

The First Church in Albany

Welcomes you

But Stephen,
full of the

Holy Spirit,

looked up to heaven
and saw the

Glory of God.



July 17, 2022, 10am Drive-In Worship Service

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
First Church In Albany

110 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207
Zimmerman Hall

Wednesday, August 17, 2022
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To make an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit
redcrossblood.org. Keywork: FIRSTCHURCHALB

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

©2016 The American National Red Cross

[25] 3 - Order ID: 1380167 - Item ID: 00000005 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 00152006 - J401 - 202119



The First Church in Albany is committed
to the city and people of Albany NY.

This feeding ministry is
part of our commitment.

Pantry Hours

**Monday and
Wednesday
9am - 11:30am**

The pantry entrance is on Orange St.

518-463-4449

www.firstchurchinalbany.org

The First Church in Albany
110 North Pearl St.
Albany NY 12207

May 1st Crop Walk Results—CORRECTION

The CROP Walk information in this week's Eblast was incorrect. The \$467 reported as what we received, was in fact how much the FCIA Pantry Pacers collected. We will learn in the fall what amount will be received by our pantry. Sorry for the confusion. Still something to celebrate. Way to go Pacers!

The First Church in Albany **(Reformed Church in America)**

Founded in 1642; Continuing in Ministry Today

In response to God's unconditional love for all people made known to us in Jesus Christ, we are called to be a welcoming and affirming community. The First Church in Albany includes young and old, families, couples and singles, rich and poor, persons of various races, ethnicities, backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identities, differing physical and mental abilities, believers and seekers. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where we are loved.

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost
July 17, 2022

Tune in to 87.9FM on your car radio

Prelude

"Holy, Holy, Holy"
Margaret Randall, keyboardist

arr. V. Labenske

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Corinthians 13:14

Call to Worship *Based on Psalm 121*

Leader: In life's struggles and pain, we lift your eyes up and ask,

People: Where does my help come from?

Leader: We gather today to proclaim the answer:

People: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: The Lord is our refuge.

People: Who shades us when life seeks to burn us.

Leader: The Lord is our protector.

People: Who guards us when we go out and return home.

Leader: The Lord is our sustainer.

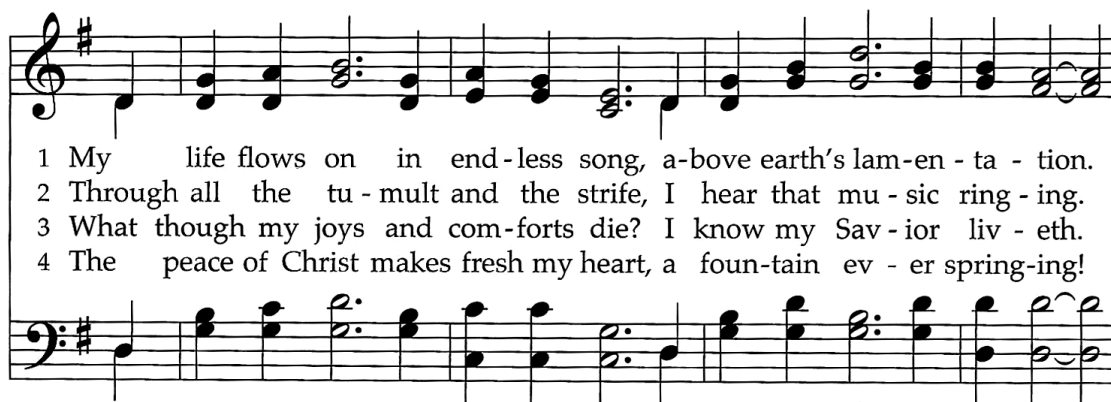
People: Who keeps our life from evil.

Leader: For all God is and does, how can we keep from singing?

