

## **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.

## Scout Sunday

February 12, 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

*Meditation (1992)*

*Reflections (1992)*

*Meditation (2000)*

*Andante (2000)*

Russell Woollen

Douglas Major

Robert J. Powell

Robert J. Powell

*How Beautiful*

Twila Paris

Heather Ipsen and Aurora Phillips

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

*O Worship the King*

arr. Bill Ingram

Tower Ringers

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #469 *Morning Has Broken* Bunessan

\*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 - la, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Luke 2:14

Music: Jacques Berthier (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 *Good News Medley* Trad. Spirituals, arr. Jennings  
Johny Willis, Dan Ertel and Gail Blinckmann; soloists

RESPONSIVE READING Tom Burgoyne

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

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

FIRST LESSON

*2 Kings 5:1-14 (page 336)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Mark 1:40-45 (page 35)*

SERMON

*Next to Godliness*

Bill Levering

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

\*HYMN # 394

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Balm In Gilead

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Wade in the Water*

Trad. Spiritual  
Johnny Willis

Wade in the water.

Wade in the water, children.

Wade in the water.

God's gonna trouble the water.

Well, who are these children all dressed in red?

Must be the children that Moses led.

Who's that child dressed in white?

Must be a child of the Israelites.

Jordan's water is deep and cold.

It chills the body, but not the soul.

If you get there before I do,

Tell all my friends I'm comin' too.

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, 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 #538 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**     *Threefold*     arr. Douglas Wagner  
Tower Ringers

**\*POSTLUDE**     *Festival Praise (2000)*     Robert J. Powell

\*The congregation may stand



We wish to thank all those who have given volunteer time

to scouting and youth programs in our community. We encourage our youth and recognize the volunteers that make these programs happen.

**Music Notes**

Wade in the Water is an African-American spiritual of escape from slavery. Though there are a number of variations in the verses, it is commonly suggested that the chorus' advice is for slaves to "wade in the water" to help escape tracking dogs.

**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:

*Bernice Stratton and Myrtle Wilson.*

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.

**Entered Into Eternal Rest**

Raymond Fisher  
February 8, 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.

**Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm**

**Today** – 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

**Feb. 19** – Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums.

The music of Juan Carlos Jobim, Brazilian guitarist responsible for the introduction of the bossa-nova into jazz

**Feb. 26** – Dave Gleason, piano

Dave is a local music teacher, jazz musician and music director of the Latin group Sensemaya.

**March 4** – Peg Delaney, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**March 11** – TBA

## Faith Bookshop

Tuesday is Valentine's Day! Here are some items in the Bookshop that could make your Valentine (or you) happy.

Jewelry: exquisite beaded pieces designed by Lyn Gordon and charming wooden ones from Kenya. CDs: storytelling and music by Joe Doolittle and others. Pictures: matted photos of FRC by Anne Petersen and prints of *Schenectady Town* by L.T. Tantilla. Books on our heritage: *Schenectady Genesis* by Susan Staffa and *Historic Schenectady County* by Bill Buell. (With these items a purchase spreads the love because most proceeds benefit a worthy cause.) The resource book, *Take This Bread*, for the Lenten class to be led by the Carlson's and Olsen's is available in the Bookshop. Price, including tax, is \$11.34.

## \$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).

## Kinderwyck

We are looking for helping hands and arms to play with toddlers and rock babies from 9:50-noon. Please call the church office if you are willing and able. Thank you!

## Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

Unless otherwise noted, the **JHYG** (grades 6-8) meets every Sunday at 5pm in Friendship Hall for dinner, games, and discussion. The **SHYG** (grades 9-12) meets every Sunday at 7pm in Friendship Hall for snacks, discussion, and games. Friends are always welcome.

**Today** – 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.

## Winterfest Lost and Found

We have the following items that were left at the farm.

- Pair of prescription sun glasses black with one lens loose
- Brown stretch headband
- One nickel in the couch

I have left the first two on a chair on the porch in case someone needs them soon. But, will bring them to Church Sunday. For the third item we will use the old "keepers rule". Doug Todd.

### **Wednesday Dialog February 15**

Join us at noon for lunch (\$5) in Assembly Hall and learn about the Community Theater in Schenectady! Joseph Fava will give an overview of both the Schenectady Light Opera Company (musicals) and the Schenectady Civic Players (mostly dramas).

