

# Welcome to First Reformed Church

*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 in the room to the left of the front of the sanctuary after the service for coffee and refreshments.

## **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.

## **Child Care on Sunday**

Childcare for babies through age four is available between 10am and noon in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

## **Church School**

Children in grades K-8, who are visiting today, are welcome to join in our Church School activities! Follow the 'crowd' out of the sanctuary immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am in Room 20 on the 2nd floor at the top of the stairs.

## **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.

## **Communion**

Our congregation usually celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first Sundays of the month. All followers of Christ are invited to share this meal.

## **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 and are particularly encouraged to visit the Dirck Romeyn Room to the left of the sanctuary for five or ten minutes.

## **Joining the Congregation**

To be 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.

## **Service Online**

A recording of each of our worship services is at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

# First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 9, 2011

*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

## VOLUNTARY

*Chorale Prelude on "Silent Night" (1961)*

Samuel Barber

Variations on "In Dulci Jubilo" (1981)

Theodore Beck

10:00 a.m.

+ + + **The Approach to God** + + +

## GREETING

Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

## CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT *Canon for Epiphany*

Shirley McRae

## \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #483

*Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*

Mit Freuden Zart

## \*OUR NEED FOR GOD

**Gracious God, you provide for us life-giving water, to cleanse, renew, and sustain us. Still, we forget your blessings, wander from your ways, and lean on our own strength. Cleanse us from selfishness and pride. Awaken us to your presence in our lives, instill in us a sense of belonging in your family, and guide us as we seek to live fully in this world. Amen.**

## \*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Gloria, Gloria*



① Dm Gm C F ② Dm Gm C F  
*Latin* Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
③ Dm Gm C F ④ Dm Gm C F  
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Luke 2:14

Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700

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\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Apostles' Creed*)

**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.**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Nicholas, Brandon, and Joseph Rivera-Brown

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES OF THE PARENT

\*PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER AND BAPTISMAL COVENANT

\*BLESSING AND WELCOME

Welcome our brother in Christ.

**Joyfully we receive you.**

**Join us to give witness in the world to the good news,  
for we are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**Alleluia!**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM      *O Jesu Sweet*

Samuel Scheidt

O Jesu sweet, O Jesu mild,  
O blessed Lord now bless this child.  
Look down to earth from Thy high throne.  
All joy, all life to Thee we own,  
O Jesu sweet, O Jesu mild!

O Jesu sweet, O Jesu dear,  
Thy holy mother watches near.  
God's Child Thou art! O heaven blest,  
All hope, all life in Thee we rest,  
O Jesu sweet, O Jesu mild!

+ + + **The Word of God** + + +

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Charles Van Wie

Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 42:1-9 (page 670)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Matthew 3:13-17 (page 3)*

SERMON

*The Importance of Bathing*

Stacey Midge

+ + + **The Response to God** + + +

\*HYMN #498

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

Kingdom

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #592

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN #492

*Baptized in Water*

Bunessan

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Twofold Amen*

John Erickson

\*POSTLUDE

*On this Day Earth Shall Ring (1991)*

Roy W. Brunner

\*The congregation may stand.

## **Welcome**

Nick, Brandon, and Joey!  
We're delighted today to receive into our church family: Nicholas (Nick), Brandon, and Joseph (Joey) Rivera-Brown, newly adopted sons of Wales Brown, and now, brothers of Alden Rivenburgh-Brown.

## **Celebratory or Memorial Flowers**

If you would like to order celebratory or memorial flowers for the chancel, please call the church office. You may send your check for \$30 payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309-4126.

## **Prayers of the People**

Requests for prayer may be noted on a pew card and placed in the offering plate. As part of our prayers this morning, we remember with thanksgiving members of this congregation who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time: *Virginia Atherton, Walter Betka and Helen Gallagher*. If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death please speak with one of our ministers or contact the church office.

## **2011 Offering Envelopes**

For those of you who signed up on your pledge card to receive offering envelopes they are available at the Church Office. Please see Lyn Gordon on Sunday for pickup or stop by anytime during the week. If you forgot to sign up for envelopes we do have some available.

