

## 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 gather in the library immediately following the Children's Message for a story. There will be time to check out books and then they will return to room 20 to meet parents after the service.

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.

## Heritage Sunday

February 5, 2012

*“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)*

9:40 a.m.

### VOLUNTARY

*Six Canzonetti (1991)*

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Prelude  | 2. Song       |
| 3. Nocturne | 4. Prayer     |
| 5. Dialogue | 6. Offertoire |

Noel Goemanne

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

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

### INTROIT

*Come, Build a Church*

Ken Medema  
High School Choir

Come build a church with soul and spirit, come build a church of flesh and bone. We need no tower rising skyward; no house of wood or glass or stone.

Come build a church with human frailty, come build a church of flesh and blood. Jesus shall be its sure foundation. It shall be build by the hand of God.

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #461 *God Is Here!* Abbot's Leigh

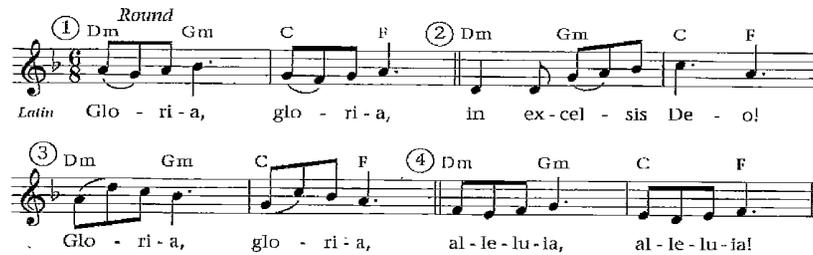
\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God, you have searched us and known us. You have called us and we have not listened. You have called us and we have walked away. You have beckoned us and we have been afraid. Forgive us, almighty Lord. Open our ears and strengthen our hearts to hear and follow you. Amen.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Gloria, Gloria*

*Round*



Latin Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Luke 2:14  
Music: Jacques Borthier (1923-1994) All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700  
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\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Covenant of the Congregation*)

**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.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng* Marion  
arr. Theodore Beck; Michael Atchley, trumpet

Rejoice, O pilgrim throng! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise,  
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days.

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth  
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth.

Yet on and onward still, with hymn and chant and song,  
Through gate and porch and columned aisle the hallowed pathways throng.

Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array,  
As pilgrims through the darkness wend till dawns the golden day.

At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their homes at last, Jerusalem the blest.

Edward H. Plumptre, alt.

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

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

FIRST LESSON *2 Timothy 1:3-7 (page 211)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 1:50-55 (page 56)*

SERMON *Christ for the Length and Breadth of Life* Bill Levering

\*HYMN *Faith of our Fathers*

**Faith of our fathers, living still,  
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword;  
O how our hearts beat high with joy  
Whenever we hear that glorious Word!**

*Refrain*  
**Faith of our fathers, holy faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.**

**Faith of our mothers, we will strive  
To win all nations unto Thee;  
And through the truth that comes from God,  
We all shall then be truly free.**

*Refrain*  
**Faith of our mothers, holy faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.**

**Faith of our ancestors, we will love  
Both friend and foe in all our strife;  
And preach Thee, too, as love knows how  
By kindly words and virtuous life.**

*Refrain*

*Faith of our ancestors, holy faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Peg Delaney

\*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, THE LORD'S PRAYER Stacey Midge

**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 #504 *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

Union Seminary

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen*

Danish

\*POSTLUDE *Toccata on Morning Song (1992)*

Robert Grogan

\*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:

*Virginia Cleveland, Janice Flom, Wayne Harvey, Lois Joyce Berner Mix, Caleb Paine, and Janet Schwem.*

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.

**Covenant Bookmarks**

Today, in your bulletin, you will find a bookmark, of our covenant, for you to keep. If you don't want to take it home, simply leave it in the hymnal book.

**Entered Into Eternal Rest**

Caleb Paine

January 27, 2012

**Entered Into Eternal Rest**

Hans (Hansgoerg) Stern

February 2, 2012

**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.

### Faith Bookshop

The Bookshop has restocked the delightful products from Kenya; jewelry, salad servers, carved animals and more. Also, four new CDs are available through the *Talents for Talents* program. The artists are familiar to most at FRC, and the proceeds go to worthy causes.

