

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

September 21, 2025 - 9:00am

Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Pianist

Welcome:

Call To Worship: Apostle's Creed Read in Unison

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

God's Greeting: Pastor Byker

Mutual Greeting:

Worship Through Song:

Jesus Messiah

In Christ Alone

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Announcements:

Congregational Prayer:

Offering: General Fund & Faith Promise

Offertory: Bodey Stephenson

Worship Through Song:

O Praise the Name

Not I, But Christ In Me

O Jesus I have Promised

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:21-25

²¹To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

*²²“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”*

²³When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

²⁵For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Sermon: Why Did Jesus Have to Die? - Pastor Byker

WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Blessing: Pastor Byker

Parting Song: Go Now In Peace

Announcements

We welcome John Byker to bring us God's word this morning. We look forward to worshiping with you once again. Thank you for sharing your talents with our congregation.

Food Pantry - This is our scheduled week for donating items to the Fulton Food Pantry. This month the suggested donation is spaghetti and sauce.

The congregation is cordially invited to the wedding ceremony uniting Amy Dykstra and Jim Carroll Jr. on September 26, at 4:00 in the afternoon. Please join us as we celebrate the beginning of our marriage.

Elder and Deacon nominations will be accepted until Sunday, October 19. The nomination box is in the back of the sanctuary.

The Council will be forming a Search Committee to find a 3/4 time/vocational Pastor. This committee will be made up of Council members and members from the congregation. If you are interested in participating, please let one of the Council members know by Sunday October 19.

It has been discovered that some emails are not being delivered to the church email. We are looking into this. If you do not receive confirmation that your message was received by Thursday at 8pm, please send a text message to Marissa.

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.

September Birthdays

5 Carla Zajicek

5 Elizabeth Long

8 Bonnie Simon

10 Joe Long III

12 Courtney Lown

15 Lynda Vander Eide

17 Roger Frazier

18 Ed Huisenga

19 Michael Hooker

19 Virginia Scidmore

19 Andrew Dykstra

September Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Jeff & Carla Zajicek | 3 Jon & Lynell Breidenbach |
| 2 Charlie & Rachel Elliot | 4 Rollie & Lynda Vander Eide |
| | 10 Pastor Michael & Alida Hooker |

Deacons' News

Offerings Received 9/14/25:	<u>General Fund</u>
	Budget: \$2,180.00
Kidz Club: \$490.00	Received: <u>\$2,165.00</u>
	Under: \$15.00

Offerings Today: General Fund & Faith Promise

Offerings 9/28/25: General Fund & UCSB

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

CRC News

Thrive Faith Formation Tip – What do you think of when you hear the word “peace”? Let’s try this: Think of a person that you wouldn’t want to spend time with, and now try to think about them as an image bearer of God rather than simply as someone who hurt you, is different from you, or whose perspective is different from yours. Pray for that person this week, and commit to sending them an encouraging message (see Rom. 12:14–21). This habit reflects the heart of God and makes you a peacemaker! Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Support Earthquake Survivors in Afghanistan- Thousands of families are still experiencing urgent need from the devastating 6.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Afghanistan on August 31, followed by multiple aftershocks across remote, mountainous regions in several eastern provinces. More than 2,200 lives have been lost, and entire villages have been leveled—leaving families without shelter as

winter approaches. We pray for God's comfort for grieving families, healing for the injured, and provision for those displaced. World Renew is responding to meet urgent needs among the most vulnerable. Please give generously at worldrenew.net/Afghanistan-earthquake or by calling 1-800-552-7972. Let us stand together to extend God's hope to families impacted by this disaster.

Community News

Mid-America Reformed Seminary invites you to join us this fall as Dr. Eric Watkins leads a **4-part evening class, *Walking By Faith: The Life of Faith in Hebrews 11***. Together we'll explore this powerful chapter of Scripture and learn what real faith looks like as it clings to God's promises in both light and darkness. Classes will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. (central; Sept. 25, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, and Dec. 11) and will include two 45-minute sessions with a short break in between. The class is free, and registration is available both on campus and via livestream. Register today at www.midamerica.edu.

Mid-America Reformed Seminary invites you to join us for three special events the first week of October: On Wednesday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. (CT), we will hold a Building Dedication service in our new chapel auditorium, with live stream available on our YouTube channel; on Thursday, October 2 at 7:30 p.m. (CT), at First OPC in South Holland, IL, we will inaugurate Dr. Alan Strange as the Seminary's second president, also available via live stream; and on Friday–Saturday, October 3–4, we will gather at Bethel Church in Lansing, IL, for the 2025 Center for Missions and Evangelism Conference, “*Gossiping the Gospel: Everyday Evangelism*,” with registration at www.midamerica.edu/cme/conference

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am
Tuesday, September 23 rd	GEMS & Cadets	6:30 pm
Thursday, September 24 th	Elders Meeting	6:00 pm
	Deacons Meeting	6:30 pm
	Council Meeting	6:45 pm

	September 21 st	September 28 th
Recorder & Sound	Joe V.	David D.
Nursery Attendant	Stacy S.	Lynell B.
Snack Provider	Ann D.	Michelle V.
Server	Ann D.	Michelle V.