

SECOND'S MATTERS

January 13, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Pastor's Desk

We live in lamentable days. Tragically, 380,000 fellow US citizens have been slain by COVID-19. The gospel is being compromised by the heresy of nationalism. Precious Christian symbols, and even the name of Jesus, are being abused by insurrectionists. While we lament such realities, we do not despair. While princes rage, the church persists because the Lamb is on the throne.

The New Testament book of Revelation is a wonderful gift to the church of all ages which lives in and struggles to be faithful amid the profound challenges of secularism and the turmoil of the world. Thus, I am planning on opening this marvelous book with you in the coming weeks in our worship services. It is a book of exceeding comfort, instruction, and perspective for the church and her witness. Read the first chapter several times in the coming weeks as we'll be reading it in worship beginning on January 24. Then, before and during Lent, we'll visit the seven churches addressed in chapters 2 and 3.

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

It's been a week since we celebrated epiphany, and in that week, we've seen a lot of human brokenness. No matter what side of the aisle you sit on, I think it is safe to say that there have been way too many examples of people going to war with each other between the events of Wednesday afternoon and the last four years. I find it personally heartbreaking how large our human capacity for hatred is. Thursday afternoon, I open my FYSH semester lesson plans, and realized this past Sunday we were slated to talk about peace. I couldn't believe my eyes. How do you talk about peace in a week where there is so much division and hatred?

We started in Ephesians, and we discussed how peace is found in Christ who tears down "walls of hostility." Then in Romans, we learned that it is our responsibility to choose to live at peace with those around us because we need to love others. Finally, in John, we are reminded that peace is not just a box to check but is, in fact, a gift from Jesus. So you might be thinking to yourself, "Ok....." I told my students that the point of this is that if we call ourselves peacemakers, then we need to intentionally deny ourselves and live more like Jesus. So that means, while the world may be embroiled in hatred, we choose to love, whether we agree 100% with the other person or not. This might seem difficult, but with Jesus and his ragtag band of C students, tax collectors, and sinners as our example I know it is doable.

Sunday Worship, January 17

We provide for in-person worship this Sunday, January 17. We value in-person worship and the safety of all who would gather for worship. Therefore, **masks are required** inside the building at all times, and we keep every other pew roped off for social distancing. We also value choices for health and safety and therefore, we will livestream the service and welcome your worship participation via our livestream: tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive

This Sunday, Pastor Doug's sermon, "All Heaven Breaks Loose," will be based on Mark 1:1-11.

Our Church Family

Please extend your sympathy to **Mary Jo Moon** (Chuck Moon's wife), whose mother Jean VanHemert (96) peacefully passed away on Friday, January 8. There will be a family-only funeral on Saturday, January 16

The recent days have been very grievous for **Joyce Hoad**. This past Saturday, her husband **Ted Hoad**, passed away, and three days later, on Tuesday morning, their daughter, **Tammy**, also passed away.

Tim Boeskool is still waiting for his leg condition to improve such that surgery for the broken bones below his knee can be scheduled.

Kay Wolters has been moved to a rehabilitation facility in Muskegon as she recovers from COVID-19 and seeks to regain her strength. **Dick** has also been dealing with COVID symptoms at home. Pray for renewed strength for both of them.

Congregational News

FYSH Food Drive Benefitting True North

Did you know that January and February are the leanest months at food pantries? In January FYSH collects donations and pop cans to purchase supplies for True North. If you would like to donate pop cans or donate monetarily please reach out to Zach via email or by calling the church office.

Sunday Morning Children's Ministries Update

With our return to in-person worship we return to in-person Sunday morning Children's Ministries. Nursery and Story Hour are offered during the service. Nursery functions as normal. Story Hour is for Children Pre-K to Fourth Grade and lasts from the Children's Blessing to the end of the service. If you have any questions about these programs, please reach out to Zach via email or by calling the church office.

Mobile Food Truck, Wednesday, January 20

On Wednesday, January 20, we will again arrange for drive-thru pick-up. 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, please sign up by emailing Audra Powell (audrascott@hotmail.com) or on the sheet on the literature ledge. Please arrive at church by 4:00 pm.



The Nest

The Nest is a shop in Fremont which supports local Christian education. Currently, our furniture inventory is very low. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Current hours of operation are Tues. - Fri., 10:00 to 5:00 and Sat., 10:00 to 3:00. Phone: 924-3930.

First 25+ Years Of Second CRC Membership Records:

During COVID-19 isolation, Fred Bultman completed a project of putting the data from the decaying paper pages of the original 2nd CRC membership record ledger book onto an EXCEL spreadsheet. This data dates from our church's beginnings in 1914 into the first year of World War II, and covers the 1,090 individuals who were 2nd CRC members over that time period. If you would be interested in having a digital copy of this spreadsheet transmitted to you, send an e-mail to Fred at fbultman3@comcast.net.

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 for the months are:

January 17 – Fremont Christian School

January 24 – True North

January 31 – Fremont Young Life

Stock the Pantry

For the month of January, the requested food items are cereal and pancake mix and syrup. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth

Calvin University

January Series – January 6-26, in 15 free weekly, lunchtime lectures from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. with topics ranging from the future of the Supreme Court, climate change, the era of intelligent technology, civil discourse, racial tensions, the arts as a healing balm and so much more by top experts in their fields. This year the January Series will have a completely virtual audience. For more information about the speakers, topics, remote sites and to register for personal viewing, visit www.calvin.edu/january

Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Symposium - You are invited to register for a free online learning experience held January 6-26, on key themes in worship and the Christian life. Register for free at worship.calvin.edu/symposium/. This experience is designed for all kinds of learners: students, artists, musicians, pastors, scholars, teachers, worship leaders and planners, and all worshipers around the globe.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

(231) 924-0170

www.secondcrcfremont.org

office@secondcrcfremont.org

www.facebook.com/SecondCRCFremont