

First Christian Reformed Church

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

ADVENT WEEK 2: *A Prayer of Peace*

Peace from you, Jesus, is peace that surpasses all understanding. We know this world is not here to give us this peace. It can only come from you. As the storm rages around us, Lord, will you fill us with your peace. The peace you give always causes me to trust in you despite my circumstances, Lord. I am placing all my worries and fears at the foot of the cross today. Lord, help me to be a light of peace to those around me, sharing why we don't have to be afraid when the world is uncertain. Thank you for sending Jesus. Thank you for Christmas.



*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

December 8, 2024 - 9:00am

Advent: Look at Luke: All of Humanity

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: Messiah

Welcome:

Announcements:

Call To Worship: Pastor Michael

God's Greeting: Pastor Michael

Mutual Greeting

Worship Through Song:

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel

He Has Come for Us

Congregational Prayer:

Offering - General Fund & Benevolence

Lighting of the 2nd Advent Candle: Simon and Berend

Worship in Song:

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: Luke 3:1-6

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

*‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.*

*⁵Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.*

*The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.*

⁶And all people will see God’s salvation.’”

Sermon: Advent: Look at Look: All of Humanity - Pastor Michael

Worship in Song:

Remembrance Song

Celebration of Communion

WE DEPART WITH GOD’S BLESSING

Parting Song: Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Blessing: Pastor Michael

Announcements

The beautiful poinsettias are in memory of:

Merle & Carol Bielema from the family

Brad Lown from the family

Sid & Myrna Dykstra & Arthur & Eileen Thompson from

Paul & Sheila Thompson

Sebert & Phyllis Dykstra from the family

Elmer & Alberta Vander Eide from the family

Paul & Wilma Ottens & Janet Mathey from the family

Barb & Gene Kessler from the family

John & Vie Atherton from the family

Jake & Florence Balk & Roger Simon from Bonnie Simon

Angela McGinty & Robert Jackson from the family

Ken Balk & Stephanie Balk from Audrey Balk & family
Ruth Long from the Family
To honor our parents from Mark & Ann Dykstra
Darrell Tiesman & Harlan Tiesman from Gen Tiesman, Darla
Birks & family
Genoveva from Ana

This morning, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. As we sit around the table of the Lord may we know our sins have been forgiven through His Son, Jesus Christ. Let us celebrate with joy in our hearts.

The annual congregational meeting will be today following the worship service. Election of elders and deacons for 2025 will take place. Nominees for the office of elder, (two to be chosen); Brenda Atherton, Ann Dykstra, and Stacy Stephenson. Nominees for the office of deacon (one to be chosen); Eric Burns, Don Mathey, and Amy Dykstra. The 2025 church budget will also be presented along with a discussion of church building projects. There will also be an open discussion forum.

The next potluck meal will be January 12, 2025. It was moved to this date due to conflict with the December 8 congregational meeting.

Thank you to Linda V. for making and donating a new Christmas tree skirt and two new table runners for the holiday season. We are grateful for her talents and her willingness to help enhance the beauty of the church!

Thank you! Leanna would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers. They are very much appreciated and welcome. Merry Christmas to everyone.

Sympathy is extended to the families of Roger, Sam, & Mark Dykstra on the passing of their aunt Arlene Keller of Morrison, on November 28th. May God grant these families His peace and comfort.

New Address Joe Long has moved. If anyone wants to send him a Christmas card please address it to: Joe Long, C/O Hammett House, 1845 First Avenue, Sterling, IL 61081

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

Please send prayer requests to Pastor Michael at **mhooke01@gmail.com**.

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

December Birthdays

12	Don Mathey
1	Collin Burns
14	Alida Hooker
1	Genevieve Tiesman
18	Brenda Atherton
1	Tucker Smith
21	Sheila Thompson
5	Kelly Dykstra
27	Paige Vander Eide
6	Rollie Vander Eide
27	Ana Ton
8	Janelle Bradley - 2017
28	Rachel Elliot - 1996
9	Brenda Huizenga
30	Stacy Stephenson

December Anniversaries

6	Mark & Ann Dykstra	28	Albert & Gloria Wiebenga
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Deacons' News

As of December 1st, the General fund offerings are approximately \$5,300.00. short for targeted budget.

Offerings Received 12/1/24:

General Fund

Budget: \$2,051.62

Building Fund: \$

Received: _____ \$

Over: \$

Offerings Today: General Fund & Benevolence

Offerings 12/15/24: General Fund & Faith Promise

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

CRC News

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - “Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.” This refrain from the beloved Advent hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” calls us to rejoice—not because of our immediate circumstances but because of the promises we have in Jesus Christ. Ponder a few things that cause you to rejoice. Offer them up to God in gratitude. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Give Thanks with World Renew's Advent Giving Tree - Let's help people who live in poverty to experience more of God's love for them with a Christmas Giving Tree! Each ornament on our Christmas tree from World Renew's 2024-2025 Gift Catalog represents a gift for people living in poverty worldwide. Just choose an ornament and bring it, along with your donation, for the World Renew offering on Christmas Day. If you're not attending services with us on Christmas day, you can also go to worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972 to give.

Community News

Children's Discovery Center Final Visit with Santa is Sunday, December 15th from 2 - 4 pm.

12th Annual Family New Year's Eve Party is Tuesday, Dec 31st, from 3 - 5:30 pm. 1,000 balloons drop at 5:15 pm!

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (March 28 - April 8, 2025): Travel by motor coach (7 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. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey and the Seven Churches of Revelation - (May 27 - June 8, 2025) Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's first, second, and third missionary journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am

	December 8th	December 15th
Recorder & Sound	David D	Paul T
Nursery Attendant	Lynell B	Michelle V
Snack Provider	Marissa W	Amy D
Server	Marissa W	Amy D