

The Fonda Reformed Church Newsletter



Fonda Reformed Church

PO Box 536
19-21 Broadway
Fonda, NY 12068

Email address: fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com

Website: www.fondareformedchurch.com

(518) 853-3621

Fonda Reformed Church

Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Fonda Reformed Church is to develop believers and unbelievers into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Together Again!

IN-PERSON AND ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

In person worship started in September and our volunteers are doing a wonderful job to keep everyone socially distanced and safe as we possibly can. The pews are marked to ensure families can sit a safe distance from one another and Fellowship hall has several nice chairs set up with a projector to also view the service.

We ask that you bring a mask or wear one that we provide. Upon arrival your temperature will be taken and you will be asked a few brief questions based on your recent travel and health.

We definitely ask for your patience and prayers as we continue to work out the details on how we go about this to keep everyone safe!

Worship is also being hosted online using “Zoom” for people to meet from the comfort of their homes.

The meeting info will be e mailed to everyone on our email list. If you’re not on the list and would like to be please email (fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com)

If you have any questions please call the church office at (518)853-3621

Preaching January 3rd (Communion) Deb Silvernail

Preaching January 10th Melissa Vrooman

Preaching January 17th Melissa Vrooman

Preaching January 24th WELCOME PASTOR LINDA GOLD



Dear Friends,

I asked my 10-year daughter what I should write as a message, and she came up with, “Hi! Nice to meet you. This is really weird, right?”

So...Hi! Nice to meet you. This is really weird, right?

It is certainly an unusual way to begin a ministry partnership. In the past, we would have had many more opportunities to meet face to face before I showed up in the pulpit on January 24th. There would be chances for dinners, and visits, and cups of coffee. I would have ways of putting names to entire faces – not faces half covered or in tiny boxes on Zoom.

But I know that as unusual as this beginning it, God is in it. God is always doing new things, and they may be different, or harder, or just plain weird, but God is in them.

Just a little introduction of myself and my family. My husband Mitch and I will be married 13 years in January. We have two children; Beryl is 10 and Aaron is 8. We are moving up from Queens, and while we are imagining a bit of an adaption period, we are looking forward to settling into the community. And we will be relying on as much help as you can give to find everything from supermarkets to pediatricians (really not kidding, I will take any recommendations for a good pediatrician)

In the book of Esther, as she is wondering about the mission that she is to undertake, her cousin Mordecai tells her, “And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this.”

I thoroughly believe that God is in this new relationship that is beginning. I believe that God has called me to Fonda for such a time as this, no matter what this time brings. I don’t know exactly what God’s plan is for us all as we enter ministry together, but I am looking forward to figuring it out, and I am hoping that each one of you will join in the journey.

Shalom

Pastor Linda

A Turning Point *written by Betsy Marshall*

5, 4, 3, 2, 1...HAPPY NEW YEAR! Finally, it is 2021, the moment we have long waited for. Most would agree that 2020 was certainly not what we thought it would be. Think about it. Just one year ago we were looking forward to 2020, with great expectations. Usually when we celebrate New Year's Day, we are excited to look ahead. We have hopes and dreams for a fresh start. The whole year lies before us. Yes, that was the case at the end of 2019. We were about to turn the page and begin a fresh new year. Little did we know that our hopes and dreams would be kicked to the curb in just a few short months. Then the pandemic hit. What we knew as the norm was about to disappear, and we would be thrust into a life we were forced to live. Many of the simple things we took for granted quickly disappeared, and we had to accept things differently.

“ THE WORLD IS ROUND AND THE PLACE WHICH MAY SEEM LIKE

THE END MAY ALSO BE THE BEGINNING” Ivy Baker Priest

I recently came across this quote, and thought how appropriate it was. Each day simply turns into weeks, months and before you know it, a new year is before you. What seems to be a new start, is indeed, simply a continuation of the former. So it is with our lives.

I imagine we want to think of January 1, 2021 as the start of a better year. We want to throw 2020 aside, and all it's bad situations to the curb, but in reality 2021 is an extension of the previous year. The pandemic is still with us, those we have lost are no longer with us and many restrictions are still holding us at bay. Dear friends, don't lose faith.

Abraham Lincoln said, “The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time.” Perhaps we need to think of 2021 in this way, one day at a time. We don't want to know all the things that lie before us, do we? If we knew what was to come on January 1, 2020 I fear we would have decided to not turn the calendar. It would have all been too overwhelming. Remember, God walked with us through 2020. He was by our side every step of the way. We didn't lose the race, we stuck it out and continue to be diligent. We lost a lot during the past year, but we made gains. One step at a time we continued the journey, as we continue to do.

