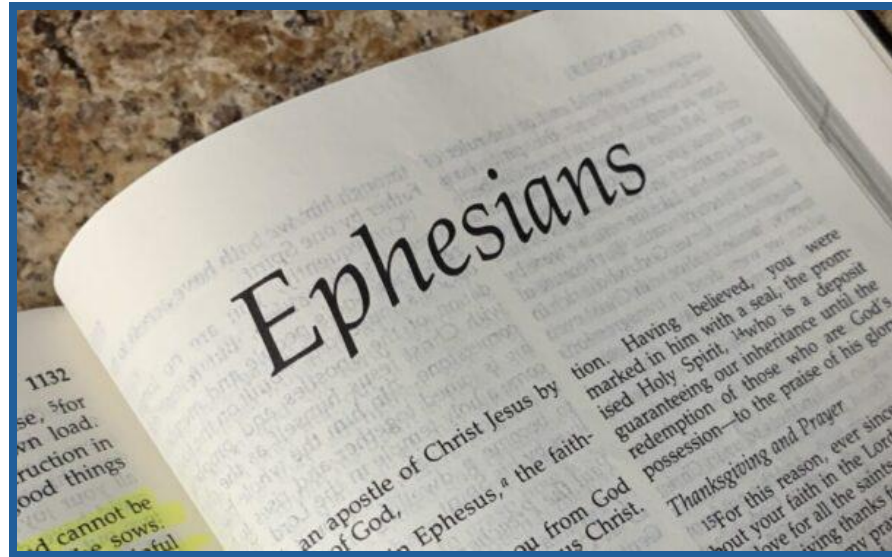


FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

of SOUTH HOLLAND

Sunday, September 6, 2026



Welcome to First Reformed Church!

At First Church one of the best ways we can grow together is through Sunday morning worship. Here, you'll find a warm and welcoming community of people from all different walks of life gathered together in unity to lift high the name of Jesus.

We do this in all sorts of different ways. We sing new songs with guitars and old songs with an organ. We pray new prayers from the heart and ancient prayers of the faith. We preach the same Good News of Jesus Christ in new and fresh ways in hopes of intersecting the Word of God with the stories of our lives.

Whether you grew up Catholic, married a Baptist, or anything in between, you'll find a home in worship here at First Church.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

September 6, 2026

WE APPROACH GOD

Prelude

"Fanfare & March"
"Peaceful Rest"
"Father, We Thank Thee"

*Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Corey Buchanan

*Congregational Worship

"Let All Things Now Living"
"God the Uncreated One"
"O Worship the King"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Song of Assurance

"When I Think About the Lord"

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Ephesians 2:11-22

Message

"The Gospel"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Jim DeGroot

Offering

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

*Doxology

*Benediction

*Sending in Grace

"Spirit of the Living God"

*Organ Postlude

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"

*Those who are able please stand.

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

CARE & PRAYER...

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family and friends of **Ken Oetjen**, brother of Joanne Hoeksema, who passed away on August 26. Please keep Joanne, Ken’s family, and loved ones in your prayers as they celebrate his homegoing while also mourning the loss of someone so dear to them.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family and friends of Russ Gouwens whose son, **Keith Gouwens**, passed away August 30. Please pray for his family as they grieve this loss.

Joseph Arojojoye is beginning his fifth week of six weeks of radiation for cancer treatment. Please pray for peace and strength as he navigates this treatment.

Joanne Hoeksema completed multiple rounds of chemo. She had an abdominal CT scan this month and there were no significant changes.

Kathy Rhodes continues therapy on her shoulder. Pray for steady progress, renewed mobility, and a full recovery.

Eric Pradelski has recently received diagnoses of autism, anxiety, and attention deficit disorder and is working with his doctors as he navigates ongoing care and support. Due to exhaustion and burnout, he has also taken some time away from work to focus on his well-being. Please pray for wisdom and guidance for Eric and his medical team, along with strength, understanding, and encouragement during this time.

Craig Nelson had successful neck surgery on July 28th. In addition, Craig and Jan’s son, **Christopher**, has begun a challenging new cancer treatment. Please keep the entire family in your prayers during this difficult time.

David Gardiner, grandson of Jean Spiekhout, is battling a brain tumor. Please pray for comfort, strength, and wisdom for his medical team as they care for him.

THANK YOU FIRST CHURCH for the many expressions of sympathy received in the passing of Viola Van Dam. The cards, personal messages, and support at her celebration of life is very much appreciated. – the family of Viola Van Dam

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Doris Boomsma, Park Place of St. John, #1212, 10700 Park Place, St. John, IN 46373

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

GREETERS: Barry Voss and Gwen Adams
WORSHIP TEAM: Kim Bolkema, Nolan Bolkema, Joe Fransen, Nick Paarlberg, and Abby Veldboom
PIANO: Anthony Bolkema **VIDEO:** Mike Decker
SOUND: Lucas Bolkema **PROJECTION:** Gwen Adams
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Amber Fransen
COFFEE SERVERS: Russ & Heidi Paarlberg and Jim & Bonnie DeGroot
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Gwen Adams, Pam Costello and Mykah Lett
PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Jim DeGroot

