

# All Saints Day

Sunday, November 2



The celebration of All Saints' Day has a long history in the worship life of the Christian Church. It began as a commemoration of the martyrs who had died for the faith, and it has since become a day when we honor and remember those who, in death, have joined the Church Triumphant, as well as the faithful saints of the present who serve Jesus Christ. Martin Luther held that all Christians are simultaneously sinner and saint: a sinner because of our rebellious nature, but a saint because of salvation in Jesus.

On this special Sunday, our church family gives thanks to God for “all the saints from whom their labors rest.” Through prayer, song, and the lighting of candles, we honor those who we dearly love and will always remember. For those worshipping at home, please have a candle available to light during the time of remembrance and reflection.

October 2025		Upcoming Events	
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On Sunday, September 14th, educators, students, and caregivers gathered for the Blessing of the Backpacks.

# Welcome Letter from Rev. Trey Tirpak

Aloha kākou! *Greetings to you all.*

I pray that you have been enjoying these crisp nights and the slow turning of the leaves; God is a God of holy transitions. Before I officially start on **Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**, I wanted to write to you for three different reasons:

- First, to say “**thank you.**” Thank you for entrusting me with this call. Thank you for being patient as I finish at First Church. And, thank you to Pastor Bob, the Consistory, and other leaders who have been working so diligently to prepare for my arrival. I know it has felt like such a long time, but know that I will be with you soon! I’m excited, and I hope you are, too.
- Second, to make a request of you. During an interview a couple months back, the Search Committee wondered what I would do first if I were to pastor here, and I responded that I would take a good and intentionally long-while to get to know you.

And so, Community Reformed Church, for this programmatic year, **I’m asking you to let me get to know you.** Share of God’s work amongst you. Share this place’s stories. Share your own stories. Share the complexities and complications. Share your faith and your doubts. Share what brings you fear and what excites you.

I’ll get to know you interpersonally, and also through committees and programs and events. Also, when I get there, I’ll be working with the Consistory to create intentional “get-to-know-you” times, so look forward to those when they come.

Please also know that this will be a time for you to get to know both me and Cameron, too. (I’ll ask for your forgiveness in advance as we work on learning your names!)

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- Third, there are a few things you may like to know:
  1. You can contact me through the office and at my new email address: [treytirpak@crccpastor.org](mailto:treytirpak@crccpastor.org).
  2. I will be taking my Sabbaths on Fridays. Also, over the coming months as I become acquainted with the rhythms of CRCC, I'll figure out what hours would be best for me to go and work on my sermons.
  3. If you're wondering about an Installation Service with the Classis of Albany, that will most likely be in the new year. (My first Sunday with you all will be October 5<sup>th</sup>.)

As a way to get to know me a little bit, I'll share my favorite prayer from the Apostle Paul that comes from Ephesians. It'll be my prayer as I prepare to be with you, and I invite you to join me and pray it, too:

“This is why I kneel before the Father: Every ethnic group in heaven or on earth is recognized by him. I ask that he will strengthen you in your inner selves from the riches of his glory through the Spirit. I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong roots in love, I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers. I ask that you'll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God. Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us; glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.”

“A hui hou” *Until I see you again.* – Rev. Trey Tirpak



# Did You Know?

In 1965, Rev. David Coddington was installed as Classical Missionary of Community Reformed Church of Colonie by the Classis of Albany. The installation service took place at the First Reformed Church of Albany where he had been an associate minister. He served at Colonie until January 1971. In September 1971, Rev. Norm Tellier was installed as Minister of the Word and Sacrament. He remained at CRCC until June of 1987, when he became Director of Gift Planning for the Reformed Church in America. January 1989, marked the installation of Rev. Bruce Cornwell. Previously, he served for three years at Amity Reformed Church in Vischer Ferry. He remained pastor at CRCC until his passing in October 2023.

National studies have shown that the average pastor tenure is 3.6 years. After 7 years, it is considered "long term." Looking back over our 60-year history, it is clear that CRCC is not the average church, and our pastors are far from "average." We welcome Rev. Tirpak with open arms as our fourth pastor. May his tenure here be blessed – and long!

# Community Outreach Opportunities!

Beginning in November, we will, once again, be providing bi-weekly meals to the **Overflow Shelter at First Church in Albany**. Volunteers will prepare and deliver dinner to the Shelter for approximately 20 guests. Once the dates have been confirmed, there will be an online sign-up sheet. Please see Tina Bottini, Vicki Lane or Lori Cote with any questions.

