

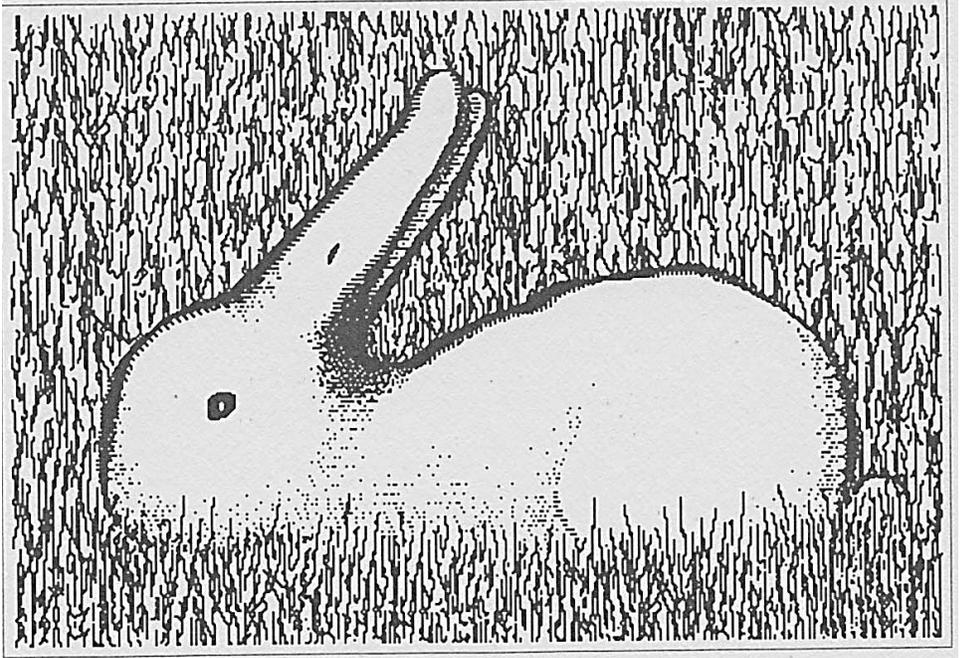
*The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted in 1962*

*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.*



*A bunny or a duck,  
but never both at the same time.*

*As human we are stuck  
with deciding what we shall see.*

*April 30, 2017*



*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 Downstairs in Friendship Hall.

### **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 in the Walton House.

### **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. Those in grades K-2 are welcome to join church school after children's message.

### **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 Dirck Romeyn room 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**

If you have lost or misplaced an item at church, please check the basket found in the Narthex located at the front of the church.

### **Columbarium**

The Columbarium will remain open during construction except while asbestos mitigation.

**Third Sunday of Easter**

April 30, 2017

\*The congregation may stand.

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

*Duo for Violin and Flute Op. 27 No. 2*

Carl Stamitz (1745-1801)

*Andante, Minuet, Allegro*

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *The Strife is O'er*  
Victory

\*HYMN #115  
*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

\*PRAYER (*unison*)

**God of new life, we thank you for the hope  
you have given us through Jesus Christ.  
Help us to celebrate your Easter triumph  
with all of our life. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(*from Our Song of Hope*)

**Jesus Christ is the hope of God's world. In  
His death, the justice of God is established;  
forgiveness of sin is proclaimed. On the  
day of the resurrection, the tomb was  
empty; His disciples saw Him; death was  
defeated; new life had come. God's  
purpose for the world was sealed.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

*Stay with Us*  
Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us.  
it soon is evening and night is falling.

Jesus Christ, the world's true light!  
Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it!

Let your light pierce the darkness  
and fill your church with its glory.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us,  
it soon is evening, and night is falling.

Luke 24:29

FIRST LESSON

Jim Miller

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

**Amen.**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (pg)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 24:13-35 (pg)

SERMON

Bill Levering

*Reshaping Jesus*

\*HYMN *Abide with Me* #543, verses 1-4

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Duo for Violin and Flute Op. 27 No. 3*

Carl Stamitz

*Romance*

\*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**



### **Drop In for Sunday Anthem**

For singers who cannot make it to regular Thursday night Chancel Choir rehearsals, you are welcomed and encouraged to join us on Sunday morning for anthems. We start at 9am.  
**May 14:** Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth  
(Higben)

### **Eastertide Kerygma Explorations**

There's still opportunity to join one of two groups considering Christ's resurrection and our living in light of this reality. Groups meet Wednesday, 9:30-11am; Sundays, 9-9:45am. The book, *Bread and Wine*, is available in the Faith Bookshop, as is assigned reading for the next sessions.

### **Faith Bookshop**

It's not too late! We have a few copies left of *Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter* still available in the bookshop for \$10. Even if you can't join in the Eastertide discussions you can still enjoy this meaningful book.

