



Cross and **CONVENTS**

701 Sand Creek Rd, Colonie, NY 12205-2497 — Rev. Trey Tirpak, Pastor—Telephone (518)869-5589 — www.communityreformedchurch.com

Congregational Meeting

You're invited to our Congregational Worship Service & Meeting, followed by a Summer BBQ on Sunday, August 23rd, at 9 AM.

Let's be real: Congregational meetings are rarely something people look forward to, but I'm hoping to change that. To do that, on August 23rd, I'll be blending our worship service with our congregational meeting.

The theme for our time together will be based on the first sermon I preached here in August 2025. In that sermon, I shared that I believe the heart of a pastor's role is to help a congregation sing all the songs of God. Those songs not only include joyful and familiar ones, but they also include difficult, mysterious, and new songs of God.

So, through prayer, Scripture, song, testimony, and a printed annual report, that's what the morning will be about: the songs of God—both new and familiar—that have carried us through the 2025–2026 programmatic year.

Beginning at 9:00 AM, we'll gather inside the sanctuary and around tables to hear of the ministry we have done this past year, the physical and financial changes the Consistory and I have led, and the flourishing of our daycare. We'll even change our bylaws and elect a new elder and deacon to the Consistory. I also plan to share some goals for the 2026–2027 programmatic year.

My hope is that, together, we'll hear more clearly the tunes God is playing among us, so that we might then say together—as I do every Sunday—"Now to him who, by the power at work within us, is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory... forever and ever. Amen."

When the service-meeting concludes, we'll head outside for our final Summer Fellowship gathering and enjoy a BBQ cookout with plenty of food, fun, and fellowship for all ages.

So, let me encourage you to mark your calendar, and keep your eyes and ears open for more details in the weeks ahead!

God's Blessings,
- Pastor Trey

August 2026

In this Issue:

CDCC Summer!	2
CRCC Graduates	3
Graduation Sunday	4

Upcoming Events

Special Second Hour	August 9th
August Outreach Outing	August 18th
Congregational Meeting	August 23rd
Blessing of the Backpacks	September 13th



A great time was had by all at this year's Albany Pride Parade! Thanks to everyone who came out to walk and spread God's love to the LGBTQ+ Community!

GOD IS LOVE!

CCDC Summer

It's the "lazy, hazy, days of summer" at CCDC (at least for the children!). Summer at CCDC is a "throw back" to the summers of your youth. The days are filled with sprinklers, water tables, sand, mud, colored chalk, running, playing, baseball, soccer, swinging, or climbing on the cave and imagining you are a princess or spiderman.

We are blessed with an amazing playground, one that allows the children to run free, explore, and imagine. But, this did not happen overnight. When I started here almost 40 years ago, it was like the desert in the summer. No shade, 2 metal slides and 2 swing sets. We started planting a tree each year for some shade. We were blessed to have some fund raising money and some very talented parents who donated their time and expertise and built the sandbox, the colored slide, the pavilion, the sand box cover, then later the tricycle track. We also had parents, staff, friends, alumni, family, church members, and even a work crew from the Albany County Jail, dig out a foot under all the playground equipment and spread mulch to keep our children safe. We are also very thankful for the mowers who keep our playground looking amazing.

We are so very thankful for this beautiful area where our children can enjoy the joys of childhood play.

Blessing of the Backpacks!

SEPTEMBER 13TH

Students and Educators are invited to bring their backpacks to worship on

Sunday, September 13th, 10AM.

During worship, a special blessing will be given for the new school year.

All are welcome to attend!

Questions? Contact Sarah Huie
crccsarah@gmail.com



AUGUST'S OUTREACH OUTING

Bring your lawn chair or blanket!!



ALL ARE WELCOME

Tuesday, August 18th, 6:30PM

Frank A. Leak Amphitheater (Cook Park)
Shambrook Pkwy. Colonie, 12205

Worship moves

INDOORS

and back to **10AM**

10:00

**Sunday,
September 6th**

CRCC 2026 Graduates



Congratulations to **Oscar Colbert!** Oscar graduated from **Guilderland High School**. He received the Guilderland Support Staff Award – awarded to a graduate going into the trades or a 2-year college. Oscar will be attending Hudson Valley Community College in the fall pursuing Construction Management. We are so proud of you, Oscar, and can't wait to see what this next chapter has in store for you!

**Em Y. (not pictured)
— Hartwick College**



Halla R. – SUNY New Paltz

Pre-K-K grads:



Thaddeus



Dominic



Orson



Grad Sunday!

On Sunday, June 28th, we celebrated our academic graduates, as well as the emotional, spiritual, and physical accomplishments of all present in worship. As we celebrated God's renewing work among us, congregants were invited to take a slip of paper and write something they had "graduated into" this year: a lesson learned, a new accomplishment, transformation in a certain season of life, etc. Then, they came forward and placed their slips of paper in either the "Share with God" or "Share with Everyone" basket. The "Share with Everyone" slips were read aloud. Following worship, we had a wonderfully celebratory Fellowship Hour! We snacked on cake and ice cream, flew kites, played lawn games, and chatted about all the wonderful things everyone has been up to! "Thank you," Pastor Trey and the Community Outreach Committee for making this wonderful Sunday happen!





