

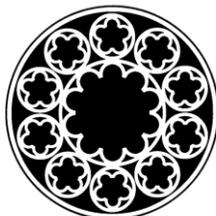
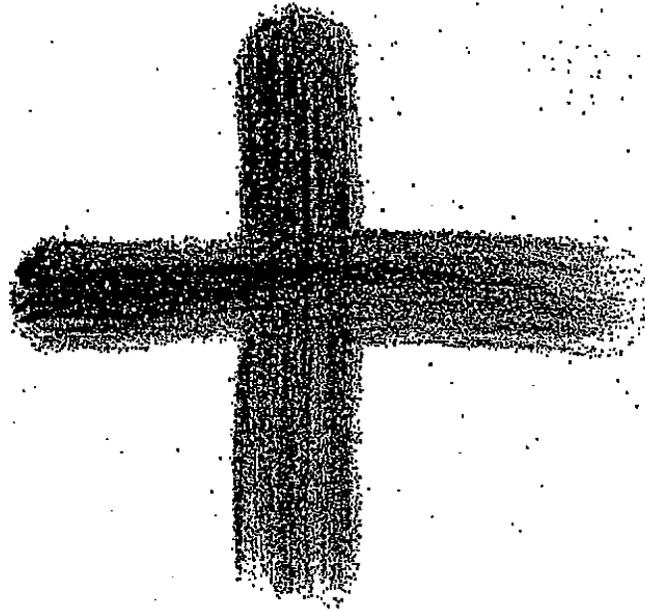
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



February 18, 2018

*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.

After Worship

Typically, after worship, people stop for a chat and a cookie in the Dirck Romeyn room before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Restroom

If you are looking for a first floor handicap accessible restroom the Mohawk House is open.



Hearing Assistance

We have a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.



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.

Mohawk House Coffee Area

Open from 9am-3pm on Monday-Friday.

Child Care on Sunday - Kinderwyk

Childcare for children through Pre-k 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 office entrance.)

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.

Service Online

A live stream of the worship service as well as some of the past services can be found at 1stReformed.com.

Parking Reminder

Our handicap parking lot is designated for contractors Monday-Friday. Please park in our other two available lots. Also, please leave the spaces in front of the church open on Sundays for drop off.

First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT Agincourt Song

O Love How Deep How Broad, How High

*HYMN #457

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

The image shows musical notation for the Introit and Hymn. It consists of three systems of music. The first system is for the Introit, with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." Below the treble clef, the English lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The second system is for the Hymn, with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." Below the treble clef, the English lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The third system is for the Hymn, with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." Below the bass clef, the English lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy."

Beginning with silent prayer...

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579

Glory Be to the Father

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

ANTHEM Tom Fettke

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

When I gaze into the night skies
and see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?
You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation;
The beasts of the field, The birds of the air,
The fish of the sea,
But what is man that you are mindful of him?
O Lord our God the majesty and glory of your
name transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God, little children praise
you perfectly, and so would we.
Alleluia.

FIRST LESSON Therese McCarty

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Psalm 25:1-8* (pg 502)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Mark 1:9-15* (pg 34)

SERMON *The Gospel of God* Daniel Carlson

*HYMN *Be Thou My Vision* #339

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ah Holy Jesus Cruger/Matheny

Ah Holy Jesus, How hast thou offended,
That man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

For me kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,

Thy mortal sorrow and thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
For my salvation.

Therefore kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
Think on they pity and thy and thy love
unswerving
Not my deserving.

*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 (stanza 1-3) #367
Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE
Threefold Amen Traditional

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

Entered into Eternal Rest

Bruno DePaoli – February 12, 2018

A memorial service will be held on Saturday,
February 24 at 5:30pm.

New Prayer Group Forming

Please join us today at 11:15am in the Dykstra Chapel for a brief time of sharing and praying in an intimate and safe group. We'll meet the third Sunday of each month. Please see Karen Gonda if you have questions.

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:

*F. David Sheldon, Mary Bee, J. Marie Herman,
Mary Harter, Mary MacKinnon*

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.

Out to Lunch Bunch – Feb 23

Ya Ya's House Southern Cuisine Restaurant has always been high on our list of places to try. However, they moved out of town, only to return to a new and better location at 135 Broadway. Ya Ya's serves "homemade food from the heart" and includes such real soul foods as BBQ Ribs, Jerk Chicken, Corn Bread and Sweet Potato Pie. High ratings (4.8/5), enthusiastic clientele and a convenient location. Meet up at noon on Feb. 23. Call or tell Gay if you are planning to come 518-399-0499, or just show up. Help celebrate Ya Ya's long awaited return to downtown Schenectady. This is going to be good.

Four Chaplains Ceremony – Feb 25

Join us for the Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award & Remembrance Ceremony on Sunday, February 25 at 2:30pm in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow. Led by the Jewish War Veterans of the USA Albany Post 105.

