

The Church Bell

The First Reformed Church
Walden, New York

Church Bell, Volume 70, Issue 2

March & April 2025

Lesson in Lent

As I write this we are in the grip of winter. There is snow on the ground and a couple of storms lined up to hit us. It is a time to stay indoors out of the elements.

March 5 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is a time to go deep indoors of the soul, to examine our hearts and our motivations. This helps us grow in our faith. In the winter we spend more time inside than outside making it the perfect time to read and reflect. The more we consider what the early disciples thought Jesus was saying to them the better we can apply the lessons of Jesus to our own life.



Part of embracing winter, with its snow, sleet and freezing rain, is the expectation and hope that winter didn't come to stay, it came to pass, and that beyond winter there is spring, a time of new growth. As we consider the parables of Jesus, we see a lesson for spiritual growth rising out of common everyday experiences. Jesus uses the typical farming practices and behaviors of life to teach a powerful lesson that can deepen our understanding of God and our relationship with the world. Sometimes the lessons are not clear with the first reading. Far too often people want just a simple do this or don't do that lesson. But Jesus wants us to grow the ability to think deeply and feel the presence of the Holy Spirit as we explore the teaching of Jesus.

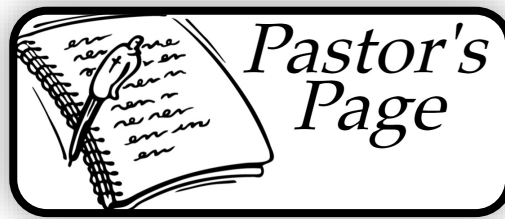
This year I was preparing to start taping trees for sap and the production of Maple Syrup in the middle of January. But the weather wasn't right. Understanding the movement of sap in the maple trees and it's relationship to winter and spring helps us navigate the season and place taps at the time that will produce the best sap for evaporating down to syrup.

In much the same way the parables teach us to make spiritual and ethical decisions. Studying the parables of Jesus helps us navigate life and faith, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to a richer, fuller, more intimate relationship with God. It is gradual growth, not an overnight arrival. That is one of the things I love about growing in Christ, there is always more to learn.

Digging into the season of Lent, we are preparing ourselves to embrace the new growth that follows. Easter is the time of resurrection. Our journey through Lent and the study of Jesus' parables helps us appreciate and understand all the more the meaning of the resurrection of Jesus.

Just as in taping trees the first step is learning to identify sugar maples in the winter, so the first step of understanding the parables of Jesus, is learning to identify how his listeners first understood them, what their life was like, what were the expectations for the religious community. It is well worth the effort and the results will warm your heart, even on a cold winter day.

Pastor Jim O'Connell



Growth Opportunities

There are several growth opportunities in the weeks ahead. One is our 85+ year tradition of special worship services during the season of Lent. They start with Ash Wednesday, which is a call to humble oneself. It all begins Wednesday evening March 5th. There are brochures on the back table in the sanctuary with all the information about the topics, where the services will be and who will be preaching on successive Sunday evenings.

Another opportunity is on the Wednesdays of Lent. Jim will be leading a study of the book, "The Scandal of the Kingdom, how the parables of Jesus revolutionize life with God" by Dallas Willard. The group will read the whole book, but we will mainly focus on 6 chapters which will take us up to the week before Holy Week.

Another opportunity is the Women's Sunday morning study group. They will be working through a workbook based on Dallas Willard's book. There is more information about these two study groups on the following page of this newsletter.

Lent is often known for giving up something or a habit. I would suggest that you take something on. Try committing to a half hour of prayer everyday during this season. Or, a mini fast one day a week, donating the cost of the food you would have eaten to Backpack Snack Attack. Yet another possible opportunity is to read a chapter a day from the Gospel of Mark. These are just a few suggestions.

