

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 one or two days following the service.

World Communion Sunday

October 7, 2012

Is your cell phone on?

PRELUDE

Curtis Funk

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

Stacey Midge

INTROIT

Hallelujah

Zimbabwean

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN (insert) *Gather Us In*

*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 *Indian Hymn of Praise*

Dakota Hymn
arr. Austin C Lovelace)

Many and great, O God, are Thy things,
Maker of earth and sky,
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars,
Thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at Thy word the waters were formed;
Deep seas obey Thy voice.
Grant unto us communion with Thee,
Thou star abiding One;
Come unto us and dwell with us,
With Thee are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end,
Eternal life with Thee.

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Annie Reilly

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

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 2:18-24 (page 2)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Mark 10: 13-16 (page 46)

SERMON

The Table Will Be Wide

Stacey Midge

*HYMN #508

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Kingdom

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Many Colors Paint the Rainbow*

Roy Hopp

Many colors paint the rainbow arching over land and sea.
Many colors form the fabric of our human tapestry.
God, with joy and hope you made us by a pattern you had planned,
weaving varied threads together with a skilled and loving hand.
Many peoples bring their treasures as those kings who traveled far,
down from all earth's scattered places back to Christ, the Morning Star.

All may offer gifts to others and from them receive in turn.
In the gathering of nations, help us, God, to teach and learn.
Many faces round the table wait for Christ, the Risen Lord,
for he comes with love to meet us in the Loaf, the Cup, the Word.
All are welcomed, none rejected, bound by Christ in unity,
naming others, sisters, brothers, in a worldwide family.

Many voices sing God's praises in a language all their own.
Tongues confused at Babel's Tower now are joined around God's throne.
Free our hearts of hate and discord till our lives in concert blend.
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" be our anthem without end.

Herman J. Stuempfle, Jr.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

Stacey Midge

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

SANCTUS (*sung in unison*)

Carl Steubing

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy
Glo - ry! Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!

COMMUNION

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

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 #435 *We All Are One in Mission*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Amen Siakudumisa* South African

POSTLUDE Curtis Funk

*The congregation may stand.

Musical Note

God Welcomes All and Gather Us In
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We welcome Curtis Funk to the organ bench this morning. Mr. Funk has been a choir director/organist for over 35 years and has served many churches in the capital region including our own. He is currently the director of the Octavo Singers.

Communion Class

Today we welcome our Communion Class participants to the Lord's table. Laura Mason, Elaine Walthers, Tess Sheremeta, Ryan Brazee and Meghan Collins have successfully completed their communion studies and celebrate with us on this World Communion Sunday!

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:

Marion Lentz, Lauralee Moore, Eldon Springsted, Frederick White, and Gertrude Young.

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.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Each year our church participates in *One Great Hour of Sharing*, an opportunity for us to share with people in need around the world, helping to improve their world and ours. We can make a difference in the lives of others. Please use the envelopes in the pews. Checks should be made out to First Reformed Church with a memo to OGHS. Thank you!

First Forum

Today: Worship Talkback

Oct. 14: Moose's Celebration

Oct. 21: Consistory Update

Oct. 28: Soapbox, JAC

Sandy Kominoski will opine on the injustice of restaurant buffets that discriminate against vegetarians. Gay Doolittle will ask whether it should be so easy to buy guns at discount store chains. One objective is to have a good time; another is to get a sense what justice issues we at FRC are

passionate about. Let us know what you want to rant about! Contact Claire Hughes with your name and intended topic, and we'll put you on the schedule: eclair@nycap.rr.com or 381-9241.

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

Autumn's beautiful days provide good weather for a walk and a look at waterfalls in our area. On the adult display table this morning are two: *Adirondack Waterfall Guide* and *Hudson Valley Waterfall Guide*. Both provide good maps and directions. Poetry fans will enjoy *A Timbered Choir: The Sabbath Poems 1979-1997*, by Wendell Berry. How to help someone with mental illness accept treatment is discussed in *I Am Not Sick, I Don't Need Help*. The author is clinical psychologist, Xavier Amador, Ph.D.

It is hard to believe, but Halloween will be here before we know it! Children will find a selection of titles on the children's display table, celebrating that favorite holiday

Blessing the Pets

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

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: 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

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.

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

Spring: Mar – May

Grades: 3-5; 6-8

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

JHYG will meet at 5pm every Sunday, unless otherwise noted 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. All youth in grades 9-12 are welcome, and snacks will be provided.

Today: Regular meetings

10/14: Regular meetings

10/19-10/20: Junior High Overnight begins at 6pm at the church. Bring a sleeping bag and snacks to share.

10/21: SH Haunted Hayride trip. No Junior High meeting.

10/28: Both groups attend SAFE Inc. Bowl-a-thon at Boulevard Bowl. Meet at the bowling alley at noon. Cost is \$20 and you must let Stacey know that you are going by Oct. 1. No regular meetings.

Membership Committee

We will meet on Tue., Oct. 9 in the Library at 6:30pm.

Local Lecture by Nobel Laureate

Dr. Michael Mann will speak on Oct. 10 at 7:30pm in the Nott Memorial. Dr. Mann will speak on his latest book, *The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars*. Further information on Dr. Mann and this event is posted on the Green Space in Assembly Hall.

Charlie Moose

Join us after worship for laudatory remarks and the giving of plaques for a thank you Forum/Reception on Oct. 14.

