

# 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 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.

## **Service Online**

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

## Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 30, 2011

*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

### VOLUNTARY

*Organ Music of Henry Smart (1813-1879)*

1. *Andante in A*
2. *Adagio in D*
3. *Moderato in D*

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

*Sing Out a Song of Joyful Praise*

Dale Wood

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #455 *All Creatures of Our God and King*  
(vs 1,2,4,5) Lasst Uns Erfreuen

### \*OUR NEED FOR GOD

**God of all creation, we thank you for the beauty and grace you instill in this world. We confess our tendency to place ourselves at the center, and to overlook the gifts and needs of others. Help us to put our own desires in perspective, and increase in us your values of love, justice, and peace. Amen.**

### \*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579 *Glory Be to the Father* Gloria Patri

\*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.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Gerald Myers, James Pincher, Tricia Shaw, Michelle & Artie Smallwood and Erika Zampella

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES OF NEW MEMBERS

\*PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

Do you promise to love, encourage and support these brothers and sisters by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of faith and character and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

**We do.**

\*BLESSING AND WELCOME

We are ambassadors for Christ. We are the salt of the earth; we are the light of the world. Welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Joyfully we receive you. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.  
Alleluia.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Blessed are the Poor in Spirit* John E. Preston

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.  
Rejoice and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Matthew 5: 3-5, 7-9, 12

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Stacey Midge

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

FIRST LESSON

*1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (page 166)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Matthew 5:1-12 (page 4)*

SERMON

*The Blessing Line*

Bill Levering

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

\*HYMN #386

*O for a World*

Azmon

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 #333

*Seek Ye First*

Lafferty

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Twofold Amen*

Robert Bennett

\*POSTLUDE

*Allegro in G*

Gustav Merkel

\*The congregation may stand.

### **Welcome New Members!**

Gerald Myers 280-2403  
28 Union Ave #C-1  
Schenectady, 12308

James Pincher 605-3817  
854 Knox Cave Rd.  
Knox, 12107

Tricia Shaw 370-2936  
1767 Avenue B  
Schenectady, 12308

Michelle & Artie Smallwood  
11 D. Candlelight Ct.  
Clifton Park, 12065

Erika Zampella 221-1210  
37 Charlton Rd.  
Glenville, 12302

### **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. 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 this congregation who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time: *Bertram D. Atwood, Herbert Stare, George Stroebel and Herbert Strong*. 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.

### **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

### **First Forum**

**January 30** - Ministry at Glendale - Madelyn Thorne, Director of Sharing Faith - Pastoral Care Stimulating Minds and Hearts

**February 6** - Rededication/Heritage

Sunday: Len Tentillo -

In addition to keynoting at the Colonial Festival on February 8, Len will discuss with us how he creates his art.

(Possible brunch and Q&A with Len at the Stockade Inn benefitting Colonial Festival Benefactees, SCC – Archeology Program and Schenectady-Nijkerk exchange.)

**February 13** - A Shower of Stoles -

A collection of 30 liturgical stoles, from a Room for All sponsored display of 150 stoles visiting RCA Congregations in the Capital Area will be on display in Poling Chapel. The stoles each have a brief story, and represent the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people of faith. Further details on the stoles and Room for All will be provided as will a time for shared reflections.

**February 20** – Coffee and Conversation

**February 27** – Schenectady Police

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

**Today – Jazz**

Peg Delaney, piano

**February 6 – Jazz**

Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass;

Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **February 13 – Jazz**

Yuko Kishimoto, solo piano

### **February 20 – Jazz**

Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass;  
Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **Youth Groups**

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

### **Senior High Mission Trip**

On February 20-26 in Toronto, if you have not yet signed up with Stacey Midge, please do so ASAP - and be sure to get your passports!

### **Mission Shares**

Mission shares are now available to help support our Senior High Youth Group on their mission trip to Toronto. For \$25 per share, you can help those in need and give our youth the experience of a lifetime. Mission shareholders will also be invited to our annual dinner on March 27 to sample some of the cuisine that represents the cultures encountered in the mission trip and hear from the youth about their experience serving in Toronto. You can get your mission shares from any member of the Senior High Youth Group or from Stacey Midge.

