

**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.*



September 13, 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: 518-630-0911

### **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 9:45am 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 upstairs in room 20.

### **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 church school activities.

### **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 Assembly 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.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 13, 2015

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley  
*Enter His Courts With Praise!* Adam Mason  
*Consecration* Roger C. Wilson  
*Break Forth Into Joy* J. S. Bach

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *From the Rising* Michael Tebbano

\* HYMN *Morning Has Broken* #469

\* OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**Infinite God, forgive us when we cannot see  
beyond our own interests. We pray your  
pardon on our selfishness and our constant  
search for distraction and comfort. Heal  
our hearts, we pray, so that we may live for  
a larger vision and love for a noble end.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

*Our Song of Hope*

**We sing to our Lord a new song;  
We sing in our world a sure hope:  
Our God loves this world,  
God called it into being,  
God renews it through Jesus Christ,  
God governs it by the Spirit.  
God is the world's true hope.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM Holy Manna, arr. Goemanne  
Ellen Shapiro, flute

*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

God, who stretched the spangled heavens  
infinite in time and place,  
Flung the suns in burning radiance  
through the silent fields of space.  
We, thy children, in thy likeness,  
share inventive powers with thee;  
Great Creator, still creating,  
teach us what we yet may be.

We have conquered worlds undreamed of  
since the childhood of our race,  
Known the ecstasy of winging  
through uncharted realms of space,  
Probed the secrets of the atom,  
yielding unimagined power--  
Facing us with life's destruction  
or our most triumphant hour.

As thy new horizons beckon,  
Father, give us strength to be  
Children of creative purpose,  
serving others, honoring thee,  
Till our dreams are rich with meaning,  
each endeavor, thy design.  
Great Creator, lead us onward  
till our work is one with thine.

Catherine C. Cameron

FIRST LESSON Liz Mastrianni

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.** *Psalm 19:6-14 (pg 499)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE  
PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

SECOND LESSON *Mark 8:34 (pg 44)*

SERMON Bill Levering  
*The Necessity of Sacrifice*

\*HYMN #393  
*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

MINUTE FOR MISSION  
*What's Your Story?* Norma Brown

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

David Angerman  
Ellen Shapiro, flute

#### *The Lord Never Closes His Eyes*

The Lord watches over me day and night:  
never a moment when I'm out of his sight.  
Shining forever, his love burning bright,  
he keeps me safe and surrounds me with light.

The good Shepherd never loses his lambs:  
there is no fear of danger when I'm in his hands.  
He's my keeper, protector, he is gentle and wise.  
The Lord never loses his eyes.

He watches the gate, making sure that it's closed,  
To keep out the wolves  
that are dressed in sheep's clothes.  
He cannot be fooled by a clever disguise.  
The Lord never closes his eyes.

\*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 *O Jesus, I Have Promised* #388

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Twofold Amen* Greek

### POSTLUDE

*Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*  
Sicilian Mariners

+ + +

## 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:

*Jane & Clifford Bryant, George Vlahides*

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.

## Memorial Flowers

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jane and Clifford Bryant, by their children: Clifford, Barbara, Laura, and their families.

## 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.

## First Forum

After worship most Sundays at 11:15am 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:** Fall Picnic

**Sept 20:** Get to Know Christian Education,  
Blythe Gieseler

**Sept 27:** Doctoral Update and Invite, Daniel

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

**Today:** Scott Bassinson, piano

**Sept 20:** Dave Gleason, piano

**Sept 27:** Peg Delaney Trio

### **Church School**

This year our Pastors will be leading the teaching of Church School, but we request that every member sign up for a single Sunday (or more if you desire) to help a Pastor with the lesson for that day. Sign up calendar sheets are available in Assembly Hall. Please sign up as soon as possible so the Pastors will know in advance who they will be working with, and if you have any activities you are particularly fond of...ie: stories, children in worship, crafts. Thank you so much!

### **Youth Group Schedule**

The youth group is open to all students in grades 6-12, and meets, starting September 20, every Sunday night from 5-7pm (unless otherwise indicated) for: discussion, food, learning, fellowship, and service. We kick off our program year with a picnic for all youth and parents.

### **Church Fall Picnic – TODAY**

Stay after worship for good food and fellowship. Hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, veggie dogs and cold drinks will be provided along with the salads, side dishes and desserts provided by the congregation. Face painting and pumpkin decorating also will be taking place at the picnic!

