

## **First Christian Reformed Church**

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

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Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church

First CRC Fulton  
August 4, 2024 - 9:00am  
God Feeds

**We Gather in Praise and Worship**

**Prelude:** Accompanists Choice

**Welcome**

**Announcements:**

**Call To Worship:** Apostles Creed

**God's Greeting:** Pastor Rich

**Mutual Greeting**

**Worship Through Song:**

Cornerstone

His Mercy is More

How Blest is He Whose Trespass

**Congregational Prayer:** Paul

**Offering:** General Fund & Building Fund

**Worship in Song:**

You are My King (Amazing Love)

In Christ Alone

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

**Scripture:** Romans 3:21-4:8

<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in<sup>[a]</sup> Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement,<sup>[b]</sup> through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. <sup>29</sup> Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, <sup>30</sup> since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. <sup>31</sup> Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

### **Abraham Justified by Faith**

**4** What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? <sup>2</sup> If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. <sup>3</sup> What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. <sup>5</sup> However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness. <sup>6</sup> David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are those  
whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed is the one  
whose sin the Lord will never count against them.”<sup>[d]</sup>

**Sermon:** Some of My Favorite Questions: How Are You Right with God?" – Pastor Rich

### **Prayer**

## **WE DEPART WITH GOD’S BLESSING**

**Parting Song:** The New Doxology

**Blessing:** Pastor Rich

### **Announcements**

**We welcome** Pastor Rich to join us in worship this morning. Thank you for sharing God’s word with us. May we all be blessed and inspired by our time together.

**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.

**Our next potluck** will be August 11th. The theme is Mexican fiesta! Taco meat for "walking" tacos will be provided. We are looking for people to sign up to bring small individual bags of Doritos(taco or nacho cheese flavored), diced tomatoes, lettuce, shredded cheese, sour cream, and salsa. Bring your favorite dish to pass. Mexican or not! Sign up sheets will be on the back table. Gracias!

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

Please send prayer requests to Pastor Michael at  
**[mhooke01@gmail.com](mailto:mhooke01@gmail.com)**.

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

### **August Birthdays**

2 Chris Roos	18 Celia Behrens
3 Audrey Balk	19 Andrew Zajicek
3 Isabelle Fletcher	20 Joseph Zajicek
10 Lynell Breidenbach	21 Brenda Bousman
10 Mary Medenblik	24 Teresa Dellit
14 Pam Bielema	25 April Prins
14 Sara Burns	26 Julie Lutz
15 Dale Schaver	28 Holly Bielema
15 Jason Vander Eide	31 Joshua Bielema

### **August Anniversaries**

3 Sam & Ruby Dykstra	9 Bill & Mary Medenblik
5 Lauren & Jeriann Medenblik	27 Roger & Gayle Dykstra

## Deacons' News

Offerings Received 7/28/24:

General Fund

Budget: \$2,051.62

UCSB: \$279.00

Received: \$2,610.24

Over: \$558.62

Offerings Today: General Fund & Building Fund

Offerings 8/4/24: General Fund & Benevolence

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

## Community News

**Forrest Frank** "Child of God" Tour will be at Aragon Theatre (1106 West Lawrence Avenue Chicago, IL 60640), on August 16, 2024! We need volunteers to assist World Vision Volunteers in distributing Child Sponsorship packets during intermission. As a way to say thank you, all volunteers will receive FREE admission, earn validated service hours if needed, and will get to enjoy the show! We would love to have you and the people you are in community with join us!

**Discovery Center** – Thursday, August 8, 6 pm - 8 pm, Discovery Center ON THE GO at Music on the Avenue!

-Saturday, August 10, 10 am to 12 pm, Envirokids come to create handmade paper! Call the Discovery Center for registration and questions.

-Friday, August 23, 11 am to 1 pm -- Grillin' for Charity Fundraiser Lunch at First Central State Bank, Clinton's Lincolnway Location

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Look for service opportunities that allow you to serve "with" people in need, rather than doing things "to" or "for" them. And always remember to look for things you can learn from people you serve. [crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](https://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject)

**Riven Quartet** will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, August 4 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. When the

Lord brought four men together to form a Music Ministry...we were a brand new group. So, we needed a name. We were sitting at our, then bass singer's kitchen table, and started to throw out names. One name that was mentioned was "Driven Down". I heard in my spirit "Riven". It came from the Bible account of Jesus hanging on the cross and the soldier holding the spear. He thrust the spear in Jesus' side to make sure He was dead. His side was RIVEN or split and blood and water flowed. This was when the Church was birthed. We, the Church, are the bride of Christ. There is also a parallel story in the Scripture in the book of Genesis where the Lord put Adam into a deep sleep and split his side and from his rib formed his bride.

**The Chitans** will be on the outdoor stage at Spring Valley Reformed Church, 10960 Spring Valley Road, Fulton IL, on Sunday, August 4 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. We will be serving Sunday Night Sundae's after the concert! International recording artistes, The Chitans are a family in full-time ministry from Toronto, Canada, who's sweet harmony is what you can only get from a family who join their voices together in praise to the Lord. The Chitans consist of five siblings, Kaiziah, 24, Kayandra, 23, Jesse, 21, Jayden, 18, and Karlainah, 15. The siblings have been singing together for eleven years. They and their parents, Layne and Karen, have been taking their music ministry on the road for the past seven years. Their music encompasses Southern Gospel, Contemporary Christian, Black Gospel, Caribbean, and traditional Hymns. Incorporating various styles in their concerts is what makes this unique blending of these styles truly special. Although they are young, their ministry has taken them throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean. While ministering in churches, schools, civic and cultural gatherings, hospitals, prisons, or on the streets, the heartbeat of this family group is to point souls to Jesus Christ.

**Mid-America's 20th Annual Golf Outing** will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2024, 9:00 a.m. at the Deer Creek Golf Club in University Park, IL. The golf outing will follow a scramble format with a shotgun start. Our tee time is 9:00 a.m., with complimentary range balls to get your swing dialed in ahead of time. Join us after the round for a reception. All this, plus fun gifts, contests, and prizes await you at the 20th Annual Mid-America Reformed Seminary Golf Outing! Please join us! Registrations and sponsorships are due no later than August 9, 2024. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.midamerica.edu/news/134/20th-annual-golf-outing>.

	August 4 <sup>th</sup>	August 11 <sup>th</sup>
Recorder & Sound	David D	Paul T
Nursery Attendant	Sara D	Amy D
Snack Provider	Ruby D	Potluck
Server	Lynell B	Potluck

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am