

# 2<sup>nd</sup>'s Matters

March 27, 2019

## From Your Pastor's Desk:

Many years ago -- 25 maybe? -- I made a little sign to put in my vegetable garden. On the sign, I painted the words of Jeremiah 29:5, "Plant gardens and eat the produce thereof." I still have the sign and I still plant gardens. Monday I planted some seeds for starting tomatoes and peppers and spinach and petunias. It is always a hopeful thing to plant seeds, but it is always a miracle to see that such tiny seeds will produce so much. In I Corinthians 3:6-7 Paul writes about the truth of the gospel as a seed and what God does with it for producing faith. *"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow."*

## Sunday Worship, March 31. The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

The story in Mark 14:32-42 tells of "Difficulty in Discipleship" as Jesus' disciples fail him and he will travel the path from Gethsemane to Golgotha alone. Our offerings will be for the General Fund and for the Crossroads Bible Institute.

## Our Church Family:

**Eileen Alderink and Mary Folkema** each had rotator cuff (shoulder) surgery last Friday. The healing and physical therapy for this kind of surgery takes up to six months.

On Monday **Dan Ward** had some reconstructive surgery for his shoulder related to his accident a few years ago. He'll be healing for a few weeks.

**Marv and Donna Folkema** have moved to the Transitional Health facility where they share a room. They were both hospitalized over this past weekend after Donna fell and both were dealing with influenza.

## Mid-Week Study

Our discussion of *Reformed: What it Means, Why it Matters* concludes for the season this afternoon, Wednesday, March 27, 2:00 pm. We will discuss some of the distinctives of Reformed worship practices. Read pages 56-58, but even if you don't read it, feel free to come and join in our discussion. This will be our final class of the year.

## Men's Lenten Breakfast, Friday 7 am.

This seasonal community weekly gathering continues this Friday, 7 am, March 29, at First Christian Reformed Church, 721 Hillcrest Drive. There is a suggested donation of \$3.00. All men of the community are encouraged to attend.

**Friday, April 12**, Second Church will be hosting the Men's Lenten breakfast. If you would like to help out, contact Pastor Doug.

## FYSH Easter Plant Sale:

Please check your church mail box or the literature ledge for the FYSH Easter Plant Sale order forms! The Easter lilies, hyacinths, and tulips which you order can be used either as decoration in the church or may be taken home on Good Friday (April 19). The money and orders forms must be in by April 9 for guaranteed pick up on April 19, but late orders will be accepted. Proceeds from the sale of Easter lilies, hyacinths, and tulips will go towards student mission trip accounts. Any questions? Contact Zach by calling or emailing the church office.

## From Our Deacons

### Stock the Pantry:

For the month of March, the Deacons request peanut butter and jelly.

### World Renew DRS

World Renew DRS along with the Newaygo County Emergency Operations Center have begun efforts locally in Newaygo County to assist in cleanup of some of the homes affected by the recent flooding. They are looking for volunteers to help out with this ongoing situation. The work will be exclusively cleanup and "muck-out" work...tearing out wet drywall, carpet, and other materials from flooded homes and hauling that material to dumpsters which are already on site near the affected area. DRS has trained volunteer leaders assisting with the work in this area.

The cleanup dates will be Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from March 29 through April 12. Thank you for considering helping in these efforts to serve right here in our own backyard! Click the following link to register for the dates you are available to help <https://worldrenew.net/spring-storms-2019>

\*Please note that some of these homes will already be affected by mold, so this may not be a good job for people with respiratory issues.

## Community

### The Ball Brothers in Concert:

Ferrysburg Community Church is presenting a concert featuring Christian music artists The Ball Brothers! Plan to join us April 7 at 7:00PM at 17785 Mohawk Drive in Spring Lake. No tickets are required but a free will offering will be taken. For further information, visit [www.theballbrothers.com](http://www.theballbrothers.com) or call the church at 616-842-3880 or the Schaafs at 231-206-2964.

### Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

"We live in an age where people regard their faith as a cause for boasting and think of their witness as having something to do with getting angry with people for saying "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas." ...What it might mean to have a go at loving someone is, as ever, a larger, more demanding question than whether this someone (their language, their driving, their voting record, or their immigrant status) offends us."

-- David Dark, *the Sacredness of Questioning Everything*, p.66

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