

# 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 Sundays 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.

Name Tag Sunday  
May 15, 2011  
*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

*Six Preludes on Easter Hymns (1975)*

Wilbur Held

1. *The Strife Is O'er*
2. *The Easter Sequence*
3. *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*
4. *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*
5. *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*
6. *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands*

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Bill Levering

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stacey Midge

INTROIT

*Alleluia*

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #492

*Baptized in Water*

Bunessan

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**God of Easter joy, we confess that we have not always believed in the miracle of new life. We have kept others in the tomb of our own preconceptions. We have not believed that our lives can be transformed. We pray for Easter faith.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Halle Halle Halle*

**Ha lay ha lay ha lay loo yah. (3x)**

**Halleluia! Ha lay loo yah.**

\*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

Julia Elizabeth Ettkin

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES

PRAYER AND BAPTISMAL COVENANT

\*BLESSING AND WELCOME

Welcome our sister 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 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Virgil Thomson

My shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his Name.  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.  
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways.  
He leads me for his mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay.  
One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away,  
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread.  
My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend my all my days,  
O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come,  
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

Psalm 23 (Isaac Watts)

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Chris Fernandes

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

FIRST LESSON

*1 Peter 2:19-25 (page 233)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Acts 2:42-47 (page 120)*

SERMON

*Common Ground*

Stacey Midge

*When You Call Me By My Name*

Words and music by Andy Chestnut

Open my mailbox; what do I see? Junk mail and catalogs; nothing to me.  
Selling clothing and widgets. All they want is my credit card digits  
Not the least concerned of who I might actually be.

Pick up the telephone; I hear a click. Then some telemarketer launches her  
script. I know she's trying. But there's no way that I'll ever be buying  
Just cause my number's the one her software happened to pick

But when you call me by my name. I know you know it's me  
Though we're different; not the same. And we don't always agree  
I'm the picture, not the frame. And I know that's who you see.  
We're two coals sharing a flame. Sparks of eternity.

Log on to e-mail, I'm hundreds behind. Open the messages; what do I find?  
Breast enhancements. And paradoxically penis emplacements  
Neither one of which had been lately on my mind.

Disconnection, we feel every day. Good thing the correction is not far away.  
Cause when we're face to face. We're not just two blips in a data base  
And we're both gratefully, joyfully able to say.

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

\*HYMN #498

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

Kingdom

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Festival Fanfare for Handbells*

arr. by Hopson  
Klokken Ringers

\*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 #497      *With Grateful Hearts*      St. Clement

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE      *Twofold Amen*      Dale Wood

\*POSTLUDE      *Epilogue on "O Son's and Daughter's" (1967)*  
Alec Wyton

\*The congregation may stand.

**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: *Sybil Liebhafsky, Edward Lustenader, Jr., Henry Nagamatsu, Margaret (Peg) Shultes, and Harrison Todd.*

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.

**In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God in loving memory of their mothers, Caroline Taylor and Marguerite Melber by Martha and Glenn Winchester. We are grateful that these flowers, which represent our prayers and praise, will be taken to church family members to recognize a special need or celebration.

**Name Tag Sunday**

"I've been coming to church here for 40 years! I am not wearing a name tag. Everyone knows me."

"This is my first Sunday. This is a big place. I'm a little overwhelmed. How am I supposed to remember all of these people?"

Since September 2010, we've had 18 new members join our congregation. They would like to meet you and know your name--it's so easy if you're wearing your name tag. Today is Name Tag Sunday so let's dust off those name tags that are on the big white boards and greet all these new folks. We are a church family; let's know each other by name.

### **Annual Meeting Today**

Immediately following worship, there will be a meeting of the congregation in the Sanctuary, for the purposes of receiving annual reports and the election of officers.

### **Summer Sign-up Post Service**

Beginning Father Day in June, whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the garden. Won't you consider signing up for refreshments one of those Sundays? A sign-up sheet will be on the cold drink table in Assembly Hall with plenty of spaces for you to add your name. A sheet with "how to" suggestions will be there, too. A big thank you from Heather Chestnut.

