



The Church Bell

The First Reformed
Church
Walden, New York

Volume 60, Issue 5
Sept-Oct 2016

Pastor's Message:

Farming teaches many lessons. One of the first is that you get what you plant. Sounds simple enough but it is amazing how many people expect fruit that they never planted. There are people who think they should be able to play a game of golf under 90 strokes when they don't practice and only play once a year. Others believe that they can sit down at a piano and like a pro without lessons. The seeds we plant, the effort we exert, the investments we make determine the fruit we will produce. If we put trash into our daily life, we will most likely get trash back at the end of our days.

One of the fruit of the Spirit (and spiritual gifts) is giving. It is an often overlooked and under used gift and spiritual discipline. Like farming you get out of faith what you invest in it. Perhaps this is why Jesus talked about money in so many of his parables. One statement credited to our Lord is, "Where your treasure is there also will be your heart." Investing yourself in the life of the church, the body of Christ, comes in many different forms: worship, prayer, service, discipleship, mission, sharing and of course financial. All of these help us become well rounded followers of Jesus Christ.

Spiritual discipline requires discipline, which may sound like an over simplification. But discipline requires planning and follow through. You don't just wake up one morning and start exercising at the level you want to be at. You start small and gradually build up to where you want to be and where you think God wants you to be. You will need to make changes in your life to accommodate and maintain a new level of Spiritual engagement. You will have to set aside space in your life, time, money, and attention.

In October the Deacons will be asking you to consider pledging, making a guess at your financial contribution to the church for 2017. You may be like most folks who give based on what they have left over after all their expenses. In the Old Testament, the law was that the faithful were to give 10% of what they grew or the first fruits of their labors. This has come to be known as a tithe. For us today this is not a requirement for us to be loved by God. That said, most people who do tithe discover the blessing of always having enough and a sense of deep connection to the people and mission of the church.

If you have never tithed or pledged, you may want to try moving toward a pledge of 10% by increasing your giving by 2%. So if in 2016 your giving is \$10 per week you would increase your giving by 20 cents; if you give at \$100 per week you increase by \$2. This doesn't require much of a change. Another way of looking at pledging is that if your income is \$30,000 for the year a tithe would be \$3,000 for the year or about \$58 per week or \$250 per month.

The most important thing to do before you make a commitment like this is to pray about it and ask God to direct you. It might be you are giving all you can. If that is the case God bless you. But praying before you make a pledge will guide you and help you appreciate that our tithes and gifts deepen our relationship with the body of Christ we call First Reformed Church. You will hear more about this over the weeks ahead so start praying now, start looking at how you are invested in Christ. You reap what you sow.

Thank you, Pastor Jim

Sundays
10:00 AM
Worship

11:00 AM
Fellowship
(Starts Sept 11th)

Soup & Bread (Starts Oct. 2nd)
(1st Sunday of each month)

Tuesdays
7:00 PM
Praise Team Rehearsal
7:30 PM
Chancel Choir Practice
(Regular practice begins Sept 13th)

Wednesdays
5:45 PM
Packing For Snack Attack
(Sept 14th packing begins)

Saturday
7:30 AM
Men's Breakfast

Dinner & short rehearsal
for Choir members
@ Bunnie Reichle's house
September 8th

Youth Group Registration
September 9th
6:00pm to 7:30pm
September 10th
6:30pm to 8:00pm

Church Property Clean-up
Inside & Outside, 9am
September 10th

Second Sunday Children's
Mission Project
September 11th

Crop Walk Fundraising
Event
October 16th

Harvest Fest/Chili
Cook-off
October 31st



The Music Corner

It is September and our church music year gets back into high gear.

Adult (Chancel) Choir will open this year of singing with supper on Thursday, September 8th at 6:30 PM at Bunnie Reichle's home. A short rehearsal will follow so we will be ready to sing on September 11th. New members are always welcome. You do not need to be a great singer or be able to read music. Just want to share your gift! Our regular rehearsal schedule will be on Tuesday evenings from 7:30-8:30 PM starting on September 13th. As you can see from the calendar, Tuesday evenings are devoted to our music ministries with Praise Team rehearsing at 7:00 PM.

A huge thanks to all of those who provided special music over the summer. Anyone else who wishes to share their talents may contact Glenn Davis. At least one week's notice is necessary to schedule special music. Keep all of our music ministries in your prayers.

If you ever have any music requests, feel free to speak with any member of the Worship Team: John Nash, Bunnie Reichle, Joe Weikel, Michelle Jacobsen, Nate Smith, Glenn Davis.

