

***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.*

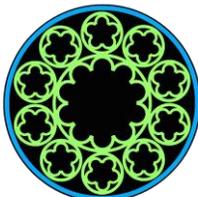
*It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.*

*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 24, 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 children through age four is available from 9:45am until noon in Dykstra Chapel, which is located in the back left corner of the Sanctuary.

### 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.

# Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

July 24, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley  
*A Trumpet Air* Henry Purcell  
*Reflection* James Pethel  
*The Royal Banners* James Mansfield

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Jonathan Vanderbeck  
The grace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

\*HYMN #138  
*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

\*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 Rachel Rose  
*His Eye is on the Sparrow* Charles Gabriel

FIRST LESSON Gene Rowland  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit  
**Amen.** *Psalm 85 (pg 543)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 11:1-13 (pg72)*

SERMON *Friendly Prayers* Bill Levering

\*HYMN #403  
*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  
*Quoniam tu solus Sanctus* Antonio Vivaldi  
For You alone are holy,  
You alone are Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.

\*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 #539  
*Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

+ + +

### **Entered into Eternal Rest**

Sally Marshall – 7/17/16

Memorial Service to be held

Sunday, July 31 at 2pm in the Sanctuary

### **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:

*George Feiker, Richard Gordon, Alice Junker, Rhonda Phillips, Leonard B. Vandenberg, Albert Demont, Jean Diesem*

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.

### **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, or outside (weather permitting), but you will always pick up your children in room 20. Contact Blythe to volunteer to help.

### **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.

### **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

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

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.

### **August 14 – Great Consistory**

Elders and Deacons ever ordained in any denomination are welcome to gather and share the wisdom of the ages.

### **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. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

### **Kitchen Leftovers**

All kitchen leftovers (platters, bowls, etc.) leftover on the table in Assembly Hall today are free to whomever would put them to good use. All remaining will be donated. In the future, please put name on bottom of containers so to assure that all is not lost. In general, it is not necessary to provide utensils as we already have quite a collection. Thank you!



### **Summer Refreshments**

Whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for preparation, cleanup, and refreshments by yourself or with a friend. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall.

### **Summer Playground Dates on Mondays**

Every Monday at 10am until the end of August, we will meet 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!

### **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.

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

**Today:** David Gleason, piano

**July 31:** 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

**Aug 7:** Tim Olsen Trio

### **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.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations-July 27**

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

### **The Short-Short Writing Group – Aug 2**

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](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

### **Archaeology at FRC Open House – Aug 6**

First Reformed has been having a very successful Community Archaeology Program (SCCC-CAP). If you are curious about the excavation that has been happening in the church's front yard, there will be an open house on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 10am to 2pm. Stop by and check it out.

### **Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-Aug. 10**

Join us in a few weeks 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.

### **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.

### **Church Library Story Time – August 20**

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.

### **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).

### **Stephen Ministry Summer Supervision**

Beginning at 6:30pm this Thursday in the Dirck Romeyn room, an informal small group peer supervision session will be facilitated by our Stephen Leaders for all Stephen Ministers with care receivers who wish to receive support in their caregiving.