Books can be ordered through the Bookshop at anytime at a 30% discount. Order forms are available in the shop.

### First Forum

**Today** - Colonial Festival/Heritage Sunday: Introducing John F. Gearing- the researcher and author working for the Colonial Schenectady Project to complete Volume 2 *Schenectady Genesis: How a Dutch Colonial Village Became an American City, Ca. 1661-1800*. John will share anecdotes and results of his research on early Schenectady and. speak about the Themes and Highlights from the period 1771-1800.

**Feb. 12** – Connections Campaign

**Feb. 19** - Coffee & Conversation

**Feb. 26** - Justice Action Council Topic –Challenges of Public Education Reformed, Mary Alice Jewett & Cathy Lewis

Any ideas or recommendations for Speakers please contact Joe Doolittle at [aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com](mailto:aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com)

### Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

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

**Feb. 12** – 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

**Feb. 19** – 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 (usually only until 11). Please call the church office if you are willing and able. Thank you!

### Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

**JHYG** will meet at 5pm on Sundays (unless otherwise noted) for dinner, games, discussion, and other fun activities. Youth in grades 6-8 are welcome.

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

**Today** – No Meetings

**Feb. 12** – Regular Meetings.

**Feb. 19** – No meetings

**Feb. 20-26** – Senior High Mission Trip in the Dominican Republic.

### Youth Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic

Please pray for our youth and adult chaperones who will be traveling to the Dominican Republic from February 20-26 on our annual mission trip. They will be staying at a ministry center in Santo Domingo and doing construction and improvements at the ministry center, a school, and homes of people in need.

This is an important opportunity for our youth that enables them to experience another culture, learn about the dynamics of poverty, and do valuable service in another community - which equips them to better see and address needs in their own communities. **You can support this trip by purchasing a mission share for \$25** from any member of the Senior High Youth Group, or from Stacey Midge. All mission shareholders are invited to attend a dinner on Sunday, March 25

to eat food inspired by the Dominican Republic, see pictures of our time there, and hear the youth tell stories about what they experienced and how they have been impacted.

### Contemplative Communion

Continuing mid-week in a new format and location is this evening service of meditative communion. We gather in the Poling Chapel at 8:30pm each Wednesday during the season of Epiphany. A quiet, simple song of illumination begins our worship. Participants are invited into quiet awareness of God's presence within and beyond us. As usual, communion (bread and wine or juice) are then shared around the Lord's Table, followed by spoken prayers, a blessing, and Christ's peace. The service concludes at about 9. All are welcome. Questions may be directed to Daniel or Mary Carlson.

### 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 (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](mailto:rice.alida@yahoo.com) for more information or if you have any questions.

### Group VII

We will not be meeting in February, but will resume on Friday, March 16 at 10am in the Dirck Romeyn Room.

### Group V

We will meet Monday, Feb. 6 in the Dirck Romeyn Room at 11am. Program: Kitty Trimarco, Adult Education. Hostesses are Sandy Moynihan and Cindy Hamilton.

### Reception and Storytelling

*If The Portraits Could Speak – The Stories They'd Tell*; performed by Alden (Joe) Doolittle and will be held at the Schenectady Historical Society, Mabee Farm, Rotterdam Junction on Feb. 7 at 7pm in the Franchere Educational Center  
**Cost:** \$15 for individuals; \$30 per family with proceeds benefitting the Society. Sponsor-level contributions above \$50 are welcomed and will be acknowledged. The Reception is part of the 2012 Colonial Festival calendar. The evening will include coffee, tea, dessert, and stories.

Reservations and questions to 374-0263 or [aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com](mailto:aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com)

### Scout Sunday February 12

Scouts will be participating in the worship service and scouts of all types, Girl Scouts, Cubs, Explorers, are invited to wear their uniforms.

### Wednesday Dialog

On February 15 at noon in Assembly Hall, the Community Theater in Schenectady will feature an overview of both the Schenectady Light Opera Company (musicals) and the Schenectady Civic Players (mostly dramas,) presented by Joseph Fava.

