

***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.

Lord, make me an instrument of thy Peace.
Where there is hatred, Let me sow Love;
Where there is injury, PARDON;
Where there is Doubt, faith;
Where there is DESPAIR, hope;
Where there is DARKNESS, Light;
And where there is sadness, Joy.



O, Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning
that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we
are born to eternal life. ❤️

June 19, 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, during the summer months, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting) 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.

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 19, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Avery Tunningley

You Are My All In All

Dennis Jernigan

As the Deer

Martin Nystrom

Mary Did You Know?

Mark Lowry & Buddy Greene

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN *This is My Father's World* #293

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O God of compassion, we come to you amidst afflictions, divisions, suffering, and death. We are shocked, undone, heart - broken, and angry. Embrace us all in the abundant consolation of Christ our Lord. And in your mercy forgive our willful ignorance, isolating avoidance, debilitating fearfulness, and reactive rage. Lead us by the power of your Spirit to console, encourage, and seek the justice, peace, and life you intend. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(from Our Song of Hope)

We hear the Spirit's call to love one another opposing discrimination of race or sex, inviting us to love one another, and to share at every level

**in work and play
in church and state
in marriage and family
and so fulfill the law of Christ.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Give God the Blues

Shawn Mullins

Andy Chestnut, bass guitar; Bob Ridgway, electric guitar; Johnny Willis, guitar & harmonica

God don't hate the Muslims,
God don't hate the Jews,
God don't hate the Christians,
But we all give God the blues.
God don't hate the atheists,
The Buddhists or the Hindus,
God loves everybody,
But we all give God the blues.

God ain't no Republican,
He ain't no Democrat,
He ain't even Independent,
God's above all that.
Bigger than religion,
He's got a better plan,
The sign says God's "gone fishin'"
for the soul of every man.

God loves old bartenders,
The preachers and the fools,
And that karaoke singer,
Just a-ruinin' "Don't be cruel".
The winners and the losers,
The prisoners and the free,
All the saints and all the sinners,
Even you an' even me.

**God don't hate the Muslims,
God don't hate the Jews,
God don't hate the Christians,
But we all give God the blues.
God don't hate the atheists,
The Buddhists or the Hindus,
God loves everybody,
But we all give God the blues.**

FIRST LESSON

George Trimarco

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit
Amen.

Isaiah 65:1-2 (pg 695)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *2 Corinthians 1:3-5*
(pg 179)

SERMON *Able to Console* Daniel Carlson

*HYMN *God of Compassion* #261

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

One of Us Eric Bazilian

If God had a name what would it be?
And would you call it to his face?
If you were faced with Him in all His glory?
What would you ask if you had just
one question?

And yeah, yeah, God is great.
Yeah, yeah, God is good.

What if God was one of us?
Just a guy like one of us?
Just a stranger on the bus?
Tryin' to make his way home?

If God had a face what would it look like?
And would you want to see if,
seeing meant that you would have to believe in
Things like heaven, and in Jesus
and the saints, and all the prophets?

Back up to heaven all alone,
Nobody calling on the phone,
Just tryin' to make his way home ,
Nobody calling on the phone,
Just like a holy rollin' stone

*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 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* #438

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

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 eternal rest in previous years about this time:

David Packard, Donald Kleiber, Dorothy Van Leeuwen, Robert B. Gilbert, Richard McLane, Robert Marshall, Glenn Roe, Peter J. Von Herrmann, Dorothy Langdon

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.

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 Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of loving father and husband Earl Wainwright by Jeffrey, Timothy and Nancy Wainwright.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Peg Delaney Trio

June 26: Tim Olsen, piano

July 3: TBA

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: Make Room Update – Fred and Lisa

June 26: American Flags & Church,
Bill Levering and Darwin Brudos

Church School for Summer

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. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Blythe.

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.



Summer Refreshments in Huntley Garden

Whenever possible, refreshments after the service will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for helping in Assembly Hall. You will also find an important instruction sheet for summer procedures.

Sacred Spaces Gentle Yoga – June 20

This weekly class moved to Mondays. It meets from 6-7:15pm in the Dirck Romeyn room 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 info, call Mary LaFountain (225-3240). Cost \$10/class and there are two free slots for FRC members.

The Short-Short Writing Group – June 21

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Dirck Romeyn Room. 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

Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-June 22

Join us this Wednesday at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a delicious dinner--the main dish is provided; sides, salads, desserts are invited. A brief contemplative service follows at 7pm, in the quiet of Poling Chapel where we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace. Additional summer dates: July 13 and August 10.

