

***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.*



June 23, 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.

### **Summer 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 refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting) 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.

**Fifth Sunday After Pentecost**

June 23, 2013

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

*My Spirit Be Joyful*

Route Fifty 5

J.S. Bach

trans. Harry Herforth

*Alleluia*

Randall Thompson

arr. Barret Germain

*Canzona per Sonare No. 4*

G. Gabrielli

trans. Graeme Page

10:00 a.m.

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 & WORSHIP  
ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rabbi Mathew Cutler

\*HYMN #191 *God Is Our Refuge...*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

In the wideness of your grace, our narrow vision is revealed. Where we see scarcity, you provide enough for all. Where we cling to what is ours, you invite us to share. Where we divide and exclude, you welcome all. Where we focus on ourselves and our own wants, you ask us to tend to the needs of others. God of goodness, renew us. Turn our shortcomings to new beginnings, open to the leading of your Spirit. Amen.

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579

*Glory Be to the Father*

Gloria Patri

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(*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

*Contrapunctus IX*

J.S. Bach, arr. Eberhard Ramm

FIRST LESSON

Robert Dickson

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

*Psalms 100 (page 552)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

SERMON

Rabbi Cutler

\*HYMN #210 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Caroline Welch

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Ashokan Farewell* Jay Ungar  
arr. Lew Buckley

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bill Levering

## 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.

\*HYMN #262 *God of the Ages, ...*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*To enjoy the postlude please remain seated.*

## POSTLUDE

*Just A Closer Walk*

Traditional  
arr. Don Gillis

*Down to the River*

Traditional  
arr. Barret Germain

+ + +

## Music Notes

We thank the Route Fifty 5 brass quintet for today's music. Members are Ben Richards and Judson Hoffman, trumpets; Kara Pangburn, horn; Ryan Pangburn, trombone and Barret Germain, tuba.

## 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:

*Richard McLane and Dorothy Van Leeuwen*

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.

## In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory Jens Brondel from Ruth Brondel and son, Carl Brondel. 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.

## 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. 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.

## Faith Bookshop

Noteworthy quotations about graduation, fathers, mothers, grandmothers, love and more, the Bookshop has delightful little books featuring each. These recently acquired books would make delightful gifts or be useful references when you need the perfect quote.

## Jazz Appreciation Month Every Sunday, 5pm

**Today:** Dave Gleason, piano

**June 30:** Scott Bassinson, piano

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

## **Interfaith Worship Exchange 50th Anniversary June 20-23**

For 50 years our congregation and Congregation Gates of Heaven have worshipped together one weekend a year to stand as a witness against prejudice and as a testimony to the need for respect among religious people.

### **Thursday, June 20, 7pm**

*Where We Have Been, Where We Are Going* at Congregation Gates of Heaven. A retrospective of the past 50 years and a discussion about the future role of faith.

### **Friday, June 21, 7pm**

**Service at CGOH, Dr. Levering Preaching**

### **Sunday, June 23, 10am**

**Service at FRC, Rabbi Cutler Preaching**

**Vespers, 5pm, Poling Chapel**

**Dinner, 6pm, Assembly Hall**

All programs and dinner are free and open to everyone. However, please let us know if you are attending the dinner and/or the Thursday evening program. RSVP by calling the church office 377-2201, filling out a white pew card, or send an e-mail [1streformed@gmail.com](mailto:1streformed@gmail.com).

### **Kinderwyk**

Kinderwyk needs 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 signup sheets, 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.

### **Yoga at FRC**

Douglas Goodbee, certified in Kripalu/Hatha E-RYT and athletic yoga, teaches every Thursday at 6:45pm in Assembly Hall. The classes are free for FRC members, \$10 non-members. This class is for everyone at any level, singles, families, and seniors. Bring a mat and wear loose clothing. Questions: contact Douglas at 229-7291 or e-mail [dagoods1@gmail.com](mailto:dagoods1@gmail.com).

### **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!

### **Summertime Kerygma Conversations**

Read a book, seen a movie, attended a concert, taken a trip, or begun a class that you'd like to talk about with others? Stop by Dirck Romeyn Room 9:30-11am the last Wednesday of June, July, or August and share your new found learning and experience with others who value mutual sharing all year long! Contact Daniel Carlson for further details.

### **KAPRIOL'! Musicians From the Netherlands**

In concert at FRC in the Poling Chapel at 7pm on Tuesday, June 25. Potluck supper in Assembly Hall at 6pm. Please **RSVP** to 384-1700 or sign up in the church office.

This potluck and concert is a send-off for the adult exchange going to Nijkerk June 27 for Nijkerk's 600<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It's also a benefit for this summer's July 25-August 5 Youth Exchange here in Schenectady. Host families are needed. See posters on FRC bulletin board for more information.

### **Eight members going to Nijkerk**

We wish Amy and Wayne Brule, Deborah Dingman, Gay and Joe Doolittle, Mary Jewett, Kitty and George Trimarco safe travels and best wishes in taking our greetings to Nijkerk, the Netherlands, on this summer's Schenectady/Nijkerk exchange. We thank them for representing FRC-Union Pres and Schenectady at special events during the exchange honoring Nijkerk's 600th anniversary and the many historical and cultural connections between our communities. There are twenty-six others in Schenectady's exchange delegation, all of whom will be joined in Nijkerk by Mayor and Mrs. Gary McCarthy for a ceremony officially celebrating Nijkerk and Schenectady as sister cities. This is the 29th year of exchanges; FRC has been an active participant since their inception.

