

***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.*

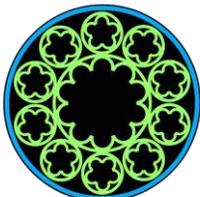
*It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.*

*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 10, 2016*



***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 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](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 10, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Olivia Mancuso

*My Lighthouse* Rend Collective  
*Create in Me* Rend Collective

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Midge

\*HYMN *The Servant Song* Richard Gillard

Will you let me be your servant  
Let me be as Christ to you  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on the journey  
We are siblings on the road  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load

I will hold the Christ light for you  
In the night time of your fear  
I will hold my hand out to you  
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven  
We shall find such harmony  
Born to all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God of compassion, we come to you  
tired from wrestling with things. We are  
empty and broken. Forgive our laziness**

**and fear, we pray. Give us a new sense of  
hope and energy to be the love for the  
world you are to us.**

\*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

*Where We Have To Go* Olivia Mancuso

I took over backseat driving for a while  
I said I think I know where we have to go  
I hadn't seen you smile in the longest time  
So I took hold of the steering wheel

Storm clouds were gathering and holding court  
Far above the road we saw the lightning  
I was struggling to remember  
what we did this for  
Why we were still fighting

But oh we must go, go  
Run into the alleys where the  
children play in the streets  
Oh we must go, go  
Seek out every treasure in each  
holy person that we meet

A violence of the heart that cannot be ignored  
Helpless to the fear that takes control  
I can't handle the weight of the world anymore  
I can't carry it on my own

So we must go, go  
Run into the alleys where the children  
play in the streets  
Oh we must go, go  
Seek out every treasure in each  
holy person that we meet  
Teach us oh teach us  
To love ground beneath us  
And carry us on to a greater tomorrow  
Carry us on to a greater tomorrow

FIRST LESSON Peg Miller  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit  
**Amen.** *Colossians 1:1-14 (pg 199)*

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 10:25-37 (pg71)*

SERMON Stacey Midge  
*Getting Off on a Technicality*

\*HYMN #427 v. 1,2,4,5  
*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

#### OFFERING

OFFERTORY Olivia Mancuso  
*Intermezzo No. 4 in E major, Op. 116*  
Johannes Brahms

\*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 *Take My Life* #391 v. 1,2,6

#### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners  
*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

+ + +

#### **Entered into Eternal Rest**

Linda Van Alstyne – 7/1/16

Memorial Service to be held in September

#### **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:

*Roy Hershey, Susan Staffa, John Metcalf III, Elmer Baldwin, Anne Shepherd Wemple, Jim Shapland, Jean Buchanan, Mary Jane Hasler*

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 Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

#### **In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mildred Gianfagna by the Stabler Family.

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

**Today:** Scott Bassinson, piano

**July 17:** Peg Delaney Trio

**July 24:** David Gleason, piano

## **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.

## **First Forum will resume in the Fall**

Forum happens 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

## **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).

## **Music Notes**

Our Response of Praise is a joyful declaration first heard by John Bell at the Sunrise Hospice in S. Africa. Words and transcription copyright 2008 WGRG, Iona Community Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.  
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## **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.

## **Summer Ice Cream Socials at the Levering's House**

On some Sunday evenings this summer, Bill and Abby will be hosting a time at their place for ice cream and fellowship. While they are inviting certain folks, come on by if you are bored. We will start at 7pm and be done by dark.

## **July 10 – Newcomers-TODAY**

Folks who have joined in the last 2 years or who are thinking about it.

## **July 17 – Youth – Next Sunday**

Young adults, grades 7–12 and college students are welcome. Parents will be in a separate room.

## **Summer Playground Dates start Tomorrow**

Beginning July 11, we will meet every Monday at 10am until the end of August at *Niskayuna's River Road playground* 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 hour. Blythe Czwakiel, our Children's Ministry Director, will be there for any questions and/or suggestions for the Children's Education Program. Please join us for some fun!

## **Kitchen Leftovers**

The Assembly Hall kitchen has acquired many a wayward dish, platter, & bowl (we tend to keep any serving spoons which come our way.) Please retrieve your items from a table in Assembly Hall.