### **Post-service Refreshments**

"Hospitality is love in action." Alexander Strauch  
Please become an active participant in our hospitality ministry by volunteering for post-service refreshments. Sign up in Assembly Hall, where you will find instructions for service. Contact Taart Baas Karen with questions at 607-725-4521 or karengonda6@gmail.com. Thank you!

### **Faith Bookshop**

If you want to visit the Bookshop today, please come in immediately after the church service.

### **Johnson Memorial Library**

Suggestions for purchase of Non-Fiction titles for the Johnson Library are always welcome. You may fill out a slip on the library desk and leave it in the box provided. Please fill in the title of the book, the author, and your name.

### **Orff**

If you are looking for Other Really Fabulous Fun at FRC, join us in the Music Office at 9am each Sunday morning! No experience is needed as we learn songs and accompaniments for worship. We have been blessed with a beautiful ensemble of ORFF instruments that must be played! Rehearsals begin September 20. See you then!  
Jamie Ipsen 399-6848

### **Stitch Group**

Our church PHD\* stitch group meets every Thursday in Poling Conference room beginning September 10 at 10am. Work on whatever project you have. Finish something old, make something new, work on something borrowed, or make something blue! For more info, contact Joan Lindsay, 399-3153. \*Projects Half Done

### **Fifty Years of Painting – A Retrospective By Katherine Trimarco – Starts TODAY**

Join me in the Poling Conference room after worship each Sunday during September and into October for a showing of my paintings created over the last 50 yrs. and let me share with you a lifetime of personal inspiration.

### **Horizon's Bible Study – Sept. 15**

We are using the Presbyterian Women's Horizon's Bible Study entitled "Come to the Waters". Plan on reading the first lesson in preparation for the first session which begins on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 10am in the Poling Conference Room.

### **Directory Pictures Needed**

If you did not get a picture taken by Ralph Rosenthal, send a picture you would like used that is not too silly to 1stReformed@gmail.com

### **Kerygma Conversations – Sept. 16**

A study and discussion of this world and our relation to it, as discovered in science, revealed in Scripture and developed in our theology, will take place each Wednesday this fall, 9:30-11am in Poling Conference rm. Those who've been attending for years and those who come for the first time will alike be warmly welcomed. The resource book, *For the Beauty of the Earth: a Christian Vision of Creation Care*, is available in the Faith Bookshop and church office for perusal and/or purchase. Questions regarding this Adult Education and Nurture opportunity: contact Daniel Carlson.

### **Midweek Feast: Food for Body, Mind & Soul Every Wednesday this fall starting on Sept 16!**

>*Shared Supper at 6--*bring whatever food you enjoy and wish to contribute to the table in Assembly Hall where informal, friendly conversation is enjoyed week by week.

>*Engaging Education at 7--*delve into a study and discussion this September led by Stacey Midge of the timely themes of the Accra Confession

>*Contemplative Communion at 8--*end the evening with a brief, reflective service of song, scripture, silence, the Lord's Supper, and prayerful supplication for those in need.

### **Stephen Ministry – Sept. 17**

Our one-to-one ministry of confidential care for those in difficulty continues this fall. Monthly meetings for continuing education and small group peer supervision for Stephen Ministers resume this week. If you or someone you know is need of compassionate Christian care, contact one our Stephen Leaders, Vernetta Thuener, Maria Todd, or Daniel Carlson.

### **Group VII - Sept. 18**

We will have our Fall Luncheon at the Mohawk Golf Club September 18 at 11:30am. Callers will be contacting Group VII members for reservations and menu selections.

### **Early Bird Sunday Study – Sept. 20**

A new opportunity for adult education and nurture this fall, starting September 20, is geared for those up early Sunday and ready to learn with others before worship. Freshly brewed coffee and sweet treats will be shared by those gathering 8:30-9:30am in Walton Conference room for a discussion, led by Daniel Carlson, regarding the world and our relation to it. The required resource book, *For the Beauty of the Earth* is available in the Faith Bookshop & church office.

### **Short-Shorts Writing Group**

A writing critique group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the Walton Conference room at 7pm. Short-Shorts are stories, essays, memoirs, or other non-fiction works told in 1,000 words or less. For more info, contact James Gonda at [jgonda12309@gmail.com](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

### **Kirk Ringers – Sept. 20**

Kirk Ringers will meet from 11:15 to noon in room 20 (at the top of the stairs) each Sunday, beginning Sept 20th. We have loads of special music planned and lots of participants are needed! Any child of Church School age is invited to join us. No prior experience required!