Music Notes

Gloria, Gloria - Jacques Berthier, Words and Music - ©1979 Taize, Les Presses de Taize. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

Faith Book Shop

Two copies of "The Light In The Window," which relates to the Schenectady City Mission, are available for purchase. Cost is \$15.

Confirmation Mentors Sought

Returning to an earlier model, we are seeking a few mentors to meet with a confirmation class participant over a meal, at an event, and in some kind of service. Contact Dr. Levering if you are interested.

Picture Stories in the Narthex

Making Room: See the progress of our First Futures building construction. The empty interior of Poling House, Covenant Hall before and after, the baffle ceiling and interior steel frame. Photographs by Ralph Rosenthal and Gary Nelson.

Annual Unity Celebration: Honoring the legacy of United Presbyterian Church. A Photographic History of Members.

Johnson Library

There are new books on the library's shelf. A *Boy In Winter* by Rachel Seiffert is about a small Ukrainian town overrun by the SS shortly after the start of WWII. *The Checklist Manifesto* by Atul Gawande is about the challenge of safe patient care given the complexity of medical knowledge. Paul Hawken's book, *Blessed Unrest* is about the growth of a movement of millions of small & larger organizations combating climate change. Belinda Recio's *Inside Animal Hearts and Minds* showcases heartwarming /fascinating examples of animal cognition & emotion. Finally, *The Water Will Come* by Jeff Goodell is about the rising sea levels & higher tides.

Special Collection

Benefiting the victims of the Nott Terrace mudslide in Schenectady. Please make checks payable to SCAP/CCN. Donations can be mailed to SCAP at 913 Albany St, Schenectady, NY 12307. For more information contact Naomi Wood at 518-374-9181 ext 226.

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 Dr. , Niskayuna, NY 12309.

"The whole gospel is contained in Christ."
—John Calvin

The emphasis on the "fullness of time" grounds Jesus' proclamation securely in the history of revelation and redemption. It focuses attention upon the God who acts, whose past election and redemption of Israel provides the pledge of [God's] activity in the future." —William Lane

"If we only had eyes to see and ears to hear and wits to understand, we would know that the Kingdom of God in the sense of holiness, goodness, beauty is as close as breathing and is crying out to born both within ourselves and within the world; we would know that the Kingdom of God is what we all of us hunger for above all other things even when we don't know its name or realize that it's what we're starving to death for. The Kingdom of God is where our best dreams come from and our truest prayers. We glimpse it at those moments when we find ourselves being better than we are and wiser than we know. We catch sight of it when at some moment of crisis a strength seems to come to us that is greater than our own strength. The Kingdom of God is where we belong. It is home, and whether we realize it or not, I think we are all of us homesick for it." — Frederick Buechner

Regret is not a proactive feeling. It is situated in disappointment, sorrow, even remorse. It merely wishes things were different without an act to cause a difference. However, repentance is different. Repentance is an admission of, hatred of, and turning away from sin before God.
—Monica Johnson

Lenten Evening Program

Feb 21 – Mar 21

This year's mid-week education and worship options will take place on five consecutive Wednesdays during Lent.

6:45pm Light refreshments and conversation in each classroom

7:00pm Classes will begin promptly

8:00pm Contemplative worship around the Communion table

After Class Glow

A brief contemplative service with Communion will be held at 8pm in the sanctuary.

This Year's Lenten Classes...

You are invited to join the class of your choice in its particular location at 7pm (come earlier for refreshments). Here's a brief preview:

Lower Carbon Lent

Led by: Rev. Dr. Daniel Carlson

Location: Mohawk House Pres Room

In response to our Creation Care Resolution, we have taken steps as a congregation to decrease our greenhouse gas emissions. This class offers an informative and supportive opportunity for individual members to discover the size and shape of their respective household carbon footprint. We will use National Grid statements, best-guess travel, food, entertainment estimates, and an on-line carbon calculator, among other insight-generating tools. We will brainstorm various options for shrinking the size of our respective footprints and be invited to prayerfully discern those changes each of us feels moved to make in our own lives in order to better serve the world we touch. This discernment will lead us to devising a doable plans and specific practices to live more faithfully with God's creation so that others may fully live!

Conversations on Being Mortal and Care at the End-of-Life

Led by: Dr. Carolyn Jones-Assini /Joe Doolittle

Location: Dirck-Romeyn Room

A discussion of the best-selling book *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atwal Gwande, MD, using a discussion guide developed by *The Conversations Project*. The discussions focus on aspects of aging and dying, including:

- What is important to us as we age
- Understanding our choices (medical and otherwise)
- Facing our mortality

Carolyn brings perspectives from working with the Palliative Care Service at Ellis Medicine and Joe has had much experience with families facing health challenges as a volunteer Chaplain at Albany Medical Center. Our Series hopes to have several representatives from these groups join our discussion. Our Faith Bookshop has the book available for purchase.

