

**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.*



So We'll Go No More a Roving  
by Lord Byron

So, we'll go no more a roving  
So late into the night,  
Though the heart be still as loving,  
And the moon be still as bright.

For the sword outwears its sheath,  
And the soul wears out the breast,  
And the heart must pause to breathe,  
And love itself have rest.

Though the night was made for loving,  
And the day returns too soon,  
Yet we'll go no more a roving  
By the light of the moon.

May 25, 2014



**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.

### **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.

### **Hearing Assistance**

We have hearing reinforcement units that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

### **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](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 Union St. entrance of the church. If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check there.

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2014

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Nat Phipps

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Stacey Midge

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo* Michael Praetorius

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #487

*When Morning Glides the Skies*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O Lord our Shepherd, you know us better than we know ourselves. We come before you now, believers and doubters alike, to share our deep need for strength and renewal. Forgive us and help us to know we are forgiven. Give us the heart and direction for renewal and service, we pray.

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN #579

*Gloria Patri*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

*Apostle's Creed (RCA, Contemporary)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
Lord. He was conceived by the power of the  
Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father. He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic  
Church, the communion of saints, the  
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the  
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *If Ye Love Me* Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments,  
and I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another Comforter,  
that he may abide with you forever:  
e'en the spirit of truth.

FIRST LESSON Carol Troost

Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy  
Spirit. **Amen.** *Acts 17:22-31 (pg 137)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *John 14:15-21 (pg 108)*

SERMON *The Long Goodbye* Bill Levering

\*HYMN #288

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Nat Phipps

\*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 #376  
*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*  
Dale Wood

POSTLUDE

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*  
Sicilian Mariners

+ + +

### **Entered Into Eternal Rest**

Elizabeth D. Corliss  
May 15, 2014

### **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 FRC & UPC who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

*Chester Buchanan, Helen Costanzo, Chi Hua Fong, William George, Frederick Junker, Ricard Lawton, Edmund Sanderson, Virginia Stare*

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 flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the church office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

### **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 the church office. **We are in need of 3 volunteers for June 1.**

### **Faith Bookshop**

Book orders will be taken until the end of May and then resume in September. Orders (any book in print) receive a 30% discount. Order forms are at the Bookshop desk.

### **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5pm**

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

**June 1:** Nat Phipps, piano

**June 8:** Azzaam Hameed, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **Forum**

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, Peggy King 370-1885, or Amy Brule 785-8201.

**Today:** A Walk About our Historic Stockade Neighborhood. Over 50 stop with informative brief presentations. Meet in Assembly Hall at 11:30am.

**June 1:** Congregational Meeting – Coffee & Conversation

**June 8:** A Conversation with Covenanter Jeremy Bork, his time with Old First, viewing of his creative work, a film for Room for All, and sharing thoughts on his future.

### **Memorial Day**

The church office will be closed Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day.

## **Consistory Nominees**

The nominating committee present it's nominees for election at the annual meeting June 1.

For the office of Elder, Class of 2016

Caroline Welch  
Jeanne Shoulder  
Adam Mason  
James Gonda

For the office of Deacon, Class of 2016

Dave Hjelmar

## **Yoga Moved to Monday Nights**

Thursday evening Yoga has been moved to Monday's at 6:45pm – 7:45pm in Assembly Hall. If you have any questions please contact Douglas at: 229-7291 or dagoods1@gmail.com.

## **Prospective Member Class**

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? Dr. Levering will be leading membership orientation meetings that include a tour of the church and a chat about who we are. It lasts 90 minutes and is held at 3pm on the first Sundays of June, and October through February.

## **Sunday School Schedule Changes**

**Today:** Jeremy Bork will be showing a Veggie Tales episode in Room 20. All children grades K-8 are invited to attend after the Children's Message.

**June 1 – August 31:** All children K-8 are invited to Kinderwyck after the Children's Message for summer church school.

**September 7:** Regular church school resumes.

## **SICM Book Collection**

Wanted: New or used books for kids 18 and under. Please donate age-appropriate fiction and non-fiction books to enhance SICM's Summer Lunch Program 2014. In addition to feeding thousands of hungry children, the 9-week program provides recreational and educational activities at parks throughout Schenectady. Books can be placed in the bin in the Narthex and will be collected until the program begins. Monetary donations accepted. If you have any questions,

you can call Karen Gonda at 607-725-4521 or email gonda6@aol.com. Thank you for your support!

