

# Service of Divine Worship

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 29, 2010

Liturgist: Keri Hartle

Silent Meditations: Genesis 18: 1-16 II Kings 6: 8-23 Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16  
*Hospitality changes both the host and the guest. Indeed, in many cases, the roles of host and guest appear reversed. One of the oldest themes in Christian literature about hospitality is the deliberate confusion of the roles of host and guest. This role-switching emphasizes an important point: as a pilgrim of Christ, you will sometimes be the host and sometimes the guest. The second-century writer Diognetus, reminding his readers about Christian identity, said that 'Every foreign land is to them as their native country, and every land of their birth as a land of strangers.' Or, as the great early Christian preacher John Chrysostom put it, 'Don't you know that we live in a foreign land as though strangers and sojourners?' --Diane Butler Bass, *Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith*, Harper San Francisco, 2006.)*

## Preparation for Worship

Prelude "This Is My Father's World" Warriner  
\*Chimes Sounding the Hour  
\*Time of Greeting  
Announcements  
Choral Call to Worship  
Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

## Praise to God

\*Hymn "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" No. 8  
\*Responsive Call to Worship  
Liturgist: Come, sinners, to the gospel feast,  
**People: Let every soul be Jesus' guest.**  
Liturgist: Ye need not one be left behind,  
**People: For God hath bid all humankind.**  
\*Gloria Patri  
Unison Opening Prayer (*Derived from Psalm 81*) Liturgist  
**I hear a voice I had not known: I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket. In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder. ... I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it. Thus saith the Lord. Amen.**

# Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin (*Derived from Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16*)

Liturgist

**God, allow mutual love to continue to flourish among us, even though we resist your love at times, for it frightens us. Forgive us when we have neglected to show hospitality to strangers, even treating our friends and loved ones as strangers at times. Help us to think of people in prison as if we were in prison. Help us to reach out to people in torment even as if we were in torment. Help us to feel the hunger of the famished as painfully as they do, the terror of the lost as keenly as they do. Let our hearts be so flooded with your love that the slightest injustice to anyone becomes an offense to us, that we may become so completely connected with your love that we will come to know no other way to live. May we be able to say together, as one: For you are our helper; we will not be afraid. What can anyone do to us? For Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.**

The Kyrie and Assurance of Pardon --- Amen Sung

## Witness of Faith

Pastoral Prayer  
Children's Moment  
Anthem "Lead Me Lord" Edmundson

## Proclamation of the Word

The New Testament Lesson (Liturgist) Luke 14:1, 7-14 (Page #951 of Pew Bible)  
Sermon **GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?!**

## Response Through Dedication

Invitation to Give  
Giving of Tithes and Offerings  
The Offertory  
\*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer (Unison) Liturgist  
**Gracious and hospitable Lord, who invites all humankind to this Table which is at the very center of our worship experience, this Table upon which repose our tithes and offerings: may we so offer them in humility and hospitality that they may be great in their effects, that such gifts may even work towards our own transformation into the very likeness of Jesus Christ; in whose Name we pray. Amen.**

## *Preparation for Obedience in the World*

\*Hymn

“Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast”

Come, sinners, to the gospel feast, let every soul be Jesus' guest.  
Ye need not one be left behind, for God hath bid all humankind.

Do not begin to make excuse; ah! Do not you his grace refuse;  
Your worldly cares and pleasures leave, and take what Jesus hath to give.

Come and partake the gospel feast, be saved from sin, in Jesus rest;  
O taste the goodness of our God, and eat his flesh and drink his blood.

See him set forth before your eyes; behold the bleeding sacrifice;  
His offered love make haste to embrace, and freely now be saved by grace.

Ye who believe his record true shall sup with him and he with you;  
Come to the feast, be saved from sin, for Jesus waits to take you in.

\*Responsive Call to Dedication

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”

People: Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

\*The Benediction

\*Postlude

“Recessional”

Asper

**\*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND**

**WE WELCOME VISITORS** who are attending our service of worship today. **EVERYONE** is requested to sign the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. We request visitors also to note their addresses and telephone numbers.

**THE FLOWERS** on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Evelyn Bates Lanning** in remembrance of her August 31<sup>st</sup> birth date, by her daughter and granddaughter, Myra and Lauren Thompson. Evelyn loved to recall her childhood birthdays celebrated in Sunday School at First Reformed UCC where she got to sit in the “special birthday chair”.