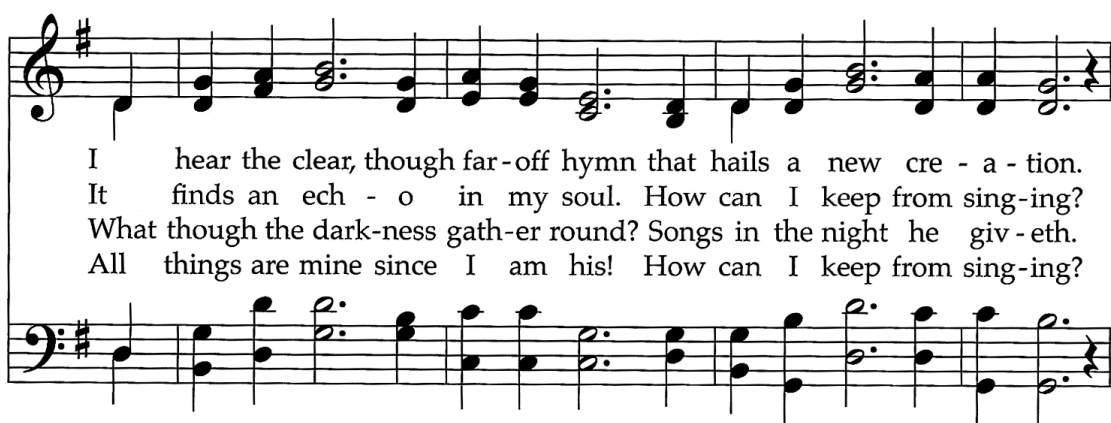
***Opening Hymn**

My Life Flows On

How Can I Keep from Singing?

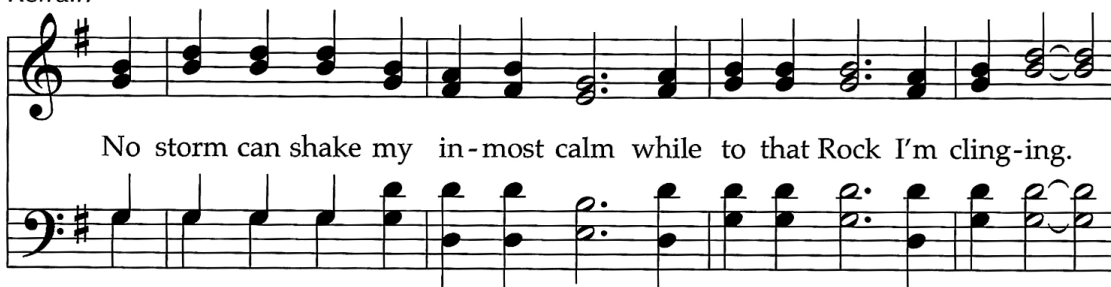


1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 27, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

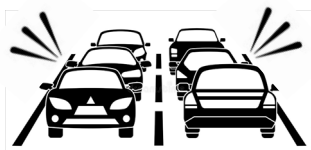
Prayer of Confession *Based on Romans 8*

God of grace and glory, life feels to be against us; stones of suffering come at us, hurdles of hardship seem insurmountable. We confess that we too often try to overcome these things without you, and we are exhausted. Send your Holy Spirit to remind us that you are a God for us, and nothing can separate us from your love. Transform us to be like Stephen in our text today, who turned his gaze to you in life's worst moments. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friend of Jesus Christ, hear these words from Paul, and live in the peace of the presence of the Lord: "I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." It is with this that I say to you:

*Passing the Peace



Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with a honk of the horn or hand-sign of peace.



Prayer for Illumination

Like Stephen, we now gaze into heaven, Lord. Reveal your glory to us, so that we might have hope. Amen.

Sermon Text Acts 7:54-60

When [the religious leaders and those gathered] heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon You Belong, Body and Soul, In Life and In Death

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

*Hymn of Response

& Offering

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The score is divided into four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chord symbols (F, C, Bb, Csus, C7) are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some lines indented to align with specific notes. The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains three lines. The third system includes a 'Refrain' section marked with a repeat sign and a fermata. The fourth system contains one line of lyrics.

