

**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.



Just
Being
Together

January 19, 2014



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.

Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200

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; a baby changing station is in the women's bathroom.

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 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 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 one or two days following the service.

Lost and Found Basket

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex at the Union St. entrance of the church. If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check there.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Nat Phipps, piano;
Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums
We Shall Overcome African American Trad.
Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Thomas A. Dorsey
If I Had A Hammer Seeger and Hays

10:00 a.m.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Hallelujah* Zimbabwean

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #368
I've Got Peace Like a River 7.7.11

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
God of fire and ice, we confess that the coldness of the world often drives us into the safety of our private homes. We need your help to venture out, to engage the world, to risk love.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN #576
Gloria, Gloria

*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

ANTHEM *All My Hope* Dave Brubeck
All my hope is in you, O Lord.
You are my rock and my strength
Hope in darkness my hope in light,
You are my rock and my strength.
My hope, my light, my peace, my joy,
My faith, my life everlasting
You are my rock and my strength.

FIRST LESSON Chris Fernandes
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Isaiah 49:1-7 (page 679)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *John 1:29-42 (page 92)*

SERMON *Hanging Out* Bill Levering

*HYMN #338 *Kum ba Yah* 8.8.8.5

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Heritage Sunday*
Joe Doolittle

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I Dream a World*
Dave Brubeck

I dream a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn.
I dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,

Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day.
A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every man is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all mankind-
Of such I dream, my world!

Langston Hughes

***DOXOLOGY #592**

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

***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 #310**

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee St. Agnes

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *Amen*
African-American

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

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:

Janet Buchanan, Donald Mackintosh, Mary Louise Martin-Stern, Mary McCarty, Dorothy Murray, and Richard Vandercar

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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and to remember the day Melissa Greskovich was born, January 20, 1981; given by her mother Maria Todd and brother Chad Greskovich. 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.

Music Notes

Jazz legend Dave Brubeck, who died on Dec. 5, 2012, wrote quite a bit of religious choral music. *All My Hope* is part of a larger work *To Hope: A Celebration*. After having dreamt part of the work he wrote it down and then became a Catholic. The priest of the commissioning organization wanted to inject joy into the Mass and envisioned people swinging a little as they came up for communion. In a 2009 interview on PBS Brubeck described what he considered the essence of Christianity: "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you." *I Dream a World* was written to a text by Langston Hughes and is from a larger work by the same title.

Post Service Refreshments

Everyone is invited to have refreshments in Assembly Hall right after worship. 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. There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall or fill out a white pew card and

place it in the offering plate. If any questions, please contact Tani Breitenbach

1streformedpub@gmail.com or 377-2201.

Dates from Jan 26 forward are still available.

Please consider volunteering.

Forum

Held after worship most Sundays at 11:15am in Poling Chapel. Suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact Joe Doolittle, 384-1700 or Amy Brule, 785-8201.

Today: Natt Phipps reflects on the March on Washington

Jan. 26: Civil War – Bob Arnold and Chili Cook-off at noon

Feb. 2: First Reformed Church in the Civil War. Historical Concerns Committee member, Rob Dickson of FRC will share his ongoing research of FRC in the Civil War, *It Touched Every Hearth*.

Feb. 9: How are we doing together? Rev. Dr. Bill Levering

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5pm

Today: ‘Azzaam Hameed, piano

Jan19: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D’Andrea, drums

Jan: 26: David Gleason, piano

Feb. 2: Nat Phipps, piano

Feb. 9: ‘Azzaam Hameed, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D’Andrea, drums

Faith Bookshop

Oh! For a book, and a cozy nook. And oh! For a quiet hour. The Bookshop may have just the book for you. Check the table with recommendations, the shelves, and don’t forget the little bookcase with gently read donated books.

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

ALL youth in grades 6-12, will meet from 5-7pm on Sunday nights unless otherwise noted, all will meet for dinner, fellowship, service, and learning activities.

Today: Our Covenanters, Jeremy and Daniel, have generously agreed to host a youth group

party at the Covenant House where they live from 5-7pm.

Jan. 26: Chili Cook-off and Auction following the morning worship service.

Lenten Devotional

Have you signed up yet for your contribution to the Lenten Devotional? A poem, a response to a Bible verse, or a short piece about an idea you’d like to share with the congregation. If you haven’t, sign up outside of Assembly Hall and send your submission either by e-mail to 1streformedpub@gmail.com, or drop it off at the church office; deadline is Feb. 19. Please, conclude whatever you write with a short prayer.

