



The Parish Visitor

*First Reformed Church of Fishkill 1153 Main
Street, Fishkill, NY 12524*

June, 2022

Samuel 16: 1-13 tells the story of Saul's poor performance as king. God gave Samuel the task of finding a new king for Israel. God sent him to Jesse, who had several sons, and told him to invite them to a sacrifice. God told Samuel that he would make it clear which one he should anoint as king. As Jesse's seven sons were presented to him, Samuel thought each one would be "The" one, only to be told by God, "That is not the one." When Samuel asked if there was another son, the eighth and youngest (who had been out tending sheep) was brought to him. Imagine Samuel's surprise when the ruddy-faced, handsome young David appeared, looking nothing like a king. Surely, Samuel expected a tall, strong, authoritative-looking older son to be God's choice as the new King of Israel. He probably had preconceived ideas about how a king should look and behave. He could not know, of course, that this boy king would be the root of the House of David, from which would come a descendant who would be called the Son of God, who would save humanity! Luckily, Samuel trusted God to guide him.


A photographer who often takes pictures of awe-inspiring skies at sunrise and sunset once wrote a devotion about going back to look at her pictures after taking them. All she could notice were the unsightly power lines. The glorious beauty of the whole picture with its majestically colorful skies was lost, as she focused on one small and relatively insignificant unfavorable detail!

How often do we not see the beauty and goodness in people we know, because we focus on one small unfavorable detail? We have preconceived notions of how things and people should be. We become obsessed with one (as we see it) shortcoming and lose sight of all the wonderful things those people are and the good they do. This is a shame because we are all different. When we focus negatively on those differences, we miss out on experiencing the good in others. We forget that by *accepting* what we consider to be the character or physical "flaws" in others, we gain the opportunity to benefit from their beauty and strength – differences included. Accepting others – flaws and all – allows us to worship, work and play together as one great church family, part of the family of God!

Our church is a great example of many members (with many different traits) working together to share the love of God with each other, visitors, neighbors, and the community at large. Through our worship services, CCS, the Fishkill Food Pantry, Southern Dutchess Coalition for the Homeless, shelter meals, and our community outreach events such as prayer vigils and "fun" days, we can show that God loves each and every one of us (God's children), flaws and all.



OUR CHURCH IN JUNE

1	Worship and Music 11 am 🎵	14	Flag Day* CCS Moving Up Day (3's) 9 am Finance Meeting 4 pm Consistory Meeting 7 pm	
5	Worship 10 am Coffee Hour* 11:15 am Confirmation class 6:30	15	CCS Picnic 10 am	
6	Sou. Dut. Coalition for Homeless 7 pm	19	Father's Day & Juneteenth* Worship 10 am Coffee Hour* 11:15 am	
7	Consistory Reports due			
12	Worship 10 am Congregational Meeting* 11:15 am Hudson Valley Renegades* 2 pm GS Troop 10398 4 pm	21	First Day of Summer ☀️	
		23	Last Day of CCS B4 & After School	
13	CCS Moving Up Day (4's) 9 am 🎓	26	Worship 10 am Coffee Hour* 11:15 am	
*Asterisks indicate information within				

Summer Parish Visitor articles are due **July 1st**. Articles received after will go in the September Parish Visitor. Please email your information to the church office: office@fishkillreformed.org. Thank you.

You can reach Pastor Amy via email: nylandal@gmail.com or Church Office (Pat Chism): office@fishkillreformed.org. Phone: 845 896-9836.

Office Hours are M – F, 9 – 3: in-person *Mon./Wed.*; remote *Tues., Thur., Fri.* Please call before visiting.

Church Calendar – When scheduling a church meeting or event, please contact the **Church Office** so that it can be listed on the church calendar.

Prayer Chain – To be added to the church prayer chain contact list or submit prayer requests for yourself or others, please email prayerchain@fishkillreformed.org.

Worship services in the sanctuary begin at 10 am Sundays. Please arrive and be seated by 9:45 am.

To watch **live online service**, go to the website, click “Worship with us,” then “live stream online service.”

Remote broadcasts can also be seen **live** on our Facebook page or website. **Recorded services** can be seen on Cablevision Channel 21 at 3:00 pm, Sundays (*broadcast of the previous week's service*); on Comcast Channel 5 in Eastern Dutchess Co. and Putnam Co., Wednesday, 7 pm and Sunday, 3 pm; as well as on our website under “Sunday Worship Videos.”

