

***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.



May 22, 2016



First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York, 12305
(518) 377-2201
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 a hearing aid loop system 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 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.

Trinity Sunday

May 22, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Avery Tunningley

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT

Kirk Singers

Allelu

Mimi Farra

*HYMN

Gather Us In

Marty Haugen



1 Here in this place — new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - tery, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van-ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - tory,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peop - les to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire — of love in our flesh and our bone.

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

You invite us to grow in faith throughout our lives, to gain wisdom and increase compassion. Forgive us when we wander, taking steps backward and resisting change even when it is for our good. Help us to see the gifts you give us in one another, and accept both support and challenge. Grow your love in us so it flows out to the world that you so love. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Hallelujah! Halle-lu-jah!

*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

Kirk Singers

Let Us Give Thanks to the Lord

Roger Thornhill & Brad Nix

Let us give thanks to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord

With jubilant voice and joyful noise.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

Nominations for Consistory

The Nominating Committee of FRC is charged to nominate Elders and Deacons to serve two-year Consistory terms. The Committee meets today so please turn in a **yellow nomination form** (located at the sanctuary entrances) with your recommendations. Thank you!

Youth Group Schedule

The youth group is open to all students in grades 6-12, and meets every Sunday night from 5-7pm (unless otherwise indicated) for: discussion, food, learning, fellowship, and service.

Today: Youth Service at 10am/arrive 9:30
End of Year Party at 5pm

All Church Picnic Today - Outside

Come enjoy burgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs and drinks. If you can help with set-up and clean-up we would be very grateful!

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Nat Phipps

May 29: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

June 5: Nat Phipps Trio

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: FRC All Church Picnic

May 29: Coffee and Conversation

June 5: Reception for Rev. Dr. Daniel Carlson

Faith Bookshop

This is a gift-giving time of year: graduations, and birthdays. Before heading to the mall, check the Bookshop where you'll find variety at a range of prices. And, remember, you can order books there at a 30% discount.

Get well cards and notes for Linda Witkowski

Send to Massachusetts General Hospital, Ellison Building, 19th fl, 55 Fruit St, Boston, MA 02114

Church School

Hello Parents! What a wonderful Church year I and the other teachers have had with your children. They have been inspiring and fun. I believe we have learned as much from them as they have from us! Starting this Sunday there will be no more formal Church School classes until fall. There will always be a prepared Craft or game activity for the children each Sunday if anyone chooses to attend, we may be meeting upstairs in room 20, Kinderwyk, or outside (weather permitting), but you will always pick up your children in the Kinderwyk Building. During the Summer, if anyone would be willing to run the craft, game or play activity for a Sunday, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email, call, or text me and let me know if and when you are available. I can even plan the craft and set it up for you if that helps :) Thank you for your continued support and participation and please remember to tell your friends about our fun program! The more the merrier!! Much Love and Friendship. Mrs. Blythe

Horizons Bible Study

The study on the book of Acts will continue on Tuesday mornings at 10 in the Poling conference room through June 7th. Anyone interested is welcome - see Peg Miller for a study guide.

Stitch Group

Our church PHD* stitch group will resume in the fall. At that time we will meet most every Thursday, in Poling Conference room. Work on whatever project you have; finish something old, or make something new. For more info, contact Joan Lindsay, 399-3153. *Projects Half Done.

Student Housing Need

A female PhD student who is doing research in Schenectady over the summer is in need of housing. Contact Dr. Levering if you are interested.

Make Room Campaign Update

Many thanks to the numerous people who have made a pledge and donated to the Make Room Campaign. We stand at just under \$870,000, and we know of several gifts that are outstanding, as well as grant applications in process. So, the fund raising work continues! Meanwhile, **the Phase 2 Design process** is still underway, and during the week of **May 23** our second follow up meeting will be held regarding Education. During the week of May 30 the architect will bring their suggested revisions regarding Music. Thank you, everyone!

Join Prayer Chain Ministry

This vital ministry of intercession and thanksgiving in our church is now welcoming additional participants! Members periodically receive concise requests for prayer via email or phone and then pray as led. Contact Marilyn Leach, who has agreed to co-coordinate this ministry along with Vernetta Thuener, Ann Gotwals, and Daniel Carlson, by phone (374-1022) or email (marilyn.leach64@gmail.com) to share in holding before God those within our community and beyond who are standing in the need of prayer.

Summer Refreshments beginning June 12 move to The Huntley Garden

Beginning June 12, whenever possible, refreshments after the service will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for helping on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall along with an important instruction sheet.

Sacred Spaces Gentle Yoga – May 25

This weekly class started on Wednesday, May 4. It meets from 6-7:15pm and is open to all levels of practice including those who may be new. Bring a yoga mat and any other props you wish to use. For more, call Mary LaFountain (225-3240). She is a licensed clinical social worker and yoga teacher. Cost is \$10 per class and there are two free slots for FRC members.

The Short-Short Writing Group – May 25

A writing critique group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the Schermerhorn Conference room at 7pm. Short-Shorts are stories, essays, memoirs, or other non-fiction works told in 1,000 words or less. Contact James Gonda for more info, at jgonda12309@gmail.com.

