

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 after the service for 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.

Summer Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for babies through age four is available from 10-11:15am in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

Church School

Children will remain in the service today to worship with the congregation. Church School will resume the second Sunday of September. Don't forget Vacation Bible School August 8-12!

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 refreshments in the Huntley Garden. Visitors are welcome to join in.

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.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 2011

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in D Minor

Jesu, Jesu, Thou Art Mine

Offertorio pastorale

Processional

J.S. Bach

J.S. Bach/A.V. Fedak

Anonymous

Alfred V. Fedak

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Stacey Midge

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stacey Midge

*HYMN #458

Earth and All Stars

Dexter

OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O Lord our God, you know us better than we know ourselves. As we come before you now, believers and doubters alike, we all share a deep need for your grace. Give us a desire for repentance. Forgive us all our wrongs. Transform us by your Spirit we pray. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Our Song of Hope*

We are a people of hope waiting for the return of our Lord. God has come to us through the ancient people of Israel, as the true Son of God, Jesus of Nazareth, as the Holy Spirit at work in our world. Our Lord speaks to us now through the inspired Scriptures. Christ is with us day by day.

Guest Organist

Edee Silva, a Colleague of the American Guild of Organists, will play while Charles Moose is on vacation.

Musical Notes

These two preludes were written in 1722. The piano was still at this time considered an unruly instrument and not suitable for public performance until towards the end of Bach's life.

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: *Anne Marie Buchanan, John Herring and Robert Moore.*

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 celebration of her parents Jack and Lynn Blake on their 66th Wedding Anniversary given by Pat & Fred Mett. 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 Vacation

Rev. Carlson will be out of the office August 15 - September 6.

Faith Bookshop

Parents, grandparents and everyone with young friends: The Bookshop recently received a donation of new, unused children's books, including some well-loved classics. You'll love the prices. Stop in and look them over (back table).

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today – Paul Mastroiani, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums
August 28 – 'Azzaam Hameed, piano
September 4 – Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

The Covenanters Are Coming

This week the first two of our Covenanters arrived and are moved in and ready to start their year of serving in local agencies in Schenectady. They are living together in a house at 1405 Union St. They still have a few needs to make their apartment a home:

- an electric clothes dryer
- dining room chairs
- a coffee maker
- pots and pans
- towels (new or in good condition)
- kitchen & bathroom trash cans
- basic cleaning supplies

Please welcome Chris Henry and Erin Winn as they join our community this week. Kseniya Zhuzha will be joining them at the end of August, and Senad Ademaj will be arriving in October to complete the team.

Faith with a Twist August 25

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 for casual, open-minded conversation about faith, spirituality, God, and life.

Participants need not be church members; we encourage people from a variety of backgrounds to attend and enliven our discussion! Please contact Stacey Midge if you have questions.

New Fellowship Group Forming

Starting Thursday, September 8 from 6-8pm and every Thursday evening thereafter, we will meet in the Mezzanine. If you are interested, please drop by. All are welcome. Contact Alida Rice at 280-3903 or rice.alida@yahoo.com for more information.

Welcome Back Picnic

September 11 after Service

Get your red hots right here! Hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks are supplied. Our traditional kick-off picnic will be a chance to check in with old friends and get to know the new folks. Please bring a dish to share.

Schenectady Remembers

Moving Toward Peace

9/11 Memorial Interfaith Commemoration Sunday, September 11 at 2 pm Veteran's Park (across from the Schenectady County Court House) This hour service, sponsored by the Schenectady County Clergy Association, will focus on the needs for peace. Islamic, Jewish, Hindu, and Christian leaders will participate. In case of rain, the service will be held at First United Methodist Church on 603 State Street

New Kerygma Bible Study

This fall a study of the church's first history book will be our focus: the Acts of the Apostles. All are welcome to share in the warm fellowship and lively discussions every Wednesday this fall,

9:30-11am, in Poling Conference room, beginning September 14. The study guides, *Acts for Everyone*, written by N.T. Wright, will be available at the first class for about \$20. Participants of this study should plan on completing seven short (daily) readings each week, which will become the grist for our Wednesday discussions. A sample copy of the study guide is available in the Faith Bookshop. Those with questions regarding this study may contact leader, Daniel Carlson.

