

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

Church Email: FirstCRCFulton@live.com

Website: www.FultonFirstCRC.com

Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church

First CRC Fulton
November 12, 2023 - 9:00am
Wisdom

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Gratitude

Welcome

Announcements

Veterans Acknowledgement

Call To Worship: Pastor Michael

God's Greeting:

Leader: The Lord Be with you.

Congregation: And Also with you.

Mutual Greeting

Worship Through Song:

This is the Day

Be Thou My Vision

Seek Ye First

Congregational Prayer

Offering

Offertory: The Pregnancy Center

Worship in Song:

Thy Word

Even So Come

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)

¹“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

⁷“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

⁹“‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

¹⁰“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

¹¹“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

¹²“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

¹³ “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Proverbs 9:1 (NIV)

*Wisdom has built her house;
she has set up its seven pillars.*

Matthew 10:16 (ESV)

¹⁶“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

Sermon: Wisdom

Prayer

WE DEPART WITH GOD’S BLESSING

Parting Song: My Friends May You Grow In Grace

Blessing: Pastor Michael

Announcements

Christian sympathy is extended to Joe and Beth Long in the passing of their Mother, Ruth Long, on November 3rd. May the Lord bless you and give you comfort and peace in this time of sorrow.

Dear First CRC, Thank you so much for the generous outpouring of cards and notes and kind encouragement and gifts that you have shared with us. We appreciate the chance to serve here at 1st and thank God for what he is doing in the place. We can't say thanks enough and can truly say we are called here to 1st and are excited with what God has in store for this church in the future. In Him, Pastor Michael, Alida, and Family

Thank you, First Church, for your very thoughtful cards, notes, kind & encouraging words and for the love gifts you graciously shared with us. It has been a privilege and a joy to come alongside your church family in a supporting role . We thank God for each of you and the impact you continue to have in the community as you reach out in many, visible ways. I am stepping aside from my role at Bethel as their associate pastor of outreach in January. Priscilla and I are looking forward to a more flexible schedule, and would appreciate your prayers as we, for a season, take a sabbatical from the concerns of day-to-day ministry. With sincere thanks. To God Alone be the Glory, Pastor Jake & Priscilla Ritzema

If you would like added or removed from the volunteer list (Snacks, Serving, Nursery, Tech team), please email FirstCRCFulton@live.com by Sunday, November 26th.

Elders and Deacons Nomination letters have been mailed. Please prayerfully consider God's calling you to serve in this exciting and rewarding capacity.

Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, December 3rd, immediately following the service.

Blood Drive: First CRC will be hosting our semi-annual blood drive on Wednesday, November 15, from 3p - 5:30 p.m. Masks are optional, but appointments are required. All blood types are needed, but there is a critical need for Types B-, O+, and O-. To make an appointment, go to https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/120380 and use Group Code 2371 or contact Amy Dykstra at 563-357-8555. Last date to donate was 9/20/23.

Pie and Praise will be held on November 22nd at 6:00pm. Bethel, Morrison, 1st Reformed, and Crossview Churches are invited to join us for a short praise and worship time. Please bring a pie to pass.

Poinsettia orders are due to Michelle Vander Eide by Sunday, Nov. 26th. This year they are \$20 each for an 8" pot (instead of 6.5") with 5 -8 blooms per plant. Choose from red, pink, or white. Proceeds benefit Unity Athletic Boosters Orders and our local greenhouse. Please inform Michelle of your color choice, who it is in memory of and who it is from. Thank you!

Potluck - Our December 10th potluck theme is "Together for the Holidays" – bring leftovers or test your new holiday recipes on the congregation.

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

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

November Birthdays

9	Jim Dykstra	16	Elijah James
10	Edith Schaver	20	Steve Bielema
13	Hadley Collins	20	Rebekah Smith
14	Jon Breidenbach	21	Randy Atherton
14	Roger Dykstra	28	Harlan Tiesman
14	Roger Laborn	29	Pat Huisenga

November Anniversaries

5	Paul & Sheila Thompson	14	Jim & Linda Dykstra
15	Joe & Beth Caven	20	Rick & Chris Huizenga

Deacons' News

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

Offerings Today: General Fund & The Pregnancy Center

Next Sunday: General Fund & Faith Promise

Offerings Received 11/5/23

General Fund

Budget: \$2,042.00

Building Fund: \$252.00

Received: \$2,149.00

Over: \$107.00

Through the end of September, we are approximately \$3,607 under budget for General Fund offerings.

Community News

Felix Adler Children's Discovery Center Online silent auction is now open and closes Nov 20. Nov 19 - Pasta Dinner Fundraiser at Rastrelli's. 11/21 - Pizza Hut Fundraiser. Nov 25, Dec 8, & Dec 17 - Enjoy milk and cookies with Santa. Dec 31 - 11th Annual Family New Year's Eve party.

The annual Rock River Hospice & Home: Festival of Trees event, will be November 9-19, 2023, at Northland Mall in Sterling. This event has been a primary source of our annual funding for 30+ years, which allows us the financial freedom to offer top notch hospice services for our patients and their families, with NO medical costs passed onto the families. To volunteering for the event, please visit:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA9A728ABFCC61-44726728-festival>

35th Great Thanksgiving Banquet will be held at the Victory Center on Wednesday, November 22, at 6:30pm. There will be a free Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings, door prizes for adults, prizes for children, delicious desserts, singing and fellowship. For more information call 563-242-9016.

The Wait Is Over Christmas Tour with Jordan St Cyr and Consumed By Fire at Crossview Church in Fulton, IL, on Saturday, December 2. General admission tickets are \$20 and 10 packs of tickets are \$150 (save \$5 per ticket). \$40 VIP tickets get you a meet-n-greet/Q&A with the bands, autographed merch, early entry into the church, and photo ops with the bands! Order tickets at
<https://www.itickets.com/register/new/476240>

“Away in the Basement” a church basement ladies Christmas, a hit musical comedy, will be performed at the John and Alice Butler Hall, Heritage Center, at the University of Dubuque on Tuesday, December 5th, at 2:00pm. Visit www.Dbq.edu/heritagecenter for more information. Group tickets are \$26 - \$44, call 563-589-3432

The Morrison CRC will hold its last official service on 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.

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.

	Today	Nov 19
Recorder & Sound	Paul	Joe
Nursery Attendant	Amy D	Stacy S
Snack Provider	Evangelism	Beth C
Server	Committee	Stacy S

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am
Tues, Nov. 14	GEMS & Cadets	6:30 pm
Thurs, Nov. 16	Elders Meeting	6:00 pm
	Deacons Meeting	6:30 pm
	Council Meeting	6:45 pm