6:30PM: OASIS meets in the Activity Center/Loft

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 – LABOR DAY

Church Office and Daycare closed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7:30AM: Trustees meet in the Heritage Room

COMMUNION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

GREETERS: Barry Voss and Larry DeYoung
WORSHIP TEAM: Rhonda DeBok, Julia Keep, Peter Keep, Bill Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg and Lisa Triemstra
PIANO: Amy Veldboom **VIDEO:** Rhonda DeBok
SOUND: Lucas Bolkema **PROJECTION:** Felicia Flowers
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Anna Sikkema
COFFEE SERVERS: Dave & Becky Wright and Roger & Judy Gill
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Cindy Paarlberg, Rhonda DeBok and Deb Woltzen
PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Steve VanderWoude

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Total: \$3,833.44 (Needed Weekly: \$11,500.00)
Gift & Memorial: Viola VanDam, \$1,090.00/Shirley VanDeursen, \$200.00
. Reach 175: \$456.08 **UPDATED REACH 175 TOTAL: \$184,167.76**

CHURCH LIFE...

GATHER AND GRILL: Our annual church picnic is next **Sunday, September 13**, starting at 11:30am. Burgers and hot dogs will be served in the Activity Center. We are asking all families to bring a sensational salad or side dish to share (serving spoons provided). Drinks and a special ice cream and float station will be set up for dessert! Join us for an afternoon of fellowship, fun games, delicious food, a celebration of the end of summer! Sign up at the Welcome Centers or call the church office to let us know you'll be there!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: There will be a brief but important congregational meeting immediately following the worship service on **Sunday, September 13**. The purpose of this meeting will be to provide the congregation with important updates on church staffing. Please make every effort to join us this for this time together.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY is **Sunday, September 20**. This is a special opportunity for us to reach beyond our church walls and invite friends, family, neighbors, and others who may be looking for a church home or have been away from church for a while. We invite our congregation to bring home special **BACK TO CHURCH** invitations and share them with friends, neighbors, coworkers and others, inviting them to join us at church on this special Sunday and beyond! Invitations for you to share with others were left on church pews this morning, please take one or more to share with others!

ARE YOU INTERESTED in learning more about what it means to become a member of First Reformed Church? Whether you are interested in joining or just have a whole bunch of questions about the church you'd like answered, please talk with Pastor Anthony or Pastor Corey. Classes conclude today, **September 6, at 10:45am**.

WE NEED YOU! Our Nursery ministry is such an important part of creating a welcoming, nurturing church family for our children and their families. As we look ahead, we have a growing need for additional volunteers to help make this ministry possible.

You don't need to have all the answers; you simply need a willingness to serve, care for our children, and be part of helping the next generation grow in faith. Nursery volunteers should be 13 years or older and will work with Darcy Daly, our nursery coordinator, each Sunday. Sign-up opportunities are available in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might help!

REMINDERS...

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.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING YOU'VE LOST? You can find our Lost and Found in the hallway just north of the kitchen, at the bottom of the stairs leading to the parking lot. Check there for your missing coat, pair of glasses, lost earrings, or anything else you may have misplaced!

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

THE FIRST CHURCH LADIES' MORNING BIBLE STUDY begins its new season on **Tuesday, September 22, at 9:30am** in the Fellowship Hall.

This year, our DVD study will be by Jennifer Rothschild:

"Heaven: When Faith Becomes Sight." As we delve into this study, we will gain a deeper understanding of what God has prepared for His children and also how to live with confidence today as we look forward to the glorious unending that awaits.

The cost of the study guide is \$24.00 (which includes access to the videos online should you miss a session). If you are an Amazon Prime member you may order your own study guide. Please text or call Mary Koster at 708-380-4316 by Sept 8 if you want to be a part of this exciting Bible study. We hope you can attend!

FAMILY LIFE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL AND DAY CARE verse of the month: **Galatians 5:22-23: "22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."** We invite you to join them on their journey by learning and reflecting on this verse together as an opportunity for our whole church family to grow in faith together.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS...

SAVE THE DATE! Elim Dutch Festival is September 26 at Elim Christian School in Crestwood, IL. Please join us for a day of fun, friends, and fantastic Dutch food and treats. Help us make this day a success in supporting the ministry of children and adults with disabilities!

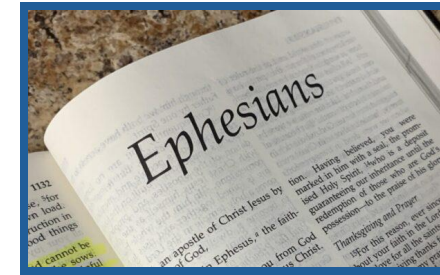
SERMON NOTES...

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Ephesians 2:11-22

“The Gospel”

EVERY SUNDAY, an Elder is assigned to pray in our Prayer Room for 20 minutes following the service. 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

SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM / Monday – Friday

STAFF...

Dr. Anthony Bolkema
Interim Executive Pastor

Pastor Corey Buchanan
Associate Pastor

Jane Ackerman
Church Accountant

Nikki Nyhanna
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

Find us in the app store by searching for
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting 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.