

# 2<sup>nd</sup>'s Matters

February 14, 2018

- Pray for our Council's work of seeking nominees for serving as Elders and Deacons among us.
- Pray for a successful surgery and eventual healing for Dave Poel who is having a hip replaced today.

## From Your Pastor's Study

Lent is the forty-day period from Ash Wednesday to Easter (this year, February 14 to March 31) recalling the pending and eventual suffering and passion of our Savior, Jesus Christ. In the Bible a forty-day period is symbolic; it signifies a time of spiritual struggle to which God provides the promise of relief and victory. Moses on Mt. Sinai, Elijah traveling to Horeb, and Jesus in the desert all fasted for forty days. The rains of the Flood, the spies in Canaan, Goliath's challenge, Nineveh's deliverance, and the period between the Resurrection and the Ascension all lasted forty days. Israel wandered in the desert and later was delivered into the hands of the Philistines for forty years. Whether forty days or forty years, the number forty spoke not only to a span of time but also a span of God's ongoing presence experienced in trial, dependence, and eventual blessing. As we begin this season which anticipates Easter use this time

- to meditate on our need for a savior;
- to renew our commitment to daily repentance; and
- to remember with confidence and gratitude Christ's conquering death and sin.

## Today: Mid-Week Bible Study, At 2:00 PM.

Everyone is invited to join our discussion on Judges 14-15 in the Fireside room

## Today: Ash Wednesday

First CRC invites us to attend their community Ash Wednesday service which begins at 6:15 (to allow participation in other community activities which start at 7:00 pm). The imposition of ashes will be available to all who desire.

## Today: Administrative Team

Our Council's Administrative Team meets this evening and the agenda includes seeking nominees for serving as Elders and Deacons among us; consideration of a severance arrangement for Rev. Cindy deJong; and seeking a new Music / Worship Director.

## Thursday: 55+

**BREAKFAST**, socializing, and the latest community news which you didn't read in the Times-Indicator, is being served for those who consider themselves 55+, tomorrow morning at 8:30 at the Side Street Cafe. Join us!

## Friday: Lenten Men's Breakfast

Friday, February 16, the first weekly breakfast will be held 7:00 -7:45 am at the Fremont Wesleyan Church.

## Sunday: Worship, February 18

Pastor MacLeod will begin a series of messages for Lent from the words of the Apostle's Creed which confess that Jesus "suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried." Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Wellspring Adult Day Services. The children's noisy coin offering will be for the Foods Resource Bank.

## Happy Birthday

Alden Sneller will be celebrating his 90th birthday next Thursday, February 22. Cards can be sent to him at 500 Parkside Dr, Apt 269, Zeeland, MI 49464.

## Stock the Pantry!

For February the Deacons request macaroni and cheese and tuna for donation to True North.

## **Welcome Shower**

A crib is set up in the lobby of the church to welcome Case Boven, son of Ryan and Katie Boven, to the Second Church family and to shower him with gifts. The crib will be set up until February 19.

## **IF: Fremont, 2018**

IF:Fremont is less than 3 weeks away! Come join with other women from our community as we listen to some amazing speakers teach us how we can become "Ablaze" for our God. The Holy Spirit is ready to speak to you, are you ready to listen? If you have any questions please contact Chelsea Breuker or call the church office. To register please use the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/0SDerMeukaKclKnv2>

## **Community Events**

### **GriefShare**

Advanced Notice for GriefShare: We welcome any adult who has lost a loved one to attend a GriefShare group. This non-denominational 13-week course offers help and support for the grieving. Each class is special and different, focusing on a DVD featuring grief experts and real-life stories. A \$10 fee is for your personal workbook, which you use in the program to help and guide you in your healing. Although you might not be able to attend each week, you are encouraged to do so. There is an open- door policy and new people may join at any given time. Sessions will be on consecutive Thursdays beginning March 1, 2018 from 7-9pm at First Christian Reformed Church (721 Hillcrest Dr, Fremont. Registration with our church is helpful for planning but not required. Please call 231-924-2460 if you wish to register. This is an excellent program to help you on your journey from mourning to joy! For additional information go to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). We look forward to meeting you and walking with you on your journey through this difficult time. God bless you!

### **MOSES (Making OurSelves Equipped Servants)**

MOSES is seeking teens and adults to participate in two trips to help out folks affected by hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Dates are March 29-April 8. Cost is only \$375 for teens and \$265 for adult and teen leaders. See [mosesweb.org](http://mosesweb.org) for more information and registration instructions. Call Judy VanderArk at 616-949-0344 with any questions.

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### *In Christ We Have:*

*A love that can never be fathomed  
A life that can never die  
A righteousness that can never be tarnished  
A peace that can never be understood  
A rest that can never be disturbed  
A joy that can never be diminished  
A hope that can never be disappointed  
A glory that can never be clouded  
A light that can never be darkened  
A purity that can never be defiled  
A beauty that can never be marred  
A wisdom that can never be baffled  
Resources that can never be exhausted.*