

Hungarian Ref. Church Poughkeepsie

Reformed

9 Grove St. Poughkeepsie, New York, New York

No website

845-454-2560

Pastor: Rt. Rev. Alexander Forró Bishop
Hungarian Church Services: Sun. 10:00 AM
Hungarian Congregation: 10-12 people

Church History

The church, founded in 1932, has 45 members, some from as far away as Florida. Attendees come from Amenia and Peekskill for special events. Ten to twelve members regularly attend Sunday services, said the Rev. Alexander Forró, church pastor since 1960.

Worship is an important part of the Hungarian community in the City of Poughkeepsie. Up to three generations of families worship together at the Hungarian Reformed Church on Grove Street. While the church used to be 100 members strong, numbers have been dwindling as members pass away and their children find other places to worship.

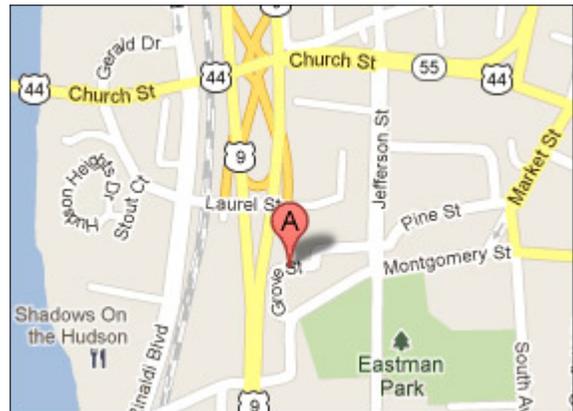
The Hungarian Reformed Church has a nearly 500-year history, dating back to the Reformation and the time of Martin Luther and John Calvin.

It adheres to the Bible as the word of God and two statements of faith, the Second Helvetic Confession and the Heidelberg Catechism.

The Poughkeepsie church is part of a larger network of Reformed churches, which include congregations in New York City, Staten Island, Rochester and Syracuse. The traditional service includes hymn singing, prayer and a sermon. It is conducted primarily in Hungarian, though parts are translated into English. Sunday school classes for children are taught in English. Communion is given seven times a year.

Dinners, picnics and dances in native Hungarian costumes have served as important social events for the church family. The church still has regular food sales to raise funds for the building.

Sometimes, 100 people will turn out to sample tasty dishes of chicken paprikás, stuffed cabbage, gulyás -- a type of soup -- and kolbász, a type of sausage. Hungarian pastries are also popular drawing cards.



Map: <http://g.co/maps/8p5n5>

