

**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 1, 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.

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 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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 1, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Susan Hale
Prelude in a Classic Style Gordon Young
Prelude and Fugue in C Major J.S. Bach
O Lord, Most Holy Cesar Franck

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

INTROIT *Choral Call* Robert Campbell

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #138
Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

*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.

CONFIRMATION

Welcome our new brother in Christ.
(*Jacob Etkin*)

Joyfully we receive you into the body of Christ. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *An Offering* Dan Forrest

FIRST LESSON Nancy Davidson
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11*(pg 234)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Acts 1:6-14* (pg 118)

SERMON *The Things We Do For Each Other*
Stacey Midge

*HYMN #326
Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

OFFERING

OFFERTORY
Bread of the World Ian Brentnall
Bread of the world in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken,
and in whose death our sins are dead.
Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
look on the tears by sinners shed,
and by thy feast to us the token
that by Thy grace our souls are fed.

Reginald Heber

*DOXOLOGY #592
Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

+ + +

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Entered Into Eternal Rest
Jane Fisher
May 26, 2014

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and
praise!**

SANCTUS (*sung in unison*) Carl Steubing

Glo - ry! Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy

COMMUNION

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 #540
God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*
Frank Cunkle

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
Sicilian Mariners

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:

Duane Anderson, Burton Delack, Beverly Fasake, Jean Hay, Julia Amelia Jackson Phillips, Alice Marcellus, Lora Marting, Marie Metcalf

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 in loving memory of Robert Bruce Crandell by Janet Crandell. 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.

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.

Faith Bookshop

Today and during the rest of the summer, the Bookshop will be open briefly before and after

most church services. In September, we will go back to our usual schedule and resume taking book orders.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5pm

Today: Nat Phipps, piano

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

June 15: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Annual Meeting, Today

Immediately following worship, there will be a meeting of the congregation for the purposes of receiving annual reports and the election of officers.

This year's Nominating Committee's slate of officers are:

Elders: Caroline Welch, Jeanne Shoulder, Adam Mason, James Gonda

Deacons: Dave Hjelmar

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: 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.

June 15: Father's Day – Perspectives on Caring for Society and Creation, Justice Action Council Congregational Care Commission Update, Joe Doolittle and Craig Kominoski

Prospective Member Class Today

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 today and on the first Sundays of October through February.

JH&SH Youth Schedule

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

Sunday School Schedule Changes

Today – 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!

Post Service Summer Refreshments

Starting today, 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 8**.

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, Lights. Camera. Jesus! will not meet on the first Tuesday of June.

Kerygma Conversations Delay Notice

The monthly gathering has been postponed a week to this 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 17th, but was cancelled due to bad weather, and we have been able to reschedule for June 7.

Interfaith Pride Service and Reception

Members of the community are invited to join Advocates for Welcoming Congregations (AWC) for an Interfaith Service and Reception on Sunday, June 8 from 4pm-6pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Albany.

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. All members will be called. Contact Ronnie Bartholic with any questions.

Capital Pride Parade Saturday, June 14, 12pm, Washington Park, Albany

Once again, area RCA church members are invited to walk together in the Capital Pride Parade. The invitation comes from Room for All and FRC's Justice Action Council. All are invited to walk. The parade begins at 12pm; FRC Team. Reservations are suggested by calling Gay Doolittle, 399-4099; who is organizing the connection with the Room for All/RCA group in the parade line that morning. Ride share will be available.

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.

Camp Fowler Summer Camp

We will be providing volunteers for the Camp Fowler Day Camp at Steinmetz Park from July 28-August 1. We are especially in need of volunteers who are available to be there all week as “cabin counselors” from about 8am – 4pm, to spend time with the same group of campers throughout the week. No previous camping experience necessary, just a willingness to build positive relationships with children. A sign-up sheet is available in Assembly Hall.

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.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Bill Martin, David Bundy	Fred Daniels, Therese McCarty
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Flower Delivery	Joe & Theo Lovell, Peter & Diane Ontkush	Robert & Joan Crandall, Bill & Nancy Martin
Greeters	Nancy & George Davidson	Ellie & Darwin Brudos
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Robert Dickson, Eugene Zeltmann, Amy Brule, Roberta Blackmer, Darwin Brudos, George Davidson, Cathy Lewis, Del Pierce	Keith Muse, Barbara Walton, Gay Doolittle, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Joe Lovell
Reader	Nancy Davidson	Therese McCarty
Refreshments	Joan Crandall, Gay Doolittle	Please sign up!
Offertory Deacons/Ushers	Richard Davis, Gay Doolittle, Victoria McGowan-Horan, Nancy Wainwright, Kim Burgoyne, Caroline Welch	Tom Burgoyne (head usher,) David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Chris Langdon

Sunday, June 1

10:00 am Worship w/Communion
 10:15 am Summer Church School for K-2
 11:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting
 3:00 pm New Members Class
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, June 2

9:00 am Men's Newsgroup
 6:45 pm Yoga
 7:00 pm Klokken Ringers

Tuesday, June 3

10:00 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday, June 4

9:30 am Summer Kerygma Conversations

Thursday, June 5

7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch

Friday, June 6

6:00 pm Different Way in Reading
 Graduation

Sunday, June 8, Pentecost

10:00 am Worship,
 10:15 am Summer Church School K-8
 11:15 am Forum
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

“People who care about each other enjoy doing things for one another. They don't consider it servitude.” – Ann Landers

“To have joy one must share it. Happiness was born a twin.” – Lord Byron

“One can acquire everything in solitude except character.” – Stendhal, Five Short Novels of Stendhal

“Heroes didn't leap tall buildings or stop bullets with an outstretched hand; they didn't wear boots and capes. They bled, and they bruised, and their superpowers were as simple as listening, or loving. Heroes were ordinary people who knew that even if their own lives were impossibly knotted, they could untangle someone else's. And maybe that one act could lead someone to rescue you right back.” – Jodi Picoult, Second Glance

“Tolerance, compromise, understanding, acceptance, patience – I want those all to be very sharp tools in my shed.” – Cee Lo Green

“Even the smallest act of caring for another person is like a drop of water – it will make ripples throughout the entire pond...” – Jessy and Bryan Matteo

“What is hard work? It takes strength, energy, and stress to truly care about others enough to place oneself last, but it is easy to wrap oneself up and selfishly scramble on the heads of others.” – Criss Jami