

SECOND'S MATTERS

January 27, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Pastor's Desk

Here's an invitation to begin thinking about now. Lent begins in just three weeks. For Lent, let's read the gospels together as a congregation! These four tellings of the Savior's mission collectively show us Jesus Christ on earth even as we see him now on the throne (Revelation). I've put together a schedule that will have us read two or three chapters each day. By doing so, over the 40 days of Lent we will read all four Gospels in their entirety. Since Sundays are not included in the 40 days of Lent I haven't scheduled readings for Sundays – also, because I may need a day each week for keeping up! We'll put out the schedule next week.

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

Last night I made some soup. If I were you, after that first sentence, I would probably be scrolling on, but hear me out. To be honest, there is nothing shockingly special about the soup. (Although, it is a Joanna Gaines' recipe. Creamy Chicken and Poblano is a new Van Wyk family favorite.) What struck me was that the process of making the soup felt spiritual. On its' own, I generally dislike carrots, and Lizzie isn't really a fan of spicy foods. On the surface, we shouldn't like the soup based on its' ingredients alone. Although when they were all put together, the soup was really great.

I think each of us is like a pot of soup. If we look at individual parts, we don't always like what we see. Although, when the ingredients are put together, heat is applied, the pot simmers, and has time for the flavors to meld, it can turn into something great. I think the same is true for each of us. It takes hard work, determination, and a lot of grace for us to become good people. Unfortunately, it doesn't just happen overnight. Today, I want to encourage you to give yourself the gift of time. God works in our lives every day, whether we expect it or not. The poblano peppers that you normally wouldn't eat might just be the thing you need. I encourage you to look at your life to see God forming you into a better person. You might be surprised by the way he is working in you.

Sunday Worship, January 31

We offer in-person worship this Sunday. 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. Nursery and Story Hour are offered during the worship service. 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 message, "Welcome to the Real World" will be based on Revelation 1:9-20.

Grace Encounters

Due to a kerfuffle with our projection system on Sunday the audio didn't come through incredible clear for Karen's Grace Encounter video. If you would like to listen to it again you can do so by clicking [here](#).

If you are interested in filming a Grace Encounter please reach out to Zach via email or another member of the Discipleship Committee (Chelsea Breuker, Joni Boeskool, Mary V Folkema, and Ann Pell.)

Our Church Family

Win Kolk passed away peacefully on Monday with her family by her bedside. As the second oldest member of our church family, she was nearly 97. There will be a celebration of her life in our church this Saturday morning at 11:30.

Tim Boeskool is scheduled tomorrow (Thursday) for surgery to repair the bones broken in his leg four weeks ago in a snowmobile accident in the Upper Peninsula. Pray for skilled surgical intervention and for eventual good healing.

Congregational News

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee is happy to announce that through our Faith Promise Fund we will be supporting Leah Sweetman and the work she will be doing with Resonate Global Mission in 2021. Leah is a member of First CRC in Fremont and the daughter of Pastor Drew and Becki Sweetman. Leah is a graduate of Western Michigan Christian High School and soon to graduate from Trinity Christian College. We are extending our support to Leah while she serves in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Please pray for Leah and the mission work she will be doing over the next 11 months.

FYSH Food Drive Benefitting TrueNorth

Our FYSH food drive wraps up this weekend. If you would like to contribute by donating food or personal care items, please do so by Sunday morning.

Library Additions

Are you wondering how to address racism, reconciliation, the pandemic, leadership issues, or politics from a Christian perspective? Christian authors such as Brenda Salter McNeil, Eugene Cho, Jemar Tisby, Tod Bolsinger and others help you navigate these puzzling waters and will bring new understanding to your thinking. You'll find some great new titles at the library display beginning on Sunday, January 31. They're available for you to check out.

Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Insight Pregnancy Services baby bottle fundraiser has started. In the lobby of the church, you will find a basket filled with empty baby bottles waiting to be filled with money. Please take one or two home, fill with coins, cash, and/or checks and return it to the church by Sunday, February 28.

Kids Hope

January is Mentor Month ❤️ and despite COVID regulations, Second Church's Kids Hope Mentors are still busy loving youth in our community in the name of Christ. We are blessed to have 8 mentors positively influencing 8 young lives this year. They have been giving consistent attention, encouragement, and love through a pen pal relationship since they are unable to visit the schools. We ask you to help us give thanks for and pray for the efforts of our mentors Audra Powell, Ann Pell, Ashley Luchies, Jody Cook, Jane VanOstenberg, Jane Vogel, Stephanie DeKuiper, and Victoria Wilkinson.

Sunday Morning Prayer Gathering

Join us in the Fireside Room at 9:05 am each Sunday morning as we lift the worship service and other requests up to the Lord. There is power in prayer!

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 31 – Fremont Young Life

February 7 – Cadet main office

February 14 – Bethany Christian Services

February 21 – Insight Pregnancy Services

February 28 – Western Michigan Christian High School

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

The Nest

The Nest is a second-hand shop in Fremont which supports local Christian education. Currently, the 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.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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