

2nd's Matters

May 2, 2018

From Your Pastor's Desk:

May Day is a national holiday in over 80 countries around the world with festivals, events, and parades. Cathy and I remember it being celebrated very modestly out in the Midwest with baskets of candy being left on neighbors' front porches -- but other than that, it is pretty well overlooked in the US (although Minneapolis does have a big parade for May Day). The celebration has its roots in the cyclical welcoming of the summer season in the northern hemisphere.

Another, increasingly lost holiday in the US, about the same time of the year, is the observance of Ascension Day, otherwise understood as the culmination of Christ's incarnate work and in his coronation as King of Kings. It is a Christian observance, and not a national one, so there is no reason to expect a national celebration, but I do see it on the Fremont Christian School calendar and that makes me glad!

Our Church Family:

Alden Sneller passed away Saturday, April 28. There is visitation with the family this evening, Wednesday, May 2, from 5-7 PM at Yntema Funeral Home in Zeeland and tomorrow, Thursday, May 3, from 10-11 AM at Second CRC. The funeral service is 11:00 AM on Thursday, May 3, at church following the visitation.

Ann Pell had surgery on Monday, April 30, to repair a fractured thigh bone. Surgery went well but it will be six weeks before her thigh can bear any weight.

Sunday Worship, May 6:

This Sunday our worship will include a celebration of the sacraments. Silas DeLonge and Case Boven will be baptized and we will also share the Lord's Supper. Pastor MacLeod will offer a meditation on the micro-parable in Luke 11:24-26, "Fill the Room." Our offerings will be for the General Fund and the Christian Education Fund.

National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 3:

All are invited to join with others of our community on the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 3 at 12 noon. Please meet at Fremont's Veterans Memorial Park band shell as we turn to God and seek His face and His hand of blessing in a time of prayer for our country. Pastor Terry Slachter will lead the time of prayer and students from Cornerstone Christian Academy will bring special music.

Ascension Day Worship, Thursday, May 10:

Second CRC hosts a combined worship service with the area CRCs on Ascension Day, at 7:00 PM. Come celebrate the ascension of our Lord in worship. Pastor MacLeod will offer a message from Acts 1:6-14, "AAA Benefits."

Graduation Booklets:

Calling all soon-to-be graduates and parents! We want to celebrate your graduation with you by putting together our annual graduate's booklet! Please fill out an information sheet (put in the boxes of 8th, 12th, and college graduate's parents) and return it to Zach Van Wyk by May 13.

Search Committee:

The Administrative Team invites the interest of members of the congregation to participate on a search committee for our next Music/Worship Director. Please contact Council president Ken Wolffis if you would like to serve Second Church by being on this committee.

A statement on our use of worship through music has been prepared: The musical direction of our congregation continues to be blended worship which mixes contemporary songs with traditional hymns, includes a variety of instruments, and invites participation from the congregation. These styles of worship acknowledge the variance in tastes of music within our church and incorporates feedback from across generations

Church Potluck

Reserve the date, Sunday, May 20, for a church potluck. We will celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness through another church year by enjoying good food and fellowship in the basement fellowship hall. Everyone, members and guests, is invited and we encourage everyone to come. If your last name begins with A-M, please bring a cold dish. If your last name begins with N-Z, please bring a hot dish. Please bring generous portions so that there is plenty for everyone. Rolls, drinks, dessert and paper products will be provided. We will eat at 11:30 am following the completion of the church school classes. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy God's good gifts.

IF Gathering re-watch

If you missed the IF Gathering in March or if you felt like it was a TON of information to absorb or if you're just wanting to hear it again...you're in luck! We will be showing many of the speakers again in May and we'd love to have you join us! Grab your Bible and a pencil and come on Tuesdays, May 8,15,22,29 at 6:30 at church. These sessions do not build on each other, so no need to commit to them all ~ come to whatever works for you! No homework, no book to read ~ just an open heart and listening ear. We hope to see you with a friend!

Stock the Pantry!

Thank you to all who donated canned fruit and vegetables to the True North Food pantry in April. It totaled 77 lbs. For the month of May, the Deacons request spaghetti sauce and pasta/rice for donation.

Did You Know?

Our church website contains video recordings of our Sunday messages; they can be found at: <http://secondcrcfremont.org/category/sermon-videos/>

Community Events

Mother's Day ad

Newaygo County Right to Life will place an ad in the Hi-Lites on Mother's Day honoring those whose names are submitted. If you would like to include someone in the ad, place their name on the list on the literature ledge in the lobby of the church and place \$2.00 for each name in the envelope. Be sure to write the name in the In Honor of or In Memory of.

New Community Church of Newaygo

New Community Church of Newaygo will be presenting lectures throughout the summer. Various speakers will be giving lectures on various topics. Our inaugural lecture features Mr. David Hudgens. David was incarcerated for a time in the prison in Ionia and tells a great story of faith, God's grace, and serving the Lord.

The date: Sunday, May 6

The time: 6 pm – 7 pm

The place: New Community Church of Newaygo, 409 Mundy/Brooks

Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

The Meaning of Marriage, by Tim and Kathy Keller

“It is the illusion that if we find our one true soul mate, everything wrong with us will be healed; but that makes the lover into God, and no human being can live up to that.”