Our Church website includes our newsletters, worship service links, church history, and Facebook page.

Go to: www.fishkillreformed.org.

Remote Giving – offerings can be mailed to the church office: 1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524, or dropped through the DuBois House doors' mail slots. You may also use PayPal. Go to the church website, click on “Online Services,” and scroll down to/ click on the “Donate Now” button to select an option.



Our Consistory at Work

Meeting Notes from May 2022

- Celeste Rudberg led devotions based on verses from Psalms and Revelations. In the Bible, the phrase, “Don’t be afraid,” is heard 365 times ...once for each day of the year! But it is hard to remember this message as we are faced with illness, war, climate change, its effects, hate crimes, financial problems, and all the other problems that confront us. As we face these tumultuous times, we can turn to the word of God and remember that He is our refuge and our strength. God is with us always. He will bring us to a better life, either in this world or the next.
- The Food Pantry provided 7,775 meals in April. We are thankful for the 60+ volunteers who keep it running efficiently and effectively and for the new “Fishkill Serves” affiliation with the Fishkill Little League and HV. Renegades!
- Treasurer’s April report: Total YTD revenue: \$96,396.58; Total YTD expenses: \$100,366.73
- Finance Report: This month’s revenue report includes several large annual donations and all the giving for Ukraine; the numbers are expected to be lower in May. A new committee is being formed to brainstorm other ways of bringing in revenue for the church, e.g., holding dinners for the community, opening up the church for recitals and historical tours, and more social networking.
- Following the market, earnings from Investments are showing an expected decline.
- A committee is being formed to consider how we can show CCS families what our church is doing to encourage them to participate more in our activities and possibly become interested in joining us at worship.
- Property Committee updates: Taggart Lake has given us a proposal for repairing the cemetery headstones, but this may be delayed a bit because of his shoulder injury. We are awaiting a proposal from the landscaper, who may install edging and make other improvements to the Memorial Garden. Robert Morgan will be giving us an estimate to stain the shingles on the steeple. Jean Winkler is looking into a replacement for the kitchen stove. The downstairs bathroom in the Educ. building has been repaired, and the bathroom in DuBois house has been painted and updated.

Since we have not received an estimate from the previous contractor who was chosen to install the crash bars on the sanctuary, another has been contacted, and we are awaiting his proposal.



*First Reformed Church
of Fishkill*

FINANCE \$101

John Houston
Finance Chairman

In God, we trust

Special Offerings and the Budget:

Special offerings do not impact the budget at all. Although you will see numbers in the budget with this designation, you will notice upon closer inspection that the same number is presented both as income and as an expense. Therefore, the numbers shown in the budget are just place marks to reflect that it is a part of the overall church giving. When you give for purposes such as Ukraine Relief, it will not impact the church’s financial position.

Support from Elders and Deacons

If you need pastoral care please contact an elder:

Heather Hansen, Fishkill; Celeste Rudberg, Wapp.;
Pia Price, Poughkeepsie; Larry Sansone, Beacon;
John Twohig, Beacon

If you need a meal, medication delivered, or a phone call, please get in touch with a deacon:

Linda Baron, Wappingers; Victor Chao, Hopewell;
Brenda Smith-Cliffe, Wapp.; Jeanne Devine, Fishkill;
Greg Totino, Fishkill



June

17 – Victor Chao
22 – June Crawford

18 – Chloe & Zoe Rissen
24 – Murray Suggitt and Roger Perry

20 – Pete Skorewicz

July

2 – Ruth Porter
8 – Roddy Valdivia; Karen Twohig
20 – Jan Lane 23 – Joanna Houston

3 – Phyllis Lake
11 – Tabitha Smith-White
24 – Toni Houston and Connie Kayson

7 – Greg Totino
14 – Celeste Rudberg
28 – Linda Baron



How nice it is to have this fellowship again! The names of those assigned will be listed in each month's "Parish Visitor" newsletter. We will assign only people we have seen attending, as some have not yet returned in person. This method has worked well in the past and ensures that everyone has an opportunity to share in receiving and providing fellowship, refreshments, and clean-up. Dorrie Hansen has most graciously agreed to set up the coffee. And there is a new cabinet in the library with needed supplies.

Thank you for taking your turn. Please check the newsletter to see if you are scheduled. If you see only two names, it means that someone unable to manage the set-up work will still be able to contribute goodies. If you are not available on the assigned Sunday, please try to switch with someone. If that fails, please call Karen Twohig.

