

**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.*



*June 21, 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 until 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, during the summer months, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting). 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 after Pentecost  
June 21, 2015

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

\* HYMN *Fairest Lord Jesus* #306

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O Lord our Shepherd, you know us better than we know ourselves. We come before you now, believers and doubters alike, to share our deep need for strength and renewal. Forgive us and help us to know we are forgiven. Give us the heart and direction for renewal and service, we pray.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN #579  
*Gloria Patri*

\*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

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

MUSICAL OFFERING Andy Chestnut

*Breaking the Code*

'Til we can read we're kind of stuck  
With whatever people happen to tell us  
When they get it wrong we're out of luck  
But there's no need to feel jealous  
Learning to read is what we need  
To get the story straight  
So we can connect with genius direct  
Shakespeare and all the greats.

Books were a mystery I'd never solved  
History shows how that evolved.  
Thanks to those who caringly chose  
To spend their time enriching mine  
I acquired the knowledge  
I'd need to get through college;  
Or if I chose construction  
To be able to read the instructions!

Chorus:

Words on the page are just black marks on white  
Until we can break the code  
Once we do there no limit to  
What we can upload

The fortunes of everyday heroes  
May not have many zeroes  
But teaching someone to read puts a huge amount  
Into a person's karmic account.  
Bless all of the instructors  
For the energy they brought  
To make themselves conductors  
Of the magic of written thought.

The obstacles to reading  
Can be overcome  
There's no disgrace in needing  
Some help to get it done.  
The more that we're succeeding,  
The more we find it's fun.  
The miracle of reading  
Is meant for everyone

Words and music by Andy Chestnut

FIRST LESSON Marilyn Leach  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.** *2 Corinthians 6:1-13 (pg 181)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Mark 4:35-41 (pg 39)*

SERMON *Fear* Bill Levering

\*HYMN *Here I Am, Lord* #525

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*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 #361 (vs. 1,2,5)  
*How Firm a Foundation*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*  
Sicilian Mariners

+ + +

**Entered into Eternal Rest**

Ruth R. Doering – June 15, 2015

Service was held on 6/18/15 in Connecticut

**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 our church who entered into eternal rest in previous years about this time:

*Donald Kleiber, Dorothy Van Leeuwen*

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**

Please remember in your prayers:

*The Doering Family* on the death of Ruth

**In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Troost by Carol and Deborah Troost.

**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 Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

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

**Today:** Peg Delaney Trio

**June 28:** Scott Bassinson, piano

**July 5:** Nat Phipps Trio

### **First Forum**

Today is the last Forum until fall. Please join us 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, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700.

**Today:** First Futures Update, Fred & Lisa

### **Frolic to Weston Priory this Wednesday**

Join members of Kerygma Conversations for a full-day outing to Weston, VT on June 24.

Explore the lovely setting, participate in worship, and visit the brother's gift shop and the Vermont Country Store. More information and a sign-up sheet are in Assembly Hall.

### **Stephen Ministry Picnic**

All active and inactive Stephen Ministers (and, if they wish, a spouse or friend) are invited to our annual pull-out-the stops Picnic, Thursday, June 25, 6 pm at Maria Todd's home (1229 Viewmont Dr., Niskayuna). Call the church office or sign up in Assembly Hall to tell us you're coming and what food (and drink) you'll be bringing!

### **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Strawberry Festival**

The Kanatsiohareke Mohawk Community will be holding their annual strawberry festival June 27-28, 10am-6pm in Fonda, NY. Adults: \$5, Seniors & youth under 12: \$3, under 5: free. Go to [www.mohawkcommunity.com](http://www.mohawkcommunity.com) or contact Laura A. Lee, 882-6866.

### **FRC Civil War Series Carryover**

*A Civil War Living History Day*, Mabee Farm Historic Site, Rte. 5S, Rotterdam Junction, Sat., June 27, 10am-4pm, \$5, children & students free.

### **Church School Survey Deadline June 30**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8Z8MP7R> to fill out the survey online. Or, return your answers to Stacey Midge or Blythe Gieseler.

### **Camp Fowler Deadline June 30**

The deadline for summer camp registration is June 30. Campers are students in grades 3-12; Fowler also offers a family camp where children of all ages and parents can experience camp together. Volunteers are also needed as cabin counselors and kitchen and maintenance staff. Scholarships are available. Please contact Heather in the church office if you've already signed up or you are looking to sign up.

### **Youth Group Schedule**

Our youth group does not meet regularly during the summer months, but stay tuned for special activities to come! If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Stacey at [revstacey@gmail.com](mailto:revstacey@gmail.com).

