

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.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 30, 2011

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Reformation Suite (1969)

Gerhard Krapf

I. Ach Gott vom Himmel sieh darein

II. Wir glauben all einen Gott

III. Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist

IV. Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott

Toccata on A Mighty Fortress (1993)

Austin c. Lovelace

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

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

Toulon

Text by John Calvin

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #442 (omit verse 3)

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

Almighty and ever-loving God, we confess our failure to act when we see fear, suffering and powerlessness. We confess that we have given evil for evil. We confess that we seldom strive for your perfection. Strengthen us to be people who sing and live your song of love, who seek justice and mercy for all, who truly repent of what, is past, and who look with anticipation for your peace yet to come. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

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 #526 *For All the Saints* Sine Nomine

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen*

*POSTLUDE *Grand Choeur* Theodore Salomé

*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: *John Schmulbach, F. David Schweizer, and Vera Van Zandt.*

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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God.

In loving memory of *Tom and Lillian Niles from Dale and Nancy Swann.*

In loving memory of *my father Robert V. Shepherd from Carol Welch and family.*

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.

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.

Johnson Library

Halloween's approach is evident from the collection of spooky books on the children's display table this morning!

You could say the choice of subjects for teens and older is eclectic: there is a *Little House Traveler*, writings from Laura Ingalls Wilder's journeys across America. Phyllis Theroux has edited *The Book of Eulogies: A Collection of Memorial Tributes, Poetry, Essays, and Letters of Condolence*. David Levering Lewis has written *God's Crucible, Islam and the Making of Europe, 570-1215*. If you are appearing on "Jeopardy" and are asked to name the seven wonders of the ancient world, you can sign out a book by that title edited by Peter Clayton and Martin Price.

First Forum

Today - M&B Mission Fair –

Who are we supporting? Why? What do these groups do?

Why does the Interfaith Community of Schenectady concern us?

How has Bethesda House changed over the years?

What is our connection with Union College's Campus Protestant Ministry?

Who receives care from Haven Grief Counseling?

Come to the Mission Fair during Second Hour and find the answers. We will have four of our mission recipients there to give a brief explanation, followed by a Q & A from you, their generous supporters.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today – Peg Delaney, piano

Nov. 6 – Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Nov. 13 – TBA

Nov. 20 – Jazz Festival

Book Sale

Many, many thanks to the buyers, donors, and browsers for continuing to make our book sale such a lovely hour and such a success. Special thanks to the Yangs who provided the pumpkins and mums, the room was transformed. See you at our next sale.

Kirk Ringers

Beginning today, we will meet EVERY Sunday after church school in room 20 from 11:15 – 12pm. All church school kids are invited to participate! Parents are welcome to listen or adult forum may be of interest to you. We have some new exciting plans that require a few parent volunteers as well! See Jamie Ipsen if you can help.

FRC's Got Talent

Is coming to the FRC stage! On Saturday, December 3 at 7:30pm.

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.

Kindergarten-2nd grade DADS

You are invited to volunteer to read a story to your child's class on the first Sunday of each month in the library. Signup sheet is upstairs in room 20.

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

Unless otherwise noted 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 on Sundays at 7pm. All youth in grades

9-12 are welcome, and snacks will be provided.

Nov. 6: Harvest for the Pantry dinner for SICM from 4-7pm at First Reformed Scotia. We will be volunteering and eating dinner. No regular meetings.

Nov. 13: Junior High at 5pm, Senior High at 7pm.

Nov. 19: Pie-baking 10am-4pm

Pie Sale

The Senior High Youth Group will be baking and selling pies again this year, just in time for Thanksgiving! Apple and pumpkin pies are available for \$13 each. They will be baked on November 19 and available for pick-up after church on November 20. Order your pies on Sunday mornings in November or by talking to any youth group member or Stacey Midge.

