

2nd's Matters

November 15, 2017

From Your Pastor's Desk

I am thankful for the Council's addition of DJ to our church staff and I have an eager spirit that is prepared to help guide and discover how DJ's gifts will meld with our congregation's worship expressions. I expect that along the way we will have instances worthy of review and adjustment as well as expectations and preferences to address. Our overarching evaluation question will remain: Does our worship honor God and does it provide for us expressions of our laments, our confession, our dependence, our hope and joy, our gratitude, our praise? I am looking forward to working with DJ and I am optimistic for our development as congregation, pastor, and music director as we collectively grow into a fresh expression of worship at Second Church.

Worship this Sunday, November 19

Nick and Liz Donkersloot will present their daughter Ellen Loree for baptism and Pastor MacLeod will be preaching from Mark 5:1-20. The children will collect our noisy coin offering for Appalachia Reach Out Children's Christmas Fund, and the Deacons will receive our offerings for our General Fund and Crossroads Prison Ministries.

Thanksgiving Day Worship, 9:30 AM, November 23

We will gather for worship on Thanksgiving Day. There will be a time in the worship service that we can share short testimonies of thanksgiving -- so begin thinking now of what you might offer! Pastor Doug will have a message from Psalm 104, "God is Great, God is Good; Let Us Thank Him." As we reflect on the many blessings we have been given during this Thanksgiving holiday season, we invite you to prayerfully consider where you would like to tithe. Please write on your check memo line or on your offertory envelope where you wish to give. Below is a list of suggestions that may guide you.

Denominational Agencies - Back to God Ministries International, Calvin College, Calvin Seminary, Christian Reformed Church Foundation, Denominational Services/Ministry Programs, Resonate Global Missions, World Renew

Denominational-related Agencies - Cadets, GEMS, Youth Unlimited, Friendship Ministries, Partners Worldwide

Local Area Causes - Insight Pregnancy Services (formerly Alpha Family Center), Bethany Christian Services, Lakeside Church, Love INC, TrueNorth, Fremont Young Life, Fremont Service Committee, Habitat for Humanity, WISE (Women's Information Service, Inc.) Kids' Hope USA

Christian School - Fremont Christian School, Western Michigan Christian High School

Second Church: General Fund, Faith Promise, Christian Education Fund

55+ Breakfast November 16

Breakfast at the side Street Cafe begins at 8:30 AM tomorrow for those who consider themselves 55+.

Stock the Pantry!

The pantry items needed for November are spaghetti sauce, pasta, and rice.

All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner, November 19

The all-church Thanksgiving dinner will be held Sunday, November 19, at 11:30, in the basement of the church. Turkey, rolls, gravy, dinnerware, and beverages will be provided. All are invited.

Thanksgiving Invitation

Bruce, Karen, and Mary Haveman and Louise Slager are members of the Wyngarden family who will gather on Thanksgiving Day for a traditional Thanksgiving meal at Second Church. We invite anyone to join us for dinner at 1:00! Please call Louise at 924-6703.

Annual Poinsettia Sale:

This is the last week to order your poinsettia from FYSH. Please check your church mail box (or the literature ledge) for the FYSH Poinsettia Sale order forms! The poinsettia(s) which you order can be used either as decoration in the church or may be taken home on November 29. The money and orders forms must be in by November 21 for guaranteed pick up on November 29, but late orders will be accepted. Proceeds from the sale of poinsettias will go towards helping students be a part of a mission trip experience. Any questions? Contact Zach (641) 204-2049, or 2ndyouthdirector@gmail.com

Appalachia Reach Out Shoebox Drive

Second CRC is collecting supplies for ARO from November 12 – November 26. There are boxes available at church which include a tag for either a boy or girl and a list of items that can be put into the box and returned to church gift-wrapped with the tag attached no later than November 26. These items are specific to children ages 6 & 7 and include such things as: hygiene products (toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.), a toy, pencils or crayons, one-size-fits-all gloves, and anything else appropriate but no clothing. Our goal is to supply 50 shoe boxes to ARO.

College Student Care Packages

As a church we will be again sending care packages to our students who are away at college. These packages will be sent in time for exams and end of the year projects and papers. There is a sign-up sheet with suggestions for what to donate located on the literature ledge. Please feel free to sign up to bring or more of these items. We will also be needing donations of shoeboxes or postage money for these packages. All donations can be put in the box outside of Zach's office door by Wednesday, November 29. If you are a parent of a college student and their address has changed in the last year please email the updated address to 2ndyouthdirector@gmail.com

Coffee Break Update

In this Thanksgiving season, give thanks for the women and children that attend Coffee Break each week. Give thanks specifically for the relationships that have developed, the support given and received among the women, and the stories studied from the Gospel of Luke showing Jesus' ministry to "seek and save the lost." Pray for continued excitement and faithfulness in the weekly Bible study, health in this flu season, and continued growth in relationships. If you would like to become involved in this shared ministry - please join us on Tuesday mornings, 9:30 a.m. at Second CRC. Questions? Call Julie Baker #928-0184.

Matamoros

We are looking for new people to be involved with our adult mission outreach work in Matamoros, Mexico. Our week this year is Jan. 6 - 13. Please see or contact Mariel Poel at 231-349-9152 or Mike DeKuiper at 231-335-6171 for additional information.

Community Events

Fremont Christian School Fundraiser

A double-duty fundraiser is happening now and we'd love your help! Fremont Christian School is teaming with an organization called Funds2orgs to collect gently used shoes. The shoes collected are distributed between 25 countries, to people in need of something we most likely take for granted - footwear. In turn, Fremont Christian gets \$1000 for every 2500 pair of shoes donated. It's a double win!

FCS is growing and is in need of a building expansion. The money raised from this fundraiser will be earmarked specifically for that cause.

What's the catch? There really isn't one. Shoes of all sizes are accepted. Shoes must be gently worn - something you'd give your family members to wear. The only things not accepted are ice skates, rollerblades and roller skates. Cleats of any kind are great, boots of any kind are great. Flip flops, sandals, tennis shoes - you get the idea.

Shoes can be dropped off at either FCS building during school hours.

UCC Christmas Shopping & Home Tour, December 2

This event will be held December 2, 2017 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. It is sponsored by the Women's Fellowship of the First Congregational Church and includes a Christmas Shoppe with many quality crafted items, a Plum Pudding Shoppe with gourmet holiday foods, a Soup Luncheon from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., and a Home Tour of three beautiful homes in the Fremont area. Tickets for the Home Tour are \$5 and may be purchased at the church at 714 Hillcrest Dr. in Fremont. You can get more information at the church website: fremontfcc.org We hope you join us for the 28th anniversary of this event. This is a great outing for you and your friends in preparation for the Christmas season!

CureUs Christmas Concert, December 3

Jason Gray, Chris August, and newcomer Hannah Kerr will perform at the Fremont Wesleyan Church on Sunday, December 3 at 6:00 pm. Tickets are on sale at the Fremont Community Rec Authority and on line with I-Tickets. Jason Gray Management has joined with I-Tickets for a ticket reduction. If you purchase 10+ tickets they will be only \$8.00 per ticket along with \$1.40 service charge. Gather together and contact I-Tickets at www.tickets.com or call (800)965-9324.