

**The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted in 1962**

*We do hereby set forth the principles of the Christian faith as commonly held among us, believing that no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

*It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.*

*Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.*

*Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.*



*He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*April 26, 2015*



**First Reformed Church**  
8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)

## **Welcome to First Reformed Church**

*We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, activities, and service.*

If you are a first time visitor we hope you feel at home here. Please fill out a little white pew card and place it in the offering plate and join us after the service for coffee and refreshments. Stop by a welcome table at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

### **Non Emergency Number**

Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200

### **Parking**

You may park in **any** of the lots around the church or the Stockade Inn on Sunday mornings.

### **Need Help?**

Large print bulletins and audio receivers are available to assist you. Please ask an usher. Special bulletins for children are also available. Restrooms are located out the front right doorway of the sanctuary.

### **Elders in Worship**

Past and current leaders we call 'Elders' walk in together at the beginning of worship and sit in the front pew. This is to identify them as servants of the mission of the church and make it easy to see who you might talk to about the life of our congregation.

### **Joining the Congregation**

To become a member of the congregation, there is a one-time orientation, a meeting with the governing board, and a reception in worship. If you are interested in the next orientation please fill out a white pew card.

### **Communion**

Our congregation celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of the month. All followers of Christ are invited to share this meal.

### **Hearing Assistance**

We have hearing reinforcement units that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

### **Child Care on Sunday**

Childcare for babies through age four is available from 10am and noon in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

### **Church School**

All children in grades K-8 are welcome to join in our Church School activities by leaving immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am on the 2nd floor at the top of the stairs.

### **Church School on Communion Sundays**

On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) youth in grades 3-8 remain in the service to participate in Communion while those in grades K-2 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for music and crafts.

### **Children's Worship Bulletins**

Special bulletins for children, ages 3-6 and 7-12 are available each Sunday. If the ushers are not handing them out, just ask for one.

### **After Worship**

Typically after worship, people stop for a chat and a cookie in downstairs Friendship Hall before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in.

### **Service Online**

A recording of each of our worship services is at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

### **Lost and Found**

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2015

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Andrew Janack, marimba

*Mbira Song* Alice Gomez  
*Ghania* Mattias Schmidt

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Stacey Midge

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Daniel Carlson

INTROIT *Hallelujah* Richard Warner

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #455  
(vs 4-choir only)

*All Creatures of our God and King*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God, who will not let us go, we confess that we have been too wrapped up in ourselves. We have neglected you, ignored our neighbors, and failed to serve the world we touch. Through your transforming love, forgive what we have been, help us change what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we might find new delight in what is right. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord!**

**Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord!**

**Praise ye the Lord – Alleluia!  
Praise ye the Lord – Alleluia!  
Praise ye the Lord – Alleluia!  
Praise ye the Lord!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

*The Apostles' Creed* - Ecumenical version

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,  
our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy  
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,  
and was buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he  
ascended into heaven, he is seated at the  
right hand of the Father, and he will come  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of  
the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Sanctify Me* V. Michael McKay

Sanctify me. Fill me with your Spirit.

Sanctify my body, my mind, and my soul.

I want to be used to thee, Lord.

Sanctify all of me.

I'm available; I'm available.

My heart is fixed, my mind's made up:

I want to be used by thee; yes, I'm available.

FIRST LESSON George Trimarco

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy

Spirit. **Amen.**

*Psalms 23 (pg 501)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON 1 John 3:16-24 (pg 240)

SERMON Daniel Carlson

*Paths of Righteousness*

\*HYMN #357

*O, Master, Let Me Walk With Thee*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Blake Tyson

*A Cricket Sang, and Set the Sun*

\*DOXOLOGY #592  
*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Lord of All Good* #375

\*CHORAL RESPONSE  
*Twofold Amen*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Andrew Janack

+ + +

### **Entered into Eternal Rest**

Margaret Reed  
April 4, 2015

R. Madelyn Young  
April 11, 2015

Margaret (Peg) R. Miller  
April 20, 2015

### **Peg R. Miller Jazz Vespers Dedication**

Jazz Vespers on May 3 at 5 pm will be dedicated to the life of Margaret (Peg) R. Miller. Peg was an avid jazz enthusiast and kind spirit whose life will be celebrated by musicians including Tom D'Andrea, Peg and Bill Delaney, Colleen Pratt, Patti Melita and Lee Shaw.

