

***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 25, 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 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 usually posted at [1stReformed.com](http://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.

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 25, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Norman Thibodeau, flute  
Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin

*Divertimento No. 2 in G Major*

Johann Christian Fischer (1733-1800)

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Come, All You Bright Stars*  
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

(*FRC Creation Care Resolution*)

**God, through Word and Spirit,  
creates, sustains, loves, and owns the  
world.  
We commit to the blessing of the world,  
the strengthening of our lives,  
the transformation of our communities,  
and the glory of God.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

*God, Who Built this Wondrous Planet*

Please join the choir in singing verses 1 and 4 of today's Anthem. Words and music are on the next page.

# God, Who Built This Wondrous Planet

Quoting REGENT SQUARE

Henry T. Smart, 1813–79

John Ferguson

Jaroslav J. Vajda



All 1 God, who built this won - drous plan - et And all worlds be -  
Choir 2 *Christ, You build a ho - ly struc - ture That, like You, out -*  
Choir 3 *Spir - it, make Your Church a bea - con Beam - ing hope where*  
All 4 Liv - ing Fa - ther, liv - ing child - ren, Liv - ing ser - vants,



yond these bounds, Crown Your work and ours with bless - ing,  
*lasts the earth; Cho - sen like Your - self, You make us*  
*hop - ing wanes, · Dai - ly in these stones cre - at - ing*  
liv - ing Lord; Liv - ing Sav - ior, liv - ing Bod - y,



Meet us here on hal - lowed ground. With Your glo - ry  
*Liv - ing stones of price - less worth; Home, where prod - i -*  
*Life where death no long - er reigns, And in grate - ful*  
Liv - ing mem - bers, liv - ing Word; Liv - ing Spir - it,



fill this tem - ple, Here be sought and here be found.  
*gals re - turn - ing, Cel - e - brate with ho - ly mirth.*  
*hearts for - giv - en Spark the love the world but feigns.*  
liv - ing tem - ple; We a - dor - ing, You a - dored!

FIRST LESSON Peg Miller  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit  
**Amen.** *Psalm 148 (pg 582)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Genesis 1:1-4 (pg 1)*

SERMON Bill Levering  
*The Struggle and Joy  
of Thinking About Everything All at Once*

\*HYMN #268  
*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Musicians of Ma'alwyck  
*Soave from the Sonata TWV 42:4*  
Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

\*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 #285  
*God, You Spin the Whirling Planets*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE  
*Threefold Amen* Robert Bennett

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:

*Elizabeth Nicholson, Ethel Kiess Betka,  
Claribel Wescott Linder*

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.

**United Prayer Ministry**

Linda Witkowski asks our prayers as she & Jack travel again to Boston for a further consultation & potential operation on her right lung.

**Music Notes**

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

**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:** "Get Out the Vote" SICM Program

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

**Oct 9:** Report from General Synod in June  
Rev. Stacey Midge

## **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:** David Gleason Trio

**Oct 2:** Nat Phipps Trio

**Oct 9:** Scott Bassinson Trio

## **Communion Class - TODAY**

Today 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. Next week they will help prepare communion and join with the congregation in receiving communion on World Communion Sunday.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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 in Assembly Hall**

Join us for refreshments after worship in Assembly Hall. Please consider providing treats and hosting our post-worship fellowship by signing up for a couple of Sundays during the year. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in Assembly Hall. Direct any questions you may have to hospitality coordinators Gay Doolittle, [gaysdoolittle@gmail.com](mailto:gaysdoolittle@gmail.com) 399-0499 or Barbara Walton, [waltonbl@aol.com/346-1943](mailto:waltonbl@aol.com/346-1943).

## **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.

## **Kirk Ringers, Singers & Orff**

Kirk Ringers, Singers, and Orff will meet from 11:15am to noon in room 20 (at the top of the stairs) each Sunday. 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.

## **Let's Do Lunch – RSVP by tomorrow**

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 Sept. 26 at 399-0499 or [overdoo@msn.com](mailto:overdoo@msn.com).

### **Baptismal Buddies - TODAY**

This group, especially intended for any recently or soon to be baptized infants or children---and their parents, will gather soon after worship today in the Dirck Romeyn room to discuss the current arrangement and future plans for our care of infants and young children during Sunday morning. Both Daniel and Bill will be present for this important topic and meeting.

### **Ring into Fall! – September 26**

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](mailto: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.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

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**

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](mailto:RevJonathan16@gmail.com), or calling him at (616) 822-3644. Thanks, and we hope to see you soon!

### **The Short-Short Writing Group**

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](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

### **Prayer Shawl Knit Group**

We meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. All are welcome to join us and if you have any questions please give Ronnie a call at 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.

### **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.

### **Men's Breakfast – October 1**

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!



### **Season of Creation**

#### **Free Movie Event – Oct 2**

On this year's final Season of Creation Sunday, when Animals is our theme, there will be a free screening at 11:30am in the Poling Conference Room, of the prize winning film, *Racing Extinction*, recently produced by Discovery channel. An opportunity for discussion over refreshments will follow the film. All are invited.

### **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.

### **Women's Group – October 3**

The Women's Group will meet on Monday, October 3 at 11am in the Dirck Romeyn Room.

