

**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 20, 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 after Pentecost**

July 20, 2014

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

*Fukuzatsu Na Yama (Complicated Mountain)*

Bob Ridgway  
Hiroshi Hirokawa

*Ancient Awareness*

Music: Bob Ridgway

Lyrics: Hildegard von Bingen

*God's Lighthouse* Bob Ridgway

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

#476

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O God, you know us completely. You know how we have failed to both love you above all others, and love our neighbors as ourselves. You know how we have failed to be faithful members of Christ's body. You know how we have failed to expect, embrace and employ your Spirit's gifts for the common good. O God, in your complete knowing and unfailing love, forgive us, we pray.

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

*Our Song of Hope*

The Holy Spirit builds one church,  
united in one Lord and hope,  
with one ministry around one table.  
The Spirit calls all believers in Jesus to  
respond in worship together,  
to accept all the gifts from the Spirit,  
to learn from each other's traditions,  
to make unity visible on earth.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Bob Ridgway  
Rich Kurrasch

*Cold War (One Seed at a Time)*

Planting seeds slowly deliberately,  
One seed at a time.

Knowing full well that one day,  
Fruit will ripen on the vine.

But as I plant my seeds I realize,  
As visions slowly form before my eyes.

Like winter's early snow, we have a way to go.  
The mountain looks high, but I climb.

Keep seeing, but not seeing.

Knowing but now knowing why.

Keep trusting while still questioning.

Though nothing in the world seems quite right  
Our faith will show us the light.

Whatever is true, whatever is honorable,  
It matters how I choose to live my life.

Whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing,  
The gift of love and hope and freedom fly.

If there really is excellence.

If there's anything worthy of praise.

Like winter's early snow, we have a way to go.  
The mountain looks high, but I climb.

But if the missiles go up they will come down,  
they will come down.

Keep the missiles from going up.

Planting seeds slowly deliberately,  
One seed at a time.

Philippians 4:8

FIRST LESSON Carol Troost  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.** *Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 (pg 577)*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON  
*Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (pg 13)*

SERMON *Beware of Birds* Stacey Midge

\*HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* #358

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Journey Day* Bob Ridgway

Dual reflection, a sign of grace,  
with full intensity in this place.  
So much learned, still so little known.  
Thank God for memories shining through it all.

Another Journey Day,  
mostly feels alright by me  
Another Journey Day,  
Lord please help make it right by you.

(As I journey home,  
Lord please help make me right for you.)

Even more determined, though don't know why  
Through mid-winter silence, a cold-cold sky.  
Hope and prayers, echoing peace,  
Listening carefully to a voice in need.

A glimpse of your beauty  
is there to behold.  
Birds drift through the valley  
of snow-tipped evergreens.  
Your wisdom stretches  
through boundless creation.  
A touch of your love passing through me.

\*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.

\*HYMN *Though I May Speak* #335

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners  
*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

+ + +

## Summer Church School is ON!

After the children's message we will gather at  
Kinderwyck where it is air conditioned and close  
to the after-worship goodies! We are looking to  
become a little more Bible savvy so we will play  
"5 Questions" each week with interactive  
learning (drama, music, art, games, etc.,)  
Everyone gets smart! We need one or two helpers  
(18 yrs+) to keep the program running. Call  
Jamie if you are available even for just one week,  
399-6848.

## 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:

*George Feiker, Richard Gordon, Marvin  
Humphrey*

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 Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

**Music Notes:** *Halle, Halle, Halle*, words: traditional liturgical; music: Caribbean; arr. John L Bell, 1990 WGRG, Iona Community, GIA Pub. Inc. All rights reserved. One License #A-700700

*Fukuzatsu Na Yama:* A prayer song written in 2010 while Bob lived in Hiroshima.

Translation: I live on a complicated mountain, but a simple valley is what I want.

In the evening when praying before I go to sleep, I find God's peace.

In the morning, I sometimes find answers and pray again to do the right thing.