## **Prayer Shawl Knit Group**

We are not meeting in July or August, but will resume in September.

## **Pocket Prayer Shawls**

Designed to fit in a pocket, purse, or backpack and can travel with you. The pocket shawl can remind you of God's comfort, support and closeness. Hold this prayer shawl in your hand and be reminded that God is always with you. Pocket prayer shawls will be available on the tables at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office. There is no charge for the shawls.

### **Sacred Spaces Gentle Yoga**

This weekly class will not be meeting during July or August. It will resume in September. 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 – July 12\***

A writing critique group usually\* 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](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations-July 13**

Meets every other Wednesday of July and August, 9:30-11am, usually in the Dirck Romeyn room. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate.

### **Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-July 13**

Join us this Wednesday at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a delicious dinner-- the main dish is provided; sides, salads, and 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. Final summer date: August 10.

### **Faith Bookshop**

If 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.

### **Call For Submissions!**

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Deadline for submissions is August 31. 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](mailto:threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com).

### **Church Library Story Time - July 16**

All new this summer, we are pleased to invite you and your children and all of their friends to *STORY TIME*. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of July and August we will have Story Time in the library with refreshments available for adults and children in Assembly Hall. We will meet in the Library at 10am. Story Time will include either a read, or told story, and access to the Library for book check out.

### **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](mailto:erowland@nycap.rr.com) or 250-4302.

### **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.

### **Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep**

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: 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](mailto:cyoung50@nycap.rr.com).

### **Stock Contributions**

We love to receive contribution of stock and they are a good way to get a good deduction for appreciated stock without paying tax. However, sometimes brokers don't tell us what is going on. So if you give a gift of stock, please let us know so that we can get the right number in the right place. Contact Heather and let her know. And thanks.

+ + +

“If we were to behave half as well as we believe others ought to behave, we might prove ourselves as grand in character as excuses and justifications prevent us from being.”

— Richelle E. Goodrich

“Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

— Robert F. Kennedy

“There was always a screen behind which one could hide— a superior who in turn had his superior— orders, instructions, duties, commands— and finally the many-headed monster, morale, necessity, hard reality, responsibility, or whatever it was called— there was always a screen behind which to evade the simple law of humanity.”

— Erich Maria Remarque, *Arch of Triumph: A Novel of a Man Without a Country*

“On the parable of the Good Samaritan: "I imagine that the first question the priest and Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But by the very nature of his concern, the good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'”

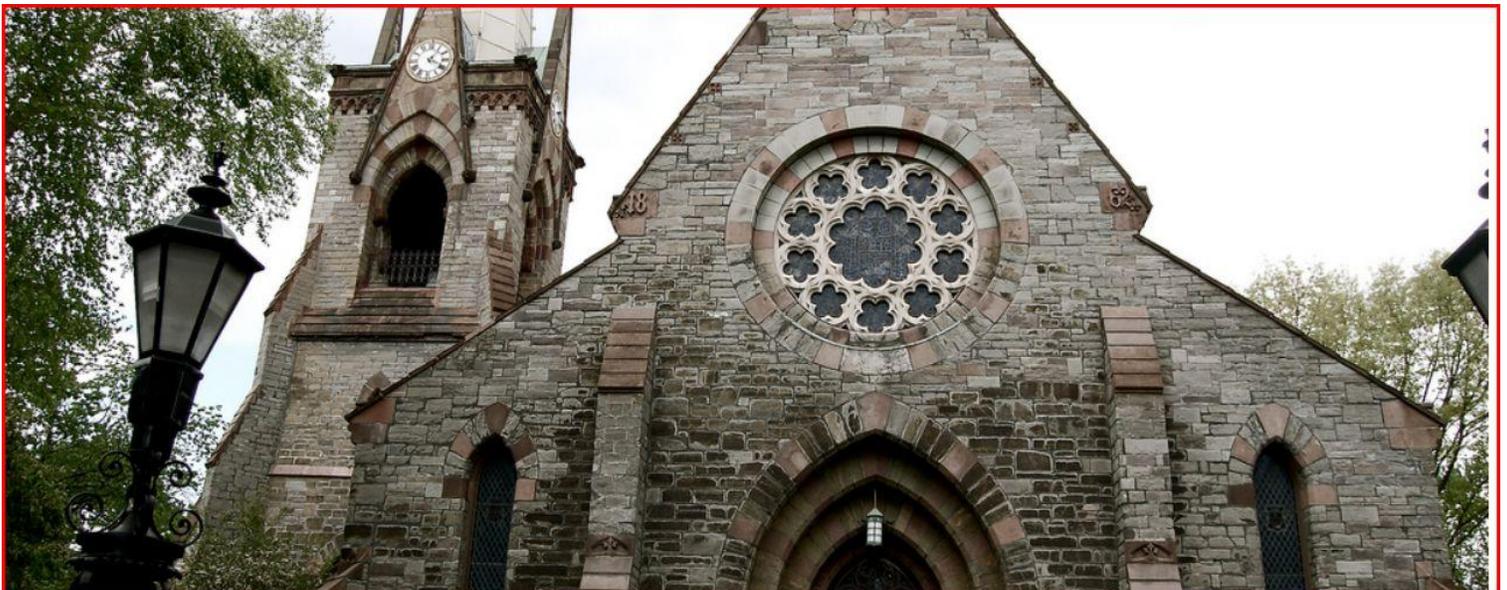
— Martin Luther King Jr., *Strength to Love*