### **Prayers of the People**

Requests for prayer may be noted on a pew card and placed in the offering plate. We pray regularly for those who are ill, those who serve their country, those who hunger, and those who are our enemies. As part of our prayers this morning, we remember with thanksgiving members of FRC & UPC who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

*Rachel Rowe, Barbara Cockerham, Rev. Dr. J. Dean Dykstra, Patricia Dykstra, Dae Gillespie, Leonard Grupe, Garrett Veeder, Dorothy Greenwood, Harold Cassidy, Katherine Studer, Leroy Moody*

If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death, please contact the church office.

### **United Prayer Ministry**

We extend our condolences to the family of:  
*Margaret (Peg) R. Miller*

### **Celebratory or Memorial Flowers**

A flower calendar is posted on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary wherein you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the church office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

### **First Forum**

After worship most Sundays at 11:15 am in Poling Chapel, suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact Amy Brule 785-8201, Peggy King 370-1885, Olivia Mancuso 381-8860, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700.

**Today:** Youth Group Music Talent, Olivia Mancuso

**May 3:** TBA

**May 10:** David Cotter, Gender Inequality

### **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm**

April is Jazz Appreciation Month and through the good offices of the Schenectady Musical Union additional musicians are being provided for Vespers in April.

**Today:** Scott Bassinson, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums; plus Keith Pray, sax

**May 3:** Nat Phipps, piano

**May 10:** Azzaam Hameed, piano

### **Youth Activities**

Youth group will meet every Sunday at 5:00 pm for dinner, discussion, games, etc. All youth in grades 6 – 12 are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Stacey.

**Today:** Regular meeting

We will continue our interfaith discussion and prepare for the youth service in May.

**May 3:** CROP Walk

**May 10:** Regular meeting

### **Earth Friendly Frolic ~ Today**

Today we'll add our efforts to those of others involved in the Canal Clean Sweep Initiative by maintaining the beauty of the closest shore to our church, of the Mohawk along Riverside Park.

We'll share a nutritious lunch of soup and bread at 11:30 am before putting on work gloves, distributing trash bags, and walking to the river. We look forward to this Fellowship Committee and Creation Care Commission sponsored inter-generational event held in honor of Earth Day!

### **Reception for Naphtali Rothrock**

Naphtali's last day at FRC is near. In her honor, we will be having a farewell reception on Sunday, May 10. Please sign up to bring light refreshments as we show our appreciation for Naphtali's presence with us.

### **Faith Bookshop**

Our used-but look-like-new book supply could benefit from more biographies and non-fiction. Thank you for all contributions that have appeared recently.

### **First Futures Building Campaign**

Each week night our church is used by at least one outside community group and the trend is increasing. How can we better serve this growing community need? The Connecting with Community Committee of the First Futures Campaign has been considering this question and you can speak with Cindy Gallagher, the chairperson, today after worship in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Bring your observations and ideas.

### **Church Directory Photos**

Ralph Rosenthal will continue taking pictures for our next church directory every Sunday after worship in the Heritage room (off the Dirck Romeyn Room.) No appointment necessary.

### **Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate**

Chocolate, coffee and tea! The shelves are no longer empty. A new order has arrived and includes an option for those who use a percolator.

### **Johnson Library**

Not just about books! Above the display table and inside the library you will find the following periodicals. To take out an issue, sign your name on the attached card and drop it in the box.

