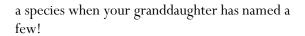
THE SPIRE

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 8

SEPTEMBER 2015

SPECIMEN DAYS

This summer I had opportunity to spend an afternoon at a small swimming pool an easy pine tree lined walk from where my two granddaughters live. Recently my daughter, Sarah, and her husband, Jerry, moved to a home more spacious than the cramped apartment they rented. Before we went to the pool, my younger granddaughter, Joanna introduced me to several roosters and chickens who 'commute' daily from a farm contiguous to Joanna's back lawn. They arrive mid-morning for bread, fellowship, and lively conversation-albeit a monologue—which my granddaughter offers her feathery neighbors on a daily basis. They strut, she speaks and a well timed cluck or three might indicate passing interest in what she's saying. In observing my granddaughter, I envisioned St. Francis, the 13th century monk who preached to birds, and spoke to the wealthy of his time commending a simpler and poorer life. No doubt he received more affirming responses from the birds! Indeed my granddaughter would much rather have roosters and chickens as house pets than standard dog and cat fare. I left our colloquy with mixed feelings. In a positive way, Joanna reminded me of Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount: "Therefore I tell you do not worry about your life, what you will eat and what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns and yet your heavenly father feeds them (maybe with the help of Joanna). Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6: 25-27) On a negative note my love for Kentucky Fried chicken has taken a hit. It's hard to partake of



After my chicken experience, my daughter, and two granddaughters went to the pool. It was a beautiful day, and we pretty much had the place to ourselves. Sarah and I sat under an umbrella and talked, while Joanna and her older sister Elyse took running leaps into the pool, belly flopping on, then slipping off inflated alligators. This held their attention for just so long, and then they wanted a sentient being to take the alligators' place. Grandpa fit the bill-more or less! I tossed them into the water, and realized they are heavier than they were at last summer's tossing.. Elyse can breaststroke now, coordinating a frog kick with the sweep of her arms. I helped tighten her arc, and got her to press forward, rather than upward, with her head. I was reminded that I taught her mother, and aunt how to swim, and I remembered further how I taught myself to swim, and the joy it brought, and still brings when I propel myself or am propelled by the surf at Ocean Grove, N.J. Like me, and Sarah, Elyse and Joanna stayed in the water until they were purple lipped. This proved an advantage for Grandpa because I could throw beach towels over them, and hug and snuggle them both to warmth and dryness!

After our youth mission trip I took two days off, and went to Ocean Grove. I spent time there as a boy with my parents. They bought a home once my father retired from teaching school. They were never happier. My mother's favorite word was 'nice'--as in, "Robbie, you're a little stressed out so why don't you come down to Ocean Grove and have a 'nice'



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(continued from page one)

swim, Moms know best, at least mine did. For me, a pool or ocean brings childhood memories. Magically it seems the arc of the day slows so that you bathe in precious moments, and experience how heaven transposes itself to earth anew, again and again, incarnated in the form of splashing and laughter from water slicked children at play.

I hope your summer has been blessed.

Doe Bob Doc Bob

Imperfections

Torn butterfly wings.

Tattered pinions,

Broken shells at the tide line have these in common —

Small wounds of Grace through which to welcome air.

Water, light.

The silent music

Alma Strickland, 2014

Fair Street Church — Good Friday

Rain colored stones link and rise to a height that inspires the congregation to speak the soft language of doves.

Light from the arched windows makes stained glass of this coat; that ring.

The tapers will be lit soon, and we, like doves, will draw in and dream of the sun while calling soft sorrow this April noon.

Alma Strickland, 1991



Mission News

Lots of news from the summer!

The Youth Group Mission trip was a big success. Your generous donations to the Mission of the Month in June were record setting and helped make the trip possible.

In July, we collected for Pregnancy Support Center and had fun shopping for supplies for babies. That was delivered by Marilyn More.

In August, the Mission was for Angel Food East. They are located at St. John's Episcopal Church in Kingston. They cook and deliver lunches to people who are homebound with chronic illness. They currently serve 40 clients for a total of 794 meals cooked by volunteers and delivered by volunteers each week. Volunteering at AFE is a rewarding experience. Anyone interested in volunteering as a cook or as a driver a few hours, one day a week to call 331-6538. Leave a message and someone will return the call as soon as possible.