See you at Sunday Worship!

Submitted by, *Bunnie Reichle*

Souper Sunday on the Hill



The first Sunday of every month is Communion and following church service downstairs in Fellowship Hall, from October to May, is Souper Sunday. The kick-off of Souper-Sunday will be on **October 2nd**. Please bring a crock-pot of soup to share. It is a yummy way to fellowship on the Hill.

We will also celebrate birthdays of the month with a cake or cupcakes.

Walk Through the Budget

All those interested in learning a little bit more about the churches budget are welcome to spend an hour with the finance team on October 27th at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you, Susan Kennedy



Website

We are asking all team leaders and interested individuals to send any pictures or articles they would like posted on the churches website.

Please send to Susan Kennedy skennedy120@hotmail.com or the church office...

Thank you, Susan Kennedy

The people of Louisiana need your help



Flooding in Louisiana has damaged over 40,000 homes.

More than 20,000 people have already had to leave their homes because of it. To make matters worse, the state is still trying to recover from the damage caused by floods this spring.

Basically, the situation is devastating. But you can help. Here's how:

Pray for the people whose lives have been turned upside-down by this flooding. Pray that they will feel the love of God and be encouraged as they journey through this hard time.

Give to homeowners who need your help to rebuild their homes and lives. Many of them don't have flood insurance, and the cost of recovery is going to be overwhelming. Would you consider taking a special offering this Sunday to ease the burden? Or you can give right now by going to <https://www.rca.org/give/louisiana-floods>.

Go to the most impacted areas. If you have a team that is willing to volunteer in Louisiana and can do so on short notice, please email our coordinator for Volunteer Engagement, Stephanie Soderstrom, at ssoderstrom@rca.org.

If you have any questions about what your congregation can do to help the people of Louisiana out, please do not hesitate to call me (616-541-0892).

These situations can change fast. Our disaster response partner, World Renew Disaster Response Services, will be on the ground in Louisiana next week to evaluate the immediate and long-term needs in the impacted communities. We are working with them to stay on top of the situation in Louisiana so that we can keep you informed of the most urgent needs. With your help, we can begin to meet those needs and show the love of Christ to the people of Louisiana.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ to those in need!

Scott Engelsman

P.S. If you'd like to mail a contribution, you can send your check with "Louisiana Flooding" noted on the memo line to Reformed Church in America, 4500 60th St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512 or, in Canada, to Regional Synod of Canada, 201 Paradise Rd. N., Hamilton, ON L8S 3T3.

Vacation Bible School

VBS 2016 took place August 8-12 and the theme was "Ocean Commotion". The children learned to Stand for God, Obey God, Trust God, Thank God, and Fear (Revere) God. There were 23 children registered with several more assisting in other ways - part of the 40 volunteers who gave their time and talent in so many ways. Although it was really hot we had incredible lessons, music, games, crafts, and meals every night, including a water balloon extravaganza that cooled off staff and students alike on a 100 degree night.

Leaders were Ernie and Cindi Davis, with help from Pastor Jim O'Connell. Teachers were Jennifer Wilson-Franco (nursery), Lucy, Arrienne, and Isabela Santana (pre-primary), Isabel Jacobsen (primary), and Phyllis O'Connell (juniors). John, Dan, Matt, and Kevin Harrington designed and built the main sets and families were greeted by Betty Cocks, Adele Davis, and Bill Freeman.

Michelle, Morgan, and Ethan Jacobsen, Joe Weikel, Glenn Davis, Sonia Wesenberg, and Dave Blasch provided the music, Annalise Cardish and Brianna Lambro led craft activities, and Lee Wilson and Billy Hughes were in charge of games. The kitchen crew was Carol Ann Freeman, Jane Hughes, and Valeria Weingartner. Doug Hughes and John Nash provided additional support, Bunnie Reichle made incredible decorative Ocean Commotion centerpieces, Jen Crist-Kohn brought apples and Susan and Ed Kennedy provided a hot meal.

Dominic and Judy Bonasio helped with decorations and nightly support, Debbie DeZemo was our prayer warrior, and Angel Santana, Jr. took photos and videos and created an amazing slide show for the last night and church on Sunday.

Over 60 individuals were blessed with this program! We came in under budget with all expenses covered by an RCA grant and anonymous donations. Children brought in supplies and over-filled a box for Operation Shoe box! Thank you to everyone for your support. God bless, looking forward to 2017!