Coffee Hour Hosts and Hostesses

June 5th - Lake, Buscemi/Sansone
12th - Covell, Twohig
19th - Baron, Totino, Carruthers
26th - VanVoorhis R & J, Keller

Worship Greeters for June 2022

June 5th – Jan Utter
12th – John and Karen Twohig
19th – Dana Cramer
26th – Shunta Garcia-Cantela

Counting Our Blessings ☀️

From Thea: My family and I would like to thank the wonderful group of women who made the lovely reception for my husband Elmer Schallenberg's Memorial Service possible. It was beyond our expectations, and we were very touched by all the thoughtfulness. Elmer would have loved seeing the Swiss flags decorating the flowers on each table. Thank you all so much!

From reception coordinator Dorrie Hansen: Many thanks to all who worked or brought food for Elmer Schallenberg's memorial.

Congratulations to 2022 Graduates 🎓

Shunta Garcia-Cantela is graduating from Sabina V. Roberts Christian Academy in Poughkeepsie, where she will continue taking the next steps to earn her Master's degree in Theology.

Cassie Diamond, daughter of Pete and Tracy Diamond and granddaughter of Roger and Karon Perry, will graduate from Kingston High School with honors. She will simultaneously graduate from Ulster Community College with an Associate degree in Independent Studies. She will enter New Paltz as a junior in the Pre-Med program. Her goal is to become an ER doctor.

Julia Teske will graduate from Tulane University in New Orleans and begin her new job in Finance in New York. Her brother **Reid Teske** will graduate from high school in Denver, CO. He will attend the University of Southern CA in the fall. Julia and Reid are grandchildren of Jean Teske and children of her son Paul.

The Duck Story *continued*... Thank you to Jeanne Devine, Chloe, and Zoe for caring for the church Mallard duck and her newborn ducklings. They built a temporary fence around the ducks' home beneath the bush 10' from Main St. The ducks eventually waddled across to Broad Street, where one duckling fell into the drainage pipe. Thanks to our animal-loving Village police officers and firefighters, mom and ducklings were escorted safely to their new destination at the Fishkill Creek.



Did you know???

Why do we celebrate Flag Day? Flag Day, also called National Flag Day in the United States, is a day honoring the national flag, observed on June 14. The holiday commemorated 1777 when the United States approved the design for its first national flag.

Juneteenth is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. It is also often observed to celebrate African-American culture. Originating in Galveston, Texas, it has been celebrated annually on June 19 in various parts of the United States since 1865. Texas enslaved people did not learn about the Emancipation the rest of the country embraced a year prior.

Enslaved people and their owners built our original church building. Buggies were driven to the Hudson River to receive the stone and brought back to our church. In 1785 the congregation decided to enlarge the original structure. The east and west walls were taken down, and the building was lengthened. A second story was added, and balconies suspended by iron rods were put in to seat the slaves of churchgoers.

The enslavement of African people in the United States continued in New York as part of the Dutch slave trade. The Dutch West India Company imported eleven enslaved Africans to New Amsterdam in 1626, with the first slave auction held in New Amsterdam in 1655. With the second-highest proportion of any city in the colonies (after Charleston, South Carolina), more than 42% of New York City households held enslaved people by 1703, often as domestic servants and laborers.^[2] Others worked as artisans or in shipping and various trades in the city. Enslaved people were also used in farming in the Hudson Valley.

Of the Northern states, New York was next to last in abolishing slavery.

The Bulletin Board

We will hold a **Congregational meeting on June 12th**, during Coffee Hour, to discuss what is happening in response to our letter to General Synod about withholding our assessments and where we are in the process of considering dual affiliation. Please join us for discussion and an opportunity to voice your questions and concerns.



Community Fun Day on July 16th will be an outreach to the community and an opportunity for us to join together for an outdoor afternoon of good company, good food, and fun! More details will follow. Watch for "Today's News" with information regarding signing up to help.

Pastor Amy will be on vacation from June 20th – to July 5th. Please contact Elder Pia Landanno with pastoral concerns.

Save the Dates:



THE EVERYTHING SALE – September 17th



Annual Golf Outing – September 19th!

Stay tuned for more information in the Summer "Parish Visitor."