Sharing the Sacred Journey

Two short books revealing the spiritual autobiography of Fredrick Beuchner will form the basis of a new group meeting for eight Wednesday evenings this fall, led by Cheryl and David Olsen and Mary and Daniel Carlson. The sessions, 7-8:30pm will be held in Dirck Romeyn room, beginning September 21. The first session will feature a DVD introducing this contemporary Christian author and teacher. Subsequent sessions presume participants will have read an assigned chapter in *Sacred Journey or Telling Secrets*, and will include discussions of Beuchner's writing as well as the invitation for each participant to reflect on and share related dimensions of their own respective sacred journey. Our Faith Bookshop will have a limited number of new copies at a discounted price. Questions regarding this journey may be directed to any of the leaders.

Group VII

On Friday, September 16, 11:30am Group VII will meet for a luncheon at the Edison Club. If any questions please contact Mary Jane Fisher 374-0964.

Stephen Ministry Meeting

All active Stephen Ministers are expected at the first meeting of our program year, Wednesday, September 21 at 7pm in Assembly Hall. Some community building, an overview of the program year and small group peer supervision are on the schedule for the evening. All Stephen Ministers with Care Receivers should bring their confidential updated (blue) contract record sheet(s) as well as their (yellow) check-in statement(s). Those Stephen Ministers unable to attend September's meeting should contact Stephen Leaders, Linnea D'Andrea or Daniel Carlson.

Regularly scheduled meetings will be held the third Wednesday of each month except Lent which is in March.

Wednesday Potluck Supper

Anyone desiring to share a supper with other members and friends is welcome to this informal monthly meal 6-7pm, in Assembly Hall, on September 28, October 26, and November 30. Registration is not required; simply bring some food you would enjoy sharing. As in years past, we'll clean up after ourselves in time for those wishing to attend one of class opportunities (see above or below). If you have a question about these church suppers, contact Daniel Carlson.

Contemplative Communion

Beginning Wednesday, September 28, our intimate service of song, silence, and the Lord's supper held in the candlelit sanctuary chancel, resumes. Everyone is welcome to this time of quite individual contemplation followed by shared communion (with Perreca's bread, wine and grape juice) and prayers around the table any Wednesday this fall, from 8:30-9pm. Curious but tentative? Contact Daniel Carlson.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Claire Hughes, Tom Lindsay	Tom Burgoyne, Lisa Ettkin
Faith Bookshop	Linda Witkowski	Committee Member
Flower Delivery	Natalie & Richard Davis, Katherine & George Trimarco	Veronica Bartholic, Mary Jewett
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Tani Breitenbach,	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Daniel Ipsen, Veronica Bartholic, Rob Dickson, Phil Falconer, Bill Rochelle, Linda Witkowski	Veronica Bartholic, Katherine Trimarco, Bill Rochelle, Gene Zeltmann, Phil Falconer, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Chris Henry	
Refreshments	Sarah & Eric Bachorik	Betty Bumgarner
Ushers	Del Pierce (head usher), Glenn Blinkmann, Carol Troost, Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson	Earl Wainwright (head usher), Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta

Calendar for the Week of August 21, 2011

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
August 21	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Huntley Garden
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
August 22	6:30 p.m.	Creation Care Committee, Mezzanine
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
August 23		
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Faith with a Twist, Van Dyck Restaurant
August 25		
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
August 28	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Huntley Garden
	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.



Spirit Island, Maligne Lake, Jasper National Park Canada

**Summer still
waters
of grace
bring us back
home**

August 21, 2011

First Reformed Church

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