

SECOND'S MATTERS

August 19, 2020



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Pastor's Desk

"Oh Lord, you are the holy lover of my soul, when you come into my soul, all that is within me rejoices. You are my Glory and the exultation of my heart; you are my Hope and Refuge in the day of my trouble. Set me free from all evil passions and heal my heart of all inordinate affections; that, being inwardly cured and thoroughly cleansed, I may be fit to love, courageous to suffer, steady to persevere. Nothing is sweeter than love, nothing more courageous, nothing fuller nor better in heaven and earth; because love is born of God and finds its home in God. Let me love you more than myself, nor love myself but for you. Amen."

A prayer by Thomas à Kempis -- author of the Christian classic, *The Imitation of Christ*.

Tank Talk: In this week's tank talk by Pastor Doug he reflects on our living with a longing for things to be right, but our not being undone by the longing. [Click here to view this week's Tank Talk.](#)

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

I remember being in a dimly lit sanctuary, in a small church, in an area of New Orleans that was hit hard by Katrina. I remember talking with my Youth Pastor Todd about some heavy things. I remember saying, "Todd, I think I'm ready to profess my faith." Some days I envy the faith of that 15-year-old. He was so sure, so confident, and at different points in my life, I wasn't so sure, or so confident. It's in those times that I use that memory of a dimly lit church, of a New Orleans conversation and a 15-year-old's faith to guide me back. I, like I am sure many of you as well, use milestones like this in my life to guide me.

Mile markers are important because they tell us where we are and how far we have to go. Cairns and altars made of stone tell us of the special nature of the land they are on. Cornerstones mark buildings as dedicated to a purpose. This week we will give a sort of mile marker to a student to remind them of this moment in their faith journey and to act as a guidepost back. If I've learned anything in the last 26 years, it is that life is a journey that will take you places you've never expected it too. Thankfully, our God walks this journey with us. As we prepare for a profession of faith this Sunday, I invite you to reflect on the milestones of your faith journey and life. I invite you to remember and thank God for the faithfulness He's shown you.

Sunday Worship, August 23

This Sunday we will rejoice in hearing the Profession of Faith of Sydney Wagenmaker and we share in the Lord's Supper with her. You are welcomed to bring your own communion elements, or you may pick up individual servings when you arrive. Pastor Doug's message, "Get a Life" will be based on Psalm 122 as part of the series of messages from the Psalms of Ascent.

Student Ministries, Sunday, August 23:

We will not have a nursery or Children's Worship class available, but here are some things for you to know:

- Should you or your child be in need, the east side door by the fireside room, is unlocked so you can access the bathroom/changing station located in the lobby. We ask that you wipe down the changing station with the provided Clorox wipes after use.
- We have Children's Activity Bags, with coloring pages, worksheets, and worship guides available for students when you are greeted at the lower parking lot. This will be yours to take home with you. We do ask that you provide crayons, pencils, markers, etc. for use with these bags.
- During worship, we offer a Children's Meditation. We ask that students come forward and sit on the carpet pieces which are laid out for them.
- We recognize that while we are outside, we may experience children laugh, sing, shout, or squeal with joy (or frustration) and we celebrate that they are joining us in worship today!

Our Church Family

Stan DeKuiper is home again following a stroke and rehabilitation therapy. He and his family are thankful for the prayers on his behalf and request prayers for continuing good health.

Our sympathies to **Kyle Folkema** in the recent passing of his grandmother, Virginia Zuidema.

Following some recent challenges at home **Helen Veenstra** is receiving some short-term care at the Newaygo Medical Care Facility.

Congregational News

Website Member Only Page

Our new website has a member only password protected page where we will put things like financial updates, the Faith Promise booklet, and the 2020 Directory. If you would not like all or part of your contact information on the website under this password protected site, please let Valerie know by calling (924-0170) or emailing the office (office@secondcrcfremont.org).

Faith Promise Update

We are thankful for \$26,150 in pledges having been made towards our budget goal of \$28,000! Our experience is that each year our giving exceeds our pledged amount, and even exceeds our goal.

You may still add to our pledge total by mailing your pledge to church, or by putting it in the Sunday offering plate, or in Tyler Cook's church mailbox.

Christian Education Fund

Thank you for your support of Christian Education for the children of Second Christian Reformed Church.

As we approach the 2020/2021 school year, we will have 20-25 children utilizing our Christian Education Fund at a cost of approximately \$136,000.00.

Please use a projected giving card which has been put in your church mailbox to let us know how much you are willing to give to this church ministry for 2020/2021. There is a box in the church foyer for you to place your card in by August 30.

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. Additionally, donations can be submitted online via bank account, credit, or debit card at this link: [Second CRC - Online Giving](#) or download the "GivePlus" app if you wish to give to funds other than the General Fund.

Special envelope offerings are:

August 23 – Hope 101 Ministry (working to reduce homelessness in Newaygo County)

August 30 – Fremont Service Committee

September 6 – Habitat for Humanity

September 13 – Fremont Christian School

Stock the Pantry

For the month of August, the requested items are macaroni and cheese and canned meat (tuna, chicken). Donations can be dropped off at church or directly to TrueNorth.

Community News

IF Fremont 2020 – Canceled

What a wild couple of months it has been! We have really needed to lean on the Lord in new ways. Unfortunately, due to lasting restrictions, the need for social distancing and to be responsible in planning, we have decided to cancel the 2020 IF: Fremont event. If you registered for the event and didn't receive an email with an update to your registration, please email Zach. (There are a few email addresses that were entered incorrectly and came back as undeliverable to us)

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

(231) 924-0170

www.secondcrcfremont.org

office@secondcrcfremont.org

www.facebook.com/SecondCRCFremont