

***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.*

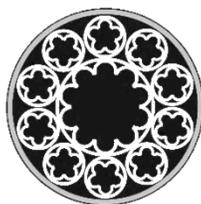
*Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly 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 bit of hope,  
A grain of love,  
A particle of potential,

Nourishes what is,  
Transforms what was,  
And brings forth the wondrous  
What will be.



***June 17, 2018***

*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.

### **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](http://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.

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

June 17, 2018

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Nat Phipps

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT Tune; *Hiding Place Early American*  
*My Morning Song* George McDonald

\*HYMN *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* #210

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD

**Gracious God, our mistakes are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what we fear to name, what we cannot bear, and what feels like eternal punishment. Set us free from a past we cannot change and open to us a future in which we can be changed into whole and holy reflections of your Christ. Amen.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!**  
**Hallelujah! Halle, lu-jah!**

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF  
ELDERS AND DEACONS

PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS ELECT

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles' Creed - Ecumenical version*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,  
our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy  
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,  
and was buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he  
ascended into heaven, he is seated at the  
right hand of the Father, and he will come  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of  
the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PROMISES OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER

ORDINATION CHARGE

PROMISES OF CONGREGATION

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *arr. Gordon Jacob*  
*Brother James's Air* Marosa

The Lord my Shepherd I shall not want,  
He makes me down to lie in pastures green,  
He leadeth me the quiet waters by.  
He leadeth me, He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the Paths of Blessedness,  
E'en for His own Name's sake,

Yea though I pass thro' shadowed vale.  
Yet will I fear no ill; For thou art with me,  
And thy Rod and Staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence on my foes;  
My head with oil Thou dost anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my days  
Will surely follow me  
And in my Father's heart always  
My dwelling place shall be.  
And in my heart for evermore  
Thy dwelling place shall be.

FIRST LESSON Carol Troost  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.  
Amen. 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 (pg 181)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Mark 4:26-34 (pg 38)

SERMON *Tiny, Powerful Truth* Bill Levering

\*HYMN *It Only Takes A Spark*

**It only takes a spark  
To get a fire going  
And soon all those around  
Can warm up in its glowing  
That's how it is with God's love  
Once you've experienced it  
You spread His love to ev'ryone  
You want to pass it on**

**What a wondrous time is spring  
When all the trees are budding  
The birds begin to sing  
The flowers start their blooming  
That's how it is with God's love  
Once you've experienced it  
You want to sing it's fresh like spring  
You want to pass it on**

**I wish for you my friend  
This happiness that I've found  
You can depend on Him  
It matters not where you're bound  
I'll shout it from the mountain top  
I want my world to know  
The Lord of love has come to me  
I want to pass it on**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Nat Phipps

\*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 *Word of God Incarnate* #327

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE  
*Threefold Amen* Traditional

POSTLUDE

+ + +

**In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bill Dotter by his wife, Elsie and their children, and Bruce Crandell by his daughters, Linda, Sandy and Donna Fentiman, and Dr, Henry Nagamatsu from Nancy & Brian on Father's Day.

**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:

*Walter Kozak, Roland Carreker, Rev. Donald Troost, Sonia Lintner, David Packard, Donald Kleiber, Dorothy Van Leeuwen*

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**

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.

### **SICM Summer Lunches**

New date & place for 1st Reformed's volunteers to serve SICM Summer Lunches. We will serve at Quackenbush Park, between Mt. Pleasant & Pleasant Valley schools. The volunteer time is from 11:30am-1pm starting from June 25 to July 9. Three volunteers are needed for each day, except July 4. Sign up in the Dirck Romeyn room or call Ellie Rowland, 518-250-4302.

### **Faith Book Shop**

A year-long, spiral Daily Devotional collection was put together by Group V and wrapped with a beautiful bow ready to give as a meaningful gift to someone else or to keep for nurturing your own spiritual journey

“Wisdom is all about the simple, often tiny, obvious things, done consistently, one at a time.”  
— Craig Groeschel, The Christian Atheist

“Never take tiny dreams for granted. They contain giant success stories.”  
— Israelmore Ayivor

“For a certain kind of person, love begins from something tiny or silly. From something like that or it doesn’t begin at all.” — Haruki Murakami

“The best of fiction, as we know, of course, doesn't tell the truth; it tales the truth.”  
— Criss Jami, Healology

“To paraphrase Muggeridge: Everything is a parable that God is speaking to us, the art of life is to get the message.” — Chester Elijah Branch

“Intelligence is not expecting people to understand what your intent is; it is anticipating how it will be perceived.” — Shannon L. Alder