### **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 Continues**

This week the Stephen Ministry training class will be considering the subject the Art of Listening. In this session they will exploring the great benefit and challenge involved in listening attentively and compassionately to another. We thank God for the continuing enthusiasm of our Stephen Minister trainees!

### **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. If you do not have a name tag, please fill out a white pew card or contact the church office at 377-2201.

## 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



Dear White  
Christians  
For Those Still Longing for  
Racial Reconciliation

Jennifer Harvey

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.

## 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!

## 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.

## 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.

## Group VII

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

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“Cosmos is God, who whispered the syllable of life.” — Dejan Stojanovic, *The Sun Watches the Sun*

The human mind, no matter how highly trained, cannot grasp the universe. We are in the position of a little child, entering a huge library whose walls are covered to the ceiling with books in many different tongues. The child knows that someone must have written those books. It does not know who or how. It does not understand the languages in which they are written. The child notes a definite plan in the arrangement of the books, a mysterious order, which it does not comprehend, but only dimly suspects. That, it seems to me, is the attitude of the human mind, even the greatest and most cultured, toward God. We see a universe marvelously arranged, obeying certain laws, but we understand the laws only dimly. Our limited minds cannot grasp the mysterious force that sways the constellations. — Albert Einstein

“The Cosmos is all that is or was or ever will be. Our feeblest contemplations of the Cosmos stir us -- there is a tingling in the spine, a catch in the voice, a faint sensation, as if a distant memory, of falling from a height. We know we are approaching the greatest of mysteries.”  
— Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*

“I realized then that even though I was a tiny speck in an infinite cosmos, a blip on the timeline of eternity, I was not without purpose.”  
— R.J. Anderson, *Ultraviolet*

“It takes a fearless, unflinching love and deep humility to accept the universe as it is. The most effective way he knew to accomplish that, the most powerful tool at his disposal, was the scientific method, which over time winnows out deception. It can't give you absolute truth because science is a permanent revolution, always subject to revision, but it can give you successive approximations of reality.”  
— Ann Druyan

“I worry that, especially as the Millennium edges nearer, pseudoscience and superstition will seem year by year more tempting, the siren song of unreason more sonorous and attractive. Where have we heard it before? Whenever our ethnic or national prejudices are aroused, in times of scarcity, during challenges to national self-esteem or nerve, when we agonize about our diminished cosmic place and purpose, or when fanaticism is bubbling up around us - then, habits of thought familiar from ages past reach for the controls. The candle flame gutters. Its little pool of light trembles. Darkness gathers. The demons begin to stir.” — Carl Sagan, *The Demon-Haunted World: Science as a Candle in the Dark*

“I would suggest that science is, at least in my part, informed worship.” — Carl Sagan, *The Varieties of Scientific Experience: A Personal View of the Search for God*

“Everybody has a little bit of the sun and moon in them. Everybody has a little bit of man, woman, and animal in them. Darks and lights in them. Everyone is part of a connected cosmic system. Part earth and sea, wind and fire, with some salt and dust swimming in them. We have a universe within ourselves that mimics the universe outside. None of us are just black or white, or never wrong and always right. No one. No one exists without polarities. Everybody has good and bad forces working with them, against them, and within them.” — Suzy Kassem, *Rise Up and Salute the Sun: The Writings of Suzy Kassem*

“Labeled fools to the world are geniuses to the cosmos.” — Criss Jami, *Killosophy*

“Our minds are big enough to contemplate the cosmos but small enough to care about who wins an Oscar” — Dean Cavanagh

“We are a way for the cosmos to know itself.”  
— Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*

**Sunday, September 25**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 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 26**

9:00 am ..... Men's News Group  
 6:30 pm ..... Stephen Ministry Training  
 7:00 pm ..... Klokken Tower Ringers

**Tuesday, September 27**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer  
 10:00 am ..... Horizon Bible Study

**Wednesday, September 28**

9:30 am ..... Kerygma Conversations  
 11:30 am ..... First Things Volunteers  
 5:30 pm ..... Chat 'n' Chew

**Thursday, September 29**

7:30 am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch  
 10:00 am ..... Stitch Group  
 7:30 pm ..... Chancel Choir

**Saturday, October 1**

8:00 am ..... Men's Breakfast

**Sunday, October 2**

9:30 am ..... Chancel Choir  
 10:00 am ..... Worship/World Communion  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:15 am ..... First Forum  
 11:15 am ..... Kirk Ringers & Singers, Orff  
 11:30 am ..... Racing Extinction Film  
 12:15 pm ..... JAC Bookstudy  
 3:00 pm ..... Blessing of the Pets  
 3:00 pm ..... New Members Class  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Dave Hjelmar and Vickie McGowan-Horan	Lyn Gordon and Bill Martin
<b>Greeters</b>	Jeanne Shoulder	Karen Giuzio
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Joyce and Jerry Griggs Lois & Herbert Stickney	Cathy and Brad Lewis Ellie and Gene Rowland
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Brad & Cathy Lewis	Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, James Gonda, Mary Jewett, Brad & Cathy Lewis, Del Pierce, Barbara Walton
<b>Reader</b>	Peg Miller	Amy Brule
<b>Hospitality</b>	Joyce Beland	Volunteers Needed
<b>Ushers</b>	Art Shultes (head usher), Mike Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Christine Lund	Bill Martin (head usher), Kip and Joanne Arnold, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin

## **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