

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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 5, 2011

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Organ Music of Gordon Young (1919-1998)

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <i>Matin</i> | 4. <i>Toccata</i> |
| 2. <i>Psalm</i> | 5. <i>Solemn Prelude</i> |
| 3. <i>Cortege</i> | 6. <i>Communion</i> |

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Stacey Midge

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

This is the Day

Lansom Demming

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #432 *Built on the Rock*

Built on the Rock the Church doth stand, Even when steeples are falling;
Crumbled have spires in every land, Bells still are chiming and calling;
Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the soul distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

We are God's house of living stones, Buildded for His habitation; He
through baptismal grace us owns, Heirs of His wondrous salvation;
Were we but two His name to tell, Yet He would deign with us to dwell,
With all His grace and His favor.

Still we our earthly temples rear, That we may herald His praises;
They are the homes where He draws near And little children embraces,
Beautiful things in them are said, God there with us His covenant made,
Making us heirs of His Kingdom. Amen.

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 *(from the United Church of Canada)*

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Praise! Rejoice in God*

Eugene Butler

Praise! Rejoice in God! Praise unto our King.
God's Name lives forever, let us sing songs of joy!
For the Lord is worthy, worthy of our praise,
Worthy of our finest songs, our songs of rejoicing!

God has been our dwelling place forever,
Before the mountains and earth were brought forth.
Sing unto His Name, Everlasting God, Lord of lords!
God of gods! Praise to God! Songs of joy!
Let us sing songs of rejoicing!

Praise! Rejoice in God! Praise unto our king.
God's Name lives forever, let us sing songs of joy!
For the Lord is worthy, worthy of our praise,
Deserving of our finest songs of joy, praise, rejoicing and love!

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

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

FIRST LESSON *Psalm 68:1-10 (page 529)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *1 Peter 5:6-8 (page 235)*

SERMON *Postmodern Devils* Bill Levering

*HYMN #260 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Ein' Feste Burg

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY #592 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION Daniel Carlson

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

SANCTUS (*sung in unison*)

Carl Steubing

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy
Glo - ry! Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!

COMMUNION

After the choir comes forward, please quietly follow them down the center aisle starting from all the FRONT pews. Return by way of the side aisles. The servers will bring the elements to any who choose to remain seated.

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

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 #520 *Here, O Our Lord* Horatius Bonar

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen* Dale Wood

*POSTLUDE *Fanfare (1962)* Gordon Young

*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: *Duane*

Anderson, Jean Bundy, William Dotter, Jean Hay, Alice Marcellus, Lora Marting, and Edwards Murray.

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 her parents Mr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Forster by V. Rae Forster. 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 –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 - 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. We work with Adult Education and Nurture, 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

Class will resume today, June 5 at 11:15am in the Poling Conference Room. Topic: Obama Visits Tornado Victims: How Important is a "Ministry of Presence"?

Confirmation Class

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

Big Bike Ride Today

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.

Storyteller - Marni Gillard

Presents "Granuaile: A Notorious Woman" at Proctors GE Theatre today June 5 at 7:30pm.

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. Tickets \$16. For information contact Joe Doolittle.

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.

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.

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. Reservations can be made by filling out a little white card or by calling the church office.

Consistory Meeting Date Change

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

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.

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.

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 Leah Kidwell-Fernandes at 383-2167 or email leah@upstateharpist.com. 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).

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.

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. 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.

Wednesday Dialog

There will not be any meetings June – September. Meetings will resume in October.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

SICM Healthy Homes –Healthy People program. Saturday, June 25, 10-2pm at SICM Food Pantry parking lot, 839 Albany Street. BRING compact fluorescent lights, toxic cleaners, paints, paint thinners and strippers, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, small propane tanks. DON'T bring electronics, TV's, computers and accessories, empty aerosol and paint cans, large propane tanks, explosives, ammunition, medical waste. For information call 258-4846.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Communion Elders	Catherine Lewis, Carolyn Jones-Assini,	
Counting Deacons	Darwin Brudos, Joan Lindsay	Richard Gardner, Susan Zeltmann
Faith Bookshop	Roberta Blackmer	Bill Clock
First Forum	Reflections on Christian-Muslim Relations – Genghis Khan	Great Consistory Brunch
Flower Delivery	Ellie & Darwin Brudos, Angela Anderson	Chris & Leah Fernandes, Mark & Sharon Swain
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Jamie Ipsen	Sarah Bachorik, Jamie Ipsen
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Keith Muse, Catherine Lewis, Darwin Brudos	Gene Zeltmann, Gay Doolittle, Maria Greskovich, Peggy King, Bill Rochelle, Gerry Griggs
Reader	Caroline Brooks	
Refreshments	Nancy Martin	Mary Jewett
Ushers	Earl Wainwright, Rachel Cox, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Joan Lindsay, Jeanne Shoulder, Caroline Welch	Earl Wainwright (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Joe Gotwals, Linda Stanhope

Calendar for the Week of June 5, 2011

Sunday June 5	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
	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
Monday June 6	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
	7:45 p.m.	Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday June 7	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Wednesday June 8	1:00 p.m.	Archives Group, Archives Room
	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 June 9	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
Sunday June 12	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study, Poling Conference Room
	11:15 a.m.	Great Consistory Brunch, Stockade Inn
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel

***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.



June 5, 2011

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

First Reformed Church

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