

First Christian Reformed Church

801 15th Ave

Fulton, IL 61252

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

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First CRC Fulton
July 27, 2025 - 9:00am
Nehemiah Part 3: A Right Response

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Ad Blocker Video - Spring Valley Youth Group

Welcome: Pastor Michael

Call To Worship: From Psalm 95:6-7, Psalm 96:9 Hebrews
12:28, Psalm 100:1-2

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before
the Lord our Maker;

**All: For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.**

Leader: Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;

All: Tremble before him, all the earth.

Leader: Therefore, let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom
that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God
acceptable worship, with reverence and awe;

**All: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the
Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

God's Greeting: Pastor Michael

Mutual Greeting:

Worship Through Song:

Here I am to Worship

Holy Ground

Goodness of God

Announcements:

Congregational Prayer:

Offering: General Fund & Unity Christian School Boosters

Worship Through Song:

Teach Me O Lord, Thy Way of Truth

You're Worthy of My Praise

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: Nehemiah 6:15-16

¹⁵*So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days.*

¹⁶*When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.*

Nehemiah 8:1-8

¹*all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.*

²*So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. ³He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.*

⁴*Ezra the teacher of the Law stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam.*

⁵*Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. ⁶Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.*

⁷*The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. ⁸They read from the Book of the*

Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

Nehemiah 9:1-5

‘On the twenty-fourth day of the same month, the Israelites gathered together, fasting and wearing sackcloth and putting dust on their heads. ‘Those of Israelite descent had separated themselves from all foreigners. They stood in their places and confessed their sins and the sins of their ancestors. ‘They stood where they were and read from the Book of the Law of the Lord their God for a quarter of the day, and spent another quarter in confession and in worshiping the Lord their God. ‘Standing on the stairs of the Levites were Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani and Kenani. They cried out with loud voices to the Lord their God. ‘And the Levites—Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah—said: “Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting.” “Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise.

Sermon: Nehemiah Part 3: A Right Response - Pastor Michael

WE DEPART WITH GOD’S BLESSING

Blessing: Pastor Michael

Parting Song: O Worship the King

Announcements

Free Sale We are hosting our 3rd Annual “Everything is FREE Sale.” We’ll be accepting donations from 5:30-8pm, Aug 11th-15th. All donated items will be set out for people to take for free on Aug 16th. The purpose is to give life to items that are no longer needed and let someone else enjoy them. No income restrictions. We want to keep these items out of landfills and give them a new home. Any unclaimed items will be donated to Bargain Bonanza. Questions? Call Stacy @ 563-212-7474.

Remember in prayer our members in care facilities or homebound: Albert W., Mary M., Joe L.

Please send prayer requests to mhooke01@gmail.com or call 847-513-2809.

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

July Birthdays

28 Logan Moore

29 Graicie James

August Birthdays

2 Chris Roos

15 Jason Vander Eide

3 Audrey Balk

18 Celia Behrens

3 Isabelle Fletcher

19 Andrew Zajicek

10 Lynell Breidenbach

20 Joseph Zajicek

10 Mary Medenblik

21 Brenda Bousman

14 Pam Bielema

24 Teresa Dellit

14 Sara Burns

25 April Prins

15 Dale Schaver

28 Holly Bielema

31 Joshua Bielema

August Anniversaries

3 Sam & Ruby Dykstra

9 Bill & Mary Medenblik

5 Lauren & Jeriann Medenblik

27 Roger & Gayle Dykstra

Deacons' News

Through the end of the second quarter our General Fund offerings are running approximately \$5,600.00 behind budget.

Offerings Received 7/20/25:

General Fund

Budget: \$2,180.00

Faith Promise: \$158.00

Received: \$1,528.00

Under: \$652.00

Offerings Today: General Fund & UCSB

Offerings 8/3/25: General Fund & Building Fund

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

CRC News

Ride to Renew: Cycle for Change - Join World Renew for the ride of a lifetime from November 1–9, 2025. 100 riders will cycle through beautiful Florida and help raise funds to equip 1,500 farmers worldwide with sustainable farming practices. Each rider commits to raising \$3,000, directly supporting 15 global farmers in achieving food security for their families and communities. Let's ride together for a more food-secure future! For more information and to register, visit worldrenew.net/ridetorenew.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip – As a part of his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told the disciples, “Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?” (Matt. 6:26, NIV). Spend some time this week watching birds. Go on a hike near a body of water, put a bird feeder in your backyard, or simply watch for birds as you travel throughout your day. As you observe these creatures, be reminded of God’s care and provision. Make a list of the ways God provides for you daily. Place it somewhere in your home where it can serve as a daily reminder of God’s care for you. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Community News

Divinity Trio will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, July 27th at 6:00 PM! We will be serving Root Beer Floats after the concert! Come and join us for an evening of praise and worship. A free-will offering will be taken. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors. Since 2019 Divinity Trio has been touring, singing and promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ through song. Driven by a common goal and purpose, to deliver quality Music and a genuine worship experience, Divinity Trio is out to share the

love of Christ. Our goal is to reach the lost encourage the believer and honor God in all we do. Divinity Trio has achieved some lifelong dreams, the latest of which are, releasing multiple songs that have broken the top 80 on the singing news charts, highlighted by two Main Stage appearances at the National Quartet Convention in 2021 and 2023. The opportunity to sing for fun and minister with conviction are still what drives us to do what we do.

Riven Quartet will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, August 3rd at 6:00 PM! Come and join us for an evening of praise and worship. A free-will offering will be taken. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors.

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am
Monday	Elders Meeting	6:00 pm
	Deacons Meeting	6:30 pm
	Council Meeting	6:45 pm

	July 27 th	August 3 rd
Recorder & Sound	David D.	Paul T.
Nursery Attendant	Alida H.	Stacy S.
Snack Provider	Amy D.	Michelle V.
Server	Amy D.	Michelle V.

Upcoming events!

Song request Sunday: *Next Sunday*, August 3rd. Please have your requests in to Beth C. by today. If you need more time, just call Beth if you think of a favorite!



Fulton night out & “Totally Tuesday” at Drives Park.

August 12th, 5-8pm: The Fulton Police Department has asked us to partner with them, again, to help with the kid’s activities.



There will be a DRY bounce house and carnival-type games that we’ll need volunteers for. Any amount of time you can offer is appreciated. Please let Beth C. know if you can help!

"Back to school" Sunday! August 17th, we will be celebrating communion and having a potluck after the service. It is also county fair time, so the theme for the potluck is fair food! Turkey Legs? Fried anything? Anything on a stick!

Have fun with it! Here's a link to some more ideas:

<https://www.delish.com/cooking/g39527639/carnival-recipes/>



Coming soon: Praise team in concert!

We will be in contact with some Assisted Living and Long-term care facilities to visit them to sing a few songs and provide some entertainment. We will keep you posted!