

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. After service join us in the Dirck Romeyn Room, to the left of the front of the sanctuary, 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 from 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 Sunday's 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 Sunday 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 Assembly Hall. Visitors are welcomed 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.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 2, 2011

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Partita on Azmon (1995)

Processional Voluntary in C Major (1995)

Sarabande Sacrae

Paul Bouman

David Lasky

Arthur Wills

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

MINUTE FOR MISSION *RCA Mission in Hungary* Joe Doolittle

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Praise the Lord* Trad. Cameroon

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #439 *In Christ There Is No East or West*
St. Peter

OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
cleanse us from our frailties and failures. Deliver us from proud
thoughts and empty desires, that with humble hearts we may
draw near to you. Help us confess our faults, confide in your
grace, and find refuge and strength for our lives. Amen.**

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Our Song of Hope*

In each year and in every place we expect the coming of Christ's Spirit. As we listen to the world's concerns, hear the cry of the oppressed, and learn of new discoveries, God will give us knowledge, teach us to respond with maturity, and give us courage to act with integrity.

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING *Morning Has Broken* Youth Orchestra

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

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

FIRST LESSON *Psalm 133 (page 575)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Ephesians 4:1-6 (page 193)*

SERMON *Imagine Swirled Peas* Bill Levering

*HYMN #514 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* Linstead

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Sim Shalom – Prayer for Peace* Max Janowski
Johnny Willis, Soloist

Sim shalom.
Grant us peace, Thy most precious gift
O Thou eternal source of peace.
Bless our country, that it may be a stronghold of peace.
May contentment reign within its borders,
bonds of friendship throughout the world.
Plant virtue in every soul and love for Thy name in every heart.
Give us Thy peace.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

Bill Levering

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

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

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.

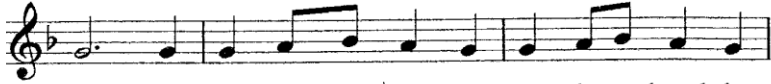
*RECESSIONAL HYMN *A Word of Peace* Brahms' 1st symphony



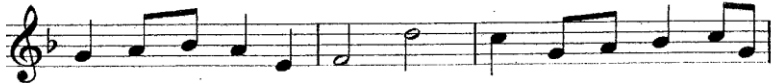
1. We stand ere leav - ing to sing a word of
2. Send us re-freshed, Lord, to spread kind-ness from this
3. Here we have tast - ed the good-ness of the



peace. We stand for jus - tice that wars and hate would
place. Help us to act, Lord, to speak the words of
Lord. Here we have drunk from the foun - tain of God's



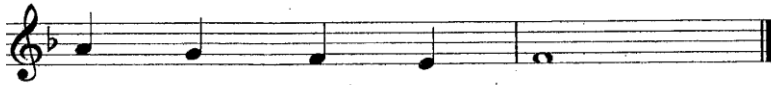
cease. Our hearts have moved, our ears have heard the
grace. We ask your bles-sings on all lands, on
word. We join our hearts for what God im - parts: a



God of time and space Now filled with Spi - rit,
peo - ple ev - ery - where Help all your child - ren
full - ness none de - ny With saints be fore and



fresh and true, we move out to
live and learn and help us to
fu - ture hopes we march to to -



run our ho - ly race.
have the strength to care.
mor - row heads held high.

words ©2006 Bill Levering

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Shalom*

Traditional

Farewell, dear friends, stay safe, dear friends, have peace.

We'll see you again, have peace.

*POSTLUDE

Sortie

Noel Rawsthorne

*The congregation may stand.

Anthem Notes

The morning anthem is being played by Heather Ipsen & Aurora Phillips long time members and representatives of the Youth Orchestra. The entire ensemble will play in December.

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: *Bernard Cain and David Collins*.

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.

Chancel Flowers

If you would like to order celebratory or memorial flowers for the chancel, please call the church office. You may send your check for \$30 payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309-4126.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Each year our church participates in "One Great Hour of Sharing," an opportunity for us to share with people in need around the world, helping to improve their world and ours. We can make a difference in the lives of others. Please use the envelopes in the pews. Checks should be made out to First Reformed Church with a memo to OGHS. Thank you!

Post Service Refreshments

We are in need of volunteers to bring in food! It can be cookies, cheese and crackers, fruit, or anything you want. There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall. Please bring your food around 9:30am, unless it is already set up on a platter.