The Mission for September will be our local chapter of Habitat for Humanity.



September 13, 2015 Bring your friends and neighbors with you! September... and we are reminded that a new season is just around the corner. Fall comes and the air is crisp and dry... harvesting begins from apples to squash in our gardens and the leaves turn into flaming portraits of God's handiwork. In this season of change I urge you to take a few moments when worship is finished ... on any up-coming

Sunday ... go to Stickley Gardens, sit and drink in the quiet and peace that is there. Remember those in the niches before you and sense the presence of God all around you ... something that never changes for any of us, in life or in death.

Tho the seasons come and go ...

e remains constant.

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) JIM CRAVEN, CONSISTORY LIAISON REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

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

Golf Tournament

The Hurley Reformed Church will have their annual golf tournament on Sunday afternoon, September 20th at Alapaha Golf Course on Sawkill Road – 3:00p.m. tee times. Get your foursomes to-

gether (or we will) and sign up in Schadewald Hall. If you aren't interested in playing golf, come join us for a meal afterwards. There will be prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin and, of course, best foursome score. We will be playing "Captain and Crew" format, so if you don't consider yourself a "golfer", you can still come and play – you never know – you might be the best at putting!! Watch for further details in the Sunday bulletins.

October 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2015 CRIMINAL CHRISTOLOGIES: THE NAZIFICATION OF JESUS

The "Classics in Religion" Reading Group will venture into a new area for October. Instead of reading "the best" of a particular tradition, the group will explore a "bent" tradition using Christian language and symbols. On October 7, 14, 21, and 28, gatherings will focus on Jesus' transmogrification by Nazi ideologues into a Teutonic Savior free of Jewish taint. Through the speeches and writings of Joseph Goebbels, Heinrich Himmler, Alfred Rosenberg and Adolf Hitler the series will explore Nazi interpretations of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and how "Jesus" became useful to Nazi aims. Nineteenth century philosophical and theological underpinnings for a Nazi Christ will also be explored

such as Nietzsche's Birth and Genealogy of Morals. The leader of this series will be the Rev. Dr. Robert L. Gram, pastor of the Hurley Reformed Church.



Women's Guild

September is here & summer is over. We are already planning for fall activities such as pecan sales, planting of mums around the church & Operation Christmas Child. But before I get into more information on these a little Women's Guild news.

What does one say about Shirley Ruth? Mrs. Ruth has been our secretary for the Guild for numerous years plus was our treasurer for a time plus many other hats that she held & continues to hold for the Guild. Mrs. Ruth has decided it is her time to step aside from being our secretary. We cannot express all of our thanks to her for all that she has done in all of the positions that she has held for the Guild. Mrs. Ruth will continue to be a part of the Guild & for that we are very thankful but she has turned her pad & pen over to her daughter Kathy Jansen who is our new secretary. We welcome Kathy & thank her for doing this.

Pecan Sales will be coming. If you haven't received a call in regards to what you would like to order you will be very soon. But, if by chance you don't receive a call for an order and would like to place an order please give me a call(Sandy 687-4006) so we can add you to our calling list. This year we will be selling Plain, Milk & Dark Chocolate, and Cluster pecans. The holidays are coming fast & you don't want to miss out on these great additions!

Sandie Gregory is once again going to be chairing Operation Christmas Child. This is a great organization & we are thrilled that we once again will be able to help children in other parts of the region. See Sandie for information on how to fill your box. Thank you for your help.

The Guild will be paying for 11 new tables for our Church School classrooms. The tables that are currently there are heavy & have seen better days. So we are thrilled to be able to do this for our teachers & students. These lighter tables will be put to great use.