2021 is full of promise. We look forward to the days ahead with hope, as we welcome a new pastor into our family. Sadly, we must say good by to Pastor Rett, but look at what we have learned about ourselves while he was with us. We learned to accept changes and adapt to new situations as we have never done before. We had to let go of “things the way they were” and adapt to the new confines that COVID placed us in. We rose to the challenge and got it done. We still have a way to go before we “return to normal, but we can move forward with a stronger faith that it will happen. Each and every day we learn more about ourselves as a church family, and we continue to reach beyond our walls and help others. We show our love by giving what we have to those who are less fortunate. We find joy in doing so. As a compassionate congregation, we continued to share our blessings.

We only pass through this life once. Each and every minute is here for only a brief amount of time, and it is forever gone. I pray that we all continue to journey through 2021 with faith and hope for the coming days that lie ahead. I pray that we have a prosperous, healthy new year. Put the gloom of the past behind you and find the joy in each and every day. The gift that keeps on giving is the gift of life. Are you ready, willing, and able to be blessed by God? May your heart be filled with peace, so that you can be a blessing to others.

Happy New Year,
Betsy Marshall

Outreach Ministry JANUARY 2021

In December, we packed (20) food boxes and donated (20) Aldi gift certificates for families during the Christmas holidays. It was exciting to see the overflowing food boxes you helped provide. We would sincerely like to thank *all* of you who helped provide food and money enabling us to fill food boxes to the brim with an additional bag of food. A special thanks to Tony Bruno and the Fonda Fultonville Lion's Club, who generously bought and delivered many bags/boxes of food. We also want to thank the Myers and Subik families for their generous and wonderful donations. Thank you to everyone, allowing us to provide enough food to last throughout the Christmas break.

Through your generosity, we helped parents in our community, provide Christmas gifts for their children by sponsoring "*Adopt an Angel*". Even during this pandemic, your love for others shines through once again.

We will *NOT* be sponsoring the "*Mitten Tree*" this January. FFCS wishes to thank you for your generous donations in the past and feel that they still have enough to get them through the winter months. However, please continue knitting and crocheting for our 2022 "Mitten Tree".

It has been wonderful to have Rett working with and leading our congregation during the past two years. We extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes as he opens another chapter of his life.

The Fonda Reformed Church is looking forward to 2021 and Linda's leadership into hopefully a year of renewal for our country, the world and our church. We look forward to arrival of Linda and her family.

Embrace 2021 with hope, positivity and love. Your church family truly cares about you and our wish for the new year is that you stay safe and healthy.

*The Outreach Ministry wishes you a safe and healthy New Year.
Contact Kathie Carpenter at (518)853-3330 or Cindy Barnett at (518)853-4505,
if you would like more information.*

**HOW YOU SPEND
YOUR DAYS IS HOW
YOU SPEND YOUR LIFE**

*Fonda Reformed Church is serving NOAH on the following dates:
January 17, April 11, July 4, September 26 and December 19.*

*God, thank you for helping us to get through a difficult year.
This year was filled with so many unknowns. Thank you for remaining constant.
Thank you for always carrying us through deep waters, trials and losses.*

We need you.

We need your grace and we need your strength.

*Please forgive us for giving too much of our energy to other things before coming to you
first.*

Thank you that you came to give a new season filled with peace, hope, and joy.

Fill us with your joy and the peace of your Spirit. Direct our hearts and minds towards you.

*Thank you for constant reminders that you're still with us through our brokenness. Thank
you for never leaving us. Thank you for your presence in our lives.*

*Even though we go into this new year unsure of what the year will bring we know that you
will be with us every step of the way.*

In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Year

Fresh Start

Same God

Please Pray for individuals with various health concerns:

*Loving God,
I pray that you will comfort those that are
suffering, lend skill to the hands of their
healers, and bless the means used for their
cure. Give them such confidence in the
power of your grace, that even when they
are afraid, they may put their whole trust in
you; through our Savior Jesus Christ.*