FRC Missionary to the Roma -

Carolyn Otterness

Tonight, Oct. 2 at 6pm

For the last four years, Rev. Dick Otterness and his wife Carolyn have been ministering to the Roma people. The Roma are among the poorest people on earth, and represent the largest ethnic minority (12 million) in Central and Eastern Europe. The Otternesses work in partnership with the Hungarian Reformed Church, with a primary goal of encouraging attitude changes and steps towards reconciliation in churches, organizations and individuals where ethnic and racial conflict exists either overtly or covertly between Roma and others. Join us for a time of informing conversation and fellowship, after Jazz Vespers.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

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

Oct 9 – Paul Mastriani, piano

Oct 16 – Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

High School Choir

Anyone in high school who loves to sing - The High School Choir currently meets Sunday mornings at 9am in room 20. Mrs. Ipsen has found some amazing music that needs your talent! Please join us!

Youthful Orchestra

Anyone in the congregation who has played a string instrument for two or more years is welcome to join the Youthful Orchestra. Yes, this means adults too! We are looking to broaden our joyful noise to the Lord! The orchestra meets Sunday afternoons at the Ipsen's home from 3:30-4:30. The music covers all abilities. Come on over!

FRC's Got Talent

Is coming to the FRC stage! Please sign up on the poster at the bottom of the church school stairs if you have an act/talent that you'd like considered. This is a church wide event with venues for everyone. Proceeds will go to SHYG. Help them get to the DR! Questions? See or call Jamie Ipsen 399-6848.

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

JHYG will meet at 5pm every Sunday for dinner, games, discussion, and other fun activities. Youth in grades 6-8 are welcome.

SHYG will meet separately on Sundays at 7pm beginning on September 25. All youth in grades 9-12 are welcome, and snacks will be provided.

Group V

Meeting: In the Dirck Romeyn room on Monday, October 3 at 11am, with speaker and sandwich lunch to follow.

Topic: Archives and Historical Concerns. Laura Linder will speak to us about the use of our archives by many researchers. She will update us on the activities and needs of the committee. We will help with some photo identification. Bring a sandwich and dessert will be provided by the co

hostesses. Contact Maria Greskovich or Mary Carlson with Questions. All women of the church and guest are welcome.

New 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 from 7-8:30pm (No class October 12).

Sharing the Sacred Journey

There's still room in the circle each Wednesday evening through November 9, for those wishing to consider the spiritual autobiography of contemporary author, Fredrick Buechner--as well as their own journey. Cheryl and David Olsen with Mary and Daniel Carlson lead the sessions, 7-8:30pm in the Dirck Romeyn room, based on participants reading and reflections on assigned chapters in *Sacred Journey* or *Telling Secrets*. Copies of each of these brief books by Buechner's are still available at a discounted price in the Faith Bookshop! Questions regarding this Adult Education and Nurture offering may be directed to any of the leaders.

Contemplative Communion Returns

Our intimate service of song, contemplation, and the Lord's Supper, in the candlelit sanctuary is back! Everyone is welcome to this time of

guided individual contemplation followed by shared communion (with Preccas bread, wine and grape juice) and prayers around the Lord's Table every Wednesday this fall, 8:30-9pm.

Breakfast Bible Bunch

Dr. Levering will be leading an early morning Bible study at 7:30am Thursday mornings in the 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.

Thursday Stitch Group

We meet in the Poling Conference Room at 10am every Thursday. 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 at 399-3153.

Purils of Wisdom

A New Fellowship Group

Join us in the Mezzanine from 6-8pm every Thursday evening. Come when you can and stay as long as you like. This group is for those that work during the day, or just want another group to join! Bring your crafts of all types (knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, quilting and anything else you can dream of) and have fun chatting with others. Coffee and tea will be provided, and you can bring snacks to share.

Contact Alida Rice at 280-3903 or rice.alida@yahoo.com for more information or if you have any questions. She is also available before and after services. See you there!

Blessing the Pets October 9

We celebrate the love God has for all of creation and desire to be a church family where the peace and justice between God, people, and all creation is sought and celebrated. In that spirit, we will recognize the special place our animal companions hold in our lives with a Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 9 at 4pm, on the church lawn. Last year we blessed dogs, cats, a ferret, and a snake - all are welcome!

FRC Book Sale October 16

Downsizing? Out of space? Looking for a good home for books you'd like to share 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.

