

First Christian Reformed Church

801 15th Ave

Fulton, IL 61252

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***Growing Closer to God
Through Service & Love***

Pastor Michael-Email: mhooke01@gmail.com

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Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church

First CRC Fulton

August 17, 2025 - 9:00am

God's Faithfulness

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: The Lord's Army

Welcome: Pastor Michael

Call To Worship:

God's Greeting: Pastor Michael

Mutual Greeting:

Worship Through Song:

Waymaker

10,000 Reasons

Awesome God

Congregational Prayer: Pastor Michael

Offering: General Fund & Benevolence

Announcements: Pastor Michael

Student Video:

https://youtube.com/watch?v=6YzvTKwuCY8&si=F_NbCTRXLhCT-rew

Blessing of the Students

Worship Through Song:

Peace Like a River (with motions!)

Days of Elijah

You are Holy

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days. ³¹By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

³²*And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.*

³⁹*These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.*

¹*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

Sermon: God's Faithfulness - Pastor Michael

Celebration of Communion

WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Blessing: Pastor Michael

Parting Song: This Little Light of Mine

Announcements

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper. As we sit around the table of the Lord may we know our sins have been forgiven through His Son, Jesus Christ. Let us celebrate with joy in our hearts.

"Back to school" Sunday! Today, we will be celebrating communion and having a potluck after the service.

Please send prayer requests to mhooke01@gmail.com or call 847-513-2809.

Please send *all other* bulletin information to FirstCRCFulton@live.com by Thursday at 7:00pm.

August Birthdays

2 Chris Roos	15 Jason Vander Eide
3 Audrey Balk	18 Celia Behrens
3 Isabelle Fletcher	19 Andrew Zajicek
10 Lynell Breidenbach	20 Joseph Zajicek
10 Mary Medenblik	21 Brenda Bousman
14 Pam Bielema	24 Teresa Dellit
14 Sara Burns	25 April Prins
15 Dale Schaver	28 Holly Bielema
	31 Joshua Bielema

August Anniversaries

3 Sam & Ruby Dykstra	9 Bill & Mary Medenblik
5 Lauren & Jeriann Medenblik	27 Roger & Gayle Dykstra

Deacons' News

Offerings Received 8/10/25:	<u>General Fund</u>
	Budget: \$2,180.00
Faith Promise: \$127.00	Received: <u>\$806.00</u>
	Under: \$1,374.00

Offerings Today: General Fund & Benevolence

Offerings 8/24/25: General Fund & UCSB

Please place your offerings in the plates as they are passed.

CRC News

Thrive Faith Formation Tip – In his book *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson writes, “The true measure of our character is how we treat the poor, the disfavored, the accused, the incarcerated, and the condemned. We are all implicated when we allow other people to be mistreated.” These words speak directly to the heart of Micah 6:8. As you go through this week, focus on aligning your actions with those of the one who seeks justice in all spaces. Note down your observations at the end of the week, and consider what your daily practice can become moving forward. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Community News

The Farm Hands will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on August 17th at 6:00 PM! Come and join us for an evening of praise and worship. A free-will offering will be taken. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors. Tim Graves and The Farm Hands is one of the most exciting and in demand bands in Bluegrass Music. Since their inception in 2010, the band has received over 82 award nominations, winning an unprecedented 34 major awards including Bluegrass Gospel Band of the Year at the 2019 and 2020 Bluegrass Music Awards. Their YouTube videos, Facebook, and Twitter pages have thousands of followers. They are one of the busiest touring bands in bluegrass, performing over 150 dates per year at a variety of venues such as Festivals, Churches, Performing Arts Centers, Theaters, and Fairs. They are at home at any venue because they stay true to their calling. Tim Graves of The Farm Hands explains, “When you do what you are called to do, you really don't have to worry about anything because the Lord is in charge. We are merely the vessel that He chooses to use when someone decides to have us at their event. The Lord leads, we follow. It's very simple, if we just get out of The Lord's way, it

will work out like it should. It's when we try to do things on our own that we have difficulties." Tim Graves and The Farm Hands plays Bluegrass and Gospel Music. Gospel Music has always been a part of Bluegrass Music. When anyone brings Tim Graves and The Farm Hands to their event, they will be getting the best of both Bluegrass and Gospel together. The Lord must love music to make those two styles of music work so well together.

The Chitans will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, August 24th at 6:00 PM! Come and join us for an evening of praise and worship. A free-will offering will be taken. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors. The Chitans consist of five siblings, Kaiziah, 24, Kayandra, 23, Jesse, 21, Jayden, 18, and Karlainah, 15. The siblings have been singing together for eleven years. They and their parents, Layne and Karen, have been taking their music ministry on the road for the past seven years. Their music encompasses Southern Gospel, Contemporary Christian, Black Gospel, Caribbean, and traditional Hymns. Incorporating various styles in their concerts is what makes this unique blending of these styles truly special. Although they are young, their ministry has taken them throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean. While ministering in churches, schools, civic and cultural gatherings, hospitals, prisons, or on the streets, the heartbeat of this family group is to point souls to Jesus Christ.

The Mulkins Family will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, August 31st at 6:00 PM! We will be serving Root Beer Floats after the concert! Come and join us for an evening of praise and worship. A free-will offering will be

taken. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors. The Mulkins Family exists to glorify God through their music and evangelism. As a young family, they continue to develop their instrument skills and singing harmony to deliver a fun, uplifting, and God-honoring gospel concert. People leave their concerts feeling encouraged and inspired. Their music style is Southern and Bluegrass Gospel. The Mulkins Family consists of Rick and Cindy Mulkins, with their nine children in age order: Ruby, Isaac, Noah, Grace, Hazel, Jacob, Caleb, Ezra and Esther. Currently, five out of their eight children sing and play instruments. When Rick gets asked why he doesn't sing with the family, he smiles and jokingly replies, "I can't carry a tune. The only thing I can carry is the sound equipment into the church." Even though Rick doesn't sing, he still plays an integral role in their music ministry as he interweaves the Gospel and heartfelt testimonies and stories of God's grace and goodness between songs. The Mulkins Family's music journey started not too long ago when someone asked Cindy, "Do you sing as a family?" She responded, "No, we don't have any music background or training." Well, a lot has changed since that thought-provoking question. Today, they sing, travel, and evangelize all around the country.

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am

	August 17th	August 24th
Recorder & Sound	David D.	Paul T.
Nursery Attendant	Michelle V.	Celia B.
Snack Provider	Brenda A.	Brenda A.
Server	Stacy S.	Stacy S.