

***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 18, 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 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, 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 usually posted at 1stReformed.com after a few days. Live streaming is also available there.

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.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE John Norton, piano

Prelude No. 23 in B major J.S. Bach
from Well-tempered Clavier, Bk.1

Prelude and Fugue No. 1 in C Major
from Well-tempered Clavier, Bk. II

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

INTROIT *Come, All You Oceans*
Zimbabwean

*HYMN

The Earth Is Yours Michael Gungor

**Your voice it thunders
The oaks start twisting
The forest sounds with cedars breaking
The waters see You and start their writhing
From the depths a song is rising
Now it's rising from the ground**

*Holy, Holy
Holy, Holy Lord
the earth is Yours and singing
Holy, Holy
Holy, Holy Lord
The earth is Yours
The earth is Yours*

**Your voice it thunders
The ground is shaking
The mighty mountains now are trembling
Creation sees You
And starts composing
The fields and trees they start rejoicing.
Now it's rising from the ground
(Chorus)**

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O God of all creation, help us to know how to care for the world. We confess that we are dull and lazy guardians of the treasures of this planet. Give us wisdom and energy to pursue new solutions to overwhelming problems. We confess that we are stuck in our self-centered ways. Change our hearts, we pray, and lead us to a deeper joy.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.**

CELEBRATING THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Lilith Mary Renee Pennant

Parents: Bri and Lee Pennant

Atlas David Parker-Spagnola

Parents: Stephanie Parker & Derek Spagnola

*SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support these new members of our family of faith by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

We do.

*BLESSING AND WELCOME

Welcome these new members of our family of faith.

Joyfully we receive you. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

O Be Joyful to God John Purifoy

O be joyful to God! Sing Jubilate Deo!

O be joyful ye lands,
and let your voices resound!

Sing and be glad, O be joyful to God!

Let the rivers clap their hands!

Let the sea roar!

Let the rocks cry out,
and ev'ry mountain rejoice!

Let all creation now be joyful to God.

Come into His courts with thankful praise.

Enter His gates with joy!

For the Lord is good and His mercy is sure.

Give thanks and bless His name!

We are the sheep of His pasture.

Come, let us worship and bow down.

It is He who has made us,
we belong to Him.

Adapted from Psalms 98 and 100

FIRST LESSON

Jim Miller

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit

Amen.

Job 38:1-18 (pg 484)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 5:1-11 (pg 62)

SERMON

Stacey Midge

Water, Water Everywhere

*HYMN

#494 to Hyfrydol

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The River is Here

Andy Park

Stacey Midge and Daniel Carlson, soloists

Down the mountain the river flows
and it brings refreshing wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields
the river is rushing and the river is here.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
the river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice, for the river is here.

The river of God is teeming with life
and all who touch it can be revived.
And those who linger on this river's shore
will come back thirsting for more of the Lord

Up to the mountain, we love to go
to find the presence of the Lord;
Along the banks of the river we run,
We dance with laughter, giving praise to the Son.

*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

Baptized in Water

#492

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Twofold Amen

Dresden

POSTLUDE

Sicilian Mariners

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

Entered into Eternal Rest

Mary Jane Getty – 09/09/16

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 Vlahides, Thomas Teichner, Loisanna Hager Veeder, Patricia Herman, Jean Morgan David Erwin Bain

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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Bain by his wife Audrey.

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.

Music Notes

The Earth is Yours, Michael Gungor. (c)worship together.com songs. Used by permission under CCLI #11256325.

United Prayer Ministry

Vernetta Thuener, who had a fall and fractured her hip is recovering well from the least invasive and extensive surgery (Three pins in hip) and anticipates a brief stay in Sunnyview before going home. She is so grateful for all our prayers and other forms of care!

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: Missionary from Southern Sudan, Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather

Sept 25: “Get Out the Vote” SICM Program

Oct 2: Report on Trip to Zambia
Rev. Bill Levering & Andy Chestnut

Church School

Church School is back in session! We are so excited for the new school year, and hope that you are planning to spend lots of time learning, laughing, and playing with us this year. Children in grades K-5 are invited to go upstairs for church school after the Children's Message; those in grades 6-8 may choose whether to remain in the service or help out with the younger children. Additional teachers are needed, so if any parents or other adults are willing to volunteer regularly or as a substitute, please contact Shannon Kerwin or the office.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Peg Delaney Trio

Sept. 25: David Gleason Trio

Oct 2: Nat Phipps Trio

Communion Classes - TODAY

Today and next week, children in grades 3 and above will be participating in the communion class taught by the ministers. Even those who have already received communion should come - there is always something more to learn! This class happens during the normal Church School time.