## **Adult Forum**

Learn More about Shelter Box ([www.shelterbox.org](http://www.shelterbox.org)) Presentation by John (Jack) Faddegan, a member of Niskayuna Reformed Church.

Shelter Box is a ten year old international not for profit organization that has built a capability to instantly respond to earthquake, volcano, flood, hurricane, cyclone, tsunami or conflict by delivering boxes of aid to displaced persons.

Highly trained Shelter Box Response Teams distribute boxes on the ground, working closely with local organizations, international aid agencies and Rotary clubs worldwide. Each box supplies an extended family with a tent and lifesaving equipment to use while homeless. The contents are tailored depending on the nature and location of the disaster, with great care taken sourcing every item to ensure it is robust enough to be of lasting value.

Since its inception in 2000, Shelter Box has firmly established itself at the forefront of international disaster relief, providing emergency shelter for the people who need it

## **Archives Group**

We will meet today after the service in the Archives Room.

## **Post Service Refreshments**

There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall to bring goodies of any sort to share at Post Service with everyone. Please bring your food around 9:30am, unless it is already set up on a platter. I hope that everyone would share in this important ministry. Thank you

## **Vespers Every Sunday, 5 p.m.**

### **Today – Jazz**

Yuko Kishimoto, piano

### **January 16 – Jazz**

Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass;

Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **January 23 – Jazz**

TBA

## **Chili Cook-Off and Auction**

Save the date for our exciting annual youth group fundraiser on Sunday, January 23 at 6pm in Friendship Hall. All proceeds will benefit this year's mission trip to Toronto. If you have a dynamite chili recipe you'd like to enter in the cook-off, or a basket, gift certificate, or other desirable item to donate to the auction, please contact Stacey Midge or one of the senior high youth.

## **Faith Bookshop**

This is it: The last day to purchase donated Christmas decorations in the Bookshop. Next week they will be tucked away until another season. The total contribution made to the Senior Minister's Emergency Fund from the sale of these ornaments will be printed in next Sunday's bulletin. Thank you again to everyone who participated!

## **Johnson Library**

Have you ever thought about how you would go about preparing for and delivering a sermon? Several titles in the library's collection address that topic or are compilations of the sermons themselves. In *The Living of These Days*, Harry Emerson Fosdick's chapter on *Learning to Preach* is an entertaining memoir of a rookie preacher in his first church. Four of Peter Marshall's most eloquent and moving sermons are offered in *Peter*

*Marshall, New and Inspiring Messages.*

Richard Lischer is the author of *The Preacher King*; Martin Luther King, Jr. and *The Words That Moved America.*

Other collections of sermons on display this morning are those of our own former ministers, Robert White-*Open Faith; Sermons and Prayers*, and Albert Smith, *Through The Years; Sermons and Prayers.*

The library's other display table features books for pre-teens and teens. Samples include books by Madeleine L'Engle, A.M. Montgomery (*Anne of Green Gables*), and C.S. Lewis. If you don't see what you want, you can browse the shelves for junior fiction in the library's back room.

## **God In The News—Adult Bible Study**

Discussion group by Lynne Gilgore discusses current news topics from a vantage point of faith. Are there echoes of the biblical stories in today's newspaper headlines? How does scripture inform contemporary issues? How are we, as Christians, called to respond? Come hear what your neighbors have to say. Add your voice to the conversation. Join one week or every week, each class stands alone. Bring coffee and a friend to the conference room above the office following the worship hour. Today's topic will be: *Mystery: Mass Bird Deaths in Arkansas, Louisiana and Sweden.*

## **Youth Groups**

**Jan. 9** - Junior High at 5pm, Senior High at 7pm in Friendship Hall

**Jan. 14** - Junior High overnight

**Jan 16** - Junior High at 5pm, Senior High at 7pm in Friendship Hall

**Jan. 23** - Junior and Senior High participate in Chili Cook-off and

Auction. Senior High youth should plan to be at church by 4pm to help set up for the auction.

**Jan. 30** - Junior High at 5pm, Senior High at 7pm in Friendship Hall

### **Lenten Devotional?**

Would you offer a personal response to Scripture provided by Rev. Carlson for the church Lenten Devotional? It could be in the form of a poem (your own or another's,) art work (we had quite a few in last year's edition) or an idea that you've wanted to share with our congregation.