### **Do you Hear What We Hear? – Sept. 21**

*Klokken Tower Ringers* invite you to explore the interesting musical world of handbells! Fall is start-up time for many of our music programs including handbells. Regardless of previous musical experience we will welcome you and train you! Some music reading skills are helpful and the specific techniques, we teach! What we offer is a unique way to participate in worship and fellowship and a fun experience! All ages are welcomed. Join us at 7pm on Mondays in the Poling Conference Room beginning Sept. 21. Questions can be answered by Judy Moore at [moorebells@gmail.com](mailto:moorebells@gmail.com)

### **What's Your Story? Sept 21 and Sept 29**

Everyone has significant life stories to share, and doing so within the context of a small group committed to gently holding such stories in the light of God's love enables us to better know and appreciate others – and ourselves! A morning group (10-12), led by Kitty Trimarco, will be held on Monday, September, 21. The evening group (7-9), led by Scott Hicks, will be held on Tuesday, September 29. Both groups will meet in the Dirck Romeyn room. If you are interested in participating in either group, contact the church office or one of those noted above.

### **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group - Sept. 24**

We meet every fourth Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 24 at 9:30am at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. We welcome anyone interested in joining us. Please contact Ronnie at 393-7679 with any questions.

### **Banket Baking - Sept. 25**

We **need volunteers** to help bake pastries on Friday, September 25 from 3pm until evening and/or to help with hospitality during Walkabout day. If interested please contact Mary Jewett, 355-8059. We will prepare heritage pastries starting at 3pm in the Assembly Hall.

### **55<sup>th</sup> Stockade Walkabout - Sept. 26**

Volunteer sign-up sheets and Walkabout brochures are in Assembly Hall, on bulletin boards, information racks, or in the church office. For more on being a greeter/guide call Laura Lee, 281-4764. This is an annual Stockade-wide open house and fundraising event highlighting our historic neighborhood from 11am-5pm. We set up exhibits and provide a hospitality room.

### **ART and Lamp Sale during Walkabout**

The Home Furnishings Program of Schenectady will be sponsoring this sale during the Stockade Walkabout. There will be a pre-sale opportunity for church members between 10am and noon on Friday, September 25.

### **New Member Class – Oct. 4**

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 3pm, usually on the first Sunday of the month.

### **Baptismal Buddies – Oct. 4**

A first gathering for newly/soon-to-be baptized babies and their parents as well as expecting parents is scheduled for October 4, following worship, in the Dirck Romeyn room. There will be an informal opportunity for those in this age and stage to get to know one another, learn about resources and practices enabling the fulfillment of the vows made in baptism, and give input on how our church can become more of a place of grace for our youngest members and their parents. There is no cost for this event, but please contact the church office to register.

### **World Communion Sunday – Oct. 4**

On Sunday October 4, in conjunction with World Communion Sunday, we will collect a special offering.

### **Blessing of the Pets – Oct. 4**

On Sunday October 4 at 3pm, all are welcome to bring their furry, finned, or feathered friends to be blessed on the church lawn. We will celebrate God's creation of and care for all living creatures and the unique relationships humans have with our animal companions.

### **New Word Service Starts Oct. 9**

Our congregation is full of stories. We have groups that tell each other stories of their lives (What's Your Story.) We have a group that write short stories of movement and wonder (Flash Fiction/Short-Shorts.) Our community has talented story-tellers of all types. Public radio has stories every day (Moth, StoryCorps, This American Life.) We read our children stories all the time. **And God has stories of faith for us.** Put this all together, and you have a recipe for a fascinating worship service beginning at 7pm.

### **New Literary Magazine Hot Off the Press**

Complimentary copies of *The Beverwyck Anthology* can be found in the Faith Bookshop and the library. *The Beverwyck* is a product of the Flash Fiction Critique Group.

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

Donate them to our church Book Fair to be held on October 18. Fiction, non-fiction, children's (no college text books, please). If you'd like to be part of the Fair in some capacity, see or call Linda Witkowski 374-7904.

### **Room for All National Conference**

Room for All is holding a national conference in celebration of ten years of advocating for the full participation of LGBTQ persons in all aspects of the life and ministry of the RCA. The conference will be at Central Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, MI from October 22-25. Scholarships and travel assistance are available. Registration deadline is October 1. See Stacey for more info.

### **Men's Breakfast Group – Oct. 17**

Please hold the third Saturday of October (10/17) for Breakfast (8:00am as usual) and an interesting presentation on the early history of the automobile industry in New York (yes, New York.) Bring a friend if you can. Any questions or suggestions for future programs, please contact Gene Rowland, erowland@nycap.rr.com; or Joe Doolittle, aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com

### **Worship Readers Meeting – Oct. 18**

On Sunday, October 18 at 9am in Poling Chapel, there will be a meeting of folks who are signed up to read scripture. We will go over scheduling and some delivery issues.

