

# First Christian Reformed Church

801 15th Ave

Fulton, IL 61252

815-589-3790



*Growing Closer to God  
Through Service & Love*

Pastor Michael-Email: [mhooke01@gmail.com](mailto:mhooke01@gmail.com)

Church Email: [FirstCRCFulton@live.com](mailto:FirstCRCFulton@live.com)

Website: [www.FultonFirstCRC.com](http://www.FultonFirstCRC.com)

Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church

First CRC Fulton  
September 29, 2024 - 9:00am  
Understanding the Systems of Power

**We Gather in Praise and Worship**

**Prelude:** Pianists

**Welcome:** Worship Leader

**Announcements:** Worship Leader

**Call To Worship:** Lord's Prayer (Read in Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For your is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.

**God's Greeting:** Pastor Michael

**Mutual Greeting**

**Worship Through Song:**

Waymaker

Lord Most High

**Congregational Prayer**

**Offering:** General Fund & Fulton Food Pantry

**Offertory:** Pianists

## **Worship in Song:**

By Faith

Our God Reigns

Great is Thy Faithfulness

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

**Scripture:** Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

<sup>1</sup>*So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther's banquet, and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."*

<sup>3</sup>*Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request."*

<sup>4</sup>*For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king."*

<sup>5</sup>*King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?"*

<sup>6</sup>*Esther said, "An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!"*

<sup>9</sup>*Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, "A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman's house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king."*

*The king said, "Impale him on it!"* <sup>10</sup>*So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king's fury subsided.*

<sup>20</sup>*Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far, <sup>21</sup>to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and*

*fifteenth days of the month of Adar <sup>22</sup> as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor.*

**Sermon:** Understanding the Systems of Power - Pastor Michael

**Prayer**

## **WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING**

**Parting Song:** The Blessing

**Blessing:** Pastor Michael

### **Announcements**

**Maxine** will be leaving for her Mission trip to Kenya this coming week. We pray for her and the team's safe travel and that the work they do will be God glorifying. She will return on Oct 14. God Bless you Maxine and thank you for your willingness to respond to God's calling to this service.

**A Celebration of Life** for Wanda Smith will be held on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 4:00 pm at the York Community Church in Thomson. Memorial donations can be sent to Rock River Hospice in Sterling.

**Anniversary** - Roger and Eileen F. will celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary on October 5th! Cards may be sent to their address listed in the bulletin.

**Wedding** - Eric and Sara Burns cordially invite the congregation to the wedding ceremony uniting their daughter, Abby, and Adam Nussel on October 12, at 3:00 in the afternoon. Please join us as we celebrate the beginning of their marriage.

**Save the date!** Our next potluck will be October 13th! The theme is fall fest! There will be pumpkins to decorate and maybe a couple fun games! Be sure to bring a friend!

**Remember in prayer** our members in care facilities or homebound: Carroll E, Albert W

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

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

**October Birthdays**

1 Abigail Burns

4 Rylie Dykstra

5 Darla Birks

8 Sarah Wiebenga

9 Tegan Breidenbach

18 Ruby Dykstra

20 Noah Atherton

28 Linda Dykstra

28 Hannah Couch

**October Anniversaries**

5 Roger & Eileen Frazier

20 David & Brenda Huizenga

27 Andrew & Kelly Dykstra

**Deacons' News**

Offerings Received 9/22/24:

Building Fund: \$3,000.00

UCSB: \$284.00

General Fund

Budget: \$2,051.62

Received: \$1,060.00

Short: \$991.62

Offerings Today: General Fund & Fulton Food Pantry

Offerings 10/6/24: General Fund & Building Fund

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

**CRC News**

**Position Opening: Donor Relations Manager, Resonate**

**(Michigan)** - Develop relationships and implement a strategy with existing and potential donors that will increase financial

support and resources, engage current constituents and cultivate potential donors in support of the ministry. This full time, hybrid position in Grand Rapids, Mich., offers a flexible work schedule, attractive benefits package (including retirement fund contribution), and three weeks vacation. Apply at [crcna.pinpointhq.com](http://crcna.pinpointhq.com).

### Community News

**Trinity Christian College** will celebrate its 65<sup>th</sup> birthday this October! You are invited to *Celebrate Wonder*, a masquerade-themed event at Brookfield Zoo on Friday, October 4 from 7:00 pm-9:30 pm. Join us for an evening of wonder as we celebrate the impact Trinity has had on students over the past 65 years and the faithfulness God has shown to Trinity during this time. The setting will feature an indoor/outdoor gazebo with access to Carousel rides and a unique animal experience. Live music will be provided by the Larry Anthony Trio. Come in your own masquerade-themed celebratory attire, or pick up a celebration mask when you arrive. Throughout the evening you'll enjoy an assortment of displayed appetizers, beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages as you connect with Trinity students, alums, and friends. Trinity students will host a brief program sharing stories of impact, followed by a live auction and paddle raise. All funds raised will directly support student scholarships.

**Car & Truck Show** will be held at First Reformed Church, 510 15th Ave., Fulton, on October 5 from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. You are more than welcome to come and walk around the show. While here have lunch and ice cream provided by T-Daddy's BBQ and Dolph's Dips. We will also be taking a special collection for the Brubaker family whose house was lost in a fire recently.

**Amazing contemporary Christian show** coming to our area sponsored by Simply Free Church and Tammy Stephan of Lanark, IL. Consumed By Fire and Caleb & John coming October 11, to Simply Free Church in Lanark IL. See promo poster at the back of the church. John Dail 815-441-5453

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church** will be having their annual Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 4 – 7pm at 1201 N Bluff St, Albany, IL. The dinner will include Spaghetti, all you can eat, salad, Applesauce, French bread, beverage, and ice cream for dessert will be served in the hall. Donations for the meal are: \$13 for adults, \$5 for children age 5-12, and free for children under 5. Carry outs will be available at the church.

**The Pregnancy Center's** annual Pro-Life Youth Event will be held at River Church in Clinton on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, from 6:00-8:30pm. They will have food, great worship, testimonies and free stuff. Mark your calendars. Questions call 563-242-6628! More details to follow.

**Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece** (March 28 - April 8, 2025): 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. Contact Dr. Weima at [616-328-3110](tel:616-328-3110) or [weimje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:weimje@calvinseminary.edu).

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am

	<b>September 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>October 6<sup>th</sup></b>
Recorder & Sound	Joe V	David
Nursery Attendant	Amy D	Alida
Snack Provider	Sara B	Gayle D
Server	Sara & Eric B	Roger D