October's Mission of the Month is the **Village of Colonie's Help a Veteran Program**. In addition to our monetary donations, the program is also looking for donations of the following items: grocery items (Chef Boyardee, cups of noodles, ramen, peanut butter, canned chicken/tuna, soup, canned vegetables, spaghetti, oatmeal, instant rice/potatoes), gift cards (in \$25 increments to Price Chopper, Hannaford, etc.), toiletries (toothpaste, shampoo, razors, conditioner, nail clippers, body wash, lotion, deodorant), coats, hats, scarves, gloves, socks and underwear. **Please note that all items must be new.** Items can be brought to church or dropped off at the Village Senior Center on Thunder Road.

**Café CRCC** will be Saturday, October 25th, from 6-8PM. All are welcome for dinner and an evening of musical talent.



# Making Fall Clean-up “Green”



Image from Annie Spratt

We typically associate fall in our area with the beautiful array of colors of the changing leaves. This lovely display all too quickly changes when the leaves fall to the ground, our plantings begin to show the effects of declining temperatures, and our attention turns to preparing for the end of the season.

Instead of raking up every fallen leaf and cutting back all wizened plants, consider these tips suggested by “The Old Farmer’s Almanac.”

1. Do a little less raking – place a few small leaf piles in the corners of your yard and allow leaves to remain under bushes and shrubs. These will allow pollinators including butterflies and native bees to overwinter in these areas. If you have a large enough property, create piles of leaves in unused areas where they will decompose over time.
2. Mulch some of the leaves with a mower. Allow some of the ground up leaves to remain where they will add organic material to the soil and reduce weed germination. Add some of the mulched leaves to garden beds.
3. Allow most of the perennials to be uncut over the winter. Pollinating insects may nest in hollow stems.
4. Don’t dead-head flowering plants. Once the pods dry and split open the seeds from marigolds, coneflowers, brown-eyed Susans and others can serve as a food source for birds, such as finches, in the winter.

Although following these suggestions might be a departure from usual practices, they will play a role in reducing waste, supporting God’s creatures, and promoting growth in the next season. You may find that you enjoy the interest in your gardens from plants with snow cover. A reminder that they’ll be back! For additional ideas and information on what plants should be cut-back and removed, see <https://www.almanac.com/10-fall-cleanup-tips-better-spring-garden>



## Construction Update

We are making headway at last! Walls are up, and the electrician has started his rough-in. Our plumber is just about done with the rough-in for the bathrooms, and we will soon be getting an inspection that will allow us to proceed with the restroom part of the project. When the electrician is done, and the work is inspected, we will start to put the finishing touches on the bathrooms and offices. The process of completing the floor finish will occur sometime after the drywall is installed. Although we have had steady hurdles pop-up throughout this process, I am very optimistic about completion for the end of October. I would be glad to show off our progress to anyone who would like to see it. Just ask when you see me after church services!

Kevin Ingalls

## Construction Impact

Although ongoing construction has caused us to cancel this year's Harvest Festival. Keep saving your used books, board games, video games, and puzzles!! It has been rescheduled for fall of 2026. And yes, we will have a Book Table!

See Lou Ann Connelly  
for more information.

While we can't access our narthex bulletin board, we can STILL access our online one!

Our Padlet Online Bulletin Board

([padlet.com/crccsarah/  
churchbulletinboard](https://padlet.com/crccsarah/churchbulletinboard))

is updated regularly. Don't see something there you wish you did?

Contact Sarah Huiest  
([crccsarah@gmail.com](mailto:crccsarah@gmail.com))  
to have it added.

## Junk in the Trunk

Start saving household items that you no longer use but don't want to put in the landfill! On **Sunday, October 12, from 12:00-1:00 PM**, there will be a **Junk in the Trunk** event in the church parking lot. Anyone can give their items away and anyone can "shop" for new items! Popular items are children's toys, tools, home decorations, and office supplies. This is also a really nice social event. Folks walk from car to car to treasure hunt and visit. We hope to see you there! Questions? See Jessica Kaercher, Kyrra April, Ellen Buono, Lou Ann Connelly, Deb Desnoyers or Linda Murphy.



## JUNK IN THE TRUNK

**Sunday, October 12**  
**12:00 - 1:00 PM**

***\*If giving items, arrive at 11:45***

**Community Reformed Church of Colonie**





On Sunday, August 31, 2025, Vicki Lane was installed to the office of Elder of Adult Enrichment, and Kevin Bottini was installed to the office of Deacon of Community Outreach, a position he has held for the previous 4 years. We give thanks that they have accepted the call to these positions and pray God grant them strength, determination, wisdom, and discernment.

## An update on "Shirley's Shawls"

"Shirley's Shawls," the prayer shawl ministry at Community Reformed Church of Colonie, meets monthly to enjoy fellowship as we crochet, knit and weave items to provide warmth and comfort. We have a supply of completed shawls and lap robes in many sizes and colors. They are available to anyone in our church family, as well as your extended family, neighbors and friends. Contact me, an Elder, or a Deacon, if you know of someone who would like to receive a prayer shawl. Shirley's Shawls always welcomes new members. If you might be interested in joining our ministry, watch the weekly bulletin for meeting dates or contact me at [lindamurph98@aol.com](mailto:lindamurph98@aol.com).

