

# 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 Dirck Romeyn room, on 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.

## **Service Online**

A recording of each of our worship services is at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

## **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 to worship with the congregation. Church School will resume the second Sunday of September.

## **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 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.

## Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 2011

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY      *Suite in Classic Style*      Charles Callahan

1. *Procession*

2. *Siciliana*

3. *Duo*

4. *Sarabande*

5. *Hornpipe*

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      Bill Levering

\*HYMN #455 *All Creatures of Our God and King*    Lasst Uns Erfreuen

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.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Peg Delaney

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Erin Winn

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

FIRST LESSON

*Exodus 3:1-15 (page 50)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Romans 12:9-21 (page 162)*

SERMON

*Love in the Concrete*

Bill Levering

+ + + **The Response to the Word** + + +

\*HYMN *O Perfect Love*

O perfect Love, all human thought transcending,  
lowly we kneel in prayer before your throne.  
Help us to show your love which knows no ending,  
forgiving all to make the world as one.

O perfect Life, be our complete assurance,  
of tender charity and steadfast faith,  
of patient hope and quiet, brave endurance,  
with childlike trust that fears nor pain nor death.

Grant us the joy which brightens every sorrow;  
grant us the peace which calms all earthly strife.  
Free us from fear of the unknown morrow.  
Bring us your Day of constant love and life.

(changes by whl, 2011)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Peg Delaney

\*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.**

\*HYMN #538 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing* Sicilian Mariners

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *Allegro Maestoso (Water Music)* George F. Handel

\*The congregation may stand

### Guest Organist

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

### 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:

*Eleanor Mae Hart.*

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.

### Summer Vacation

Daniel Carlson will return September 6

### In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God in memory of husband, John & daughter Beth by Eileen Herring. 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.

### Entered into Eternal Rest

Marjorie Burke  
August 12, 2011

### 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** – 'Azzaam Hameed, piano  
**Sept. 4** – Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums  
**Sept. 11** – Paul Mastriani, piano

### **The Covenanters Are Coming**

Most 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.

Please welcome Chris Henry, Erin Winn and Kseniya Zhuzha as they join our community. 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 we will meet in the Mezzanine from 6-8pm and every Thursday evening thereafter. If you are interested, please drop by. All are welcome. Contact Alida Rice at 280-3903 or [rice.alida@yahoo.com](mailto:rice.alida@yahoo.com) for more information.

### **Thursday Stitch Group**

The first gathering of the Stitch Group will be on Thursday September 8 in The Conference Room at 10am and every Thursday thereafter. Dig out all those unfinished projects (crewel, cross-stitch, needle-point, tapestry, and quilting) or start a new project and stitch them to completion with others who like to stitch. Anyone wanting to darn socks or sew on buttons is

welcome to join our group. Get your projects done in good company. No need to RSVP. For more info call Joan Lindsay, 399-3153.

### **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.

### **Church School Starts**

September 18. If you are interested in being a teacher, we still have a slot open. Call Jamie Ipsen 399-6848, our Children's Ministries Director if you have any questions.

### **Junior & Senior High Youth Groups**

Begin meeting WEEKLY on Sept. 18 at 5pm with a Welcome Back Picnic. There will be games and mixers for the youth, and the parents will have an introductory meeting after we eat. All youth in grades 6-12 and their parents are invited to attend and asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Unless otherwise noted on the calendar, the **Junior High Youth Group** will meet at 5pm every Sunday for dinner, games, discussion, and other fun activities. Youth in grades 6-8 are welcome.

The Senior High Youth Group will meet separately on Sundays at 7pm beginning on Sept. 25. All youth in grades 9-12 are welcome, and snacks will be provided.

## **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

## **Fall for the bells at FRC!**

The Handbells of FRC are getting  
ready to ring in the fall season with  
rehearsals beginning on Monday  
evenings. Our starting date is Monday,  
September 12 when we gather to  
assign music, ringing positions and  
catch up with each other following the  
summer vacation. There continues to  
be possibilities for you to be part of this  
music program and now is the time to  
let us know your interest! All levels of  
music skills are invited to explore this  
exciting area of our music. On the job  
training is available and happily  
offered! Please contact Judy Moore at  
383-6533 or moorebells@gmail.com.

## **Consistory and Committee Meetings begin Tuesday September 13**

Standing Committees meet at 6:30pm  
in various locations and Consistory  
meets at 7:30pm in Friendship Hall.

## **Breakfast Bible Bunch Starts September 15**

Dr. Levering will be leading an early  
morning Bible study at 7:30am  
Thursday mornings in Walton  
Conference room. The Bible study will  
review a text to be used the following

Sunday, expose a little background of  
the passage and mostly delve into its  
relevance to us. Coffee and carbs will  
be served. More if you are lucky. We  
will be finished at 8:15 for those who  
work.

## **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 at 374-0964.

### **Justice Action Council**

Our next meeting is September 18 at noon in the Walton Conference Room (above the church office). If you have ideas and the energy to support issues, or just want to learn more, please join us as we begin our second year. For more information, contact Claire Hughes at [eclair63@gmail.com](mailto:eclair63@gmail.com) or 381-9241.

### **Fall Bible Study**

Wednesday evenings October 5 – November 16 for a new Bible Study about choice and simplicity, called *Climbing the Sycamore Tree*. Based on the New Testament story of Zacchaeus, this course will help us explore a life of gratitude in response to the teachings of Jesus. Lynne Gilgore will lead fun activities, weekly reading, group discussion and time to get to know each other in new ways. Course will be held in the Walton Conference Room Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30pm (No class October 12). Please register by September 18 so books can be ordered for class. Sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall.

