

## WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### Sunday, February 20: First Anniversary of Saturday Lunch Ministry

- 9:15AM **Adult Bible Study via Zoom:**  
"Raised In Glory" 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 (Facilitator: Eddie Yates)
- 10:30AM **Worship Service** (in person and via YouTube)
- 10:45AM **Children's Worship:** Rev. Sieges & Alice Gray (Theater Room)

#### Following Worship

Prayer Circle

- 6:00PM **Youth Meeting:** Rev. Sieges & Betty Barr (Youth Room)

### Tuesday, February 22:

- 12:00PM **2CFAR** (via Zoom)
- 7:00PM **Book Study** "The Book of Joy" (via Zoom)

### Wednesday, February 23:

- 6:30PM **Choir Practice**
- Children's Fun and Games:** Rev. Evan Sieges & Jeremy Lovell (Fellowship Hall)
- Youth Study:** Dave Fulton & **Volunteer Needed** (Youth Room)

### Thursday, February 24:

- 4-6:00PM **Clothing Ministry Workday**

### Saturday, February 26 Lunch Ministry (Kitchen)

### Sunday, February 27: Girl Scout Sunday

- 9:15AM **Adult Bible Study via Zoom:**  
"Seeing the Glory" 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 (Facilitator: June Grubb)
- 10:30AM **Worship Service** (in person and via YouTube)
- 10:45AM **Children's Worship:** Rev. Sieges & **Volunteer Needed** (Theater Room)
- Following Worship  
Prayer Circle
- 6:00PM **Youth Meeting:** Rev. Sieges & Betty Barr (Youth Room)

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First Reformed United Church of Christ

Where People Discover...

The Love of God...

The Power to Love Others...

The Ability to Love Ourselves

February 20, 2022

The Worship of God

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

\*Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Christopher Kiser

\*Chiming of the Hour

Words of Welcome

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

\*Responsive Call to Worship

We come, those who seek to trust in God.

**We commit ourselves to do as Jesus would do for those around us.**

We come, delighting in all the wonders God provides for us.

**We would not worry, but open ourselves to God's heart.**

We come, waiting patiently for God to speak.

**We will be still, listening for God's words of hope, of peace.**

Doris Sink

\*Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

insert

\*Invocation

Doris Sink

Young Disciples

Rev. Evan Sieges & Alice Gray

Scripture Reading

Psalms: 37:1-11, 39-40  
(Common English Bible)

Doris Sink

Don't get upset over evildoers; don't be jealous of those who do wrong, because they will fade fast, like grass; they will wither like green vegetables. Trust the LORD and do good; live in the land, and farm faithfully. Enjoy the LORD, and he will give what your heart asks. Commit your way to the LORD! Trust him! He will act and will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like high noon. Be still before the LORD, and wait for him. Don't get upset when someone gets ahead—someone who invents evil schemes. Let go of anger and leave rage behind! Don't get upset—it will only lead to evil. Because evildoers will be eliminated, but those who hope in the LORD—they will possess the land. In just a little while the wicked won't exist! If you go looking around their place, they won't be there. But the weak will inherit the land; they will enjoy a surplus of peace. The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their refuge in times of trouble. The LORD will help them and rescue them—rescue them from the wicked—and he will save them because they have taken refuge in him.

*The Word of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God.*

Call to Confession

Rev. Horton

Prayer of Confession

**God of Justice and Mercy, we confess that we have misconstrued justice for punishment. We want others to feel deeply the way we have felt deeply. We want others to hurt the way we've been hurt. We've been pushed around and pushed down and we want to punch back. Forgive us, we pray.**

**O God, help us to unclench our fist. Help us to loosen our jaw. Help us to remember that all of us have fallen short. Bind our broken hearts, mend our wounds. Call us to love one another. Teach us how to reach out in repentance, to do the work of justice and reparation, to restore the world for Your reign, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness and Sharing the Peace of Christ

Special Music

"We Are Standing on Holy Ground"

Ellen Peterson

## Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life ever- lasting. Amen.**

## Anthem

"Jesus Is My Shepherd"

Ruth Elaine Schram

Jesus is my shepherd; Jesus is my Lord. Jesus is my shepherd; I won't be afraid anymore.

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so,  
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.

Though the darkness is all around me; though my enemies surround me,  
I will trust in the Lord! I won't be afraid anymore.

O, Jesus is my shepherd; Jesus is my Lord. Jesus is my shepherd; I won't be afraid anymore.

Though the valley may loom before me, He has promised to restore me.  
I will trust in the Lord, in the Lord! I won't be afraid anymore.

O, Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so,  
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong

O, Jesus is my shepherd; Jesus is my Lord. Jesus is my shepherd; I won't be afraid anymore.  
I won't be afraid anymore. Jesus loves me this I know.

## Scripture Reading

I Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50  
(Common English Bible)

Rev. Horton

But someone will say, "How are the dead raised? What kind of body will they have when they come back?" Look, fool! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't come back to life unless it dies. What you put in the ground doesn't have the shape that it will have, but it's a bare grain of wheat or some other seed. God gives it the sort of shape that he chooses, and he gives each of the seeds its own shape.

It's the same with the resurrection of the dead: a rotting body is put into the ground, but what is raised won't ever decay. It's degraded when it's put into the ground, but it's raised in glory. It's weak when it's put into the ground, but it's raised in power. It's a physical body when it's put into the ground, but it's raised as a spiritual body.

