

2nd's Matters

January 23, 2019

From Your Pastor's Desk:

Thank you. This past weekend I was generously granted permission by our Council officers to preach (I used Ezra 7:10 as my text) and officiate at the ordination and installation of the new pastor in the CRC in Ellsworth, MI. Some years ago I began mentoring a group of in-coming seminarians at Calvin Seminary. We met each week for an hour as part of their Vocational Formation program and I stayed with them in their program until they finished even after Cathy and I moved to Fremont. It's been a satisfying experience seeing these students progress in their personal and vocational formation. Thank you for allowing me this past Sunday to be a part of our denominational project in preparing, and the Ellsworth CRC's delight in welcoming and ordaining another new pastor in the CRC.

Sunday Worship, January 27

We will celebrate the baptism of Henning Folkema, and Pastor Doug will begin the five-part series on the Doctrines of Grace: FAITH. The first message will be "FAITH: Fallen Humankind" based on Ephesians 2:1. Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Cadets (main office).

Our Church Family:

Randy Pell continues to make gradual progress in Spectrum Hospital in GR following his open-heart surgery last week. Pray for patience for him and Ann as his healing takes place.

Jane Vogel's surgery went well and is at home healing. She will not be able to put any pressure on her foot for at least 3 months and will continue rehab for an additional 3 months.

Wes, Melissa, and Evie Miller welcomed a new baby boy, Leopold W Miller, to their family! Please consider helping us serve the Miller family with meals as they welcome and adjust to the new addition.

We are using mealtrain.com to schedule these meals. It has the dates to sign up for plus any other information you might need. You can click on <https://mealtrain.com/687w78> or contact Jessica Folkema at 231.519.2875 if you'd like to participate!

Mid Week Bible Study postponed

Reformed: What It Means, Why It Matters has been postponed today and will meet next Wednesday, January 30, at 2 pm. Read pages 49-51, but even if you don't read it, feel free to come and join in our discussion on our being called into the church and into the world.

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 27

There will be a congregational meeting this Sunday, January 27, following the morning worship service. We will be voting on the building and construction projects. There will be childcare provided during this time. For more information contact Council President, Matt Mellema.

If Gathering, March 9

Are you ready? It's coming back! A day of renewal...A day of challenge... A day of being reaffirmed in what God says. IF: Fremont 2019 is a one-day women's conference where we'll learn to rely on the wisdom of God, rather than our own understanding. Mark your calendars for March 9, at the Dogwood Center. Make sure to sign up at tinyurl.com/iffremont to reserve your spot today.

Welcome Shower:

Beginning this Sunday, January 27, a crib will be set up in the lobby of church to welcome Leopold Miller, son of Wes and Melissa Miller, to the Second Church family and 'shower' him with gifts. The crib will be set up until February 10.

Council Nominations

The Council is accepting nominations for new Council members to serve a 3 year term starting in July 2019. Please inform Matt Mellema, Council president, if you would like to serve or would like to nominate someone.

Sports Trophies Available to Take Home

Did you or someone in your family play on a 2nd Church sports team years ago? Even better, did your team or you as an individual win a trophy? The trophies in the Fireside Room / library are available for the next couple of weeks. So, help yourself!

Stock the Pantry!

For the month of January the Deacons request cereal, pancake mix and syrup for donation to the TrueNorth food pantry.

Community

January Series

The *January Series* of Calvin College is video streamed live at the Dogwood Center, from 12:30-1:30 PM. The lectures are free and open to the public. Both the Black Box and Main Stage areas are available for seating.

Wednesday, January 23 – Mary Robinson “Climate Justice: Hope, Resilience and the Fight for a Sustainable Future”

Used Book Sale, January 25 & 26

The Fremont Area District Library will be having a used book sale this Friday and Saturday in the library's Community Room. It will be from 1:00 to 8:00 PM on Friday and 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday. The money raised will help to support purchases and programming at the Fremont Area District Library.

WMC

Western Michigan Christian High School is seeking applications for a Head JV Baseball Coach. Candidates must have strong communication skills and an excitement for working with high school student athletes. Western Michigan Christian is committed to developing athletes of high Christian character that represent our school and community in a positive way. Contact: Athletic Director: Kurt Gruppen
mrgruppen@wmchs.net

CureUs Ministry

CureUs Ministry is bringing legendary Christian recording artist Russ Taff to Fremont on March 23. Russ will have a mini concert, show his movie “I Still Believe” and host a Q and A along with his wife Tori. The event will be at First CRC, 6 PM with the doors opening at 5:30. General admission tickets are on sale now \$10 or \$12 at the door. Call First CRC (924-2460), or online at: www.iTickets.com, or call iTickets at 1-800-965-9324.

Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

“Compassion constitutes a radical form of criticism, for it announces that the hurt is to be taken seriously, that the hurt is not to be accepted as normal and natural but is an abnormal and unacceptable condition for humanness.

— Walter Brueggemann, *The Prophetic Imagination*, p. 88.

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