### **Music Notes**

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<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Bookshop</b>	Martha Winchester	Birdie Blackmer
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Ralph Rosenthal, Joan Lindsay	Christina Jones, Joan Lindsay
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Inge-Lise Pangburn, Scott Ebeling	Sally & Jack Bestgen, Christina & Matt Jones
<b>Greeters</b>	Bill & Abby Levering	
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Tim Olsen, piano
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Walt Robb
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Marilyn Leach, Darwin Brudos, Christine Daniels, Thomas Lindsay, Bill Rochelle	Joanne Arnold, Jeanne Shoulder, Phil Falconer, Peggy King, Cathy Lewis, Maria Todd
<b>Reader</b>	Carol Troost	George Trimarco
<b>Ushers</b>	Del Pierce, Joe Brown, Christine Lund, Carol Troost, Tom Zych	Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin

**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>
June 17	9am	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	10am	Officers Ordination	New officers; Bill Clock, Vickie Horan, Kristin Lion, Barbara Mancuso, Justine Ochal, Kitty Trimarco	Sanctuary
	11:15am	<b>FRC Orff Group</b>	<b>The FRC Orff Group will have its first meeting following church service. We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4+ and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!</b>	<b>Sanctuary Balcony</b>
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Sanctuary
June 18	6pm	<b>NAMI Family-to-Family Program</b>	<b>NAMI F2F is a free, 12-session educational program that provides critical information and strategies for taking care of a loved one with mental illness. Interested? Email <a href="mailto:namischenectady@gmail.com">namischenectady@gmail.com</a></b>	<b>Mohawk House Lunn</b>
June 19	1pm	Stephen Leaders	Stephen Leaders gather to provide guidance for our one-to-one compassionate Christian care ministry	Hope Room
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
June 20		<b>First Things Notice</b>	<b>We will not meet today. Next Newsletter will be sent off July 11.</b>	
	6pm	Fellowship Meal	Complimentary dinner & informal conversations shared before Contemplative Worship.	Dirck Romeyn
	7pm	Contemplative Worship	Reflective service of song, Scripture, communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.	Sanctuary
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Ukuleles play during Contemplative Worship.	Dirck Romeyn
June 21	6:30pm	Stephen Ministry	All Stephen Ministers gather for continuing education and small group peer supervision.	Mohawk House
June 24	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers are available to sit with, listen to & pray for & with you.	Dykstra Chapel
	11:15am	<b>FRC Orff Group</b>	<b>We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!</b>	<b>Sanctuary Balcony</b>
	11:15am	Prayer and Support	Join us for a brief time of sharing concerns and praying in a confidential group every other Sunday. Please contact Karen Gonda with questions.	Mohawk House Lunn

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
June 24	11:15am	Staffing Committee	Staffing Committee Meeting	Mohawk House Pres.
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
June 25	6pm	NAMI Family-to-Family Program	NAMI F2F is a free, 12-session educational program that provides critical information and strategies for taking care of a loved one with mental illness. Interested? Email <a href="mailto:namischenectady@gmail.com">namischenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
June 27	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
July 1	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	<b>We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!</b>	Sanctuary Balcony
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Sanctuary
July 2	6pm	NAMI Family-to-Family Program	NAMI F2F is a free, 12-session educational program that provides critical information and strategies for taking care of a loved one with mental illness. Interested? Email <a href="mailto:namischenectady@gmail.com">namischenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
July 3	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
July 8	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	11:15am	Prayer and Support	Join us for a brief time of sharing concerns and praying in a confidential group every other Sunday.	Mohawk House Lunn
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
July 9	6pm	NAMI Family-to-Family Program	NAMI F2F is a free, 12-session educational program that provides critical information and strategies for taking care of a loved one with mental illness. Interested? Email <a href="mailto:namischenectady@gmail.com">namischenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
July 10	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Dirck Romeyn
July 11	11:30am	First Things Volunteers	Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome.	Mohawk House Lunn

**First Reformed Church**  
*We are a welcoming and affirming  
congregation and absolutely everyone is  
invited to our worship, activities, and service.*

Notes

**THE CONSISTORY**

**MINISTERS**

Bill Levering, Senior Minister  
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister

**OFFICERS**

Amy Brule, Del Pierce, Senior Elders  
Catherine Lewis, Treasurer  
Joanne Bedell, Clerk

**ELDERS**

Joanne Arnold  
Amy Brule  
Marilyn Leach  
Brad Lewis  
Barbara Mancuso  
Liz Mastrianni  
Vickie McGowan-Horan  
Del Pierce  
Kitty Trimarco  
Barbara Walton

**DEACONS**

Sarah Bachorik  
Andy Chestnut  
Bill Clock  
Dave Hjelmar  
Christina Jones  
Matt Jones  
Kristin Lion  
Justine Ochal  
Peter Ontkush  
Ralph Rosenthal