Art Placement Committee ~ Today

The Art Placement Committee will hold its first meeting today in the Dykstra Chapel after worship.

Horizon Bible Study

The Horizons Bible study group meets on Tuesdays at 10am in the Poling Conference room for a study of *Mark's Gospel*. Study guides by Mark Deibert from the Interpretation Bible series is available for \$7, and will be available at class. All interested are welcome to attend.

Tuesday Ladies

Meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30pm at Connie Young’s home, next meeting is Jan. 21. All ladies are welcome. For more information contact Connie at 393-7061.

Midweek Vegetarian Dinner

Every Wednesday at 6pm in Assembly Hall some members and friends share a delicious, healthy, plant-based meal of soup, salad, and something sweet. Sign up in Assembly Hall if you would like to bring an edible contribution to this simple feast. Show up if you would like to partake of the good food and fellowship. Stay around for Midweek Evening Worship (see below) if such a service appeals to you. Speak to Daniel Carlson if you have any questions regarding any of the above.

Midweek Evening Worship

All are welcome to our contemplative service held each Wednesday evening, 7-7:45pm in Poling Chapel. Our worship always includes a lovely guitar prelude, gentle singing, guided reflection, Holy Communion, and shared prayers; through which we seek to rekindle awareness of God's loving presence within us and all creation.

New Worship Opportunity

FRC is currently planning to start a new worship service in the near future. If you would like to have input on what day and time this service happens, and what it looks and sounds like, you are invited to one of two initial discussions, to be held on Thursday, Jan. 23 at 4pm in Stacey's office, or Saturday, Jan. 25 at 5pm in Poling Chapel. If you cannot make either meeting but are interested in being part of the planning process, please contact Stacey Midge.

Prayer Shawl Knitting Group

We will meet on Thursday, Jan. 23 at 9:30am at the home of Inge-Lise Pangburn. For questions, contact Ronnie Bartholic 399-7679.

Presbyterian Luncheon ~ Volunteers Needed

We are pleased to host a meeting of the Presbytery of Albany at First Reformed on Saturday, Jan. 25. This meeting brings together pastors and lay leaders from over 60 Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations in the region for a day of planning and worship. Help is needed with parking, morning refreshments, baking finger-food desserts, lunch preparation/serving, and clean-up after the event. If you are willing to give of your time that day - even a couple of hours - please contact Barbara Walton (346-1943).

Chili Cook-Off and Auction

The annual Chili Cook-off and Auction will be held on Sunday, Jan. 26 **at noon**. If you have a fabulous chili recipe you'd like to share, or a service or item to donate for our silent or live auctions, please contact Stacey Midge or a member of the youth group. Then please join us to taste the chili and bid on a great selection of

auction items! All proceeds from this event support the Senior High Youth Group on their mission trip.

Fellowship Luncheon

Save the date for the best luncheon in town. The FRC/UPC Fellowship Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 31, at 11:45am in Assembly Hall. Gay Doolittle, Mary Jewett and Carol Troost will serve as hostesses for the luncheon. Laura Lee Linder, church historian, will share the history of First Reformed Church from the very beginning. If you are able to join us, please bring a casserole or salad to share. Desserts and beverages will be provided. Reservations are not necessary, but would be appreciated. You can do this by signing up in Assembly Hall or by calling either Amy Brule 785-8201 or Sally Bestgen 346-0304.

Heritage Sunday ~ Feb. 2

For this year's Heritage Sunday we will be reflecting on FRC of Schenectady during the Civil War, 1861-1865. The Chancel Choir will sing two hymn-anthems, with special music quests, Musicians of Ma'alwyck.

Group V

We will meet on Feb. 3 in the Dirck Romeyn room. We will be discussing the book *To Heaven and Back* by Mary Neal. A great book on how God has had a continued presence in this Orthopedic Surgeon's life.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast group will meet on Saturday, February 8 at 8am. Our guest speaker on that day will be Bill Buell, a features writer for the Daily Gazette. Bill is a native of Glenville and a resident in Niskayuna. He is the author of *Historic Schenectady County: A Bicentennial History*, published in 2009, as a reference for the County's Bi-Centennial. He is currently writing a biography of George Lunn: *From the Pulpit to Politics: Commentary on the Life of Rev. Dr. George Lunn*.