Every day is a new challenge between work, family and purpose for the day.

I miss the ones I love the most and want to return to them.

*Cold War (One Seed at a Time):* Written in 1996 based on a sermon by Rich Kurrasch about defusing the Cold War.

*Journey Day:* A prayer song written in 2014 for God's guidance with personal and professional challenges exacerbated by a long-cold winter.

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

**Today:** Mike Lamkin, piano; Linda Brown, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**July 27:** Dave Gleason, piano, Tom D'Andrea, drums

**August 3:** Nat Phipps, piano, Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

### **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.

### **Summer Biking Frolic Today!**

Pack a picnic lunch, peddle down to church, lock-up on our sturdy front fence, worship, and then join cyclists of all sorts for a relaxed ride after service today! Leaving from church, we'll ride west on the Mohawk Hudson Bikeway for 5.5 miles, stopping at Rotterdam Kiwanis' Park along the river for leisurely lunch, before returning the way we came. A longer bike hike to the east is being considered for a Sunday in August; for more details contact Daniel Carlson.

### **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 **July 27**.

### **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.

### **Farewell for Jeremy Bork Next Sunday**

We will bid farewell to our Covenanter and student under care, Jeremy Bork, with a reception after worship on July 27. Have some cake, thank him for his service with us in the last year, and wish him well as he goes to pursue a Master of Divinity at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations**

If you are interested in meeting up with other members to discuss whatever is currently of interest to you (e.g., an experience, event, book, movie, trip, issue) then you are invited to join us for a leisurely yet engaging conversation, 9:30 – 11am, Wednesday, July 30 in the Dirck Romeyn room (also to be held August 27.) No preregistration required; those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson.

### **Fowler Summer Camp in Schenectady**

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.

### **Donations Needed for Camp Steinmetz**

We will be collecting donations for the children at Camp Steinmetz. Here is the list of needed items: 4 square and playground balls, basketball, volleyball (balls and net,) lots of sidewalk chalk, gator balls (these are balls that you can throw at each other but not hurt each other,) pool noodles, poly spots (ways of marking the ground, think “paper plates” but durable, hula hoops, playing cards, bandanas, frisbees, tennis balls, ping pong balls, bubbles, jump ropes, tie dye (dye, rubber bands, soda ash,) paper (construction and white,) markers, crayons, glue, scissors, paint, paint brushes, boondoggle, supplies to make ice cream, musical instruments appropriate for campers. The donations can be brought to the church office for Stacey Midge. Thank you!

### **Camp Fowler Celebrating 60 years!**

Come join in celebrating 60 years of Camp Fowler history on Saturday, August 2, 2014. From 2-4pm, bring your family and friends to the beach and swim, canoe, and kayak. From 4-6pm, enjoy a delicious Clements’ Old Fashion Chicken BBQ fundraiser. Dinners are \$10 each. Reservations are encouraged. Starting at 7pm, in the Chapel, The Sacandaga String Band (under the direction of Jordan White,) play a Fowler-Benefit Concert. Freewill offering is prior to intermission. You are welcome to attend all, or any portion, of these events. Registration is due by July 31. Any questions, contact Jen Kenneally at [jakenneally@aol.com](mailto:jakenneally@aol.com) or 399-9032.

### **Summer VBS!**

Children ages 5-95 are invited to attend “Spy School-VBS” August 4-8 from 3-5pm. Students will learn to decode and encode Bible verses. There will be psalm writing with invisible ink. We will speculate on what God’s fingerprints look like while we examine our own. All will become masters of disguise dressing up as our favorite Bible characters. God will be uncovered in amazing places! Healthy snacks each day! Fun guaranteed for all! Please call the church office at 377-2201 to reserve your spot. Helpers are always needed! Call Jamie at 399-6848 to volunteer.

### **Senior Recital**

Olivia Cox will be presenting her Senior Recital at First Reformed Church in Poling Chapel on Friday, August 15 at 6pm. All are welcome!

