

***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.*



**“The dove descending breaks the air  
With flame of incandescent terror  
Of which the tongues declare  
The one discharge from sin and error.  
The only hope, or else despair  
Lies in the choice of pyre or pyre-  
To be redeemed from fire by fire.**

**Who then devised the torment? Love.  
Love is the unfamiliar Name  
Behind the hands that wove  
The intolerable shirt of flame  
Which human power cannot remove.  
We only live, only suspire  
Consumed by either fire or fire.”**

**~ T.S. Eliot, Four Quartets**

*May 19, 2013*

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



## Welcome to First Reformed Church

*We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and 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 and join us after the service for coffee and refreshments. The welcome tables at the entrance to the Sanctuary and in Assembly Hall have some helpful church information.

### **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.

### **Non Emergency Number**

Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Church School On Communion Sundays**

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.

### **Children's Worship Bulletins**

Special bulletins for children, ages 3-6 and 7-12 are available each Sunday. If the ushers are not handing them out, just ask for one.

### **After Worship**

Typically after worship, people stop for a chat and a cookie in Assembly Hall before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in.

### **Service Online**

A recording of each of our worship services is at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

### **Lost and Found Basket**

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.



FIRST LESSON                      Therese McCarty  
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy  
Spirit. **Amen.**                      *Genesis 11:1-9 (page 9)*

POSTLUDE    Curtis Funk  
*Lobe Den Herren*                      Hans Friedrich Michaelson

+ + +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON                      *Acts 2:1-21 (page 119)*

SERMON    *All Together In One Place*  
Bill Levering

\*HYMN #126    *Come, Holy Spirit,...*    St. Agnes

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  
*Will You Come and Follow Me*  
Trad. Scottish; arr. Susan Nelson  
Klokken Tower Ringers

\*HYMN #592    *Praise God...*    Doxology

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**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 #129  
*Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*    Ebenezer

\*BLESSING OF COVENANTERS  
Isaiah Buchanan, Dan Kosten, and Courtney  
Van Norden

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**Music Note**

*Will you come and follow me* is from the writing partnership of two leading members of the Iona Community in Scotland, John Bell and Graham Maule. It is set to a traditional Scottish melody, *Kelvingrove*, and is often referred to as *The Summons*. It takes as its theme the *Call of Christ*. Through the centuries, as today, Christ continues to call his saints to a life of faith, prayer and service.

Text for the first verse is as follows:

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

**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:

*William George, Ricard Lawton, Arthur Lord, Edward Lustenader, Jr. and Martha Wallender*

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.

**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 chancel flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the office of your wishes. 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.

### **Grades K-8**

**Today:** Last regular church school K-8. Church Picnic at 11am!

**May 26:** NO Church School.

**June 2:** Communion 3-8 stay in church.

### **June 9 – August: Summer Church School:**

Children in grades K-8 are welcome to meet in room 20 after the Children's Message for fun and games! We promise your children will leave smarter than when they arrived!

### **Post Service 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. Food should be brought around 9:30am, unless it is already set up on a platter. Beginning June 9, whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for set-up, refreshments, and clean-up by yourself or with a friend. If any questions contact Heather Chestnut 346-7887.

### **Church Picnic, Today**

After worship come and join the fun at the annual spring picnic sponsored by the Youth Education and Nurture Committee. In addition to food and conversation, games will be available for the children.

### **First Forum**

**May 26:** Rev. Carlson's Extended Study Leave

### **Faith Bookshop**

The Bookshop recently received a donation of men's accessories: cuff links, tie clips, and some mystery pieces. Some of these furnishings may be antique. Come in and take a look - to purchase or to simply view out of curiosity.

### **Union Presbyterian Pentecost Orientation**

Today there will be a special orientation and tour of FRC's building for folks from Union Presbyterian Church. If you would like to join in the briefing, anyone is welcome. We will start in the church office area at 3pm.

### **Jazz Appreciation Month Every Sunday, 5pm**

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

**May 26:** David Gleason, piano

**June 2:** 'Azzaam Hameed

**June 9:** Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**June 16:** Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

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

Normal youth group programming will be on hiatus for the summer, but stay tuned for special events in the warm weather!

### **Midweek Evening Prayer**

Join us any Wednesday of May, 7-7:45pm, for an Eastertide service in Poling Chapel that includes gentle singing accompanied by guitar, guided reflection on the resurrection; joyful sharing of the Lord's Supper (homemade bread; wine or juice,) praying aloud or in silence, and extending a sign or word of Christ's peace. All who wish to rekindle their awareness of God's loving presence within, among, and beyond us are welcome.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

Meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30pm. Our next meeting on May 21 is at Connie Young's home. Come and make new or renew old connections. Contact Connie 393-7061 for more information.