Linda Murphy

## THE CRCC QUILT GROUP

CRCC's Sew and Reap Quilt Group resumed their meetings on Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. The next meetings are scheduled for 2:00 on October 13<sup>th</sup>, and 5:30 on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Generally, meetings run from 5:30 to 7:30, concluding with a brief devotional. Our October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, however, will begin at 2:00.



Last year, we worked together to construct these two Camp Erin quilts for young people who have recently lost family members.

Our next projects will be to sew Comfort Quilts for end-stage hospice patients and their families. In addition, we will continue to make kids' quilts for Project Linus, one of our on-going efforts to bring comfort and joy to children in our area.



The church has a few sewing machines on site, or you can bring your own.

Fabric kits, cutting and measuring supplies, and patterns are provided.

The group is open to anyone who wants to participate, regardless of your sewing expertise. For more information, please come on October 13, or contact Lou Ann Connelly at [louannconne@nycap.rr.com](mailto:louannconne@nycap.rr.com).

We hope to see you then!



# SENIOR CITIZENS LAW DAY 2025



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4**  
8:30 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

Capital Region soon-to-be seniors, their loved ones & caregivers are invited to Albany Law School for this annual community education event.

Participants can:

- Attend workshops on important legal issues
- Receive a free one-on-one consultation with an attorney
- Hear from prominent advocates for older adults

Registration for free, thirty-minute attorney consultations will open on August 27th;  
Registration for Consultations will close on September 20th

**WHERE?**

**ALBANY LAW SCHOOL**

80 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208

**REGISTER**



<https://alumni.albanylaw.edu/scld2025>



**Albany Law**

Questions? Contact:

[ElderLawProBonoSociety@albanylaw.edu](mailto:ElderLawProBonoSociety@albanylaw.edu)



## Community Reformed Church of Colonie

701 Sand Creek Rd  
Colonie, NY 12205-2497

Rev. Trey Tirpak—Pastor  
[treytirpak@crccpastor.org](mailto:treytirpak@crccpastor.org)

Tel: (518) 496-1844

E-mail:

[crccclori@gmail.com](mailto:crccclori@gmail.com)

Website:

[www.communityreformedchurch.com](http://www.communityreformedchurch.com)

Instagram:

Colonie\_reformed

Facebook:

[facebook.com/ColonieReformed](https://facebook.com/ColonieReformed)

## Worship Hours

We invite you to join us for worship and fellowship every Sunday at 10 AM in person and via Zoom.

Outdoor Services are also available in the Summer every Sunday at 9 AM

Holiday and Special Services will be announced on our website and this newsletter

## Colonie Community Day Care Center

701 Sand Creek Rd  
Colonie, NY 12205-2497

Carol Grasso, Director

Tel: (518) 869-0131

E-mail:

[cgrasso6@yahoo.com](mailto:cgrasso6@yahoo.com)



Join Camp Fowler for a celebration honoring

## Uncle Kent's Retirement

Rev. "Uncle" Kent Busman is retiring after 39 years as the Executive Director of Camp Fowler. Camp Fowler is hosting a series of banquets and fundraisers to honor his leadership and celebrate the future of a ministry that has touched so many lives.

Join Camp Fowler for one of the following events:

FRI Oct 24  
6-8pm  
Young Sommer Winery in  
Williamson, NY

SUN Oct 26  
3-6pm  
First Reformed Church of  
Scotia in Scotia, NY

MON Oct 27  
5:30-8pm  
First Reformed Church of  
Scotia in Scotia, NY

Tickets are \$60 and must be purchased ahead of time at [campfowler.org/retirementcelebrations](http://campfowler.org/retirementcelebrations). Contact [development@campfowler.org](mailto:development@campfowler.org) with any questions.



## Facebook

[facebook.com/coloniereformed](https://facebook.com/coloniereformed)



## Instagram

[colonie\\_reformed](https://instagram.com/colonie_reformed)



## Padlet – Online Bulletin Board

[padlet.com/crccsarah/churchbulletinboard](https://padlet.com/crccsarah/churchbulletinboard)



## Website

[Communityreformedchurch.com](http://Communityreformedchurch.com)



## Community Reformed Church of Colonie

Communications/Media Coordinator: **Sarah Huiest**

Layout Designer: **Bob Becker**

Articles are due by the 15th of the month and can be submitted to [crccsarah@gmail.com](mailto:crccsarah@gmail.com) or given to Sarah Huiest.