“We instinctively tend to limit for whom we exert ourselves. We do it for people like us, and for people whom we like. Jesus will have none of that. By depicting a Samaritan helping a Jew, Jesus could not have found a more forceful way to say that anyone at all in need - regardless of race, politics, class, and religion - is your neighbour. Not everyone is your brother or sister in faith, but everyone is your neighbour, and you must love your neighbour.”

— Timothy Keller, *Generous Justice: How God's Grace Makes Us Just*

“Do you wish me a good morning, or mean that it is a good morning whether I want it or not; or that you feel good this morning; or that it is a morning to be good on?”

— J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*



**Sunday, July 10**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers  
 7:30 pm ..... *Newcomers* Ice Cream Social  
 ..... at the Levering's home

**Monday, July 11**

9:00 am ..... Men's News Group

**Tuesday, July 12**

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

**Wednesday, July 13**

9:30 am ..... Kerygma  
 1:00 pm ..... Archives

**Wednesday, July 13 continued**

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

**Thursday, July 14**

9:00 am ..... Staff Meeting

**Saturday, July 16**

10:00 am ..... Story Time FRC Library

**Sunday, July 17**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers  
 7:30 pm ..... *Youth* Ice Cream Social

| <b>Sunday Volunteers</b> | <b>This Sunday</b>  | <b>Next Sunday</b>   |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Counting Deacons</b>  | Joan Lindsay and Bill Martin  | Claire Hughes and Bill Rochelle  |
| <b>Greeters</b>          | Gay and Joe Doolittle   | Darryl and Cathy Wisniewski  |
| <b>Flower Delivery</b>   | Lynne Gilgore<br>Doug and Ann Phillips  | The Mancuso Family<br>Tom and Linnea D'Andrea  |
| <b>Faith Bookshop</b>    | Committee Member  | Committee Member   |
| <b>Liturgist</b>         | Daniel Carlson  | Stacey Midge   |
| <b>Preacher</b>          | Stacey Midge  | Bill Levering  |
| <b>Processing Elders</b> | Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, Del Pierce, Barbara Walton                    | Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle, Jeanne Shoulder                                      |
| <b>Reader</b>            | Peg Miller  | Barbara Walton   |
| <b>Refreshments</b>      | Vickie and Mike Horan   | Lois Stickney  |
| <b>Ushers</b>            | Del Pierce (head usher),<br>Nat & Berta Phillips,<br>Adam Kerwin, Alden Brown | Art Shultes (head usher),<br>Jeanette & Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay, Jim & Sharron McCullough |