August Special Sundays & Summer Programming:

- 📖 **Wed, August 5th:** Colossians Bible Study - We'll read 3:1–17. 6 PM in the Koinonia Room.
- 🎨 **Sun, August 9th:** A Special Second Hour - Join Trey in the Koinonia Room after worship to learn more about the Psalms, and even have a crack at writing a psalm of your own!
- 📖 **Wed, August 12th:** Colossians Bible Study - We'll read 3:18–4:6. 6 PM in the Koinonia Room.
- 🎪 **Tues, August 18th:** Outreach Outing - Come and hear Joe's Boys at "Tuesday Nights in the Park" at the Frank A. Leak Amphitheater for the Arts (Shambrook Pkwy, Colonie, NY 12205). The show starts at 6:30 PM. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets!
- 🎉 🍷 🎮 **Sun, August 23rd:** Join us at 9 AM for our final Summer Fellowship Sunday and our annual Congregational Meeting! We'll gather in the sanctuary in an Agape-style setup, and throughout this worship service-meeting, we'll hear testimonies and ministry reports, hear Trey's reflections on the past year and vision for the year ahead, and vote on new Deacons and Elders. Afterward, stay for a full summer BBQ, fellowship, and games for all ages. We highly encourage everyone to come and be part of this important and joyful day in the life of our church!
- 📖 **Wed, August 26th:** Colossians Bible Study - We'll read 4:7–18. 6 PM in the Koinonia Room.

Keep an eye out for the following! 👁️

- 🎨 **Special Sunday Activities:** Special after-worship fun may include kite flying, a mahjong tournament, and other friendly competitions.
- 👨👩👧👦 **Families Get-Together:** A chance for families with school-age children to connect, relax, and enjoy time together.
- 🌟 **Young Adult Get-Together:** A gathering for young adults out of high school for fellowship and community.
- 🎳 **Bowling Outing:** A special bowling event held in honor and memory of Karen Reynolds.

A BLESSING FOR OUR GRADUATES

Bless the person you were,
the person you are,
and the shimmering
maybe of who
you still might become.

We whisper words of thanks...
For the unexpected mercies
that carried you this far.
For the teachers
who never gave up,
for the friends
who never made you pretend,
for the family-chosen or
given-that loves you,
and the prayers
that sustained you.

For every late-night
existential crisis,
every "what am I even doing?"
that somehow, miraculously,
brought us here today.

Bless you as you embark on
whatever comes next.
For these bittersweet endings,
and for the blank pages
ahead—
May you fill them with truth,
with goodness, with courage.
And what you've learned
about
love and grace carry you
further than certainty ever
could.

AUGUST 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 26	27	28	29	30	31	1
  9am   10am 		 6pm	 6pm	 6pm		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
  9am		Worship Committee 6:30pm	 6pm			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
  9am  10am			 6pm			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
  9am		 6pm				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
 9am Indoor Worship Congregational Mtg.   10am BBQ		 6pm	 6pm			
30	31	September 1	2	3	4	5
  9am LAST OUTDOOR WORSHIP			Worship Committee 6:30pm			

KEY

 Indoor Worship


 Outdoor Worship

 Joe's Boys Outreach Outing

 Fellowship Sunday

 Bible Study

 Consistory

 Second Hour Psalm Writing

 Book Group

Community Reformed Church of Colonie

701 Sand Creek Rd
Colonie, NY 12205-2497

Rev. Trey Tirpak—Pastor
treytirpak@crccpastor.org

Tel: (518) 869-5589

E-mail:

crccclori@gmail.com

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Instagram:

Colonie_reformed

Facebook:

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

Book Group News

The Book Group will be taking the month of August off from meeting, but not from reading!! We are looking for book suggestions for next year, so everyone's assignment is to Read! Read!! Read!!!

Book Group will reconvene Tuesday, September 22nd, 6PM, at the church. Keep an eye on the Weekly Newsletter, social media, and the September Newsletter for the next selection. Questions? Contact Vicki Lane, Elder of Adult Enrichment. All are always welcome!

Did You Know?

During the summer of 1989, the outdoor pavilion was built by parents of our daycare children, one of whom owned a construction building. Prior to this there was no shade at all on the entire playground making the hot and sunny summers difficult and dangerous for young children. The completed pavilion was dedicated in honor of Cal Francisco, long time CRCC member who served for many years on the daycare board. Later, a covered sandbox was added to the yard to the delight of all. Over the years, several shade trees have been planted to make additional shady spots throughout the playground for all to enjoy – as well as a row of lilac bushes. The first tree planted was in memory of Carol Grasso's son Joey, and it has grown into a mighty and beautiful remembrance of this young man.



Facebook

facebook.com/coloniereformed



Instagram

[colonie_reformed](https://www.instagram.com/colonie_reformed)



Padlet – Online Bulletin Board

padlet.com/crccsarah/churchbulletinboard



Website

Communityreformedchurch.com



YouTube

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 or given to Sarah Huiest.