Amen

Carol Buddles (M. White)
Louise Boyer
Ruthie Burke
Lois Brockey (K. Patterson)
Debra Brewer- (G. Kimball)
Patty Banks (M. White)
Ernie Brookings
Phala Chatwin
Cherie Craig (M. White)
Theresa Conbeer (K. Carpenter)
Suzanne Douglass (J. Perez)
Rebecca Finn (G. Kimball)
Berta & Ryan Flaherty (S. DeLaney)
Craig Fugitt
Paul Frasier
Joan Francisco
Hannah, Josh & Judah Gies
Carla Goodwin (Tina Belfance)
Sheri Humphrey
Jay Hine
Whitney Helwick (S. Emery)
Lois Hulubetz
Drew Hale
Jeff Hawley (Jeanne Streeter)
Harold Jacobsma (K. Patterson)
Stacy Kimball
Marilyn Kimball
Megan Kucel
Lisa Knapp (Pete Perez)
Sebastian Lasher (Rob Garren)
Bob Langdon
Brandon Lehr
Scott McLean
Rachel Ortega
Keith Orr (J. Perez)
Richard Persse (B. Marshall)
Deana Smith (B. Guiffre)
James Santangelo (B. Guiffre)
Jeanne Streeter
Justin Sitterly (S. Gray)
Sue Swanson (J. Streeter)
Nicole Tobey (M. White)
Steve Urbanczyk (Blackwood)
Bill Whipple
Jim Whipple
Judy Wilson (S. Emery)
Frances Winkler (G. Subik)
Sarah Woodcock
Brette Lee Wilson Zayicek (Stage 4 brain tumor)

***Please continue to pray
for those who grieve.***

Please pray for our missions:

Haven of Hope Farm & Residence
The Ford family serving in Lebanon
The Lampens serving in Romania

Other prayer requests:

Our Shut-ins
Students
Ministries of our church
Government leaders
Our service men and women, and their families

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or
know that someone can be taken off please let the church
office know (518)853-3621 or email
fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com Thank you.

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Sunday School is for grades pre school , Age 3, to grade eight at a new time 9:30 to 10:15am.

The Sunday School has been meeting together since the first Sunday in October. It is wonderful to be gathering together again to learn about Jesus and share together. We meet from 9:30-10:15 as a group. We are blessed to have plenty of space to gather while socially distancing the children. We are also wearing masks and while it is a different experience for us we are still able to share God's stories, learn together and worship our Lord. We are so thankful for that! Where 2 or 3 are gathered in his name...

Questions call Cindy Mitchell (518) 853-3712. or the church (518)853-3621

Ladies Bible Study

*Tuesday Evening Ladies Bible Study is meeting every Tuesday from 7-8pm studying "Keep it Shut." What to say, how to say it, and when to say nothing at all by Karen Ehman. Meetings will be on both zoom and in the Fellowship Hall.
Any questions please contact Sherrie at (518) 332-2512*

Early Riser ONLINE Group Every Saturday at 6:00 am No long term commitment or homework required! We are working on putting Jesus first before all the other "business of life." Contact Deb Silvernail for details - dsilvernail@ffcsd.org

Men's Bible Study

Men's Friday morning bible study is still meeting online. If you are interested in joining please let David Patterson know.
(518)369-3782

January Birthdays

- 2 Bonnie Jo Kruger
5 Alex Pedrick
6 Hank Nare
9 Liane Lewis
10 William Kruger
13 Ronald Wilmot III
16 Carolyn Whipple
19 Karen Patterson, Terry Kimball & Russel Pedrick, Jr.
21 Sidney Vanderbilt
23 Jack Adams
24 Phillip Boshart, Jr.
25 Ashlee Carpenter-Bryant
26 Linda Sambuca & Michael Wilmot
28 Rob Garren & Penny Pollock
29 Brooke Carpenter
30 Micah Kimball
31 Brenda Wilmot & Clark Subik



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

We apologize if we missed your birthday or anniversary.

If we did, it probably means we don't have it.

Please let the Church Office know of birthdays or anniversaries to be included,
or if any of the information needs to be corrected.

Office (518)853-3621 or email fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com

How do mountains stay warm? *They put on their snowcaps.*

Why did the girl keep her saxophone out in the snow? *Because she wanted to play cool jazz.*

What falls in the winter but never gets hurt? *Snow.*

What do you call it when a snowman throws a temper tantrum? *A meltdown.*

What is a snowman's favorite snack? *Ice Krispies treats.*

What's the difference between a Christmas alphabet and the regular alphabet?

The Christmas alphabet has Noel.

What do snowmen call their offspring? *Chill-dren.*

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? *Frostbite.*

What did the icy road say to the truck? *Want to go for a spin?*

What's a snowman's favorite drink? *Iced tea.*

What is the best kind of breakfast cereal to eat in the winter? *Frosted Flakes!*

Where do snowmen love to dance? *At a snow ball.*

What did Jack Frost say to Frosty the Snowman? *"Have an ice day!"*

Where do snowmen put their money? *Snowbanks.*

What does a gingerbread man put on his bed? *A cookie sheet!*

Why did the girl keep her trumpet out in the snow? *Because she liked cool music*

HAHAHAHA!!