### **FRC Fellowship Lunches – Oct 30**

Fellowship Luncheon will hold its first meeting Friday, October 30 at 11:30am in Assembly Hall. Our hostesses will be Amy Brule and Sally Bestgen. Our speaker, Lynne Gilgore, will tell us about her recent trip to Haiti and the Haiti Water Project of Schenectady Rotary.

### **September 13**

10:00 am ..... Worship/Bible Sunday  
10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
11:00 am ..... Fall Picnic  
5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

### **Monday, September 14**

9:00am ..... Mens Newsgroup  
10:00am ..... What's Your Story Planning Mtg.  
6:00pm ..... Yoga

### **Tuesday, September 15**

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

### **Wednesday, September 16**

9:30am ..... Kerygma Conversations  
1:00 pm ..... Thursday Belles  
6:00 pm ..... Midweek Feast  
7:00 pm ..... Engaging Education Class  
8:00pm ..... Contemplative Communion

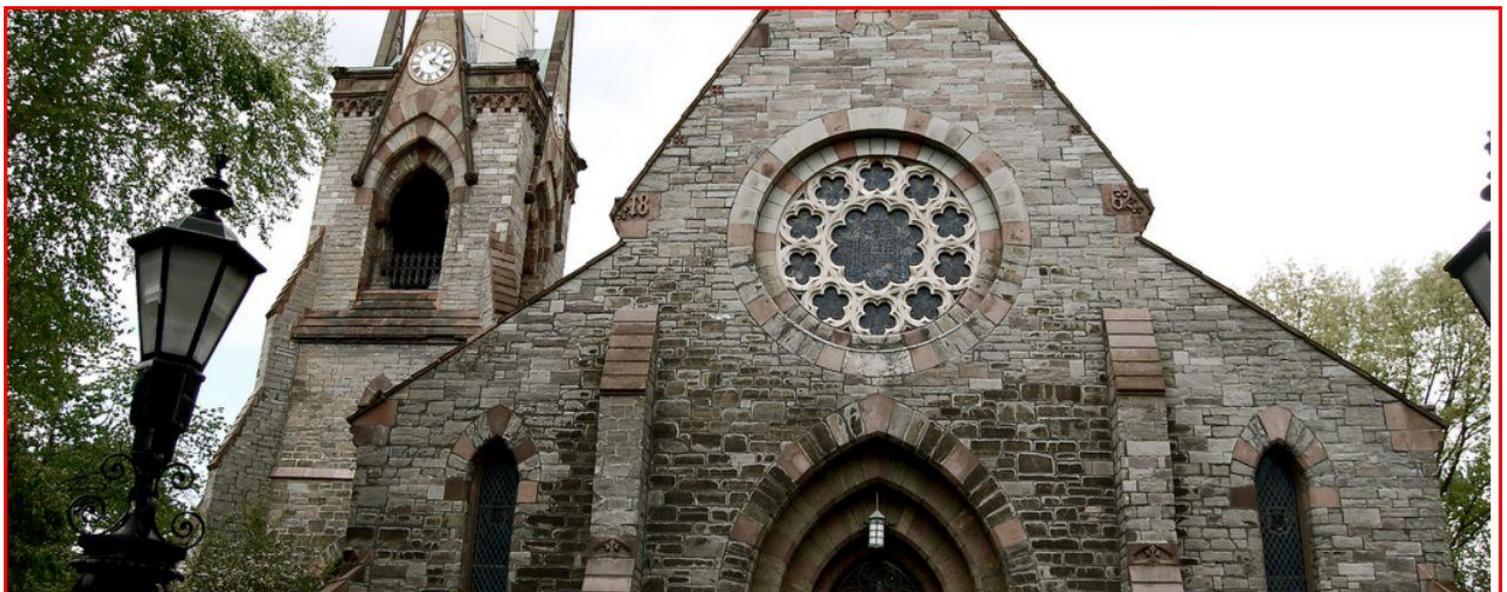
### **Thursday, September 17**

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

### **Sunday, September 20**

8:30 am ..... Early Bird Sunday Study  
9:00 am ..... Chancel Choir  
10:00 am ..... Worship  
10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
11:15 am ..... First Forum  
11:15 am ..... Kirk Ringers  
5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers  
5:00 pm ..... Youth Group