## **Summer Refreshments**

Beginning June 1, 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. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall along with a sheet on "how to" suggestions. Please read these instructions prior to signing up as it is very important in that the set-up and clean-up is done differently. Any questions, please contact the church office at 377-2201. We are in need of volunteers for **June 1**.

## **Susan Hale in Concert May 30**

Susan Hale will be giving an eclectic concert celebrating the Easter season on May 30 at 8pm in our Sanctuary. Admission is free and all are invited.

## **Kerygma Conversations Delay Notice**

The monthly gathering has been postponed a week to Wednesday, June 4, 9:30-11am in the Dirck Romeyn room. Join us to talk about what you've found interesting in summer activities like reading, viewing, traveling, or whatever.

## **Different Way in Reading Graduation**

Join us Friday, June 6 at 6:30pm to celebrate the hard work, determination, and significant progress in literacy skills of ten students, aged 8 to 14. The graduation address will be given by Harvey Hubbell V, award winning documentarian and producer of "Dyslexia, The Movie." He himself has dyslexia and is a most wonderful example of fulfillment and success. We will be presenting certificates of recognition to Assemblyman James Tedisco and Congressman Paul Tonko for their support of students with dyslexia. Please join us and meet the children we are so proud of!

### **Home Furnishings Sale**

There will be an HFP sale on June 7 after all, at the Burnt Hills Methodist Church on Route 50 (just above the Lakehill Rd. intersection) from 10am – 2pm. That sale had been scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>, but was cancelled due to bad weather, and we have been able to reschedule for June 7.

### **Lights. Camera. Jesus!**

In addition to his volunteer work as a covenanter, Jeremy Bork has spent the last seven months creating a short film for Room for All. His film “Room for Me?” is a creative collection of LGBTQ Christians responding to questions and sharing their stories. Jeremy was asked to show his film during First Forum on June 8. As a result, LCJ will not meet on the first Tuesday of June.

### **Circle Meeting June 11**

All women are invited to share our year-end picnic on Monday, June 11 at 6:30pm. Bring your favorite summer dish. Dessert and drinks will be provided. We have been invited to Lil Bertalan’s home, 2165 Morrow Ave, Niskayuna. Please call Sally Clark at 377-2154 for any additional information. Please come, continuing our fellowship is important!

### **Group VII**

We will meet Friday, June 13 at 11:30am for our Annual Picnic at the home of Connie Young, 1400 Keyes Ave. Co-hostesses to be announced. Contact Ronnie Bartholic with any questions.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

Meetings are every third Tuesday of the month in the home of Connie Young. We will meet June 17 from 6pm – 8pm for a salad supper. Bring a salad to pass please. Hope to see you then.

### **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group**

We will be meeting June 26 at 9:30am at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. We welcome anyone interested in joining us. Please contact Ronnie at 393-7679 with any questions.

### **Writers Group**

A Flash Fiction critique group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Walton Conference Room. Flash Fiction is a COMPLETE story, fiction or nonfiction, written in 1,000 words or less. For more info and signups, contact James Gonda at jamesgonda63@yahoo.com or the church office.

### **At Camp Fowler**

Registration is now open for summer camp 2014! Campers are students in grades 3-12; Fowler also offers a family camp where children of all ages and parents can experience camp together. Volunteers are also needed as cabin counselors and kitchen and maintenance staff. You can find more information on the website at campfowler.org or by contacting Stacey Midge (377-2201), who will be spending the week as chaplain for the senior high campers.

### **Patty’s Place**

This drop-in center is open and providing a safe, warm place for sex workers to find resources so that they can make safer choices now, and have the referrals and support to leave prostitution when they are ready. Those who are interested in volunteering or donating to this ministry should contact Stacey Midge. Volunteers are needed to staff the center from 7-10pm on Wednesday nights. Contact Stacey Midge if you are interested. Patty’s Place also accepts donations of supplies and money. Supplies currently needed include: individual sized shampoo and conditioner, soap, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, ready to eat food items such as soup and microwave popcorn, chocolate, cans of soda (Diet Coke is in high demand,) NEW women’s socks, underwear, bras, shorts, and T-shirts. Donations can be left in Stacey’s office after church or during normal office hours. Financial contributions should be made out to SICM, with Patty’s Place in the memo line. Thank you for your support!

