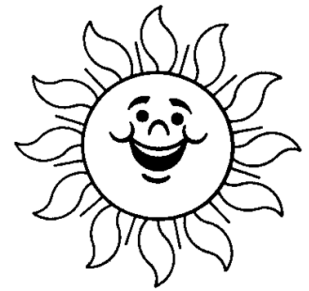


# THE SPIRE

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 6

SUMMER 2021



*(Hi, This is Dorothy. Rev Bill left me two essays for your enjoyment. I present them to you as I received them.)*

## LOOK AT THE POSSIBILITIES

It's sitting in the garage. Right now it's painted black but that might change. Originally it was purchased at a garage sale nine years ago when Sara and I were working at decorating our first nursery. The appropriate definition of what it is, is a chifforobe, but most people would just call it a dresser. It's solid wood, not particle board or pressboard. But now it sits in the garage waiting. Waiting for time to exist for it to become something new.

You see the chifforobe has a problem. It has a flaw. No matter how much you sand down the drawers and try and cut down the sides, they all stick. Now a hard pull is one thing, but these drawers during that humid part of summer when the air gets so thick that you can chew it, need a pry bar to open them. They swell up so badly that they are sealed shut. Liam solved this problem by just leaving them open, until we decided to try something different. And so it sits waiting until there's enough free time and cool enough temps for the work to be done.

The project in question is one which will turn a dresser which isn't exactly functional in the humidity of the Hudson valley into a book shelf. Where each of the drawer sat will be shelves for books and equipment for the Playstation. Where there was a door for clothes to hang, there will be more shelves. I can't quote to you how many afternoons or Saturdays it will take to get it done. I haven't yet asked the kids what color they would like it to be painted. But the reality is what was going to end up broken apart and cast away now will have a new purpose. It might not look like a traditional wooden bookshelf. It might look exactly like what it is, something that was one thing but was then transformed into something else.

I can't take any credit for the idea, all credit belongs to Sara. But it reminds me of the ability to see what others can't, to see what might be and what could be but just needs that special work to make it so. My grandfather Phillips used to be able to look at a piece of wood, and see the story that it told, what it would be what it could become. My other grandfather whether out of the desperation which comes from living through the Great Depression or this sort of gift could repurpose anything. A pool that no longer was useful could be cut up and used to edge a garden.

It still amazes me how so many of us look at ourselves and, yes, others, and fail or can't see the possibilities. Many times when we look at what we can do and who we are all we see is that useless dresser. But we forget and neglect the fact that God is a God of infinite vision and potential. God doesn't see anyone who is worthless or without use, God sees something. Whether we are older and see ourselves as past our time of use, or we are younger and feel ill equipped for whatever exists or might lie ahead we question how useful and able we are. But make no mistake, like a carpenter or crafter, God sees in each of us something greater and something more. God sees all that we could or might be, all that we could do.

God has something for us no matter how old or young. It doesn't matter our physical status, God can use us. We might have trouble seeing what God sees and having the imagination and vision to see how we might serve. But God has a plan for us. We might not see it; we might just only have a glimmer of a glimpse of what God has in store. But we need to trust that no matter what God can and will use us. Amen.



## GETTING MY WAY

I'm sitting in the kitchen as the tantrum goes into its twentieth minute. One thing that I've learned is that there will reach a point when it ends and the child stands up, wipes their nose with their arm, and says "I'm done." This particular time the tantrum centered around hearing the word NO. It's a word that no one likes to really hear or be told, and yet it is one of the central words which helps us to navigate life. You have to know when to say no when someone asks you to do something which you aren't comfortable with. You need to be able to tell your kids no when they want things. No isn't a bad thing unless in our opinion it doesn't get us out own way.

One of the great temptations of parenting is to give in. It's not always worth the battle to let the kids do what they want. Sure they don't need to eat that healthy. They don't need that much of a limit on screen time. It is always tempting based on the situation, the location and everything else to give in and let them have their own way.

As I sat there watching as tears streamed, I thought about how hard it is with two kids to maintain that word, and maintain the rules and ways which navigate our family. This then led to thinking about my parents and having to navigate this with twice the number of children and my great grandparents who, between four families had 19 children. All those kids wanting their own way sometimes all at the same time.