<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Linnea D'Andrea and Vickie McGowan-Horan	David Bundy and Cathy Lewis
<b>Greeters</b>	Bob and Sally Clark	Janet Crandall and Norm Kuchar
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Louise Dickinson and Vernetta Thuener	Cathy Lewis and Becky Mason
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Birdie Blacker	Ginny Laumeister
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	George Davidson, Jeanette Davidson, Phillip Falconer, Mary Jewett, Liz, Mastrianni, Keith Muse, Margaret Schadler, Linda Witkowski	Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis, Bill Rochelle, Richard Rose, Margaret Schadler, Jeanne Shoulder
<b>Reader</b>	Liz Mastrianni	George Trimarco
<b>Refreshments</b>	FALL PICNIC ENJOY!	Volunteers Needed
<b>Ushers</b>	Del Pierce (head usher), Lou Acquasanta, Michael Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Carol Troost	George Davidson (head usher), Lou Acquasanta, Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Richard Davis, Adam Kerwin



“The Seven Social Sins are:

Wealth without work.

Pleasure without conscience.

Knowledge without character.

Commerce without morality.

Science without humanity.

Worship without sacrifice.

Politics without principle.

— Frederick Lewis Donaldson

“Dreams do come true, if only we wish hard enough. You can have anything in life if you will sacrifice everything else for it.” — J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan*

“There are so many ways to be brave in this world. Sometimes bravery involves laying down your life for something bigger than yourself, or for someone else. Sometimes it involves giving up everything you have ever known, or everyone you have ever loved, for the sake of something greater. But sometimes it doesn't. Sometimes it is nothing more than gritting your teeth through pain, and the work of every day, the slow walk toward a better life. That is the sort of bravery I must have now.” — Veronica Roth, *Allegiant*

“Sometimes when you sacrifice something precious, you're not really losing it. You're just passing it on to someone else.” — Mitch Albom, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*

“The really important kind of freedom involves attention, and awareness, and discipline, and effort, and being able truly to care about other people and to sacrifice for them, over and over, in myriad petty little unsexy ways, every day.” — David Foster Wallace, *This Is Water: Some Thoughts, Delivered on a Significant Occasion, about Living a Compassionate Life*

“The ultimate test of man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard.” — Gaylord Nelson

“She taught me all about real sacrifice. That it should be done from love... That it should be done from necessity, not without exhausting all other options. That it should be done for people who need your strength because they don't have enough of their own.” — Veronica Roth, *Allegiant*

“As my sufferings mounted I soon realized that there were two ways in which I could respond to my situation -- either to react with bitterness or seek to transform the suffering into a creative force. I decided to follow the latter course.” — Martin Luther King Jr.

Love is not love

Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove.

O no, it is an ever-fixed mark

That looks on tempests and is never shaken;

It is the star to every wand'ring bark,

Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.”

— William Shakespeare, *Sonnet 116*

“Real magic can never be made by offering someone else's liver. You must tear out your own, and not expect to get it back.”

— Peter S. Beagle, *The Last Unicorn*

“The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But...the good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'” — Martin Luther King Jr.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

“Self-sacrifice? But it is precisely the self that cannot and must not be sacrificed.” — Ayn Rand, *The Fountainhead*

## **First Reformed Church**

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

### **THE CONSISTORY**

#### **MINISTERS**

Bill Levering, Senior Minister  
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister  
Stacey Midge, Associate Minister

#### **OFFICERS**

Peggy King, Bill Ward, Senior Elders  
Catherine Lewis, Treasurer  
Nancy Davidson, Clerk

#### **ELDERS**

Amy Brule  
James Gonda  
Peggy King  
Marilyn Leach  
Adam Mason  
Del Pierce  
Jeanne Shoulder  
Barbara Walton  
Bill Ward  
Caroline Welch

#### **DEACONS**

Linnea D'Andrea  
Fred Daniels  
Gay Doolittle  
Lyn Gordon  
Dave Hjelmar  
Bill Martin  
Vickie McGowan-Horan  
Bill Rochelle  
George Trimarco  
Nancy Wainwright

#### **COVENANTERS**

Brittany Bernardi,  
Paige Convis, Carole Dore

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

Julie Panke, Music Director  
Avery Tunningley, Organist  
Corine Salon, Artistic Coordinator  
Blythe Gieseler, Children's Ministry  
Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music  
Judy Moore, Director of Klokken Tower Ringers  
Sarah Bachorik, Director of Kinderwyck  
Heather Scribner, Office Administrator  
Lauren Cleworth, Office Assistant  
Lyn Gordon, Sunday Receptionist  
Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor  
Diana Wahid, Housekeeper  
Tom Mahan, Sexton

