

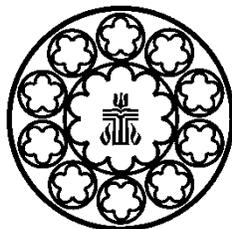
**The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted in 1962**

*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.*



*July 12, 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 over in the Kinderwyk building.

### **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.

## Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2015

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley  
*Cantabile* Cesar Frank  
*Maestoso* Catharine Doige  
*Toccatina in A Minor* Walker Baylor

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Midge

\* HYMN #353  
*Great God, Your Love Called Us Here*

\* OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**Our world and our lives are complex. Sometimes we do not know which way to go. Sometimes we make the wrong choice. Our priorities clash and call us in competing directions. Our actions do not always match our values. But you, God, understand our complications. Forgive us when we cause harm to ourselves, to others, and to the world around us. Turn us back to what is good, and draw us more and more into the flourishing life you offer.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*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.**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Noah Hoon Sing Fernandes

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES

Leah Kidwell-Fernandes and Chris Fernandes

\*PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support this brother by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

**We do.**

PRAYER AND BAPTISMAL COVENANT

\*BLESSING AND WELCOME

Welcome our brother in Christ.

**Joyfully we receive you. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**Alleluia!**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Julie Panke and Johnny Willis

*A Baptism Hymn*

Antonin Dvorak

Be with us, our Father,  
Holy Spirit divine;  
look upon this child  
who in your name we sign.  
Keep him from all danger,  
full of grace and truth,  
Help us guide and teach him,  
living out his youth.

We are all your children,  
renew our spirits now.  
Give to us your blessing



### **United Prayer Ministry**

We express our condolences to:

Martha Winchester and family on the death of her husband Glenn. Memorial service was held here on July 10.

Richard Rose and family on the death of his brother Joe.

The Malgieri, Mongillo and Ochal families on the death of Linda Malgieri.

### **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

**July 19:** Paul Mastriani, piano; Linda Brown, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**July 26:** Dave Gleason, piano

### **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).

### **New Summer Children's Program**

Beginning the week of June 29, every Monday at 4 pm until the end of August we will be meeting at Indian Meadows Playground in Glenville for a playground date. All ages are welcome. There will be refreshments provided, not guaranteed to be healthy but will be nut free. The play date is scheduled for 1 hr. Blythe Gieseler, our Director of Children's Ministries, will be there for any questions and/or suggestions for the Children's Education Program. Please join us for some fun!

### **Johnson Library**

As weeding the library's collection progresses, some titles will be brought to your attention: this week plants and flowers of the bible are topics on the shelves. From outstanding illustrations, gardeners and crafters alike will be able to find out what was planted in those long ago gardens.

### **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!

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

This summer join us for a delicious dinner (bringing food you enjoy and wish to share) at 6 pm 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.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations**

Here's a great opportunity to meet with others to discuss whatever is currently of interest to you, whether a book, movie, travel, event, or issue. 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.

### **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, [karengonda6@gmail.com](mailto:karengonda6@gmail.com), with questions.

### **Online Bible Study**

Dr. Levering is starting a weekly online Bible Study class for folks who are not able to get to church regularly. To start up, email him at [blevering@gmail.com](mailto:blevering@gmail.com).

### **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.

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

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 20 and 27. Our weeks at Yates will be August 3, 10, and 17. Call the church office during the week at 377-2201 if you would like to be on the "substitute" list.

### **Camp Fowler Open House Saturday, August 1**

You don't have to be going to camp to come visit and check out this wonderful place. From 2 - 4pm, bring your family and friends to the beach and swim, kayak, and canoe. From 4 - 6pm enjoy a Clements' Old Fashion Chicken BBQ for \$15. At 7pm in the Chapel, the Sacandaga String Band, led by Jordan White will play a benefit concert. All are welcome for all, but reservations are appreciated by July 28 at (518) 548-6524.

### **Senior Pastor's Pizza Picnics**

This summer, Dr. Levering will be hosting a few picnics for folks of all types. The picnics last from 5 - 7 pm and include pizza, light snacks, and good fellowship. They are held at 923 Northumberland Drive in Niskayuna.

**August 7:** Families with children are invited. Bring the kids! Chat with the Senior Pastor while they run about. Then go see 'The Kid' at church.

### **Fall Picnic September 13**

All are invited to stay after church on September 13 for a time of fun, food, and fellowship! Please bring a dish to share. Volunteers are needed for set-up before the picnic and break-down/clean-up after the picnic. Sign-up in Assembly Hall.