Youth Group Schedule

Youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join any or all of our youth group events, and friends are always invited. We have service projects and active social events approximately monthly. Our first service project of the year is on **October 8** from 1-4pm at Safe Inc., an emergency shelter and outreach program for homeless, runaway, and exploited youth at 1344 Albany Street. Youth should be dropped off at Safe House, located at 1344 Albany Street.

Faith Bookshop

The Bookshop, located across from the library, is open at its regular hours again: briefly before the Sunday church service and until 11:45 after. At the moment, we are unable to take book orders, but we'll inform you when that resumes. We do have new-to-us books, however, that include donations from church-goers, for which we charge a very modest price, and from the church library, which are free.

Post-service Refreshments Return to Assembly Hall Today

Join us for refreshments after worship in Assembly Hall. Please participate in our Hospitality ministry; your food contributions are needed as attendance reverts to normal levels. Instructions for service are posted next to the sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall. Thank you!

Many Hands Make Light Work

By all accounts, last Sunday's Fall picnic extravaganza was a huge success. Plenty of food, perfect weather, a big crowd, and a sno cone machine thrown in just for kicks. A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who pitched in from set-up to clean-up to grilling to make our church shindig a fun and enjoyable experience.

Stitch Group

Our church stitch group meets every Thursday at 10am in Poling Conference room. Work on whatever project you have. For more info, contact Joan Lindsay, 399-3153.

Kirk Ringers, Singers & Orff - TODAY

Kirk Ringers, Singers, and Orff will meet from 11:15am to noon in room 20 (at the top of the stairs) each Sunday, beginning today. 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. Come and find out what we are all about. If you have any questions please contact Jamie Ipsen, 399-6848.

Youth Orchestra

If you have been playing an instrument for two or more years and would like to be part of a fun group, please phone Jamie Ipsen 399-6848. Rehearsal day and time will be determined by the participants.

Ring into Fall! – September 19

Klokken Tower Ringers cordially invite you to come and experience the joy of handbell ringing! We are a warm musical community within the life of FRC and would love to share this experience with you! Music reading skills are encouraged and ringing skills will be happily taught. Our usual rehearsal date is Monday at 7pm in the Poling conference room. Curious? Be in touch & we can give you all the details about our upcoming season! Judy Moore, jbmnotes@nycap.rr.com

Horizon Bible Study

We meet every Tuesday at 10am in the Poling Conference room. Last week we started our nine-week study on "Who Is Jesus?" The study materials have arrived and can be obtained from Peg Miller for \$8 per copy. Join us.

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.

Kerygma Conversations

This fall and winter's sessions focusing on church history as it informs our seeking faithful living in the present is fully subscribed. Group leader, Daniel Carlson may be contacted for further information.

Tuesday Ladies – September 20

Meetings are every third Tuesday of the month in the home of Connie Young. Please call Connie at 393-7061 if you have any questions or for more information.

Join Us for Chat 'n' Chew

We began our first week of Chat 'n' Chew this week and had a great time in fellowship, conversation, and food with members of the church community. As outreach continues with SCCC, we anticipate students will soon be joining us for these meals as well.

EVERY Wednesday from 5:30-7pm, we gather in Assembly Hall to enjoy a home-cooked meal, spend time in community and conversation, and talk about various topics on religion, faith, and culture. ALL are welcome, particularly if you are looking to get to know our new Covenanter, Rev. Jonathan, who is running the program.

We are still looking for volunteers! Please get in contact with Jonathan if you are able to help by e-mailing him at RevJonathan16@gmail.com, or calling him at (616) 822-3644. Thanks, and we hope to see you soon!

The Short-Short Writing Group – Sept. 20

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in Assembly Hall. 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.

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

We will resume on September 22 at the home of Ronnie Bartholic 393-7679.

Johnson Memorial Library

Because of illness, the Johnson Library will not be fully staffed going into the fall. Church members are still invited to enjoy and make use of the library's collection. Books may be borrowed for four weeks. On the card in the back of the book, list your name, address, and phone number. Try to be diligent in returning books on time. We want to thank our volunteers for the great efforts they provide to manage and track our fine collection. Enjoy the library for all it has to offer.

Dessert and Discussion on Palestine – Sept 22

Salam Qumsiyeh is a Palestinian Christian visiting RCA churches around New York to educate American Christians about life in Palestine. Through conversation, we seek to increase our understanding of Palestinian people, deepen our connections to the global church, and increase our capacity to address our fear of the "other." Join us for dessert and an informal discussion with this lively and engaging visitor at 7pm on Sept. 22 in Assembly Hall. All are welcome, but please RSVP to the church office so we can provide enough coffee and desserts!