Pastor Jim



Submitted by Phyllis O'Connell

The Sunday morning Woman's Group



THE SCANDAL
OF THE
KINGDOM

WORKBOOK

BASED ON THE BOOK BY
DALLAS WILLARD
WRITTEN BY JAN JOHNSON

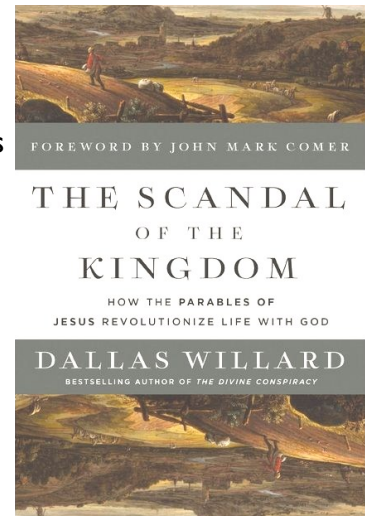


The group has begun reflecting on the Workbook, "The Scandal of the Kingdom by Dallas Willard. The workbook will help participants answer the question, "What does it mean to live in the kingdom of God day -to day?" This study will take us through May, gathering at 8:15 Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions about the study, please call or txt Phyllis O'Connell @ 201-294-2293.

Adult Study

An Adult Study will be taking place each Wednesday evening during Lent from 7:30 to 8:30pm. The group will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall or on zoom. We will be reflecting on the book "The Scandal of the Kingdom" by Dallas Willard. The book offers fresh insight into the moving and mysterious parables Jesus told—and a call to live with new purpose and intentionality in the here and now. The group will be reading the whole book and focusing on the following chapters for discussion:

- March 12th – How Jesus Taught and Why Parables? (chapters 2,3)
- March 19th – Growing Together in the Kingdom (chapter 6)
- March 26th – Lost and Found (chapter 9)
- April 2nd – The Miracle of Forgiveness (chapter 11)
- April 9th – The Outrageous Compassion of God (chapter 12)



Lenten Series

Our church will be hosting three of the five Lenten Services:

- *Ash Wednesday, March 5th – Worship Service at 7:00 pm (no fellowship time)
- *Sunday evening, March 16th – Light Refreshments at 5:00 pm; Worship Service at 6:00 pm
- *Sunday evening, April 6th – Light Refreshments at 5:00 pm; Worship Service at 6:00 pm



If you can assist with the fellowship hour on March 16th and April 6th, please contact Phyllis O'Connell (201-294-2293 call or txt) or Jan Goutell (845-713-4839 call only)

Walkkill Valley Lenten Series Brochure

There are two changes to note this year...

The services will be held at two churches this year:

First Reformed Church of Walden

70 Scofield Street, Walden, NY 12586, and

Walkkill Reformed Church

45 Bridge Street, Walkkill, NY 12589

We will have **dessert and fellowship** this year instead of soup and sandwiches.

Enjoy a tasty time this Lent with God's Word which is "sweeter than honey" (Psalm 119:103) and sweet treats with delightful old and new friends.

Each Sunday service is at 6:00 PM preceded by Dessert and Fellowship at 5:00 PM except for Ash Wednesday when worship is at 7:00 PM. There will be no Fellowship time on Ash Wednesday.

The offering this year, as in the past, will be for **Habitat for Humanity-Newburgh** for their good work building houses and supporting lives in our community. Please make checks payable to:

Walkkill Valley Union Lenten Series.

If you are unable to attend a service in person, worship services will be broadcast online on:

Facebook for Walden: frc walden ny

Facebook for Walkkill: Walkkill Reformed Church

Join your old friends and make new friends as you go on the Lenten journey of discovery and renewal with us!



ASH WEDNESDAY

is an ancient holy day in the Christian church calendar. It marks the beginning of the season of Lent – a time of penitence, discipline, and renewal.

In the Ash Wednesday service we are reminded of our mortality, we confess our sins, and we experience forgiveness through Christ's death and resurrection. Ashes will be available to those who wish to receive them.

In Scripture, ashes serve both as a symbol of mortality and a sign of mourning and repentance. But neither sin nor death are the final word. We leave the service in confidence and gratitude: Christ has conquered death, and nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.



THE SURPRISING PARABLES OF JESUS

based on the book, **The Scandal of the Kingdom** by Dallas Willard

2025 LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES



THE SURPRISING PARABLES OF JESUS

based on the book, **The Scandal of the Kingdom** by Dallas Willard

2025 LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

"He told them many things in parables."
Matthew 13:3

"What is the kingdom of God like?
And to what shall I compare it?"
Luke 13:18

Come join your brothers and sisters in Christ from the Walkkill Valley to discover the wonder and power of the stories our Lord told. Each one will shock and disorient us and, in the end, bring us to deeper love and discipleship.