Connecting @ First - Nov 6

On November 6, dozens of 'connectors' will be visiting EVERY local member and adherent in the congregation to talk about the church and our life together. The connections will take place at church or in homes or wherever people can get together. They will go over your information the church has to be sure it's correct, share the good news of what's happening now and confidentially receive an estimate of giving for 2012. Our congregation hasn't done this in a generation and it's time for a census like this as a chance to build connections. It's a con-census. We are still looking for connectors, and if you are interested, contact Andy Chestnut, Anne Putnam, Walt Robb, or any of the over 50 folks who are already on the connection team.

Be Nice to Visitors

Our connection campaign this year has many folks out calling on people in the congregation to make our information better, to engage in dialog of faith and to connect on the issues of our support of the church. The folks doing this may not be extraverts or used to engaging folks in this way. Please be nice to them. At no point will you have to tell them the amount you are planning on giving next year. There are discreet, confidential envelopes and trustworthy people who are handing these in sealed.

Communion Class

Communion Class will begin November 6 at the regular church school time. Any children in grades three and up who would like to learn more about this special sacrament are invited to join us. There will be three classes - Nov 6, Dec 4 and Feb 5. March 4 the children will help with communion preparations and will be able to meaningfully participate in their first communion with their families and our larger church family. Please see or email Jamie Ipsen (ipsens6@hotmail.com) if you'd like your child to participate.

Chancel Guild

Will meet November 6 for the Fall Business Meeting after church in the Poling Conference room. Anyone who wishes to join the group is welcome.

Group V

We will meet Monday, November 7, at 11am in the Dirck Romeyn Room. The program is Pastoral Care presented by Daniel Carlson. For more information, please contact Maria Greskovich at 372-9522.

New Fall Bible Study

Wednesday evenings, through November 16, 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.

Contemplative Communion

Everyone is welcome to this intimate service of song and silence 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 in the Sanctuary.

Tuesday Ladies

This group meets every third Tuesday at Connie Young's home. All ladies are welcome. Contact Connie 393-7061 if any questions.

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.

Purls of Wisdom

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 and have fun chatting with others. Coffee and tea will be provided, and you can bring snacks to share. Contact Alida Rice at rice.alida@yahoo.com or 280-3903 if you have any questions. She is also available before and after services.

Flood Relief Efforts

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.

Songs, Stoles and Stories – Benefit Concert:

Room for All cordially invites you to a benefit concert on Friday, November 4 at 7:30pm at The First Church in Albany, 110 N. Pearl St., featuring the popular Albany Gay Men's Chorus, widely known for their rich harmonies, varied musical repertoire and positive contributions to the greater Capital region. In addition to musical selections, a few members of the choir will share their experience of being gay in the context of their faith communities. The "Shower of Stoles"

will also be displayed; this collection of liturgical stoles represents the lives and gifts of LGBT people of faith who serve their faith communities, or have been barred from serving because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The event is free and open to all; a freewill offering will be taken to benefit Room for All, and organization of Reformed Church in America members supporting, educating and advocating for the full inclusion of LGBT persons in that denomination. For information, call 462-6040.

Music Company Orchestra

Concert for Children of All ages
Music Company Orchestra, an adult all-volunteer orchestra serving the Capital Region since 1974, will perform in the FRC Sanctuary on Saturday, November 5; at 3 pm. MCO is a full classical orchestra (50 musicians) that plays concerts year round in Schenectady, Saratoga and Albany counties. Admission to all MCO concerts is free. The program is targeted at a younger audience but contains music that can be enjoyed by all ages, including *Hoe Down*, from Aaron Copeland's *Rodeo*, excerpts from *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Top Brass* an original trumpet sextet by our resident composer-arranger Alan Arnold, and a wonderful Handel piece for strings and organ. Featured soloists include Heather Chan on violin and Michael Clement on organ. The concert is about one hour in duration and is played without intermission. For more information about the concert or MCO, contact FRC's Paul Houpt (trumpet) at 698-6539, paulhoupt@gmail.com.

Operation Christmas Child

Brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. People of all ages can be involved in this simple, hands-on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ.

