

2nd's Matters

December 13, 2017

- Remember those in prayer who are ill, recovering from surgery and those who are traveling during the holiday season.

From Your Pastor's Desk

As our congregation continues to look to gain a part-time staff position for leading children choirs, the Christmas program, and keyboard accompanist, various members of our congregation have been generously offering what they can. Among them, Helen Mellema, in recognition of our need for leadership for a Sunday School Christmas program, has provided significant time and effort to plan, prepare, and rehearse for this Sunday's presentation of "New Star." With so many members making significant efforts in a wide range of ministry areas Second Church is a great community to be a part of!

Worship This Sunday, December 17

We will light the third Advent candle and the message, "Solo Christo" (Christ alone) will be the fourth in the series on the Five Solas of the Reformation. Our children, under the direction of Helen Mellema, will be presenting a Christmas program "New Star." The noisy coin offering will be for the Appalachia Reach Out Children's Christmas Fund and our regular offerings will be for the General Fund and Bethany Christian Services.

Worship Schedule:

December 17: 5:30 PM Candlelight service *at Trinity CRC*

December 24: the Fourth Sunday of Advent: "Soli Deo Gloria" (Glory to God Alone).

December 24: 10 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, led by FYSH.

December 25: Christmas morning worship services will be held *at First CRC (9:30) and at Trinity CRC (9:30)*.

December 31: The First Sunday after Christmas, Sunday morning worship.

January 7: Epiphany, Sunday morning worship includes the Lord's Supper.

Christmas Eve Service,

FYSH will be leading the annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. The service will take place at Second Church at 10 PM. The offering that night will go towards a food drive that FYSH will be leading in January for the local food pantry.

Christmas Eve Choir

We have a special choir for our Christmas Eve candlelight worship service (10 PM). Louise Slager is directing the choir and rehearsal is Sunday morning, December 17, in the fellowship hall downstairs following the worship service.

Stock the Pantry!

For December the requested items are soup and crackers.

Thank you

Thank you all for the many prayers and expressions of concern during my daughter's, Michelle (Shira) Sandborn, recent illness and surgery. The large cyst was removed and was not cancerous. Praise God! She is now home and recuperating. God bless you all!

Kathy Shira

Love Offering

An envelope was placed in mailboxes labeled "Love Offering" to show our good will and appreciation for our church staff this Christmas season. If you would like to participate, please place your offering in the collection plate in the provided envelope by December 17. You may specify how your gift is dispersed if you desire. Please Note: any late offerings that come in following December 17 will be added to the General Fund.

Community Events

Fremont Christian School Fundraiser

Fremont Christian School is collecting gently used shoes for a fundraiser until the first week of January. We have collected 1,000 pairs of shoes already, with a goal of 2,500. Would you be willing to look through your closets to see if you have any shoes you no longer wear that could still be worn and be a blessing to someone in another country? Any kind of shoe and any size shoe are being collected. There are collection boxes at both Fremont Christian School buildings. We are collecting shoes until the first week of January. Thank you!!

Trinity Candle Light Worship, December 17

You are invited to a candle light worship service at Trinity CRC at 5:30 PM on December 17. This is planned as reflective and contemplative one hour service using a series of music and readings with a short meditation.

WMC Annual Christmas Collage, December 19

The highlight of the Christmas season, which showcases our very gifted bands and choirs, is right around the corner! Please mark your calendars for **Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00 PM** (notice **day & time** change!) for Western Michigan Christian School's annual Christmas Collage, to be held at the Frauenthal Center for Performing Arts in downtown Muskegon. Tickets are available in the school office and at the box office of the Frauenthal the night of the collage for only \$10. A program fit for a King...don't miss it!

THE BELL

I KNOW WHO I AM

I am God's child (John 1:12)
I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)
I am united with the Lord(1 Cor. 6:17)
I am bought with a price(1 Cor. 6:19-20)
I am a saint (set apart for God). (Eph. 1:1)
I am a personal witness of Christ. (Acts 1:8)
I am the salt & light of the earth (Matt.5:13-14)
I am a member of the body of Christ(1 Cor 12:27)
I am free forever from condemnation (Rom. 8: 1-2)
I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant (Phil.3:20)
I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31 -34)
I am a minister of reconciliation for God(2 Cor.5:17-21)
I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18)
I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph. 2:6)
I cannot be separated from the love of God(Rom.8:35-39)
I am established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor.1:21-22)
I am assured all things work together for good (Rom. 8: 28)
I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16)
I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3: 12)
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13)
I am the branch of the true vine, a channel of His life (John 15: 1-5)
I am God's temple (1 Cor. 3: 16). I am complete in Christ (Col. 2: 10)
I am hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3). I have been justified (Romans 5:1)
I am God's co-worker (1 Cor.. 3:9; 2 Cor 6:1). I am God's workmanship(Eph. 2:10)
I am confident that the good works God has begun in me will be perfected. (Phil 1: 5)
I have been redeemed and forgiven(Col.1:14).I have been adopted as God's child(Eph 1:5)
I belong to God
Do you know
who you are?