

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.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 26, 2012

Is your cell phone on?

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY *Fanfare-Improvisation on Azmon (1963)* Alec Wyton
Gammal Fabodpsalm Fram Dalarna (1944) Oskar Lindberg
Chorale-Prelude on the Tune St. Peter (1919) Harold Darke

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Bill Levering

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

Daniel Carlson

*HYMN #416 *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* Westminster Abbey

*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 *Come, Holy Spirit, Come* Folk tune
The Sacred Harp, 1844
Johnny Willis

Come, Holy Spirit, come,
With energy divine,
And on this poor, benighted soul,
With beams of mercy shine.

From the celestial hills,
Light, life, and joy dispense;
And may I daily, hourly feel
Thy quickening influence.

Melt, melt this frozen heart;
This stubborn will subdue;
Each evil passion overcome,
And form me all anew.

Mine will the profit be,
But thine shall be the praise;
And unto thee I will devote
The remnant of my days.

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

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

FIRST LESSON *Ephesians 6:18-19 (page 195)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Psalm 84 (page 543)*

SERMON *Pilgrimage* Daniel Carlson

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

*HYMN #422 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* Beach Spring

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
J. Scriven and C. Converse; Hymn 403
Johnny Willis

*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 #473

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Marche Triomphale on Nun danket alle Gott (1910)*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

In August quietly listening to the postlude while seated is encouraged.

*The congregation may stand.

Music Note

The arrangement of *Come, Holy Spirit, Come* is inspired by a recording of this folk tune by the women's quartet Anonymous 4 on their CD *American Angels: Songs of Hope, Redemption, & Glory*.

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.

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:

Eleanor Mae Hart.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of her daughter Beth and her husband John by Eileen Herring. 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

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.

Post Service Refreshments

Beginning Sept. 9 we will be returning to Assembly Hall for refreshments. We are always looking for 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. If any questions, please contact Heather Chestnut at 346-7887.

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.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: Dave Gleason, piano

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

Sept. 9: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

Sept. 16: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Sept. 23: Mike Lamkin, piano

Sept. 30: TBA

Chancel Choir to Resume

There is never a bad time to join the Chancel Choir, 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.

Honoring Organist Charlie Moose

Charlie Moose's last regular Sunday at our console will be on Sept. 2. To honor him, quietly listening to the postlude while seated is encouraged. We are also planning a recognition for him after worship in October.

Welcome to Our New Organist

First Reformed Church is pleased to welcome Edward Heffron to the organ bench following the retirement of Charles Moose. Ed's first Sunday will be Sept. 9. Please welcome him warmly. You can learn more about Ed in the Sept. *First Things* newsletter.

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.

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. It's going to be a fabulous year!

Consistory and Committee Meetings begin Tuesday September 11

Standing Committees meet at 6:30pm in various locations and Consistory meets at 7:30pm in Assembly Hall.

New Communion Class

A class is offered to our third graders and any older children who want to learn about and share in 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

Relevant programs and speakers; meets in the Poling Chapel at 11:15am each Sunday.

Sept. 16: Meet our Covenanters

Sept. 23: General Synod Update.

Stacey Midge

Sept. 30: Vicki Brooks, Union College Campus Ministry

Don't Frack New York

Some members of the Creation Care Committee will be participating in the multi-organization rally and march this Monday, August 27, pledging our resistance to fracking in our state. If Governor Cuomo permits high-volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing in any part of New York State, we are pledging to engage in non-violent acts of protest aimed at protecting our communities and showing the folly of more drilling on a warming planet. The march begins at 11am in the Corning Preserve Albany Riverfront Park. Those interested may contact Daniel Carlson or Wales Brown.

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	Caroline Welch, Therese McCarty	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Nancy Wainwright
Faith Bookshop	Roberta Blackmer	Committee Member
Flower Delivery	Joyce & Jerry Griggs, Wales Brown & Sons	Katherine & George Trimarco, Phillip Yourno
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
Preacher	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joyce Griggs, Keith Muse, Darwin Brudos, Jerry Griggs Gay Doolittle, William Rochelle	Keith Muse, Mary Jewett, Darwin Brudos
Reader	Therese McCarty	Carol Troost
Refreshments	Elena Grande	Joyce Griggs
Ushers/ Offertory Deacons	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy & Robert Allen, Louis Acquasanta, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins, William Faulkner	Rachael Cox, Richard Davis, Linnea D'Andrea, Leah Kidwell- Fernandes, Claire Hughes, Bill Martin, Nancy Wainwright, Caroline Welch

Calendar for the Week of August 26, 2012

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
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Mens News Group, Poling Conference Room
August 27	6:00 p.m.	African Drumming, Poling Chapel
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
August 28		
Thursday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
August 30		
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
Sept. 2	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Huntley Garden or Assembly Hall
	11:30 a.m.	Justice Action Council, Walton Conference Room
	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 26, 2012



First Reformed Church

**8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York 12305
(518) 377-2201 www.1stReformed.com**