

SECOND'S MATTERS

November 11, 2020



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Pastor's Desk

Today is Veterans Day. My younger brother, Kevin, was a career Navy man. He spent many years silently patrolling the deep seas in a nuclear-powered submarine, the USS Albuquerque. His service included listening for months at a stretch from under the polar ice cap, deep in the Mediterranean Sea, or elsewhere. I couldn't do what he did, and he said he couldn't do what I do. We both serve God with our own appointments, and we both pledge allegiance to and pray for our nation.

Second Church has many US military veterans among us, and among our families. It is with particular notice today that we are thankful to them and thankful to God for them.

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

In June, we begin planning the new FYSH schedule. In August, we put the final touches on the fall and decide what each bible study night will focus on. This fall, we are reading through and discussing the book of Jude. So last week, when Kyle and I opened to our passage for Sunday night, we hadn't really read through it for a couple of months. In it, Jude called out those who are building divides instead of building each other up in mercy. The scripture we accidentally designated for last week is about healing divisions. Won't God just show up when you need him!

I think it's safe to assume that we all understand the divides that our country and the world are facing right now. The high school students sure were aware of it. We spent a lot of time Sunday night talking about Jude's solution on how to heal divides and whether that really felt possible. Here is the truth, they don't know if the divides we are facing can really be healed. It feels too deep and wide to them. It was sad to hear that, but there was some hope. They felt that they could start in their circles.

Sunday night, we challenged our students to start by making a difference in their communities, friend groups, and schools. Today, I give us all the same challenge, because the truth is, the divides we face are too big for one person to fix alone. If we all follow Jude's advice and build each other up in mercy, I think we can see some of the divides get smaller. I believe when we find a way to heal rifts and build bridges, we bring the kingdom of God a little closer. Couldn't we all use a little more of that right about now?

Sunday Worship, November 15

Read Psalm 130 in advance of this Sunday's message by Pastor Doug, "Wait and Hope."

Student Ministries information for Worship, November 15

- Prior to coming to church, we ask parents to check their child's temperature and check for COVID/cold and flu symptoms. If you are experiencing symptoms or have had exposure, please join us online.
- 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.

Advance Notice: Thanksgiving

This year we will not be holding a Thanksgiving Day worship service. We will celebrate Thanksgiving the Sunday prior (November 22) including Thanksgiving songs and a Thanksgiving message by Pastor Doug. Additionally, we will provide some resources for personal and household devotions you may choose to use at home on Thanksgiving Day.

Our Church Family

"Thank you to our church family and friends for blessing us with prayers, meals, gifts, and cards to celebrate the arrival of Cora. We look forward to the day she can meet our Second CRC family."

Ryan, Katie, Case, and Cora Boven

Wayne Vogel has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home from his back surgery. Pray for relief from pain and the increased use of his legs.

Pray for progress for others engaged in various forms of physical therapy such as **Doris Broekema** (hand) and **Sherry Lue** (shoulder).

Continue to pray for **Roger Folkema's** strength and recovery following his latest round of chemotherapy.

Congregational News

Administrative Committee

This evening's agenda is very full and includes discussion about how best to handle Sunday worship services in our present context. We are seeking to do our best for what is best!

Property Committee

There will NOT be a Property Committee meeting on November 18 due to a Council meeting. The next Property Committee meeting date will be determined at a later time.

Christmas Shoe Boxes for Appalachia Reach Out

It's time to fill Christmas boxes for children in Inez, KY served by ARO. The boxes are on a table in the lobby with information on ages and necessary instructions. Boxes need to be filled, wrapped, tag attached to the outside, and returned by Tuesday, December 1. Remember you just need to wrap the container but not the individual items in the container. Thank you for reaching out in the name of Christ to children in Kentucky who will be delighted to receive a box of fun things...just for them.

Grace Encounters

Grace Encounters are those times when we feel God close to us, when Christ is truly made known to us and we feel his presence in a profound way. These encounters may be specific moments or the consistent presence of God in our daily lives. On Sunday, Nov. 28, we will begin sharing some of the Grace Encounters of our Second Church family in our worship services. These stories of people "knowing Christ" will be recorded on video and presented in our services; the videos will also be available on our website. If you are willing to share your experience, we would love to have you be part of this project. Please contact someone from the Discipleship Committee: Joni Boeskool, Chelsea Breuker, Mary V. Folkema, Ann Pell, or Zach Van Wyk.

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:

- November 15 – Chaplaincy and Care Ministry
- November 22 – Bethany Christian Services
- November 29 – Young Life

2021 Giving Envelopes

Your giving envelopes for 2021 are in your mail boxes in the lobby. If you would like to be mailed to you, please let Valerie know at office@secondcrcfremont.org so she can get it in the mail.

Stock the Pantry

For the month of November the requested items are spaghetti sauce, pasta, and/or rice. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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