Tuesday Ladies Has Begun

The group meets every third Tuesday at Connie Young's home. Contact Connie at 393-7061 if any questions.

Wednesday Dialog October 19

The Subject will be: *Non Profits I Have Known* by Edwin D. Reilly, Jr., Ph.D. Go to the FRC website for more information on Edwin Reilly.

Embracing Life In Facing Death

Beloved Interfaith Chaplain, Sue Kohler-Arsenalult, of Community Hospice, returns Wednesday, October 19, 7-8:30pm in Poling Chapel, to speak about living vitally until the end of our days. Using guided imagery and personal reflection Sue will lead us to consider what matters most in our lives through the lens of our mortality. This presentation, sponsored by our Stephen Ministry, is open to all members and friends of the congregation. No registration is required; refreshments will be provided.

Group VII

On Friday, October 21 at 10am Group VII will meet in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Program: *Umbrella Program*. October Co-hostesses are Janet Gardner, Anne Robb. All are welcome.

Faithful Consumption: The Choices We Make

Plan now to take part in the Adult Education and Nurture Workshop to be held at church on Saturday, October 22, 9am-3pm. Local leaders Kent Busman and Becky Hudak will help us examine how our daily choices as consumers are impacted by our faith, affecting not only the world, but also shaping who we are as followers of Jesus. Come learn how by taking greater care with our choices, we can

grow in spiritual maturity! Get to know your church family better, have some fun, and explore new ways to grow in faith. Lunch will be provided. Sign up on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall, or call the church office.

New Member Class Oct 23

If you are interested in finding out more about the church or know someone who is, this is just the meeting for you! Dr. Levering meets with people interested in joining and helps them get to know the church. 2-4pm starting in the office.

Prayer Shawl Knitting Group

We meet every fourth Thursday at someone's home. For information, please contact Ronnie Bartholic at 393-7679

Flood Relief Efforts

With nearly a month passed, the devastation our region experienced during and after Hurricane Irene is far from over. Supplies and volunteers are still much needed for the thousands of people whose homes are being demolished, restored, and rebuilt. You can find comprehensive information about the damage in our area on the Regional Synod of Albany website at www.albanysynod.org. FRC also continues to send out work groups as often as there are volunteers. Check our constantly updated schedule and information online at 1streformed.com, or talk to Stacey Midge if you would like to volunteer or donate to the flood relief efforts.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Bill Martin	Catherine Lewis, Chris Van Oort
Faith Bookshop	Roberta Blackmer	Committee Member
First Forum	Every Member Connection Training	
Flower Delivery	Katherine & George Trimarco, Elsa & Dave Hjelmar	Catherine & Bradley Lewis, Claire Hughes
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope	Sarah Bachorik, Gay Doolittle
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Veronica Bartholic, Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Mary Jewett, Peggy King, Keith Muse, Catherine Lewis, Emile Walraven	Mary Alice Jewett, Peggy King, Roberta Blackmer, Del Pierce, Darwin Brudos, Catherine Lewis
Reader	Therese McCarty	Chris Fernandes
Refreshments	Elaine Springsted	Alida Rice
Deacons/Ushers	Darwin Brudos, Tom Burgoyne, Richard Davis, Lisa Etkin, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Bill Martin, David Bundy, Kimberly Burgoyne	Mike Beals (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins

Calendar for the Week of October 2, 2011

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
World	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
Communion	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
Oct. 2	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship, Assembly Hall
	11:20 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	11:30 a.m.	Every Member Connection Training, Poling Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Justice Action Council, Walton Conference Room
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	FRC Missionary to the Roma Speaks, Assembly Hall
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Friendship Hall
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Men's Newsgroup, Poling Conference Room
Oct. 3	11:00 a.m.	Group V, Dirck Romeyn Room
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Oct. 4		
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma Bible Study, Poling Conference Room
Oct. 5	1:00 p.m.	Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study, Walton Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Sharing the Sacred Journey, Dirck Romeyn Room
	8:30 p.m.	Contemplative Communion, Sanctuary
Thursday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
Oct. 6	10:00 a.m.	Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room
	6:00 p.m.	Purls of Wisdom, Mezzanine
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Oct. 9	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:20 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	4:00 p.m.	Blessing of Pets, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Friendship Hall

***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.



Adirondack photo by George Lovelace

Fall, back
to schedules and calendars
and paying
attention to time
and time again
God is with us.

October 2, 2011

First Reformed Church

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