Ukulele for Lent

Led by: Local Ukulele Instigator, Jamie Ipsen

Location: Sanctuary

Everyone ages 8-98 is invited to learn how to play songs on the ukulele that will keep us mindful of the season of Lent, the time we 'get ready' for Easter. This little instrument will bring joy to your day, every day. No prior experience is needed! If you have a ukulele please bring it. If you do not yet own one, we have some for you to use. Please register with the church office so we can prepare enough materials. Contact Jamie Ipsen with questions.

God in the News

Led by: Rev. Dr. Bill Levering

Location: Mohawk House Lunn Room

This drop-in class will look at the headlines of the last week and try to discern our considered response. No Homework is necessary.

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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Feb 18	9am	Chancel Choir	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Feb 18	9am	Chords of Love	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
Feb 18	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
Feb 18	11:15am	First Forum	Tour of FRC Building Construction Site.	Sanctuary
Feb 18	11:15am	Prayer Group	A brief time of sharing and praying in an intimate and safe group	Dykstra Chapel
Feb 18-22	Youth Mission Trip		We will be returning to Philadelphia for our annual mission trip!	
Feb 18	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Sanctuary
Feb 20	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Nine-week study of the book of James, using a study guide by N.T. Wright.	Mohawk House Pres
Feb 20	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
Feb 21	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 29 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Dirck Romeyn
Feb 21	11am	First Things Volunteers	Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome.	Mohawk House Lunn
Feb 21	7pm	Lenten Classes	Our traditional five-week study offering four classes	Various
Feb 21	8pm	Contemplative Worship	A quiet service at the end of the evening led by Daniel Carlson.	Sanctuary
Feb 22	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Come finish a project or start a new one.	Mezzanine
Feb 22	10am	Prayer Shawl Knitting	4th Thursday of every month in the home of Gini McDermott.	21 Carrie Ct, Niskayuna
Feb 22	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Like to sing? Please consider joining our chancel choir. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:30pm, good music & good fellowship	Sanctuary
Feb 24	5:30pm	DePaoli Service	A memorial service for Bruno DePaoli, a reception will follow.	Sanctuary
Feb 25	9am	Chancel Choir	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Feb 25	9am	Chords of Love	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
Feb 25	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
Feb 25	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers are available to sit with, listen to & pray for & with you.	Dykstra Chapel
Feb 25	2:30pm	Ceremony	Four Chaplains Award & Remembrance Ceremony	Sanctuary

Sunday, February 18

8:00am.....Organ Practice
 9:00am.....Choir Rehearsal
 9:00am.....Chords of Love
 9:45am.....Kinderwyk
 10:00am.....Worship
 10:15am.....Church School K-5
 11:00am.....Bookshop/Library
 11:15am.....Forum
 11:15am.....Kirk Ringers
 5:00pm.....Jazz Vespers

Monday, February 19**Office Closed - Presidents Day**

9:00am.....Mens New Group

Tuesday, February 20

10:00am.....Morning Prayer
 10:00am.....Horizons Bible Study
 11:00am.....Admin Meeting
 7:00pm.....Short Short Writing

Wednesday, February 21

9:30am.....Kerygma Conversations
 11:00am.....First Things Volunteers
 1:00pm.....Pastoral Team Meeting
 7:00pm.....Lenten Classes
 8:00pm.....Contemplative Worship

Thursday, February 22

7:30amBreakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00amHymn Picking
 10:00amPrayer Shawl Knit Group
 11:00amStitch Group
 7:00pmChancel Choir

Saturday, February 24

5:30pmDePaoli Memorial Service

Sunday, February 25

8:00am Organ Practice
 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
 9:00am Chords of Love
 9:45am Kinderwyk
 10:00am Worship
 10:15am Church School K-5
 11:00am Bookshop/Library
 11:15am Forum
 11:15am Kirk Ringers
 2:30pm Four Chaplains Ceremony
 5:00pm Jazz Vespers

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Sarah Howes	Bill Clock
Counting Deacons	Dave Hjelm, Matt Jones	Andy Chestnut, Kim Burgoyne
Flower Delivery	Peggy King, Birdie Blackmer	Ellie Rowland, Christine Lunn
Greeters	Don & Marilyn Leach	Tom Lindsay
Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass
Liturgist		Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Birdie Blackmer, Darwin Brudos, Art Casey, Peggy King, Richard Rose	Joyce & Jerry Griggs, Art Casey, Peggy King, Richard Rose
Reader	Therese McCarty	Carol Troost
Ushers	Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin	Art Shultes, Kip & Joanne Arnold, Jeanette & Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay