

# 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 worship 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**

All children in grades K-8, 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.

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 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for music and crafts.

## **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.

## **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.

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 30, 2012**  
*Is your cell phone on?*

PRELUDE

Robert Christensen

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

*Be Joyful in the Lord*

Hal Hopson

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #476 *O Worship the King* Lyons

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God, our home and help, we confess that our arms have not always been as open as yours. Fear has made us hide our hearts and close our fists. Our thoughts have not always been directed at inviting others to your love. Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*South African traditional melody*)

***God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends.***

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*adapted from the Belhar Confession*)

**We believe in the triune God, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. God has done this since the beginning of the world and will do it to the end. We believe that God wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry, frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind, supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows. God calls the church to follow in this: to stand by people in any form of suffering and need, and to strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

ANTHEM     *How Can I Keep From Singing*     arr. Jeffrey Honoré

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.  
I hear the real, though far off hymn, that hails a new creation.  
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging.  
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth.  
How can I keep from singing?  
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing;  
It sounds and echoes in my soul;  
How can I keep from singing?  
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing;  
All things are mine since I am his;  
How can I keep from singing?  
adapted from Quaker song

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION     Chris Fernandes

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

FIRST LESSON     *Psalm 124 (page 572)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON     *James 5:13-20 (page 231)*

SERMON     *Prayer 101*     Bill Levering

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

\*HYMN #172     *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*     Resignation

OFFERING

OFFERTORY     *Amazing Grace*     arr. By Albert Zabel  
Klokken Tower Ringers

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MINUTE FOR MISSION     *Fowler's Creation Celebration*  
Wales Brown

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.**

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN #539 *Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name*

Ellers

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Hal Hopson

POSTLUDE

Robert Christensen

\*The congregation may stand.

**Musical Note**

Our Response of Praise comes to us via John Bell of Scotland, who first heard the tune at the Sunrise Hospice in S. Africa. Words and transcription copyright 2008 WGRG, Iona Community Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

We welcome Robert Christensen to the organ bench today. He is a retired Niskayuna Schools music teacher and conductor with American Music Abroad. He served as organist/choir director for 30+ years at Eastern Parkway Methodist Church and has played and substituted at numerous other area churches.

**Entered Into Eternal Rest**

David Erwin Bain  
September 24, 2012

**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:

*Ethel Kiess Betka, Bernard Cain and David Collins.*

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.

**First Forum**

We meet in the Poling Chapel at 11:15am most Sundays.

**Today:** Vicki Brooks, Union College Campus Ministry

**Oct. 7:** Worship Talkback

**Narthex Cases**

Does your group have a message for the congregation? Put it in a Narthex case exhibit. Contact Archives and Historical Concerns for details.

### **High School Choir**

Practices Sunday mornings at 9:15am!  
Any High School student who loves to sing is invited to join us each Sunday morning upstairs in Room 20.

### **Youth Orchestra**

Practices in the at 4pm. Any student or adult who has been practicing their instrument for two years or more is invited to attend. We'll meet each Sunday in the sanctuary.

### **Kirk Ringers**

Begins today after class, 11:15am, in room 20. Any student in grades K-8 may join us.

### **Faith Bookshop**

The five books selected as candidates for Schenectady County Public Library's *One County, One Book* community read project are available in the Bookshop today. Each costs under \$12.

### **Johnson Library**

Thought-provoking titles appear on the library's display table this morning: Paul Friesen has written *Letters to My Daughters*, This is fascinating reading, even if you are not a "target" audience. Parents of children one to six, will find a mine of information and guidance from *The Gesell Institute's Child From One to Six; Evaluating the Behavior of the Preschool Child*, by authors Ames Gillespie, Haines and Ilg.

Thanks to all to have brought in overdue books. And for those books still missing-keep looking!

### **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm**

**Today:** Dave Gleason, piano

**Oct. 7:** Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**Oct. 14:** 'Azzaam Hameed

**Oct. 21:** Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **Junior & Senior High Youth Groups**

*JHYG* will meet at 5pm every Sunday, unless otherwise noted (see Oct. *First Things*) for dinner, games, discussion, and other fun activities. Youth in grades 6-8 are welcome.

*SHYG* will meet separately every Sunday at 7pm, unless otherwise noted (see Oct. *First Things*.) All youth in grades 9-12 are welcome, and snacks will be provided.

### **Church School**

We are in need of teachers. There are six spots to choose from (see below). You do not need to have teaching expertise or scholarly biblical knowledge, everything is provided for you. We have WONDERFUL kids at church and here is the perfect opportunity to get to know them!

#### **Fall: Sept – Nov**

Grades: 3-5; 6-8

#### **Winter: Dec – Feb**

Grades: K-2; 6-8

#### **Spring: Mar – May**

Grades: 3-5; 6-8

### **Midweek Evening Prayer**

All are welcome each Wed. 7 - 7:45pm to our candlelit Poling Chapel for a peaceful service intended to gently rekindle an awareness of God's presence within us and all creation through song, scripture, silence, and the Lord's supper. For more information Daniel Carlson may be contacted.

### **Group V**

We will meet at 11am on Monday, October 1 in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Veronica Bartholic will discuss Congregational Support and Care. Please call Maria Greskovich at 372-9522 or Sandy Moynihan at 654-6569 with any questions.

### Camp Fowler Creation Celebration

Join the fun and learning for a day or the whole weekend of Oct. 5-7. Brochures are on the Green Space bulletin board in Assembly Hall.

### Blessing the Pets

We will recognize the special place our animal companions hold in our lives with a Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, Oct. 7 at 3pm, on the church lawn - all are welcome. Refreshments for God's creatures, human and otherwise, will be available after the service.

### Missing In Action

From Poling Conference Room a small red bucket with Christmas decorations and a lid with labels reading *Thursday Morning Stitch Group*, it contained teabags and hot cocoa packets. Please return it to the Poling Conference Room. Thank you.

### Help Celebrate Moose's Ministry

On Sunday, Oct. 14 we will be celebrating the retirement of our organist of 35 years, Charlie Moose. If you would like to participate there are several ways. Finger food(s) and/or confections will be needed, or on Saturday, Oct. 13 at 10am assist in setting up tables in Friendship Hall and with food preparation. Helpers are also needed on Sunday, October 14 to help with set up/clean up. Please contact Heather Chestnut at 346-7887 if you would like to participate.

### New Member Class Oct 28

If you are interested in finding out more about the church or know someone who is, this is just the meeting for you! Dr. Levering meets with people interested in joining and helps them get to know the church. Class begins at 2pm starting in the church office.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Fred Daniels, Catherine Lewis	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Nancy Wainwright
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Veronica Bartholic	Linda Witkowski
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Vickie McGowan, Mike Horan, Joanne & Hendrick Arnold	Harlene Bachorik, Ellie & Darwin Brudos
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	TBA
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Caroline Brooks, Keith Muse, Gene Zeltmann, William Brooks, Catherine Lewis, Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce, Margaret Schadler	Keith Muse, William Ward, Gene Zeltmann, Darwin Brudos, Rob Dickson, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Linda Ward, Eric Evans,
<b>Reader</b>	Chris Fernandes	Annie Reilly
<b>Refreshments</b>	Nancy Martin	Betty Bumgarner
<b>Ushers</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Karlyne Drimalas, Nelson Drimalas, Griffin Laycock, Steve Breitenbach	Rachael Cox, Richard Davis, Lisa Etkin, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Bill Martin, Nancy Wainwright, David Bundy, Rebecca Grande

## Calendar for the Week of September 30, 2012

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Sept. 30	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
	11:15 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Mezzanine
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Mezzanine
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Mens News Group, Poling Conference Room
Oct. 1	11:00 a.m.	Group V, Dirck Romeyn Room
	5:30 p.m.	African Drumming, Poling Chapel
	7:00 p.m.	Klokken Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Concerned for the Hungry, Walton Conference Room
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Oct. 2	1:30 p.m.	Worship Planning, Office
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma Bible Study, Poling Conference Room
Oct. 3	1:00 p.m.	Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Evening Prayer, Poling Chapel
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
Oct. 4	10:00 a.m.	Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room/Sanctuary
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
World	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
Communion	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
Oct. 7	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
	11:15 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Justice Action Council, Walton Conference Room
	3:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Pets, Church Lawn
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Mezzanine
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Mezzanine

***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.*



*September 30, 2012*

*We gather together  
to ask the Lord's blessing;  
He chastens and hastens  
His will to make known.*

*The wicked oppressing  
now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to His Name;  
He forgets not His own.*

***First Reformed Church***

8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)