### **Avery Presents - May 5**

On Friday, May 5 at 7pm in the Sanctuary, we will show the silent comedy movie "The Nut" starring Douglas Fairbanks. This is a story of a man who will do almost anything to win the affection of the girl he loves. It turns out that he might take that a little too far as countless mishaps occur. This movie is part action/drama, part comedy and part love story. Please join us for what will be an evening of laughs! Live accompaniment by Avery Tunningley. Reception to follow.

### **Annual CROP Walk – May 7**

On Sunday, May 7, the annual CROP Walk will take place beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church and winding 5k through Schenectady. Want to walk? Get a donation form from the church office. Non-walkers can simply drop off their donations at the church office. Checks should be made out to "CWS/CROP." Checks eligible for GE Matching should be made out to SICM. Contact Cathy Lewis if you have ??'s

### **Chancel Choir to Sing at**

#### **Harriet Tubman Concert - May 13**

All are invited to the annual Harriet Tubman Concert and Celebration at Duryee AME Zion Church, 311 Hulett St., at 5pm on Saturday, May 13. First Reformed has a key connection with this AME Zion congregation. The Church was organized in 1837 by Isaac Duryee, who was a member of First Reformed and a student at Union College. Isaac was a firm abolitionist, was later ordained in the Reformed Church, and returned to Schenectady in 1852 to launch Schenectady's Second Reformed Church. He served as a Chaplain in the Civil War and died in service in 1866. In the later 1800's the congregation named the church in his memory.

This invitation to participate in the annual event stems from a shared Martin Luther King Sunday service held at First Reformed several years ago. This is the fourth occasion our Chancel Choir will participate. A freewill offering will be taken to maintain the Harriet Tubman House in Auburn, NY that is owned and operated by the AME Zion Church.

#### **Midmonth Contemplative Worship May 17**

At 7pm on Wednesday, May 17 in the quiet and beauty of our sanctuary illumined by the fading light through our stained glass, come attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar-accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.

#### **Bike to Church – May 21**

Join the fun; get your blood flowing, lower your carbon foot-print: cycle to services any or every Sunday morning May! Lock up inside our gate, enter the Lord's courts with praise--and a good pulse. On May 21 we'll ride the Mohawk Hudson Bikeway to the Nisky Train Station for lunch. Some will frolic further to Cohoes Falls. A final cycle south to Albany will be offered; returning either by Bus Plus or atop one's steel steed. Questions: contact peddling pastor Daniel.

## **New Date for Long-Term Care Talk – May 18**

On Thursday, May 18, 6:30-7:30 come hear Judith Duma, RN a seasoned local clinical evaluator, address various aspects of Long-Term Care in our area. Sponsored by our Stephen Ministry program, connecting those going through a difficult time with a compassionate Christian friend. Questions: contact Daniel Carlson another of our Stephen Leaders: Lisa Etkin, Joanne Arnold, Maria Todd, Vernetta Thuener.

## **Consistory Nominations Requested**

The Nominating Committee of FRC is beginning its work getting recommendations from the congregation for Elder and Deacon Candidates. Those being recommended and those making recommendations must be members of First Reformed Church. Candidates for Consistory should have vision, leadership skills, and be active participants in the worship and activities of this church. Nominations can be submitted in writing on a white church pew card and put in the offering plate.

## **Union Presbyterian**

### **Mission Fund Project Solicitation**

The Union Presbyterian Mission Fund Committee has \$22,400 remaining available in 2017 to fund not-for-profit mission projects. It has already distributed \$5,600 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 to \$5,000. Please submit your proposed project by June 10 to Liz Mastrianni [lmastro@gmail.com](mailto:lmastro@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.

## **Annual Meeting and Picnic - June 4**

Immediately following worship, there will be a meeting of the congregation. At this meeting, we will receive annual reports, elect officers, elect the nominating committee. Right after the meeting we will go to the front lawn for our spring picnic.

## **Clothing and Food Donations**

Behind the door to the bookshop are two plastic bins with lids marked “food” and “clothing”. Leave your donations in the appropriate bin. Call Bill Clock 641-2585 when you leave a donation.

