

# First Things

A Newsletter of the First Reformed Church, Schenectady, New York

August 27, 2010

## Another First Things Early September

In order to get everyone excited about our fall program, you are getting this fall teaser edition. There will be another edition coming out in about two weeks with many more details.

## Thursday Stitch Group Starts Up September 9

The first gathering of the Stitch Group will be on Thursday September 9 in The Conference Room at 10am and every Thursday thereafter. Dig out all those unfinished projects (crewel, cross-stitch, needle-point, tapestry, and quilting) or start a new project and stitch them to completion with others who like to stitch. Anyone wanting to darn socks, or sew on buttons is welcome to join our group. Get your projects done in good company. No need to RSVP. For more info call Joan Lindsay, 399-3153.

## Youth Groups

The Junior and Senior High Youth Groups will begin meeting on Sept. 12 at 5pm with a Welcome Back BBQ on the church lawn. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited, and friends are welcome. Parents should also plan to attend for a brief introductory parents' meeting. Please contact Stacey with any questions.

## Church Wide Picnic Sunday, September 12

After worship everyone is invited. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and lemonade will be provided. Please bring a dish to share!

## New Kerygma Bible Study

Wednesday, September 15, 9:30-11am, begins a new fourteen week class on the Gospel According to Matthew, led by Daniel Carlson. No prior experience is necessary to participate in this lively and welcoming group. Required resource books will be available for perusal and/or purchase in the Faith Bookshop by September 12, and thereafter in class.

## Church School Classes Begin September 19

On Sunday, September 19, the first fall session of Church School will commence. Children in grades K-8 will worship with their families from 10-10:20am and then leave after the Children's Message to go upstairs for their programs. Church School ends at 11:15am.

## 1st First Forum of the Fall

Following worship and a cup of coffee on September 19, join us in Poling Chapel for a lively presentation of the current analysis and new initiatives (and committees!) of the church developed by the consistory at its recent planning retreat.

## Tuesday Women's Group

The Tuesday Women's Group will reconvene on September 21 for its fourth year of fellowship, prayer, study, discussion, and (of course) snacks. This group is for women of all ages; those from the congregation as well as from the community are welcome. Free childcare is provided in Kinderwyk. No previous Bible study experience is required. We meet every Tuesday morning that schools are in session in the Walton Conference Room from 9-11am. Please contact the church office at [1streformedpub@gmail.com](mailto:1streformedpub@gmail.com) or 377-2201 or with any questions.

## Shawl Knitting Group

The first meeting for the Shawl Knitting group will be on Thursday, September 23, at the home of Anne Robb (377-8466), 1358 Ruffner Road, Niskayuna.

## Stockade Walkabout

On Saturday, September 25, we once again will be a scheduled stop on the Stockade Walkabout Tour of historic buildings and homes.

The church will be open from 10am-3pm. As always, volunteers are needed to help with tours, greeting, and refreshments. Contact Laura Linder (882-6866) or church office (377-2201) to sign up.

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Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 24  
Schenectady, NY

## Address Service Requested

### Stephen Ministry Recruitment

Applications are now available for those who wish to serve as Stephen Ministers. The application process also includes an interview with our Stephen Leaders and, upon acceptance, a thirty hour training session starting in early October at First Reformed, Scotia. A job description and application may be picked up at the new cool, Stephen Ministry bulletin board, next to Faith Bookshop.

### Boy Scout Troop

Dr. Levering will be leading a scout troop and is looking for boys and adults to join in. There will be an organizational meeting in September, but email him now at [blevering@gmail.com](mailto:blevering@gmail.com) for more information.

### Bible Study at Glen Eddy

A weekly Bible study will begin on Wednesday mornings at Glen Eddy. This informal gathering is led by Dr. Levering and will review the weekly reading in application to our lives. Look for more information in the expanded newsletter coming soon.

### Sign Up for Committees Now

Committee chairs are looking for help for the coming year in doing the business of the church. In our congregation most of the deliberation and activity is done through committees. If you are interested in joining a committee, please sign up or call the church office and tell them you are interested. Committees usually meet on the second Tuesdays from 7 to 8pm. The committees are:

**Adult Education:** Christine Daniels  
**Archives & Historical Concern:** Laura Lee Linder and Caroline Welch  
**Bookshop:** Roberta Blackmer and Nancy Wainwright  
**Chancel Guild:** Sara Erickson, Joyce Griggs, and Marlene Risseeuw  
**Fellowship:** Bill Brooks  
**Finance Committee:** Catherine Lewis  
**Justice Advocacy:** Jean Shoulder  
**Membership Committee:** Lisa Etkin  
**Mission & Benevolence:** Carrie Brooks and Andrew Chestnut  
**Property Committee:** Darwin Brudos  
**Stephen Ministry:** Linnea D'Andrea  
**Stewardship:** Therese McCarty  
**Support & Care:** Joan Lindsay and Linda Ward  
**Wednesday Dialog:** Richard Arthur  
**Worship & Arts:** Carolyn Jones-Assini  
**Youth Education:** TBA (Stacey Midge)

### Dr. Therese Mc Carty Stewardship Leader

Dr. Mc Carty has graciously agreed to lead the stewardship campaign this year if we sing the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" during the drive. The deal was made. Smart money has the hymn title being the theme for the drive.

### Entered Into Eternal Rest

Roy Hershey, July 12, 2010  
Susan Staffa, July 12, 2010  
James A. Ramsey, August 11, 2010

