

First CRC Fulton  
July 16, 2023  
Before the Creation of the World

**We Gather in Praise and Worship**

**Prelude:** No Longer Slaves

**Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Call To Worship:** Apostles Creed

**God's Greeting**

**Mutual Greeting**

**Worship Through Song:**

By Faith

Tis not that I did choose thee

Lord, Our Lord, Thy Glorious Name

**Congregational Prayer:** Rollie V

**Offering** - General Fund & Faith Promise

**Worship in Song:**

Jesus loves even me

In the Garden

**We Prepare For & Hear God's Word**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:3-8

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he[a] predestined us for adoption to sonship[b] through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,

**Sermon:** Before the Creation of the World - Pastor John Byker

**Prayer**

## WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING

**Parting Song:** New doxology

**Blessing:** Pastor Byker

### Announcements

**Rachel Dykstra & Charles Elliott** invite our 1stCRC church family to their wedding. Saturday Sept 2nd 2023 at 3:00 pm at 1stCRC. Dinner Reception to follow at Majestic Pines(formerly Buck's Barn), 11503 3 Mile Rd, Thomson, IL. Please RSVP by Aug 1st by calling 563-219-5441 or there is a sign up sheet on the back table. Thank you!

**The family of Robert Jackson** would like to express our sincere thanks to those who extended their sympathy to us with flowers, cards and prayers at the time of our loved one's death. Your kindness was a great source of comfort to us. God bless you all. Love Joan, Carman, and Stacy.

**Outdoor Services** will be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday this summer. The theme for our August 13th outdoor service and potluck will be "Dog Days of Summer." The Evangelism Committee will cook hot dogs. Please bring a "BallPark" food (Nachos, Popcorn, etc). And don't forget to invite your friends!

**Please email all information for the secretary to [FirstCRCFulton@live.com](mailto:FirstCRCFulton@live.com). Please do not send information to my private email or text message, as they are not monitored the same.**

**Remember in prayer** our members in care facilities and those that are homebound: Dorothy B, Jeanette B, Carroll E, John S, Betty S, Mark S, Albert W

### **July Birthdays**

1	Albert Wiebenga	17	David Dykstra	25	Jonah Lutz
2	Paul Thompson	17	Steve Huisenga	26	Dorothy Bielema
4	Dick Huizenga	18	Wanda Smith	28	Logan Moore
6	Jessica Russell	21	Jeanette Brondyke	29	Graicie James

### **July Anniversaries**

12	Bruce & Lori Bielema	20	Eric & Sara Burns
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### Deacons News

7/9/23 : Youth Group: \$100.00

Budget: \$2,042.00      **Offerings Today:** General Fund - Faith Promise

Received: \$1,071.00      Next Sunday: General Fund - Unity Christian School Boosters

Short: \$971.00      *Please place your offerings in the plates as they are being passed.*

## Youth Group

We will meet this Sunday, July 16. We will meet from 5:30-8:00 at Grace Dykstra's house for a swim party (if you need the address please let me know). We will have snacks & drinks. We only have 2 Sunday's left before we leave on SERVE. If you have any questions please let us know. Please plan to be at the Youth Service at Bethel CRC on Sunday, July 23. The service starts at 10:30, please be at the Church by 10:15. See you all Sunday.

## Community News

**Discovery Center** - 7/18 -- Pizza Hut Fundraiser, 7/23 D.C. On the GO! @ LumberKings, 7/29 -- EnviroKids: Worm Time!

**New Legacy** will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday July 16th at 6:00 PM. Please join us in the valley for an evening of music and ministry. A free will offering will be taken. In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors. New Legacy is a group of exceptional instrumentalists, and phenomenal vocals, singing meaningful lyrics, all of which plays part in the lasting trademark of this group! But their performances are so much more than just music. New Legacy brings many years of music ministry experience with them to every performance, along with a wide variety of instruments and music styles. They have a unique range of voices that might sing a traditional bluegrass song one moment, a classic country gospel, or even an acapella.

**The McCloskeys** will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday July 23rd at 6:00 PM. Please join us for an evening of Music and Ministry. A free will offering will be taken. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors. Pat and Kyla McCloskey are a husband/wife duo based in Hebron, Indiana. They travel across the country singing soul stirring and inspirational music. Their preaching will challenge the heart and encourage Christians to give it all to Jesus Christ in service and in testimony.

**Beyond the Walls**, 2023 Center for Missions & Evangelism National Conference, will bring encouragement to church leaders and lay people alike by focusing on what it looks like to do faithfully reformed, outward-facing ministry in an age of adversity. Our speakers will address crucial topics that speak to the mission and identity of the church in a world full of darkness and confusion. Only the gospel of Jesus Christ offers any meaningful hope; and through God's Word and Spirit, the Church continues to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Join us at Bethel Church from October 6-7 in Lansing, Illinois, as we seek to grow and learn together.

<https://www.midamerica.edu/cme/conference>

**The Annual Pro-Life Event** for the Pregnancy Center will be held this year at Journey Church in Clinton, on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 6:30-8:30pm. They will have pizza, great worship, a guest speaker and free pro-life giveaways. Mark your calendars. RSVP to Nancy by Email if you hope to attend or call 563-242-6628 with any questions. More details will follow and thanks for your prayers.

**Volunteer with World Renew Disaster Response Services** - Are you looking for volunteer opportunities to help others and serve God? Make a life changing difference with World Renew Disaster Response Services this fall in Boutte, Louisiana; Whatcom County, Washington; or Sarasota, Florida! For dates and more information, go to [worldrenew.net/volunteer](http://worldrenew.net/volunteer). We can't wait to hear from you!

	<b>Today</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
Recorder & Sound	Joe V	David D
Nursery Attendant	Celia B	Sara B
Snack Provider	Lynell B	Beth C
Server	Lynell B	Stacy S

<b>Weekly Calendar</b>		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am

Pastor Michael Hooker-Email: [mhooke01@gmail.com](mailto:mhooke01@gmail.com)  
 Church Email: [FirstCRCFulton@live.com](mailto:FirstCRCFulton@live.com)  
 Office: 815-589-3790  
 Website: [www.FultonFirstCRC.com](http://www.FultonFirstCRC.com)  
 Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church