### **Faith Bookshop**

Clothing sale today; fleece vests, knit hats, t-shirts and windbreaker vests that are perfect for southbound golfers, also, multipurpose attaché cases. Look for the clearance sale table in the Bookshop.

### **Johnson Library**

The annual Schenectady Colonial Festival, taking place from February 4 - 13, is an opportunity to display the many materials owned by the library having to do with early Schenectady

history. February 8 is the 321st anniversary of the 1690 Schenectady massacre. On the display table in the hall and on the table just inside the library door can be found some of the items detailing this dramatic time in the city's history.

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

Discussion group led by Daniel Carlson 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. Topic: State of the Union Address Highlights Nation's Education Needs.

### **Final Call - Kerygma Feast**

There's yet room at the table for one or two more seeking to grow in faith by participating in the new session of adult education each Wednesday, 9:30-11am in the Poling Conference room. We've just begun exploring the rich and varied fare in Scripture, tradition, and culture that God provides for our nourishment. *Come to the Feast: Seeking God's Bounty for our Lives and Souls* by Rev. Marchiene Vroon Rienstra is our wise guide for the next two months, providing not only food for thought, but soulful spiritual practices in between meetings. The book is available for loan from our church library and for sale in our bookshop. If any questions, please contact Daniel Carlson (377-2201)

## **Group V**

We will meet Monday, February 7, at 11am in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Following a short business meeting, a study and discussion of the book, *God's Ordinary People*, will begin. Everyone is welcome; bring a sandwich and dessert/beverage will be provided.

## **Devotional Books**

Group V has reprinted a limited number of devotional books which are available in the bookstore and from Group V members. Any questions, please call Charlotte Greenwood (373-1724) or Maria Greskovich (372-9522).

## **Second Wednesday Potluck Supper**

Come share the delicious food and warm fellowship of this monthly gather on February 9 in Assembly Hall. Set up starts at 5:30pm for those able to come a little early; at 6pm grace will be sung and the supper starts. Clean up begins around 7pm as will a bit of four square downstairs. We'll be done in time for the contemplative communion service at 8pm in our sanctuary chancel. A sign-up sheet is posted in Assembly Hall for those who like to plan ahead; impromptu types may come whenever so moved.

## **New Members Class**

On Wednesday, February 9 at 7pm there will be another new member class. Folks will again have an opportunity to come at 6pm and take part in the pot luck dinner, or just show up at 7pm. The session should last an hour and a half. Childcare is available if folks call the church office a few days beforehand. We will go over the basics of church membership and beliefs. Folks who attend this meeting are not assumed to be joining, so people can

come just to check things out. To complete the process of joining, there is a meeting with consistory and a welcome in worship.

## **Second Wednesday Communion**

In the season of Epiphany, this lovely, lyrical service takes place in our darkened sanctuary under the light of our Moravian star, beginning with the church bell at 8pm. We sing, listen to Scripture, keep silence, and share the Lord's supper (with wine or grape juice served) before offering our prayers around the Table and departing in God's peace by about 8:30pm. Those with questions regarding the above may contact Daniel Carlson (377-2201).

## **Committee and Consistory Members**

February Standing Committee's and Consistory will meet on Tuesday, February 15. This is a **one-time** date change from our regular monthly meetings. The times will remain the same.

## **Embracing Life; Facing Death**

On Wednesday, February 16, 7-8:30pm, in Poling Chapel, Sue Kohler, an interfaith chaplain of Community Hospice, will address the challenge of living fully in the present and preparing courageously for the future. The congregation is invited to join the Stephen Ministers of our church and those of First Reformed, Scotia, for this important presentation by a highly regarded pastoral leader within our area. Those with questions may contact Stephen Leaders, Daniel Carlson (377-2201) or Linnea D'Andrea (371-8313)

### **Wednesday Dialog**

On February 16 Hans Friedrich Mueller will present "The Suppression of Nocturnal Religion in Ancient Rome: Plebeians, Bacchants, and Christians." A delicious lunch (\$5) is served at noon.