From Janie Koopmans, Interim Choir Director:



Music is a huge part of my life! Growing up as a PK (Preacher's Kid) and then marrying a preacher, church music and church musicians have been my teachers. From stomping thru' ND alfalfa fields (giving black snakes fair warning) on my way to piano lessons at the age of 7, studying clarinet, bass clarinet, pipe organ, alto lines in choral groups, recorder, glockenspiel as I moved up thru' Jr. High, HS, and college. I love it! Singing, humming, whistling.... it activates me, energizes me, quiets me, calms me....

I am honored to have the chance to help lead the choir again at Fishkill. How many years ago did I help Harold Hawkes and Roy Carruthers by directing or sitting in the alto section or helping plan the 275th celebration choir or Fishkill Christmas caroling. Don't get me started on the memories!!

But, here we are in a new era in our lives, and we're still making a joyful noise.together!

Soli Deo Gloria!!

Education

For children during worship: Books, coloring sheets, crayons, and other quiet activities are available in a wicker basket at the entrance to the sanctuary. Ask a greeter. Please return items to the basket after worship.

Lost and Found Are you missing a pair of grey garden gloves or grey winter gloves? Both pairs are by the DuBois House mailboxes.

Memorial Flowers are placed at our altar on the second Sunday of each month. You can sign up to remember loved ones or to celebrate milestones happening each month. The memorials will be listed in the Sunday bulletin when the fresh seasonal flowers are displayed in our worship service. These flowers will then be distributed to those in need or home-bound members at the elders' discretion. The cost per memorial is \$20.00. Sign up using the Flower form below. Please mail your donation to the church office.

We do not have requests for flowers for July, August, October, and November. We need at least three or more requests per month. ***Please consider signing up for flowers.***

FLOWER DONATION FORM

I _____ wish to donate flowers in the month of _____. I have enclosed my check for \$20 with "Flower Donation in the Memo" and would like the following to appear in the bulletin: _____

Mail to: First Reformed Church of Fishkill, 1153 Main Street, Fishkill, NY 12524, Attn: Flower Comm.



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH'S MISSIONS



Children's Community Services

I can't believe how quickly this year has gone by! I'm still amazed when those little round baby faces turn into young child's faces.

The girls in the Three's had fun holding live worms (the boys wouldn't go anywhere near them)! They also went on an ant hunt! The Four's Mother's Tea was a HUGE success – so many smiling faces!



Most of our 3's will be returning next year, and we will be saying goodbye to the 4's on June 13th! Thank you to the church community for ALL the support we've received this year! It is greatly appreciated.

Have a happy and healthy summer!

Barbara VanVoorhis
CCS Director

Registration for the 2022/2023 school year for all programs is ongoing. Please contact me if you know of those interested in enrolling their children.

Upcoming Events: June 8 – Last day of DeKinder School; 9 – Picnic in the playground (by Fellowship Hall)
June 13-14 – Moving up ceremonies, four guests per family

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



Fishkill Food Pantry

Phone: 845-896-4546 Email: fshfoodpantry@optimum.net

Hours: 9 – 12 – Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri.; Wed 3-5 pm; 1st & 3rd Sat. 9 am – 12 pm

Here at the Fishkill Food Pantry, we strive to serve those in need, including our neighbors, friends, and community members. As the number of people we help has increased, we are both saddened by this knowledge yet blessed that we are able to do it. To continue receiving donations, we must educate the public on who we are and what we do...I did not even know that the pantry existed when I started volunteering over two years ago! Now over 60 dedicated volunteers help keep the pantry running efficiently and effectively.

Fishkill Serves is the newly formed relationship among the Fishkill Food Pantry, The Fishkill Little League, and the Hudson Valley Renegades. Saturday, April 30th, we marched alongside Fishkill Town Councilman Brian Wrye and the Fishkill Little League players, proudly holding our banner and recognizing the team that sports our name on their uniforms.

The next day, Miss New York 2021, members of the Fishkill Town Council, and Rascal, the mascot from the HV. Renegades visited the food pantry to acknowledge our commitment to the community and take a few photos with Fishkill Little League players! Fun was had by all, and we were so grateful for their appearances.

Join us on June 12th at the Hudson Valley Renegades game, where the Fishkill Food Pantry will be honored.

Volunteers from the pantry will be there accepting non-perishable and monetary donations. A portion of the ticket sales will also go to the pantry.

