



The Fonda Reformed Church

# Newsletter

**Fonda Reformed Church**

PO Box 536

19-21 Broadway

Fonda, NY 12068

Change Service Requested

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Website: [www.fondareformedchurch.com](http://www.fondareformedchurch.com)

(518) 853-3621

Prepare  
YOUR



LIFT UP YOUR HANDS TO  
HIM IN PRAYER

*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*

If you would like to add or remove someone on the prayer list please let the church office know (518)853-3621 or [fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com) Thank you!!

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

**Please pray for our missions:**

The Ford family as they retire from the mission field and settle into their new home in Virginia  
Haven of Hope Farm & Residence

**Other prayer requests:**

- Our Shut-ins
- Students
- Ministries of our church
- Government leaders
- Our service men and women, and their families
- Family & friends separated from Jesus Christ
- Those who are struggling through hardships.

- Willie E. Baker (C. Henry)
- Paula Frasier Bobilin
- Wayne Bobilin
- Ruthie Burke
- Lois Brockey (K. Patterson)
- Cherie Craig (M. White)
- Jaye Evangelista
- Frances Filanova (B.Kruger)
- Rebecca Finn (G. Kimball)
- Bryan Finn, SR (G. Kimball)
- Laurie Fischer
- Carrie Fonda (G. Kimball)
- Charlene Fonda (G. Kimball)
- Joan Francisco
- Vernon Francisco, Jr.
- Carla Goodwin (Tina Belfance)
- Jay Hine
- Gus Joyce (B. Marshall)
- Mary Kansfield
- Sue Sammons Kennedy
- Stacy Kimball
- Peter Klock (S. Emery)
- Megan Kucel
- Lisa Knapp (Pete Perez)
- Sebastian Lasher (Rob Garren)
- Bob Langdon
- Tom Lewis
- Rosanne Lybolt
- Tara Nimmo (D. Klim)
- Al Mancini
- Art Marshall
- Anas Mashhadi
- Kaden McRedmond
- Pat Mosher
- Andrea Rogers
- Hunter Rose
- Wendy Sargalis (C. Bruno)
- Robert Smith (L Huth)
- Deana Smith (B. Guiffre)
- James Santangelo (B. Guiffre)
- Cheyenne Sawyer (G. Kimball)
- Sue Swanson
- Helen Tarvin (C. Henry)
- Steve Urbanczyk (Blackwood)
- Bob VanAlstyne (M Francisco)
- Carolyn Whipple
- Bill Whipple
- Lu Wilmot
- Judy Wilson
- Sarah Woodcock
- Albert Zierak (N. Sheldon)

## WORSHIP IN THE MONTH OF May

May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter—Communion

1 John 5:1-6

May 12

Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension Sunday

Acts 1:1-11 and Ephesians 1:15-23

May 19

Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 & Ezekiel 37:1-14

We invite you to wear red to worship to celebrate Pentecost. We will also be recognizing and celebrating those who serve in our music ministry.

May 26

Trinity Sunday

Romans 8:12-17

### Zoom meeting information

Our worship information is the same each week Please feel free to save this sheet with the log in information!

**Topic:** Fonda Reformed Church Sunday Worship

**Meeting ID:** 481 802 235

**Password:** 233126

**Telephone audio:** 929-205-6099 (New York)

We are also on Facebook Live—you can watch live or catch up with the recording later.

[www.facebook.com/fondareformedchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fondareformedchurch)

### **Consistory**

**Consistory meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 pm**

#### **Elders**

Ruthie Cook  
Stacey DeLaney  
Bob Kruger  
Jill Perez

#### **Deacons**

Judy Ferguson  
Rob Garren  
Tom Hoefs

Theology – Theology is the study of God and his ways. For all we know, dung beetles may study us and our ways and call it humanology. If so, we would probably be more touched and amused than irritated. One hopes God feels likewise.

- Frederick Buechner, “Wishful Thinking: A Seeker’s ABC”

Dear Friends,

This month’s “church word” is Theology. Often when we talk about theology, we think of it as a big, important topic that requires training and degrees to understand. It is a big and important topic – we serve a big and important God. But it is something that anyone can do. Studying God doesn’t take a specific book or degree. But it does take time, energy and interest in learning. It is not something that is completed in one book or class, but is a lifetime of gathering information and experiences to put together a picture of what God is and how God works.

