

SECOND'S MATTERS

February 17, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

Today is Ash Wednesday, which is the official first day of Lent. Lent is the season of the liturgical calendar where we prepare ourselves for and anticipate Easter. Over the centuries, different people and different faith traditions have observed this season by various means. Whether it is through fasting, not using the word "Hallelujah," by adding a spiritual discipline practice, or by giving something up, the point of Lent is to grow in your relationship with God through self-examination.

Growing up, I never thought Lent was that big of a deal. It was something that the Pastor mentioned in Church, I might have noticed that the sanctuary décor changed, and maybe a Sunday School teacher would mention it, but it never had a significant impact on my life. In high school, it was "cool" to say you were giving something up for Lent, but mostly that was like Reese Peanut Butter cups. (Even if you did that, you only gave up the regular-sized ones, not the big cups, so those were still fair game.) It wasn't until years later that I started to understand why people did this. In my Lenten observance, I like to add to my spiritual disciplines. This year, I will try to read in the gospels every day, follow along in the devotionals that the prayer team worked on, and read two books that will help me reexamine my faith journey. I encourage you to take the extra effort to observe Lent in whatever way works for you. Look for the ways that the Lord is at work this Lenten season. Most importantly, start to prepare your hearts for the celebration that is the open tomb.

From Your Music Director's Desk

As you know, Second CRC has a Top 30 song list on Spotify. [Click here to check out the playlist.](#) Every so often, I exchange some songs on the list for you to enjoy some very familiar songs, along with the new songs that are going to be introduced slowly throughout the year. One of those songs is the song we sang at the Lord's Supper last Sunday called Remembrance. Other titles are Freedom, Nothing Else, and Old For New, and There is a King. I am confident these beautiful songs are going to be a great addition to our repertoire. Enjoy!

Sunday Worship, February 21

We offer in-person worship with safety measures in place. Therefore, masks are required, and we keep every other pew roped off for social distancing. Nursery and Story Hour are offered during the worship service. We also Livestream the service and welcome your worship participation via our Livestream: tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive

Pastor Ron Fynewever will be leading us in worship; his message "Living a Grace Filled Life" is based on Ephesians 2:1-10.

Lent 2021 Devotional Resources:

[Click here](#) to access the Lent Devotionals for the week of February 21-27.

<i>Read the Gospels during Lent - Reading Guide:</i>		<i>Ash Wednesday, February 17</i>	<i>Matthew 1-3</i>
		<i>Thursday, February 18</i>	<i>Matthew 4-6</i>
		<i>Friday, February 19</i>	<i>Matthew 7-9</i>
		<i>Saturday, February 20</i>	<i>Matthew 10-12</i>
		<i>Sunday, February 21</i>	<i>Lord's Day</i>
		<i>Monday, February 22</i>	<i>Matthew 13-15</i>
		<i>Tuesday, February 23</i>	<i>Matthew 16-18</i>
		<i>Wednesday, February 24</i>	<i>Matthew 19-21</i>

Our Church Family

Rich Krale, son-in-law of **Doug and Marleen Frens**, has T-cell Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. Please pray that the cancer responds to treatment, strength, and healing for Rich and the family's strength as they go through this difficult time.

Congregational News

2021 Lenten Devotional

The word "belonging" has different meanings for different people. However we define it, we realize that we all have a deep need to belong and build relationships. That's how God created us. While belonging to our family, community, church family, school, or place of employment are necessary, our most important relationship is with Jesus Christ. We belong to Him! Building our relationship with Him strengthens that sense of belonging.

This Lent devotional will be based on the idea of "Belonging." The devotional will be available each Sunday at church (beginning Feb 21) and also through the Second's Matters and our Facebook page. We encourage you to use these materials in a way that works best for you personally or with your family. Our hope and prayer that these six weeks of Lent will be a time for personal reflection, soul searching, and growth as together we journey toward Easter Sunday, April 4.

The 2nd Church Prayer Team

Hearing Loop

The hearing loop issue has been addressed and fixed. Thanks so much to those who let us know there was an issue in the system. – The Tech Team

Pray Newaygo

We have 27 people signed up for the Pray Newaygo prayer initiative. Thank you! Our church's dates will be March 1-31, and there is still time to sign up at PrayNewaygo.com. Please join us as we pray together for our communities.

Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Insight Pregnancy Services' baby bottle fundraiser is underway. You will find a basket filled with empty baby bottles in the church lobby waiting to be filled with donations. Please take one or two home, fill them with coins, cash, and/or checks and return it to the church by Sunday, February 28.

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:

February 21 – Insight Pregnancy Services

February 28 – Western Michigan Christian High School

March 7 – World Renew

March 14 – Love, INC

Stock the Pantry

For February, the requested food items are macaroni and cheese, and canned meat. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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