## **Wedding**

The Congregation is cordially invited to the marriage ceremony of Jessica Lynn Allen to Domenico Santabarbara at 4pm on June 28 in the Sanctuary.

## **Kanatsiohareke Strawberry Festival**

The Mohawk Community at Kanatsiohareke will be holding their 20<sup>th</sup> annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 29 and Sunday, June 30. The Archives and Historical Concerns committee encourages the congregation to attend to show our support for their mission. They welcome all volunteers – please contact Caroline Welch if you are interested in volunteering.

## **Communion By Intinction**

The dates are: July 7, August 4, September 1 and the 11pm Christmas Eve service.

## **Joint VBS in July!**

FRC, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and Union Presbyterian are cooperating in a VBS experience from July 15-19 for ages 4-10 years old from 9:15am-12pm. VBS will be held at Union Presbyterian Church on Park Ave. There is a form to fill out, which can be obtained in the FRC office. Plan on having great fun and meeting new friends.

## **Shakespeare in the Park!**

Come out for a free evening of Shakespeare in Saratoga's Congress Park on Friday, July 19. The Saratoga Shakespeare Company will present *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. We'll meet at 5:30pm and picnic on the lawn before the 6:30pm performance. Bring picnic food, lawn chairs, blankets, and bug spray. A signup sheet will be posted in Assembly Hall, or RSVP by July 18 to Leah Kidwell-Fernandes at 383-2167 or leah@upstateharpist.com. Please provide a number at which you can be reached on July 19 in case the event is cancelled due to inclement weather. For more information about the play, visit saratogashakespeare.com.

## **Save The Date**

### **Cultural Frolic at SPAC on August 9**

The Philadelphia Orchestra and the New York City Ballet will present a Bernstein Extravaganza. More information in our July/August First Things.

## **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. 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. Please contact Stacey Midge for further information.

## **Reformed Church World Service**

Join Reformed Church World Service to help victims of the Oklahoma City tornado. Early response coordinators are already in Oklahoma, helping with spiritual care and needs assessment. Financial donations are urgently needed. Give at [www.rca.org/tornadoes](http://www.rca.org/tornadoes) or send a check to Reformed Church in America, Attn: Finance Department, 4500 60th St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512, or, in Canada, to Regional Synod of Canada, 201 Paradise Rd. N., Hamilton, ON L8S 3T3. Checks should be designated "U.S. Tornadoes."

## **Summer Volunteer**

Looking for summer help to drop off collected clothing to Bethesda House and food items to SICM from FRC bins. These items are brought once a week and the church van is available for use. Contact Stacey Midge with any questions.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Richard Davis, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes	Bill Martin, Caroline Welch
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Susan Read, Ruth Cox	Ann Hicks & Ann Bish, Victoria McGowan & Mike Horan
<b>Greeters</b>	Hjelmar Family	Cynthia Hamilton
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik, Mary Russell	Sarah Bachorik, Mary Russell
<b>Liturgist</b>	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Bill Levering	Christine Daniels
<b>Preacher</b>	Rabbi Matthew Cutler	Annie Reilly
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Roberta Blackmer, Christine Daniels, Gay Doolittle, Thomas Lindsay, Delbert Pierce, William Rochelle	Joyce Griggs, Keith Muse, Darwin Brudos, Phillip Falconer, Jerry Griggs, Linda Witkowski
<b>Reader</b>	Robert Dickson	Carol Troost
<b>Refreshments</b>	Blythe Gieseler	
<b>Usher</b>	Art Shultes (head usher), Nicholas Blinckmann, Louis Acquasanta, Jeff Cox	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Steve Breitenbach, Griffin Laycock, Gerry Myers, Susan Read

**Sunday, June 23**

- 10:00 am ..... Worship ~ Rabbi Cutler
- 10:15 am ..... Church School
- 11:00 am ..... Refreshments
- 11:15 am ..... First Forum
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers
- 6:00 pm ..... 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

**Monday, June 24**

- 9:00 am ..... Mens News Group
- 7:00 pm ..... Creation Care Committee

**Tuesday, June 25**

- 10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer
- 6:00 pm ..... Schenectady/Nijkerk Concert

**Wednesday, June 26**

- 9:30 am ..... Kerygma Conversations

**Thursday, June 27**

- 7:30 am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch
- 6:45 pm ..... Yoga

**Sunday, June 30**

- 10:00 am ..... Worship
- 10:15 am ..... Church School
- 11:00 am ..... Refreshments
- 11:00 am ..... Boy Scouts Troop 1
- 11:00 am ..... Membership Committee
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

*“From my youth onwards I have found in Jesus my great brother. That Christianity has regarded and does regard him as God and Savior has always appeared to me a fact of the highest importance which, for his sake and my own, I must endeavor to understand . . . I am more than ever certain that a great place belongs to him in Israel's history of faith and that this place cannot be described by any of the usual categories.”*

*~ Martin Buber was a leading Jewish writer, thinker, philosopher, and theologian (1878-1965).*

*“As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene . . . No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life. Jesus is too colossal for the pen of phrase-mongers, however artful. No man can dispose of Christianity with a bon mot.”*

*~ Quote taken from “What Life Means to Einstein,” The Saturday Evening Post, October 26, 1929. Einstein was a physicist and professor at Princeton University. He lived from 1879-1955.*