### **Directory Pictures Needed**

We are publishing our church directory in the fall. If you did not get a picture taken by Ralph Rosenthal, we need a picture from you for our directory. This is important for all our new folks. Really. Send a picture you would like used that is not too silly to [1stReformed@gmail.com](mailto:1stReformed@gmail.com)

### **Church School Helpers Needed**

Although we hate to say it, September will be here before we know it! Teachers are needed for all classes in the Fall. Training will be provided. Please call/e-mail Blythe Gieseler 248-8686 or [blytheg.rn@gmail.com](mailto:blytheg.rn@gmail.com)

### **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.

### **New Short Term Choral Groups**

This year, our Artistic Coordinator, Corine Salon, will be working with folks interested in different choral opportunities. If you have a pal and would like to sing a duet; if you have a small group that is interested in a little help and a Sunday to sing in worship, this is your chance. This fall we are starting a program for those who either can't make it to choir every week or who would like to be involved singing in some kind of group. Please let Corine know if you are interested at 346-9060 or [csalon@nycap.rr.com](mailto:csalon@nycap.rr.com)

### **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.

**Performance Series by  
Our New Organist Starts August 7**

Avery Tunngley, our new organist, will be offering a monthly performance series, generally on the first Friday of each month, beginning August 7 at 7 pm in the Poling Chapel. While the series may include a variety of events from solo recitals to hymn sings, he would like to start things off with the 1921 silent movie melodrama "The Kid" starring Charlie Chaplin and Jackie Coogan. Avery will play an original musical score to accompany the movie.

While Charlie Chaplin is best remembered for his "slapstick" style and "The Tramp" character, his feature length movies were filled with social and political commentary. This movie is no exception. It tackles some big social justice problems of the time, though often through a layer of light hearted comedy. This is a movie best described as "laughter through tears". With its powerful yet tender message, "The Kid" is packed with emotion.

**SICM Seeks Donations for Back to School**

We plan to distribute what we have by mid-August; therefore please bring any donations in by August 12. Please bring them either to the SICM Office, 1055 Wendell Avenue (M-Th 9-3) or the SICM Food Pantry (Tuesday preferred 8-2:30 or call 346-4445).

Funds are welcome as well for us to purchase additional items; just please indicate. SICM is eligible for GE (\$25+) and other matching programs. Thank you!

- ✓ Backpacks for boys & girls
- ✓ Pocket folders (plastic preferable)
- ✓ Subject & Marble Composition Notebooks
- ✓ Loose Leaf Paper (packages)
- ✓ Binders & Highlighters Triangles
- ✓ Pens and #2 Pencils
- ✓ Crayons & Scissors (child safe)
- ✓ Washable Markers & Glue Sticks

For information contact Oron Tucker:  
orontucker@yahoo.com

<b>Counting Deacons</b>	David Bundy and Vickie McGowan-Horan	Richard Davis and Therese McCarty
<b>Greeters</b>	Herb & Harlene Bachorik	Cynthia Hamilton and Joyce Beland
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Sally & Bob Clark Emile & Ann Walraven	Ginny Laumeister Tom & Joan Lindsay
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Stacey Midge	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Amy Brule, George & Nancy Davidson, Tom Lindsay, Joe Lovell, Del Pierce, Caroline Welch, Linda Witkowski	Amy & Wayne Brule, Gay Doolittle, Mary Jewett, Peggy King, Brad & Cathy Lewis, Barbara Walton
<b>Reader</b>	Gene Rowland	Therese McCarty
<b>Refreshments</b>	Karen Giuzio Barbara Walton	Vernetta Thuener, Elaine Thuener and Zane Thuener
<b>Ushers</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Lou Acquasanta, Karen Gonda, Joan Lindsay, Nancy Wainwright	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), Lou Acquasanta, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Ralph Rosenthal

**Sunday, July 12**

- 10:00 am ..... Worship
- 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5
- 11:00 am ..... Refreshments
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, July 13**

- 9:00 am ..... Mens Newsgroup

**Tuesday, July 14**

- 10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer
- 6:00 pm ..... Reading Group at Stockade Inn

**Wednesday, July 15**

- 6:00 pm ..... Mid-Month Evening Meal
- 7:00 pm ..... Mid-Month Evening Worship

**Sunday, July 12**

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

Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm. - Abraham Lincoln

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen. - Winston Churchill

In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock.  
- Thomas Jefferson

Action expresses priorities. - Mahatma Gandhi

Indeed, this life is a test. It is a test of many things - of our convictions and priorities, our faith and our faithfulness, our patience and our resilience, and in the end, our ultimate desires.  
- Sheri L. Dew

“A critical decision for any leader is to know which hills you are prepared to die on and to know you can’t die on all of them. Making your choices about what is core to your own code is the first step toward being liberated to do what you must. Then you can live.”  
- Paul D. Houston, “The Samurai Superintendent”

*Heap of Trouble*  
Next time you say  
"I'm not going to die on that hill"  
be careful.  
More often than not people die  
on a hill  
that consists  
of many  
small  
hills  
-Kendall Messner