Our calendar of events:

10/18/15 Meeting 11/22/15 Meeting

God Bless, Sandy Emrich-President

Jicarilla Apache Reformed Church Mission Trip 2015

"It may take place in a foreign land or it may take place in your backyard, but I believe that we were each created to change the world for someone. To serve someone. To love someone the way Christ first loved us, to spread His light. This is the dream, and it is possible."
Katie J. Davis, Kisses from Katie: A Story of Relentless Love and Redemption

he adventure began at my house on Monday evening at 6 p.m. The kids arrived and we packed the cars so that our drivers could go get some rest before our departure at 1 a.m. The kids and I spent the evening together. Throughout the evening you would hear laughter, chatting, and video game noises. At 1 a.m. we packed everyone in the cars and after I counted the kids (the first count of many over the next week) we were off! 14 people with tie dye shirts heading west to the Jicarilla Apache Reformed Church.

We were extremely blessed to have all of our flights arrive on time. No significant turbulence and only one rough landing. We arrived in Albuquerque where we loaded up on supplies for our week. We arrived in Dulce about 5:30 p.m. and started settling in.

We met our host Pastor Brad Kautz. He was so helpful and welcoming. We were able to meet his wife, Robin and daughter Kat the next day. They are a great family and I admire them for living on the reservation. It takes a special courage and faith to work in a mission church.

The next morning was VBS day. We were running a Vacation Bible School and we were ready. We had stations set up and supplies ready. And then they arrived. 2 kids. Paradise and Isaiah. They were lovely children and we were busy all day with them. It was not easy to keep the energy up but we did! We had bible lessons, tattoos, singing, kickball, human knot and relays.

Since we had only 2 kids Brad asked the boys to clear the volleyball court. So off they went. The volleyball court was a mess. Trees, brush, and holes were everywhere. The only way you knew that it was supposed to be something were the 2 poles strategically placed in the middle. The boys were amazing. They worked together and they were incredibly productive. They were also very proud of the work that they were doing. Robin had told me that they had wanted to clear that volleyball court for the past 2 years but they just couldn't get to it with all that they were doing. This would allow them to invite kids and others in the community to play and to come together!

"It may take place in a foreign land or it may take place in your backyard, but I believe that we were each created to change the world for someone. To serve someone. To how they were able to work together.

> Brad and his family took the day on Friday to give us a tour of the reservation and to share with us the history of the Jicarilla. The history of all Native Americans is tragic. Staying on the Jicarilla Reservation made the history real. It was no longer in a textbook that you can just read, take a test and move on. These were people that we were meeting with, laughing with and sharing s'mores with. Trevor's dad, Reynaud Farber had experienced firsthand the abuse of the boarding schools in the 1960's. He is an author and he has given me a signed copy of his book *Frontrunner*.

We were blessed to be able to get to know some of the church members on Thursday night. Robin and Brad had a bonfire and the kids played volleyball. We made s'mores and had lively conversation.

On Saturday we had to leave Dulce at 1 a.m. in order to make the 3 hour trip to Albuquerque to make our 7 a.m. flight. We had 3 cars in our caravan and Brad had warned us that the wild life would be making many appearances at that hour. He was right. We spotted many elk, mule deer and a bear was running alongside us at one point. The sky in New Mexico is incredible. The moon was bright and helped light our way.

We arrived at the airport exhausted and ready to be home.

I want to thank all of the parents who drove us to and from the airport. Suzy Elting, Jim Mayfield, Allan Dumas, Scott Shaffrick and Joe Burns. I would also like to thank the kid's prayer partners who prayed for the kids and also sent them off with goody bags that they loved and shared with one another.

I would also like to thank YOU, the congregants of the Hurley Reformed Church for your support. This trip would not have happened without your financial support and prayers. I ask that you continue praying for our next mission adventure. I know that God will lead us to where we need to be. I also ask that you continue to pray and support our youth. These kids are amazing. I know that they will continue to be a blessing to those in need.

I would like to thank Shannon for her assistance with VBS and meal preparation. The mac and cheese patties were a little too good. Thanks Doc. Bob for encouraging us to take this trip.

