

## **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](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

# Christ the King Sunday

November 20, 2011

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

## VOLUNTARY

*Hymn Preludes for Thanksgiving (1969)*

Flor Peeters

1. *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

2. *Praise to God, Immortal Praise*

3. *Praise to The Lord, The Almighty*

4. *We Plow the Fields*

5. *We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator*

*Christ The King (1953)*

Dom Paul Benoit

10:00 a.m.

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

## GREETING

Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Stacey Midge

### INTROIT

*Many and Great*

Traditional Dakota

Kirk Ringers

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #551 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

St. George's Windsor

### 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

\*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

ANTHEM    *Praise to the Lord (Lobe den Herren)*    arr. Hugo Distler

Praise to the Lord the Almighty the King of creation.  
Oh my soul praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation.  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,  
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth.  
Shielded thee under His wings yea so gently sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen, how thy desires e'er have been  
granted in what He ordaineth.

+ + +    **The Word of God**    + + +

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

FIRST LESSON    *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (page 803)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON    *Matthew 25:31-45 (page 29)*

SERMON    *Win-Win Situation*    Stacey Midge

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

\*HYMN #429    *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*    Abbot's Leigh

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Support & Care

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 #554 *Let All Things Now Living* Ash Grove

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Twofold Amen*

Dresden

\*POSTLUDE *Marche triomphale – Nun danket alle Gott (1910)*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

\*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:

*Jean Anderson, Violet Delack, and Norman Reed.*

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.

**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.

## **Forum**

Rev. Stacey Midge gives an update on General Synod and the RCA.

## **Spaghetti Dinner Today**

Don't rush home to make dinner, join us for a Sunday Spaghetti Dinner from 12-2pm in Friendship Hall. The proceeds from the spaghetti dinner will benefit the Senior High Youth Group's annual Mission Trip. Price: \$8 per adult, \$3 per child under 12, \$20 family plan (4 or more)

## **Finding Thanksgiving in Hope and Community, Schenectady Interfaith Service to be held today at 3pm**

An Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held at First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady. "Finding Thanksgiving in Hope and Community" has been organized by the Schenectady County Clergy Association, and will include leaders from Jewish, Christian, Unitarian, Muslim and Hindu faith traditions. Acknowledging that recent community concerns have been strongly focused on disaster relief in the aftermath of flooding from tropical storms Irene and Lee, local religious leaders also recognize the deep need for the faith community to have opportunity to express gratitude and hope. Says Jeff Kane, pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church, 2850 Guilderland Avenue, "In times of difficulty, it's more important than ever for communities to come together for support and strength. As we focus on rebuilding, we are also seeing the joy that happens between strangers as they unite in common work, giving thanks together for the hope that shines through challenging times." A

pick up choir will be rehearsing at 2pm for the service.

## **Thanksgiving Jazz Festival Today**

Over a dozen Jazz performers who have graced our worship spaces are gathering at 5pm 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 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.

## **Faith Bookshop**

Because last week was the only time the Bookshop elves could meet together, there's already an atmosphere of Christmas in the Bookshop. Some donated ornaments, holiday books, and gift items are out and available for purchase. The note card showing FRC in winter can make a lovely holiday card, and there is still plenty of time for book orders to be filled before Christmas.

We have restocked the popular Vantage Import products from Kenya. Engaging African animals appear on jewelry, coasters, bookmarks and as carved animals, large and small.

## **Johnson Library**

Check out the hall display table for children's and young adults' books about Thanksgiving-all the way from Squanto's Journey; the *Story of the First Thanksgiving*, by Joseph Bruchac, and *The Thanksgiving Beast Feast*, by Karen Gray Ruelle. And don't forget to bring home *A Grateful Heart*, a book

filled with daily blessings, edited by M.J. Ryan.

On the adult table is *Saying Grace: Blessings for the Family Table* edited by Sarah McElwain and includes "May the love that is in my heart pass from my hand to yours." Contributors from Puritan times down to the present voice their beliefs, their struggles and their faith or lack thereof, in *Voices from the Heart: Four Centuries of American Piety*, edited by Roger Lundin and Mark Noll.

