

First Christian Reformed Church

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*Growing Closer to God
Through Service & Love*

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First CRC Fulton
October 11, 2026 - 9:00am
“The Connected Life”

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Abide by Aaron Williams

Welcome: Brenda A.

Announcements: Brenda A.

Call To Worship: Brenda A.

Responsive reading of the Law, Psalter Hymnal, page 1013

God’s Greeting: Pastor Eric

Mutual Greeting

Worship Through Song:

Goodness of God

Knowing You

Congregational Prayer: Stacy S

Worship Through Song:

Love Divine - Praise Hymnal #31

Abide with Me - Praise Hymnal #478

We Prepare For & Hear God’s Word

Scripture: John 15:1-11

Sermon: “The Connected Life” – Pastor Eric

WE DEPART WITH GOD’S BLESSING

Parting Song: Blessed Assurance

Blessing: Pastor Eric

Announcements

Today we welcome Pastor Eric Dykstra. We look forward to worshipping with you today. Thank you for sharing your love and talents with our congregation.

Council is accepting nominations for elders and deacons. There is a basket in the back.

A sincere thank you to the 1st Church family for remembering us in the passing of our mother & grandmother, Ramona Renkes. Your caring condolences and texts but most of all your prayers, helped carry us through the time of her leaving us here on earth to go on to her eternal home in Glory. May God bless each of you in turn. With gratitude and appreciation. Priscilla & Pastor Jake Ritzema

Preparatory Sunday As we look forward to celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion next Sunday morning. Let us examine our hearts and lives this week as we prepare to come to the Lord's table.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month Thank you to all who have graciously and skillfully provided pulpit supply. There is a basket in the back of the sanctuary for cards of thanks.

Our next Sunday School session will be **Today**, October 11th. Please go to the basement for refreshments and class! We will start with snacks after the church service concludes.

Our next potluck is October 18th, which is also Communion Sunday. "*Fall* into fellowship" is the theme. Bring your favorite fall favorites! The sign-up sheet is in back.

Trunk or Treat The consensus is to have Trunk or treat here in our parking lot on Saturday, October 24th from 3-6pm. We have invited other area churches to join us. Please have your car set up and ready to go by 2:45p. If you would like to start later or end earlier works, too. We may have some other activities that night that we may ask for help with....stay tuned. If you're not able to participate that night, would you be willing to donate candy? If you can't get out and about to get candy, we can get it for you! If you have any questions, let Beth C know. We are also looking for decor for a photo station for Trunk or Treat. Maybe pumpkins, mums, hay bales, an antique truck?

Art & Music Fundraiser for Unity Christian Schools at Culvers, Monday, October 19th, 5p – 8p. Students and staff will serve you. Enjoy a meal to support a worthy cause!

Blood Drive: First CRC will be hosting our semi-annual blood drive on Wednesday, November 4 from 2:30 – 5 p.m. All blood types are needed, but especially Types O+ and O-. To make an appointment, contact Amy Carroll at 563-357-8555 or go online to bloodcenter.org and use Group Code 2371. Last date to donate was 9/9/26.

Please send **prayer requests** to stacy_stephenson_1980@yahoo.com and all bulletin information to FirstCRCFulton@live.com by Thursday at 6p. If you have anything for the Newsletter, please email it with the subject line “Newsletter” by the last Wednesday of the month.

Anniversaries:

12 Adam & Abby Nussel

Deacons' News

Offerings Received 10/4/26

General Fund

Building Fund: \$105.00

Budget: \$2,166.00

Received: \$2228.00

Over: \$62.00

Offerings Today: General Fund & Benevolence

10/18/2026 Offerings: General Fund & Faith Promise

Please place your offering in the plates at the back of the sanctuary.

Community Announcements

Fall Experience Day for families interested in Christ-centered education will be held Monday, October 19th. This is a great day for students to visit Unity Christian School, meet students, and shadow classes. Our spring event was a huge hit, and many families commented on how they wished they had inquired about Unity sooner!

Men's breakfast, speaker, and worship at the Church of the Open Door in Clinton at 8am, the first Saturday of every month.

CRC News

Thrive Faith Formation Tip – Thankfulness is an important faith practice. Each day between now and Thanksgiving, notice the things in your life that you can give thanks for. Write those things on slips of paper and collect them in a jar or box to read during your Thanksgiving celebration. Visit crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject/gratitude for other ways to respond with thankfulness for God's goodness, love, provision, and grace. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Lifelong Discipleship: A Conversation with Author

Cameron Shaffer - Join Thrive faith formation consultant Rick Zomer for a webinar featuring Cameron Shaffer, author of *Keeping Kids Christian*. As a parent and pastor, Shaffer focuses on intergenerational, lifelong discipleship strategies that foster deep connections to the local church, helping young people stay involved well beyond their youth group years. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, October 13, at 4:00 PM EDT. Register by October 9 at tinyurl.com/ye2ju9xy or email thrive@crcna.org for more information.

	<u>October 11th</u>	<u>October 18th</u>	<u>October 25th</u>
Pastor	John Byker	John Byker	Jeremiah Mitchell
Sound	David D.	Paul T.	Joe V.
Nursery	Stacy S.	Ana T.	Lynell B.
Snack	Rachel E.	Michelle V.	Sara B.
Server	Rachel E.	Michelle V.	Sara B.
Planner	Brenda A.	Beth C.	Brenda A.

<u>Weekly Calendar</u>		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am
	Sunday School	10:05 am