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast group will meet on Saturday, October 1. Our meetings begin at 8am in Assembly Hall, and are completed by 9:30. Following a light breakfast, we will briefly outline plans for the 2016-2017 season before introducing our speaker. James Gonda will be the speaker for that day, and he will discuss the Short-Short Writers' Group which he coordinates at FRC. We are anxious to increase our attendance, so we encourage all men of FRC to attend and to bring a friend. Spouses and other women from FRC are welcome to attend also, so don't hesitate to come if the program interests you. Please watch your email for future program announcements, and let us know if you are not on the email distribution.

New Member Class - October 2

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? Dr. Levering will be leading membership orientation meetings that include 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 on the first Sundays of the month.

World Communion Sunday – October 2

On Sunday October 2, in conjunction with World Communion Sunday, we will collect the offering for *One Great Hour of Sharing*. One Great Hour of Sharing supports projects that break the cycles of poverty, hunger, and thirst, as well as providing aid during times of crisis.

Blessing of the Pets - October 2

On Sunday, October 2 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. If your pet is sick, difficult to transport, or uncomfortable around other animals, feel free to bring a picture or just the name. In the past we have blessed many dogs, a few cats, a ferret, and even a snake!

Church Directories

We are currently making revisions to the directory. If you have had an address change, please be sure to let us know on a white pew card or by calling the church office at 377-2201. We will be printing them in October.

Avery Presents – October 7

On October 7, at 7pm in Poling Chapel, pianist William Smith will perform a recital including works by Beethoven, Chopin, Schubert, and Liszt. William is a gifted young musician and this is sure to be a wonderful evening of classical music. Admission is free and a reception will follow.

Stephen Minister Training Begins

This week the Stephen Ministry training class will be considering the subject of Feelings: Yours, Mine, and Ours. In this session they will be exploring the importance of recognizing and accepting all the feelings people have.

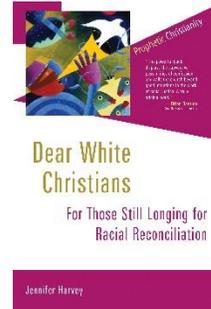
Who Might You Be?

October 9 is New Member Sunday and Name Tag Sunday. Please be sure to welcome our new congregants and wear your name tag.

Word Service Starts Friday, October 14

Our WORD service is a collection of stories about particular topics, much like an NPR feature. It takes place on the second Friday of the month. The service resumes on Friday, October 14 at 7pm. The service presents fine music, autobiographical stories, works from our short-short fiction group, and a minister or two.

Justice Action Committee Book Study



Our new community minister, Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck gave an excellent presentation on the book that he will be leading a discussion on, titled *Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation*, at our First

Forum on the Sep. 4. We will begin this study on Sunday, Oct. 2 after First Forum. We'll be enjoying lunch together and meeting from 12:15-1:30p. Pick up a copy of the book from the church office for \$20, and receive your discussion guide at the same time. The group will run Oct. 2, 16, 30, and Nov. 13. If you have any questions, please call Jonathan at (616) 822-3644 or e-mail at RevJonathan16@gmail.com

Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: 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.

Let's Do Lunch

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring lunch at the Casola Dining Room at SCCC on Tuesday, October 11, at noon. The menu's theme is "Autumn Harvest" and will include an appetizer, the entrée, and dessert. Cost: \$16. To reserve your spot, contact Gay Doolittle by 9/26 at 399-0499 or overdoo@msn.com.

Group VII

Our next meeting will be on Friday, October 21 at 10am in the Dirck Romeyn room.

Union Presbyterian Mission Fund Committee

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.

Office Help

The church office is looking for volunteers to help out between the hours 2-4pm Mon-Fri, even if it is one or two days or once a month. Contact Heather at 377-2201 for further information.

A Heartfelt Thank You

A big thank you for all the FRC members, who helped the summer lunch program at Yates Village for four weeks this August. We served an average of 42-45 children each day. Our site manager was excellent this year and the site had been refurbished, so it was a comfortable experience. The interaction with the children really made it fun.

We wish to thank Marey Bailey, Joanne Bedell, Ellie & Darwin Brudos, Amy Brule, Sally Clark, Gay & Joe Doolittle, Ann Gotwals, Peggy King, Marilyn & Don Leach, Gini McDermott, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Ingle-Lise Pangburn, Ellie & Gene Rowland, Lois Stickney, Carol Troost, Barbara & Ernie Walton, Alexis & Darryl Wisniewski.

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!

Christmas Tree Decorations Sought for Lunn

Every year the Schenectady Historical Society holds a Festival of Trees event at Christmas time. The trees are voted on, and donated to families in need. This year, the Lunn Resource Center will decorate a tree with the theme: "Hearts, hands and voices... We're Better Together!" The tree will be on display November 14 through December 19, and will be a great way for new people to learn about the work of the Lunn Center. We already have the tree, but would very much appreciate donations of white tree lights or silver and blue Christmas tree ornaments. Contact Lynne Gilgore, lunncenter@gmail.com or 925-0815.