Kathleen is such a blessing to both the youth group and to me. She was right there working with me throughout the (continued on page 5)

(September

Birthdays

		-
Lindsay Woodard	2	Kellen Hauck
Cody Harder	2	Marissa Rell
Cindy Sumerano	3	Jim Craven
Bailey Jordan	3	Bradley Hill
Russ Glass	4	Helen Sgroi
Melinda Herzog	6	Jim Mayfield
Bradley Horvers	6	Alice Presti
Halie Brennan	6	Charles Woodard
Wayzeta Stickley-Strouse	9	Wendy Stickley-Ocker
Elizabeth Mergl	10	Darrell Nicholas
Fred Horvers	10	Christina Longto
Daniela Helsley	14	Debbie Decker
5	-	Sheila Craven

Madeline Fox

Colin Rowdycz Tessa Hauck

Phil Greer

Ron Every

Λ	n	n	i.	10	r

15

¹⁷ Anniversaries

18	Mark & Beth Woodard	2
19	Bill & Karen Hogg	4
19	Dennis & Mimi Croswell	11
19	Bill & Jane Merrill	13
20	John & Debbie Tucker	14
20	Jay & Kim Burgess	17
22	Lori & John Decker	22

(continued from page 4) sleepless nights and busy days!!! I will be forever grateful for her support. We are also proud of her newly acquired axing skills. I would also like to thank Marilyn More and Wally Cook for their assistance with fundraising.

Some of our youth group members will be presenting during the church service on September 13, 2015. This will include a slide show and personal testimonials.

We noticed that the Jicarilla Apache Reformed church could use a new refrigerator (desperately). The mission of the month in October will contribute to that fund. They could also use other kitchen supplies. We realized how blessed we are in our church when we looked at the sparse supplies that they were working with. Their church hall is a place for the community to come together and share a meal and other recreational activities.

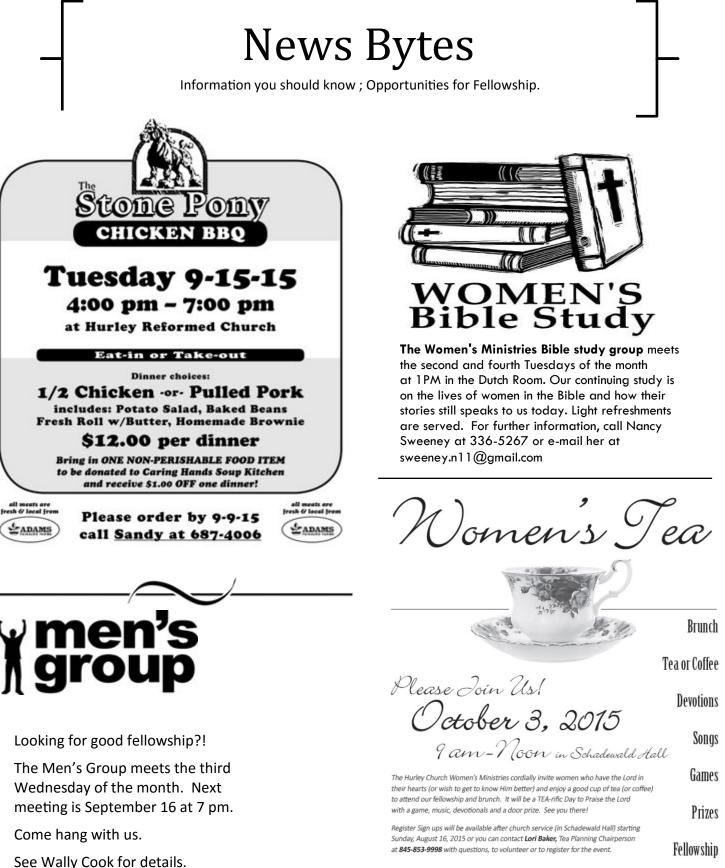
Christine Henning

SAMARITAN'S PURSE®



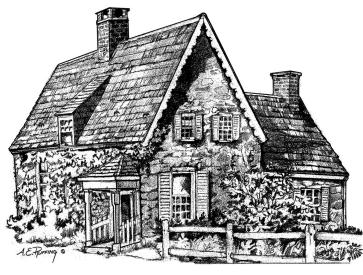
Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection is underway. Back to school sales have hit the stores. Now is a great time to find bargains on crayons, pencils, markers, sharpeners, rulers, notepads, paper, etc. If you'd like someone to shop for you, contact Sandie Gregory at 338-7626.