### **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 Perrecas bread, wine and grape juice) and prayers around the table any Wednesday this fall, from 8:30-9pm. Curious but tentative? Contact Daniel Carlson.

### **Stockade Walkabout and FRC**

Our church will be open Saturday, September 24 for the 52 Annual Stockade Walkabout from 11am-5pm. Come help welcome visitors to our architectural and historical landmark. Greeters/guides are needed for 3-hour shifts: 9:30-12:30, 12-3, 2:30-5:30, which includes help setting up, closing, and running taped background music. It's a great day of outreach, of sharing our story with hundreds of interested guests. Sign-up sheets and Walkabout brochures are on bulletin boards and hallway tables. Or call Laura Lee Linder, 882-6866. Volunteers of at least 2½ hours will earn a free *Walk Through History* ticket.

### **FRC Book Sale October 16**

Downsizing? Out of space? Looking for a good home for books you'd like to share with and pass on to others? Then donate your books to our book sale where, of course, you'll pick up more. Directly after church service on Sunday, October 16, Assembly Hall will be transformed into an autumn setting. Bring the books to the cloak room opposite Assembly Hall. One provision however, no text or computer books please! Because we need the week before this event to set it up, please donate your books by Sunday October 9. The sale is a lovely fall festival that we have enjoyed for many years.

We'll need people to help with sorting, setting up, helping on sale day, and providing refreshments. At our last sale the goodly number of volunteers made quick work of the Saturday set up. If you want to help sort, set up, sell, and clean up, please call Linda Witkowski 374-7904.

### **Boy Scouts of America**

Our Troop 1 meets in Assembly Hall every Thursday at 7pm. We have monthly outings and are always looking for young men age 10.5 or older. The troop is led by Mike Collins, Bill Levering, and Shaun Paul Manore. Our troop does not discriminate on any basis and celebrates the international character of scouting. We also never sell stuff.

### **Capital Region Theological Center News**

*Empathy in Action: Intro to Pastoral Care*, with Rev. William Grosch, M.D., Lynnwood Reformed, Begins September 8. A Lay Theological Education Program 20-hour course.

*Canoeing Through Creation, with Rev. Kent Busman*, Mon, Sept. 12-Thursday Sept. 15, Camp Fowler. Get away into the beautiful Adirondacks for hiking, canoeing, and theological reflection on the care of God's good creation.

*Save the Date! Monday, October 3 CRTC's Fall Event* at Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia! Keynote Speaker Barbara Wheeler, Director of the Center for the Study of Theological Education (CSTE) and Former President, Auburn Seminary, Author and Award-winning Educator. A great time- Don't miss it!

*Spirit, Grace & Power: Acts of the Apostles*, with Rev. Dr. Richard Carlson, Siena College, Thursday and Friday, October 20 and 21, 9am-3pm, This popular professor is back to help us rediscover the grace and power of the Spirit at work in the early church as well as our own.



*Opening the Doors: Welcoming the Differently-Abled*, with Rev. Catherine Patterson, NYS OPWD, Thursday, October 27, 9am-3pm. Designed to help faith leaders reach out to individuals and families of individuals with developmental disabilities who wish to belong to a faith community.

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.

### **Audio System Gift**

We have received a generous anonymous gift to match any donation to upgrading the audio system. We are looking to raise about \$7,000 so this is a way of doubling your help.

### **Pictures for bulletin**

We feature different pictures on our bulletin cover. If you have an inspirational favorite, send it in.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Tom Burgoyne, Lisa Etkin	Darwin Brudos, Catherine Lewis
Communion		Mary Alice Jewett, Keith Muse
Faith Bookshop	Veronica Bartholic	Roberta Blackmer
Flower Delivery	Veronica Bartholic, Mary Jewett	Rebecca Draffen-Grande, Marlene Risseeuw
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope	Sarah Bachorik,
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Preacher	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
Procession Elders	Veronica Bartholic, Katherine Trimarco, Bill Rochelle, Gene Zeltmann, Phil Falconer, Linda Witkowski	Veronica Bartholic, Mary Alice Jewett, Keith Muse, Bob Beadle, Katherine Trimarco, Roberta Blackmer
Reader	Erin Winn	Carol Troost
Refreshments	Betty Bumgarner	
Ushers	Earl Wainwright (head usher), Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta	Darwin Brudos, Michael Beals, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Kimberly Burgoyne, Richard Gardner, Catherine Lewis

### Calendar for the Week of August 28, 2011

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
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
August 29		
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
August 30		
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
Sept. 4	11:00 a.m.	Post Service Refreshments, Huntley Garden
	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

Caroline Brooks, Linda Ward, Senior Elders

Fred H. Daniels, Treasurer

Joan Lindsay, Clerk

### Elders

Carolyn Jones-Assini

Veronica Bartholic

Caroline Brooks

William Brooks

Daniel Ipsen

Mary Alice Jewett

Keith Muse

Katherine Trimarco

Linda Ward

Eugene Zeltmann

### Deacons

Darwin Brudos

Thomas Burgoyne

Rachael Cox

Richard Davis

Lisa Ettkin

Leah Kidwell-Fernandes

Claire Hughes

Joan Lindsay

Bill Martin

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.*



*Spirit Island, Maligne Lake, Jasper National Park Canada*

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

August 28, 2011

*First Reformed Church*

8 North Church Street

Schenectady, New York 12305

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