Their histories, seasons, and future building plans, among other topics, will be 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 strong and healthy contributors 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 – Feb. 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 Wed. – Feb. 22***

6pm: Dinner  
7:15pm: Service

#### ***Wed. in Lent Feb. 29 – March 28***

6pm: Dinner  
7pm: Class  
8:15pm: Service

#### ***Holy Week – Wed., April 4***

6pm: Seder Dinner

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

7:30pm: Tenebrae Service

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

12pm: Service

#### ***Ash Wednesday***

**6pm 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.

**7:15pm 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.

### **Lenten Classes**

#### ***King of the Hill: T.V. and the Gospel***

A class led by Dr. Bill Levering, will explore just one television show, *King of the Hill*, and its view of faith. We will watch an episode each week and discuss it. Join Hank and Peggy as they cope with the changes that arrive in Arlen, Texas. People of all ages are invited.

#### ***A Sampling of Protestant Thought***

A class facilitated by Kitty Trimarco, will enable participants to understand the differences and similarities among five distinct yet related protestant communions—including our own. Each week a different minister will be on hand to speak about a particular denomination, including Rev. Stacey Midge (Reformed); Father James McDonald (Episcopal), Feb. 29; Rev. Dr. Alan Rhodes (Methodist); and Rev. Larry Phillips (Baptist).

#### ***Take this Bread: A Radical Conversion***

A discussion of Sara Miles' book *Take This Bread*, led by Cheryl and David Olsen with Mary and Daniel Carlson. Well known author Anne Lamott, described this spiritual memoir of a (unlikely) twenty-first-century Christian as "The most amazing book." Discounted copies of the book for this class will be available from our own Faith Bookshop.

#### ***More than Jellybeans: Lent for Kids***

Jamie Ipsen will be leading a class for children in grades K-8 full of art projects, music, and stories.

#### ***Holy Spirit Class***

What is a Holy Ghost?

The Third person of the Trinity is often misunderstood or at best incompletely understood. What is the role of the Holy Spirit? Is it an "it," a "he," a "she?" What's the difference between a gift of the Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit? If I let the Spirit control my life, will I become a Pentecostal? Where do I turn when I'm not sure what to do next? If any of these questions resonated with you, join us. If you have another question about the Holy Spirit, bring that and we'll look into the person, work and role of the Holy Spirit together.

#### ***New RCA General Secretary***

Meet the new RCA General Secretary Tom DeVries on Sunday, Feb. 26 at Bethany Reformed Church, 760 New Scotland Ave. in Albany from 3 – 5pm. There will be refreshments. Please RSVP to [office@albany-synod.org](mailto:office@albany-synod.org)

#### ***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.

### **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.

### **Group VII**

We will meet Friday, March 16 at 10am in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Program: Health Care by Carol Possin. Co-hostesses: Roberta Blackmer and Joan Ipsen.

### **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.

### **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.

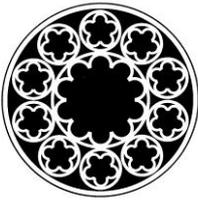
### **Bulletin Pictures**

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).

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Claire Hughes	Joe Gallagher, Douglas Todd
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Veronica Bartholic	Committee Member
<b>First Forum</b>	Connections Campaign, Andrew Chestnut	Coffee & Conversation
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Sarah & Michael Collins, Carrie & Bill Brooks	Nicole & Tani Breitenbach, Joanne Bedell
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik, Gay Doolittle, Joanne Bedell	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
<b>Procession Elders</b>	Veronica Bartholic, Linda Ward, Bob Beadle, Phil Falconer, Peggy King, Del Pierce	Carol Jones-Assini, Keith Muse, Art Casey, Rob Dickson, Maria Greskovich, Linda Witkowski
<b>Reader</b>	Therese McCarty	Mary Jewett
<b>Refreshments</b>	Alida Rice, Deborah Troost	
<b>Ushers</b>	Earl Wainwright, Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta	Harlene Bachorik (head usher), Nicholas Blinckmann, Jeff Cox, Louis Acquasanta, Art Shultes, William Faulkner

## Calendar for the Week of February 12, 2012

Sunday Feb. 12	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Friendship Hall
7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Friendship Hall	
Monday Feb. 13	9:00 a.m.	Mens Newsgroup, Poling Conference Room
	7:15 p.m.	Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday Feb. 14	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Standing Committees, Various Locations
	7:30 p.m.	Consistory, Assembly Hall
Wednesday Feb. 15	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma, Poling Conference Room
	12:00 p.m.	Dialog, Assembly Hall
	12:30 p.m.	Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry, Assembly Hall
Thursday Feb. 16	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
	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 Feb. 19	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Creation Care Committee, Walton Conference Room
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel	



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH  
SCHENECTADY

**THE COVENANT OF OUR CONGREGATION**

*Adopted by the Congregation in 1962*

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February 12, 2012

First Reformed Church

8 North Church Street – Schenectady, New York 12305

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

Ministers: Daniel Carlson, Bill Levering, Stacey Midge