Sometimes, people take the information that they gather, and they publish a book on theology. They want to share what they have experienced and how they see God with others, in the hope that others may join them in knowing God in the same way. Systematic Theology is a class that ministers in training take that helps them sort through all of the things that have been written by generations of believers, in order to figure out what they believe or don’t believe about God.

Not everything labeled “theology” is good. There are “theological” writings that justify discrimination and injustice and abuse. But most people who do theology are trying as best they can to understand the un-understandable nature of a God that is bigger than anything that we can comprehend and write down.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” – *Isaiah 55:8-9*

But God wants us to try. Everything we know about God’s feeling for us puts God in the touched and amused camp when we work on Theology in good faith. When we use “theology” as a weapon to hurt one another, the amusement turns to irritation.

If you want an example of theology on the fly, read Paul’s letters. They are full of times in which he is working to pull together his previous knowledge of God, his experience of Jesus Christ, and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. He is working as best he can to help them understand who God is and what God wants, and how God wants the people to get there. It is hard work. And some of his answers have been illuminated in the years since by our continued revelation of God in the world.

Because God is both eternal and ever changing, meeting us where we are and pointing us where we should go. Able to be written about and defying all our attempts to trap Him on the page.

*O God, who gives to humankind a searching heart and questing mind,  
Grant us to find your truth and lows, and wisdom to perceive their cause.*

*In all our learning give us grace to bow ourselves before your face;  
As knowledge grows, Lord, keep us free from self-destructive vanity*

*Sometimes we think we understand all workings of your mighty hand;  
Then through your Son help us to know those truths which you alone can show*

*Teach us to joy in things revealed, to search with care all yet concealed,  
As through Christ’s light your truth we find and worship you with heart and mind.\**

We might feel like dung beetles, but we are beloved, cared for dung beetles. And we have a God who wants us to understand him.

Pastor Linda

# May

Wednesday	1	8:30-11am 9am-12pm 12pm 2:30-4:30 7pm	Mom's Morning Out Pastor Linda's Office Hours Pastor Linda Facebook LIVE Fonda Food Pantry (at new location 32 Main St., Fultonville) Praise Practice
Thursday	2	9am-12pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours
Friday	3	6:15 am 8:30am-11 am	Men's Online Bible Study Mom's Morning Out
Saturday	4	6am 12:30-2:30pm	Early Riser's ONLINE Prayer Group AA Meeting
Sunday	5	9:30 am 10:30 am 11:30am	Praise Practice and Sunday School Worship with Communion After-service Coffee Hour
Monday	6	All day 6pm	Regional Synod Meeting Girl Scouts
Tuesday	7	9am-12pm 10:30am-1pm 7pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours Glen-Mohawk Seniors Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	8	8:30-11am 9am-12pm 12pm 2:30-4:30pm 7pm	Mom's Morning Out Pastor Linda's Office Hours Pastor Linda Facebook LIVE Fonda Food Pantry (32 Main St., Fultonville) Praise Practice
Thursday	9	9am-12pm	Pastor Linda at Churches Learning Change Retreat 5/9-11
Friday	10	6:15 am 8:30-11am	Men's Online Bible Study Mom's Morning Out
Saturday	11	6am 12:30-2:30 pm	Early Riser's ONLINE Prayer Group AA Meeting
Sunday	12	9:30 am 10:30am	Praise Practice and Sunday School Worship HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Monday	13	8:30-11am 6pm 7pm	Mom's Morning Out Girl Scouts Worship Meeting
Tuesday	14	9am-12pm 10:30am 10:30-1pm 7pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours Pastor Linda at Wells House Glen-Mohawk Seniors Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	15	8:30-11am 9am-12pm 12pm 2:30-4:30 7pm	Mom's Morning Out Pastor Linda's Office Hours Pastor Linda Facebook LIVE Fonda Food Pantry (32 Main St., Fultonville) Praise Practice
Thursday	16	9am-12pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours

# May

Friday	17	6:15 am	Men's Online Bible Study
Saturday	18	6am 12:30-2:30pm	Early Riser's ONLINE Prayer Group AA Meeting
Sunday	19	9:30am 10:30am 11:30am	Praise Practice and Sunday School Worship: Pentecost—Wear Red After-Service POTLUCK lunch
Monday	20	8:30-11am 6pm 6:30pm	Mom's Morning Out Girl Scouts Consistory Meeting
Tuesday	21	9am-12pm 10:30-1pm 7pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours Glen-Mohawk Seniors Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	22	8:30-11am 9am-12pm 2:30-4:30pm 7pm	Mom's Morning Out Pastor Linda away 4/22 & 23 Fonda Food Pantry Praise Practice
Thursday	23		
Friday	24	6:15 am	Men's Online Bible Study
Saturday	25	6am 12:30-2:30pm	Early Riser's ONLINE Prayer Group AA Meeting
Sunday	26	9:30am 10:30am 11am	Praise Practice and Sunday School Worship After-service Coffee Hour
Monday	27		Memorial Day: Church has float in the Fonda Fultonville Parade
Tuesday	28	9am-12pm 10:30am-1pm 7pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours Glen-Mohawk Seniors Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	29	8:30-11am 9am-12pm 12pm 2:30-4:30pm 7pm	Mom's Morning Out Pastor Linda's Office Hours Pastor Linda Facebook LIVE Fonda Food Pantry Praise Practice
Thursday	30	9am-12pm	Pastor Linda's Office Hours
Friday	31	6:15 am 8:30-11am	Men's Online Bible Study Mom's Morning Out



## MAY Birthdays

- |    |                    |    |                      |
|----|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| 2  | Richard Wilmot     | 20 | Nate Quinn           |
| 5  | Cory Kruger        |    | Larry Hayes          |
| 6  | Jacob Knapik       |    | Tammy Garren         |
| 7  | Louise Huth        | 21 | Lori Myers           |
| 11 | Ellsworth Simpson  | 22 | Avery Cook           |
| 12 | Lois Collins       |    | Allison Newkirk      |
|    | Karen Simpson      | 23 | McKenzie Carpenter   |
| 13 | Kayla Roberson     |    | Maria Carpenter      |
|    | Ava Cassidy        | 24 | Schuyler Livingstone |
| 15 | Adam Kruger        | 25 | Lance Henry          |
|    | R.J. Douglas       | 26 | M. J. Cassidy        |
| 16 | Randy Douglas, Sr. |    | Lindsey Stanzel      |
| 17 | Joshua Kirschman   | 29 | Sydney Jones         |
|    | Demilee McRedmond  | 30 | Amber Morey          |
| 18 | Mitch Gold         |    |                      |
| 19 | John Boshart, Jr.  |    |                      |

## MAY Anniversaries

- |    |                           |    |                      |
|----|---------------------------|----|----------------------|
| 15 | Karen and David Patterson | 27 | Jill and Peter Perez |
| 18 | Robin and Edward Sargalis |    |                      |

### **NOTE About PRAYER LIST, Birthday and Anniversary List:**

If you have any additions or removals from any of these lists, please let us know. There is a printout of all lists on the table as you enter the sanctuary where you can edit information or you can let Cindy in the office know by email: [fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com) or phone 518-853-3621. Thank you!

**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 Phone: (518)853-3621

Office Email: [fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:fondareformedchurch@yahoo.com)

**Between small groups, serving our church or serving the community we want to encourage you to find what fits you the best and get involved!**

### **Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study**

Ladies Bible Study meets on Tuesday nights at 7pm. Please come and join us. We are a fun-loving group of women from different churches who gather to discuss God's Word. We have between 5-13 women in the study and no previous Bible study experience is needed. More information you may contact Sherri Gray (518)332-2512 or Gretchen Subik (518)848-2682

### **Wednesday Evenings Praise Practice**

If you're musically gifted, and Praise Practice is continuing give Karen Patterson a shout. We meet Wednesdays at 7pm and on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am before service.

### **Saturday Morning Early Risers!**

There is an early-morning ONLINE prayer group for you early risers! Join us at 6:00 am to start your day in a wonderful way! For more information or assistance setting up Zoom please contact Debbie Silvernail. dsilvernail@ffcsd.org

### **Sunday**

#### **Sunday school is in session** (following the FCSD Schedule)

\*If teaching is your passion we would love to have you join our Sunday School teachers /and get in on the rotation to teach a Sunday School Class. Sunday school is at 9:30, before the church service each week.