Evening Circle – May 25

Our year-end potluck dinner will be held Wednesday, May 25, at 6pm at the home of Sally Bestgen. Please RSVP 346-0304.

Prayer Shawl Knit Group – May 26

We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10am in the home of Ronnie Bartholic, 2305 Almeria Road.

Annual Meeting – June 5

Immediately following worship on June 5, there will be a meeting of the congregation for the purposes of receiving annual reports and the election of officers.

Midmonth Evening Meal and Worship

Our delicious dinners and contemplative worship on Wednesdays transitions to monthly gathering for the warmer months of the year. Join us **June 22** at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a feast--the main dish is provided; sides, salads, desserts are invited. The service which follows at 7pm is optional, though often the destination of diners, and attended by some who don't often come for dinner. In the quiet of Poling Chapel we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace. The rest of the dates are: July 13 and August 17.

Stacey Midge on Study Leave

Stacey will be out of the office on extended study leave until May 28. Bill and Daniel will be covering Stacey's normal areas of ministry.

Camp Scholarships to Fowler

Now is the time to sign kids and youth up for Summer Camp at Fowler. You need to pre-register. Please notify the church office if you are attending Fowler this summer.

Avery Presents – June 3

On Friday, June 3 at 7pm in the Sanctuary we will be treated to a program of sacred music by the St. Thomas the Apostle Church of Delmar choir. This is a roughly 30 voice group which performs traditional & contemporary selections.

Prospective Member Class – June 5

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? Dr. Levering will be leading a membership orientation meeting that includes a tour of the church and a chat about who we are. It lasts 90 minutes and is held at 3pm in the church office.

Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep – June 8

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: June 8, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, and Nov. 9 in 2016. Join three friendly servers at the Salvation Army from 11am-1:30pm. We have fun! Contact Connie Young at 393-7061 or cyoung50@nycap.rr.com.

Word Service - June 10

Our WORD service is a collection of stories about particular topics, much like an NPR feature. This month highlights stories about discoveries. The service is Friday, June 10 at 7pm and presents fine music, autobiographical stories, talks from our short-short fiction group, and a minister or two.

Group VII – June 17

Our Annual Picnic will take place on Friday, June 17 at 11:30am. It will be held at the home of Connie Young, 1400 Keyes Avenue. Call Connie at 393-7061 with any questions.

Stephen Ministry

Stephens Ministers have just concluded studying the crises surrounding pregnancy and child birth. From emotional issues to being confined to bed, there are many problems that can affect this time in life. Our Stephen Ministers are prepared to help you thru the many crisis in life. Talk to Daniel Carlson if you are seeking someone to ease the burdens of life. If you are interested in serving as a Stephen Minister, check out the Stephen Ministry table.

Union Presbyterian Mission Fund

Project Solicitation

The Union Presbyterian Mission Fund Committee has \$12,300 remaining available in 2016 to fund not-for-profit mission projects. It has already distributed \$10,000 to the Home Furnishings Program (third year of a three year commitment) and \$5,200 to the Schenectady Inner City Mission Summer Intern Program. The committee requests project proposals from the congregation. The project may be local (within Schenectady County); regional (within the boundaries of Albany Presbytery & Regional Synod of Albany); national / international; and valued \$1,000 or more. Please submit your proposed project by October 1, 2016 to Liz Mastrianni (lzmastro@gmail.com) or the FRC office. Your suggested project must include:

*Project or Organization Information (Name, Address, Phone, E-mail & Person to Contact)
Your Information (Name, Address, Phone Number and/or E-mail) Description of the Project/
Organization and why it should be considered.*

SICM Summer Lunches - Clarification

FRC will be responsible for feeding hungry children lunch August 8 – September 2 at Yates Village. Look for details in the June *First Things* newsletter. We will not be hosting *Lunches on the Lawn* here at FRC this summer.

Sunday, May 22

10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am All Church Picnic
 12:00 pm Nominating Committee Meeting
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers
 5:00 pm Youth Group End of Year Party
 6:30 pm Confirmation Class

Monday, May 23

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

Tuesday, May 24

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

Wednesday, May 25

9:30 am Kerygma
 11:30 am First Things Volunteers
 6:00 pm Gentle Yoga
 6:00 pm Midmonth Dinner
 7:00 pm Midmonth Worship
 7:00 pm Short-short Writing Group

Thursday, May 26

7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00 am Stitch Group

Sunday, May 29

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
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Linnea D'Andrea and Bill Rochelle	Bill Martin and Nancy Wainwright
Greeters	Jack and Sally Bestgen	Ann and Doug Phillips
Flower Delivery	Darwin and Ellie Brudos Wayne and Amy Brule	Joanne and Kip Arnold Chris and Norm Kuchar
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist	Youth Service	
Preacher	Youth Service	Stacey Midge
Processing Elders	Tom Lindsay, Jeanette Davidson, Brad & Cathy Lewis, Bill Rochelle, Margaret Schadler	Darwin Brudos, Mary Jewett, Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Tom Lindsay, Keith Muse
Reader	Carol Troost	Mary Jewett
Refreshments	All Church Picnic	Lorraine Aumic
Ushers	Del Pierce (head usher), Mike Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Doug Todd, Christine Lund	Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Adam Kerwin, Bill Martin