Now this mental conversation took a decided turn. Imagine if you weren't being told by one or two or even three children that they needed their own way, that they knew better. Imagine how that exponentially gets harder and harder to navigate as the number of persons you are allowing to go their own way and do their own thing gets larger and larger. And eventually it came to a stopping point. Eventually it made it to the top.

Imagine, if you would, for a moment what it is like for God. God has how many children each trying to tell him that they know better, each saying that they have to have what they want? God doesn't just have one or two children throwing tantrums or demanding to have things their way. Sometimes they don't even have tantrums they just do what they want with complete disregard for what it is that God has put before them. God has and has had billions of children. And in some way form or fashion we have all at some point wanted instead of needed, and sought to go our own way when God had shown us and called us in another direction.

Its easy to want what we want. Its easy to when things don't go our own way, or when we don't get what we want to try and attempt to force the issue. It is profoundly difficult to set aside what we want and where we want to go, and take up what others need. It is hard to listen to where we need to go. But that is why we are God's children, that is why we bear the title Christian, or little Christ as CS Lewis said. As summer rolls on for us. As we tread towards a more normal time, let us listen to where God is leading and set aside what we want, for the needs God calls us to fill. Amen.



## EVENTS

July 4, 11, 18, 25	
August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Worship
July 4, August 1	Communion
July 4	Independence Day
July 14, August 18	Social Solos by Zoom
July 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Bible Study by Zoom
July 20	Dorothy's last day
August 9	Consistory



**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!**

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

Keep them in your prayers.

Barbara Sartorius is recuperating at her son's home in North Carolina

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom) needs prayers

Rev. Bob vanderLaan is recuperating at home

Viola Opdahl is at home.

Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade;

Shirley Ruth is in Golden Hill;

Fred Horvers at TenBroeck;

Lori Pinkham in Wingate at Ulster;

Anthony DiPietro (son of MaryAnn DiPietro),

Marie Dressel.

**SOCIAL SOLOS** meets by Zoom on Wednesday, July 14 and August 18 at noon.

Contact Rev. Deb Zuill for an invite at [attitudema50@aol.com](mailto:attitudema50@aol.com) or 845-247-9157

## USHERS FOR JULY AND AUGUST

July 4

Ushers: Jim Pirro and Linda Moon

July 11

Ushers: Doug Constant and Alan Dumas

July 18

Ushers: Chris Decker and Bob Kindt

July 25

Ushers: Glenn Decker and Tom Harkin

August 1

Ushers: David Kent and Dennis Croswell

August 8

Ushers: Jim Pirro and Linda Moon

August 15

Ushers: Doug Constant and Alan Dumas

August 22

Ushers: Chris Decker and Bob Kindt

August 29

Ushers: Glenn Decker and Tom Harkin



## MISSIONS REPORT

The mission for July is Rural and Migrant Ministries.

Thank you for your generous donations!

## DEACON OF THE MONTH:

Deacon of the Month for July is Chris Decker and for August is Linda Moon.

**ADDED TO THE LIST OF SAINTS:**

Philip Greer

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

**In person worship at 10:00 am****Reminder:**

Access to Sunday worship service at 10:00 am is still available through **Zoom**. Contact Rev. Bill for invitation.

*Thank You*

As of July 20, 2021 I enter the category "Retired." I haven't defined what that means to me exactly. It does mean I won't wake up and think "I have to go to work today." And it does mean I will have to structure my time use differently.

There are trips planned: to see my daughter in South Carolina; to the Berkshires; to Utah (and that's just before Thanksgiving).

There are a few long term projects to work on. Who knew that finding out you are related to a Salem witch could be so exciting?! Or that you really can complete the DAR application? Or that you have ancestors that fought on both sides of the Civil War? And at least three ministers (itinerant and seminary trained) in your tree? And still more to be found. Oh, and that owning a house was in itself a hobby?

I am grateful for the seven years I have been the Church's secretary. I was embraced by and I embraced a community of loving generous people. I am grateful

God gives us all kinds  
of reminders as the trees bud,  
the flowers are in bloom,  
the songs of birds fill the air...  
Re-creation! God touches  
His creation and new life  
springs forth all around us  
but also in His promise to us.  
Take a moment at the  
Columbarium to sit and  
reflect upon all that He shares  
with us... in life and in the  
promise of new life.

