

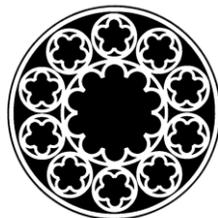
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



August 27, 2017

*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 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 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 during asbestos mitigation.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2017

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Eric Marczak, flute and guitar

Rain Blessings E. Marczak

Piano, Peg Delaney

Warrior's Lament E. Marczak

My New Age Richard Rensky

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #457

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O God, you know us completely. You know how we have failed to both love you above all others, and love our neighbors as ourselves. You know how we have failed to be faithful members of Christ's body. You know how we have failed to expect, embrace and employ your Spirit's gifts for the common good. O God, in your complete knowing and unfailing love, have mercy on us, we pray.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**God welcomes all!
Strangers and friends!
God's love is strong
And it never ends! (2x)**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

The Apostles' Creed – Traditional version
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus
Christ his only Son our Lord; who was
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius**

Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Der Einsamer Hirte (The Lonely Shepherd)

James Last

FIRST LESSON *Psalm 138* (pg 577)

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

Amen. George Trimarco

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Romans 12:1-8* (pg 161)

SERMON *All In* Daniel Carlson

*HYMN *Take My Life* #391

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Distant Times* Maarten Spruijt

*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 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #464

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
Sicilian Mariners

+ + +

Music Notes

For the Prelude piece, *My New Age*, Eric Marczak is playing a replica of a 1,500 year old Anasazi flute found in Arizona in 1951. The Offertory is scored for string orchestra by Maarten Spruijt in collaboration with Eric. *God Welcomes All*. John Bell. ©2008 GIA Publishing. OneLicense #700-700.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of her daughter Beth and husband John by Eileen Herring.

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:

Robert Moore, Norma Peterson, Jane & Clifford Bryant, Eleanor Mae Hart

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.

Support & Care

If you are able to provide a meal for members who are recuperating or who are homebound, please let us know. Contact Kim Burgoyne at 399-1337 or Vickie McGowan-Horan at 852-0113.

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

Sign up for flowers in the church office where you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. 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.

Preparatory Communion Celebration Class

The Children's Preparatory Communion Celebration Class will be taught by Pastor Daniel on Sunday, September 24 from 11:15-12:15pm in the Walton House. Communion Class is offered to our Third Graders and any older children who are anxious to learn about the Lord's Supper. This class will prepare them to participate in World Communion Day on Sunday October 1. Please contact the church office if you'd like your child to participate or if you have any questions.

Church Picnic – September 10

All invited, please bring a dish to share, enough for 10 – 12 adults. A – R side dish or salad, S – Z dessert. A signup sheet is on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and cold drinks. Also volunteers are needed for set-up before the picnic and breakdown /clean-up after the picnic. Sign-up at the church office.

Bible Sunday – September 24

Any child in 3rd grade or higher that has not received a Bible, will be presented with one during worship on Sunday, September 24. Please let Dorothy Linder-Mitchell know.

Youth Group Call for Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering for youth group this coming fall as a youth leader or would be willing to host the youth group for an evening or make snacks, please contact Pastor Jonathan. You will to be notified about a volunteer meeting to be held near the end of the summer.

Kinderwyk & Church School Volunteers

Come get to know the youth of our church by volunteering in Kinderwyk or Church School as a teacher or an assistant! Our church is your family, support the education of our youngsters. Senior High Youth are encouraged to volunteer too, just need to be at least 14 years old. Fill out your information on the sign-up forms in the Narthex, table by the Dirck Romeyn room, the church office or contact Dorothy Linder-Mitchell at 1stReformedEducation@gmail.com or 518-281-5673.

Updated Church Directory

Updated issues of the directory will be coming out in September. Please submit a photo of yourself to 1streformedpub@gmail.com if we do not already have one or wanted to add an updated one. If you have had any address or phone number changes since prior years or wanted to make sure something was changed, please contact church office by August 27.

Where Do I Put The Stuff?

There's now assistance in figuring out what goes where when you are done with it: three dimensional signage is affixed to the three distinct bins in the Dirck Romeyn room. The big green container is a compost bin; the medium blue container is a recycle bin, and the place of last resort is the smallest receptacle of all: a gray trash bin. Our Compo-pros are on hand each such Sunday to assist us in doing what is right with what we use when we're done with it. Thanks for doing your part in taking better care for God's creation.

Columbarium Accessible on Sundays

Those wishing to visit the columbarium during construction may do so on Sunday mornings from 11-11:30am. Our sexton, Tom Mahan will be stationed at the church office entrance to provide safe passage to the columbarium during this time.