If there's a physical body, there's also a spiritual body. So it is also written, *The first human, Adam, became a living person,*<sup>[a]</sup> and the last Adam became a spirit that gives life. But the physical body comes first, not the spiritual one—the spiritual body comes afterward. The first human was from the earth made from dust; the second human is from heaven. The nature of the person made of dust is shared by people who are made of dust, and the nature of the heavenly person is shared by heavenly people. We will look like<sup>[a]</sup> the heavenly person in the same way as we have looked like the person made from dust.

This is what I'm saying, brothers and sisters: Flesh and blood can't inherit God's kingdom. Something that rots can't inherit something that doesn't decay.

## Sermon

**"Love Is: Continuous Discovery"**

## \*Hymn

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

insert

## Call to Serve and to Give

## Prayer of Dedication

Doris Sink

## \*Benediction

Rev. Horton

## Postlude

Christopher Kiser

~ Please remain seated until the ushers direct you to exit. ~

**After the service, you are invited to join in the Prayer Circle in the front of the sanctuary.**

## FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people, regardless of ability, age, education, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, income, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. At the baptismal font and at the communion table, from the nursery cribs to the church leadership, whether you were raised in a church or have never, before attended one, you are welcome here.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

**LITURGIST:** Doris Sink

**DIGITAL MEDIA TECH:** Jeremy Peterson

**SOUND TECH:** John Gray

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Alice Gray

**ACOLYTE:** Lucas Peterson

**BIBLE STEWARD:** Ethan Lovell

**USHERS:** James Gray, Clifton Murphy, Lisa Nelson, Michell Winters

## CELEBRATIONS

**FEBUARY BIRTHDAYS:**

**20<sup>th</sup>**...Frank Callicutt...Janette Neal

**23<sup>rd</sup>**...Susie Smith...Amy Hedrick

**24<sup>th</sup>**...Megan Horton

**FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:**

**20<sup>th</sup>**...Larry & Betty Link

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

\*Ron & Heidi Hutcheson and Family, \*Kathleen Danze and Family, Tammy Rhodes (recovering at home), Alane Holste, Myrtle Latimer, Kathleen Danze, Cheryl Walser, Alisa Johnson

## MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Lee & Ellen Bouchard, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Jeff Hutchens, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, John Potts & Janette Neal, Lib Sink, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

## OUR FRIENDS:

\*The Family of Kiana Sinz (Friend of Patti Lovell), \*Beth Wrenn (Friend of Patti Lovell), The Family of Ken and Curtis Holmes (neighbors of Jerry & Patti Lovell), The family of Glenn York (Friends of Alane Holste), Marc Frye (son of the late Doris Frye)

**HAPPY ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY TO OUR SATURDAY LUNCH MINISTRY:** In the February 2021 issue of the church newsletter, John Maze announced the beginning of a lunch ministry that would provide a free take-out meal to the public each Saturday. This day of the week was chosen because on all other days a meal was provided for those in need. Open Hands and First Reformed UCC joined together to start this new ministry and planned to serve the first take-out meal on February 13, 2021. As it turned out, bad weather prevented the meal from being served until the next week on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Since its beginning one year ago, Saturday Lunch has continued to grow into a successful community outreach ministry thanks to John Maze and many other volunteers from our church who have unselfishly provided food and volunteered their time in the church kitchen each week.

**VERNON GASTON (V.G.) PRICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:** Vernon Price was a man with accomplishments in many fields of endeavor, yet the things most dear to him were very simple – his family, his faith, his students and his town. For this reason, his family requested that a scholarship be established in his name and that the recipients of the award encompass the ideals held most dear by V.G. **Applications are due to the church office by March 31.** (Contact the office for a copy of the application and list of the criteria.)

**GIRL SCOUT COOKIES:** Girl Scouts 2160 will be selling Girl Scout cookies the **whole month of February**. This year's cookies are:

**Caramel deLites** (aka Samoas)

**Adventurefuls** (new this year -- brownie with caramel)

**Toast-Yay!** (cinnamon toast)

**Lemonades**

**Thin Mints**

**Peanut Butter Patties** (covered in chocolate)

**Peanut Butter Sandwiches**

**Shortbread**

**Thin Mints**

**Caramel Chocolate Chip** (Gluten-Free)

They are \$5 per box. Please contact Kivi or Jianna Miller to place an order. You can call or text Kivi at 336-870-0251 or email Jianna at [jiannamiller@gmail.com](mailto:jiannamiller@gmail.com) The troop will also be leading worship on Girl Scout Sunday, February 27, and that will be your last day to buy cookies at church. **Thank you for supporting our Girl Scouts!**

# In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

*Unison*

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Natalie Sleeth composed her "Hymn of Promise" first as a choral anthem and then adapted it to this version for congregational singing. It was dedicated to her husband, Ronald Sleeth, who died shortly after she completed it.

Tune: PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Natalie Sleeth, 1985

# Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 Your life is life - giv - ing to both great and small;  
 4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;  
 in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;  
 your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,  
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,  
 All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.  
 your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish but naught dims your powers.  
 in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Walter C. Smith, minister of the Free Church of Scotland and later moderator of the Assembly, wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit.

Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11.  
 Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts' Caniadaeth y Cysegr, 1839