Hans is the William D. Williams Professor of Classics and Chair of the Department at Union College. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is the author of *Roman Religion in Valerius Maximus* (2002), the editor of an abridgment of Edward Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* in the Modern Library Series (2003), and the translator of a forthcoming book on Roman Historiography.

### **Schenectady Colonial Festival - February 4-13**

Artist Len Tantillo, renowned for his vivid illustrations of historic sites and themes throughout the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys, will be a featured presence at the Festival this year. Mr. Tantillo will begin his participation in the Colonial Festival at 11:15am, February 6, with a presentation at the Heritage Sunday First Forum. He will speak on how he recreates historical scenes, specifically how he painted Schenectady Town, View from Cowhorn Creek, circa 1690, which has Schenectady's and that congregation's first church building at its center.

The next event with Tantillo will be at the Annual Colonial Festival Dinner to be held at the Glen Sanders Mansion on February 8, the 321st anniversary of the 1690 Schenectady Massacre by the French and Indians.

At 4pm there will be a special opportunity to meet and discuss with

Len Tantillo ways Schenectady might further develop its historical legacy. A showing of Tantillo's works, maps of early Schenectady, and the latest findings of the Community Archaeology Program excavations in Schenectady's Stockade Historic District, will provide starting points for conversation pursuing clarity about Schenectady's history.

A 6pm social hour will begin the dinner. Attendees may view an exhibit of works by Len Tantillo and items mentioned above. Prints by Tantillo may be purchased throughout the evening. Following a colonial themed dinner, Tantillo will present a select grouping of his well-known historical illustrations of life and places in early upstate New York, Historical Painting: Schenectady Works and Others. For more information contact Joe Doolittle or Laura Lee Linder.

### **Glenmont Community Church (Reformed)**

Invites you to join us for a joyful worship celebration for the installation of our pastor Abby Norton-Levering on Sunday, February 27 at 4pm. Childcare will be provided and a reception will follow the service. All clergy are invited to robe and to wear red.

For directions go to:

[www.glenmontchurch.org](http://www.glenmontchurch.org)

For further information go to:  
[pastor@glenmontchurch.org](mailto:pastor@glenmontchurch.org)

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Jeanne Shoulder, Joan Lindsay	Fred Daniels
Faith Bookshop	Bill Clock	Linda Witkowski
First Forum	Ministry at Glendale - Madelyn Thorne	Rededication/Heritage Sunday: Len Tentillo
Flower Delivery	Marilyn & Bob Beadle, Bill McColl	Millicent & Art Casey, Ann Gotwals
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Brenda Langdon	Sarah Bachorik, Gay Doolittle, Ann Gotwals
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Gene Zeltmann, Phil Falconer, Jerry Griggs, Bill Rochelle, Tom Lindsay	Carolyn Jones-Assini, Chris Daniels, Cathy Lewis, Art Casey
Reader	Stacey Midge	George Trimarco
Refreshments	Nancy Martin, Betty Bumgarner	
Ushers	Harlene Bachorik & Bill Clock (head ushers), Jeff Cox, Nicholas Blinckmann, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta	Ken Rimany, Joan Lindsay, Joe Gallagher, Kim Burgoyne

## Calendar for the Week of January 30, 2011

Sunday January 30	9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:15 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, Mezzanine Kirk Ringers/Singers, upstairs - Room 20 Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home Vespers, Poling Chapel JHYG, Friendship Hall SHYG, Friendship Hall
Monday January 31	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room Klokken Ringers, Poling Conference Room Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday February 1	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Wednesday February 2	9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Kerygma, Poling Conference Room Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
Thursday February 3	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 February 6	9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:15 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 Communion, Sanctuary Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall 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

# *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

***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.*



*God's call  
echoing over the winter snow*

*God's grace  
warming our hearts*

*God's love  
following our footsteps*

*God's presence  
meeting us here*

***First Reformed Church***

8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)