**Coming Up**  
**See the newsletter or call the church office for more information**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Place</b>
April 30	11:15am	First Forum	Dr. Rev Bill Levering – Clergy Against Hate	Sanctuary
May 1	11am	Group V	Talk about church activities& go to lunch after	Dirck Romeyn
May 2	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Continue Lenten Series into Eastertide last session May 9	Dirck Romeyn
May 2	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less	
May 3	9:30am	Eastertide Explorations	Discussion of intriguing seasonal readings.	Sanctuary
May 5	7pm	Avery Presents	The Silent Film “The Nut” with live music accompaniment	Sanctuary
May 6	8am	The Saturday Breakfast	At Scotia Reformed Church – Beekeeping	
May 7	9am	Eastertide Explorations	Discussion of intriguing seasonal readings.	Sanctuary
May 7	10am	Youth Service	Worship led by youth	Sanctuary
May 7	11:15am	First Forum	Mary D’Alessandro-Gilmore – Houses Re-built in Schenectady Real estate	Sanctuary
May 7		CROP Walk	5k beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church.	
May 7	3pm	New Members Class	For folks interested in joining	Church office
May 12	7pm	WORD Service	Continue Lenten Series into Eastertide last session May 9	Sanctuary

“You're like a song that I heard when I was a little kid but forgot I knew until I heard it again.”  
 — Maggie Stiefvater, Lament: The Faerie Queen's Deception

“They didn't recognize me," I repeat.  
 He stops in turn, my hand still on his arm.  
 "It is because they have never seen you," he says. "I would recognize you anywhere.”  
 — Muriel Barbery, The Elegance of the Hedgehog

“Deep within, there is something profoundly known, not consciously, but subconsciously. A quiet truth, that is not a version of something, but an original knowing. What this, absolute, truth [identity] is may be none of our business...but it is there, guiding us along the path of greater becoming; a true awareness. It is so self-sustaining that our recognition of it is not required. We are offspring’s of such a powerfully divine force – Creator of all things known and unknown.” — T.F. Hodge

“Not to recognize God is to oppose the kingdom of love” — Sunday Adelaja

“It is easy to see the glow but hard to recognize the awakening of silence.” — Dejan Stojanovic, The Sun Watches the Sun

“What a strange thing it is to recognize a sound like the shriek of a wounded animal, when you've never heard the shriek of a wounded animal.” — John L'Heureux, An Honorable Profession: A Novel

“Recognition lies in our natural desires”  
 — Sunday Adelaja

“You can always take back the lost parts of yourself if you can find and recognize them.”  
 — Jonathan Carroll

“We recognize our true-selves, when we start realizing changes in our behavior during both hard-times and good-times.” — Shihab Kazi

“Mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself; but talent instantly recognizes genius.”  
 — Arthur Conan Doyle, The Valley of Fear

**Sunday, April 30**

9:00am ..... Eastertide Kerygma Explorations  
 9:00am ..... Chancel Choir  
 9:00am ..... Ukulele Practice  
 10:00am ..... Worship  
 10:15am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:15am ..... First Forum  
 11:15am ..... Children's Music  
 5:00pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, May 1**

9:00am ..... Men's Newsgroup  
 11:00am ..... Group V

**Tuesday, May 2**

10:00am ..... Morning Prayer  
 10:00am ..... Horizons Bible Study  
 11:00am ..... Admin Staff Meeting  
 11:30am ..... Support & Care  
 1:30pm ..... Worship Planning  
 5:30pm ..... Fostering Futures

**Wednesday, May 3**

9:30am ..... Eastertide Kerygma Explorations  
 1:00pm ..... Pastoral Team Meeting  
 7:00pm ..... Adult Ukulele

**Thursday, May 4**

7:30am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch  
 7:00pm ..... Ensemble Practice  
 7:30pm ..... Chancel Choir

**Friday, May 5**

7:00pm ..... Avery Presents

**Saturday, May 6**

8:00am ..... Saturday Breakfast at Scotia  
 2:00pm ..... Gravink Service

**Sunday, May 7**

9:00am ..... Eastertide Kerygma Explorations  
 9:00am ..... Chancel Choir  
 9:00am ..... Ukulele Practice  
 10:00am ..... Worship  
 10:00am ..... Communion  
 10:15am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:15am ..... First Forum  
 11:15am ..... Children's Music  
 3:00pm ..... New Members Class  
 5:00pm ..... Jazz Vespers

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass Tim Coakley, drums; Jim Corigliano, saxophone (courtesy Schenectady Musicians Union local 85-133)	Nat Phipps, Pete Toigo, Tom D'Andrea
<b>Bookshop/Heritage</b>	Sarah Howes	Birdie Blackmer
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Ralph Rosenthal, David Bundy	Tom Burgoyne, Bill Rochelle
<b>Greeters</b>	Chuck & Inga Pangburn	Ginny McDermott, Marlene Risseuw
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Caroline Welch, Mike & Vickie McGowan-Horan	Vernetta Thuener, Mike & Vickie Horan
<b>Liturgist</b>	Lay	Youth
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Youth
<b>Processing Elders</b>	James Gonda, Peggy King, Del Pierce, Norma Brown, Arthur Casey, Norm Kuchar	Darwin Brudos, Christine Daniels, Liz Mastrianni, Jeanne Shoulder,
<b>Reader</b>	Jim Miller	Christine Daniels
<b>Ushers</b>	Art Shultes (head usher), Joan Lindsay, Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold	Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal