

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 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

Church school has ended and will resume on September 9. Children will remain in the service to worship with the congregation. Don't forget Vacation Bible School August 6-10. RSVP to the church office.

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 the Huntley Garden. Visitors are welcomed and are particularly encouraged to visit.

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.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 22, 2012

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude (1964)

Interlude (1971)

Threnody (1965)

John McCabe

Herbert Howells

Desmond Ratcliffe

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Stacey Midge

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

*HYMN #288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

Giver of all good gifts, help us to remember that you are the source of all we have and all we are. Forgive the ways we have forgotten your grace and strayed from the best of your creation.

Give us clarity of vision that we might see your leading and recognize your work in those around us. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from the United Church of Canada)*

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

MUSICAL OFFERING *Go by Waterdeep*

Stacey Midge

Go tell it on the mountaintops. That I'm alive
Go listen to the children cry. And let them know
That dark and night are not their masters
Between you you'll know all the things
That I never said out loud. Don't walk away from the crowd
Go tell them that it's cold outside. And I won't thrive there
And I'm getting tired of hiding My face
From your disgrace. Although you think that you've disguised it
And when you get too tired of waiting
To picture My face in the clouds
Look around
I know it won't be sown the way. You want it to be
I will make it grow with or without you
You'll pray, I'll wait. You may fall down a time or two
Go tell it in the valleys low. That I'm alive
Go listen to the men that sigh
And let them know that dark and night. Are not their masters
And when you get too tired of waiting
To picture My face in the clouds
Look around

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mary Jewett

Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 13:1-9, 34-36 (page 13)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ + + **The Response to the Word** + + +***HYMN** *Tell Me*

**Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
 Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here;
 Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
 Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.**

**First let me hear how the children stood round His knee,
 And I shall fancy His blessing resting on me;
 Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
 All in the love light of Jesus' face.**

**Tell me, in accents of wonder, how rolled the sea,
 Tossing the boat in a tempest on Galilee;
 And how the Maker, ready and kind,
 Chided the billows, and hushed the wind.**

**Into the city I'd follow the children's band,
 Waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand.
 One of His heralds, yes, I would sing
 Loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Shifting Sand*Caedmon's Call
Stacey Midge

Sometimes I believe all the lies so I can do the things I should despise
 and every day I am swayed by whatever is on my mind.

I hear it all depends on my faith so I'm feeling precarious.

The only problem I have with these mysteries is they're so mysterious
 And like a consumer I've been thinking if I could just get a bit more
 more than my fifteen minutes of faith, then I'd be secure.

My faith is like shifting sand, changed by every wave

My faith is like shifting sand so I stand on grace

I've begged you for some proof for my Thomas eyes to see
 Slithering staff, a leprous hand, and lions resting lazily,
 a glimpse of your backside glory and this soaked altar going ablaze
 but you know I've seen so much, I explained it away.

Waters rose as my doubts reigned, sandcastle faith it slipped away,
 found myself standing on your grace, I'd been there all the time.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

*HYMN #306

Fairest Lord Jesus

Crusaders' Hymn

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Fanfare (1961)

Guy H. Eldridge

In July and August we will be quietly listening to the postlude while seated.

*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:

Albert Demont, George Feiker, Richard Gordon, Marvin Humphrey, and Alice Junker.

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

Jean Buchanan
July 14, 2012

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Wayne Harvey and Kim Brandt by their 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.

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

There is a flower calendar on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary. Choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the office of your wishes so records can be kept correctly. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for the two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309-4126.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

For most of July, the musicians themselves will be leading the worship services. Come hear them talk about faith and music.

Today: Mike Lamkin, piano

July 29: Peg Delaney, piano

August 5: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; and Tom D'Andrea, drums

August 12: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

August 19: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

August 26: Dave Gleason, piano

Summer Refreshments

Whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for preparation, cleanup, and refreshments by yourself or with a friend. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall. A sheet with "how to" suggestions is also posted since the summer procedure is slightly different. Any questions, please contact Heather Chestnut at 346-7887.

SICM's Summer Lunch Program

When: August 20-24

Where: Jerry Burrell Park

Time: 11:20-1:30pm

We will need 4-6 volunteers each day. Please sign by emailing or calling the church office.

BBQ and Pool Party July 28

Where: Heather and Andy Chestnuts

Time: 12-4pm

Bring: Besides a swimsuit and towel (if you wish to get wet,) an appetizer, side dish, or dessert, and a beverage of your choice to share. Grilled food will be provided.

RSVP: Sign up on the sheet in Assembly Hall or call the church office.

Vacation Bible School

Our Summer VBS will involve our feet!

When: August 6 -10

Time: 3-5pm

Who: Children ages 5-95, bring your friends, neighbors and relatives!

RSVP: Call the church office to register or if any questions, contact Jamie Ipsen at 399-6848. Helpers are also needed.

Name Tags

Please be patient, our name tag boards are under construction.

More Information on Activities

You can find more information on our church activities by reading each month's First Things Newsletter. You can find copies in our information racks around the church.



	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Claire Hughes, Bill Martin	Darwin Brudos, Rebecca Grande
Faith Bookshop	Veronica Bartholic	Bill Clock
Flower Delivery	Crystal Mongillo, Linda Malgieri	Tom & Joan Lindsay, Sharon & James McCullough
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Stacey Midge
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Veronica Bartholic, Joyce Griggs, Jerry Griggs, Gay Doolittle, Roberta Blackmer, Tom Lindsay,	Gene Zeltmann, Darwin Brudos, Christine Daniels, Gay Doolittle, William Rochelle, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Mary Jewett	Catherine deSalle
Refreshments	Gay Doolittle	Brudos and Etkin Families
Ushers	Earl Wainwright (head usher), Kip Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, William Faulkner, Louis Acquasanta, Richard Davis	Harlene Bachorik (head usher), Nicholas Blinckmann, Louis Acquasanta, Jeff Cox, William Faulkner, Art Shultes

Calendar for the Week of July 22, 2012

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
July 22	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Huntley Garden or Assembly Hall
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Mens News Group, Poling Conference Room
July 23	6:00 p.m.	African Drumming, Poling Chapel
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
July 24		
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Summer Conversations, Dirck Romeyn Room
July 25		
Thursday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
July 26		
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
July 29	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Huntley Garden or Assembly Hall
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz 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.



Little Sable Point, Michigan

July 22, 2012

***Seeming a settling,
This better orbiting
Brings me back.***

First Reformed Church

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