### **Johnson Library**

Summertime is the season when the library's collection gets weeded-just like a garden. Stop by the display table to see what's come up that you might enjoy reading!

### **Faith Bookshop**

The Bookshop will be open briefly before and after the church service today. Chocolate, coffee and tea available! We will resume taking book orders in the fall. Happy summer reading!

### **Post Service Refreshments - Please Sign Up**

Sweet Summertime! Don't forget your sun screen and post-service refreshments! Join us after church in the Huntley Garden (weather permitting). Please sign up in Assembly Hall, where you'll find an instruction sheet. Can't commit to service right now? Place your treats in the freezer for a future date. Contact Karen the Taart Baas, [gonda6@aol.com](mailto:gonda6@aol.com), with questions.

### **Mid-Month Meal & Wednesday Worship**

This summer join us for a delicious dinner (bringing food you enjoy and wish to share) at 6pm on July 15, and August 12. The contemplative communion service begins at 7 pm for those who desire to worship. For more details contact Daniel Carlson 377-2201.

### **SICM Summer Lunches at FRC**

Glorious summer is now here! It is now time for us to plan for Summer Lunches for Schenectady's children when school is out. This year we are doing a pilot program for two weeks on FRC's lawn to see if there are enough children around during the day. Those weeks will be the week of July 20th and 27th. Our weeks at Yates will be August 3rd, 10th and 17th. There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall at church, or you can call the church office during the week at 377-2201, or you may call Ellie Rowland after June 23 at 250-4302.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations with Daniel**

Here's a great opportunity to meet with other members and friends to discuss whatever is currently of interest to respective participants: books, movies, travels, events, or issues. All are welcome to join this occasional gathering held from 9:30 am - 11 am, on Wednesday July 29 and August 26 in the Dirck Romeyn room.

### **Fiction Writers Group**

A Flash Fiction critique group will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 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 [jgonda12309@gmail.com](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com) or the church office.

### **We Need Your Books for the Book Fair**

It's not too early to rummage through your home library to find books that need a new home. Why not donate them to our church Book Fair to be held on October 18. Fiction, non-fiction, children's (no college text books, please.) They may be just the books others have been looking for. If you'd like to be part of the Fair in some capacity, see or call Linda Witkowski 374-7904.

### **Ushers Needed**

The usher roster is still incomplete. We've had folks move away and other issues that have left us short in this vital part of our Sunday service. Ushering is a great way to meet and assist people. If you can't commit to a regular schedule, you can volunteer to serve on an as needed basis. Please consider helping out. Contact Del Pierce, in church, or by phone at 356-0955. Thank you.

### **Name Tags**

Our congregation is growing and we have many new faces in worship. It would be helpful to all the new members if we all wore our name tags. Name tags can be found on the door by Poling Chapel and Assembly Hall. Don't have one? Please contact the church office or let us know on a white pew card so we can make one for you.

### **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 pm, usually on the first Sunday of the month. Our next class is September 6.

