

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 September 9. Until then, children will remain in the service to worship with the congregation.

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.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 19, 2012

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Chorale-Prelude on a Theme by Tallis (1919)

Harold Darke

Psalm-Prelude – Lo the Poor Crieth (1915)

Herbert Howells

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

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 #464

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

*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.

Music Note

Some of you may remember Dr. Robert Campbell, our former organist/Chancel Choir director who also taught as a local public school music educator. His situation was in some ways similar to that of J. S. Bach, who was hired not by the church but by the city, and was charged with carrying out these sacred and secular roles for as many as four churches. In addition to several church services, weekly preparation and rehearsing of multiple choirs, he also instructed in the Latin language for four hours each day.

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:

Anne Marie Buchanan and John Herring.

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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Troost from Carol Troost. 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.

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Linda Richards
August 14, 2012

A Memorial Service will be held
Monday, August 20 in the Sanctuary.

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

A flower calendar is posted on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary wherein you can 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.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

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

August 26: Dave Gleason, piano

Sept. 2: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Sept. 9: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

Faith Bookshop

Today, and for the rest of the summer, the Bookshop will be open briefly after the Sunday service. The Shop will resume taking personal book orders in September.

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.

Youth Groups

We will resume meeting on Sept. 16 with a kick-off party for all youth in grades 6-12. After the kick-off the Junior High will meet at 5pm and Senior High at 7pm every Sunday, with a variety of activities including service projects, discussion groups, games, movies, retreats, and - as always - the Senior High Mission Trip. More details will come to parents in August and in the September edition of *First Things*.

Chancel Choir to Resume

There is never a bad time to join the Chancel Choir, but Sept. is a great time because we are just getting underway for the church year and would be thrilled to see some new faces. All voice parts are welcome, high school and up. Choir will rehearse Sunday morning, September 9 at 9am in the Sanctuary and begin our weekly Thursday night rehearsals on Sept. 13 at 7:30pm in the downstairs choir room. Call Julie Panke at 370-5434 if you have any questions.

Special Offerings

As you know, Mission & Benevolence selects a recipient for special offerings taken up each year at Christmas and Easter. The committee invites you to nominate any group you feel would be a good beneficiary. Please contact Stacey Midge or Dan Ipsen. The committee will be organizing its selection process starting in the fall, so make your nomination by September.

1. In suggesting an organization, please provide the name of the person to get in touch with in the organization and their contact information.

Honoring Organist Charlie Moose

Charlie Moose's last regular Sunday at our console will be on Sept. 2. To honor him, we will be staying seated for the postludes and listening to his talent. We are also planning a recognition for him after worship in October.

Welcome to New Organist

First Reformed Church is pleased to welcome Edward Heffron to the organ bench following the retirement of Charles Moose. Ed has a degree from the College of St. Rose, with a concentration in the organ and has had organ coaching from a number of the Northeast's most prestigious organists. Ed has been an organist for a variety of denominations and has served as assistant organist at Cathedral of All Saints and St. Paul's Episcopal Churches in Albany. Ed's first Sunday will be September 9. Please welcome him warmly and look for more in the October issue of *First Things*.

Stitch Group

The first gathering of the Stitch Group will be on Thursday September 6 in The Conference Room at 10am and every Thursday thereafter. Dig out all those unfinished projects (crewel, cross-stitch, needle-point, tapestry, and quilting) or start a new project and stitch them to completion with others who like to stitch. Anyone is welcome to join our group for a day or two or as long as it takes for you to finish your project. For more info call Joan Lindsay, 399-3153.

Consistory Retreat Planned September 7-8

Most years, the consistory tries to get away to get to know each other better. This enables them to listen better,

knowing the context of the speaker.
This year, we are planning on a
getaway to a gorgeous spot.
Consistory members: take note.

Welcome Back Picnic

When: Sept. 9, right after worship
Where: Outside, weather permitting
What to Bring: A dish to share;
barbecued food and drinks provided.

Volunteers are needed for set up
before worship and break down/clean
up after the picnic. If you are interested
in volunteering, please contact Leah
Kidwell-Fernandes at 383-2167 or
leah@upstateharpist.com.

Church School and Beyond

Regular Church School begins Sept. 9.
Teachers and helpers are always
needed and welcomed! Other activities
you should know about are:

New! Carol Choir: grades K-3
Kirk Ringers: grades K-8

Youth Orchestra: anyone who has
played their instrument for 2 years or
longer.