### **Midweek Evening Meal**

Our informal dinners take place on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the Assembly Hall. Bring whatever you wish to share with others. The worship which follows is optional though often the destination of diners. Questions regarding either may be directed to Daniel Carlson.

### **Wednesday Evening Worship**

Our contemplative service is in the Poling Chapel at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to this briefer, quieter, and reflective gathering at the close of the day. Here we dwell in the mystery and joy of Easter via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.

### **Horizons Bible Study**

We will be doing a 6 week study of the first half of the book of Psalms (Psalms 1-72.) Anyone interested is welcome to join us Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the Poling Conference room.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

Meetings are every 3rd Tuesday of the month in the home of Connie Young. We will meet May 19 to talk and be friends. Hope to see you then.

### **Annual CROP Walk**

On Sunday, May 3, the annual Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty (CROP) walk will take place at 12:30 pm, beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church and winding 5k through Schenectady. The proceeds support hunger-fighting efforts around the world, with 25% going to local food pantries, Community Crisis Network, and Senior Meals. Want to walk? Get a donation form from the Church Office. Non-walkers can simply drop off their donations at the church office. Checks should be made out to "CWS/CROP." Checks eligible for GE Matching should be made out to SICM. Contact Cathy Lewis if you have questions.

### **New Member Class**

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? Dr. Levering will be leading a membership meeting that includes a tour of the church and a chat about who we are. It lasts 90 minutes and is held in the church office at 3:00 pm, usually on the first Sunday of the month. Our next class is May 3.

### **Group V**

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 4 at 11:00 am in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Contact Barbara Piper with questions, 399-3620.

### **Group VII**

On May 15 in the Dirck Romeyn room, Michael Brockbank will be speaking about Nijkerk.

### **Men's Breakfast**

Men's Breakfast-May 9, 8:00 am; Reflections of a Missioner-on seeking the Welfare of the City".-Rev. Art Hudak – pastor Trinity Reformed Church. Rev. Hudak was in our initial class of Missioners and led a Street Ministry with the City Mission and Proctors, one result was the Ambassador Program, open community gardens and revitalized Trinity Reformed. The breakfast will be hosted At Arthur's Market, Ferry and Front Street in the Stockade. Join us for an interesting morning. Questions? ask Gene Rowland or Joe Doolittle.

### **Fellowship Luncheon May 15**

The Fellowship Luncheon group will have the last meeting for the spring on **Friday, May 15, in the Friendship Hall of First Reformed Church.** Yes, Assembly Hall is already booked. Please note that this date is early in May due to a holiday weekend on the third Friday and many people are away the last Friday of the month.

Our speaker will be Angelicia Morris, Executive Director of the Schenectady County Human Right Commission. The Commission writes policy and assists Schenectady residents with discrimination issues. Angie is very dedicated to her work and is a dynamic speaker. She has a passion for people and has a passion for our commission and our community.

Bring a dish to share. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Please sign-up in Assembly Hall. Your hosts will be Marilyn Leach and Nancy Davidson. Come for the best meal in town and learn about the many ways the Schenectady's Human Rights Commission supports people in our city.

### **Lenten Series Bonus**

*An Irresistible Conflict: The Empire State in the Civil War*, for sale in the bookshop, just \$19.75. It documents the role NY played in our nation's most enduring conflict. All copies are signed by the author.

### **Fiction Writers Group**

A Flash Fiction critique group will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Walton Conference Room. Flash Fiction is a COMPLETE story, fiction or non-fiction, written in 1,000 words or less. For more info and signups, contact James Gonda at jamesgonda63@yahoo.com or the church office.

### **Fostering Hope**

Fostering Hope is a ministry that reaches out to local foster families to provide practical help and emotional support. We do that by putting together teams of volunteers. We are looking for volunteers that might be interested in starting a new team or join an existing team. If this ministry calls to you and would like more information on how to get involved, there will be an orientation/information session on April 28th from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. If you have questions, please contact Meredith Osta at (518) 713-4726 or m.osta@fosteringhopefoundation.org.