## Camp Fowler News

Over the last 25 years, and the last 10 in particular, Fowler has made intentional decisions that have taken into account how the world's natural systems operate. During that time they have:

Transformed the kitchen into a whole foods kitchen where almost everything is made from scratch on site. This includes using some produce from their gardens and eggs from a donated flock of chickens.

Installed composting toilets that save 250,000 to 300,000 gallons of water a year and help preserve a fragile lake ecosystem.

Taken out roads through camp and reduced excess lighting, allowing us to reclaim both the ground and the sky for our campers.

Sold organic and fair trade articles in the camp store so that others who will never hear about Camp Fowler will benefit as well.

Run a day camp program with Albany Synod churches to provide quality activities and ministry to many children, particularly in urban areas of upstate New York.

The amazing thing is what happens when we trust children enough to give them what they need rather than what culture says they want. As one former staff member put it: "There is hope in a place where children give up their iPods to watch in amazement how compost turns into vegetables."

First Reformed Church provides a limited number of \$300 scholarships to help families connected to our congregation send their kids to camp. Email Dr. Levering at [blevering@gmail.com](mailto:blevering@gmail.com) if you are interested.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Nancy Wainwright	Bill Martin, David Bundy
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Linda Witkowski	Committee Member
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Inge-Lise Pangburn, Connie Young	Joe & Theo Lovell, Peter & Diane Ontkush
<b>Greeters</b>	Ellie & Darwin Brudos	Nancy & George Davidson
<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Joyce Griggs, Margaret King, Bob Beadle, George Davidson, Joe Lovell, Linda Witkowski	Robert Dickson, Eugene Zeltmann, Amy Brule, Roberta Blackmer, Darwin Brudos, George Davidson, Cathy Lewis, Del Pierce
<b>Reader</b>	Carol Troost	Nancy Davidson
<b>Refreshments</b>	Becky Mason, Ann Hicks	Please sign up!
<b>Ushers</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher,) Linda Malgieri, Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal	Richard Davis, Gay Doolittle, Victoria McGowan-Horan, Nancy Wainwright, Kim Burgoyne, Caroline Welch

**Sunday, May 25**

10:00 am ..... Worship

10:15 am ..... Church School for K-8

11:15 am ..... Forum

5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, May 26****Office Closed****Tuesday, May 27**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer

**Wednesday, May 28**

11:00 am ..... First Things Volunteers

**Thursday, May 29**

7:30 am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch

**Friday, May 30**

8:00 pm ..... He's Coming Back Concert

**Sunday, June 1**

10:00 am ..... Worship w/Communion

10:15 am ..... Summer Church School K-2

11:00 am ..... Annual Congregational Meeting

3:00 pm ..... New Members Class

5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

“The reason it hurts so much to separate is because our souls are connected. Maybe they always have been and will be. Maybe we’ve lived a thousand lives before this one and in each of them we’ve found each other. And maybe each time, we’ve been forced apart for the same reasons. That means that this goodbye is both a goodbye for the past ten thousand years and a prelude to what will come.” – Nicholas Sparks, *The Notebook*

”Never say goodbye because goodbye means going away and going away means forgetting.” – J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan*

“Remember me and smile, for it’s better to forget than to remember me and cry.” – Dr. Seuss

“What is that feeling when you’re driving away from people and they recede on the plain till you see their specks dispersing? – it’s the too-huge world vaulting us, and it’s good-bye. But we can lean forward to the next crazy venture beneath the skies.” – Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*

“The story of life is quicker than the wink of an eye, the story of love is hello and goodbye...until we meet again.” – Jimi Hendrix

“I was trying to feel some kind of good-bye. I mean I’ve left schools and places I didn’t even know I was leaving them. I hate that. I don’t care if it’s a sad good-bye or a bad good-bye, but when I leave a place I like to know I’m leaving it. If you don’t you feel even worse.” – J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*

“I make it easier for people to leave by making them hate me a little.” – Cecelia Ahern, *The Book of Tomorrow*

“Good bye may seem forever. Farewell is like the end, but in my heart is the memory and there you will always be.” – Walt Disney Company

“You get use to someone-start to like them, even- and they leave. In the end, everyone leaves.” – Rachel Ward, *Numbers*

“Thank God I found the GOOD in goodbye.” – Beyonce Knowles