Kristen Cullen, Pantry Director

P.S. For those who shop at the Stop and Shop Supermarket on Rt. 9 in Poughkeepsie:

*Throughout June 2022, Fishkill Food Pantry has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 **Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet** with the red circle sticker sold at the store located at 2540 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY (by Harbor Freight and Michael's).*

Our Church Sponsored RCA Missionaries



Josh Bode, Pastor of the Protestant Church in Oman (PCO), was founded by the RCA and charged with the stewardship of all Protestant Christianity in the country, comprising more than 50 Protestant congregations. Josh is the RCA shepherd to this diverse and international body of believers in Muscat, Oman, as they seek to build bridges and love their Muslim neighbors.

RENEW San Diego is an inner-city church that ministers to the community, including those living on the streets. To learn more, visit their website www.renewsandiego.org.

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

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

See the Beebout's latest newsletter on the following page:

Dear Friends,

In mid-February, I got a call from Kelli, a colleague who runs a center for malnourished infants in one of the poorest neighborhoods of Niamey. There she provides meals and enriched flour for making porridge for over 150 babies. The families who bring their children also hear the gospel, many for the first time. This mom ended up with a malnourished infant as severe burns across much of her torso left her unable to nurse her baby properly. During the last rainy season, lightning struck her straw hut. The ensuing fire resulted in the death of her other children, but she survived and delivered this baby with whom she was pregnant at the time. Her family never brought her to medical attention and the burns became infected and resulted in scars that left her arms and hands unusable. I was the first medical professional to see her, seven months after the fire! We could do very little for her, but one of our doctors arranged her care at the public hospital's burn unit. A few weeks later, she accepted Christ. When asked why, she said it was because of the angels God had used to care for her and her baby. Her wounds are still open; the scar across her face will never regain its normal color. But her smile and her glowing eyes show how Christ is transforming her heart. Her husband now allows Kelli into their home to disciple his wife and makes everyone else in the compound gather to listen to the Bible stories she is sharing. Please pray for her and that the Kingdom will continue to advance here in Niger. Pray that she would get the surgery she needs to release the scars so she might be able to use her hands and arms again.

Here in Niger, Jeremy and I have been teaching at the university. Clinic Olivia is busy, though quieter than usual, and Clinic Dutsin Ceto is still waiting for increased patient numbers. Most of Niger had a very poor harvest last year, and many people are hungry. In addition, the cost of essential goods has increased and will take another hike when Ramadan starts on April 1. This means there is no money to spend on healthcare unless it is urgent. The patients who do come tend to be very sick. Pray for the hungry, the suffering, and those working to alleviate these situations. Over the last few months, we received multiple donations, including portable x-ray equipment for both clinics and funds to improve our ultrasound capabilities and build an imaging block at Clinic Dutsin Ceto. We are currently studying the position of the new imaging block with consideration for the eventual construction of a maternity block. We have received funding for building rooms for administration and meetings and a guestroom on the second floor of Clinic Dutsin Ceto.

Progress is being made on the development of evangelism tools for both clinics. Our French colleague, Dr. Judicael, is developing and filming videos using our clinic staff. He is preparing the scripts focusing on the common ground we share with our Muslim brothers and sisters from the Torah as a starting place. These videos will contain a diversity of themes, from evangelism to health education to orientation of our patients through the clinic. Please pray for wisdom as we work on these videos to create an openness to a conversation about heart issues with our patients.

We are also putting together a project for village visits around the Douchi clinic and hope to be able to share more about that soon! Our children are doing well on the family front and are enjoying school on Sahel's new campus. They are glad to be back with their friends. Lydia is having an excellent second semester at the University of Northern Iowa. We look forward to her visit to Niger in just a couple of months! Our RCA supervisor Rev. Derrick Jones will be coming to Niger in late March for his first "annual" visit in 3 years! Travel was minimal during the peak of the COVID pandemic. Please pray for his travels to Oman and then Niger. Here he plans to have more extensive meetings than usual with our local supervisor Chako and the leaders of the EERN. We are approaching the 15-year mark, and it is time to reevaluate our roles within the structure. With the addition of a second clinic, there is also a need for formal processes to handle personnel issues, inventorying, finances, etc. correctly. Please pray for good communication among the leaders involved. We thank you, as always, for your prayers, notes, emails, and financial support. It is such a blessing for us to participate in what God is doing here in Niger, and you are part of that blessing!

In Christ, Susan (for all of the Beebouts)