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_ Presented by _ Women's Ministry of the Hurley Reformed Church

STONE HOUSE DAY



This year's Stone House Day was very successful. We had a beautiful day, neither too hot nor too wet, and everything went off smoothly. We had two Walking-Tour Guides, who walked people from the Church parking lot down to the last house on the tour on Main St., which is Iris and Jonathan Oseas's house. They and Jim Decker and Don Kent had about 500 visitors, maybe a little less. And the two houses on Old Rt. 209, reached by the shuttle busses that we had going about every 20 min., had more than 400 visitors. Our general attendance was down some from last year, probably due to the fact that there are more than 25 events taking place in our area on the same weekend.

The Cafeteria did well, as it also has in the past, and the Comment Cards that we received all were complimentary regarding the food and the service, and the day in general. We had some new items on the menu this year, a vegetarian wrap and a meat wrap, and also a stuffed tomato. The Cafeteria was packed during lunch, barely a seat could be found. Outside we had our spinners and weavers, a chair caner, blacksmith, wreath maker, the Militia and several concerts. Lonnie Kulick played the organ in Church for a couple of hours, Nancy Anderson played the violin outside on a porch, where also Dr. David Howells and his musicians played folk tunes from "olden days". Thank you very much to all of them. We had children's crafts, as we have for the last 5 years or so, which includes dipping candles and making "tin" candle holders and corn husk dolls. However, we don't have nearly as many children as we have had in the past. We would love to appeal to families with young children, since we fit right into the New York State history curriculum, with our old Dutch heritage and some of the oldest houses in the nation. Our net profit this year was about \$7,000. We do spend money on publicity, including rack cards, posters and newspaper and on-line advertising, which is probably our largest expense.

Our Sojourner Truth received a standing ovation this year, and there were about 160 people in the Sanctuary to listen to her speech "Ain't I a Woman", and then the radio interview with Brian Newsworthy (in real life Hal Hauck). They are famous!!

Please feel free to make any comments or give us feedback or new ideas regarding how we can improve on our Stone House Day. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped make the day possible, and very enjoyable for all our visitors, about 520 of them. There were a couple of busses, one from NYC and one from Albany.

We will be having a PICNIC on September 13, a Sunday, from 3 to 6 or so in the afternoon for all our volunteers. Please bring a dish to share, and we will provide the meat. Please sign up in Shadewald Hall, so we will know approximately how many of you will be coming. Thank you again to everybody for coming together and making it into a very successful event. We do have something very special to share, namely our Dutch heritage.

Stone House Day Committee Ellen C. Richards

STONE HOUSE DAY



SPY HOUSE COUNTS VISITORS FROM 21 STATES, 4 COUNTRIES

The numbers don't include 275 out of 478 visitors who didn't sign the Spy House guest book. So there were surely other states and possibly more countries uncounted. Aside from New York State's 142, Pennsylvania showed 10, Mary-land and New Jersey 5 each and Florida and Illinois 4 each. The rest were 1,2, or 3. Most don't get a chance to sign because they are anxious to get on the way and don't want to wait for others who are signing.

Kingston, Hurley, and nearby towns showed 65 visitors, New York city 18, and the rest of New York State 59. The Netherlands, Germany, Scotland, and England were represented; and in addition to the six above, visitors came from Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Washington, Maine, Mississippi, New Hampshire, California, Ohio, and Georgia.

The Roosa Family Re-union here this year helped in the distribution. (Their ancestor was one of the original settlers here in 1661. One of his daughters was among thirty women and children taken away by the Indians after they burned Hurley, "Nieuw Dorp," and Kingston in May, 1663. All were recovered few months laterunharmed.)

Now you know more than you wanted to.

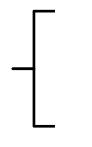
Don Kent





Fall Plant Sale

Parsonage Lawn September 19 and 20 Contact Ellen Richards or the church office for order forms.



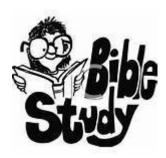
News Bytes

Information you should know ; Opportunities for Fellowship.



Summer is just about over and although **the Prayer Chain** did not have meetings in the months of July and August, it did not mean we were on vacation. We dealt with many issues. Some good and some not so good. We are here to say that we will be having our usual meetings starting on September 6, in the Dutch Room. Those interested in joining us are so welcomed! We continue to do God's work and to praise Him for such a ministry as we have. We thank you for your continued faith in us when you give your loved ones to us to be prayed for.