Faith Bookshop

Copies still available...it's not too late to support our community and learn about a great piece of history with Ellen Apperson Brown's new book *John Apperson's Lake George*. This wonderful book, full of historic photographs, documents GE-man John Apperson's adventures in and advocacy for the Lake George area, including his extensive preservation efforts. Also read about your fellow FRC and UPC members that assisted him in these endeavors.

Volunteers Needed for Stockade Walkabout

Each Walkabout First Reformed Church opens its doors to the community during the Stockade Walkabout. This year's Walkabout is Saturday September 23. One theme of this year's event is "transformation". FRC has lots of stories to share including the history of six church buildings, founding of Union College and current building project to serve the future. We are in need of volunteers to greet and share stories in the sanctuary, Dirck Romeyn and Heritage room and Mohawk House. If you can participate for two hours between 11-5 pm, please sign-up in Dirck Romeyn room or by calling church office. Questions contact Carol DeLaMarter or Laura Lee.

Casting Call

The Archives and Historical Concerns Committee is sponsoring a play reading on Sunday, Oct. 29 and needs voice actors. No memorization required! This post-Civil War drama calls for seven men and one woman. Please contact James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com.

An Opportunity To Serve

Snack Facilitator - duties include coordinating the after-worship treats in the Dirck Romeyn room. A tasty job that promotes fun and fellowship. Contact James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com.

It's easy to look at the things of this world to solve our challenges and obstacles in life, but when we submit our lives to Christ, His grace, mercy, peace and love will bring true fulfillment to our lives. — Bethany Hamilton

I think that is a better thing than thanksgiving: thanks-living. How is this to be done? By a general cheerfulness of manner, by an obedience to the command of Him by whose mercy we live, by a perpetual, constant delighting of ourselves in the Lord, and by a submission of our desires to His will. — Charles Spurgeon

May we not succumb to thoughts of violence and revenge today, but rather to thoughts of mercy and compassion. We are to love our enemies that they might be returned to their right minds. — Marianne Williamson

“Our humanity comes to its fullest bloom in giving. We become beautiful people when we give whatever we can give: a smile, a handshake, a kiss, an embrace, a word of love, a present, a part of our life...all of our life.”
— Henri J.M. Nouwen

“Sacrifice is a part of life. It's supposed to be. It's not something to regret. It's something to aspire to.” — Mitch Albom

“She taught me all about real sacrifice. That it should be done from love... That it should be done from necessity, not without exhausting all other options. That it should be done for people who need your strength because they don't have enough of their own.” — Veronica Roth

“You never go away from us, yet we have difficulty in returning to You. Come, Lord, stir us up and call us back. Kindle and seize us. Be our fire and our sweetness. Let us love. Let us run.”—Augustine of Hippo

There is more wisdom in your body than in your deepest philosophy. — Friedrich Nietzsche

Your body hears everything your mind says.
— Naomi Judd

“Who will deny that true religion consists, in a great measure, in vigorous and lively acting's of the inclination and will of the soul, or the fervent exercises of the heart? That religion which God requires, and will accept, does not consist in weak, dull, and lifeless, wishes, raising us but a little above a state of indifference.”— Jonathan Edwards

God tolerates even our stammering, and pardons our ignorance whenever something inadvertently escapes us - as, indeed, without this mercy there would be no freedom to pray. — John Calvin

“Worship has been misunderstood as something that arises from a feeling which ‘comes upon you,’ but it is vital that we understand that it is rooted in a conscious act of the will, to serve and obey the Lord Jesus Christ.”—Graham Kendrick

There is no worse screen to block out the Spirit than confidence in our own intelligence. — John Calvin

O Lord, you have opened my lips...

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

May my mouth and my mind,

my heart and my hands,

my ears and my eyes,

my limbs and my loins--

all that is within me

and all that is beyond me:

Declare your praise,

show forth your glory,

abide in your love,

share your bounty,

receive your dreams,

speak your truth,

do your justice,

seek your kingdom;

Through Christ my Lord

and by the power of your Holy Spirit,

To the blessing of your name,

the up-building of your church,

and the serving of your world.

Amen.