The choice is yours and how you want to respond is up to you. If you want to do something other than scripture comment, simply select a day, cross out the Scripture, and write your name under the writer column.

The church office, during the week, will have a signup sheet. Every Sunday, until the 40 days are spoken for, Wales and I will be in front of Assembly Hall with the sheet. Devotionals from previous years will be available to show examples.

If you have questions, especially if you are a new member or have not yet contributed to the devotional, speak to Wales Brown or Linda Witkowski.

We must have these completed by February 18 so that we can distribute them for Ash Wednesday in early March.

### **Second Wednesday Potluck Supper**

Come share the delicious food and warm fellowship of this monthly gathering this week, January 12, in Assembly Hall. Set up starts at 5:30pm for those able to come a little early; at 6 grace will be sung and the supper

starts. Clean up begins around 7pm as will a bit of four square in Friendship Hall for the young ones. We'll be done before the contemplative communion service. A sign-up sheet is posted in Assembly Hall for those who like to plan ahead; impromptu types are also welcome!

### **Second Wednesday Communion**

Beginning January 12, this lovely, lyrical service will be held on the second Wednesday of the month (in coordination with the potluck, see above). Under the light of the star in the sanctuary we start with the sound of the church bell at 8pm, sharing song, silence, Scripture, and the Lord's Supper (with wine or grape juice served). We conclude by about 8:30.

### **M&M Women's Bible Study**

On Tues., Jan 18, Feb. 1 and Feb 15 from 6:30-8:30pm at Lisa Etkin's (631-4410) home, 186 Droms Road, Glenville.

### **Dream Kerygma Class Delayed**

The new Wednesday morning Bible study class focusing on dreams has been delayed one week due to various circumstances. We'll start meeting next Wednesday, January 19, 9:30-11am. All those who wish to participate in this group, whose characteristics include warm community and lively engagement, are most welcome. For further information contact study leader, Daniel Carlson (377-2201).

### **Wednesday Dialog**

On January 19 at noon we are fortunate to have as our speaker, Ralph Boyd, an energetic 91 year old who will recount his life as a minority soldier during WW II, his battle

experiences, and his accomplishments as a GE Employee and moving force for many beneficial Schenectady initiatives. He helped start the local NAACP, Carver Community Center, Head Start Program and SCAP. Ralph has been active in many other local organizations and was instrumental in the efforts to create the Baptist Retirement Center rendering quality care for senior citizens. He has been awarded more than 40 citations from many groups in this area including the coveted GE Phillippe Award.

### **Group VII**

On Friday, January 21 we will meet at 11:30am in Assembly Hall. Bring your own lunch. Program by: Lynne Gilgore, Missioner, Co-hostesses: Joan Ipsen and Anne Robb

### **Adult Winterfest January 29**

Doug Todd has again graciously offered his farmstead (Fox Hill Farm, 6003 Parkis Mills Rd., Galway) as the location for this annual winter outing for adults in the church. For the adventurous, cross country skiing, skating and snowshoeing will begin at 3pm. The food, beverage, fellowship and laughter indoors begins at 5:30pm with appetizers and drinks; a dinner of hearty soups, sides, salads, and desserts will follow. To offset the cost of this event, there will be a \$5 charge per person. Please also bring something edible to share: appetizer, side dish, salad, or dessert. A signup sheet is posted in Assembly Hall, or the church office may be called to let us know you're coming. We are also happy to announce that Adirondack folk musician Dan Berggren will play for us in the evening. Childcare will be provided in Kinderwyck during the

event for those who wish; please note this asap on the signup sheet. Carpooling is encouraged to ease our pollution of the planet and parking at the party. Hope to see you there!

### **Story Sunday - Tonight!**

January 9 from 5 - 8pm, at the Glen Sanders Mansion to benefit our South African/Community Hospice Partnership with Tapologo and the Pastoral Care program at Albany Medical Center. Stories to Warm a Winter's Night with Kent Busman, Joe Doolittle and Harlan Ratmeyer

Join us for an evening of fine food, fellowship and super stories as three of the regions most whimsical and irrepressible storytellers (known to this congregation) will spin tales sure to take the edge off winter's chill and bring a warm feeling to the heart.