Their histories, seasons, and future building plans among other topics will be presented and discussed. Since Mr. Fava has directed and acted at both theaters and has been on both their

Boards, he is particularly suited for this subject. Schenectady's community theaters are a strong and healthy contributor to the City as an entertainment center.

### **Stephen Ministry**

Stephen Ministers meet at 7pm Wednesday, Feb. 15, in Assembly Hall for refreshments, devotions, community building, and small group peer supervision. All Stephen Ministers in confidential one-to-one care-giving relationships should bring their updated contact record sheet(s) and monthly check-in form to the meeting.

### **Faith with a Twist February 16**

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.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

We will meet at Inge-Lise Pangburn's home on Feb. 21 at 7:30pm. All ladies are welcome. Please call Inge-Lise (399-1027) if any questions.

### **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group**

We will be meeting at 9:30am on Thursday, Feb. 23 at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. We welcome anyone interested in joining us. Please contact Ronnie (393-7679) with any questions.

### **Lenten Schedule**

**Ash Wednesday – Feb. 22**

6pm: Dinner

7:15pm: Service

### **Wednesdays in Lent through March**

6pm: Dinner

7pm: Class

8:15pm: Communion

### **Holy Week**

Wednesday, April 4

6pm: Seder

### **Maundy Thursday, April 5**

7:30pm: Tenebrae Service

### **Good Friday, April 6**

12pm: Service

### **Easter Sunday, April 8**

6:15am: Sunrise Service

7am: Easter Breakfast

10am: Easter Worship

5pm: Vespers

### **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22**

**Dinner:** A simple soup, bread and salad supper at 6pm, in Assembly Hall will be provided prior to our Ash Wednesday Service. Each of the Lenten Classes will be briefly previewed. There will be an opportunity to sign up for assisting with any of the following Lenten Dinners. Please call the church office or sign-up in Assembly Hall to inform us of your intention to attend the Ash Wednesday Dinner.

**Service:** Join us in marking the start of this Lenten season with an evening service of song, scripture, reflection, and the traditional imposition of ashes. Our worship service will be held at 7:15pm in Poling Chapel

**Childcare:** Care of young children will be provided in Kinderwyck for the Ash Wednesday service and all Wednesday Lenten classes.

### **Justice Action Council**

We will present 30-minute post-service forums in Poling Chapel on the fourth Sunday of the month, on issues of social, economic and environmental fairness. After each forum, we will offer further opportunities for discussion and action on the topic presented. Tentative topics for upcoming forums are:

**Feb. 26** - Justice in Education

**March 25** - Hydrofracking

**April 22** - LGBT inclusion/  
Room For All

**May 27** - Income Inequality

**June 24** - Health Insurance/  
Health Reform

Please join us for what are sure to be lively conversations. And let us know if you have other ideas you'd like us to address, or perhaps even a justice issue on which you'd like to make a presentation. Contact Claire Hughes at [eclair@nycap.rr.com](mailto:eclair@nycap.rr.com) or 381-9241.

### **Israel: A Biblical Journey**

Travel to the Holy Land on an inspirational journey that visits some of the most ancient sites in the world. From Oct. 17-25, we will visit Tel Aviv, Nazareth, Cana, the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, the site of the Transfiguration at Mount Tabor, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and more. The cost of the trip if booked before April 17 is \$3,299 per person (double occupancy,) which includes round trip airfare from Albany, air taxes and fees, hotel transfers, 9-day tour, 6 dinners, 1 lunch, and 7 breakfasts. An optional 5-day/4-night post-tour extension to Jordan is also available for \$1,299.00

per person. Contact Stacey Midge for a tour brochure or other information about this opportunity.

### **\$100 Covenant Prize Established**

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Covenant of our Congregation, a \$100 prize is established for anyone under the age of 21 who can recite the Covenant from memory by the end of February, 2012. Rules and information can be viewed at [www.is.gd/covenant](http://www.is.gd/covenant).