The Rev. Lunn was Schenectady's mayor for a total of four years, first as a Socialist and later as a Democrat. He then served as a U.S. Representative from New York, and was Lieutenant Governor of New York. We are excited to hear what Mr. Buell has to say about this historic figure.

Adult Winterfest

Sign up and save the date. On Saturday, Feb. 8, Doug and Maria G. Todd have graciously offered their abode (Fox Hill Farm, 6003 Parkis Mills Rd., Galway) as the location for our annual adult winter outing. For the adventurous, skating, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, or a muddy winter hike begin at 3pm. The food, beverage, fellowship, and laughter indoors around the various blazing hearths of the farmhouse begin at 5:30pm with appetizers and drinks; a dinner of hearty soups, sides, salads, and desserts will follow. Glenda Luck (vocal/guitar/banjo) and

Chris Duffy (stand up bass) will be providing the entertainment. They will be performing original songs and a few old time tunes. To offset the cost of this event, we ask each person attending to contribute \$5. Please also bring some food to share (beverages provided). A signup sheet will be posted in Assembly Hall; alternatively, call the church office to indicate you'll attend. The Fellowship Committee is happy to assist with the cost of childcare for this annual event; please simply note this need on the signup sheet or with the church office. Car- pooling is encouraged to ease our pollution of the planet and parking at the party. Contact Daniel Carlson if you have any questions; the Todd's for directions (882-6555). Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

Patty's Place

We are in need of a 2 to 4 drawer filing cabinet. If you have one to give away please contact Inge-Lise Pangburn at 399-1027.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Richard Davis, Bill Martin	George Trimarco, Nancy Wainwright
Faith Bookshop	Virginia Laumeister	Robert Blackmer
Flower Delivery	Cindy Hamilton, Millicent Casey	Veronica Bartholic
Greeters	Norma & Dale Brown	Amy & Wayne Brule
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn	Sarah Bachorik, Shannon Kerwin
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Del Pierce, Keith Muse, Bill Ward, Bob Beadle, Margaret Schadler, Linda Witkowski	Veronica Bartholic, Gene Zeltmann, Darwin Brudos, Art Casey, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Cathy Lewis,
Reader	Chris Fernandes	Lynne Gilgore
Refreshments	Barbara Walton	Ann Hicks, Ann Bish
Usher	Earl Wainwright (head usher), Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Richard Davis, Adam Kerwin, Philip Youno	Art Shultes (head usher), Jeff Cox, Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough

Sunday, January 19

10:00 am..... Worship
10:15 am..... Church School for K-8
11:00 am..... Art Placement Team
11:15 am..... Forum
11:30 am..... Mission Funding Comm. UPC
5:00 pm..... JH&SH Youth – See Article
5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

Be careful the environment you choose for it will shape you; be careful the friends you choose for you will become like them. ~W. Clement Stone

Nirvana? That's the place where the powers that be and their friends hang out. ~Zonker Harris

Monday, January 20 OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 am..... What's Your Story?

If we do not hang together, we shall surely hang separately. ~Thomas Paine

Tuesday, January 21

10:00 am..... Morning Prayer
10:00 am..... Horizon Bible Study
11:00 am..... Support & Care Meeting
7:00 pm..... UPC Session

If you hang out with chickens, you're going to cluck and if you hang out with eagles, you're going to fly. ~Steve Maraboli

Wednesday, January 22

6:00 pm..... Vegetarian Dinner
7:00 pm..... Midweek Evening Worship

I always preferred to hang out with the outcasts, 'cause they were cooler; they had better taste in music, for one thing, I guess because they had more time to develop one with the lack of social interaction they had! ~John Hughes

Thursday, January 23

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

Would you rather hang out with Jesus or listen to one of his sermons? ~Lib Reveling

Sunday, January 26

9:00 am..... Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary
9:15 am..... High School Choir
9:30 am..... Choir Rehearsal-Poling Chapel
10:00 am..... Worship
10:15 am..... Church School for K-8
10:20 am..... Carol Choir
11:15 am..... Forum
11:15 am..... Orff Rehearsal
11:20 am..... Kirk Ringers
12:00 pm..... Chili Cook-Off
12:00 pm..... Membership Committee
4:00 pm..... Youth Orchestra
5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers