

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH  
of SOUTH HOLLAND  
Sunday, September 28, 2025



Welcome to First Reformed Church!

“In the beginning, God....”

Amidst our world’s chaos and confusion, through our lives’ struggles and strife, these are the words where Christians begin to hang their hope. These first words of the Bible remind us that before all else, God was – that our God spoke chaos into order; that our God spoke everything into being.

And we believe that our God is still speaking today, breathing words of life to us through His Word, calling us home through Jesus, and encouraging us through the power of the Holy Spirit. As you prepare for worship, ask God to open Your heart to hear Him speak today.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST  
Sunday, September 28, 2025

WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude

*“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”  
“Prayer from the Hills”  
“My Jesus, I Love Thee”*

\*Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

\*Congregational Worship

*“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”  
“Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord)”  
“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”*

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

Song of Assurance

*“Create In Me a Clean Heart”*

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:3 – 2:3

Message

Dr. Anthony Buck

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Alison VanderWoude

Offering

Hymn Request Jar

\*Doxology

\*Benediction

Dr. Anthony Buck

\*Sending in Grace

*“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

\*Organ Postlude

*“Postlude in G”*

\*Those who are able please stand.

Please, join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a cup of conversation and a cookie.

## *UP & COMING AT FIRST...*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**GREETERS:** The Bolkema Family

**WORSHIP TEAM:** Kim Bolkema, Bill & Nikki Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, Benjamin Wooley, and Robert Wooley

**PROJECTION:** Liam VanderWoude

**VIDEO:** Eric Pradelski

**SOUND:** Aaron Wooley

**ORGAN:** Steve DeVries

**PIANO:** Joanne Hoeksema

**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Sara Jabaay

**COFFEE SERVERS:** Jim & Mary Bosman, and Trina Taylor

**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Amber Fransen, Joanne Hoeksema, and Merley Verhagen

**PRAYER ROOM ELDER:** Jim Bosman

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**7:00PM:** Music Team Rehearsal

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

**7:30AM:** ACT meets in the Heritage Room

### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

**GREETERS:** Jim & Bonnie DeGroot

**WORSHIP TEAM:** Nolan Bolkema, Peter & Julia Keep, Nick Paarlberg

**PROJECTION:** Lucas Bolkema

**VIDEO:** Mike Decker

**SOUND:** Rhonda Hesselink

**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema

**PIANO:** Amy Veldboom

**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Dacia Hill

**COFFEE SERVERS:** Steve & Nancy DeVries, and Mary Koster

**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Laurel DeGraff, Sherry Norris, and Nikki Nyhanna

**PRAYER ROOM ELDER:** Don DeGraff

## *CARE...*

**Phil Capone** will be seeing a heart doctor on Monday due to a recent heart attack.

**Don VanBaren** has been able to return home from the hospital.

**Don and Noreen VanDeursen's** nephew, Eric Hettinga (43 yrs old), had a severe heart attack and is now out of the ICU. His condition is improving.

**Wayne Deinema** fell at Park Place. He did not sustain any injuries from the fall, but he did elect to be admitted to rehab at Cedar Creek in Lowell.

**Anna Mae Groeneveld** has been transferred to Lightways in Joliet, IL.

**Clifton Rhodes** continues his physical therapy.

**Sharon Brooks'** mom, Paula Amos had a mass removed from her bladder and is waiting on biopsy results. She is at UI Health in Chicago. Sharon's aunt, Ginger Scott, continues on a ventilator and is going to start dialysis. Pray for improvement in her condition.

**Debbie Garretto** is recovering at home from eye surgery.

Pray for **Christopher Nelson** as his cancer has returned and further treatment is no longer an option.

**OUR EXTENDED FAMILY:** Barb DeWolf, 12565 Renaissance Circle, Homer Glen, IL 60491

**MALACHI 3:10** (NIV) reads, *Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. "Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."*

## *ON DUTY FOR SEPTEMBER...*

**First Security:** Rich Thornton

**First Emergency:** Tiffany Buchanan

## CHURCH LIFE...

**THIS MORNING WE WELCOME BACK TO THE PULPIT** Dr. R. Anthony Buck.

Anthony is a theologian, researcher, and educator whose recent work has focused heavily on AI ethics. Dr. Buck is also a Mesa Scholar with Mesa Global, in which role he helps provide theological education, particularly in the Global South.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family and friends of Dorothy Jacobsma who passed away on Friday, September 19.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is also extended to the Rich Van Vuren family on the passing of their son, Daniel VanVuren on Saturday, September 20.

**TRUNK N' TREAT** is **Friday, October 31**, from 5:00 - 6:30pm (car trunks needed by 4:45pm). We will once again give the children of South Holland and surrounding areas a safe and fun place to Trick N' Treat. We need lots of car trunks and lots of candy (we ran out last year) to make this fun event possible. Let's make 2025 our biggest turnout for First Church! There is a candy donation table in the Fellowship Hall, or you can leave your candy at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. We also need you to volunteer your 'decorated' or 'undecorated' car trunk. Please sign up at the Welcome Centers in the narthex or in the Fellowship Hall.



### WILL YOU PARTICIPATE IN OUR 2025 THANKSGIVING STUFFING CHALLENGE?

We are collecting boxes of stuffing. Our goal as a church is to collect **1000 boxes!** These boxes will be donated to Open

Access who will use them as a part of the 1000 Thanksgiving meals they will give away to families this fall. Please call the church office with any questions. Your donations can be dropped off in the narthex, at our Welcome Center, or at the blue table in the Fellowship Hall.

**THE SOUTH HOLLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT** will host the 29th annual *Parade of Lights* on **Tuesday, October 7**, at 6:30pm. This short service will be held at Thorn Creek Reformed Church, after which the vehicles will travel through South Holland and conclude at the Thornton Fire Department. Fire and rescue vehicles will conduct a "lights only" parade to honor those who have experienced a fire, loss of life, or fire-related injuries. Residents are invited to stand along the route with candles and lights.

## REMINDERS....

**BE SURE TO VISIT THE WELCOME CENTERS** to sign up for church events and sign cards for our shut-ins. Please also remember to empty your mail slots. They have been re-alphabetized, and remember your mail is *above* your name.

**CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORTS** for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, are available in a single marked mail slot located on the north end of our mail slots. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Chairman Rodger Norris.

**PLEASE KEEP THE PARKING AREA** that is lined in the front and on the north side of the church - which is closest to the elevator - available for those who have difficulty walking. Thank you!

**CHURCH COOKIES AND NUT ALLERGIES:** Our wonderful cookies served during fellowship time following church are made by volunteers from our congregation. It's our practice that any cookies containing nuts of any kind are clearly labeled.

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** continues for all ages from 11:00am - noon. All are welcome to join us as we spend time learning more about God and His Word.

**PreK-5th Grade** gather to sing, work on memory verses, and collect an offering in the Genesis Room from 11:00-11:30am, then move to their classrooms until noon.

- PreK–2<sup>nd</sup> Grade meet in the Genesis Room
- 3<sup>rd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> Grade meet in the Library
- 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade meet in the Heritage Room
- 9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade meet in the Loft

**OASIS** (Junior & Senior High Students) meets next on **Sunday, October 5**, from 6:30-8:00pm in the Loft and Activity Center. If you are or know of a student in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade who would like to participate in this ministry, please email Anthony at [anthony@frcsh.org](mailto:anthony@frcsh.org).

**THE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY** will meet on **Tuesday, October 14**, at 9:30am in the Genesis Room. Please complete the assignment for Session 2, "Peace In the Plan of Jesus", study guide pgs. 12-37. We will discuss this material when we meet again. Hope to see you there!

### *SERMON NOTES...*

Genesis 1:3 – 2:3  
Dr. Anthony Buck

EVERY SUNDAY, an Elder is assigned to pray in our Prayer Room for 20 minutes following the service. The Prayer Room is located through the doors and down the hallway from the Chapel (exit the Sanctuary from the door by the piano). The praying elder will be praying for those who attended the service, the needs of our congregation, and various parts of our church's life together. If you have a particular prayer request, stop by and the praying elder will pray with you (or you can join her or him in prayer for our church).



15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473

Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

E-mail • [office@frcsh.org](mailto:office@frcsh.org)

**SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS**

**9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday**

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### *STAFF...*

**Dr. Anthony Bolkema**  
*Interim Executive Pastor*

**Pastor Corey Buchanan**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Jane Ackerman**  
*Church Accountant*

**Nyla DeGraff**  
*Church Administrator*

**Gerri VanBaren**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Darcy Daly**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Steve Alexander**  
*Church Custodian*

**Toni Smith**  
*Director of Family Life*  
*Christian Pre-School & Day Care*

**Visit us online at [www.frcsh.org](http://www.frcsh.org)**

Find us in the app store by searching for  
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting [get.theapp.co/1779](http://get.theapp.co/1779).



To get to know you better, please fill out our [Welcome Card](#) in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you want more information about the life of First Church, make sure to include your email address.