OUR HISTORY

The REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN (COVENANTER) CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA has an unbroken history since the establishment of the Reformation Church in Scotland, continuing to believe and teach those principles characterizing that Church.

Patrick Hamilton, a Scottish nobleman, having visited Martin Luther brought the principles of the Reformation to Scotland, and was burned at the stake. John Knox, inspired by his study with John Calvin at Geneva, returned to Scotland and was instrumental in establishing the Reformation Church of Scotland in 1560.

The practice of public “covenanting” was followed, a high point being reached when the National Covenant which embraced these principles was signed by the king and people in 1638. In the succeeding decades the Covenants refused to surrender the “crown rights” of Jesus Christ as King over His church in spite of severe persecution under the Stuart kings. Their struggle for religious liberty laid the foundations for the religious and political freedom which we now enjoy.

In 1743 the first Covenanter congregation was organized in North America. Today congregations are located across the country from Seattle to Orlando; San Diego to Cambridge.

WE BELIEVE

The Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) Church believes that the sovereign God Who inspired the Bible sent His Son the Lord Jesus Christ to die on the cross and rise again in order to save men from sin and its curse. Those who by His grace repent of sin and believe in Jesus, will be delivered from condemnation in the final judgment when Jesus returns and will enjoy the blessings of heaven prepared for God’s chosen people.

The Covenanter or Reformed Presbyterian Church recognizes Christ as king of men and nations. In seeking to honor His Lordship in every area of life, the Church is working for a Christian Amendment to the United States Constitution.

OUR WORSHIP

The reading and exposition of the Bible is an integral part of every worship service.

Since our worship is based on the word of God, we follow the New Testament pattern of singing the Psalms exclusively without instrumental accompaniment.
FOREIGN MISSIONS

Work in Latakia, Syria was started in 1859, and in Silicia in 1882. Some of our missionaries sacrificed their lives in these fields. Work continues in Syria even though our missionaries have been forced to leave.

Currently, work is carried on in Cyprus where our emphasis is on education and evangelism in the American Academies at Larnaca and Nicosia.

Extensive work in China dating from 1895 to 1949 had to be terminated when the Communists attained domination. The extent of the China work was evident by the hospitals, schools, and the evangelism which led to the establishment of many congregations.

A new field in Kobe, Japan was opened in 1950 where three centers of work have been established.

In bringing the Gospel to the world, our missionaries serving overseas stand hand-in-hand with Reformed Presbyterians of Ireland and Scotland, who also maintain mission effort in Ethiopia and Australia.

HOME MISSIONS

The Home Mission program of the Reformed Presbyterian Church is administered by a permanent Board of the Synod, and seeks to minister to needy areas and peoples. In addition to promoting the beginning of new congregations, the work of Home Missions involves the responsibility for work among particular segments of society requiring a specific "mission" thrust.

The work in Selma, Alabama, is done in conjunction with an established congregation. For many years the Burwell Infirmary was operated as part of the mission. This work started in 1874.

OUR SCHOOLS

GENEVA COLLEGE

Geneva College is a Christian co-educational institution offering courses in liberal arts and certain vocational fields from a Christian viewpoint.

Although controlled by the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) Church, Geneva seeks to serve the worldwide community of Christian believers and its own community as well as the constituency of the Church.

Located about thirty miles northwest of Pittsburgh, the campus is situated on College Hill overlooking the Beaver River, in Beaver Falls, Pa.

A fully accredited college, Geneva stands dedicated to the principle that true education must be founded upon the knowledge of God and His purposes.

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary was established in May 1810. For some years it was located in various cities, but in 1856 was brought to Pittsburgh, Pa.

A comprehensive building program was completed in 1961 which modernized the total physical plant of the Seminary, including a new chapel and expanded library facilities.

The purpose of the Seminary is to provide godly and able men for the Gospel ministry, including special lines of Christian service. The course of study prepares the student for pastoral or missionary service in the Reformed Presbyterian Church especially, but students of other churches are also admitted.

Students certified by their church may be admitted when they have completed requirements for a bachelor's degree or its equivalent.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education was established by the Synod in 1959 to promote the work of teaching throughout the denomination.

One of the primary aims of this Board is the establishment of a sound curriculum for use in the total Church School. In addition to helps for regular Bible classes, materials for youth and adult fellowship groups are also marked for development.

The central office of the Church is located in the Empire Building, 537 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222.

THIS BROCHURE IS PRESENTED TO YOU BY:

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