### **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm**

**Today** – Jazz Festival

\$12 pp, \$5 students

**Nov. 27** – 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

**Dec. 4** – Handbell Choir & Choir Sing

**Dec. 11** – Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**Dec. 18** – Peg Delaney, piano, Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **Kinderwyck**

We are looking for helping hands and arms to play with toddlers and rock babies from 9:50-noon on the following dates:

Dec. 04, Dec. 18, Dec. 25 (1 hr only),

Feb. 19, and Feb. 26

Please call the church office if you are willing and able. Thank you!

### **Kirk Ringers**

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.

### **Youth Orchestra**

Meets in the sanctuary from 4-5pm every Sunday. Any person who has played an instrument for 2+ years is invited to join us!

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

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

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

**Nov. 20:** Pie sale pick-up

Spaghetti Dinner 12-2pm in Friendship Hall

**Nov. 27:** Thanksgiving Weekend – No meetings

### **Festive Community Dinner**

Wednesday Nov. 30 at 6pm is the annual Festive Community Dinner for international students at Union College. People from the community are encouraged to bring some home-cooked food to Hale House on the Union campus, and share a meal with students who are far from families and friends during the holidays. For more information or to RSVP, contact Abby Norton-Levering 694-6234 or [applekale@yahoo.com](mailto:applekale@yahoo.com), or Viki Brooks, Union College chaplain, [brooksv@union.edu](mailto:brooksv@union.edu).

### **FRC's Got Talent**

Will be Saturday Dec 3rd at 7:30pm in Friendship Hall. Advanced tickets go on sale TODAY at the sanctuary entrance and at the spaghetti lunch downstairs. Don't miss this fabulous, fun event that will help the youth group in their mission endeavors!

### **Christmas Flowers**

As we prepare for the Holiday season, remember a loved one by participating in the Christmas Memorial Flowers. Each year the church is decorated with plants and greens during the holiday season. Your loved ones will be remembered in the bulletin on December 24 and 25. The donation is \$20.

Even if you have donated in previous years, you must place a new order for Christmas 2011. Please call the church office **no later than Friday, December 16**, to make arrangements. Send payment to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

### **Christmas Flower Delivery**

Volunteers are needed on Sunday, December 11 to deliver Christmas poinsettia plants to homebound church families. The plants, along with addressed cards for each recipient, will be available after the service.

Volunteers simply need to pick up a plant to be delivered. Members of the Support and Care Committee will be present to assist. This is a nice opportunity to extend our care and concern to church family members - please join us.

### **Cookies After Christmas Eve Service**

Celebrate the season by meeting up with friends and family after the 9pm service on Christmas Eve, December 24. Refreshments and refreshing good cheer will greet you all in Assembly Hall. If you are interested in volunteering to bring cookies, please call Heather Chestnut at 346-7887.

### **Thursday Musical Club**

Christmas Concert - Friday, Dec. 2  
Music of Bach, Liszt, and Monteverdi will be highlighted at a Christmas Concert of the Thursday Musical Club on Friday, December 2 at 7:30pm in our church sanctuary. Our own Olivia Cox, cellist with the FRC Youth Orchestra, will accompany two pieces, one of which will include a children's choir. The women's chorus is directed by Julie Panke and accompanied by Elinore Farnum. As special guests, The Thursday Belles, directed by Judy Moore, will offer seasonal favorites for handbell choir and accompany the chorus for "A Garland of Carols." A reception will follow the concert.

### **87<sup>th</sup> Annual Carol Sing & Vespers**

Sunday, December 4 at 5pm. Bill Levering and The Thursday Belles, under the direction of Judy Brackett Moore, will present a Christmas Vespers including English Handbell Music, Carol Singing and Holiday Reflections. This is a family and community event that is sure to start your holiday season with joy! Elinore Farnum, noted Capital Region organist and Joan Nikolski, pianist, will join Thursday Belles for the traditional singing of carols.

### **Alternative Christmas Gift Fair; Buy Once, Give Twice December 4**

The Alternative Gift Fair is back and is bigger than ever! On Sunday, December 4 from 11am-3pm, plan to do your Christmas shopping in a way that truly honors the season. It's so easy to choose unique and beautiful fair trade gifts that will delight your friends and family, while supporting others in need around the world and locally. Discover new Fair Trade

groups and help increase awareness as you buy gifts that give once to the recipient, and once again to the mission.