87TH ANNUAL WALKKILL VALLEY LENTEN SERIES

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 7:00 PM

First Reformed Church of Walden

The Rev. James O'Connell preaching

HOW JESUS TAUGHT

(Chapter 2 in the book)

Scripture: Matthew 7:28-29

Imposition of Ashes

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 9

Walkkill Reformed Church

The Rev. Ken Sampson preaching

5:00 PM Dessert and Fellowship

6:00 PM Worship

GROWING TOGETHER

(Chapter 6)

Scripture: Matthew 13:24-50

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 16

First Reformed Church of Walden

The Rev. Stan Seagren preaching

5:00 PM Dessert and Fellowship

6:00 PM Worship

LOST AND FOUND

(Chapter 9)

Scripture: Luke 15



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 30

Walkkill Reformed Church

The Rev. Howie Dalton preaching

5:00 PM Dessert and Fellowship

6:00 PM Worship

THE OUTRAGEOUS COMPASSION OF GOD

(Chapter 12)

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT, APRIL 6

First Reformed Church of Walden

The Rev. Irving Rivera preaching

5:00 PM Dessert and Fellowship

6:00 PM Worship

THE MIRACLE OF FORGIVENESS

(Chapter 11)

Scripture: Matthew 18:23-35

Submitted by Bonnie Reichle



VBS 2025 July 28 to August

Join us on our travels as we explore this year's theme: "Road Trip"

The Biblical theme for this VBS is "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9).

Each day has a "mile marker" (message):

Day 1 - God is with us on the journey – Abraham and Sarah Follow God (Genesis 12:1-9)

Day 2 - God is with us when we go off course – The Israelites Take the Scenic Route (Exodus 13:17-22)

Day 3 - God is with us when we are joyful – Mary & Elizabeth's Family Reunion (Luke 1:39-56)

Day 4 - God is with us when we are lonely – Jesus Visits Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Day 5 - God is with us near and far – On the Road with Paul (Acts 18:1-11)

Featuring Biblically sound teaching, hands-on activities and lessons, Road Trip ensures that the Bible story takes center stage. Children will experience each day's Bible story, starting with a puppet skit in the opening assembly and continuing through each station and rotation. Crafts are creative, eco-friendly keepsakes that create memories of everything learned in Road Trip.

Each day's songs reinforce the message of the day as do the crafts and science lessons.

Students will have student books, T-shirts and Scripture Treasure Lanyards as take-home reminders of the lessons.

Come join us for a fun-filled, Biblically enriching week!

Submitted by Susan Kennedy



The Berea Student Council

The Council worked together as a team with the whole school to collect cans for the Soup -er Bowl for Caring from Jan. 12 - Feb. 10. This was Berea's second year and we exceeded our goal of 170 cans! Berea donated 581 cans of soup to the *Montgomery Food Pantry* and over 100 juice boxes and ramen soup to the *Backpack Snack Attack Program*. Mrs. Storaska would not be able to do this alone and would like to give an extra shout out to Grace Hart, Nachele Trotter, Grayson Gamma, Trent Steiler Ava Ruggirello, Erin Ramaglia and Elysia Morales for skipping recess to count and organize all those cans!

Submitted by Jerry Hanen

Generation Spark

Thank you to all that have taken the time to fill out the survey that was sent out. If you haven't done it you still can. If you don't know how to answer a question just skip it and go to the next one. Watch for more info on this dynamic program coming out soon.

Scouts

Our scout troop held a Court of Honor for Joe Davis where he received his Eagle scout award. I believe we are up to 93 Eagle scouts from Troop 33. We were also honored to have the troop with us on February 9th for Scout Sunday. Thank you to the scouts for helping in our service.

Property

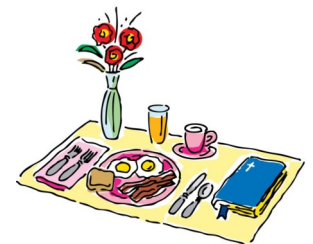
We are continuing to do our best to keep our building in good shape. I think I say that all of the time but it is what we do. We meet every Wednesday morning at 9:00 and do the most pressing projects needed. We always welcome assistance if you are wanting to lend a hand.