### **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group Date Change**

Meetings are every fourth Thursday at 9:30am. Our next meeting is May 23 at the home of Sue Zeltmann's. We welcome anyone. Please contact Sue 383-1969 with any questions.

## **Group VII**

On Friday, June 14 at 11:30am Group VII will meet at the home of Diane Ontkush (1202 Viewmont Dr. in Niskayuna) for our annual picnic. Co-hostesses: Martha Winchester and Ronnie Bartholic. If there are any questions please contact Ronnie at 393-7679.

## **Yoga at FRC**

Douglas Goodbee certified in Kripalu/Hatha E-RYT and athletic yoga teaches every Thursday at 6:45pm in Assembly Hall. These classes are free for FRC members, \$10 a class for non-members. Learn yoga postures and breathing and have fun doing it. Drop in when you can. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat. This class is for everyone at any level; singles, families, and seniors. (Children must be with a parent or guardian.) Questions: contact Douglas 229-7291 or dagoods1@gmail.com.

## **Kinderwyk**

Kinderwyk is shy of volunteers (18 & over per FRC's child protection policies.) Please find one Sunday this year to devote to this important child care from 9:45am - noon. No experience is required. You can find signups, outside room 20 and Kinderwyk. Or fill out a white pew card letting us know you would like to be on the list of volunteers.

## **Pot Luck with Visiting South African Leader**

Efraim Opelt at 6pm on Tuesday May 21 in Assembly Hall. Mr. Opelt staffs the South African Diaconal Partnership, (SADP) which FRC supported since 1997, between the Uniting Reformed Church in South Africa, (URCSA), the RCA and the CRC, to assist South Africa congregations and communities to become economically self-reliant, support HIV/AIDS Programs, and train leaders in the church. There will be Lasagna and beverages, bring fixin's for salad, bread or dessert. Reservations to Joe Doolittle, 384-1700 or aldenjoe@email.com.



	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Claire Hughes, Douglas Todd	Joan Lindsay, Carol Troost
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Linda Witkowski	Veronica Bartholic
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Kim & Tom Burgoyne, Sandy & Craig Kominoski	Carol De La Marter, Loraine Aumic & David Bogatka
<b>Greeters</b>	Linda & William Ward	Joan & Tom Lindsay
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik, Shannon Kerwin	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Veronica Bartholic, Keith Muse, William Ward, Maria G. Todd, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Christine Daniels	Joyce Griggs, Gay Doolittle, Phillip Falconer, Jerry Griggs, Thomas Lindsay, William Rochelle
<b>Reader</b>	Therese McCarty	Catherine deSalle
<b>Refreshments</b>	Church Picnic	
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Joe Gotwals, Linda Stanhope, Alida Rice	William Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Louis Acquasanta, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins

**Sunday, May 19 ~ Pentecost**

- 9:00 am ..... Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am ..... Worship
- 10:15 am ..... Church School
- 11:00 am ..... Church Picnic, Outside
- 3:00 pm ..... UPC Orientation
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, May 20**

- 9:00 am ..... Men's News Group
- 7:00 pm ..... Creation Care
- 7:00 pm ..... Samaritan Mindfulness

**Tuesday, May 21**

- 10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer
- 11:00 am ..... Support & Care
- 6:00 pm ..... S. African Mission Group

**Wednesday, May 22**

- 9:30 am ..... Kerygma Class
- 7:00 pm ..... Midweek Evening Prayer

**Thursday, May 23**

- 7:30 am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch
- 10:00 am ..... Stitch Group
- 6:45 pm ..... Yoga
- 7:30 pm ..... Chancel Choir

**Sunday, May 26**

- 9:00 am ..... Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am ..... Worship
- 11:00 am ..... Coffee & Refreshments
- 11:00 am ..... Membership Committee
- 11:15 am ..... First Forum
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

*“The wizard [of Oz] says look inside yourself and find self. God says look inside yourself and find [the Holy Spirit]. The first will get you to Kansas. The latter will get you to heaven. Take your pick.”~ Max Lucado*

*“When you strip it of everything else, Pentecost stands for power and life. That's what came into the church when the Holy Spirit came down on the day of Pentecost.” ~ David Wilkerson, *The Cross and the Switchblade**

*“I was all the time tugging and carrying water. But now I have a river that carries me.”  
~ Dwight Lyman Moody*

*“O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams.” ~ Saint Augustine*

*“Earthly wisdom is doing what comes naturally. Godly wisdom is doing what the Holy Spirit compels us to do.” ~ Charles Stanley*