Fall Frolic at Mohawk Park

Join other playful souls and creation lovers for a walk after worship on Oct. 14. The hike will be a couple gentle miles on the trails in the Mohawk River State Park, recently named in honor of John F. Brown. We'll leave church about noon--after the celebration for Charlie Moose--some by bike, some by car, and meet at the entrance off River Rd. Please pack something to eat and drink and wear clothing and footwear for the occasion. Registration isn't necessary; contact Daniel Carlson with any questions.

Mission Days

The fourth Saturday of each month has now been designated Mission Day! Members of FRC will engage in a monthly work project at various local sites. On Oct. 27 we will be painting and setting up at Patty's Place, a soon-to-open drop-in center that will offer services and referrals to prostitutes and sex workers in Schenectady. We will meet at the church at 9am and carpool to the site. Wear your work clothes and bring your painting supplies for a day of fun, fellowship, and helping out a new organization in need.

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.

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.

SAFE Bowl-a-Thon

Project SAFE will be hosting its annual Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser at Boulevard Bowl on Oct. 28. Registration begins at noon. Sign up to bowl in a team for \$100 per lane, or donate to a bowler. Many members of our youth group will be participating! If you're not a bowler, feel free to stop by and browse the silent auction taking place during the Bowl-a-Thon. SAFE Inc. is an emergency shelter and outreach program for young people who are engaged in or at risk of sexual exploitation. Contact Stacey Midge for more details.

Midnight Run to New York City

Midnight Run is an organization that delivers hot meals, clothing, and hygiene supplies to homeless people in New York City every night of the year, with the help of churches and volunteer organizations. FRC will be doing our Midnight Run on Saturday, Nov. 3. We will meet at 6pm to assemble the meals and pack the van, and then head to the city to deliver them. The van can take 10 volunteers to help with the delivery; would you like to be one of them? Contact Stacey to volunteer.

We also need donations of items to deliver, especially: socks, new underwear, hygiene items, and clothing, particularly large men's hoodies and sweatshirts in dark colors, pants, and shoes. Donations can be dropped off in Stacey's office.

Back to the Past of FRC

Are you curious about the life of the Church in the 70's and 80's? Come check out the mystery photograph display in the new Heritage Room, located in the old bookstore next to the Dirck Romeyn Room. You, your family, and your friends might be in these pictures. They might bring back some touching or funny memories, and we want to know about them! See the pink binder for information about how to share these stories.

Schoharie Public Library

The Church School decided to work together to bring/buy books for the Schoharie Public Library, especially the Children's Section that got ruined last summer. We're going to try to make a stack that reaches from the floor to the ceiling in Room 20. Feel free to help with our goal and leave books marked "church school" in Room 20 at the top of the stairs or in the church office.

Mission and Benevolence committee

We are making plans for our Alternative Christmas Free Trade Fair on Dec. 2. If anyone would like a table or knows of a NON-PROFIT group who would like to be included, please call Peggy Ridgway 280-4269 or Dan Ipsen 399-6848.

Joining the Prayers

We're currently reforming--and renaming--our congregation's prayer chain, i.e., those members who are updated on requests for prayer and pray for others as needed. If you are interested in being added this circle of intercession or have questions about the same, please contact Daniel Carlson (377-2201), Ann Gotwals (372-5089), or Vernetta Thuener (355-2543).

One in Spirit and Purpose

We need you!

*You are invited to a lunch
after church November 4
at the Glen Sanders Mansion
to hear about the congregation's plans for
2013 and to consider your financial support.*

*Please fill out a pew card to let us know if
you are coming.*

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Nancy Wainwright	David Bundy, Fred Daniels
Faith Bookshop	Linda Witkowski	Bill Clock
Flower Delivery	Harlene Bachorik, Ellie & Darwin Brudos	Loraine Kilgallen, Lynn Wilkanowski
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	TBA
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Keith Muse, Gay Doolittle, Gene Zeltmann, Darwin Brudos, Rob Dickson, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Veronica Bartholic, Eric Evans	Bob Beadle, Christine Daniels, Darwin Brudos, Catherine Lewis, Margaret Schadler, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Annie Reilly	Catherine Lewis
Refreshments	Betty Bumgarner	Charlie Moose's Celebration
Offertory Deacons/ Ushers	Rachael Cox, Richard Davis, Lisa Etkin, Leah Kidwell- Fernandes, Tom Burgoyne, Nancy Wainwright, David Bundy, Rebecca Grande	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Joe Gotwals, Linda Stanhope Alida Rice

Calendar for the Week of October 7, 2012

Sunday
World 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Communion 9:15 a.m. High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
Oct. 7 10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion, 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
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

Monday
Oct. 8 Office Closed, Columbus Day

Tuesday
Oct. 9 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
6:00 p.m. Archives Group, Archives Room
6:30 p.m. Membership Committee, Library
6:30 p.m. Standing Committees, Various Locations
7:30 p.m. Consistory, Assembly Hall

Wednesday
Oct. 10 9:30 a.m. Kerygma Bible Study, Poling Conference Room
1:00 p.m. Archives Group, Archives Room
1:00 p.m. Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Walton Conference Room
7:00 p.m. Midweek Evening Prayer, Poling Chapel

Thursday
Oct. 11 7:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
10:00 a.m. Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room
6:30 p.m. Purls of Wisdom, Walton Conference Room
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Dirck Romeyn Room
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room/Sanctuary

Sunday
Oct. 14 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
9:15 a.m. High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
10:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Charlie Moose Reception, Assembly Hall
11:15 a.m. Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
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.



October 7, 2012

*And the table
will be wide.
And the welcome
will be wide.
And the arms
will open wide
to gather us in.
And our hearts
will open wide
to receive.*

First Reformed Church

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