Please notice that we have a new company doing our plowing and lawn care. We welcome Grasso Landscaping as they strive to keep our property safe. They are prompt and very conscientious about making sure everything is cleared properly.



Men's Breakfast

We continue to meet every Saturday morning at 7:30 for food, fellowship and a great devotion. The new year has brought our numbers up and we see around 14-16 each week. Come check us out.



Search committee

We are in the process of interviewing an applicant for our pastoral position. It is a long process and we will update you more as we can as we move through the process. Thank you for entrusting us with this responsibility.



Audio/ Visual

Each week seems to have brought us a new challenge and I think we are finally getting the kinks out of the system. The streaming should be up and running smooth now so check us out online if you are not able to attend in person.



Submitted by Joe Weikel



All glory praise and honor to God the Father and thanksgiving for His providence in Jesus Christ! The Worship Team sends prayers for you all to enjoy the peace of Christ as we enter the Season of Lent in reflection of the wonderful blessings the Lord has for us in 2025. Through worship we strive to glorify God by keeping our eyes on Jesus and to stand firm on the foundation of His promises.

We pray our worship uplifts your spirit, builds our hearts and minds to service in His Kingdom.

We are so looking forward to worship services during Lent which begins Ash Wednesday on March 5th. We encourage you to invite your friends to worship with us at 10:00 AM Sundays at the First Reformed Church of Walden. For our Sunday morning services during Lent, the Worship Team has chosen some wonderful and fitting scriptures, music, and sermons for all our Sunday Services through Lent and of course, our culminating celebration of Easter on April 20th.

As a traditional addition to Sunday worship, we anticipate a wonderful set of Lenten Series services this year as well. We encourage you to invite your friends to worship with us as the Reformed Churches of the Wallkill Valley come together in worship as a greater body of Christ in the upcoming Lenten Series Services. This year, the Lenten Series sermons will be reflections from the study of the book, "Scandal of the Kingdom", by Dallas Willard. We encourage you to get a copy of the book and follow along throughout Lent. The Series organizers have chosen to make some changes to past practices for these services. First, it has been decided to not serve soup and sandwiches but will instead offer desserts during the fellowship time before the Services held on Sunday evenings, but not on Ash Wednesday. Also, this year we will have only 5 services choosing to skip a service on Sunday evening of March 23rd.

The First Reformed Church of Walden will host three of the five Lenten Series Services this year. First on Ash Wednesday March 5th with Reverend O'Connell preaching on the topic "How Jesus Taught" (Chapter 2 in the book) based on scripture from Matthew 7:28-29. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper served via intinction and we will have the imposition of Ashes. There will be no fellowship time following this Ash Wednesday Series service.

Sunday night of March 9th, the Series will move to Wallkill Reformed Church at 45 Bridge Street in Wallkill. This evening will begin at 5 PM with desserts and fellowship followed at 6 PM with the service in which Reverend Ken Sampson will offer his sermon on "Growing Together" (Chapter 6) based on scripture from Matthew 13:24-50.

The third service will be hosted again by the First Reformed Church of Walden on what is the Second Sunday in Lent. March 16th. This evening like all the remaining Sunday evening services will start at 5 PM with desserts and fellowship followed by the service at 6 PM. This service will feature a sermon by Stan Seagren on the theme of "Lost and Found" (Chapter 9) based on scriptures from Luke 15.

There will be no Lenten Series service for the following Sunday March 23rd. (Page 1 of 5 Worship)

Worship continued

The next Series service will be held on March 30th at Wallkill Reformed Church beginning at 5 PM with desserts and fellowship followed by the service at 6 PM. Reverend Howie Dalton on the theme of "The Outrageous compassion of God" (Chapter 12) based on scriptures from Matthew 2:1-16.

The last Series service will be held on April 6th at The First Reformed Church of Walden beginning at 5 PM with desserts and fellowship followed by the service at 6 PM. Reverend Irving Rivera will offer his sermon on the theme "The Miracle of Forgiveness" (Chapter 11) and based on the scriptures from Matthew 18:23-35

This year, Holy Week starts on April 13th with Palm Sunday. We look forward to the pomp celebration in the message Palm Sunday and the children distributing palms to all in attendance. May we all approach Christ with the loving innocence of children. It's always wonderful and for me quite moving to see their faces shine with joy of service in delivering these gifts to us in the pews. In preparation for this distribution of palms, the Worship Team is seeking volunteers, perhaps some youths to separate the palms upon their delivery just prior to Palm Sunday. If you or know of someone interested, please contact any of us on the Worship Team, and we are: me, Jerry Hanen, Bunnie Reichle, and of course Reverend O'Connell.