### **Faith Bookshop**

You'll find books covering a wide range of topics in the Bookshop, and they are all priced at a 30% or better discount. You will also find note cards - including new ones as a part of the Talents for Talents project - aprons and totes with the FRC logo, candles from South Africa, and Bible related ceramic pieces from Peru. As a special gift for yourself or anyone who loves FRC, consider the framed print of the church chancel or the church building. Prints are available unframed, too.

To learn more about our Talents for Talents project, see the Bookshop announcement in the May issue of First Things.

### **New Member Class Today**

People interested in learning more about joining the congregation are invited to the orientation class which meets in the Dirck Romeyn Room today at 3pm. The class will last about 90 minutes.

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

#### **Today - Jazz**

Peg Delaney, piano, Bill Delaney, bass; Tim Coakley, drums and Rick Rosoff, trombone

#### **May 22 - Jazz**

'Azzaam Hameed, piano

#### **May 29 - Jazz**

Peg Delaney, piano

### **Youth News**

#### **JHYG:**

**Today** - Meet at 5pm at the church. Dinner, end of the year wrap-up, and games.

**May 22** - Youth Service at 10am, followed by picnic.

#### **SHYG:**

**Today** - Meet at 7pm at the Glenville Sportsplex, weather permitting. In case of rain, meet at the church. Please bring \$10 for food and activities.

**May 22** - Youth Service at 10am, followed by picnic.

### **First Forum**

**Today** - Children at the Well an Interfaith Youth Storytelling Collaborative - Showcase

**May 22** - Church Picnic!

**May 29** - Memorial Day - Coffee and Conversation

### **God in the News Adult Bible Study**

Will not meet today. Class will resume on Sunday, June 5 at 11:15am in the Poling Conference Room.

### **Confirmation Class**

Meets every first and third Sunday through Pentecost, June 12 at 6:30pm in the Schermerhorn room.

### **Stitch Group**

We will meet in May every Thursday at 10am in the Poling Conference Room. Our last meeting will be May 26. Everyone is welcome to join us for stitching and conversation. Coffee and tea are always on. No RSVP required.

### **New Book Discussion Group**

Wales Brown a member of our Justice Action Council will be co-leading a book review of *Jesus, the Bible and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church*, written by Jack Rogers, 2009. Sessions will be held at FRC on Wednesdays, May 18, 25 June 1, 8 and 15, 7-8:30pm. Reservations are required; call Wales Brown 701-1927 or email [wbrown6@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wbrown6@nycap.rr.com). Books are available at our Faith Bookshop or Barnes & Noble.

### **New Book Discussion Group**

A study of *The Spirituality of Imperfection* (Ernest Kurtz and Katherine Ketcham) will be led by David and Cheryl Olsen on five Wednesdays evenings, 7-8:30pm, beginning May 11 and concluding June 8. The book explores the power of stories to lead imperfect people (uh...that's all of us) to meaning and wholeness tapping into the wisdom of Alcoholics Anonymous. Call the church office to sign-up and then obtain a copy of the book.

### **Wednesday Evenings in Eastertide**

Each Wednesday, May 11 - June 8, a weekly pot-luck supper will be enjoyed in Assembly Hall from 6-7pm. Come whenever you want and bring whatever you have to this informal feast! Two new book discussion groups (see above) will follow the meal. A brief service of contemplative communion expressing our Easter joy will be held in the candlelit chancel at 8:30pm.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

Meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30pm at Connie Young's home All ladies are welcome. Please call Connie (393-7061) if any questions.

### **Message to Stephen Ministers**

Our May Continuing Education and Supervision Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18 in Assembly Hall at 7:00pm. All Stephen Ministers should bring their updated yellow and blue forms; extras are in the SM mailbox outside Assembly Hall.

