senior 4:30pm - Karate Class 9	1pm - Knitters @ Dutch Room 5pm - HNS -Family Night 10	9am - Karate Class @ Hall 11
10am - Worship 12	Columbus Day 11am - VFW @ Dutch Room 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall 7pm - Consistory @ Dutch 13	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 2pm - TaiChi 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall 14	8:30am - Meeting @ 15	2pm - TaiChi 3pm - HNS-Trunk or Treat @ 4:30pm - Karate Class 16	8am - Sew and So 1pm - Knitters @ Dutch Room 17	9am - Karate Class @ Hall 2pm - Event @ Hall 18
10am - Worship 19	10am - Genealogy @ Rooms 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall 20	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 2pm - TaiChi 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall 6pm - Nursery School Board 21	8:30am - Meeting @ 22	2pm - TaiChi 3pm - HNS-rain date Trunk or 4:30pm - Karate Class 23	8am - Sew and So 1pm - Knitters @ Dutch Room 24	9am - Karate Class @ Hall 11am - Event 25
10am - Worship 26	10:30am - Genealogy @ 6:30pm - Al-Anon @ Hall 27	9am - Bible Study @ Dutch 2pm - TaiChi 4:30pm - Karate Class @ hall 28	8:30am - Meeting @ 29	2pm - TaiChi 4:30pm - Karate Class 30	8am - Sew and So 9am - HNS-Halloween Party 1pm - Knitters @ Dutch Room 31	 4

PO Box 328
11 Main Street
Hurley NY 12443

Phone: 845-331-4121

E-mail: admin@HurleyReformedChurch.org

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Pastor

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

KINGSTON, NY

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 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.*

THE SPIRE
OCTOBER 2025
HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH
Hurley New York 12443
Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Pastor

