

# 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**

On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) youth in grades 3-8 remain in the service to participate in Communion while those in grades K-2 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for music and crafts. Other Sunday's all children 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 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 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.

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 20, 2011

*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

*Organ Music of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

*Three Preludes: in F, in G, in E flat*

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

YOUTH COMMISSIONING

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT

*Open to Me the Gates*

John Porter

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #417 *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*  
Regent Square

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD

**God of all creation, we thank for the beauty and grace you instill  
in this world and beyond. We confess our tendency to turn our  
hearts away from you and not attend to your voice within and  
before us. Confront and correct us, each according to our need,  
so that we might love you and live. Amen.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

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

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

**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**                      *When We are Living*                      Roberto Escamilla

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,  
And when we're dying, it is in the Lord.  
Both in our living and in our dying,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.  
Good works of service are for offering.  
When we are giving, or when receiving,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,  
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,  
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

Across this wide world, we shall always find  
Those who are crying with no peace of mind,  
But when we help them, or when we feed them,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

trans. from Spanish by Jorge Lockwood

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

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**                      Rae Forster  
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON**                      *Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 (page 106)*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SECOND LESSON**                      *Matthew 5:38-48 (page 5)*

**SERMON**                      *"You Have Heard It Said"*                      Bill Levering

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

\*HYMN #347 (to tune of #126)

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*  
Detroit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *To Love Just Those Who Love You* Passion Chorale

To love just those who love you is rarely hard to do,  
For even unbelievers love those who love them too.  
But you must love, said Jesus, those you don't care about,  
And feed them if they're hungry though you then go without.

To laugh with those who please you and share a simple joy  
Is diff'rent from enduring the people who annoy;  
And those you hate, said Jesus, or wound you deep within,  
Are still you Father's children and must be claimed as kin.

Since Christ is Truth and Teacher, the Day Star and the Day,  
The Life and our Life-giver, Wayfarer and the Way,  
If you would come, said Jesus, and my companion be,  
In love and joy and suff'ring you'll walk God's path with me.

Rae E. Whitney

\*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 #376

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
Hyfrydol

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Onefold Amen*

Livingston Gearhart

\*POSTLUDE

*Postlude in G minor*

Charles Villiers Stanford

\*The congregation may stand.

### **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: *Mary Halter, J. Marie Herman, Georgeina Kellam and Mary MacKinnon*. 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.

### **First Forum**

**Today** - Coffee & Conversation

**February 27** – Schenectady Police

We welcome several members of the Schenectady Police force to encourage them in their work. They will be with us in worship and will talk about their work in a forum after church. If you know anyone in the force, invite them along.

### **Faith Bookshop**

It's February now, a month of significant events in local history. Books and other items relating to FRC, the Stockade and the city are displayed and available to purchase in the Bookshop. Also, the clearance sale of fleece vests, knit hats, t-shirts, windbreaker vests and attaché totes with FRC logo continues.

### **Johnson Library**

In *Come To The Feast*, author Marchiene Rienstra has provided an "engaging devotional guide. Her chapter on dreams and visions is worth the whole book." Leighton Ford has written *Transforming Leadership: Jesus' Way of Creating Vision, Shaping Values and Empowering Change*. The author wrote this for leaders and would-be leaders in the marketplace, religion and public life. Kent Annan is co director of Haiti Partners, a non-profit focused on education. His book is, *Following Jesus Through The Eye of the Needle*. The reader is promised a book about faith and commitment that will uplift and inspire.

On the children's display table is a raft of new books today: One luscious example is Robert Sabuda's pop-up book, *Beauty and The Beast*. For the youngest there is a story about two unlikely pals, *City Dog and Country Frog*, written by Mo Willems and illustrated by Jon Muth. For everyone, there is *Leo The Snow Leopard; The True Story of an Amazing Rescue*, by Juliana, Isabella and Craig Hatkoff. The story is told accompanied by magnificent photographs.

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

### **Today – Jazz**

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

### **February 27 – Jazz**

'Azzaam Hameed, piano

### **March 6 – Jazz**

Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass;  
Tom D'Andrea, drums

## **Youth Schedule**

Unless otherwise noted, the JHYG (grades 6-8) meets every Sunday at 5pm in Friendship Hall for dinner, games, and discussion. The SHYG (grades 9-12) meets every Sunday at 7pm in Friendship Hall for snacks, discussion, and games. Friends are always welcome.

**February 27** - JHYG regular meetings,  
No SHYG meetings

**March 6** - Regular meetings

**March 13** - Regular meetings

**March 20** - Regular meetings

**March 27** - Mission Shareholders' Dinner. No Junior High meeting. Senior High should be at church at 4pm to prepare and serve dinner.

