

2nd's Matters

November 22, 2017

- Please pray for safe travel for all who will be on the roads this Thanksgiving weekend
- Please pray for continued healing for Pastor Stan Sturing who has had another bout of pancreatitis.

From Your Pastor's Desk

As long as I can remember I have been a big fan of succotash. It just works for me. When we add a bit of chopped red pepper to the classic simple duo the palette becomes as glorious to the eye as the texture and flavor is to my palate. I am grateful for succotash. Being thankful for the simpler things in life is basic training for dealing with the greater realities of life. This Thanksgiving season identify something simple you are thankful for, and then build on that foundation for greater thanksgiving. But first, please pass the succotash!

Thanksgiving Day Worship, 9:30 AM, November 23

Pastor Doug is preparing a message from Psalm 104, "God is Great, God is Good; Let Us Thank Him." There will also be a time in the worship service that we can share short testimonies of thanksgiving. What might you offer? 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

Thanksgiving Day Dinner Invitation

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

Worship This Sunday, November 26

In recognition this year of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation we will have a series of messages beginning this Sunday and continuing through Advent based on the Five Solas of the Reformation. The first message will be "Sola Scriptura" which means that the scriptures are our ultimate and trustworthy authority for faith and life. Our offerings will be for the General Fund and the Fremont Service Committee.

Stock the Pantry!

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

Appalachia Reach Out Shoeboxes

Please be sure that your Christmas boxes for Appalachia Reach Out are returned to church by Sunday, November 26. They need to be wrapped with the tags attached.

Thanks to all who supported this project to bring Christmas joy to children in Inez, Kentucky through Appalachia Reach Out.

Don't Forget to Donate to the College Student Care Packages

As a church we will be again sending care packages to our students who are away at college. 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 one or more of these items. Please put all donations 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

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 School 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.

Need Help with holiday gift giving needed?

Visit the display of prayer reminders for Latin America by Bible League volunteers at Newaygo County at Commission On Aging Bazaar Friday, December 1, 8:00 - 3:00. Lunch is served by COA, too. Check their ad for times.

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.

The Silver Lining to the *Burning* Question You Burnt the Bird? Reasons to Be Thankful!

- Salmonella won't be a concern
 - No one will overeat.
- Everyone will think it's Cajun Blackened.
- Uninvited guests will think twice next year.
- Your cheese broccoli lima bean casserole will gain newly found appreciation.
 - Pets won't pester you for scraps.
 - The smoke alarm was due for a test.
- Carving the bird will provide a good cardiovascular workout.
- After dinner, the guys can take the bird to the yard and play football.
 - You'll get to the desserts quicker.
- You won't have to face three weeks of turkey sandwiches.

Source: Craig Boldman and Pete Matthews,
authors of *Every Excuse in the Book: 714 Ways to Say "It's Not My Fault."*