**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)

LEE GABLE (246-3751)

REV STICKLEY, SECRETARY

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

for all the interactions with you and I will fondly remember each of you. The seven years saw many changes in Hurley Reformed Church: Rev. Gram's retirement; the call to Rev. Bill; COVID; baptisms, weddings, and losses either by moving on or by ascending to glory. It has been wonderful to be part of a caring community.

Thank you for everything.

Peace and Hope,

Dorothy

# July and August

## BIRTHDAYS

### July

Bonnie Dumas	3
Rachel Cline	4
Bill Beesmer	4
Nancy Salzmänn	5
Kenneth Odell	5
Teagan Helsley	6
Debbie Tucker	6
Nicholas Rockwell	13
Alyssa Kurtz	14
Bryan Hill	15
Barbara Mayfield	16
Lori Decker	16
Sandra Emrich	19
Win Morrison	20

Dan Stott	24
Brayden Horvers	24
Daniel Nekos	25
Katherine Emrich	25
Midge Stott	27
Spencer Herzog	28
Caitlin Cox	28
Matthew Horvers	28

### August

Jim Pirro	2
Reid Jordan	3
Donna Harder	10
Florence Kurtz	10
Stevie Peralta	12
Frank Pinckney	12
Rev. Charles Stickley	13
Kathleen Jansen	15
Aubrey Horvers	16
Lily Dockery	18

Roslie Gilpatric	19
David Emrich	20
Alison Cline	22
Charles Emrich	23
Barbara Kindt	28
Gary Longto	28

## ANNIVERSARIES

### August

Bryan & Leigh Hill	1
David & Gretchen Giles	6
Hal & Kathy Hauck	6
Annemarie & Fred Kurtz	15
Kathy & Ted Musialkiewicz	16
Jim & Roslie Gilpatric	19
David & Sandra Emrich	29
Cindy & Dino Sumerano	30

*All proceeds benefit the Hurley Reformed Church, Main St, Hurley NY*

Drive-Up  
Take-Out

# Chicken BBQ

Drive-Up  
Take-Out

**Sept. 14, 2021**  
**4:00pm - 6:30pm**

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

**\$14.00**

For Tickets Call: **845-687-4006**



Hurley Reformed Church, Hurley Reformed Church

Jul 2021 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
				4:45pm - Dog		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10am - Worship by 11am - Prayer Chain	4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	9am - Bible Study @ 4:30pm - PC 101 @				10am - Genealogy @
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10am - Worship by 11am - Women's	7pm - Consistory @ 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	9am - Bible Study @	12pm - social solos			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10am - Worship by	10am - Genealogy @ 4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	9am - Bible Study @ 6pm - Nursery	5:30pm - dog	4:30pm - Dog		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10am - Worship by	10:30am - 4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	9am - Bible Study @	5:30pm - dog	4:30pm - Dog		

July 2021

Hurley Reformed Church, Hurley Reformed Church

Aug 2021 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am - Worship by 11am - Prayer Chain	2 12pm - planning 4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	3 9am - Bible Study @ 4:30pm - PC 101 @	4 5:30pm - dog	5 4:30pm - Dog	6	7
8 10am - Worship by 11am - Women's	9 11am - VFW @ 4:30pm - Dog 7pm - Consistory @ 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	10 9am - Bible Study @	11 12pm - social solos 5:30pm - dog	12 4:30pm - Dog	13 10am - Genealogy @	14
15 10am - Worship by	16 10am - Genealogy @ 4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	17 9am - Bible Study @ 6pm - Nursery	18 5:30pm - dog	19 4:30pm - Dog	20	21
22 10am - Worship by	23 10:30am - 4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	24 9am - Bible Study @	25 4:30pm - Dog	26	27	28
29 10am - Worship by	30 4:30pm - Dog 7:30pm - Al-Anon @	31 9am - Bible Study @	1			4

August 2021

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

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich  
Pastor

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

THE SPIRE  
MAY 2021