Sunday, September 18

10:00 am Worship/Baptisms
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Kirk Ringers/Singers, Orff
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, September 19

9:00 am Mens News Group
 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Initial Training
 7:00 pm Klokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, September 20

10:00 am Morning Prayer
 10:00 am Horizon Bible Study
 7:00 pm Short-Short Writing Group

Wednesday, September 21

9:30 am Kerygma Conversations
 5:30 pm Chat 'n' Chew

Thursday, September 22

7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00 am Stitch Group
 7:00 pm Dessert & Discussion on Palestine
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Sunday, September 25

9:30 am Chancel Choir
 10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Kirk Ringers & Singers, Orff
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Dick Gardner and Bill Rochelle	Dave Hjelmar and Vickie McGowan-Horan
Greeters	Karen Giuzio	Jeanne Shoulder
Flower Delivery	Jim and Peg Miller John and Karen Norton	Joyce and Jerry Griggs
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Peggy King, Bill Rochelle, Richard Rose, Barbara Walton	Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Brad & Cathy Lewis
Reader	Jim Miller	Peg Miller
Hospitality		Joyce Beland
Ushers	Bill Clock (head usher), Ray Bostick, Jacob Etkin, Kay Koroma, Nancy Wainwright	Del Pierce (head usher), Mike Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Christine Lund

Thousands have lived without love, not one
without water. - W. H. Auden

The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears
or the sea. - Isak Dinesen

Saving our planet, lifting people out of poverty,
advancing economic growth... these are one and
the same fight. We must connect the dots
between climate change, water scarcity, energy
shortages, global health, food security and
women's empowerment. Solutions to one
problem must be solutions for all.
- Ban Ki-moon

Everything we do, even the slightest thing we
do, can have a ripple effect and repercussions
that emanate. If you throw a pebble into the
water on one side of the ocean, it can create a
tidal wave on the other side. - Victor Webster

“I must be a mermaid, Rango. I have no fear of
depths and a great fear of shallow living.”
— Anaïs Nin

“We need the tonic of wildness...At the same
time that we are earnest to explore and learn all
things, we require that all things be mysterious
and unexplorable, that land and sea be
indefinitely wild, unsurveyed and unfathomed by
us because unfathomable. We can never have
enough of nature.” — Henry David Thoreau,
Walden: Or, Life in the Woods

“The sea does not like to be restrained.”
— Rick Riordan, *The Lightning Thief*

“She loves the serene brutality of the ocean,
loves the electric power she felt with each breath
of wet, briny air.” — Holly Black, *Tithe*

“The heart of man is very much like the sea, it
has its storms, it has its tides and in its depths it
has its pearls too” — Vincent Van Gogh, *The
Letters of Vincent van Gogh*

“Darwin may have been quite correct in his
theory that man descended from the apes of the
forest, but surely woman rose from the frothy
sea, as resplendent as Aphrodite on her scalloped
chariot.” — Margot Datz, *A Survival Guide for
Landlocked Mermaids*

“I have been feeling very clearheaded lately and
what I want to write about today is the sea. It
contains so many colors. Silver at dawn, green at
noon, dark blue in the evening. Sometimes it
looks almost red. Or it will turn the color of old
coins. Right now the shadows of clouds are
dragging across it, and patches of sunlight are
touching down everywhere. White strings of
gulls drag over it like beads. It is my favorite
thing, I think, that I have ever seen. Sometimes I
catch myself staring at it and forget my duties. It
seems big enough to contain everything anyone
could ever feel.”

— Anthony Doerr, *All the Light We Cannot See*

“hark, now hear the sailors cry,
smell the sea, and feel the sky
let your soul & spirit fly, into the mystic...”
— Van Morrison

“The sea, the snotgreen sea, the
scrotumtightening sea.” — James Joyce, *Ulysses*

“Water, water, everywhere,
And all the boards did shrink;
Water, water, everywhere,
Nor any drop to drink.”
— Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *The Rime of the
Ancient Mariner*

“It is a curious situation that the sea, from which
life first arose should now be threatened by the
activities of one form of that life. But the sea,
though changed in a sinister way, will continue
to exist; the threat is rather to life itself.”
— Rachel Carson, *The Sea Around Us*

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 Hjelmar
Vickie McGowan-Horan
Bill Rochelle
Richard Rose
Ralph Rosenthal
George Trimarco

COVENANTER

Jonathan Vanderbeck

CHURCH STAFF

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