

SECOND'S MATTERS

March 10, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

Over the last few days, I have thought a lot about this week a year ago. It was a busy week for me. I had a group going to Young Life Camp, and I was taking students on a church retreat weekend. Lizzie and I were excitedly preparing for a Spring Break trip, and it was district basketball week. Due to all of that, we had a YL Campaigners meeting on Thursday instead of Monday. It was March 13, and that was the night the world changed. Schools were mandated closed through Spring Break, toilet paper became limited, events got canceled, and Church went virtual. I don't know about you, but I was freaked out and very concerned.

I have often wondered what I would tell myself if I could jump back a year. Would it be something to prep myself to miss important events? Would I tell myself to go out to eat one more time? I would like to think that I would try to say something hopeful. I hope I would tell myself stories of bravery, kindness, and friendship. I hope I would remind myself to trust God a little more and pay attention to the little things because they matter even more now. The truth is, I don't know what I would say because I don't have that option. We can't go back, but by the grace of God, we can move forward. If you've stuck with me this far, I want to leave you with something I have learned while living in a pandemic for a year. It doesn't matter if we are the blind beggar, the woman at the well, or your average person from Fremont; God shows up at just the right time. God always brings restoration to the broken – it might be dark right now, but morning is coming. The hope I hold on to is - even when the world feels dark, God walks alongside to bring us light.

From Your Music Director's Desk

Have you ever waited for an event with bated breath? Of course, you have. Some events are full of joyful anticipation, while others not so much - like a surgery. The best part about surgery is after the recovery. The hope is that our quality of life is better than before the surgery, being that our body was put in the "fix-it shop."

When Jesus came physically into our world to live for a time, He knew that we all needed spiritual heart surgery. We were a complete mess. Our sin was keeping us away from an intimate relationship with God. We were missing out on experiencing the love and grace that He has in abundance for us. I was eight years old when I gave my life to Christ. Before that event, my heart felt so hurt and broken, even at that young age. When I finished the prayer of salvation, I felt like I had a new heart! For days I walked on what felt like a cloud! Jesus had performed surgery on my heart, and after confessing my sin, I could not articulate the joy that I felt inside. I just remember skipping everywhere I went with my pigtails bouncing. What a gift to His people! Yes, the cross is going to happen, and what a sorrowful time, but the rolled stone is coming!

Sunday Worship, March 14

Pastor Ben Oliveira will lead us in worship. His message entitled "Mercy All The Time" is based on Matthew 18:21-25 and Matthew 5:7. Masks are recommended while in the building, and social distancing measures are in place. Nursery and Story Hour programs are offered during worship. We also livestream the service and welcome your worship participation in-person or via our livestream: tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive

Sunday Worship, March 21

Pastor Joseph Fox will be leading us in worship. His message entitled "If my people..." is based on 2 Chronicles 7: 1-22.

Lent 2021 Devotional Resources:

Go to secondcrcfremont.org/lent to download our weekly Lenten devotional.

Read the Gospels during Lent - Reading Guide: Wednesday, March 10

Thursday, March 11

Friday, March 12

Saturday, March 13

Sunday, March 14

Monday, March 15

Tuesday, March 16

Wednesday, March 17

Luke 1-2

Luke 3-4

Luke 5-6

Luke 7-8

Lord's Day

Luke 9-10

Luke 11-12

Luke 13-14

Our Church Family

Kay Wolters passed away last Sunday morning. We extend our Christian sympathy to her husband Dick and family as they grieve her loss. No service is being planned at this time.

Please pray for **Wendy Kops**, our Music Director, who will be having eye surgery on Thursday, March 11.

On March 18, **James Deur** is turning 90! No party is allowed; however, his family is sure he would enjoy a bombardment of birthday cards to celebrate the milestone! If you are so inclined, feel free to send him a birthday greeting. His address is 5967 W 64th Street, Fremont.

Congregational News

Grace Encounter from Sunday, February 28

Due to technical difficulties, we couldn't share a Grace Encounter on February 29. We encourage you to watch Jud's story and reflect on God's grace in your life. [Click HERE to see Jud's Grace Encounter.](#)

FYSH Easter Flower Fundraiser

FYSH (Fremont Youth Serving Him) is again selling 6" Easter lilies, hyacinths, and tulip pots for \$13. The proceeds will go towards helping students to be a part of a summer service or discipleship experience. You will have the option to take your plant home during Holy Week or leave it to help decorate the church sanctuary for Easter. Order forms are in your church mailbox and on the literature ledge.

Faith Promise Missions

It is our privilege to pray for our Faith Promise supported mission endeavors. Pray for safety, protection from Covid and that the light of Christ will shine through each ministry. Below is the list of ministries we support:

Appalachia Reach Out, Dwayne Mills director

Mission India

Karin Medical Clinic, Hope Okeny, director

Growing Hope Globally

Haiti Foundation Against Poverty

Vera Hansen with Greater Europe Mission

S.O.S. Ministries, Paul Gonzales director

Library News

Many new books for kids and adults have been added to the church library. Check out the lobby display, the bookshelf next to the Kids Hope materials, and the kids shelving next to the doorway for some great reads.

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 month are:

March 14 – Love, INC

March 21 – Hand2Hand

March 28 – Community Closet

Stock the Pantry

For March, the requested food items are peanut butter and jelly. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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