

***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.



July 21, 2013

Welcome Union Presbyterian Church



First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York 12305
(518) 377-2201 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 after worship 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 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.

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 21, 2013

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Bob Ridgway
Give Me Jesus Traditional African American
Go Light Your World Chris Rice
Ancient Awareness Music, Bob Ridgway
Lyrics, Hildegard von Bingen

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Midge

*HYMN #457 *I Greet Thee, ...*

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

We trust in you, O God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love you created the world good and make everyone equally in your image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against you; we hide from you, our Creator. Ignoring your commandments, we violate your image in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve your condemnation. Yet you act with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579

Glory Be to the Father Gloria Patri

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING *Speak, O Lord*
Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend
Ensemble from Union Presbyterian Choir

FIRST LESSON Amy Brule
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Genesis 18: 1-8 (page 14)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Amos 8:1-12 (page 856)*

SERMON *Holy Disorientation* Stacey Midge

*HYMN #383 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY Kinderwyk

OFFERING

OFFERTORY
We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
Lloyd Larson
Ensemble from Union Presbyterian Choir

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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. 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 preparation, cleanup, and refreshments by yourself or with a friend. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall. A sheet with "how to" suggestions is also posted since the summer procedure is slightly different. Any questions, please contact Heather Chestnut at 346-7887.

Faith Bookshop

Have you visited the church Bookshop which is open after Sunday services and located across from the library? It's a nice place to browse, meet new friends and purchase unique items and reasonably priced books. The Bookshop also carries fair trade coffee, tea and chocolates.

Johnson Library

The Johnson Library tables on either side of the Library entrance are on the timely topic of friendship for two weeks. The first table is filled with Joan Walsh Anglund's trio of books, *A Friend Is Some One Who Likes You*, *What Color is Love*, and *Love is a Special Way of Feeling*. Ann Guilfoil describes *The Peaceable Kingdom* and Sarah Stewart calls her book, *The Friend*. A new book with appeal for teenagers is *A Friend at Midnight* by Caroline Cooney. Another book of interest may be *Thee Hannah* by Marguerite De Angeli. Jennifer Holland introduces the subject of *Unlikely Friendships*, those between animals. Isabella Hatkoff et al tell us about *Owen and Meee in the Language of Friendship* and *The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship*, Mary Pope Osborne completes these readable books with *Standing in the Light*, and *Mummies in the Morning*.

Jazz Appreciation Month Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tim Coakley, drums

July 28: Mike Lamkin, piano

August 4: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

August 11: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

August 18: Mike Lamkin, piano

August 25: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tim Coakley, drums

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.

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.

Youth Tubing Trip Change

The tubing trip for youth in grades 6-12, originally scheduled for July 24, has been postponed. If you are able to attend on July 31, please contact Stacey by Wednesday, July 24 at revstacey@gmail.com.

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 the Dirck Romeyn Room from 9:30-11am on July 31 and/or August 28 and share your new found learning and experience with others who value mutual sharing all year long! Contact Daniel Carlson for further details.

Fowler Camp & Retreat Center Event

On Saturday, August 3, all are welcome to the dedication of the Leet Nature Center at 4pm with hearty Hors D'oeuvres at 5:30pm on Leet's porch (reservations suggested by July 31 to 518-399-9032). There will also be a benefit concert at 7pm with Sacandaga String Band in the Chapel.

Cultural Frolic at SPAC on August 9

The Philadelphia Orchestra and the New York City Ballet will present a Bernstein Extravaganza. More information is in our July/August *First Things*. A sign-up sheet is posted in Assembly Hall.

Flood Relief Work Needed In Fort Plain.

We need your help in Fort Plain. Here is how you can help.

