

**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.

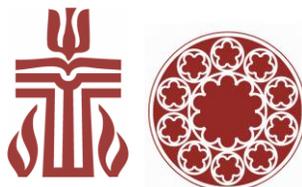


**“The dove descending breaks the air
With flame of incandescent terror
Of which the tongues declare
The one discharge from sin and error.
The only hope, or else despair
Lies in the choice of pyre or pyre-
To be redeemed from fire by fire.**

**Who then devised the torment? Love.
Love is the unfamiliar Name
Behind the hands that wove
The intolerable shirt of flame
Which human power cannot remove.
We only live, only suspire
Consumed by either fire or fire.”**

~ T.S. Eliot, Four Quartets

June 8, 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.

Pentecost

June 8, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Naphtali Rothrock
Fugue and Variation Cesar Franck

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 *Send Us Your Spirit* David Haas

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #128
On Pentecost They Gathered

*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.

RECEPTION OF CONFESSING MEMBERS
Jeremy Bork, Dale & Norma Brown, Karen Giuzio, James & Karen Gonda, Michael Jablon, Ralph Rosenthal, Maxine Sherrill, Ernestine Stevenson, Gerald & Kaye Wergedal

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES OF CONFESSING MEMBERS

*PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

*BLESSING AND WELCOME
We are ambassadors for Christ.
We are the salt of the earth;
we are the light of the world.
Welcome our sisters and brothers in Christ.
Joyfully we receive you. 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 *African Spirit Song* Hal Hopson
Andy Janack, conga

Holy Spirit, come in wind and fire,
dwell within our hearts, our souls now inspire.
Come in all you love and mighty power.
Spirit, Spirit come down,
Yesa Moya, O yitwehle, Kosi sikelela, Tsi-na, lusafa layo.
(Come, Spirit, come. Lord, bless us; us, your children.)

us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #131
Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen*

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:

Jean Bundy, William Dotter, Mandalay Grems, Helen P. Lindsay, Jocelyn Mathes, Edwards Murray

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 Bill Dotter by his wife and children. 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.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5pm

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

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

June 22: Scott Bassinson, piano; Bill Delaney, 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 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: Perspectives on Caring for Society and Creation, Justice Action Council & Creation Care Commission Update, Joe Doolittle and Craig Kominoski

June 22: Perspectives on Caring for the City – Introduction of New Lunn Cooperative Director, Cameron Van Kooten

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.

Sunday School Schedule Changes

Summer Schedule: 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

Over the summer 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 15**.

Interfaith Pride Service & Reception Today

Members of the community are invited to join Advocates for Welcoming Congregations (AWC) for an Interfaith Service and Reception at the First Presbyterian Church of Albany. The service will be facilitated by Rev. Moonhawk River Stone, an Interfaith Minister in Schenectady and Alden (Joe) Doolittle, member of Reformed Church of Schenectady and Room for All. They will be joined by a cross-section of faith leaders participating, including Rabbi Nomi Manon, and our own Covenanter Jeremy Bork! The service will celebrate progress in our community and include music, readings, and shared stories. For more information, contact Joe Doolittle at 384-1700 or aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com.

Circle Meeting June 11

All women are invited to share our year-end picnic on Wednesday, 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.

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. Ride share will be available.

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.

Nijkerk Supper and Concert

The Schenectady/Nijkerk Council is bringing international performers, Dutch folksingers and musicians Ankie, Nanne and Tseard to FRC on June 25. We will have a potluck supper in Assembly Hall at 6pm, please bring a dish to share. There is a free-will offering. Any questions, contact Laura Lee Linder, 882-6866.

Mid-month Evening Meal & Worship

All those who hunger for good food and table fellowship are invited to bring something to share on Wednesday, June 18 at 6pm in Assembly Hall. This will be the first of this summer's pot-luck dinners (also July 16 and August 13.) Following

dinner and cleanup will be a contemplative communion service in Poling Chapel at 7pm for all who wish to conclude the evening with reflective and re-centering worship of God. Those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson.

Stephen Ministry Picnic

For all active and inactive Stephen Ministers and their spouses. June 19, 6pm, 1229 Viewmont Dr., Maria Todd’s Niskayuna home. Bring food and something to drink. (salads, appetizers, and anything else you wish to eat.) What you bring is what we will have to eat! Call the church office or sign up in Assembly Hall to make a reservation and tell us what you will be bringing.

21st Annual Strawberry Festival

The Kanatsiohareke Mohawk Community will be holding their annual strawberry festival June 28-29, 10am-6pm. Adults: \$5, Seniors & youth under 12: \$3, under 5: free. Questions, contact Laura Lee Linder, 882-6866.

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	Fred Daniels, Therese McCarty	Kim Burgoyne, Joan Lindsay
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Flower Delivery	Bill & Nancy Martin	George & Nancy Davidson, Carol DeLaMarter
Greeters	Ellie & Darwin Brudos	Nancy & George Davidson
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Keith Muse, Barbara Walton, Darwin Brudos, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Joe Lovell	Margaret King, Marilyn Leach, Bob Beadle, George Davidson, Tom Lindsay, Kate Rose
Reader	Therese McCarty	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes
Refreshments		Please sign up!
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne (head usher,) David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Chris Langdon	Bill Clock (head usher,) Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins

Sunday, June 8

- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Summer Church School for K-8
- 11:15 am Forum
- 12:00 pm Membership Committee
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, June 9

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

Tuesday, June 10

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer
- 6:00 pm Archives
- 6:30 pm Standing Committees
- 7:30 pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday, June 11

- 1:00 pm Archives

Thursday, June 12

- 7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch

Sunday, June 15

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

“You will do foolish things, but do them with enthusiasm.” – Colette

“I began to realize how important it was to be an enthusiast in life. He taught me that if you are interested in something, no matter what it is, go at it at full speed ahead. Embrace it with both arms, hug it, love it and above all become passionate about it. Lukewarm is no good. Hot is no good either. White hot and passionate is the only thing to be.” – Roald Dahl, My Uncle Oswald

“Protect your enthusiasm from the negativity and fear of others. Never decide to do nothing just because you can only do little. Do what you can. You would be surprised at what “little” acts have done for our world.” – Steve Maraboli

“It's faith in something and enthusiasm for something that makes a life worth living.” – Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.

“We are now in the mountains and they are in us, kindling enthusiasm, making every nerve quiver, every pore and cell of us.” – John Muir, My First Summer in the Sierra

“I'm more interested in arousing enthusiasm in kids than in teaching the facts. The facts may change, but that enthusiasm for exploring the world will remain with them the rest of their lives.” – Seymour Simon

“Enthusiasm is a supernatural serenity.” – Henry David Thoreau

“Enthusiasm spells the difference between mediocrity and accomplishment.” – Norman Vincent Peale

“Now that I think about it, it seems to me that's what Idiocy is: the ability to be enthusiastic all the time about anything you like, so that a drawing on the wall does not have to be diminished by the memory of the frescoes of Giotto in Padua.” – Julio Cortazar