Evening Circle Pot-Luck Picnic - June 22

Yes, this was scheduled for May, but has been postponed. Sally Bestgen has graciously agreed to host (again) and we hope for a wonderful turnout for our year-end pot luck picnic at 6pm. Please let one of the Sallys know that you'll be there. And encourage your friends to join you. Sally B (346-0304) or Sally Clark (377-2154).

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

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

Stephen Ministry Picnic

All currently active & inactive Stephen Ministers (and respective spouses/family members) are invited to our annual summer picnic, Thursday, June 23, 6pm at Lisa Etkin's home. Contact Lisa (lisa@paintingbylisa.com / 631-4410) to indicate you're coming, what you'll bring, & get directions.

Faith Bookshop

If during these summer Sundays you wish to visit the Bookshop and you find it closed, a Bookshop committee member will be glad to help you. Seek out Birdie Blackmer, Bill Clock, Ginny Laumeister or Nancy Wainwright.

Summer Kerygma Conversations-June 29

There's yet room in the circle and a book on the shelf (Dietrich Bonhoeffer's, *Life Together*) for anyone seeking to grow in faith and faithfulness. We meet every other Wednesday of June, July, and August, 9:30-11am, in the Dirck Romeyn room. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate.

The Need for Christian Care

It's rare to get through a day without encountering people who are hurting: those who have lost a job, lost a loved one, gone through divorce, feel anxious and discouraged, or are battling an illness. Stephen Ministers bring God's consolation to those who are hurting. God can make a difference in the lives of others through you! Find out more about Stephen Ministry by visiting the information table outside Assembly Hall today; just follow the signs.

SICM Summer Lunches at Yates

First Reformed members are needed to volunteer everyday for four weeks in August: the weeks of August 8, 15, 22, and 29. It will take one and a half hours of your time. Please sign up in Assembly Hall or the office. You can do one day, one day a week, each day for one week, or whatever fits your schedule. Questions, contact Ellie Rowland at erowland@nycap.rr.com or 250-4302.

Call For Submissions!

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Fiction, non-fiction, travel pieces, memoir, all told in 1,000 words or less are acceptable. Submissions may be emailed as a WORD doc to Rudy and Kathy Petersen, Editors-in-Chief, at threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com. Deadline for submissions is August 31.

Classis Assessment

You have received a letter about our Classis assessment. We are currently assessed \$93.91 a member to keep the denomination & its mission going. It's a lot, but we don't mind since it keeps us together nationally. It's sort of a franchise fee per member.

Lost and Found Basket in Narthex

Current contents include: blue & maroon umbrella, red umbrella, red & green framed glasses, cleaning cloth for glasses, grey sweatshirt, grey winter hat, and a Vail water bottle. Several jewelry items are in the office.

**HAPPY
GATHERERS
DAY**

Sunday, June 19

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

Monday, June 20

9:00 am Mens Newsgroup
 6:00 pm Yoga

Tuesday, June 21

10:00 am Morning Prayer
 7:00 pm Short-short Writing Group

Wednesday, June 22

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

Sunday, June 26

10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Stephen Ministry Info Meeting
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Gay Doolittle and George Trimarco	Linnea D'Andrea and Nancy Wainwright
Greeters	Karen & James Gonda	Lyn Gordon
Flower Delivery	Mary Jane Fisher Karen & James Gonda	Debbie Dingman Jane & Phil Falconer
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist		Stacey Midge
Preacher	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Peggy King, Adam Mason, Kitty Trimarco, Barbara Walton	Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce, Kitty Trimarco, Barbara Walton,
Reader	George Trimarco	Ellie Rowland
Refreshments	Lorraine Aumic	Barbara Walton
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta & Nat Phipps	Bill Clock (head usher), Jacob Ettkin, Ray Bostick, Kay Koroma, Nancy Wainwright

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

James Gonda, Peggy King, Senior Elders
Catherine Lewis, Treasurer
Joanne Bedell, Clerk

ELDERS

Amy Brule
James Gonda
Peggy King
Marilyn Leach
Brad Lewis
Liz Mastrianni
Del Pierce
Jeanne Shoulder
Barbara Walton
Caroline Welch

DEACONS

Andy Chestnut
Fred Daniels
Gay Doolittle
Lyn Gordon
Dave Hjelm
Vickie McGowan-Horan
Bill Rochelle
Richard Rose
Ralph Rosenthal
George Trimarco

COVENANTERS

Katie Hjelm, Jonathan Vanderbeck

CHURCH STAFF

Julie Panke, Music Director
Avery Tunngley, Organist
Corine Salon, Artistic Coordinator
Blythe Czwakiel, 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