## **Confirmation Class**

The Confirmation Class for our congregation is forming now. Young adults in 8th grade or older are invited to participate in this traditional exploration of faith that culminates in the recognition of their journey on Pentecost. Interested youth and parents should speak with Dr. Levering if they are interested, or go to the web site for more information.

## **Camp Fowler**

Registration is now open for summer camp 2011! The theme is "Bring Forth the Kingdom." Campers are students in grades 3-12; Fowler also offers a family

camp. Volunteers are also needed as cabin counselors and kitchen and maintenance staff. You can find more information on the website at [campfowler.org](http://campfowler.org) or by contacting Stacey Midge (377-2201), who serves on the Fowler Program Committee and will be spending a week as chaplain for the senior high campers.

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

This discussion group, led by Lynne Gilgore, will discuss current news topics from a vantage point of faith. Join one week or every week, each class stands alone. Bring coffee and a friend to the Mezzanine (above the office) following the worship hour.

## **A Shower of Stoles**

Through February 28 in Poling Chapel, First Reformed Church will be hosting the Shower of Stoles Project, a collection of liturgical stoles representing the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people of faith. These religious leaders have served in thirty-two denominations, in six countries, and on three continents. Each stole contains the story of a GLBT person who is active in the leadership of their faith community. The collection celebrates the gifts of GLBT persons who serve God and their communities, while also lifting up those who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

## **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group**

We will meet on Thursday, February 24 at 9:30am at the home of Inge-Lise Pangburn. All are welcome. If any questions contact Ronnie Bartholic (393-7679).

### **Gospel Singing Anyone?**

You are invited to sing with the Chancel Choir at the Annual Gospel Concert sponsored by the Union College Heavenly Voices Gospel Singers on Saturday, February 26 at 3pm. We are preparing two pieces, one of which we sang on January. 16 - True Light. Please let Julie Panke (370-5434) know of your interest so she can get the music to you and let you know about rehearsal times.

### **Glenmont Community Church**

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.

### **The Creation Care Committee**

Meets every fourth Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the Mezzanine. If you have interest in joining our committee please contact any one of the current committee members: Del Pierce (356-0955), Wales Brown (382-1249), Sandy or Craig Kominoski (399-3207).

### **Group V**

Has begun the study and discussion of the book, *God's Ordinary People* and will continue it on Monday, March 7, at 11am in the Dirck Romeyn Room. When we read the Bible, we encounter the giants of faith, such as Abraham and Moses but looking more deeply, we meet ordinary people, who may have lived in a different age and culture, but people through whom God worked and works---ordinary people like you and me. Everyone is welcome; bring a sandwich and beverages and dessert will be provided.

### **Group V 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).

### **Ash Wednesday Dinner**

Prior to our Ash Wednesday service on March 9, a simple supper beginning at 6pm in Assembly Hall will be provided by the Adult Education and Nurture Committee. Besides good food and informal conversation there will be a preview of each Lenten Class and opportunity to sign up for assisting with the five following Wednesday Lenten Dinners.

### **Ash Wednesday Service**

Begin the Lenten season with a worship service of readings, music, and reflection, and the traditional imposition of ashes. The Ash Wednesday service will be held on March 9 at 7:30pm in Poling Chapel.

### **Wednesday Lenten Dinners**

A sign up sheet will be posted in Assembly Hall for those willing and able to assist with the Lenten Dinners set up, meals, and clean up March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13.

### **Wednesday Lenten Classes**

Bill Levering and the Justice Advocacy Committee will lead a class entitled Briefings from the Justice Action League.

David Olsen, from Samaritan Counseling Center, will lead several Wednesday sessions on The Spiritual Work of Marriage, based on his recent book of the same title, now available in the church bookshop. This class will

guide participants (individuals and couples) to the central themes of relational intimacy, including the longing to be known, the idolatry of trying to change one's partner, the necessity of repentance and forgiveness, the promise of intimacy and wholeness within marriage. Daniel Carlson will facilitate the class on two of the Wednesdays.

Linda Witkowski, Wales Brown, and others will lead an engaging conversation on the various devotional writings for each week by our own members as found in this year's Lenten Devotional.

### **Lenten Contemplative Communion**

All are welcome to share in a brief service of prayer, Scripture, silence, and communion prepared for this season in the sanctuary chancel at 8pm.

### **Wednesday Childcare**

Childcare will be provided in Kinderwyck during all Wednesday Lenten programming.

### **Lenten Retreats at Fowler**

Embracing God's Bounty is the theme of the two separate yet related retreats to be held at our church camp in the Adirondacks. Friday evening through Sunday lunch, March 18-20, Rev. Jan Hoffman of First Reformed, Scotia, will lead in the practice of breath prayers, a contemplative walk, and the baking and breaking of bread. Sunday afternoon through Tuesday lunch, March 20-22, Daniel will lead on listening for God in dreams, the practice of silence, and journaling.

