

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 one or two days following the service.

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 29, 2011
Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Liturgical Suite for Easter (1948)

Dom Paul Benoit

- I. *Entrée Pontificale sur "Resurrexi"*
- II. *Retour de Procession*
- III. *Terra Tremuit et Quievit*
- IV. *Cantilene Pascale sur "I 'Alleluia'"*

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

Bill Levering

INTROIT

Lord Jesus Christ

Dresden, 1648

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #464 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Hymn To Joy

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.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you forever:
e'en the spir't of truth.

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

George Trimarco

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

FIRST LESSON

John 14:15-21 (page 109)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Acts 17:22-31 (page 137)

SERMON

To an Unknown God

Bill Levering

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

*HYMN #263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Stacey Midge

*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 #289 *O God of Every Nation* Llangloffan

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen* Kent Newbury

*POSTLUDE

Liturgical Suite for Easter

Dom Paul Benoit

V. *Sortie sure "Ite Missa Est Alleluia!"*

*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: *Chester Buchanan, Helen Costanzo, Burton Delack, Beverly Fasake, Chi Hua Fong, and Marie Metcalf*

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 Janet Schwem from Carol and David Schweizer. 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.

Summer Refreshment Sign-up

Beginning Father's Day, June 19 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 Bulletin Board in Assembly Hall with plenty of spaces for you to add your name. A sheet with "how to" suggestions will be there, too. Thanks!

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

The Chancel Guild has a flower calendar for 2011 on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary. We encourage you to choose an open date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. After signing up on the calendar, please inform the office of your wishes so records can be kept correctly. If the date you want is already taken, it may be possible to share the chosen date by consulting with the other donor. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for the two bouquets unless something special is requested. You may send your check for \$30 payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309-4126.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today – Peg Delaney, piano

June 5 – Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

June 12 - 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

June 19 - Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

June 26 – Yuko Kishimoto, piano

First Forum

Today - Coffee and Conversation

June 5 – Reflections on Christian-Muslim Relations – Genghis Khan

June 19 – Advocating for Youth at Risk – CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Cheryl Lavalle and Regina White, coordinators of the Schenectady CASA

First Forum - 2011-12

The aim of First Forum is to provide stimulus to the congregation on current events or issues important to the community and world at large, through informative presentations and conversation. While we work with Adult Education and Nurture Committee, M&B and other committees, suggestions for programs are welcome from any member. Kindly contact Daniel Carlson or Joe Doolittle.

Faith Bookshop

On the Bookshop's feature table today (look for the American flags), you'll find books relating to people and events, past and present, that have affected events in our country's history.

For summer picnics, there are sturdy, unisex aprons, perfect for the grill master, books to entertain youngsters at the gathering and delightful note cards for a follow-up thank you.

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.

Wednesday Evenings in Eastertide

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

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 and fellowship about noon to 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 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.

Storyteller - Marni Gillard

Presents "Granuaile: A Notorious Woman" at Proctors GE Theatre Sunday, June 5 at 7:30pm. You may recall the work produced by Joe Doolittle premiered at First Reformed last May.

Irish Catholic Grace O'Malley (1530-1603) plays a key role in Ireland's political struggle as Elizabeth I claims Gaelic lands, dismantles Brehon Law, and attempts to destroy Catholic beliefs. Grace, a chieftain's daughter, desperate to hold her clan-folk together, suffers imprisonment for 21 months, and then works as a conciliator, negotiating with the Queen. The two converse in Latin, the Church's language, which they both learned as girls. Original Irish music by

Tom O'Hare. Musicians include parishioners Ed and Nancy Munger. Tickets \$16. For information contact Joe Doolittle 399-0499 or go to <http://www.storycircleatproctors.org>

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.

Great Consistory Meets on Pentecost for Brunch

Former Elders and Deacons are invited to join us for brunch at the Stockade Inn after worship on June 12 for the semi-annual meeting of the Great Consistory. We will share fellowship and news of upcoming excitement here at First Reformed. Spouses are welcome, but reservations are very necessary since that is also Union graduation weekend. The cost is \$25 per person for the expanded brunch buffet at the Stockade Inn. Reservations can be made by filling out a little white card or by calling the church office.