### **Wednesday Dialog – May 18**

*And the Band Played on: Educating the Next Generation of Schenectadians*

A year ago, Cathy Lewis and three others endorsed by a reform group calling itself SCOPE (Schenectady Citizens for Openness in Public Education) were elected to the Schenectady City School Board. When she started her three-year term in July 2010, Cathy became the Board's president amid difficult budget decisions and a need to rebuild public confidence. It was not her first stint as a public official trying to keep the music playing: a little less than a decade before, she was elected to Schenectady's City Council shortly before the city's bond rating plummeted

and she played a key role in resuscitating the city's finances. Join us at noon in Assembly Hall for lunch (\$5) and then a dialogue with Cathy on the challenges, opportunities, and prospects of the Capital Region's largest school district.

### **Group VII May 20**

On Friday, May 20 at 11am bring your lunch to Assembly Hall and afterwards we will tour the Albany Cathedral.

### **Youth Sunday May 22**

On May 22, the youth of the church are taking over! Graduating senior Melinda Blinckmann will speak, and other youth will be doing the readings, prayers, and music that morning. Please plan to attend and support our youth.

### **Church Picnic - Sunday, May 22**

After worship come and join the fun at the annual spring picnic sponsored by the Youth Education and Nurture Committee. We will provide burgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, and beverages for all. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or snack to share. In addition to food and conversation, games will be available for the children. Bring a friend to share in the fun! See you there!

### **Faith with a Twist – May 26**

This group, geared toward young adults in their 20s and 30s, meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Van Dyck Restaurant and Lounge for casual, open-minded conversation about faith, spirituality, God, and life. Participants need not be church members; in fact, we encourage people from a variety of backgrounds to attend and enliven our discussion! Please contact Stacey Midge if you

have questions, would like to attend, or know someone who might like to receive an invitation.

### **Consistory Meeting Date Change**

Standing committees will meet at 6:30pm, Consistory will meet at 7:30pm beginning in June.

### **Big Bike Ride June 5**

Come join your fellow church members for a long afternoon of bike riding. We will depart from the church parking lot after worship about noon and follow the Mohawk River to the Cohoes Falls. Here we will spend some serene time viewing the falls, perhaps spotting eagles and other birds. We will then continue through Cohoes and work our way to the bike path along the Hudson cycling to the Albany Pump Station to enjoy some food and beverage. This is becoming a regular outing for us and is truly a beautiful ride.

For those who would like to double their pleasure, a group will ride back to the church following the same route. However, if a ride to Albany is enough adventure you can choose to take a CDTA bus back to Schenectady. Bring whatever water and food you may want for the ride and some money for the Pump Station. No registration is required.

### **Group V**

We will have our annual picnic on Monday, June 6, at the home of Charlotte Greenwood. A brief business meeting will begin at 11am, with lunch to follow. Co-hostesses are Barbara Landon and Ann Walraven. Group V devotional books are available in the bookshop or from Group V members.

## **FRC Summer Frolic**

Come enjoy picnicking and watching the New York City Ballet on the lawn at SPAC on Saturday, July 16!

**Where:** We'll meet at the SPAC box office at 6:30pm to purchase lawn tickets for the ballet and then enjoy a leisurely picnic on the grounds before the ballet begins at 8pm. The program will feature *Jewels*, a three-act ballet with music by Faure, Stravinsky, and Tchaikovsky and choreography by George Balanchine.

**Cost:** Lawn tickets are \$20 per person. Children 12 and under are admitted free onto the lawn when accompanied by an adult with a paid lawn ticket.

**What To Bring:** Bring your picnic food, lawn chairs, and blankets, etc.

**How To Sign Up:** Call 383-2167 or email (leah@upstateharpist.com) Leah Kidwell-Fernandes to sign up. Please provide a phone number at which you can be reached on the day of the event if the weather doesn't cooperate with our outdoor plans.

**Carpooling:** Those interested in carpooling to SPAC will meet at 5:45pm at the home of Leah Kidwell-Fernandes (4 Candiwood Ct. in Clifton Park).

