

2nd's Matters

July 3, 2018

From Your Pastor's Desk

I always wish that during public gatherings such as baseball games they wouldn't have some professional (or quality amateur) sing the national anthem such that those gathered are invited to listen and be impressed. I think they should always have some Harry Carey type-figure who, mindless of his own voice, leads the entire stadium in singing! One person singing the national anthem well is not the point, in my estimation. Everyone singing it all together is what should matter and having someone leading the crowd always helps. That's the same reason it's good for us to have song leaders in worship -- their role is to help all of us give our voices to our first allegiance: Christ and his kingdom!

Worship Sunday, July 8

Pastor Doug will preach from Mark 8:27-33 where Peter makes his great declaration, "You Are the Christ," but Peter also ends up having Jesus clarify his, and also our, understanding of what it means for Jesus to be the Messiah. Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Bible League International. At the end of the service we will receive greetings and a report from Hope Okeny of the Karin Medical Clinic in Kampala, Uganda.

Our Church Family

- Please remember **Charlie DeKryger** in your prayers. A fractured vertebrae in his neck and pain are keeping him hospitalized Anchorage, AK. Pray for recovery, pain treatment, and plans for his return home.
- Our deepest sympathies go out to **Jane VanOstenberg's** whose mother, Marian Rottman, passed away last week. Please remember the family in your prayers.
- Please pray for a good week and safe travels for the Young Life leaders and campers headed to the Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN on Saturday, July 7. Second church will be sending three leaders, **Zach and Lizzie Van Wyk, Kate Volz-Buchoz**, and three students, **Carly Smith, Joel Vandenberg, and Adam Ward**, along with 16 other high school students from the Fremont area.

Christian Education Fund Pledge Drive

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. Please contact Ken Wolffis with any questions at 924-6591.

Faith Promise

It's Faith Promise campaign time and we are anxious to reach our goal of \$40,000 to be divided equally among our eight Faith Promise supported ministries. We will be increasing each of our currently supported ones by \$1,000 putting them up to \$5,000 for the year and adding the Haiti Foundation Against Poverty which will also be receiving \$5,000. But, we need your help to reach this goal! This is a commitment to help financially support those who are serving the Lord in this country and around the world. As we give, the Lord's work goes forth, lives are changed and we are blessed for being involved in something that is far greater than what we could ever do on our own. Make that commitment by placing your pledge card in the offering plate. Thank you!

Hope Okeny from the Karin Medical Clinic

Did you know that the Karin Medical Clinic in Gulu, Uganda is looking forward to a future bursting with opportunity for growth and possibility? Did you know that the empowerment of women and children to create a life without poverty and disease is a goal of the clinic? Did you know that good quality education is critical and the key to breaking the cycle of poverty? Did you know that the Karin Medical Clinic is one of our Faith Promise supported ministries?

Did you know that Hope Okeny, the director of the clinic, will be sharing in our service this Sunday, July 8 and giving us an update on the exciting steps of growth and development taking place at the clinic? Following our service Hope will be in the library/fireside room for an informal sharing time, starting around 11am. Be sure to stop by, bring your questions, learn more about the clinic and leave with joy for all that God is doing 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 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 2ndrcfremont@sbcglobal.net, call 924-0170, or write the information on a slip of paper and place it in the box on the office door.

Advance Notice

Our church's dates for Matamoros adult outreach week is Jan 5 -12, 2019. Please prayerfully consider if you would like to join our team. Contact Mike or Sylvia DeKuiper for more information. Also, please notify us as soon as possible if you are planning on going this year.

Stock the Pantry!

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

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

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. 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 during our National Baby Food Festival.

Wednesday, July 18, 7 pm, Singer/songwriter and Atlanta native Jason Fowler will be performing and sharing his addiction recovery story - about God's grace and mercy.

Sunday, July 22, 7 pm, CureUs will be sponsoring the Sunday evening Community Worship service at Veterans Memorial Park.

Insight Pregnancy Services

We are on the move to 1007 W. Main St in Fremont. We will need to be out of our Newaygo location by July 17. 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

"Passing the Peace has a long history in the worship of many Christian churches.... Fundamental to Christian worship is the conviction that we gather as those who know Christ's reconciling love and believe that, because of the forgiveness of our sins, we are reconciled to Christ and therefore the possibility of genuine fellowship with each other exists among us. The passing of the peace is a gesture that expresses and proclaims this.... There is a big difference between turning to someone and saying, 'The peace of Christ be with you' and greeting someone with 'Good morning.' It's a polite social custom to greet others with 'good morning,' but please understand this is a primarily social greeting, generally empty of any spiritual significance. In a time of worship we look for events and words that carry worshipers beyond social custom. Rich is the church whose members can step past their self-consciousness and meaningfully engage in the passing of the peace."

— Rev. Howard Vanderwell, *Caring Worship*. p. 63.

Rev. Vanderwell, who died this past March, served as a CRC pastor for over forty years and most recently served as Adjunct Professor of Worship at Calvin Theological Seminary.