

2nd's Matters

June 13, 2018

From Your Pastor's Desk:

I am spending this week as a delegate from Classis Muskegon at our denominational annual meeting (synod) at Calvin College along with Elder Steve Breuker and Deacon Louise Breuker (both from First Fremont) and Rev. Ken Krause (Big Rapids CRC). The 192 delegates convene at 8 each morning and continue until 9 each evening. The agenda require a constant level of attention (and caffeine), yet the breadth and variety of our shared ministries is wonderful and inspiring. There is much here that makes me glad and thankful to be part of the Christian Reformed Church.

Worship Sunday, June 17:

We will welcome Pastor Cindy deJong to preach for us. Her message, "I Want to Know Christ" will be based on Philippians 3:1-11. The children will receive a noisy coin offering for Hand2Hand and our deacons will receive our offerings for the General Fund and Insight Pregnancy Services.

Our Church Family:

Please pray for **Rebekah Mellema** and **Abby VandenBerg** while they are in Mexico on a mission trip with Church of the Living Christ.

Prayer Request

A few years ago Chris and Dave Breuker's daughter Aimee spent a year in Nicaragua living with a family there while she was serving with the Mennonite Central Committee: "Please be in prayer for Aimee Breuker's Nicaraguan family. They are caught in the middle of all the unrest and danger. There is fighting on both sides of their neighborhood so they have been home bound for two months. The boys have been unable to attend school and Maribel (mother) cannot get out to find employment. Donald (father) is now almost blind due to diabetes. They have no bus service so Maribel walks to the store where she can purchase rice and beans only. It's a very dangerous situation so please be in prayer for their safety and health, and for Aimee as she is worried about them and so far away from them. Pray that they will all remember that God is in control!"

Geers Meal Train:

Eric, Ellie, Ava and Addi Geers added a new baby girl to the Geers' bunch on June 5. Our church family would like to lend a hand as they welcome Amelia Patricia by providing a few meals.

We are using the online app mealtrain.com to schedule these meals. It has the dates to sign up for plus any other information you might need. Please consider helping us serve them in the name of Christ by serving them a meal! You can click on the link <https://mealtrain.com/20yok7> or contact Stephanie DeKuijer at 231-414-5141 or Jane Wolffis at 924-6591 if you'd like to participate!

Christian Education Fund Projected Giving Drive

You will find a letter along with a pledge card in your church mailboxes for our Annual Pledge Drive for Christian Education. Please use the pledge card to let us know how much you are willing to pledge to this church ministry for the 2018/2019 school year. We anticipate having at least 30 children utilizing this program at a cost of approximately \$165,000. There is a box in the church lobby for you to place your card in by July 1. Please contact Ken Wolffis with any questions at 924-6591.

From the Library

We have received back 6 library surveys, but we really need to hear from many more of you! The survey is very short and will take less than a minute to fill out! Together, let's grow our church library.

Here are just some of our new titles:

[The Circle Maker](#) by Mark Batterson

[Praying Circles Around your Children](#) by Mark Batterson

[Escape the Coming Night](#) by Dr. David Jeremiah

[A Walk Through the Dark](#) by Eva Piper

[Made Well: Finding Wholeness in the Everyday Sacred Moments](#) by Jenny Simmonds

[God is Able](#) by Priscilla Shirer

[Be the Gift](#) by Ann Voskamp

Kids, teen, adult fiction, non-fiction and large print titles will be added soon.

Faith Promise Sunday is coming, June 24

What is Faith Promise? It is our congregation's giving to mission endeavors in various parts of our country and world, funded by members and friends, like you, and is not included in our church's annual budget. It is faith giving...trusting the Lord to meet the annual pledges for missions we support. Check out the Faith Promise bulletin board by the coffee area in the narthex for missions we currently support.

Faith Promise is about people, like us, serving the Lord in difficult and/or challenging places, because Christ has compelled them to serve others through Him. These missionaries have financial needs and prayer requests and they depend on us to do our part to help meet those needs.

Who can be involved in Faith Promise giving? It's open to you members, friends, families and newcomers to our church. When you give through Faith Promise you, the givers, receive real blessings because you are meeting tangible needs around the world. Your giving is changing lives for eternity as well as meeting physical and relational needs.

How is it done? Faith Promise giving is done through pledging and is between you and the Lord. You make your prayerful commitment to Him, write your pledge on your pledge card (bright yellow or pink) and place it in the offering plate on or before pledge Sunday that is June 24. If you will be gone then, we'll gladly receive your pledge after the 24th too!

One more thing... Be watching for a pledge card to show up in your mailbox or pick one up from the table at the back of the narthex.

Questions? Please ask Outreach Committee members Bob Barnhart, Lewis Blohm, Tyler Cook, Joe Jiran, Dave Frieling, Mariel Poel, or Bette Wagenmaker. Please join us in giving to missions at 2nd Church.

Stock the Pantry!

For the month of June the Deacons request soup and crackers for donation to the True North food pantry.

Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

“Instead of hating the people you think are war-makers, hate the appetites and disorder in your own soul, which are the causes of war. If you love peace, then hate injustice, hate tyranny, hate greed - but hate these things in yourself, not in another.”

— Thomas Merton, *New Seeds of Contemplation*