## **Welcome Back**

Schenectady-Nijkerk Exchange members including: Mary and Daniel Carlson, Joe and Gay Doolittle, Kitty and George Trimarco, Vernetta Thuener, and Scott and Beverly Ebeling. A few of these members remain in the Netherlands and will be returning next week. Welcome Home!

## **Summer Camp for Grown-Ups**

Ever wish you could still go away to summer camp? You can! Camp Fowler is offering Adirondack Weekends for the first time this year. Groups of 10-15 adults spend a long weekend - Thursday night through Sunday morning - hiking, canoeing, kayaking, and generally enjoying the beautiful Adirondacks from the comfort of Chi Rho lodge. July 21-24 and August 11-14 are still open. Find more information on the camp website at [www.campfowler.org/adirondack-weekends](http://www.campfowler.org/adirondack-weekends).

## **Camp Fowler**

It's not too late to register for camp! Students in grades 3-12 can spend a week in the Adirondacks, canoeing, hiking, kayaking, sailing, playing games, making crafts, singing, and learning about the kingdom of God. Get more information and register at [www.campfowler.org](http://www.campfowler.org). Camp Fowler is also in need of adult volunteer cabin counselors and maintenance and kitchen staff. That application can also be found on the website.

## **CRTC Upcoming Programs**

Register online at [www.capitalrtc.org](http://www.capitalrtc.org) or by phone at 518-462-2470. Watch our website for information on these and many other courses available in 2011. Scholarships and group discounts available for most classes; please contact us for an application.

## **Lost and Found**

We've collected quite a few items in our lost and found basket. If you have lost an item please check out the basket located in the Narthex.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Caroline Welch, Elsa Hjelmar	Tom Burgoyne, Kim Burgoyne
Faith Bookshop	Linda Witkowski	Roberta Blackmer
First Forum	Children at the Well	Church Picnic
Flower Delivery	Susan & Gene Zeltmann, Cathy & Brad Lewis	Janet & Richard Gardner, Christine & Fred Daniels
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Adam Kerwin	Sarah Bachorik, Joanne Bedell
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
Preacher/ Youth Speaker	Stacey Midge	Melinda Blinckmann
Procession Elders	Catherine Lewis, Audrey Bain, David Bain, Gay Doolittle, Bill Rochelle, Linda Witkowski	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Christine Daniels, Gene Zeltmann, Roberta Blackmer, Keith Muse,
Reader	Chris Fernandes	Jacob Etkin
Refreshments	Membership Committee	Church Picnic
Ushers	Earl Wainwright (head usher), Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta	Del Pierce & Bill Clock (head ushers), Nicolas Blinckmann, Louis Acquasanta, Jeff Cox, William Faulkner

## Calendar for the Week of May 15, 2011

Sunday May 15	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
	9:15 a.m.	Musical/HS Choir, Music Office
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Annual Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
	11:30 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:45 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:30 a.m.	Kirk Ringers/Singers, upstairs - Room 20
	3:00 p.m.	New Member Class, Poling Chapel
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall	
6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class, Schermerhorn Room	
7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Friendship Hall	
Monday May 16	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
	7:45 p.m.	Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday May 17	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Tuesday Ladies, Connie Young's Home
Wednesday May 18	12:00 p.m.	Dialog, Assembly Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Evening Pot-Luck, Assembly Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Book Discussions, Various Locations
	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry, Assembly Hall
8:30 p.m.	Contemplative Communion, Sanctuary	
Thursday May 19	10:00 a.m.	Stitching Group, Poling Conference Room
	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Assembly Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
Friday May 20	11:00 a.m.	Group VII, Assembly Hall
Sunday May 22	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
	9:15 a.m.	(Last Rehearsal) Musical/HS Choir, Music Office
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Church Picnic, Outside
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class, Schermerhorn Room

***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.*



May 15, 2011

**joying, cloying  
white lily smell  
lurks around  
the buds  
of tomorrows  
colorful promises**

*First Reformed Church*

8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305

(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)