

First Christian Reformed Church

801 15th Ave
Fulton, IL 61252
815-589-3790



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

Church Email: FirstCRCFulton@live.com

Website: www.FultonFirstCRC.com

Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church

First CRC Fulton

November 9th, 2025 - 9:00am

“Joy Clamoring for Expression”

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Accompanists

Welcome: Rollie

Announcements: Rollie

Call To Worship: Psalm 30:10-12

Leader: “Hear, Lord, and be gracious to me;

All: Lord, be my helper.”

Leader: You have turned my mourning into dancing for me;

All: You have untied my sackcloth and encircled me with joy

Leader: That *my* soul may sing praise to You and not be silent.

All: Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

God’s Greeting: Pastor Eric

Mutual Greeting:

Worship Through Song:

Pass Me Not

Joyful, Joyful

Congregational Prayer: Angie

Offering: General Fund & Ministry Shares

Offertory: Ann D

Worship Through Song:

Wonderful Merciful Savior

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

We Prepare For & Hear God’s Word

Scripture: John 16:17-25

¹⁷ At this, some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean by saying, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,’ and ‘Because I am going to the

Father'?" ¹⁸ They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

¹⁹ Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'?" ²⁰ Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹ A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²² So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. ²³ In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

²⁵ "Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father.

Sermon: "Joy Clamoring for Expression" – Pastor Eric

WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Blessing: Pastor Eric

Parting Song: Joy to the World

Announcements

Today we welcome Eric & Penny Schering from Pacific Island Ministries to bring us God's word. They will share with us the work that is going on in Papua New Guinea. We look forward to worshipping with them today. Thank you for sharing your love and talents with our congregation.

A big THANK YOU to Fred Phillips for all his work to get the office computer running so much faster! We are so thankful for his IT skills!

Thank you to all who donated blood on Nov. 5! Including your donations, the Blood Center collected 14 units. This will help save up to 42 lives and increase the local blood supply! There is a need for all blood types right now, but especially Type O-. If you are willing and able to donate, please call 1-800-747-5401 to schedule an appointment. Thanks for your support. – Amy (Dykstra) Carroll

Lori has decided to retire from our janitor position at the end of the year. Anyone who may be interested in filling this position can contact a council member or Lori for details.

Please send prayer requests or updates to Bruce at bjbielema@gmail.com.

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

November Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 9 Jim Dykstra | 14 Roger Laborn |
| 10 Edith Schaver | 16 Elijah James |
| 13 Hadley Collins | 20 Steve Bielema |
| 14 Jon Breidenbach | 21 Randy Atherton |
| 14 Roger Dykstra | 25 Barb Mathey |

November Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 5 Paul & Sheila Thompson | 14 Jim & Linda Dykstra |
| 15 Joe & Beth Caven | |

Deacons' News

Offerings Received 11/2/25:	<u>General Fund</u>
	Budget: \$2,180.00
Building Fund: \$328.00	Received: <u>\$2,740.00</u>
	Over: \$560.00

Offerings Today: General Fund & Ministry Shares

Offerings 11/16/25: General Fund & Faith Promise

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

CRC News

Thrive Faith Formation Tip – Today is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Every day, millions of Christians around the world face persecution for their faith. Use the Open Doors International website (opendoors.org) to learn about the top five to ten countries in the world where Christians are persecuted. Then take time each day this week to pray for Christians living in one of those countries. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Community News

Veteran's Day Celebration - Tuesday, November 11 at Bethel CRC, 6:30 pm. All Veterans are invited by the Boys Cadet Club and the Girls GEMS Club to join them on Tuesday, November 11, at 6:30 pm. There will be time for reflection & conversation with fellow veterans followed by a short program. Refreshments will be served. Please come and join us for some fun and fellowship as we honor you. Each veteran is invited to bring a guest. See you on Tuesday!

Grief Share - Bethel CRC is inviting you to join a 13-week Grief Share class, hosted by our Parish Nurse, Shelle Sikkema. The class will be held at Bethel CRC on Monday evenings, 6:00-8:00 pm, beginning November 10. The workbook does cost \$15. Please contact Bethel 815-589-2501 if you are interested in attending this class.

Peach Goldman: The sounds of a new season, will be at Emmanuel Church, 202 E Morris St, Morrison, IL, on Friday,

November 14, at 7:00 pm. No Tickets needed with love offering received.

Mid-America Reformed Seminary invites you to the **2025 Fall Faculty Lectures with Dr. James Eglinton**, Meldrum Senior Lecturer in Reformed Theology at the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Eglinton will present a three-part series on the theological distinction between God's perfect self-knowledge and our creaturely understanding—a central theme in Reformed theology from Junius to Bavinck. Join us Nov. 20–21, in person or via YouTube livestream. Admission is free! Visit www.midamerica.edu for more information and to register if you wish to be on campus.

Calvin Seminary Upcoming Opportunities

Formational Reading of Scripture Join us as we explore ways to read Scripture not only for information, but also for transformation—for ourselves and our communities. In this course, students will experience: Historic and biblical practices for formative Bible reading, instruction on how to invite others to read the Bible formationally, and care for their souls as practices are implemented into students' own spiritual rhythms. January 5-22, 2026, Self-paced, Instructor: Dr. Jeff Sajdak, Cost to audit: \$125, Register to audit by Friday, Dec19th, 2025.

Truth, Reconciliation & Exchanging Hearts: A Canadian Model Join us for this unique opportunity designed to equip Reformed Christians to participate more fully in the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous people. In this course, students are formed for contextualized ministry by: Learning from Indigenous stories, practices, and treaty traditions, Critical consideration of historical interactions between Indigenous people and settlers, Reflection on the gifts and responsibilities of contemporary efforts, such as the 2015 report from Canada's

Truth and Reconciliation Commission. February 9-March 20, 2026, Online meetings: February 11 & 18 from 1:00-4:00pm EDT, March 11 & 18 from 1:00-4:00pm EST, Instructors: Adrian Jacobs, Cindy Stover & Mike Hogeterp, Cost to audit: \$125, Register to audit by Friday, January 30, 2026

Paul’s Missionary Journeys in Greece (April 3 - 13. 2026): Travel by motor coach (6 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 info, contact Dr. Weima at [616-328-3110](tel:616-328-3110) or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

	November 9 th	November 16 th
Pastor	Eric Shering	John Byker
Recorder & Sound	David D.	Paul T.
Nursery Attendant	Stacy S.	Lynell B.
Snack Provider	Lynda V.	Ruby D.
Server	Carman F.	Lynell B.

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am
Tuesday, November 11 th	GEMS & Cadets	6:30 pm