### **Offering Envelopes**

If you didn't sign up for envelopes and would like a box, please come to the church office or contact Heather Scribner in the church office.

### **Bulletin Pictures**

We have been featuring inspirational pictures on the cover of our bulletins. If you have one that you would like to suggest, send it to [blevering@gmail.com](mailto:blevering@gmail.com).

**Calendar for the Week of February 5, 2012**

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Bill Martin, Kimberly Burgoyne	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Claire Hughes
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Nancy Wainwright	Veronica Bartholic
<b>First Forum</b>	Colonial Festival/Heritage Sunday: Introducing John F. Gearing- the researcher and author	Connections Campaign, Andrew Chestnut
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Vickie McGowan & Michael Horan, Richard & Judy Arthur	Sarah & Michael Collins, Carrie & Bill Brooks
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope	Sarah Bachorik, Gay Doolittle, Joanne Bedell
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Procession Elders</b>	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Keith Muse, Darwin Brudos, Delbert Pierce, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Tom Lindsay	Veronica Bartholic, Linda Ward, Bob Beadle, Phil Falconer, Peggy King, Del Pierce
<b>Reader</b>	Nancy Wainwright	Therese McCarty
<b>Refreshments</b>	Tricia Shaw, Gerry Myers	Alida Rice, Deborah Troost
<b>Deacons &amp; Ushers</b>	Tom Burgoyne, Bill Martin, Kimberly Burgoyne, David Bundy Joe Gallagher, Rebecca Grande, Therese McCarty, Claire Hughes	Earl Wainwright, Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta

Sunday Feb. 5	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. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room High School Choir, Room 20 Worship with Communion, Sanctuary Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall Forum, Poling Chapel Kirk Ringers, Room 20 Justice Action Council, Walton Conference Room Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
Monday Feb. 6	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:15 p.m.	Mens Newsgroup, Poling Conference Room Group V, Dirck Romeyn Room Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday Feb. 7	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Wednesday Feb. 8	9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m.	Kerygma, Poling Conference Room Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room Archives Group, Archives Room Staff Meeting, Walton Conference Room Seeking Spirituality, Dirck Romeyn Room Contemplative Communion Service, Poling Chapel
Thursday Feb. 9	7:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room Purls of Wisdom, Mezzanine Worship Planning, Office Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Sunday Feb. 12	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. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room High School Choir, Room 20 Worship, Sanctuary Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall Forum, Poling Chapel Kirk Ringers, Room 20 Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel JHYG, Friendship Hall SHYG, Friendship Hall

# FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SCHENECTADY

**Heritage Sunday February 5, 2012**

*A time for Rededication*

## **February Events in the History of this Congregation**

Fifteen families came with Arendt Van Curler in 1661 to settle land they had purchased along the Mohawk River. At a bend in the river, they built their homes in a village and for protection surrounded the village with a stockade. By 1670, they had formed a church congregation.

**FEBRUARY 1679** Records of the City of Albany state, "... The court and consistory of Schaenectadi requests that Dominie Schaets may be sent ... four times in one year to administer the Holy Sacrament "...Schaets of Albany First Reformed, our mother church, helped organize this congregation. Our earliest written records show elders and deacons by 1680.

**FEBRUARY 8, 1690** The Schenectady Massacre - A French and Indian war party murdered sixty villagers and burned the colonial stockade village and church. Our first domine, Petrus Tessemacher, was brutally killed. Others were kidnapped and taken as prisoners to Montreal.

**FEBRUARY 10, 1730** The congregation began a subscription to raise money for a new bell for a new church building. In 1732, a 600-pound silver bell arrived from Amsterdam, Holland. It was hung in the belfry of the new third house of worship.

**FEBRUARY 1794** A church choir was begun in the congregation as the Consistory "... took into consideration the defective condition of the Dutch Psalmody" and "Resolved that Cornelius DeGrass, the chorister, shall use his endeavors, in each family of the village to obtain scholars in singing, on condition that each shall pay one shilling six pence a month."

**FEBRUARY 21, 1785** The Rev. Dr. Dirck Romeyn and Consistory led Schenectady in establishing Schenectady Academy. Consistory resolved to construct a two-story brick building on the northwest corner of Ferry and Niskayuna (Union) Streets. It housed the academy for the next ten years.

