

2nd's Matters

June 27, 2018

From Your Pastor's Desk

She's not the same girl I married, and I'm not the same guy she married. That is, over 38 years, we've both changed a great deal as we are affected through the accumulation of experiences, as life happens, and as a generous measure of God's grace, patience, and leading has changed us along the way -- and kept us in love. Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP SUNDAY, July 1

Pastor Doug's message will be from Mark 8:14-26, a story of a curious two stage miracle and what it really means to see. We will also share in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Bethany Christian Services.

Our Church Family

Please remember **Charlie DeKryger** in your prayers as he recovers from an accident while in Alaska.

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 using this program at a cost of approximately \$165,000. There is a box in the church lobby for you to place your card by July 1. Please contact Ken Wolffis with any questions at 924-6591.

Faith Promise

We are focusing on our Faith Promise missions and our commitment to support them financially for the new fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2018 and runs through June 30, 2019. Outreach would like to give \$5,000 to each of the following: Appalachia Reach Out with Will and Jan Ruthven; Foods Resource Bank; Karin Medical Clinic in Gulu, Uganda; Mission India; Paul Gonzales and his family with SOS in Matamoros, Mexico; Steve and Joy Van Sloten in Turkey; Vera Hansen in Frankfurt, Germany; and our new mission organization the Haiti Foundation Against Poverty. Amanda Afman with Contigo International in Quito, Ecuador will be supported through her commitment that concludes in 2018.

Introducing the Haiti Foundation Against Poverty...

- Haiti has 1,000,000 orphans in a population of 10,000,000 people.
- Poverty is the main reason for the extremely high number of orphans.
- Hope House in Port au Prince, Haiti's capital city, was founded by Mallory and Frenz Neptune in response to this overwhelming need.
- Hope House welcomes orphans and children whose parents cannot afford to feed and keep them at home. The children are often severely malnourished, sick or may have other medical issues.
- Mothers who want to keep their children are also welcomed, taught how to make jewelry and beautiful cloth bags to sell. With these skills they are able to earn income to support their families. Mothers may also qualify for small business loans
- Mothers and Hope House staff also take part with weekly Bible studies and times of prayer led by Mallory.
- Children are reunited with their mothers when they have regained strength and wellness through nourishing food and medicines and their mothers have learned a trade.

Hope Okeny from the Karin Medical Clinic Gulu, Uganda

On Sunday, July 8th we are privileged to have Hope Okeny, director of the Karin Medical Clinic in Gulu, Uganda, sharing in our service. Hope is a vibrant African lady with a passion for Jesus Christ and a passion for reaching the people of Gulu through the clinic. Come and hear what is happening at the clinic.

Church Directory

We will be printing an updated church directory soon. Please notify Valerie in the church office by July 22 of any changes and/or corrections of address, email and/or phone number in the past year. If you regularly worship with us at Second and would like to have your information added to the directory, send it to 2ndcrcfremont@sbcglobal.net, call 924-0170, or write the information on a slip of paper and place it in the box on the office door.

Stock the Pantry!

For the month of June the Deacons request soup and crackers for donation to the True North food pantry. Starting July 1, the Deacons request cereal, pancake mix and syrup.

The Banner

The Banner, the official monthly magazine of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, is available free of charge to everyone who is a member or regular attender of the Christian Reformed Church--in other words, to all members and regular attenders of Second Church. *The Banner* seeks to be an agent of information, inspiration, and renewal. Through various articles it challenges us to become all that the Lord desires us to be. Through *The Banner* you're able to get a glimpse into what's going on in other Christian Reformed churches and the impact the Christian Reformed denomination is having throughout the world. If you do not presently receive *The Banner*, we would encourage you to do so. Sample copies can be found on the literature ledge in the back of church. A sign-up sheet can be found close by. Please include your name and address.

Community

Bible League

Thank you from Bible League International for your support. Your prayers and gifts help with equipping believers in under-resourced churches around the world.

Christian Reformed Conference Grounds

The **Christian Reformed Conference Grounds**, 12253 Lakeshore Dr., Grand Haven, is excited to welcome The Bontrager Family in concert on Wednesday, July 4. We hope you will come and celebrate the 4th with attending; it's going to be a fantastic evening of worship! The music will include a wide variety of vocal arrangements and musical styles, you'll want to bring the whole family! The doors to the Worship Center will open at 6 pm, the concert will begin at 7 pm. No tickets are needed, however, a free-will offering will be taken to help offset our music ministry. Be sure and come early and enjoy a delicious BBQ Ribs meal served in the Sunshine Room from 5-6:30 pm.

CureUs July Events

CureUs has scheduled two events this summer to bring the gospel to our community during our National Baby Food Festival. Wednesday, July 18, Singer/songwriter and Atlanta native Jason Fowler will be performing and sharing his addiction recovery story - about God's grace and mercy. He recently shared a limited part of his redemption story to 3 local schools but on his return he will be able to share MORE of the change that was made his life NEW.

On Sunday, July 22, CureUs will be again sponsoring the Sunday evening Community Worship service. It also begins at 7:00 at the Veterans Memorial Park and will be led by the worship team from Resonate Church from Newaygo.

The heart of CureUs is to bring many denominations together and Worship the same Jesus. You can find us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/CureUsOnline](https://www.facebook.com/CureUsOnline) and our website is: www.CureUsMinistry.org

Insight Pregnancy Services

We are on the move here at Insight Pregnancy Services. We are closing on the property at 1007 W. Main St in Fremont next week. We will need to be out of our Newaygo location by July 17th. I anticipate that we will only be closed for services for two weeks and can still handle emergencies if they arise. We will need help with the packing and moving. We are looking for volunteers who could spend a few hours packing boxes, loading trucks, etc. and also folks with enclosed trucks and trailers to transport our stuff. Anyone who is interested in helping or get more info, please call our office (231-652-1548). We anticipate moving days to be July 13-14.

Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

"Many video games deploy violence for all the wrong reasons: to provide cheap emotional thrills, to provide shock appeal, to get publicity, to satisfy blood-lust. Christians should be very cautious in approaching these games. When video game violence is simply titillating and nothing else, it is sure to have an uneasy relationship with a faith centered on redemption, peace, and shalom."

— Kevin Schut, *Of Games & God, A Christian Exploration of Video Games*. p. 70.

Dr. Schut is a member of the CRC and the Chair of the Department of Media and Communication at Trinity Western University, in Langley, BC.