

SECOND'S MATTERS

October 21, 2020



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Pastor's Desk

I already voted. Even so, in today's climate and with today's options it is understandable to feel "politically homeless." With the package deals that the major parties press upon us I find that the historical Christian positions on social issues do not fit into the contemporary political alignments. Admittedly, since neither party is motivated toward the Kingdom of Heaven there is no reason to expect that either party's political agenda would closely match the demands of biblical justice. But in seeking first the Kingdom of God, even if it means I am left politically homeless, I still hold a civic right and responsibility to vote. So, I did. I like an analogy that Cathy found: Voting is like taking the bus even when the bus system does not get you delivered all the way to your intended destination. You choose a bus that gets you pretty close to where you want to go, but the rest of the way is up to you.

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

I am not one to cry at movies. This weekend I found a film that hit like a sucker punch. "Clouds" is a biopic that went straight to Disney+ this weekend. In this true story of how Zach Sobiech, a high school senior, deals with the realities of his terminal osteosarcoma diagnosis. (This doesn't count as a spoiler; this was national news in 2013.) I remember Zach's story and his hit song "Clouds" from when it made the news, but that isn't why this story caused me to connect with it. Cancer is a disease that is deeply personal to me, Zach's journey actually mirrors that of my aunt. Even more so, I am close friends with someone who knew Zach personally and was there as this all happened. As I watched the movie Sunday afternoon, I couldn't help but as myself, "I wonder how this made Laura feel?"

People's personal stories can break our hearts to pieces and stitch them right back together again. I am learning more and more just how true this is. I am sure many of you have had similar experiences. It is hard, especially when talking with someone face to face, to not be moved by their stories. My favorite thing about my role at Second is getting to be a part of this ministry of relationships. Call a friend, facetime a grandchild, grab a coffee with a co-worker, and ask how their week is going. This week, as our society gets more and more polarized, I encourage you to listen well to others' experiences and stories. Not only will we learn more about them, but about God through them.

Sunday Worship, October 25

As people on a journey -- like the people of God of old -- we use and are inspired by the Psalms of Ascent. Pastor Doug continues with Psalm 127 with a message titled "Unless the Lord..." Please follow our health guidelines in order for us to safely gather as a church family and in the spirit of Jesus' teaching in Mark 12:31 to "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Student Ministries information for Worship, October 21:

- Prior to coming to church, we ask parents to check their child's temperature and check for COVID/cold and flu symptoms.
- We encourage parents to take their students to the bathroom prior to worship.
- Volunteers and student helpers will wear a mask while in class with students.
- Hand sanitizer will be used before entering the classroom.
- After worship, please pick your student up from their classroom.

Congregational News

Mobile Food Truck, Today, October 21, 4:30 pm

This afternoon we will again arrange for drive-thru pick-up to keep both our volunteers and guests safe. Recipients will stay in their vehicles and prepared allotments of food will be placed in their vehicles. Thankfully, we can serve our community with this vital food resource that is needed more than ever. Volunteers are needed.



Church Office

The church office hours are 9 am to 12 noon, Monday through Friday. The building will likely be open at other times, but we guarantee someone will be there during these times.

Outreach Committee

The Outreach committee with the approval of the Administrative Team has agreed to disburse a special contribution to Karin Medical Clinic in the amount of \$2,500 in response to the request below. Please continue to keep Karin Medical Clinic and those they support in your prayers.

Newsletter and request from Karin Medical Clinic

Good afternoon Friends of the Gulu Uganda Karin Medical Clinics,

We want to take a moment to add a special one-time plea for support of the clinics **over and above** your usual gracious and much appreciated gifts. Prayer continues to be needed as the impact of Covid 19 is being felt pretty significantly now in northern Uganda. Travel is extremely limited, and in many cases prohibited. Our clinic staff is thereby unable to do their normal "outreaches" whereby they take a pickup truck loaded with tents and medical supplies to villagers too far from the clinics for clients/patients to walk. This has been curtailed!

People in surrounding, nearby villages are often afraid to come in for fear of contracting Covid 19. Our staff is now going out to them to inform them of safety protocols and teach them how to deal with sanitization in their villages and take care of the children and pregnant mothers there, instead of at the clinic.

As a result of the pandemic, medicines are not flowing in from the government as they should be; the clinic's supply of medicine is nearly gone, and we are now approximately two months behind in being able to meet payroll for our staff – some of whom have been furloughed to reduce payroll.

Will you prayerfully consider giving an extra gift at this time above your already gracious contributions? I don't think since we've been involved in working with the clinic that we have put out this kind of extra appeal. However, we need your help now more than ever!

Fremont Crop Walk

The Fremont Crop Walk organization would like to thank the Second Church congregation for its generous support of \$515.00 to fight local and world hunger. The Fremont church community raised a total of \$16,000.00.

Pre-Service Prayer Gatherings

Dear friends, Please join us for pre-worship service prayer beginning on Sunday, October 25, at 9:05 a.m. and every Sunday morning after that. Even if you aren't comfortable praying aloud, still come and join us as we pray for the worship service and Second Church.

Offerings

Our Deacons welcome our support for our congregation's financial obligations with our offerings. Donations can be mailed to the church at 600 Apache Drive or submitted online via bank account, or card at this link: [Online Giving](#). If you wish to give to Christian Education or Faith Promise online then, download the "GivePlus" app.

Special envelope offerings are:

- October 25 – Ferris State Campus Ministry
- November 1 – World Renew
- November 8 – Back to God Ministries
- November 15 – Chaplaincy and Care Ministry
- November 22 – Bethany Christian Services

Stock the Pantry

For the month of October, the requested items are canned fruits and vegetables. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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