Cost \$30/person (includes entertainment, dinner, tax and tip). Sponsor Level: \$50 and other contributions add to support for our Mission in Rustenburg, SA

Menu Selection: Beef Tenderloin Tips, Chicken Alexander, or Pasta Primavera

Reservations Joe Doolittle at 384-1700. Sponsor support and contributions payable to First Reformed Church, c/o Doolittle, 112 Maplewood Drive, Scotia, New York 12302.



	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Jeanne Shoulder, Joe Gallagher	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes
Faith Bookshop	Rae Forster	Committee Member
First Forum	Shelter Box, by John (Jack) Faddegon	Commentary on Schenectady's Civil Rights by Ralph F. Boyd, Sr.
Flower Delivery	Virginia Laumeister, Carol DeLaMarter	Ann Bish & Analine Hicks, Roberta & Richard Blackmer
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Cathy Wisniewski	Sarah Bachorik, Jennifer Evans, Steve Breitenbach
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Darwin Brudos, Tom Lindsay, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Gay Doolittle, Peggy King, Gene Zeltmann,	Roberta Blackmer, Bill Rochelle, Tom Lindsay, Maria Greskovich
Reader	Charles Van Wie	
Refreshments		Betty Bumgarner
Ushers	Mike Beals (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta	Del Pierce (head usher), Glenn Blinckmann, Carol Troost, Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson, Doug Todd, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta

## Calendar for the Week of January 9, 2011

Sunday January 9	9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Musical/HS Choir, Music Office Worship, Sanctuary Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall Archives Group, Archives Room First Forum, Poling Chapel Adult Bible Study, Mezzanine Kirk Ringers/Singers, upstairs - Room 20 Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home Vespers, Poling Chapel JHYG, Friendship Hall SHYG, Friendship Hall
Monday January 10	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room Klokker Ringers, Poling Conference Room Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday January 11	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel Support & Care, Poling Conference Room Standing Committees, Various Locations Consistory, Poling Chapel/Assembly Hall
Wednesday January 12	12:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room Pot Luck Supper, Assembly Hall Contemplative Communion Service, Sanctuary
Thursday January 13	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Stitching Group, Poling Conference Room Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall Chancel Choir, Choir Room/Sanctuary
Sunday January 16	9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Musical/HS Choir, Music Office Worship, Sanctuary Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall First Forum, Poling Chapel Adult Bible Study, Poling Conference Room Kirk Ringers/Singers, upstairs - Room 20 Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home Vespers, Poling Chapel JHYG, Friendship Hall SHYG, Friendship Hall

# *First Reformed Church*

Schenectady, New York

## THE CONSISTORY

Bill Levering, Senior Minister  
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister  
Stacey Midge, Minister of Mission, Outreach, and Youth  
Andrew Chestnut, Linda Ward, Senior Elders  
Fred H. Daniels, Treasurer  
Joan Lindsay, Clerk

### **Elders**

Carolyn Jones-Assini  
Caroline Brooks  
William Brooks  
Andrew Chestnut  
Christine Daniels  
Veronica Bartholic  
Catherine Lewis  
Keith Muse  
Eugene Zeltmann  
Linda Ward

### **Deacons**

Darwin Brudos  
Rachael Cox  
Leah Kidwell-Fernandes  
Lisa Ettkin  
Joan Lindsay  
Jeanne Shoulder  
Chris Van Oort  
Caroline Welch

## CHURCH STAFF

Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Ministry  
Julie Panke, Director of Music  
Charles Moose, Organist  
Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music  
Eric Bachorik, Director of Klokken Ringers  
Judy Moore, Director of Tower Ringers  
Sarah Bachorik, Director of Kinderwyk  
Heather Chestnut, Hospitality Coordinator  
Heather Scribner, Office Administrator  
Tani Breitenbach, Office Assistant  
Dan Caldwell, Bookkeeper  
Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor



FIRST  
REFORMED CHURCH  
SCHENECTADY

**THE COVENANT OF OUR CONGREGATION**

*Adopted by the Congregation 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.

January 9, 2011

*First Reformed Church*

8 North Church Street – Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)  
Ministers: Daniel Carlson, Bill Levering, Stacey Midge