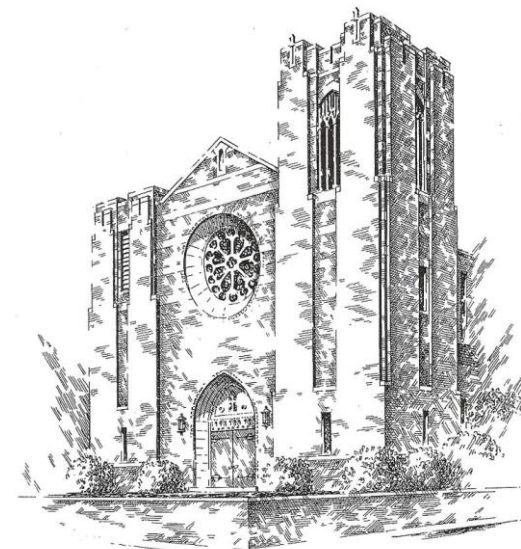
**USHERS:** John Potts, Ron Hutcheson, Myra Thompson, Janette Neal and Cheryl Walser

**PLATE ATTENDANT:** John Walser

**GREETERS:** Bill and Cheryl Walser

**NURSERY** (Birth through 6 years-old): Raeann Biesecker

# *First Reformed United Church of Christ*



*Where People Discover - - -*

*The Love of God*

*The Power to Love Others*

*The Ability to Love Ourselves*

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*August 29, 2010*

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Betty Potts, Callie Kepley, Jacqueline Leonard, Ronnie Durham, Ernie Bonner, Sadie Bailey, Velna Swing, Elmer Morgan, Willie Ruth Leonard, Arlene Swing, Frances Leonard, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family) and Terri Evans (Paul Freeman's Cousin). Please remember our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. To add a name for prayer, contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 29	9:45 a.m. ---Sunday School Classes for Everyone 11:00 a.m. --- <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b>
	<b>NOON CONGREGATIONAL CATERED LUNCH AND ROUND TABLE BUDGET CONVERSATION</b>
Monday, August 30	6:30 p.m. ---Search Committee Meeting {Parlor} 7-9 p.m. ---Stephen Ministry Leadership Team Mtg. {Team Room}
Tuesday, August 31	7:00 p.m. ---Play Practice {Parlor}
Wednesday, September 1	11:00 a.m. ---Morning Glory Circle {Parlor}
Sunday, September 5	9:45 a.m. ---Joint Adult SS Class {Lesson: New Way Class – John Barber} 10:20 a.m. ---SS Social {Hosts: Amy & Birke McNeill and Sauni & Thomas Johnson} 11:00 a.m. --- <u><b>WORSHIP SERVICE IN CHAPEL</b></u>
Monday, September 6	Office Holiday
Tuesday, September 7	6:30 p.m. ---Board of Christian Education {Parlor}
Wednesday, September 8	5:30 p.m. ---Play Practice {Parlor} 7:00 p.m. ---Choir Practice {Choir Room}
Thursday, September 9	5:30 p.m. ---Yoga Class {Parlor}
<b>Sunday, September 12</b>	<b>RALLY DAY CELEBRATION</b>

August 22, 2010	Attendance (Worship 103)	Offering Received \$5,024.00
August 23, 2009	Attendance (Worship 143)	Needed each Sunday to meet Budget \$5,581.00

### Church Staff

Reverend Walter Patten, Ph.D., Intentional Interim Minister	(Cell #336-420-2728 Home #336-632-1985)
Cathy Waitman, Interim Director of Christian Education	Paul Freeman, Choir Director
Lee Ann Peele, Organist	Paula Lopp, Administrative Asst

## *Labor Day Weekend Worship*

Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> will bring a little different slant to the daily activities here at First Reformed UCC. Beginning at 9:45 a.m. all adult classes will meet in the chapel for a joint Sunday school lesson. John Barber, our new Stephen Ministry Leader, will be teaching the lesson. Following Sunday school, we will go to the fellowship hall for our Sunday school social hosted by Amy and Birke McNeill and Sauni and Thomas Johnson. At 11:00 a.m. Reverend Patten will lead the **worship service to be held in the Chapel**. There will also be special music. Plan to be with us as we worship together.

## *Stephen Ministry*

Our Stephen Ministry Leadership Team has been formed and is diligently working to implement this Lay Ministry in our church. The team members are as follows:

Trained Stephen Leader	John Barber
Minister of New Friendship UCC	Cyndi Burns
Co-Chair Evangelism Committee	Dave Fulton
President of Consistory	June Grubb
Co Chair Evangelism Committee	Janette Neal

Walter Patten will also serve on this team for the duration of his contract. When we get a new minister, we will ask that person to also serve on the team.

Cyndi Burns is a trained Stephen Minister and Stephen Leader and has over 7 years of experience in the ministry that exists at her former church. Her experience will be invaluable.

One of the most important elements of a Stephen Ministry is a strong dedicated Leadership Team. Yours is that!!

## *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

The Prayer Shawl/Quilt Ministry is having an organizational meeting on **Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 p.m. in the parlor. Anyone who is interested in knitting or learning to knit or crochet is welcome to join us. Mary Jo Jessup will be leading this important ministry. Please come and be a part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.  
*Board of Evangelism Co-Chairpersons, Janette Neal and Dave Fulton*