

2nd's Matters

January 9, 2019

From Your Pastor's Desk:

I like snow. It might be one the reasons we thought moving to Fremont was a good idea! It is said, "If you choose not to find joy in snow you will have less joy in your life but still the same amount of snow." A popular Japanese tidying guru advises her followers to toss out items that fail to "spark joy" -- which may be why second-hand stores now have more bathroom scales than ever before. Ever since Christmas I have commonly heard "Joy to the World" in my head and it helps me realize that joy is not simply where you find it or how you choose to define it, but joy is a heavenly gift. And it is real.

Sunday Worship, January 13

400 years ago (in 1619) the church clarified some basic points of theology which are known by an acronym which spells TULIP. We will be considering these five beliefs about ourselves and God beginning January 27 using an updated acronym: FAITH. This Sunday will be an introduction to the series, "The Doctrines of Grace: God is Sovereign." Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Resonate World Mission.

Mid-week Bible Study meets today at 2 PM

Find out more about our Reformed heritage and theology as we discuss pages 43-47 of "Reformed: What It Means, Why It Matters." Open to everyone, we meet at church from 2-3 PM.

High School CRC-wide Dive-In Movie, Saturday January 12

All high school students are invited to join the Fremont-area CRCs for a dive-in movie this Saturday from 5-8 PM at the Fremont Rec Center. Join us for the movie *Black Panther*, good food, and some poolside hangout time. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Zach at 2ndyouthdirector@gmail.com (616) 204-2049.

Second Sunday, January 13

Have you ever wondered how the foster care system really works and how Bethany Christian Services got involved? Come to our next Second Sunday on January 13 in the sanctuary following worship to learn that and much more it. Meredith Smilie will give us background, tell us some of the joys and also share some of the heartaches. Plan now to attend and learn more about this wonderful ministry.

Mobile Food Truck, Wednesday, January 16

The Mobile Food Truck will be at Second Church on Wednesday, January 16. Volunteers are needed from 4:15 to 5:30 PM. Please sign up on the sheet on the literature ledge.

IF Gathering, Saturday, 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.

Our Church Family:

Jean Sneller is at home as she continues to heal from her shoulder surgery.

This week **Mike and Sylvia DeKuiper, Dave and Mariel Poel, and John Mellema** are serving with SOS Ministries in Matamoros, Mexico. Pray for their health and safety as they offer their work as a testimony of God's love.

Library News

Do you have gently used Bible story books and Christian kids and teens books that you would be willing to donate to our church library? You could help us expand our collection with these donations. Your books may be left in the book donation box in the library. Questions? Please see Melinda Barnhart or Bette Wagenmaker.

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 beginning January 3. The lectures are free and open to the public. Both the Black Box and Main Stage areas are available for seating. Attendees may bring their lunch or order a lunch for \$5 by calling (231) 924-8885. Please give 24 hour notice if you would like a lunch.

Wednesday, January 9 – Mariela Shaker “Finding Refuge on the Stage”

Thursday, January 10 – Jenna Bush Hager “Telling Stories that Inspire”

Friday, January 11 – Craig Detweiler “Searching for the Image of God in a Digital Age”

Monday, January 14 – Nicholas Kristof “Lessons from 30 Years of Covering the World”

Tuesday, January 15 – Leland Melvin “Chasing Space: An Astronaut’s Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances”

Wednesday, January 16 – William Powers “Sustainability, Happiness and the ‘Slow’ Movement”

March for Life, Saturday, January 19

Newaygo County Right to Life will hold a March for Life on January 19. The march will begin at noon at the American Decency building at the corner of Main and Darling in Fremont. All are welcome to join us. We must make our voices heard in defending unborn children.

Parenting the Love and Logic Way

A new class begins January 21 through February 25, six Monday evenings from 7-9, in the Fremont Rec Center, lower level. Cost is \$50 whether a couple or single. Contact Sharon Deur at 616-219-4392 sharond.outpost@gmail.com. Check out loveandlogic.com for testimonials and more information.

CLC Network Auction, Saturday, January 26

Looking for some mid-winter fun? Bring your family and friends to the CLC Network (previously known as Christian Learning Center) Auction on Saturday, January 26 at Calvary CRC (3500 Byron Center Ave SW, Wyoming, MI). Dinner and the silent auction start at 4:30 PM and the live auction begins at 6 PM. Bid on merchandise, gift certificates, experiences, and much more! Your participation helps equip congregations and schools to glorify God through purposeful, innovative inclusion of persons with varied abilities. Learn more at clcnetwork.org.

Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

“Sooner or later people who investigate the Christian faith encounter what may seem to be 'deeper' or 'more difficult' teachings of the Bible. These teachings are sometimes referred to as 'the five points of Calvinism,' but that is really a misnomer. John Calvin did not invent these teachings. They are clearly found on the pages of Holy Scripture. A better name for these teachings is 'the doctrines of grace,' for they systematically explain the true meaning of grace, that is, what the Bible really teaches about sin and salvation.”

-- Jim Osterhouse, *FAITH Unfolded: A Fresh Look at the Reformed Faith*, p. 5.

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