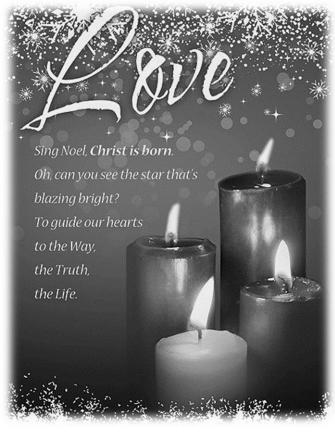
First Christian Reformed Church 801 15th Ave Fulton, IL 61252 815-589-3790





Pastor Michael-Email: <u>mhooke01@gmail.com</u> Church Email: <u>FirstCRCFulton@live.com</u> Website: www.FultonFirstCRC.com Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church First CRC Fulton December 24, 2023 - 9:00am Advent Week 4: Love/ Christmas Eve

#### We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: What a Glorious Night Welcome Announcements Call To Worship: God's Greeting: Mutual Greeting

## Lighting of the 4nd Advent Candle - Love

**Worship Through Song:** Joy To The World

Lighting of the Christ Candle

#### Worship Through Song:

Hark the Herald Angels Sing O Come, All Ye Faithful O Holy Night

### **Congregational Prayer**

**Offering** Offertory: Silver Bells - Bodey

**Worship in Song:** Angels from the Realms of Glory What Child Is This? Silent Night! Holy Night

## **We Prepare For & Hear God's Word Scripture:** Luke 2:1-20

<sup>1</sup>In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup>(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup>And everyone went to their own town to register. <sup>4</sup>So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup>He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup>and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

<sup>16</sup>So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they had seen

him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. **Sermon:** Jesus is Born **Prayer** 

# WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING

**Parting Song:** Away in a Manger **Blessing:** Pastor Michael

### **Announcements**

**Thursday -** This is our scheduled week for donating items to the Fulton Food Pantry. This month the suggested donation is Macaroni & Cheese or Pork & Beans.

## The beautiful poinsettias are in memory of:

Merle & Carol Bielema from the family Brad Lown from the family Sid & Myrna Dykstra & Arthur & Eileen Thompson from Paul & Sheila Thompson Sebert & Phyllis Dykstra from the family Elmer & Alberta Vander Eide from the family Paul & Wilma Ottens & Janet Mathey from the family Barb & Gene Kessler from the family John & Vie Atherton from the family Jake & Florence Balk & Roger Simon from Bonnie Simon Angela McGinty & Robert Jackson from the family Ken Balk & Stephanie Balk from Audrey Balk & family

Please send prayer requests to Pastor Michael at **mhooke01@gmail.com.** 

### Please send all bulletin information to **<u>FirstCRCFulton@live.com</u>** by Thursday at 7:00pm. **December Birthdays**

- **Collin Burns** 1
- 1 Genevieve Tiesman
- 1 Tucker Smith
- 5 Kelly Dykstra
- 6 Rollie Vander Eide
- 9 Brenda Huizenga
- 9 Jake Smith
- 12 Don Mathey

- 14 Alida Hooker
- 18 Brenda Atherton
- 21 Sheila Thompson
- 27 Paige Vander Eide
- 27 Ana Ton
- 28 Matt Smith
- 28 Rachel Elliot
- 30 Stacy Stephenson
- 31 Ben Smith

### **December Anniversaries**

28 Albert & Gloria Wiebenga

#### **Deacons' News**

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

Offerings Today: General Fund & UCSB Next Sunday: General Fund & Ministry Shares

### Offerings Received 12/17/23

General Fund Budget: \$2,042.00 Received: \$641.00 Under: \$1,401.00

Faith Promise: \$152.00

## Through the end of October, we are approximately \$4,810.47 under budget for General Fund offerings.

# **Community News**

Felix Adler Children's Discovery Center – The 11th Annual Family New Year's Eve party is on Dec 31st

**The Morrison CRC** will hold its last official service today, Sunday, December 24, 2023 at 8:45 a.m. We are in the process of selling our property to Crossroads Church. Continue to lift this process in prayer as we navigate uncharted waters with sadness, but yet with hope and joy as the Crossroads leadership teams are very excited about the opportunities their new home will offer them.

**Free Movie** On Saturday, December 30, 2023 The Pregnancy Center will be hosting a FREE showing of the movie LIFEMARK (a true story about adoption) at the Clinton 8 theater in Clinton, IA. The doors will open at 9:30am and the show begins at 10am! Yes, concessions will be open to purchase snacks. We have 100 seats available so come early with your family or friends! (No RSVP is needed). To learn more about this film please visit www.lifemarkmovie.com

**Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece** (May 31 - June 11, 2024): Travel by motor coach (7 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or *weimje@calvinseminary.edu*.

**CRCNA Position Openings -** The Christian Reformed Church has the following position openings: Full-time Director of the Loan Fund (Remote US/Hybrid Grand Rapids, MI); Part-time Local Mission Leader-Great Lakes (Michigan, Indiana, or Ohio); Full-time Accounts Receivable (Hybrid Grand Rapids, MI); and Part-time Bi-lingual Regional Connector - Northeastern US (Spanish/English). For details, deadline or to apply visit www.crcna.org/jobs. **Christmas Greeting Video from The Banner** - Watch a warm year-end video message where Banner editor Shiao Chong explains the impact The Banner has with its journalistic ministry that reaches thousands of people. He shares Christmas greetings to all readers. View it now! tinyurl.com/BannerChristmas23

	Today	Next Week
Recorder & Sound	Paul T	Joe V
Nursery Attendant	Amy D	Stacy S
Snack Provider	Brenda A	Mary M
Server	Elders	Deacons

Weekly Calendar			
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am	
Thursday, Dec 28	Elders Meeting	6:00 pm	
	Deacons Meeting	6:30 pm	
	Council Meeting	6:45 pm	