Schenectady/Nijkerk Potluck

The Schenectady/Nijkerk Council invites you to a Potluck Supper followed by an evening performance by Kapriol', a group of four Dutch musicians visiting from the Netherlands Wednesday, June 15, 6pm in Assembly Hall. The concert will take place in Poling Chapel at 7. Bring your favorite potluck meat dish, vegetable, salad or dessert to share. Beverage will be provided. We will also hear about

the recent Schenectady trip to Nijkerk from those who went. This is a family event, children welcome. Contact Laura Lee Linder, 882-6866, or Connie Colangelo, 374-7355 with questions.

Group VII

On Friday, June 17 at 11:30am Group VII will meet at the home of Carol Schweizer for our annual picnic. If there are any questions please contact Veronica Bartholic at 393-7679.

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.

Wednesday Dialog

There will not be any meetings June – September. Next meeting will be in October.

Faith with a Twist – June 23

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

Beginning in June Standing Committees will meet at 6:30pm; Consistory will meet at 7:30pm.

Summer Cultural 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).

CRTC Upcoming Programs

Thus Says the Lord: Listening to the Prophets, Old Testament II, with Rev. Dr. Beth Tanner, Niskayuna Reformed, Begins July 21, A Lay Theological Education Program 20-hour course.

Register online at 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.

Summer VBS

August 8 – 12 is **Psalm Trees** Summer Vacation Bible School. Each afternoon from 3 – 5pm there will be crafts, games, skits, readings and a healthy snack. Kids from ages 5-95 are invited to participate. Call the church office to register 377-2201. Helpers are also needed.

New Evening Group

Alida Rice would like to start an evening fellowship group that meets at church. Individuals will work on craft, knitting, needlework, or cross-stitch and chat over snacks. If you are interested, please email Alida Rice at rice.alida@yahoo.com with a time suggestion.

New Deacons and Elders

Congratulations to these folks who were elected to office at the congregational meeting on May 15.

For a one year term as Deacon:

Bill Martin

For a two year term as Deacon:

Richard David

Claire Hughes

For a two year term as Elder:

Mary Alice Jewett

Katherine Trimarco

Dan Ipsen

Without objection, they will be ordained and installed on June 19th.

Tornado Update

Former members of this church and current residents of Joplin MO, Bonnie and Kip Yetter, are alive and well following the tornado.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Therese McCarty, Walter Yang	Tom Burgoyne, Joan Lindsay
Faith Bookshop	Nancy Wainwright	Roberta Blackmer
First Forum	Coffee & Conversation	Reflections on Christian-Muslim Relations – Genghis Khan
Flower Delivery	Joan & Tom Lindsay, Heather & Andrew Chestnut	Ellie & Darwin Brudos, Angela Anderson
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Tani Breitenbach	Sarah Bachorik, Jamie Ipsen
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Veronica Bartholic, Bob Beadle, Rob Dickson, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Phil Falconer,	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Keith Muse, Catherine Lewis, Darwin Brudos
Reader	George Trimarco	
Refreshments	Diana & Jie Jie Bennett	
Ushers	Mike Beals (head usher), Karlyne Drimalas, Nelson Drimalas, Jeanne Shoulder, Griffin Laycock, Steve Breitenbach	Tom Burgoyne, Rachel Cox, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Joan Lindsay, Jeanne Shoulder, Caroline Welch,

Calendar for the Week of May 29, 2011

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
May 29	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
Monday		Office Closed
Memorial Day	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
May 30		
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
May 31		
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
June 1	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Evening Pot-Luck, Assembly Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Book Discussions, Various Locations
	8:30 p.m.	Contemplative Communion, Sanctuary
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
June 2		
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
June 5	10:00 a.m.	Communion, 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, Poling Conference Room
	12:00 p.m.	Archives & Historical Concerns, Dirck Romeyn Room
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel

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
Thomas Burgoyne
Rachael Cox
Leah Kidwell-Fernandes
Lisa Etkin
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
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.



May 29, 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