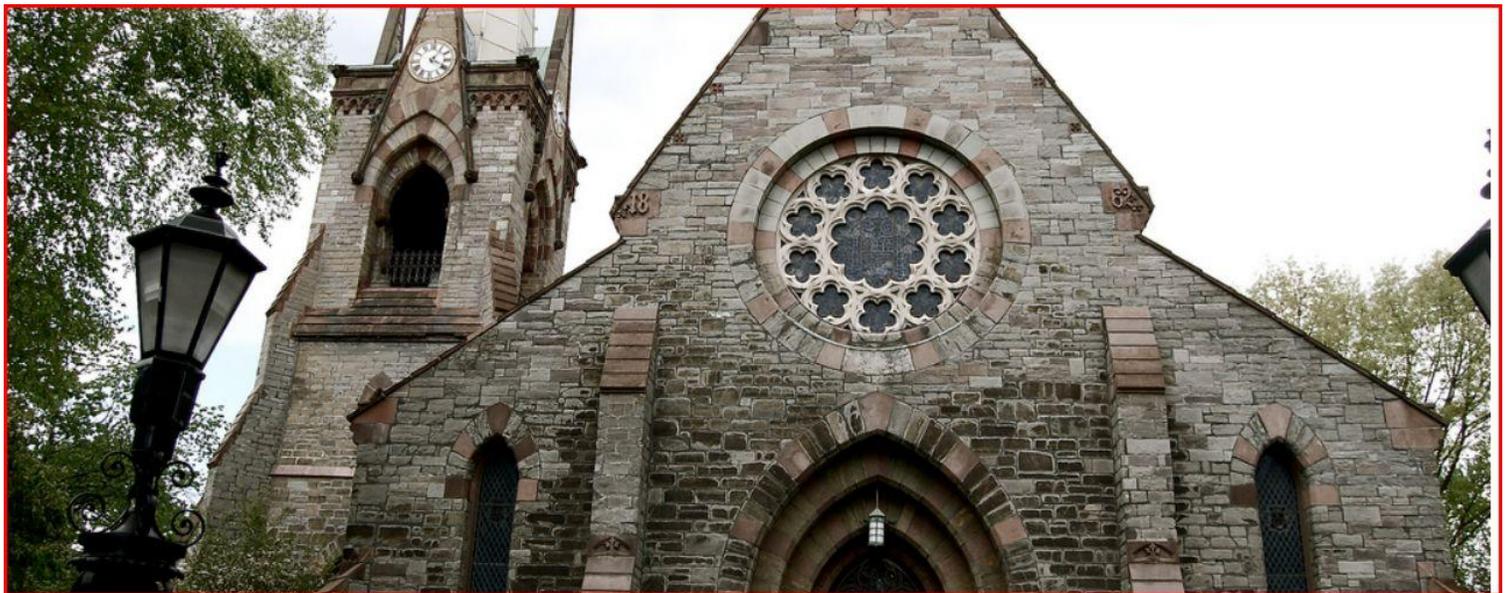
### **Horizons Bible Study**

We will resume in the fall using the Presbyterian Women's Horizon's Bible Study entitled "Come to the Waters," Interested? Talk with Peg Miller.

### **Monday Night Yoga**

Evening Yoga at FRC is taking the summer off and will return September 9. If your heart desires, you can catch yoga at Indian Ladder Apple Farms Saturday mornings 8-9 am & Tuesday evenings in Albany at Westland Hills Park 6-7pm. Enjoy the great outdoors!

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Bill Rochelle and Richard Gardner	Gay Doolittle and Carol Troost
<b>Greeters</b>	Joyce and Jerry Griggs	Vernetta Thuener
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Nancy & George Davidson and Marilyn Leach	Ann & Doug Phillips and Ginny McDermott
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Mary Jewett, Don Leach, Marilyn Leach, Liz Mastrianni, Bob Beadle, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis, Margaret Schadler	Jerry Griggs, Joyce Griggs, Peggy King, Don Leach, Gay Doolittle, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis, Bill Rochelle
<b>Reader</b>	Marilyn Leach	Carol Troost
<b>Refreshments</b>	Karen & James Gonda	Ellie Rowland and Lois Stickney
<b>Ushers</b>	George Davidson (head usher), Michael Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Carol Troost	Del Pierce (head usher), Sharron McCullough, Jim McCullough, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold



**Sunday, June 21**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 11:00 am ..... Justice Action Book Group  
 11:15 am ..... First Forum  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, June 22**

9:00 am ..... Mens Newsgroup

**Tuesday, June 23**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer

**Wednesday, June 24**

7:00 pm ..... Writer's Group

**Thursday, June 25**

1:30 pm ..... LUNN Resource Center

**Sunday, June 28**

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  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

*"Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid."*

— Frederick Buechner

*"Laughter is poison to fear."*

— George R.R. Martin, *A Game of Thrones*

*"Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter." — Francis Chan, Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God*

*"He who has overcome his fears will truly be free." — Aristotle*

*"I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path. Where the fear has gone there will be nothing. Only I will remain."*  
 — Frank Herbert, *Dune*

*"Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear."* — Ambrose Redmoon

*"Don't give in to your fears. If you do, you won't be able to talk to your heart."*  
 — Paulo Coelho, *The Alchemist*

*"Anxiety is the dizziness of freedom."*  
 — Søren Kierkegaard

*"I must say a word about fear. It is life's only true opponent. Only fear can defeat life. It is a clever, treacherous adversary, how well I know. It has no decency, respects no law or convention, shows no mercy. It goes for your weakest spot, which it finds with unnerving ease. It begins in your mind, always ... so you must fight hard to express it. You must fight hard to shine the light of words upon it. Because if you don't, if your fear becomes a wordless darkness that you avoid, perhaps even manage to forget, you open yourself to further attacks of fear because you never truly fought the opponent who defeated you."*  
 — Yann Martel, *Life of Pi*

*"No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear."*  
 — C.S. Lewis, *A Grief Observed*

*"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." — Marie Curie*

*"I wonder if fears ever really go away, or if they just lose their power over us."*  
 — Veronica Roth, *Allegiant*