### **Stock Contributions**

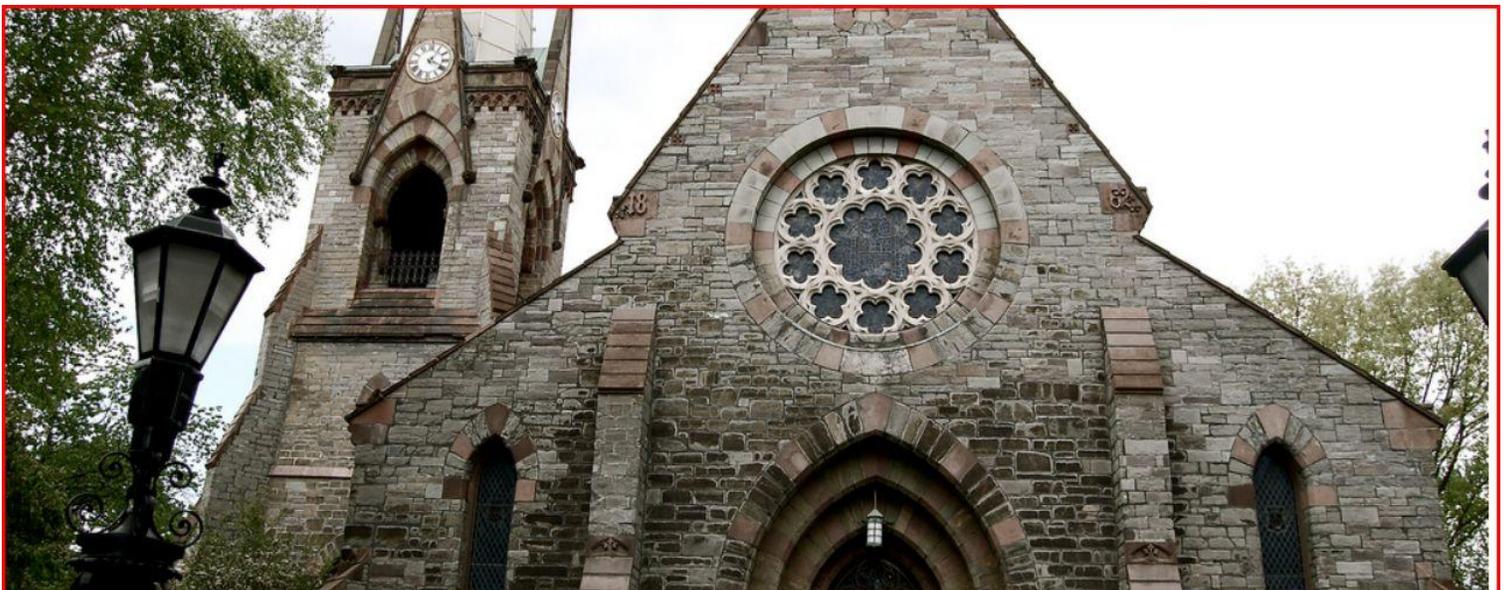
We love to receive contribution of stock and they are a good way to get a good deduction for appreciated stock without paying tax. However, sometimes brokers don't tell us what is going on. So if you give a gift of stock, please let us know so that we can get the right number in the right place. Contact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

### **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.

### **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).



“Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul. It is daily admission of one's weakness. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

“The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.”

— Søren Kierkegaard

“Forgive me my nonsense as I also forgive the nonsense of those who think they talk sense.”

— Robert Frost

“Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”

— Mother Teresa

“I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day.”

— Abraham Lincoln

“The more you pray, the less you'll panic. The more you worship, the less you worry. You'll feel more patient and less pressured.”

— Rick Warren, *The Purpose of Christmas*

“Why must people kneel down to pray? If I really wanted to pray I'll tell you what I'd do. I'd go out into a great big field all alone or in the deep, deep woods and I'd look up into the sky—up—up—up—into that lovely blue sky that looks as if there was no end to its blueness. And then I'd just feel a prayer.”

— L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

“Dear Jesus, do something.”

— Vladimir Nabokov, *Pale Fire*

“In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart.”

— John Bunyan

“May God break my heart so completely that the whole world falls in.”

— Mother Teresa

“We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all. Most of us would prefer, however, to spend our time doing something that will get immediate results. We don't want to wait for God to resolve matters in His good time because His idea of 'good time' is seldom in sync with ours.”

— Oswald Chambers

“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?”

— Corrie ten Boom

“Under certain circumstances, profanity provides a relief denied even to prayer.”

— Mark Twain

“When every hope is gone, 'when helpers fail and comforts flee,' I find that help arrives somehow, from I know not where. Supplication, worship, prayer are no superstition; they are acts more real than the acts of eating, drinking, sitting or walking. It is no exaggeration to say that they alone are real, all else is unreal.”

— Mahatma Gandhi, *The Story of My Experiments With Truth*

“If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough.”

— Meister Eckhart

**Sunday, July 24**

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

**Monday, July 25**

9:00 am ..... Men's News Group  
 7:00 pm ..... Creation Care

**Tuesday, July 26**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer

**Wednesday, July 27**

9:30 am ..... Kerygma

**Thursday, July 28**

6:30 pm ..... Stephen Ministry Small Groups

**Sunday, July 31**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 2:00 pm ..... Sally Marshall Memorial Service  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Lyn Gordon and Barbara Walton	Richard Gardner and Vickie McGowan-Horan
<b>Greeters</b>	Gene and Ellie Rowland	The Ettkin Family
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	The Rose Family Helle Moore & Ralph Rosenthal	Claire Hughes David & Donna Bundy
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>	Jonathan Vanderbeck	Jonathan Vanderbeck
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Darwin Brudos, Amy Brule, Barbara Walton, Richard Rose	James Gonda, Peggy King, Wayne & Amy Brule, Kitty Trimarco, Gene Zeltmann
<b>Reader</b>	Gene Rowland	Amy Brule
<b>Refreshments</b>	Tricia Shaw	Chris Kuchar
<b>Ushers</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Nat & Berta Phipps