This year we have chosen not to have a service on Maundy Thursday, but we have already chosen new scripts and selections for our Good Friday Tenebrae Service from "We Remember Calvary". Come and worship with us, our Good Friday Tenebrae service begins at 7 PM on April 18th. The Worship Team is actively seeking volunteers to read the short scriptures and then lead the congregation in the unison response to that scripture. We need several volunteers for this so if you are interested, please contact any member of the Worship Team! It is such a blessing to include more of you in our services so please pray on sharing your gifts of reading with us.

This brings us to the pinnacle of the Christian calendar, Easter Sunday April 20th. We are planning a wonderful service of celebration filled with uplifting music such as our Closing Hymn #248 "He Lives", and of course an inspiring sermon from Reverend O'Connell. Come and join us as we joyfully express our thanksgiving to God for giving us His Son, who was crucified for our sins and raised from the dead. Praise God for our Lord and living Savior Jesus Christ. He has risen INDEED!! Bring a friend or neighbor to any or all these services as certainly ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE!!

Participation in our services resurges both in person and live streaming on Facebook and on video replay. Back on the 19th of January, we implemented a new video switching capacity in our live feeds as we continue efforts to further improve the online experiences of our worship. It is a completely new system and process for us in capturing, recording, and broadcasting services. To add to those challenges, Facebook has made unannounced changes to the layout of our homepage and how we are to set up, program, and launch those live broadcasts. Well, honestly, we haven't yet figured out *all* of their most recent updates, but rest assured we continue to crack that new code!

We encourage you all to share <https://www.facebook.com/FRCWalden> on your social media and spread the Good News as far and wide as we may! Did you know that we have several people from across the world who are regulars watching our services! It's amazing how we are reaching from our Facebook page, sometimes to the tune of 500 per week! Our sincere thanks to all who participate in services on-line!

We are ever so grateful and give God the glory for everyone who has made the choice to attend Sunday Services by whatever means. We encourage you to talk with friends and neighbors. Invite them to come and experience our services for themselves in the safe and welcoming environment of our sanctuary. Indeed! All are welcome in this place.

Worship continued

We are so very grateful and thankful to all who participate in the Praise Team and those who work diligently behind the scenes to produce our live broadcasts and presentations in Church. What a blessing and joy it is to sing His Praise and Worship together. We are always looking forward to welcoming new voices and instruments of any level to our team. So, if you feel led by the Spirit, or just want to enjoy evenings of music and song, we encourage you to join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in Crist Chapel to rehearse and generally have a great time honing our skills.



Speaking of singing, we are always looking to welcome other singers into our Choir! Rehearsals are a great time 9:15 AM Tuesday mornings in Crist Chapel where we practice wonderful choral selections. Bunnie Reichle our choir director has chosen for us, and... she has chosen anthems for the Choir all the way through the first of June! Thank you, Bunnie!!!

If you have a heart for and enjoy singing, please get in touch with Bunnie Reichle! Your voice would be a very welcome addition to the fun, and I do mean fun! We really do have a great time in rehearsals joking around as well as focusing on the music, learning, and review each week. We'll run through selections weeks ahead of their scheduled presentation giving us lots of time rehearsing each piece. It's a blast! We are so very blessed and deeply appreciate Bunnie Reichle for sharing with us her tremendous talents and dedication to providing wonderful selections and accompaniment in our services. Her efforts and thoughtfulness are so very visible if you recall the wonderful Christmas decorations on the walls, trees, and all around the Church for Advent, the banners displayed on the walls and the wonderful flowers she sources. Speaking of which... We anticipate beginning the Easter Flower orders on or about Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Keep an eye out for the order forms in your bulletins. We thank you Bunnie for all your contributions and organizing Choir Anthems and special music.

I would be replete if I we're to not express our thanks to God for Pastor Jim and Phyllis. We are so very thankful for Jim's teaching, leadership, mentoring, caring, prayers, and selflessly sharing his wonderful gifts and many talents, musically, in voice, and in his humble presence in conducting our worship services with inspiring, enlightening, and uplifting sermons. Thank you, God!

Worship continued

I love to list for you the lyrics of our Hymns for these coming months as they are indeed very much like prayers we can use to glorify God at home. So here we go!

Our Hymn of the Month or the “Closing Hymn” for March will be #200 “Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days”, an adapted American folk melody authored by Claudia F. Hernaman (1873) and harmonized by Annabel Morris Buchanan (1938). It is based on Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13; Hebrews 4:15-16. We’ll carry this over into the first two Sundays in April as well and then change that for Palm Sunday.

¹ Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

² As you with Satan did contend, and did the victory win,
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to conquer sin.

³ As you did hunger and did thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and so to live by your most holy Word.

⁴ And thro' these days of penitence, and thro' your Passiontide,
forevermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.

⁵ Abide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,
an Easter of unending joy we may at last attain!

The Closing Hymn beginning on Palm Sunday will be #204 “All Glory, Laud and Honor”; authored by Theodolph of Orleans (c. 820), translated by John M. Neale (1854), composed by Melchior Teschner (c. 1613) harmonized by William H. Monk (1861) with the descant composed by Donald P Justad (1989). It is based on scriptures from Matthew 21:8-9; Mark 11:8-10; Luke 19:36-38; John 12:12-15; and Jude.

Refrain: All glory, laud and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

¹ Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,
who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One! [Refrain]

² The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply: [Refrain]

³ The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present: [Refrain]

⁴ To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise: [Refrain]

⁵ Thou didst accept their praises— accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! [Refrain]

Worship continued

The worship team encourages you all to look inward, assess your gifts and talents and prayerfully consider offering them in service to the Lord. There are no bounds on what these blessings may bring to others. No gift is insignificant. We are a diverse congregation with equally diverse gifts and God has use of each of us in our own way as He leads us. We may never know how our service touches someone's life, we just need the faith to take that step-in confidence that He will shape the outcome of our efforts to be exactly what is needed at the time and bring glory to His Name.

You don't have to be experienced or anything special. God equips those He chooses, and He most often picks the humble for His greatest service. He will provide all that we need through whatever gifts or talent you bring to His table. They could be simply providing sanctuary decorations, banners, flowers, greeting guests, or other tasks such as running power point slide presentations, singing, providing accompaniment for Hymns or Songs of Praise, panning a video camera, being an acolyte, reading scriptures, praying, online production work, or running the sound board.

With His help, we can bring you to feel and know that you are welcome in any role; comfortable and supported in any manner joining in making worship a moving and meaningful experience. No act in offering is too small, no act of service meaningless. They all add up to be far greater than any of our acts on their own.

We rest assured in His promises and confident in the hope we express as we faithfully worship the Lord to strengthen the body and glorify God. Hallelujah & Amen!

With love in Christ Jesus,

Joe Weikel

(845) 820-2317

sjbw@ymail.com



Easter Flower Orders

Kindly complete this form if you wish to place flowers in the sanctuary for our Easter service.

Flower availability and prices are listed below.

Flowers may be given in memory or in honor of someone.

The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, April 6, 2025.**

People can take the flowers home after the service on Easter Sunday. *Thank you!*

\$4.99 Price

4" Tulips _____

4" Hyacinth _____

4" Daffodils _____

\$7.99 Price

6" Lily _____

6" Tulip _____

6" Hyacinth _____

6" Daffodils _____

\$19.99 Price

8" Lily _____

\$29.99 Price

10" Lilly _____

Given by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Check here if you will be bringing your plant home

Submitted by Bunnie Reichle

New Hymnal Supplement

“Sing! A new creation” is a contemporary hymnal supplement with more than 270 songs chosen from the best of new hymns, global music, and choruses from such diverse sources as Iona, Maranatha, Taize, and Word. For each song, the text, tune, or both were written within the past 50 years. Spoken prayers, litanies, and responsorial psalms are also included.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our purchasing the new hymnal supplements. We have enjoyed adding variety to our worship service with this new resource. And look forward to its continued use.



The donors to date are:

Harold Bruggemann
 Harold Bruggeman Jr.
 Harold Bruggeman III
 Laurie Bruggeman
 Courtney Bruggeman
 Lois Bruggeman
 Luke Bruggeman
 Emma Bruggeman Family
 Sara Bruggeman Family
 Leia Bruggeman Family
 Cheryl Starwarz
 Vincent Starwarz
 Margret Burgos
 Will Burgos

Val Burgos
 Nicolina Covino
 John Harrington
 Mary Mentz
 Donna Peets
 Joyce Heitz
 George Heitz
 Jan and Jerry Hanen
 Jan and Phil Goutell
 Nancy Petrolo
 Conor Spencer
 Bunnie Reichle
 3 anonymous donors

There is still an opportunity to donate if you wish. This can be done in honor of someone or in memory of someone. The amount is \$15. Place donation and information below in the offering plate.

Donor Name: _____

Donor Phone# & Email address: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Some Reminders

Praise Team: rehearsing Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in Crist Chapel. All are welcome. If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument or would like more information please see Joe Weikel.

Operation Christmas Child: we collect supplies for this mission through-out the year, see Carol Ann Freeman for more information.

Men's Breakfast: every Saturday, in Fellowship Hall, from 7:30am to 8:30am, suggested donation of \$5.

Choir: are on Tuesday mornings, from 9:15 AM to 10:00 AM in Crist Chapel. If you are interested in joining Choir or performing special music please see Bunnie Reichle.

Backpack Snack Attack: are packing in Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM during the school year. See Angel Santana Sr. for more information.

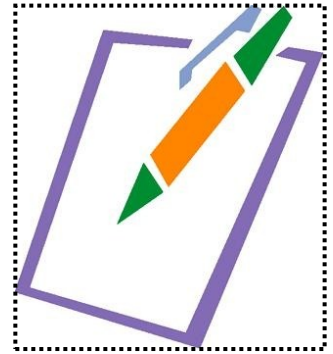
Soup & Bread: After worship service on the first Sunday of the month.

Communion: is on the first Sunday of the month, during the worship service.

Healing Service: next healing service will be during worship service on Sunday, March 30th

Montgomery Food Pantry: The Food Pantry operates on Tuesdays from 10AM–Noon & on Wednesdays 6:30-8:00PM. The First Reformed Church is scheduled to staff the Pantry again in June. The items needed at the pantry are: Pasta, sauce, rice, macaroni & cheese, tuna, beans, instant mashed potatoes, peanut butter, jelly, canned veggies, canned fruit, canned soup, cereal, baby food, baby cereal, formula and diapers.

Newsletter: Please submit articles, and information for the newsletter and it's calendar by no later than the 2nd Thursday of April, June, August, October, and December.



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Egg Hunt, April 20th, 11:00 A.M.

Needed donations of candy for stuffing the eggs

Candy donations are due April 13th

Need help filling the eggs on Thursday, April 17th

Please see Ariana or Bunnie if you are able to help.

Submitted by Bunnie Reichle

**EASTER
EGG HUNT**

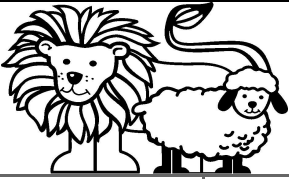
**SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH
11:00 A.M.**

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
70 SCOFIELD STREET, WALDEN, NY 12586

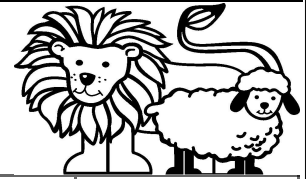
PUNCH & COOKIES ON THE PORCH

845-778-5405
FRCHURCH@FRONTIERNET.NET

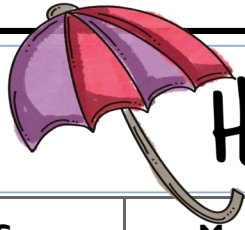
FAITH. FELLOWSHIP. FAMILY.



March 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:30 Men's Breakfast
2 Communion 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Soup & Bread Daylight Savings Transfiguration Sunday	3 6:30 PM Choir Practice	4	5 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	6 6:30 Praise Team	7	8 7:30 Men's Breakfast Daylight Savings tomorrow, Sunday morning 2am
9 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 5pm Dessert 6pm Lenten Series Wallkill Reformed Daylight Savings	10	11 9:15 AM Choir Practice	12 9:00 Property 7:30 Book Study Phyllis & Pastor Jim Fellowship Hall	13	14	15 7:30 Men's Breakfast
16 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 5pm Light Refreshments 6pm Lenten Series Service here at FRC	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 9:15 AM Choir Practice	19 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team 7:30 Book Study Phyllis & Pastor Jim Fellowship Hall	20 First Day of Spring	21	22 7:30 Men's Breakfast Candy donations for Easter Egg hunt are due tomorrow
23 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	24	25 9:15 AM Choir Practice	26 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team 7:30 Book Study Phyllis & Pastor Jim Fellowship Hall	27 7pm Consistory	28	29 7:30 Men's Breakfast Healing Service tomorrow
30 Healing Service 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 5pm Dessert 6pm Lenten Series Wallkill Reformed	31					



HELLO *april*



2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:15 AM Choir Practice	2 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team 7:30 Book Study Phyllis & Pastor Jim Fellowship Hall	3	4	5 7:30 Men's Breakfast Flower Orders due tomorrow
6 Communion 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Soup & Bread Flower Orders Due 5pm Light Refreshments 6pm Lenten Series Service here at FRC	7	8 9:15 AM Choir Practice	9 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team 7:30 Book Study Phyllis & Pastor Jim Fellowship Hall	10 Articles for newsletter are due	11	12 7:30 Men's Breakfast Candy for Easter Eggs is due tomorrow
13 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship Palm Sunday Candy donations due	14	15 9:15 AM Choir Practice	16 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team	17 Volunteers to stuff Easter eggs Maundy Thursday	18 7:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service	19 7:30 Men's Breakfast
20 Easter 10:00 Worship 11:00 Easter Egg Hunt Punch & Cookies on porch	21	22 9:15 AM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Consistory	23 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team	24	25	26 7:30 Men's Breakfast
27 8:15 Ladie's Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	28	29 9:15 AM Choir Practice	30 9:00 Property 6:30 Praise Team			

Around the Congregation



Happy Birthday to...

Happy **March**

- Jaymee Barringer March 7
- Justin Lendle March 8
- Angel Santana Jr. March 9
- Vanessa Simmonds March 11
- Lucas Barringer March 16
- Matt Kryger March 16
- Jill McCormick March 18
- Molly Macnamara March 20
- Elizabeth Cocks March 22

April

- John Daniel Harrington April 5
- Donna Bohler April 10
- John Harrington April 10
- Landon Bergeron April 11
- Pastor Jim O'Connell April 15
- Lois Crist April 24
- Jennifer Kotchenrather April 24
- Weston Sanger April 27

Please contact the church office to let us know if we missed anyone's birthday or anniversary. Thank you. 845-778-5405 or frchurch@frontiernet.net

ANNIVERSARIES

- Nicholas & Nancy Petrolo
March 22nd
- Dominic & Judy Bonasio
March 31st

Church Prayer List

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Please Pray for:

Louise Stewart, Joyce Heitz, James Robertson, Donnalee Forino, Ariana Den Bleyker, People of Ukraine, Jonathan Reichle, People of Gaza, People of Israel, George Heitz, Mike DeZemo, Richie Lendle, Angel Santana, Sr., Mary Mentz, Nick Petrolo, J. T. Randazzo, Military personnel, The home-bound, Those in nursing facilities.



Deposits

December
\$23,371.24

January
\$7,555.00

*Daylight Savings
March 10, 2am*



Current Inclement Weather Policy:

Sunday's mornings- call the church office (845-778-5405) after 7:30am. If Worship service is canceled there will be a message left on the voicemail system stating so. If it has not been canceled then you will just hear a standard greeting. Monday to Saturday- it will be up to each leader if they want to have their group meet or not. Please remember to always use your own discretion when making a decision on if you want to travel to church.

2025 Goodwill Offering Envelopes:

- January - Deacon Fund
- February - Backpack Snack Attack (BPSA)
- March - Habitat for Humanity
- April - Hearts for Hungary
- May - Food Pantry (TOM)
- June - Operation Christmas Child (OCC)
- July - Deacons Fund
- August - Discipleship
- September - Backpack Snack Attack (BPSA)
- October - Operation Christmas Child (OCC)
- November - English as a New Language (ENL)