In His Service, *Ernie and Cindi Davis*, VBS Co-Directors



SEMPTEMBER HYMN OF THE MONTH

Make Me a Captive, Lord

Words (Matheson, George) Music (Hustad, Donald P.)



George Matheson, a blind Scottish pastor, penned this very interesting interpretation of Ephesians 3:1, “Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ.” Under the title Christian Freedom,” he presents a series of paradoxes centering in that of the very first phase, which in turn is related to the beginning of a historic prayer in the Church of England, “O God...whose service is perfect freedom...” It is a common paradox in Christian thought found, for example, in John Doone’s Holy Sonnet XIV: “Take me to you, imprison me, for I, except you enthrall me, never shall be free...”

Donal P. Hustad, general editor of this hymnal, wrote this tune for these words called it PARADOXY because of the nature of the text.

This is an intense expression of dedication to God and is best used at a time of sober reflection on what it means to be a “bond servant” disciple of Christ (Romans 1:1) Because of the studied nature of each line, the worship leader or the entire congregation should read the hymn aloud before singing it.

*Make me a captive, Lord, and then I shall be free;
force me to render up my sword, and I shall conqueror be.
I sink in life's alarms when by myself I stand;
imprison me within thine arms, and strong shall be my hand.*

*My heart is weak and poor until it master find;
it has no spring of action sure, it varies with the wind.
It cannot freely move till thou hast wrought its chain;
enslave it with thy matchless love, and deathless it shall reign.*

*My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine;
if it would reach a monarch's throne, it must its crown resign;
it only stands unbent amid the clashing strife,
when on thy bosom it has leant, and found in thee its life.*



OCTOBER'S HYMN OF THE MONTH

Make Room within My Heart, O God

Words (Leech, Bryan Jeffery) Music (Traditional English Melody)



Actually, this was my very first hymn, except that it was written as a poem and not with any idea in mind of its being sung. I seem to recall that I created it sometime during my seminary days in London (1951-1955), but, having no particular confidence in my writing ability, I kept it until 1970, when I showed it to the Editorial Committee of my denomination, the Evangelical Covenant Church of America. They voted its inclusion in The Covenant Hymnal, 1973.

Since that time, the lyric has been married and divorced from several good tunes. And who am I to object to its betrothal to a fine English folk melody arranged by Vaughan Williams, one of my favorite composers? This is a reminder of how beautifully international and nonparochial our hymnody is these days, with so many ethnic contributions and so many varied styles of music. No culture and no denomination has a corner on the market when it comes to great hymns. How nice that God has not made us all alike, and that through different personalities in different seasons of history the same eternal song bursts forth in new and glorious ideas and sounds.

The meaning of the hymn? If we are to be truly converted, then the entire personality must be reclaimed, as God renews the mind, moves the heart, and strengthens and persuades the will. This hymn shows that progression, and is appropriate for use following a sermon on dedication of life.



*Make room within my heart, O God, that you may form in me
the image you have shown in Christ, my very life to be.
Inspire my thought, O lofty One, to reach the highest plane,
that I may know the mind of Christ, and him as greatest gain.*

*Direct my will, O King of kings, subject it to your own,
that every impulse, action, word, may make your kingdom known.*

*Effect my prayer, great Trinity, eternal Three in One,
combine each part of me to praise the Father, Spirit, Son.*



Snack Attack



We will be starting up our new year on Wednesday, September 14th at 5:45pm. All are welcome and bring a friend! Many volunteers needed; great community spirit. We are looking for continued support to Feed Hungry Children on the weekend. Meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday each month after packing the bags; the approximate time will be 6:15 to 6:30.

Second Sunday Children's Mission Project

A Second Sunday Children's Mission Project will be taking place on Sunday, September 11. Children will be excused right after the children's message song, go down to the fellowship hall, and be brought back up to the sanctuary during the closing hymn. September's project will be to make "welcome back to school" notes that will be placed in the Snack Attack bags.

If you have any questions, please see Carol Ann Freeman (778-3094.)



Life Together Team

Will be putting on a progressive dinner in the near future. Date of dinner will soon be listed in the bulletin.

Youth Group

Registration for Youth Group will be on Friday, September 9th, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm.

And Saturday, September 10th, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.



UPCOMING IN NOVEMBER

Annual Meeting & Stewardship Celebration

The annual meeting & Stewardship Celebration will be on Sunday, November 6th

Operation Christmas Child

National Collection week is Nov 14-21

There will be a Packing Party at First Reformed Church for Operation Christmas Child on Sunday, November 13th, from 12 noon to 3pm.





THE SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING AND SERVING
A Ministry of the Mid-Hudson and Orange Classes
FALL 2016 COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSES:

Elements of Worship: (Preaching Elder & Commissioned Pastor candidates, General Interest)

This seminar will help participants understand the meaning and purpose of worship in the Reformed tradition. An overview of the history and development of Christian worship will be offered, as well as what is special about the liturgy of the Reformed Church. Participants will learn how worship services are formed and how to lead services of worship in a way that honors God in Jesus Christ and is faithful to our understanding of what God's people are doing when they gather on the Lord's Day. Students will leave with knowledge of the parts of the liturgy and with some foundational tools for developing services of worship.

The course book will be Guide to the Reformed Tradition: Worship by Hughes Oliphant Old, available at Amazon .com.

Instructor: The Rev. Ken Kobza
Dates: Tuesday, Sept. 13 & Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Reformed Church of New Paltz, 92 Huguenot St., New Paltz, NY 12561
Tuition: \$25

RCA Doctrinal Standards: (Preaching Elder & Commissioned Pastor candidates, General Interest)

The four historical documents we call the "Standards of Unity" were written to help congregations and individuals understand and apply the scriptures to their faith and practice in life. We will read through each "Standard", exploring together their wealth of biblical understanding and faithful direction.

Instructor: The Rev. Jay Vogelaar
Dates: Tuesdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 25, & Nov. 1 & 8, 7-10 PM
Location: Hurley Reformed Church, 11 Main Street, Hurley, NY 12443
Tuition: \$100 plus books and materials

When Someone You Know Needs Help: (Ministers, Preaching Elders, Commissioned Pastors, & Candidates, General Interest)

With one in four people experiencing a mental health issue some time in adulthood, almost every family will need help recognizing what is going on with a loved one and may need to seek professional help. Participants will learn more about recognizing the symptoms of mental illness and learn how to seek help and navigate the world of mental health professionals. Whether a person sees their family doctor or a psychiatrist, seeking an objective voice is always beneficial to all parties involved. The last half an hour will be set aside for questions.

Mary Hennessy LMSW is a social worker with over 30 years of experience, currently in private practice in Red Hook since 2011 working with children, teens and families. Mary's particular focus is trauma work and using CBT (cognitive behavioral therapy) to help clients reduce anxiety, depression and conflicts. Mary works closely with area schools, court cases, CPS and psychiatric providers. In the past Mary worked at a hospital based neurology clinic for children. with pre-school for special needs, at AHRC in Manhattan and Astor Services in Red Hook.

Instructor: Mary Hennessy, LMSW
Date: Wednesday, Oct. 12, 7-9 p.m.
Location: St. John's Reformed Church, 126 Old Post Rd. N., Red Hook, NY 12571
Tuition: \$12

SCLS Registration Form (Please make checks payable to SCLS. Thank you.)

Name _____ Phone no. _____
Postal address _____
Email address _____
Church affiliation _____
Course name(s) _____

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mail: Desiree Albizu, SCLS Registrar, 575 County Route 19, Hudson, NY 12534
Phone: (518) 537-4221; **Email:** albizu@valstar.net
Website: www.thescls.org

Scholarships are available. Please contact the SCLS Registrar for more information.



Email from Walkkill Reformed Church

Have you, a friend, or a family member been recently diagnosed with cancer?
Are you concerned about your recent diagnosis or have you had some treatment that does NOT seem to be working?

If you answered “Yes” to these questions, we invite you to come to...

The Truth about Cancer Series

Open your eyes to what options are available to you.
Learn how to eat to avoid cancer or to defeat an existing cancer.
Find out what treatments really work and how you can cleanse your body of toxins so it can heal itself.

Monday evenings beginning September 12th, 6:45 to 9:00 PM

Walkkill Reformed Church Fellowship Hall

45 Bridge Street, Walkkill, NY 12589

Seating is limited, so please call Nancy at (914) 388-2810 to reserve a seat.

Everyone is welcome, so plan to come and bring a friend!
Bring a note pad and pen as you may find the information useful in the future.

The dates and topics to be discussed are as follows:

- September 12th – The True History of Chemotherapy
- September 19th – Cancer Facts and Fictions, Breast Cancer, Hormones & Skin Care
- September 26th – Cancer-killing Viruses, Cancer Stem Cells, GMOs, Juicing
- October 3rd – Excitotoxins that Fuel Cancer, Nature’s Pharmacy
- October 17th – Cancer Causing Blindspots, Toxic Vaccines, Homeopathy
- October 24th – The NOCEBO Effect, Healing Vaccines
- November 7th – Heal Cancer with Clean Electricity, Unique Water & Superfoods
- November 14th – Cannabis, Nature’s Epigenetic Switches & Micronutrient Therapy
- November 21st – Cancer Conquerors & Their Powerful Stories of Victory

SEPTEMBER



&

OCTOBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September				1	2	3 7:30 Men's Breakfast
4 World Communion Sunday 10:00 Worship	5 Labor Day	6 7:00 Praise Team	7	8 6:30 Choir Dinner Bunnie's House	9 6:00 - 7:30 Youth Group Registration	10 7:30 Men's Breakfast 9:00 Property Clean-up 6:30 - 8:00 Youth Group Registration
11 10:00 Worship Fellowship  <i>We remember...</i>	12	13 7:00 Praise Team 7:30 Choir	14 5:45 Snack Attack	15 Consistory	16	17 7:30 Men's Breakfast
18 10:00 Worship Fellowship	19	20 7:00 Praise Team 7:30 Choir	21 5:45 Snack Attack	22	23	24 7:30 Men's Breakfast
25 10:00 Worship Fellowship	26	27 7:00 Praise Team 7:30 Choir	28 5:45 Snack Attack	29	30	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
October						1 7:30 Men's Breakfast
2 Communion 10:00 Worship Soup & Bread	3	4	5 5:45 Snack Attack	6	7	8 7:30 Men's Breakfast
9 10:00 Worship Fellowship <u>Pastor Appreciation Sunday</u>	10 Columbus Day	11 7:00 Praise Team	12 5:45 Snack Attack	13 Consistory	14	15 7:30 Men's Breakfast
16 10:00 Worship Fellowship <u>Crop Walk Event</u>	17	18 7:00 Praise Team	19 5:45 Snack Attack	20	21	22 7:30 Men's Breakfast
23 10:00 Worship Fellowship	24	25 7:00 Praise Team	26 5:45 Snack Attack	27 Walk Through the budget (see article)	28	29 7:30 Men's Breakfast
30 10:00 Worship Fellowship <u>Reformation Sunday</u>	31 Harvest Fest Chili Cook-off					

Around the Congregation

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers...

Ray Turse, Lisa Skinner, Samuel Shorter III, Dave Williams, Ed Kennedy, Michael Shorter, Isabel Jacobsen, The Shaffer Family, Genie Shorter, Joe Fowler, the Heitz Family.

Nursing Home/Homebound: Leah Ronk; Jane Barber.

Military Personnel: Christopher Vermilyea, Lt Col. John M. Nash, USMC, and all of those who have served in our Military.



Recent offerings were:

June 26th	1110
July 3rd	2504
July 10th	1470
July 17th	841
July 24th	1540
July 31st	1899
Aug 7th	2215
Aug 14th	1692
Aug 21st	1070

September

- 1 Steven Blasch
- 3 David Blasch & Gary Knapp
- 4 Alivia Barringer
- 9 Charles DeMartini
- 11 Laurene Williams
- 12 Lee Wilson
- 13 Ralph Schultz
- 15 Thomas Weikel
- 16 Shawn Sawyer
- 18 Renee Stelljes DeVoe
- 19 Nancy Orndorff
- 21 Garry Cook
- 23 Patty Castle & Kate Wilson
- 28 Kevin Barringer

Happy Anniversary

- Ken & Arlene Tenckinck
- Sept 1st
- Glenn & Adele Davis
- Sept 14th
- Scott & Cindy Brown
- Sept 23rd
- Richard & Karen Lendle
- Sept 26th
- Ken & Jaymee Barringer
- Oct 4th
- David & Veronica Kaleta
- Oct 9th
- John & Karen Harrington
- Oct 11th
- Edward & Susan Kennedy
- Oct 20th

October

- 3 James Reichle
- 5 Mary Cherry
- 8 Adele Davis
- 14 Jon Reichle
- 20 Sandy Robertson
- 21 Morgan Jacobsen
- 24 Wyatt Lendle
- Lucy Santana
- 27 Carol Ann Freeman
- 30 Lucas Davis



If the church wants a better preacher, it only needs to pray for the one it has.

It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

Be ye fishers of men. You catch 'em - He'll clean 'em.

One Liners



The First Reformed Church

70 Scofield Street
Walden, New York 12586

Upcoming Crop Walk

This year the Crop Walk is on Sunday, October 16th. Come and walk to raise money to fight hunger, or support and sponsor someone that is walking. If interested in registering see Carol Ann Freeman.