14 agencies and groups will offer creative alternative gifts at the fair: Mango Tree Imports, Mayan Hands (Fair Trade Woven Goods), SERRV International, South Africa Mission Group (hand-made candles to benefit AIDS/HIV patients), Equal Exchange (coffees, teas, chocolates), Fonkoze Haiti (Fair Trade gifts & shares), Roots of Wisdom (dried herbs, soaps and more), NE Regional Food Bank; Reformed Church World Service, Heifer International, and Jewish World Watch and the First Reformed Church Youth Group. Stockade Calendars will be sold to benefit the Stockade district, which has experienced recent flooding.

### **Group V**

We will meet Monday, December 5 at Barbara Landon's at the Eddy. Fred Daniels will be speaking and a Christmas lunch will follow. Any questions should be directed to Maria Greskovich (372-9522) or Mary Carlson (346-6416).

### **Daily Devotional Books**

Group V has their Devotional books available again this year. These make great holiday gifts, hostess gifts and just thoughtful gifts for friends and family. There are a few copies available in the book shop. We will have them at the Alternative Gift Fair also. Or call Mary Carlson (346-6416) or Maria Greskovich (372-9522). Cost \$7 each or 3 for \$20.

### **Group VII**

All are welcome to the Christmas Luncheon at noon on Friday, December 16. We will meet at the Glen Eddy on Consaul Road at 11:30am. Co-hostesses: Audrey Bain, Mary Jane Fisher.

### **Midnight Run**

On Friday, Dec. 10, a group from FRC will travel to Manhattan to deliver meals, blankets, clothing, and hygiene items to people living on the streets. There are still a few spots available in the van, so if you're interested in going, talk to Stacey Midge ASAP. We also need donations of toiletries, socks, new underwear, **warm clothes**, blankets and sleeping bags. Men's clothing is much more in demand than women's, and large sizes are particularly needed. We will also be gathering on Thursday, Dec. 9, to pack bagged lunches and organize the donations. If you would like to help, come to Assembly Hall at 7pm. Needed food items include: Bread, non-pork sandwich meat, sliced cheese, peanut butter, jelly, juice boxes, fruit, cookies. Please contact Stacey (377-2201) if you would like to donate or have any questions.

### **Bulletin Pictures**

If you have a picture you think will fit nicely on the front cover of the bulletin, please send it in or email it.



## 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](http://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](http://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	Joan Lindsay, Caroline Welch	Joe Gallagher, Richard Gardner
Faith Bookshop	Linda Witkowski	Bill Clock & Roberta Blackmer
First Forum	Update On General Synod and the RCA – Rev. Stacey Midge	Bill - worship feedback
Flower Delivery	Chancel Guild Committee	Veronica Bartholic, Gay & Joe Doolittle
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Joanne Bedell	Sarah Bachorik, Kerwin
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Millicent Casey, Catherine Lewis, Linda Witkowski, Rob Dickson	Veronica Bartholic, Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, Bob Beadle, Phil Falconer, Emile Walraven
Reader	Catherine deSalle	George Trimarco
Refreshments	Chris Henry, Diana & JieJie Bennett	Virginia Laumeister
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Linda Stanhope, Alida Rice	Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins

## Calendar for the Week of November 20, 2011

Sunday Nov. 20	9:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room High School Choir, Room 20 Worship, Sanctuary Refreshments & Fellowship, Assembly Hall Forum, Poling Chapel Kirk Ringers, Room 20 Spaghetti Dinner, Friendship Hall Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, Proctors Youth Orchestra Jazz Festival, Sanctuary
Monday Nov. 21	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Mens Newsgroup, Poling Conference Room Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday Nov. 22	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Wednesday Nov. 23	9:30 a.m. 6:45 p.m.	Kerygma Bible Study, Poling Conference Room Sycamore Group, Walton Conference Room
Thursday Thanksgiving Nov. 24		Office Closed
Friday Nov. 25		Office Closed
Sunday Nov. 27	9:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room High School Choir, Room 20 Worship, Sanctuary Refreshments & Fellowship, Assembly Hall Forum, Poling Chapel Kirk Ringers, Room 20 Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary 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.*



November 20, 2011

Gathering in  
thanks  
giving  
to the living  
God

*First Reformed Church*

8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)