### **Evening Circle**

We will meet at the home of Amy Brule, 1078 Mohawk Road, on Wednesday May 8, at 6pm for our annual pot luck picnic. Drinks and dessert will be provided. This is our last meeting until fall and we will discuss programming for next year. Please let Amy, 785-8201, or Sally Clark, 377-2154, know that you will be there.

### **Healthy Women Healthy Families**

#### **Mother's Day Project**

This is a program of the PC (USA) that assists global partners by providing grants to fund education, health, and community-development activities in impoverished communities. It has been cosponsored by World Mission and Presbyterian Women since 2001. Mother's Day card are available for purchase (free will donation) and inform the recipient that a gift has been made in their honor. Please see Lauren Cleworth after church or in the church office during the week for more information.

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Cynthia and Joe Gallagher	Joan Lindsay and Douglas Todd
<b>Greeters</b>	Kenneth and Ruth Roinos	
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Carol Troost Jamie and Dan Ipsen	Vilhelm and Christine Lund Karen and John Norton
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Bill Clock	Birdie Blackmer
<b>Liturgist</b>	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
<b>Preacher</b>	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Joyce Griggs, Mary Jewett, Liz Mastriani, Gay Doolittle, Philip Falconer, Jerry Griggs, Arend van der Veen, Linda Witkowski	Caroline Welch, Jeanne Shoulder, Mary Jewett, Robert Dickson, George Davidson, Keith Muse, Maria G. Todd, Linda Ward
<b>Reader</b>	George Trimarco	Carol Troost
<b>Refreshments</b>		Your Name Here
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Jacob Ettkin, Joe Gallagher	Del Pierce (head usher), Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson, Michael Horan, Victoria McGowan-Horan, Doug Todd

**Sunday, April 26**

9:00 am..... Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary  
 10:00 am..... Worship  
 10:15 am..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am..... Refreshments  
 11:15 am..... First Forum  
 11:15 am..... First Futures  
 11:15 am..... Kirk Ringers  
 11:30 am..... Earth Friendly Frolic Lunch  
 12:15 pm..... Earth Friendly Frolic Clean Up  
 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers  
 5:00 pm..... Youth Group

**Monday, April 27**

9:00 am..... Mens Newsgroup  
 6:00 pm..... Yoga  
 7:00 pm..... Klokken Ringers  
 7:00 pm..... Creation Care

**Tuesday, April 28**

10:00 am..... Horizon Bible Study  
 10:00 am..... Morning Prayer

**Wednesday, April 29**

9:30 am..... Kerygma  
 1:00 pm..... Thursday Bells  
 6:00 pm..... Evening Meal  
 7:00 pm..... Evening Worship

**Thursday, April 30**

7:30 am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch  
 10:00 am..... Stitch Group  
 7:30 pm..... Chancel Choir

**Sunday, May 3**

9:00 am..... Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary  
 10:00 am..... Worship/Communion  
 10:15 am..... Church School K-5  
 11:15 am..... First Forum  
 11:15 am..... First Futures  
 11:15 am..... Kirk Ringers  
 12:30 pm..... CROP Walk (registration)  
 3:00 pm..... New Member Class  
 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

The price of peace is righteousness. - Ezra Taft Benson

True religion is real living; living with all one's soul, with all one's goodness and righteousness. - Albert Einstein

My heart hath often been deeply afflicted under a feeling that the standard of pure righteousness is not lifted up to the people by us, as a society, in that clearness which it might have been, had we been as faithful as we ought to be to the teachings of Christ. - John Woolman

When I first saw tap dancing, I immediately got it: the righteousness of being able to make so much noise with your feet! - Shalom Harlow

“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.” - Maya Angelou

“No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.” - Charles Dickens

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” - Anne Frank, *diary of Anne Frank*

“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson