

The Parish Visitor

First Reformed Church of Fishkill
1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524
August, 2018



Dear Friends,

The Second Sunday of Easter, April 3, 2005, was my first Sunday at First Reformed Church. Dan Byers was the Elder greeter, the biblical text John 20:19-31 was read by Julie Sanders, and my sermon title was "Unexpected Company." Now, I don't expect anyone to remember any of that, since the only thing I remembered was that it was the Sunday after Easter in 2005. In thirteen years we've all forgotten a few important and even more insignificant events, but old bulletins prove to be a great resource.

The "Unexpected Company" was Jesus. He showed up in the garden, behind locked doors, and by the Sea of Tiberius. In the same way, Jesus repeatedly shows up in the midst of the great congregation called First Reformed Church in Fishkill. It's not like we don't expect Jesus to show up, or that we don't want him to show up, but sometimes we are so caught up in the fullness of our lives that we fail to see God at work. What a pleasant surprise when we show up, and God is already waiting for us. In thirteen years of ministry and mission with you, God has been present with us.

In thirteen years, parked on this corner, we have celebrated 24 baptisms. And to those children, teens and adults, we have promised our love and prayers.

In thirteen years, I have officiated at 24 weddings, and many of you were in attendance as vows were taken and blessings proclaimed.

In thirteen years, 89 people have joined this congregation, and we have pledged our love and faithfulness to God and one another.

In thirteen years, I have stood beside 121 families, half of them members of this congregation, proclaiming that, though we grieve, we are a people of hope, because of that Unexpected Company who always shows up, who is always present with us.

But numbers don't really tell the story. Numbers are just a way we use to keep track of stuff.

Here's what really tells the story: overflowing joy as we offer our worship to our Triune God, friendships built, helping hands extended, ministry shared, the Word opened and proclaimed, care shown to those in need, laughter and tears, prayers ascending, willingness to hear one another, hunger for God's truth, keeping watch in the silence, commitment to hang in there even when the going gets tough, sweet fellowship that keeps us in the same boat going the same direction, and so much more....

For thirteen years, that is the First Reformed Church I have known. And for that I will be forever grateful. Thank you for serving alongside me in ministry and mission. To God be the glory.

With love and prayers forever,

Pastor Joia

OUR CHURCH TODAY



Counting Our Blessings



Thank you, Pastor Gloria, for all your wisdom, guidance and direction, infectious laughter, tears, corny jokes and sayings, works of art, perpetual positive outlook, and regular reminders of why we are here – to do all things to the Glory of God. You have both led us and worked beside us, always leading by example. You have been our pastor and our friend, a true ray of sunshine, and we shall miss you (and sweet Sophia) greatly. Thanks for 13 *wonderful* years.

With gratitude, love, and prayers for many wonderful years of retirement,
Your First Reformed Church of Fishkill family

AUGUST CALENDAR

5	Worship/Communion 10 am	15	Finance Meeting 5 pm
6	Consistory reports due	16	“Parish Visitor” articles due
7	Worship and Music 11 am	19	Worship 10 am Summertime Stories* 10:15 am
9	Consistory Reports due		
12	Worship 10 am Summertime Stories 10:15 am Consistory Meeting 11:30 am	26	Worship 10 am Summertime Stories* 10:15 am Private Event 2 – 5 pm

Please submit articles for the September “Parish Visitor” to the Church Office by August 16th:
office@fishkillreformed.org. Thank you.

Church Calendar – Before scheduling a meeting or event at First Reformed Church, please contact Pat in the Church Office to check availability on the church calendar.

Sunday Bulletin Announcements – Please submit your information to the church office no later than the preceding Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the following Sunday bulletin.

Prayer Chain - To be added to the church prayer chain contact list or to request prayers for yourself or someone else, please contact Toni Houston at tonihoustrn@aol.com

Worship service broadcasts - 7:00 pm, Sunday evenings on Cablevision Channel 21.

Church website includes the Church newsletters, worship service links, church history and Facebook:
www.fishkillreformed.org.

 **Sanctuary Flowers** - to place flowers in the sanctuary, please sign up on the flower chart on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board or call the church office. The cost is \$40 a Sunday, payable to “Women of the Reformed Church,” at the time they are placed. Still needed are flower sign-ups for Sept. 23rd, 30th, and Oct. 21st and 28th. Thank you for enhancing our worship with your gift.



Consistory Notes–July 2018

- Elder Ruth Porter led devotions written by Kenneth Wilson, and based on Matt. 5:13. We are to be the salt of the earth, not pepper. Salt is a preserver. It stops spoilage, keeps things from going bad. Pepper calls attention to itself. Salt calls attention to others. We are to be seasoning for the world, preserving what is good, and if we don't, what will become of the world? Ruth closed with prayer.
- Linda Baron was approved as clerk of consistory.
- The search for an organist and interim minister is underway.
- The renovation of the classroom off fellowship hall will be done later this summer.
- Food Pantry currently has 6 food drives scheduled.
- Treasurer's June report: Total YTD Revenues are \$112, 124. Total YTD Expenses are \$136,314.
- The ministries of the Women's Group are being incorporated under the appropriate consistory committees, with designated funds set up for flowers and receptions. Thanks was expressed for all the decades of wonderful ministry and mission.
- Next consistory meeting is August 14th, 7:15pm.

If you need temporary transportation, a meal delivered, a visit or a phone call, please contact a deacon:

John Houston, Hopewell Jct
John Cliffe, Wappingers Falls

Stan Saya, Wappingers Falls
Jim Butcher, Kingston

Marrijane Raptopoulos

If you would like to receive home communion or a pastoral care visit, please contact an elder:

MaryAnn Fellin, Fishkill
Jay Wright, Fishkill

Rich Lanni, Wappingers Falls
Ruth Porter, Fishkill

Celeste Rudberg, Wappingers Falls

Search for new Church Organist The search Committee is accepting applications and can be reached at FRCOrganSearch@gmail.com. The committee members are Kate Valdivia, Roy Carruthers, Don Porter, Ruth Porter, and Rich Lanni. They appreciate your prayers and any leads.

Pastoral Search Committee meets under the supervision of classis supervisor, Rev. Mark Mast. Serving on the committee are: Pia Price, Larry Sansone, Jeanne Devine, Barbara Harty, Joanna Houston, Gerry Hughes, Jean Teske, Greg Totino, John Twohig, and Jan Utter.



From the Deacons:

First Reformed Church August Food Drive for the Food Pantry

As the rest of us scramble to take end of summer vacations, monetary and food donations slow down at the Pantry. This makes for the typically understocked shelves each August. When school is out, the children of many families who can barely make ends meet, no longer receive subsidized school lunches. To make matters worse, these families often have the added financial burden of childcare costs during the summer months. In order to help the Pantry help our hungry neighbors, ***we will hold an August food drive***. Please pick up your list of needed items from the tables in the narthex and Fellowship Hall. Bags are also available in which you may return your groceries Sundays in August. Look for collection areas in the narthex and Fellowship Hall entry.

Lists containing current needs are available on the Sanctuary table and Fellowship Hall bulletin boards.



Coffee Hour

Sunday Coffee hour is made possible by rotating the responsibility throughout the congregation, while each week Dorrie Hansen assists by setting up the coffee pots. Below is the list of monthly coffee hour hosts.

First name on the list, the lead host, is responsible for calling the others and coordinating what each brings, including milk and juice. The hosts divide up the tasks; set up, refills, cleanup of kitchen and coffee pots, wiping down of all tables and countertops with the water/bleach solution. Please take home and wash the dirty dishtowels and potholders, and return them the following week.

With our different abilities and limitations, let's *all help* by busing our own tables, and helping out where we can.

To have your name added to the rotation, or to address any concerns about serving please contact the scheduler, Karen Twohig.

Not able to serve on your scheduled date? Please find a replacement, and inform the lead host and church office of the name of the replacement.

If you plan to bring food to coffee hour for a special occasion please notify the lead host.

Thanks to all for helping to provide a wonderful time and place for fun, food and fellowship!

Coffee Hour Hosts and Hostesses

August

- 5 Winkler, Lane, Dorrie Hansen, Susan Lake
- 12 Ice Cream Social--**H. Hansen**, Raptopoulos, Albra
- 19 **Smith-Cliffe**, Alexander, Wright
- 26 **Covell**, Lanni, Hughes

September

- 2 **Twohig**, Schmidt, Falcone
- 9 **Baron**, Gillert, McGann
- 16 **Van Nostrand**, Bobb, Schallenberg
- 23 **LeDioyt**, Vasquez, Carruthers
- 30 **Devine**, Quart, Rudberg

Readers & Greeters for July, 2018

- August 5** Greeters – Dana Cramer and Barbara Harty
Reader – Barbara Harty
- August 12** Greeters – Rich and Marge Faulkner
Reader – Marge Faulkner
- August 19** Greeters – Victor and Bonnie Chao
Reader – Bonnie Chao
- August 26** Greeters – Dana Cramer and Jim Butcher
Reader – Jim Butcher



Church Family Members not able to join us on Sundays

Assisted Living and Care Facilities

Helen Deneu, Wingate at Dutchess, 3 Summit Ct., Fishkill, NY 12524
Carol Lombardi, Elant in Fishkill, 22 Robert Kasin Way, Beacon, NY 12508
Olga Rygiel, The Landing, 251 Boardman Road, Apt 230, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603,
Ruth Stumpp, 79 Flint Rd. Apt. I-231, Millbrook, NY 12545

At Home

Jean and George Corwin, 306 Woodmont Rd., Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
Lucy Jones, 10 Gertrude Place, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
Connie Lacey, 49 Lake Rd., Fishkill, NY 12524
Mary Magee, P.O. Box 223, Glenham, NY 12527
Hugh J. Maurer, P.O. Box 335, Fishkill 12524
Carol Surico, 34 Aspen Ct., Fishkill, NY 12524
Ruth and Sigmund Wisst, 23 Sidney Lane, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Out of the Area

Dan and Louise Byers, 1 Lyman St. Apt #422, Westborough, MA 01581
Shirley Kacur; 9 Tamarack La., Lyon Mountain, NY 12592
Murray and Sheila Suggitt, 108 Stockton Blvd., Sea Girt, NJ 08750 rmsuggitt@aol.com



Shelter Meal On Friday, August 31st, we will be providing dinner for Webster House. We are planning a summer picnic style dinner and will provide recipes closer to the date. As always, many thanks! Lola and BJ

Christian Education

Summertime Stories continues Sundays through August, with the exception of Communion Sunday. Aug. 5. Youth or adult assistants are **needed** for the following **Aug. 19th** –and **Aug. 26th**.

Sunday School resumes September 9th. Children will attend church with their families and be led by teachers to the Education Building, following the children's sermon. A volunteer is needed to substitute for one Sunday in September and October to teach grades 2-5. Please speak with Jan Melichar-Utter if you are willing to help.

Wednesday Bible Study begins meeting September 12th at 10 am, in the DuBois House parlor. The group will use Max Lucado's study guide "Life Lessons from 1 and 2 Thessalonians." Look for sign-up sheet in the Education Building entry.



Fishkill Reformed Church's 14th Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, September 10th, McCann Memorial Golf Course, 155 Wilbur Blvd. in Poughkeepsie, NY.
Registration begins at 9:00 am.

A donation of \$125 includes golf, a cart, goody bag gifts, breakfast, lunch and dinner (at Christo's), prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place team finish, longest drive and closest to pin contests, a hole-in-one prize; plus a raffle during dinner with great prizes. Funds raised are used towards the cost of capital improvements needed to maintain our church's special historic site. Entry brochures are available in the church office and the Education building entrance. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Call Ray VanVoorhis at 845 452-2268 or email him at rvanvoorhis@lmvarchitects.com, with questions or to donate signs, prizes or contributions.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH IN MISSION



Fishkill Food Pantry

1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524 Phone 845 896-4546 Hours: M – F, 9 – 12

The Fishkill Food Pantry was pleased to have a visit from GS Troop 10285. These girls have been coming to the pantry for the past seven years, donating cookies, sharing their meetings with us and posing for the obligatory photo in front of the pantry. As they all approach junior high & high school, we wish them well & thank their leaders for their dedication. We know these girls will become outstanding young women.



Traditionally, around this time of year the amount of

food on the shelves diminishes, & we start seeing many empty shelves. We have been working hard to meet this challenge & with the help of the community & our volunteers, we're seeing a difference this year. We've already had great food drives from Green Hills , Fox Woods Women's Club, All Sport & Riverside Bank.

The annual First Reformed Church Food Drive will run every Sunday throughout the month of August and for the first time, our co-sponsor St.Marys of Fishkill, will be sponsoring a major food drive during the first weekend in August.

We are particularly concerned about the children who depend on the school breakfast & lunch programs which are suspended during the summer, when community programs are few & far between. We are asking for certain items, such as tuna, PB&J & Mayonnaise (to make tuna/egg salad sandwiches), healthy snacks & non-sugary cereals to get these kids through the summer.

All of volunteers of The Fishkill Food Pantry would like to thank Pastor Gloria for all her help and support over the years and wish her good health, joy and happiness as she begins the next chapter of her life.

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FishkillFoodPantry>



Children's Community Services

As the summer is here and our week of preschool summer program is over, there isn't a lot to report. We do wish to thank everyone for supporting our program in the past.

We still have openings in our program for preschool. If you know anyone who might be looking for a program for their child, please have them call and leave a message and we would be happy to speak with them. We are also looking for a helper to work in the After-school program.

Until next time, have a wonderful summer,

Heather Hansen, Director

Learn more on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/childrenscommunityservices.org/index>



Boy Scout Troop and Venture Crew



Troop 65 finished off the school year with a number of fun and exciting events and celebrations. In June and July, we celebrated four scouts for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. There were two Eagle Courts of Honor to celebrate the scouts achievements. It has been a very special year for Troop 65, as so many scouts reached this highest rank in Boy Scouts. The troop also held its own Court of Honor to award rank advancements and completed merit badges. Five boys received rank advancements and 17 merit badges were handed out.



The troop has one more scout working on the final stages of earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Ben Sziklas completed work on his Eagle Project at the Animal Rescue Foundation (A.R.F.) in Beacon, NY. Ben built a new picnic table for A.R.F. and did some landscaping work to provide a new picnic area for them. He repurposed the old picnic table into a planter bench. A photo of the planter bench and several of the scouts and adults from the work day is attached.

The last camping weekend for the Troop was our annual Year End Trip. This year the troop traveled to Salem and Boston Massachusetts. We visited the New England Aquarium, the Salem Witch Museum and Quincy Market. We all had

a great weekend to cap off the end of the year.

In July, the troop will be spending a week of summer camp at Baiting Hollow BSA Scout Camp on Long Island. The troop has attended summer camp at Baiting Hollow in past years and always has a great week. The boys will be working on merit badges and advancement requirements.

Troop 65 wishes you a wonderful summer. Thank you for all your support.

If you would like more information regarding scouting opportunities, activities, or service projects, please refer to our websites at www.troop65fishkill.scoutlander.com or www.crew65fishkill.scoutlander.com or by contacting Frank Giusto, Scoutmaster & Venture Crew Adviser, at (845) 453-5706.

Chartered Organization:

First Reformed Church -1153 Main Street Fishkill, New York 12524

Meetings: Mondays 7:00-8:30 PM during the school year:

Brinkerhoff Elementary School, 16 Wedgewood Road Fishkill, New York 12524

Our Church Sponsored RCA Missionaries

Jeremy and Susan Beebout - Jeremy is an agronomist working with agricultural development efforts and Susan is a doctor developing the church's health ministries in Niger, Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world..

Grace Covenant Ministries is a ministry committed to holistic community development and healing in the Kentucky Appalachians, an area suffering with some of the deepest poverty in the U.S.

See the Missions Bulletin Board (between the Fellowship Hall classroom doors), where you will find posted the latest complete newsletters from our regular church-sponsored missionaries, as well as updates from other groups we support with seasonal offerings.