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and
2 When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but
chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
whelm-ing flood; when all a-round my soul gives way, he
him be found, dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

Words: Edward Mote (1797-1874), P.D.

Music (SOLID ROCK 8.8.8.8 refrain 8.8.8): William B. Bradbury (1816-1868), P.D.

Prayers of the People

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

*Charge & Blessing

Postlude

*“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”
Iteke Prins, keyboardist*

H. Hopkins Jr.

Heidelberg Catechism

Q & A 1

Q. What is your only comfort
in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul,
in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven;
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Liturgist: Cameron Carley

Keyboardist: Margaret Randall

Vocalist(s): Margaret & Paul Randall

Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss and Stephen Reohr

*Thank you for worshiping with us today!
You all are invited to remain with us in Clee Park for our Lemonade Lull*

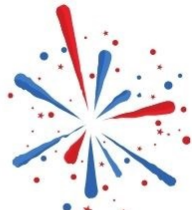


THE
Lemonade
LULL
IS BACK!

**SUNDAYS
IN CLEE PARK
FOLLOWING THE
DRIVE-IN SERVICE**

Enjoy refreshments and fellowship.


If you are interested in hosting a future Lull,
please contact the office at 518-463-4449 or
email office@firstchurchinalbany.org.



The First Church in Albany

JULY 2022



17  	 18	Zoom Study noon 19	20  AA 	21 	22	23 Filming of PBS MLK Jr. Doc.
24  	 25	Zoom Study noon 26	27  AA 	28 	29	30
31  						

Key:



Pantry 9am



Centering
Prayer 12pm



Drive In
Worship 10am



Lemonade
Lull



Hot Dog
Thursday



FOCUS
CHURCHES OF ALBANY

FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY'S

**JOINT SUMMER
WORSHIP SERVICES**

AUG. 7
@ 10 AM

DELMAR REFORMED CHURCH
BOTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

To join online, follow on Youtube by searching
"Delmar Reformed Church"

SEPT. 4
@ 10 AM

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
BOTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Join online via Zoom at wpcalbany.org

When joining online, please provide your own communion elements
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Prayer Concerns

- Ronald Stockhoff
- John David Shoemaker, Beth Davis' brother
- Joanne Farrell and John Patterson
- Ray Van Epps
- Beverly, sister-friend of Clarice Milliken
- Edie Leet
- Jennifer Recene Gallagher, daughter of Joyce Recene
- Mia and Wim Westman
- Donna Jones
- Charnelle Jones
- Barbara W., dear friend of Barb & Dave Andrews and Donna Jones
- Steve Hoffman
- Harold Bushnell
- Frank Jeffries (son of Norma McClement)
- Norma McClement
- Ralph McNeil, brother of Norma Jean Ballou
- Cheri Scully, friend of the Persons
- Mary Ann Selmer
- Samuel, son of Barb Andrews
- The family of Danielle as they mourn her passing, for her children (Melvin, Traekwon, Antonio, Julius, Brandon, and Christopher)
- Carol LaBatte
- Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger's parents
- Jeff Curry
- Haleigh Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- Neil Keen
- Fran Carr Morton
- Cheryl Gowie
- Ada Harris
- Gwen, friend of Becky Gardner
- Charles Welge
- Olivia Gaydushek
- Clergy, staff and leaders of the First Church in Albany
- Prayers for this burden of gun violence and its aftermath. We pray that cooler heads will prevail in discussions and decisions, for management of the situation.
- An end to the war in Ukraine

Prayer Concerns? If you would like your church family to join you in prayer, please share your concerns and joys with us. Call the office at 518-463-4449 or email office@firstchurchinalbany.org