Volunteers: Needed to help muck out people's homes (basements mostly) and to help carry items to the curbside. This work is happening every day, and you can just show up on your own (or with a group of your friends!) *Volunteers are encouraged to call ahead to the Fort Plain Reformed Church at (518)705-8695 or email fortplainfloodhelp@yahoo.com.*

Stacey Midge will be collecting and delivering donated supplies. These items may be dropped off at the room by the west sanctuary entrance:

- bleach, rubber gloves, shovels, mops
- bottled water, any size.
- diapers and wipes.
- flashlights/batteries.
- personal hygiene products such as: toothbrushes, deodorant, toothpaste, feminine products, hand soap, shampoo, etc.
- laundry & dish soap, disinfectant, bug spray
- pet food.

Funds are needed for continuing recovery. The church has set up a special account where money can be sent: **Reformed Church--Flood Relief, 165 Canal Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339.** 100% of funds collected will go back into the community for flood relief.

Stewardship Committee

Ray and Joyce Beland are heading the 2014 Stewardship Campaign and are looking for people who are interested in serving on this committee. Please call Ray at 527-0195 or Joyce at 527-6363 or speak to them after worship if you are interested.

Volunteers Needed ~ Yates Village

Union Presbyterian is responsible for the Summer Lunch Program at Yates Village Community Center for the weeks of August 5, 12, and 26. The time is 11:55am to 1:30pm, although most people can leave around 1pm. UPC has done this many years and the big bonus is that it is inside and air conditioned. We need Help! Please call Ellie Rowland at 370-1958 or email me, erowland@nycap.rr.com.

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 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."

Church Tours on First Sundays

If you are new to our church building and would like a brief tour, every Communion Sunday there will be someone to show you around immediately following a cup of coffee. Meet in front of the church office.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Fred Daniels, Claire Hughes	Gay Doolittle, Bill Rochelle
Faith Bookshop	Bill Clock	Veronica Bartholic
Flower Delivery	Christine & Fred Daniels, Rebecca & Carlos Grande	Peggy King, Cindy Gallagher
Greeters	Veronica Bartholic	Gay & Joe Doolittle
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Mary Carlson	Sarah Bachorik, Mary Russell
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Stacey Midge
Processing Elders	Mary Jewett, Katherine Trimarco, Eugene Zeltmann, Christine Daniels,	Veronica Bartholic, Joyce Griggs, Peggy King, Jerry Griggs
Reader	Amy Brule	Marilyn Leach
Refreshments	Blythe Gieseler	Debra Baumes
Usher	Bill Clock (head usher), Louis Acquasanta, Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins	Del Pierce (head usher), Carol Troost, Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson, Michael Horan, Victoria McGowan

Sunday, July 21

- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Church School for K-8
- 11:00 am Refreshments
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, July 22

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

Tuesday, July 23

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer

Thursday, July 25

- 6:45 pm Yoga

Sunday, July 28

- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Church School for K-8
- 11:00 am Refreshments
- 11:00 am Membership Committee
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

“In the age of technology there is constant access to vast amounts of information. The basket overflows; people get overwhelmed; the eye of the storm is not so much what goes on in the world, it is the confusion of how to think, feel, digest, and react to what goes on.”

~ Criss Jami, Venus in Arms

“Rapid change, accommodating it can be one of the great human capacities. But living through it can be the stuff of stress and often suffering.”

~ Ron Suskind, Confidence Men: Wall Street, Washington, and the Education of a President

“Poetry is my cheap means of transportation. By the end of the poem the reader should be in a different place from where he started. I would like him to be slightly disoriented at the end, like I drove him outside of town at night and dropped him off in a cornfield.” ~ Billy Collins

“That's why we feel so disoriented, irritated even, when these touchstones from our past are altered. We don't like it when our hometown changes, even in small ways. It's unsettling. The playground! It used to be right here, I swear. Mess with our hometown, and you're messing with our past, with who we are. Nobody likes that. ~ Eric Weiner, The Geography of Bliss: One Grump's Search for the Happiest Places in the World

“Fortunately, I was supposed to look confused and disoriented because, God, I felt that way”

~ Dick York

“Usually, jet lag is not this big of an issue for me. I'm not sure why I'm so disoriented this time. It could be due to the amount of chocolate and french fries I've eaten in the last two and a half weeks.” ~ April Winchell