### **Volunteer for Worship**

There are also opportunities to get involved in the worship service. Have you considered reading scripture, lighting candles or hosting a coffee hour?  
Sign-ups can be found on the table in the upstairs atrium.

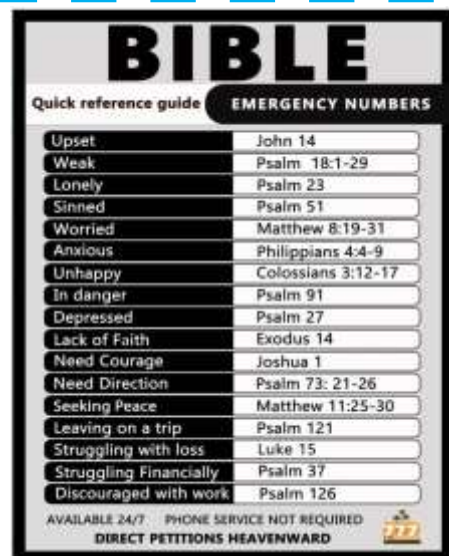
### **Interested in exploring a deeper connection to Christ by joining the church?**

Please speak to Pastor Linda or one of the Elders.

**The Food Pantry is always looking for reliable, dedicated volunteers to help feed our community. From picking up food, organizing shelves, cleaning the pantry to working a Wednesday time slot... there is a space for you! Contact Steve Cook 518-853-3513**

**If you have ideas on how to help our community we would love to hear them so please let us know!  
We would love to team up and do awesome things!**

	<b>Church Office</b>	<b>518-853-3621</b>
Pastor	Linda Gold	518-853-2130
Treasurer	Doug Hall	518-848-9557
Music Director	Karen Patterson	518-684-0321
Custodian	Ronnie Pollock	518-853-3296
Sunday School Director	Cindy Mitchell	518-853-3712
Finance Ministry	Nancy Langdon	518-853-1224
Worship Ministry	Bonnie Kruger	518-853-4398
Prayer Chain	Peg LaBarge	518-853-4318
Building & Property	Peter Perez	518-774-0585
Hospitality Ministry	Gretchen Subik	518-853-3678
Outreach Ministry		518-853-3621
Fonda Food Pantry	Steve Cook	518-853-3513





## Highlighting Our Special Members!

A few weeks ago, we had the pleasure of honoring several of our Fonda Reformed Church members for their many years of faithful membership. This month, we would like to highlight two of these members, Peg LaBarge and Polly Calhoun. Watch for more highlighted members in the months to come! We thank these members for being a part of our church family and bringing so much to us through their presence.

### **Peg LaBarge**

Peg's earliest memories of life in the church are of Sunday School and Cherub Choir. Her dad would bring her sisters and her down from the farm to Sunday School. As a teen, she participated in J.O.Y. Society— Jesus first, others second, yourself third. Teens would go together for Bible Study and fellowship time. The group was self-led, with the teens picking out the Bible verses and leading the discussions. The church was the center of their community at that time and many teens attended J.O.Y. Society regularly. Over the years, Peg has served on Consistory and leading Bible Study. One of her most important roles has been as a prayer leader. She participated in the woman's prayer group for many years and is the leader of the prayer chain to this day! Peg's fondest memories revolve around singing in the choir. She has enjoyed fellowship time with choir members and especially loved praising and worshipping God with hymns. What does Peg think will be important in the church moving forward? Making a commitment to gathering to praise and worship God, and, above all else, making time for prayer. We are grateful for all of Peg's service to God and the church over the past years, and we are looking forward to tapping into her wisdom in years to come.