HOT DOG THURSDAY WITH CLEEO

Our Summer Outreach to All of Our Neighbors



**Each Thursday this Summer
11:30am—12:30pm
in Clee Park**

**Volunteers Needed
Contact the office
or use online link in
Wednesday's EBlast**



Wizard's Wardrobe

WHERE READING IS MAGIC

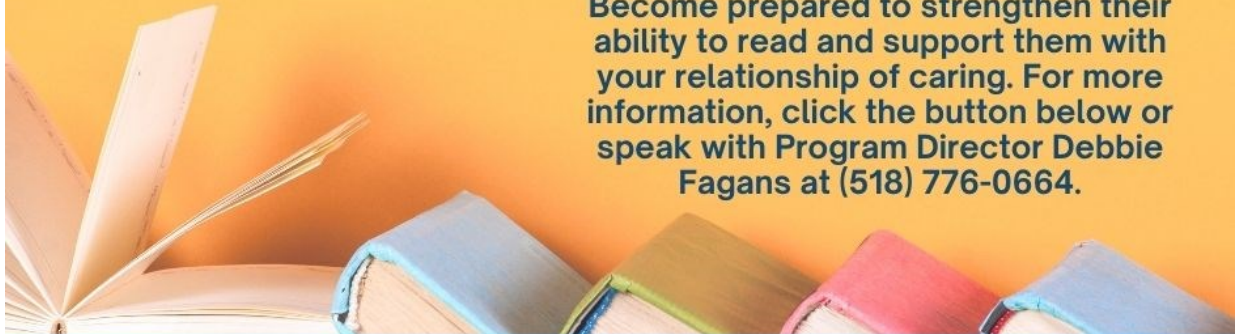
**Yes,
summer has just started
No,
it isn't too early to think
about the Fall.**

When school begins again,
elementary-age students in Albany's
South End could use your help.

The Wizard's Wardrobe, that does
one-on-one tutoring, will be holding its
initial 13-hour Fall Tutor Training on the
Saturdays of September 17th and 24th.

Learn about the impact that poverty
and systemic racism have on
young students.

Become prepared to strengthen their
ability to read and support them with
your relationship of caring. For more
information, click the button below or
speak with Program Director Debbie
Fagans at (518) 776-0664.



Also, the Wizard's Wardrobe is looking to hire a Chief Operating Officer. The job description for this full-time job can be found on the their website. A passion for leveling the educational playing field is needed. Pay will be commensurate with experience and skills. For more information, contact Eric Fagans at (518) 776-0664.

This Week at the First Church in Albany



- Sunday 7.17 10am Drive-in Worship, also on Zoom
- Monday 7.18 9am Food Pantry
- Tuesday 7.19 12pm Adult Scripture Study
- Wednesday 7.20 9am Food Pantry
- 12pm AA Meeting
- 12pm Centering Prayer
- Thursday 7.21 11:30am Hot Dog Thursday in Clee Park

Upcoming Events

- Sunday 8.7 10am FOCUS Joint Service at Delmar Reformed
- Wednesday 8.17 12pm-5pm Red Cross Blood Drive
- Tuesday 8.23 6am—9pm Primary Voting Day

Meeting Schedules are subject to change.

Watch your email for updates if you are a part of these gatherings.

GROUP & MINISTRY LEADERS, SEND US YOUR

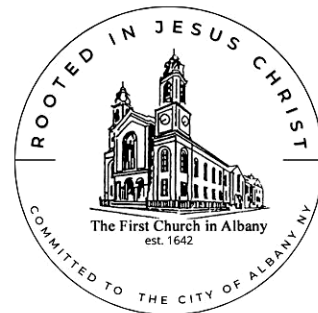
CALENDAR UPDATES

ONE-TIME EVENTS
OR RECURRING MEETINGS

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WITH YOUR
SCHEDULED GATHERINGS SO THAT WE CAN PUT
THEM ON THE CHURCH EVENT AND
OPERATIONAL CALENDARS.



EMAIL
OFFICE@FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG
OR CALL
518-463-4449



First Church in Albany

110 North Pearl St.,
Albany NY 12207
518-463-4449

www.firstchurchinalbany.org