We need items and cash donations to cover shipping costs (\$7 per box). Checks can be made payable to FRC of Schenectady indicating O.C.C. on the memo line (tax deductible). We also need items to fill the boxes with as well as wrapping paper and tissue paper. Acceptable items include:
TOYS: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.
SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
HYGIENE ITEMS: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.
OTHER: Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

Stop by our table after Sunday services for more information and to sign up for a red and green box to fill! We'll also have a bin in the lobby that items and boxes can be dropped off to. All boxes are due at church on Sunday November 13. For more information visit: www.samaritanspurse.org
Questions? Contact Shannon Kerwin 374-2542 or shan2112@yahoo.com

Thanksgiving Jazz Festival November 20

Over a dozen Jazz performers who have graced our worship spaces are gathering on November 20 at 5 for a very special Jazz Vespers. This unprecedented gathering of local talent will hold forth for a longer presentation and we are selling tickets to the thing to support the Vespers program. The artists in attendance: Brian Patenaude, Nat Phipps, Pete Toigo, Tim Coakley, Mike Benedict, Mike Lawrence, Lee Russo, Tom D'Andrea, Peg Delaney, Bill Delaney, Rick Rosoff, Mark Anthony. Tickets are \$10 in advance from the church office or at a Jazz Vespers.

Harvest for the Pantry

Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM) will be holding its annual Harvest for the Pantry dinner to raise funds for the Emergency Food Program on November 6 at 5pm. In addition to a fabulous meal, there will be a silent auction. Purchase tickets from Stacey Midge or by contacting the SICM office at 374-2683..

The Persimmon Project

A YWCA program designed to help victims of domestic violence and chronic homelessness return to the workforce, is looking for donations of used laptops and computer mice in working condition. As you probably know, the job search today is nearly impossible without a computer and internet access. However, most of our clients do not own computers and have extremely limited access to the internet. By providing a computer, you can help these women gain independence.

Please note, we can only accept laptops in working condition, 4 years old or newer, with XP operational system or newer, and with Microsoft Office (if PC).

You can drop off all donations at the church office weekdays between 8am and 3pm or on Sundays before or after the service.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Communion by Intinction		Gay Doolittle, Emile Walraven
Counting Deacons	Joan Lindsay, Carol Troost	Christine Daniels, Rebecca Draffen-Grande
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
First Forum	M&B Mission Fair – Organizations supported by FRC will host information tables and lead conversation	Connecting @ First - Provoking ourselves to Love One Another Speaker: Andy Chestnut
Flower Delivery	Joan & Tom Lindsay, Mary Jewett	Marilyn & Robert Beadle, Susan & Gene Zeltmann
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Linda Ward, Christine Daniels, Phil Falconer, Jerry Griggs, Peggy King, Bill Rochelle	Veronica Bartholic, Gay Doolittle, Gene Zeltmann, Christine Daniels, Emile Walraven, Carol Jones-Assini
Reader	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes	Carol Troost
Refreshments	Nancy Martin, Joyce Beland	Barbara Toolan
Ushers	Harlene Bachorik & Bill Clock (head ushers), Jeff Cox, Nicholas Blinckmann, Art Shultes, Louis Acquasanta, William Faulkner,	Darwin Brudos, Richard Davis, Joan Lindsay, Caroline Welch, Christine Daniels, Rebecca Draffen-Grande,

Calendar for the Week of October 30, 2011

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Oct. 30	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Refreshments & Fellowship, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Friendship Hall
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Mens Newsgroup, Poling Conference Room
Oct. 31	7:15 p.m.	Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Nov. 1	6:00 p.m.	Schenectady Business Women, Poling Conf. Room
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma Bible Study, Poling Conference Room
Nov. 2	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
Nov. 3	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
	7:00 p.m.	Schenectady District Boy Scouts, Walton Conf. Room
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Saturday	2:00 p.m.	Music Company Orchestra, Sanctuary
Nov. 5		**Set your clocks back before you go to bed**
Sunday		**Daylight Savings time Ends**
Nov. 6	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Refreshments & Fellowship, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Justice Action Counsel, Walton Conference Room
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	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.



October 30, 2011

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

First Reformed Church

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