Yours In Christ, Deb Zuill



SEPTEMBER Tuesday Evening Bible Study

"I Can Do All Things in Him Who Strengthens Me." We will study Paul's loving letter to the church at Philippi. The epistle is one of the apostle's most intimate, encouraging and optimistic presentations of Christianity, although it is written from prison. Through Christ we have the possibility of living with hope and joy as we "press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ."

When: September 15, 22. Time 7:00-8:30 Dutch Room



Congratulations to Clarence Jansen on his appointment as Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the President of the French Republic. This prestigious distinction underlines the deep appreciation and gratitude of the French people for your contribution to the liberation of France during World War II.



Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, cards, and get well wishes during my recent confinement with pneumonia. I hope to see you all in a few weeks. gregation for the prayers and compassion during my ordeal with surgery. I am still recovering and I am comforted by your kindness.

Sheila Craven

			7:46pm - Bagpiper	7pm - Boy Socute		
		F	8pm - Den 1 Bearc 🛱	7pm - Bible Study 🦓	7:30pm - Al-Anon 🙊	
			8pm - Cub Soout	4pm - Hurley Purlers	6 pm - Dog Training	
О 1 Л	mhor 1		5:30pm - Dog	11am - Balance for	3 pm - Quilting 🕲	2pm - Rooster
	1		7:30am - Bible	8:30 am - Badminton	10:30am - Genealog	10am - Worship 🕲
L L	2	-	30	29	28	27
			7:46pm - Bagpiper	7pm - Boy Secute	7:30pm - Al-Anon 🕲	
		7:30pm - Cholr	8pm - Den 1 Bears 🕲	7pm - Bible Study 🥘	8pm - Hudson Valley	
		6:30pm - Hurley	8pm - Cub 8oout	4pm - Hurley Purlers	6 pm - Dog Training	3pm - golf
		4:45pm - Dog	5:30pm - Dog	11am - Balance for	3 pm - Guilting 🕲	3pm - daley girl
		8:30am - Badminton	7:30am - Bible	8:30 am - Badminton	10am - Genealogy 🥘	10 am - Worship 🕲
						Rev. Gram's Vacation
26	25	24	23	2	[21	20
			7pm - Men's group	7pm - Boy Scoute		
			7pm - Hurley Llons	7pm - Bible Study 🛱	7:30pm - Al-Anon 🙊	
			8pm - Den 1 Bears 🧔	8pm - nursery	7 pm - Hudson Valley	
		7:30pm - Choir	8pm - Cub Scout	6pm - Church BBQ 🕲	7 pm - Consistory 🕲	
		7 p.m - NE	5:30pm - Dog	4pm - Hurley Purlers	6 pm - Dog Training	
		4:46pm - Dog	12:16pm - Warwlok	11am - Balance for	3 pm - Gullting 🕲	11am - Women's
		9:30am - Badminton	7:30am - Bible	8:30am - Badminton	11am - VFW 🙊	10 am - Worship 🕲
						Dorothy's Vacation
19	18	17	16	15	14	13
			7:46pm - Bagpiper	7pm - Bible Study 🧔		
			8pm - Den 1 Bears 🕲	4pm - Hurley Purlers	7:30pm - Al-Anon 🕲	
			8pm - Cub Soout	12:30pm - nursery	7 pm - Little League	
1pm - Little Garden		7:30pm - Choir	5:30pm - Dog	11am - Balance for	6 pm - Dog Training	3pm - daley girl
10am - Genealogy 🕲		4:45pm - Dog	8am - nursery	8:30 am - Badminton	3 pm - Quilting 🕲	11am - Prayer Chain
Dorothy's Vacation	7 pm - Motoroyole	8:30am - Badminton	7:30am - Bible	8:30am - Hillelde	Labor Day	10am - Worship 🕲
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			8pm - Den 1 Bears 🧔	7pm - Boy Scouts		
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Sep 2015 (Eastern Time)	Sep 20				eformed Church	Contacts, Hurley Reformed Church

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SEPTEMBER 2015 LHE SDIKE

Hurley New York 12443 HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Gram, LCSW

Pastor

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