Morning, noon, and evening prayer around the blazing hearth as well as delicious meals in Chi Rho lodge will provide consistent nourishment for soul and body. Informal conversation with others as well as time alone will be essential aspects of this time away. Fowler's trails and those of surrounding state land will be open for trekking by skis, snowshoes, or boots.

The inclusive cost of meals, lodging (private room and bath), resources, and activities for either session is \$100. Financial assistance is available. To learn more and register for either session, visit [www.campfowler.org](http://www.campfowler.org) or contact Daniel Carlson. Come away for a few days in mid-March to embrace God's bounty during this season set apart for reflection and renewal!

### **God in the News Bible Study Has New Format During Lent**

During the Sundays in Lent, beginning March 13, the Adult Bible Study, *God in the News*, will meet at a new time, from noon to 1pm, in Fellowship Hall. By meeting after First Forum, we hope to include some folks who have felt torn about which event to attend— now you can join in both! Lunch will be provided each week. We will continue to focus on a topic from the week's newspaper headlines, but will be especially mindful of how Lenten themes such as service, prayer, devotion, acts of compassion or other spiritual disciplines may be found in the news. Come one week or every week—no reservation required, however [if you know you'll be joining in please contact Lynne Gilgore at 374-3252.](#)

### **You are Not Your Suffering**

8-Week Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Class modeled on the Stress Clinic at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center to be offered at Samaritan Counseling Center. This program has proved highly effective in teaching people to cope with physical and emotional stress. Combining sitting and walking meditation, "body scans" and very gentle yoga, the program is taught in a participatory and supportive small group. Participants will be asked to do a daily mindfulness practice at home.

A free, introductory orientation session will be held on March 10, 7-9pm. Classes will be held on Thursday evenings, March 24 - May 12, 7-9:30 pm; an all-day silent retreat is also scheduled Saturday, April 30, 8:30-4 pm. The cost is \$300 for the entire program, and includes take-home mindfulness CDs. The instructor for this session is Oona Edmands, LCSW, EMDR II, staff psychotherapist and long-time meditation instructor. Contact Samaritan at 518-374-3514 for more information or to register.

### **Group VII**

No meeting in February. We will resume on Friday, March 18 at 11:30am in Assembly Hall. Please bring your own lunch. The program will be by Lynne Gilgore, the missioner. All are welcome. If any questions contact Ronnie Bartholic (393-7679).

### **Usher and Deacon Breakfast**

A training and breakfast for ushers and Deacons will be held Sunday, March 20 at 8:30am. We will go over Sunday morning routines while munching on a continental breakfast in the Friendship Hall. Mike Beals and Bill Levering will go over current practices and the handbook.

### **Faith With a Twist**

Got questions? Bring your ideas, doubts, and wonderings and join this stimulating conversation on Thursday, March 24 at 7pm at the Van Dyck. Discuss God, faith, and all things spiritual over a beverage of your choice while getting to know new people. This new group will meet monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month. Contact Stacey Midge to be added to the email list or for more information.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Cathy Lewis	
Faith Bookshop	Nancy Wainwright	Rae Forster
First Forum	Coffee and Conversation	Schenectady Police
Flower Delivery	Tani & Nicole Breitenbach, Sharron & James McCullough	Gail & Glenn Blinckmann, Sarah Howes
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Catherine Lewis, Keith Muse, Phil Falconer, Maria Greskovich, Jerry Griggs, Peggy King,	Veronica Bartholic, Bob Beadle, Roberta Blackmer, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Rae Forster	Nancy Wainwright
Refreshments	Joan Ipsen, Nancy Martin	Betty Bumgarner, Lorraine Aumic, David Bogatka
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Joe Gotwals, Linda Stanhope	Mike Beals (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins

## Calendar for the Week of February 20, 2011

Sunday February 20	9:15 a.m.	Musical/HS Choir, Music Office
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study, Mezzanine
	11:30 a.m.	Kirk Ringers/Singers, upstairs - Room 20
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall	
Monday February 21	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Klokken Ringers, Poling Conference Room
	7:45 p.m.	Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday February 22	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Wednesday February 23	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma, Poling Conference Room
Thursday February 24	10:00 a.m.	Stitching Group, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room/Sanctuary
Sunday February 27	9:15 a.m.	Musical/HS Choir, Music Office
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study, Mezzanine
	11:30 a.m.	Kirk Ringers/Singers, upstairs - Room 20
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel	
5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall	

***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 20, 2011

*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)