### **SICM Summer Lunch Program**

Our joint congregations have responsibility for five weeks of the SICM Summer Lunch Program this year. Volunteers are needed! A sign-up sheet is available in Assembly Hall for the following dates: July 28-August 1, August 4-8, August 11-15, August 18-22, and August 25-29.

As volunteers, we provide a valuable service for the children of Schenectady which requires a commitment of less than two hours each day. Please check the list and sign-up for as many

dates as you are available. If you have questions, contact Ellie Rowland, 250-4302.

### At Camp Fowler in Speculator

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](http://campfowler.org) or by contacting Stacey Midge (377-2201), who will be spending the week as chaplain for the senior high campers.

### Upcoming HFP Sales

Antiques & Collectibles at the Washington County Fairgrounds, off Rte. 29 between Schuylerville & Greenwich. Saturday, August 2, 8am – 5pm. Sunday, August 3, 9am – 4pm. Admission fee is \$3. Make a day of it!

“COW” Sale at Stanford Methodist Church, corner of Consaul Rd. and State St.. Friday, August 8 & Saturday, August 9 from 9am – 1pm. Also a \$3 bag sale on Saturday from 11am – 1pm. Help us clean out the warehouse!

Sale at the “Little Italy” FESTA, in the Rossi-DeToro funeral home parking lot, Saturday, September 6, 10am – 3pm.

All sales support our operating budget and help us to help others!

### HFP Needs of the Month

Furniture: bunk & trundle beds, room fans.

Furnishings: dish & hand towels, washcloths, juice glasses, spatulas, stirring spoons.

As Always: pots & pans, especially frying pans, large pots.

Call Jamie Doriguzzi, Program Coordinator, 346-2444, to arrange for pick-up or warehouse drop-off of useful items or email us at [homefurninc@aol.com](mailto:homefurninc@aol.com).

### Kinderwyck

We are looking for helping hands and arms to play with toddlers and rock babies from 9:50-noon each Sunday. Please call the church office if you are willing and able to help with this vital ministry.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Rebecca Grande, Joan Lindsay	Fred Daniels, Christine Daniels
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Karen Gonda, Virginia Laumeister	Mary Jane Fisher, Lois Stickney
<b>Greeters</b>	Tom & Joan Lindsay	George & Nancy Davidson
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Stacey Midge	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Amy Brule, Elizabeth Mastrianni, Darwin Brudos, Wayne Brule, Gay Doolittle, Ron Lindsay	Jeanne Shoulder, Joyce Griggs, Robert Dickson, Jeanette Davidson, Jerry Griggs, Linda Witkowski
<b>Reader</b>	Carol Troost	Chris Fernandes
<b>Refreshments</b>	James & Karen Gonda	Please sign up!
<b>Ushers</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher,) Linda Malgieri, Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justin Ochal	Tom Burgoyne (head usher,) David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Chris Langdon

**Sunday, July 20**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
10:15 am ..... Summer Church School for K-8  
11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
11:30 am ..... Bike Frolic  
5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, July 21**

9:00 am ..... Men's Newsgroup

**Tuesday, July 22**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer

**Wednesday, July 23**

7:00 pm ..... Writers Group

**Sunday, July 27**

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

“God, how we get our fingers in each other's clay. That's friendship, each playing the potter to see what shapes we can make of each other.” – Ray Bradbury

“Don't walk in my head with your dirty feet.” – Leo Buscaglia

“We never know which lives we influence, or when, or why.” – Stephen King

“Don't be a pepper on the eyes of people; rather be the salt on their tongue and make a difference that influences their sense of belonging to the earth.” – Israelmore Ayivor

“Both friend and enemy reside with us. One lives by the rule of compassion, the other by the rule of hard knocks. Though potential influence of either extreme is inevitable, our actions bear witness to the one we embrace.” – T.F. Hodge

“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

“When you choose your friends, don't be short-changed by choosing personality over character.” – W. Somerset Maugham