

SECOND'S MATTERS

August 5, 2020



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Pastor's Desk

I have been preparing a series of worship themes and messages from the Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120-134). These are road songs by God's people for the journey up to Jerusalem to celebrate the festivals. They sang these songs through the dangers and trials of their traveling days. By comparison we can say we are on a journey to the new Jerusalem and in these present days we are dealing with plenty of uncertainty and challenges along the way.

This series is designed to give us some perspective, direction, and comfort from the precedent of God's people who have gone before us. Each Sunday we will sing a psalm in sequence as in the Psalter. I invite you, each week in coming to worship, to read or sing the psalm as you make the journey (drive, or walk, or bike) to church. We begin this week with Psalm 120.

[Click here to listen to Pastor Doug's Tank Talk, August 4](#)

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

This past week I had the opportunity to head up north and spend a few days camping in Straits State Park. It was one of the most beautiful parks I've been in. I have a thing for water, so I loved being a few campsites from Lake Huron. Water reminds me of the greatness of God, and how small and insignificant I am in comparison. One of the nights we tried to do a more complicated dinner over the fire and to our frustration it rained the whole time we were cooking. I'll just say that it will be a night we won't forget anytime soon. About the time we finally finished eating we looked up and saw one of the most vibrant double rainbows I've ever seen suspended above the lake.

That night the surprise of the rainbow melted our frustrations and left us laughing on the beach. There really hasn't been a lot lately that has given me the same kind of feeling. Frustrations feel like they are mounting, we continue to be disappointed by cancellations and changed plans, and we are sick of feeling like we are stuck in limbo. I don't have the answers. I don't have the eloquent words. I DO have an idea. I wonder if we looked for God in unexpected places if, as the rainbow did for me and my friends, He would surprise us in ways we couldn't expect. Maybe our little slice of the world won't look the way we want it too, but instead, look the way He knows we need it to.

Sunday Worship, August 9

This Sunday we will begin a worship series based on the Psalms of Ascent starting with Psalm 120 and a message by Pastor Doug, "I Don't Have to Live Here."

Student Ministries Update for Worship, Sunday, August 9:

We continue to not have a nursery or Children's Worship class available but are excitedly planning for your student to join us in worship. Here are some of the ways we are doing that:

- Should you or your child be in need the east side door by the fireside room, will be 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 will have Children's Activity Bags, with coloring pages, worksheets, and worship guides available for students when you are greeted in 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 will offer a Children's Meditation. We ask that students remain with their families during this time.
- 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!

Congregational News

Faith Promise Update

We are thankful for \$21,250 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 9 – Young Life

August 16 – Hand to Hand

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

August 30 – Fremont Service Committee

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.

Today Devotional

Copies of the July / August edition are available in the church lobby. It is also available for reading, listening, or podcast at <https://today.reframemedia.com/>

Wheelchair Drive, July 26-August 16

Do you have any wheelchairs, walkers, canes, or crutches not in use? Celebration Community Church, (1260 W. Sherman Blvd, Muskegon MI 49441) through a partnership with Living With Hope and Joni & Friends, is collecting manual wheelchairs and jogger strollers to be refurbished by prison partners and hand-delivered to people with mobility needs in Kenya. Email Pastor Matt Eenigenburg at matt@celebrationmuskegon.org with any questions.

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