### **Polly Calhoun**

Polly was born October 18, 1939 in Springfield, Massachusetts. She lived in various places as a child as her father was in the military. She moved to Fonda in her junior year and graduated from FFCS. She married Ed Calhoun and raised their children, Linda and Allen. Polly worked in the law office of Edgar Leonhardt for 27 years and for Montgomery County for 30 years. Polly joined the church on April 7, 1957. She was an active member, teaching Sunday School, as a member of Consistory and the Women's Guild. She also was involved in her community as one of the founders of FONDA, Fonda. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and doing puzzles. She was a writer and wrote several books. She enjoys her children's activities and spending time with her grandchildren, Michael, Brett and Kyle and great-grandchildren Cole, Wells and Morgan.

*(NOTE: Polly passed on April 24th and we offer our deepest condolences to her family. We are glad that she was able to see the church service where she received her certificate and know how much her church family loved and appreciated her)*



### **Used Clothing Drop-Off Shed**

We now have a lovely clothing donation shed in our parking lot. Donations of clothes, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, curtains, pillowcases and stuffed animals are all collected to be redistributed to people around the world!

Matthew 25 says: "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing.." Your donations will help so many and are tax deductible. For more information contact the church office.



## VBS is Coming, Summer, 2024!

*Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!*

Vacation Bible School is happening!

July 8-12th, 9am-11am Ages: Pre-K –5th grade

Deb Silvernail & Stacey Delaney co-direct the program which will include science/craft, snack/video and game stations, music and more! We will learn how Jesus' power helps us, gives us hope, be bold, be good friends and live forever. We need volunteers for all activities, all days! A meeting is set for Sunday, May 5th after church. Contact Stacey, Deb, Ruthie Cook or Cindy Mitchell for more information.

### NEW MEMBER'S CLASS

Are you interested in becoming a church member? Pastor Linda will be offering a series of classes in May/June. Contact an Elder or Pastor Linda for more information.

### ANNUAL REGIONAL SYNOD MEETING

We are hosting the Regional Synod meeting on **Monday, May 6**. If you are able to volunteer an hour or more to help set up, serve or clean up breakfast (8am set up) or lunch at 11am Monday, please contact Gretchen Subik.

### Glen-Mohawk Seniors

The Glen-Mohawk Senior Citizens Group meets **every Tuesday at 10:30 am** at the Fonda Reformed Church Hall. Anyone over the age of 55 is welcome to attend a meeting and see what we are about. Our meetings usually last about an hour and light refreshments are served. We are a very active group and we would welcome new members. **May 9 at 1pm:** \$6 Senior Movie at Johnstown Movieplex. Includes popcorn & a drink! **May 20, 11:30-1:30** Free movie ("Harvey" starring James Stewart) at Johnstown Holiday Inn. If you are interested, please contact President Joe Mancini at 518-853-4875 or Vice President Gloria Kimball at 518-853-3126.



## Camp Fowler

### Hospitality, Community, Simplicity, Caring for the World

Camp Fowler is a non-profit children's camp grounded in openness, hospitality, and compassionate Christianity. They function foremost as a summer camp, aiming to provide space for children to be themselves and experience wonder and love. Fowler is a partner ministry of the Regional Synod of Albany, who supports their work. Fowler offers 1-week overnight camp sessions for campers coming out of 3rd-12th grade. Campers will stay in cabins on our 245 acre campus on the shores of Sacandaga Lake. Those who wish to explore the far corners of the Adirondacks can participate in one of our Wilderness trips led by our trained Guides. If you know of a child who would love a week at camp, you can check out the information and registration at [www.campfowler.org](http://www.campfowler.org). There are scholarships available for Fonda children to attend and Fowler is committed to making sure that no child misses out on camp due to finances. Speak to Pastor Linda or Nancy Langdon for more information on scholarships.

### Fonda Speedway Parking

It's that time of year again and we are looking for volunteers to help with parking at the Speedway on these Saturdays: **June 1 & July 22**. Contact Sherri Gray or sign-up on the sheet in the atrium.

### The Food Pantry has Moved

Still in Fultonville, the new location is **32 Main Street** with new hours of **2:30-4:30pm**. Thank you to Steve Cook for all the wonderful work you do.



### After-Church Coffee Hour

#### **POTLUCKS!**

Coffee hours are such a special part of our Sunday service as a chance to further congregate with our friends and church family. Please join us after worship and bring a dish to pass on **May 5th**. We will have a **Children's Day Potluck** on **June 9th** to celebrate the youth of our church. We will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs so bring a dish to share that kids love!