

First Christian Reformed Church

801 15th Ave

Fulton, IL 61252

815-589-3790



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

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First CRC Fulton
August 10, 2025 - 9:00am
It Will Not Be Taken Away

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Ann Dykstra

Welcome:

Call To Worship:

L: We gather this day from a week filled with needs and demands

P: We come to find rest and renewal of our spirits.

L: Open your hearts in love to hear the voice of God.

P: We want to quietly rest in God's presence, free from the clamor of the world.

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it. AMEN.

God's Greeting: Pastor John Byker

Mutual Greeting:

Worship Through Song:

Shout to the North

My Life is in You, Lord

O Lord You're Beautiful

Announcements: Beth Caven

Congregational Prayer: Brenda A.

Offertory: Tegan and Body

Offering: General Fund & Faith Promise

Worship Through Song:

At the Table

Pass Me Not

His Mercy is More

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42

³⁸ *As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"*

⁴¹ *"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one.[a] Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."*

Sermon: It Will Not Be Taken Away - Pastor John Byker

WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Blessing: Pastor John Byker

Parting Song: Go Now in Peace

Announcements

Fulton night out & "Totally Tuesday" at Drives Park.

August 12th, 5-8pm: The Fulton Police Department has asked us to partner with them, again, to help with the kid's activities. There will be a DRY bounce house and carnival-type games that we'll need volunteers for. Any amount of time you can offer is appreciated. Please let Beth C. know if you can help!

Preparatory Sunday - As we prepare to come to the Lord's table to celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion next Sunday, let us examine our hearts and lives this week.

"Back to school" Sunday! August 17th, we will be celebrating communion and having a potluck after the service. It is also county fair time, so the theme for the potluck is fair food! Turkey Legs? Fried anything? Anything on a stick! Have fun with it! Here's a link to some more ideas:

<https://www.delish.com/cooking/g39527639/carnival-recipes/>

Free Sale We are hosting our 3rd Annual “Everything is FREE Sale.” We’ll be accepting donations from 5:30-8pm, Aug 11th-15th. All donated items will be set out for people to take for free on Aug 16th. The purpose is to give life to items that are no longer needed and let someone else enjoy them. No income restrictions. We want to keep these items out of landfills and give them a new home. Any unclaimed items will be donated to Bargain Bonanza. Questions? Call Stacy @ 563-212-7474.

The council has been looking into potential global mission partners. We have supported missionaries in the past and would like to continue in this tradition. If anyone in the congregation knows of any connections for global partners, the council would love your input as we look for this new partnership.

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 8/3/25:

General Fund

Budget: \$2,180.00

Building Fund: \$274.00

Received: \$3,863.00

Over: \$1,683.00

Offerings Today: General Fund & Faith Promise

Offerings 8/17/25: General Fund & Benevolence

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

CRC News

Thrive Faith Formation Tip – Psalm 19 exclaims, “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands” (v. 1, NIV). Throughout your week make a point to observe the sky—whether storm-filled, clear and sunny, brilliant blue with fluffy clouds, or full of stars. How does observing creation remind you of God’s glory and good works? Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Community News

The Windmill Culture Center (WCC) needs you! We are having coffee at the WCC for new volunteers. The meeting is August 13 at 2:30 PM at the Culture Center, 111 10th Ave., Fulton. Come join us to learn about volunteering. If you cannot attend this meeting but are interested in volunteering please call Jane Orman-Luker at 815-589-3479.

The Dotsons will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, August 10th at 6:00 PM! The Dotsons are a family gospel group from northern Indiana. The group consists of husband and wife, John and Yavonna Dotson and their oldest son, Christopher Dotson. For the first seven years of The Dotsons ministry, it was just John and Yavonna. Christopher joined them full time in August 2013. Christopher brings a lot to the group with his love for gospel music and many talents of

playing the mandolin, acoustic, lead and steel guitar as well as singing harmony and some lead vocals. John and Yavonna have been singing together for over 30 years. They started out singing in their home church, funerals and weddings. In early 1998 God started opening doors and leading them in a different direction. They did their first recording project in October 1998. After the group did their first recording in 1998, it was evident to them that God had given John the gift of songwriting. The Dotsons desire is to be used by the Lord to help others find their way to Him and encourage others in their walk with the Lord.

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.

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am

	August 10 th	August 17 th
Recorder & Sound	Joe V.	David D.
Nursery Attendant	Lynell B.	Michelle V.
Snack Provider	Sara B.	Brenda A.
Server	Eric & Sara B.	Stacy S.