

**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.



“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*

August 10, 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.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Naphtali Rothrock
Prelude & Fugue in F Major J.S. Bach
Prelude & Fugue in C Major J.S. Bach

10:00 a.m.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Lynne Gilgore

*HYMN #483
Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

Gracious and merciful God, we thank you for placing us in the covenant relationships with friends, families and fellow disciples. Forgive us when we take our vows and responsibilities to them lightly. Forgive us for misdirected priorities and careless words that wound. Redirect us when we fail to make time for nurturing relationships. Help us to love and to serve you more every day, to cherish and protect those you have given us to live with, and to love as you have loved us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*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*)

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

MUSICAL OFFERING *Wade in the Water*
Traditional Spiritual

FIRST LESSON Jim Miller
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Psalm 133 (pg 575)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Mark 2:1-12 (pg 36)*

SERMON Lynne Gilgore
You, Yew or Ewe:
How Do You U Hear the Gospel?

*HYMN *Just as I Am, Without One Plea* #370

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Kate & Rachel Rose
The Lord Never Closes His Eyes
David Angerman

The Lord watches over me day and night:
never a moment when I'm out of his sight.
Shining forever, his love burning bright,
he keeps me safe and surrounds me with light.

The good shepherd never loses his lambs;
there is no fear of danger when I'm in his hands.
He's my keeper, protector, he is gentle and wise.
The Lord never closes his eyes.

He watches the gate, making sure it's closed to keep out the wolves that are dressed in sheep's clothes.
He cannot be fooled by a clever disguise.
The Lord never closes his eyes.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* #403

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert & Helen Lindsay from Tom & Joan Lindsay, and in loving memory of Lorraine Ebeling from Elyne Schulte & Scott Ebeling. As a symbol of our care, each Sunday the flowers are delivered to members of FRC or UPC who are not able to join us here.

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Leonard B. Vandenberg

July 27, 2014

A service will be held August 24, 2pm.

Robert Templeton

August 2, 2014

A service was held August 9.

Charles Richard VanWie

August 4, 2014

A service will be held August 17, 2pm.

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:

Marjorie Burke, Miriam Carreker, Lorraine Ebeling, Claribel Westcott Linder, Helen Huff Lord, James A. Ramsey, Linda Richards, John Senn

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.

Musical Note: *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.

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.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5pm

Today: Azzaam Hameed, piano

August 17: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

August 24: TBA

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.

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.

Mid-month Evening Meal & Worship

All those who hunger for good food and table fellowship are invited to bring something edible to share on Wednesday, August 13 at 6pm in Assembly Hall. Following dinner and clean-up a contemplative communion service will be held in Poling Chapel at 7 for all who wish to conclude the evening with reflective and re-centering worship of God. Those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson.

Senior Recital

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

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 **Aug. 17**.

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, August 27 in the Dirck Romeyn room. No preregistration required; those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson.

SICM School Supplies

SICM is collecting school supplies and will continue through the end of August. We hope you will take advantage of those back-to-school sales! All donations can be brought to the SICM business office at 1055 Wendell Ave. or brought to the church office for Stacey Midge. Any questions, you may call 374-2683. Thank you!

Horizons Bible Study Material

Our study for the fall is "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians." We will be resuming in September, however, study guides are now available in the church office for \$8 for anyone interested.

Upcoming Home Furnishings Program Sales
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!

Home Furnishings Program Needs

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 homefurninc@aol.com.

Fall Picnic September 7

All are invited to stay after worship for a time of food and fellowship at our annual fall picnic! Hamburgers from the grass-fed cows of Buckley Farm will be provided, in addition to hot dogs, veggie burgers, and drinks. In an effort to promote sustainable and healthy farming and feasting those attending are encouraged to use locally-grown and/or made products in the food they prepare; everyone should bring something to share. Volunteers are needed for set up before the picnic and break down/clean up after the picnic. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Nancy Wainwright, 377-3573, or the church office, 377-2201 or 1streformedpub@gmail.com. There is also a sign-up sheet available in Assembly Hall.

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.

54th Stockade Walkabout

Plans are underway for September 27, 2014 from 11am – 5pm, and we are looking for volunteers. Will you help welcome visitors to FRC that day? Have you an activity, program, display, or such, for people to do or see as they tour FRC? If you have any questions or wish to sign up to volunteer, you may contact Laura Lee Linder, 882-6866. We are also looking for volunteers to help bake pastries for Saturday's event on Friday, September 26. If you would like to sign-up, you may contact Mary Jewett, 355-8059.

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. 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!

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Caroline Welch, Christine Daniels	Nancy Wainwright, Rebecca Grande
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Flower Delivery	Rob & Karen Dickson, Linda Witkowski	Joan & Tom Lindsay, Vickie & Mike Horan
Greeters	Gay Doolittle, Nancy Davidson	Ellie & Gene Rowland
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Preacher	Lynne Gilgore	Paula Gravelle
Processing Elders	Mary Jewett, Rob Dickson, Ronnie Bartholic, Ron Lindsay, Jean Lindsay, Linda Witkowski	Adam Mason, Ronnie Bartholic, Darwin Brudos, Jeanette Davidson, Amy Brule, Wayne Brule, Tom Lindsay
Reader	Jim Miller	Amy Brule
Refreshments	Ellie & Gene Rowland	Please sign up!
Ushers	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins	Del Pierce (head usher), Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson, Michael Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Carol Troost

Sunday, August 10

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

Monday, August 11

- 9:00 am Men's Newsgroup

Tuesday, August 12

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer
- 6:00 pm Archives

Wednesday, August 13

- 1:00 pm Archives
- 6:00 pm Midmonth Evening Meal
- 7:00 pm Midmonth Evening Worship
- 7:00 pm Writers Group

Friday, August 15, 2014

- 6 pm Olivia Cox Recital

Sunday, August 17

- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Summer Church School K-8
- 2:00 pm VanWie Memorial Service
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

“Healing is impossible in loneliness; it is the opposite of loneliness. Conviviality is healing. To be healed we must come with all the other creatures to the feast of Creation.” – Wendell Berry, *The Art of Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays*

“What should young people do with their lives today? Many things, obviously. But the most daring this is to create stable communities in which the terrible disease of loneliness can be cured.” – Kurt Vonnegut, *Palm Sunday: An Autobiographical Collage*

“We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community.” – Dorothy Day, *The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of the Legendary Catholic Social Activist*

“Community is a sign that love is possible in a materialistic world where people so often either ignore or fight each other. It is a sign that we don't need a lot of money to be happy—in fact, the opposite.” – Jean Vanier, *Community And Growth*

“No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were: any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee.” – John Donne, *No Man Is An Island*