**FEBRUARY 25, 1795** The charter of Union College was granted. Consistory gave the academy building and more than \$30,000 to the new institution.

**FEBRUARY 8, 1928** Anniversary of the Schenectady Massacre, our 16<sup>th</sup> minister, the Reverend William Elliot Griffis, was buried at Vale Cemetery. Of all the places he served and traveled, he preferred Schenectady most. During his Schenectady pastorate, he administered the moving of the graves of Schenectady's founders, including victims of the massacre, from their burial sites in the stockade to Vale Cemetery. He wished to be buried near them. An avid writer, theologian, educator and diplomat he dedicated himself to recording the story of our city's ancestors.

**FEBRUARY 3, 1943** The Reverend Clark V. Poling was one of four chaplains lost at sea in the torpedo attack of the World War II troop transport *Dorchester* in the icy north Atlantic. The chaplains acted heroically helping others escape the sinking ship, even giving up their own lifejackets so young soldiers could survive.

**FEBRUARY 1, 1948** On this sub-zero Sunday, the 1863 architectural landmark church by Edward Tuckerman Potter was devastated by a raging fire that left only three exterior stone walls from which the church was rebuilt.

**FEBRUARY 5, 1950** The sanctuary and refurbished Poling House were rededicated to "continuing ministries to the Schenectady area."

**FEBRUARY 8, 1970** Rebuilding of the church spire was marked completing the restoration of our 1863 house of worship.

**FEBRUARY 10, 1980** Our congregation's 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary began with the Tercentenary Office of Thanksgiving and Rededication.

**FEBRUARY 4, 1990** *Ours Is To Hope Cantata* commissioned and performed in commemoration of Schenectady 300.

**FEBRUARY 3, 1991** Dedication of the restored and expanded Walton House and construction of a connector building to Assembly Hall providing new and enlarged first floor offices for the ministers and staff.

**FEBRUARY 5 & 6, 2000** 320<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Reformed Church of Schenectady and Celebration of the New Millennium. Choral recital *Enter Into His Gates* by Dr. Jean Berger was premiered and dedicated.

**FEBRUARY 6, 2005** Dedication of extensive restoration of the interior and exterior of the church's historic sanctuary.

**FEBRUARY 5, 2006** Presented rededication of the newly-redone Poling Chapel with its new organ.

**FEBRUARY 1, 2009** Dedication of Faith Bookshop in Poling House and of our Church as an Explore NY 400 Community in recognition of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial & the Bicentennial of Schenectady County.

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 Jewett  
Keith Muse  
Katherine Trimarco  
Linda Ward  
Eugene Zeltmann

**MISSIONERS**

Penny Holmes  
Lynne Gilgore  
Art Hudak

**DEACONS**

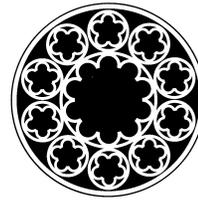
Darwin Brudos  
Thomas Burgoyne  
Rachael Cox  
Richard Davis  
Lisa Etkin  
Leah Kidwell-Fernandes  
Claire Hughes  
Joan Lindsay  
Bill Martin  
Caroline Welch

**COVENANTERS**

Senad Ademaj  
Chris Henry  
Erin Winn  
Kseniya Zhuzha

**CHURCH STAFF**

Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Ministry  
Julie Panke, Director of Music  
Charles Moose, Organist  
Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music  
Judy Moore, Director of Klokken Tower Ringers  
Sarah Bachorik, Director of Kinderwyk  
Heather Chestnut, Hospitality Coordinator  
Heather Scribner, Office Administrator  
Tani Breitenbach, Office Assistant  
Lyn Gordon, Sunday Receptionist  
Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor  
John Phillips, Sexton



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH  
SCHENECTADY

**THE COVENANT OF OUR CONGREGATION**

*Adopted by the Congregation 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.

February 5, 2012

First Reformed Church

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(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)  
Ministers: Daniel Carlson, Bill Levering, Stacey Midge