

2nd's Matters

December 27, 2017

- Our Christian sympathies are extended to **Glenn and Dani Vogel**. Dani's mother, Phyllis Heft, passed away on Christmas Eve.
- Pray for healing and relief from discomfort for **Mary Breuker** who had surgery for repair to her right shoulder, **Rachel Ward** who had surgery on her jaw last week, and **Grace Portenga**, who fell a couple of weeks ago continues with weakness and discomfort.

From Your Pastor's Desk

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service was a delight. While a gentle snow fell outside over 200 of us were welcomed into our sanctuary which hosted innumerable candles. The FYSH led us with Christmas songs, readings, prayers and the lighting of even more candles! Thanks are in order for our holiday choir, Ashlyn Volz for accompanying our singing with the piano, and for Zach Van Wyk and the youths who planned and led the service. But of course, our greatest thanks and joy are for the blessed occasion for all this celebration -- Jesus Christ has come to be our salvation!

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY, December 31

With the Christ candle lit and our banner declaring "Our Light Has Come" we will sing Christmas carols and read Luke 1:26-38. As we draw near to the dawning of the New Year we are called to live by hearing the Word of the Lord, consenting to it, and living with the implications of it. Our offerings will be for General Fund and the Christian Education Fund.

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

Reminder:

For contributions to the church to be credited to 2017 they must be received by December 31.

Stock the Pantry!

For December the requested items are soup and crackers.

IF Gathering, 2018

IF Gathering is a two-day event for women to come together across generations, denominations, and cultures in our community to learn from each other and to be pointed to God. Be on the lookout in the next few weeks! Registration will open up for IF Fremont 2018 after the New Year! Our church will have the first chance to register on-line beginning January 2 for one week before we open registration to the public. If you haven't, please like us on facebook - IF:Fremont

DATES: March 2-3, 2018

More details to come!

LOCATION: Dogwood Center

Adult Education

An Adult Education Bible Study on the book of Ecclesiastes led by Bob Broekema will begin on January 7, in the fellowship hall downstairs, following the morning service. Bob will give a brief introduction to the book of Ecclesiastes. If possible, it would benefit you to read all of Ecclesiastes before the first meeting.

Community Events

CoffeeBreak Nursery Opportunity

Due to some of our regular staff going south for some winter months we need additional nursery staff. If you love the Lord, have a heart for outreach, have the patience to work with/love children/babies and have Tuesday mornings available this is a perfect opportunity for you! Please call Julie Baker (928-0184) ASAP to indicate your willingness and availability.

The late humorist Erma Bombeck made the following New Year's resolutions. She wrote:

1. I will go to no doctor whose office plants have died.
2. I'm going to apply for a hardship scholarship to Weight Watchers.
3. I will never loan my car to anyone I have given birth to.
4. Just like last year... I am going to remember that my children need love the most when they deserve it the least.

The last resolution, made in all seriousness, is a good one for all parents to make: to remember that our children need love the most when they deserve it the least.