High School Choir: grades 8 -12

Dates and times for rehearsals will be
determined with the availability of the
group. Please contact Jamie Ipsen
399-6848 if you'd like to participate in
anyway. It's going to be a fabulous
year!

Communion Class

Class is offered to our third graders
and any older children who are anxious
to learn about the Lord's Supper.
Classes will be Sept. 16 and Sept. 23
during church school. The students will
help prepare the elements on Oct. 7
and will celebrate World Wide
Communion with the congregation.
Please contact the church office if
you'd like your child to attend.

Youth Groups

The Youth Groups will resume meeting
on September 16 with a kick-off party
for all youth in grades 6-12 at 5pm on
the church lawn (weather permitting).
After the kick-off, both youth groups,
unless otherwise noted, will be meeting
every Sunday, the Junior High at 5pm
and Senior High at 7pm, with a variety
of activities including service projects,
discussion groups, speakers, games,
movies, retreats, and - as always - the
Senior High Mission Trip.

First Forum

11am: Coffee and Fellowship
11:15am: Socially or Spiritually relevant
program/speaker, meets in the Poling
Chapel.

Sept. 16: Meet the Covenanters

Sept. 23: General Synod Reprieve.
Stacey Midge

Sept. 30: Vicki Brooks, Union College
Campus Ministry

Shortbread Tin

Would the person who purchased the
shortbread at the auction in January
please return the shortbread tin to the
office so it can be used for the 2013
auction. Thank you.

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 | Caroline Welch, Therese McCarty |
| Faith Bookshop | Bill Clock | Roberta Blackmer |
| Flower Delivery | Ann Bish & Ann Hicks, Vernetta Theuner | Joyce & Jerry Griggs, Wales Brown & Sons |
| Kinderwyck | Sarah Bachorik | Sarah Bachorik |
| Liturgist | Daniel Carlson | Stacey Midge |
| Preacher | Bill Levering | Daniel Carlson |
| Processing Elders | Keith Muse, Rob Dickson, Christine Daniels, Phil Falconer, Catherine Lewis, Linda Witkowski | Joyce Griggs, Keith Muse, Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Jerry Griggs, William Rochelle |
| Reader | Christine Daniels | Therese McCarty |
| Refreshments | Susan & Keith Muse | Elena Grande |
| Ushers | Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Joe Gotwals, Linda Stanhope, Alida Rice | Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy & Robert Allen, Louis Acquasanta, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins, William Faulkner |

Calendar for the Week of August 19, 2012

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|------------------|------------|---|
| Sunday | 10:00 a.m. | Worship, Sanctuary |
| August 19 | 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, Dirck Romeyn Room |
| August 20 | 11:00 a.m. | Memorial Service, Sanctuary |
| | 6:00 p.m. | African Drumming, Poling Chapel |
| Tuesday | 10:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel |
| August 21 | | |
| Wednesday | 10:00 a.m. | Summer Conversations, Dirck Romeyn Room |
| August 22 | | |
| Thursday | 7:30 a.m. | Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room |
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| Sunday | 10:00 a.m. | Worship, Sanctuary |
| August 26 | 11:00 a.m. | Post Service, Huntley Garden or Assembly Hall |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel |

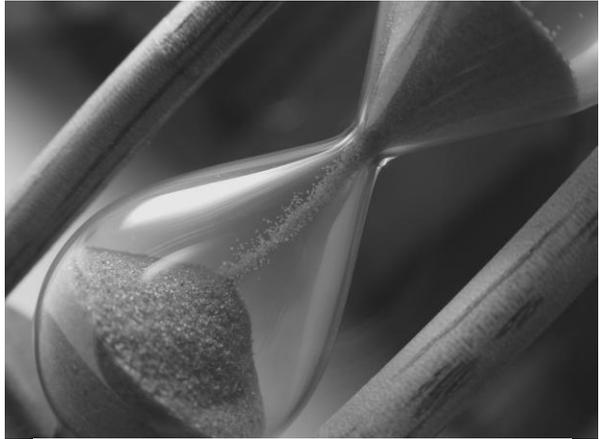
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



August 19, 2012

**Grainy time,
lacking resolution,
falls into heaps of worry.**

First Reformed Church

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