— Daniel's morning prayer

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

| Date | Time | Event | Description | Place |
|---|-------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Aug 30 | 5pm | Vacation Bible School | Crafts, games, stories, music and more! Pizza will be provided at 5:30. For everyone ages 4 and up. | Sanctuary |
| Aug 30 | 6pm | Cords of Love | Kids Ukulele will meet every Wednesday. Open to kids ages 8-16 are welcome. Free pizza at 5:30pm. | Sanctuary |
| Aug 30 | 7pm | Adult Ukulele | Wednesday evenings till 8pm No experience is needed. Call the church office to borrow a ukulele. | Sanctuary |
| Sept 1 | 7pm | Avery Presents | The movie "The General" starring Buster Keaton with live piano accompaniment. | Sanctuary |
| Sept 3 | 9am | Cords of Love | Kids Ukulele will meet every Sunday. Open to kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed. | Mezzanine |
| Sept 4 Labor Day - Office Closed | | | | |
| Sept 5 | 7pm | Short-Short | Writing group for 1000 words or less. | Dirck Romeyn |
| Sept 6 | 7pm | Adult Ukulele | Wednesday evenings till 8pm No experience is needed. Call the church office to borrow a ukulele. | Sanctuary |
| Sept 7 | 10am | Stitch Group | Meets every Thursday. Contact Joan Lindsay for info. | Mezzanine |
| Sept 7 | 7:30pm | Chancel Choir Resumes | All singers and voice parts are needed. If you cannot make it come to Sunday morning's rehearsals at 9am. Questions? Contact Corine Salon, csalon@nycap.rr.com. | Sanctuary |
| Sept 10 | 11am | Church Picnic | All are welcome for a time of fun, food, and fellowship. Please bring a dish to share. | Church |
| Sept 13 | 9:30am | Kerygma | Copies of <i>The Story of Christianity</i> Volume 2 will be available in Faith Bookshop/Heritage room. | Dirck Romeyn |
| Sept 13 | 6pm | Community Meal | A simple complimentary dinner. | Dirck Romeyn |
| Sept 13 | 7pm | Contemplative Worship | A quiet, reflective service that includes communion and shared prayers. | Sanctuary |
| Sept 15 | 12pm | Group VII | We will meet for lunch at Connie Young's home | Connie Youngs |
| Sept 17 | 11:15am | First Forum | Roots & Wisdom – Chris Lee, L. J. Hassleer | Sanctuary |
| Sept 17 | 11:15am | Living History, Family Fun | Trip to the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome. RSVP to James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com. | Offsite |
| Sept 17 | 6pm | Children, Youth & Family Dinner | Meet the new staff and leaders, sign up for events, and hear about what we have planned for the year. | Mohawk House |
| Sept 19 | 10am | Horizons Bible Study | <i>Cloud of Witnesses</i> study guide available from Peg Miller or Marilyn Leach for \$10. | Mohawk House |
| Sept 19 | 7pm | Tuesday Ladies | Meeting at Inge-Lise Pangburn's house at 2 St Jude Ct, Scotia. Call (518)399-1027 if you plan to come. | Inge-Lise Pangburn's |
| Sept 24 | 10am | Bible Sunday | Any child in 3rd grade+ that has not received a Bible, will be presented with one during worship. | Sanctuary |
| Sept 24 | 11:15am | First Forum | Records Preservation - Laura Lee | Sanctuary |
| Sept 24 | 11:15am | Kids Learn Communion | Preparatory class for kids to participate in World Communion Day on Sunday October 1. | Walton Conf. |
| Sept 28 | 10am | Prayer Shaw Knitting | Will meet every 4 th Thursday of the month in the home of Gini McDermott; 21 Carrie Ct, Niskayuna | Gini McDermott's |
| Sept 29 | 10am | Out To Lunch Bunch | Stella Pasta Bar & Bakery at Focastle Farms, 166 Kingsley Road in Burnt Hills | Focastle Farms |

Sunday, August 27

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

Monday, August 28

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

Tuesday, August 29

10:00am..... Morning Prayer
 11:00am..... Staff Meeting
 6:00pm..... Adult Education & Nurture

Wednesday August 30

1:00pm..... Pastoral Team Meeting
 5:00pm..... Vacation Bible School
 5:30pm..... Cords of Love
 7:00pm..... Adults Summer Ukulele

Friday, September 1

7:30pm..... Avery Presents

Sunday, September 3

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

| | This Sunday | Next Sunday |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Jazz Vespers | Tim Olsen, Piano | Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Togio, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums |
| Bookshop | Bill Clock | Christina Jones |
| Counting Deacons | Gay Doolittle, Richard Gardner | Tom Burgoyne, Joe Doolittle |
| Greeters | Vernetta Thuener | Don Davidson |
| Flower Delivery | Joe & Gay Doolittle John & Karen Norton | Norm & Chris Kuchar Kitty & George Trimarco |
| Preacher | Daniel Carlson | Bill Levering |
| Processing Elders | Birdie Blackmer, Keith Muse, Jerry Griggs, Joyce Griggs, | Joanne Arnold, Darwin Brudos, Amy Brule, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Del Pierce, Norm Kuchar, Chris Kuchar, Jeanne Shoulder, |
| Reader | George Trimarco | Norm Kuchar |
| Ushers | Alden Brown, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Adam Kerwin | Jeanette Davidson, Do Davidson, Joan Lindsay, Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough |