

2nd's Matters

July 31, 2019

From Your Pastor's Desk: Following Paul's words to the Romans we are called to sincerely intend, and to thoughtfully seek, to live at peace with one another (Romans 12:18). However, it may be almost impossible to know what someone may decide to be offended by. Our church ought to try its best to offer no offense to others, other than what the gospel does. We should not weaken the power of the gospel to save by trying to revise its message so as to be non-offensive. The gospel is and should be presented as attractive, but it does also offend by its message of calling out sin, calling for repentance, and insisting we trust in Jesus alone to save us. We do well to pray that we offer no offense to the world other than the saving offense of the gospel.

Sunday Worship, August 4

This Sunday Pastor Doug will lead our communion service and offer a message on the Second Commandment, "What Does God Want from Me?" based on Deuteronomy 4:15-19, and John 4:7-26. Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Christian Reformed World Renew.

Our Church Family

Thank you to all who prayed for and offered words of encouragement to our daughter Anna during her recent surgery and chemotherapy treatments. Her last scan showed no signs of cancer.
Phil and Judy Deur

Congregational News

Christian Education Fund

The Christian Education fund is going to continue for the upcoming school year as it has in the past. In order to ensure that our pledges match our tuition for the upcoming year, we are asking the congregation to prayerfully consider a pledge or an increase of your current pledge. The pledge cards and a box to place them in is in the narthex by the door exiting the sanctuary next to the library. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Wolffis.

Church Directory:

We will be printing a 2019 church directory soon. Please notify Valerie in the church office by August 11 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, you may send it to secondcrcfremont@gmail.com, call 924-0170, or write the information on a slip of paper and place it in the box on the office door.

Bulletin Cover Art:

Children and students are invited to produce some artwork for each of the ten commandments to be used on the bulletin cover. We'd like to include creative interpretations each week on the cover of our bulletin. This Sunday our theme is the second commandment which addresses idolatry. You can submit your art to the church office.

Portico Construction:

Please use the mid-level door on the east side of the church for entering the church during the day when the office is open while the portico construction is going on.

Stock the Pantry:

When school is out, many more families make use of the TrueNorth food pantry because of the children not getting many of their meals from the school. Please consider donating extra food items during the summer months either to our pantry shelves or at TrueNorth. For August, the requested items are macaroni and cheese, and canned meat (tuna, chicken).

Community Events

Bible League

Have you cleaned your cupboards and closets lately? Newaygo County Bible League International is sponsoring a GARAGE SALE on August 8 & 9 at 605 Country View Lane, Fremont. DONATIONS NEEDED! Drop off times are Monday, August 5 from 1-6 p.m. and Tuesday, August 6 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. or contact Joyce Milner 924-2426/email: jtossmilner@gmail.com or Jessie Rose 923-2231/jarose@ncats.net Also: If you would care to bake, we will sell cookies, muffins, and breads at the garage sale. They may be dropped off at the above times.

Classis Muskegon

Classis Muskegon is seeking nominees to serve as a representative to the Council of Delegates (COD) for a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2020. Nominees should 1) be a member in good standing in the CRCNA; 2) possess an understanding of the role of governance and the Council of Delegates within the CRCNA; 3) possess an understanding of the mission, vision, and values of the CRC; 4) possess an understanding of the Ministry Plan (Our Journey 2020); and 5) be willing to sign the COD Statement of Agreement with the Beliefs of the CRCNA. Please contact our stated clerk, Rev. Drew Sweetman (pastordrew.vdm@gmail.com) to submit a nomination or for more information. Nomination deadline: September 23, 2019.

Pastor Doug: A Quote from a Book I Read

"I still think we honor the [second] commandment best by keeping the invisible God invisible. The truth is we don't know what Jesus looked like, and the Bible makes no effort to give us a physical description... We ought to recognize that Christ has uniquely fulfilled the second commandment... That's the mystery and majesty of the incarnation. We don't need pictures. We don't need statues... Christ is the image of the invisible God (Col. 1:15)."

Kevin DeYoung, *The Ten Commandments*, p, 50

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