

SECOND'S MATTERS

April 28, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

When you think about homeless people, what images come to mind? What do you presume to know about them? Sunday morning, a small group of FYSH students and leaders volunteered with Above Ground GR, a start-up nonprofit that works with the homeless community in Grand Rapids. We met Mateah, the director of Above Ground GR, and she acted as our guide for the day. There are many stories I could share, ask sometime and I will tell you, but today I will focus on only one.

We met China, an almost 50-year-old Asian woman, in Heartside Park. We had come to bring water and snacks to the homeless who were hanging out in the park. Generally, you can't hang out in a homeless shelter all day; you have to leave during the day. China walked right up to us and started talking. She asked a bit about us and told us A LOT about herself. Honestly, it would probably fit in the category of oversharing. At the same time, she said something that has stuck with me. "You have to respect yourself. That's why we all ended up out here; we didn't respect ourselves."

People end up homeless for a lot of reasons – none of them have the same story. Like all of us, they have anxieties, hopes, fears, and dreams. They have people they love and people that love them. Is that the first thing that comes to mind when you think about the homeless? I know it isn't the first thing that comes to my mind. This experience has left me feeling challenged to make more time to listen to people's stories and to consider that before I consider their stereotype.

From Your Music Director's Desk

My car is six years old, and although it is a dependable running car, once in a while, I start thinking about upgrading to a newer one. Especially coming out of winter where the floor mats are gritty with sand and salt, the dash is dusty, and the windows are cloudy from the defroster. Then I wash it. Inside and out, and low and behold, I love my car again! It seems to run better (not really), and I change my mind about replacing it with a newer one, at least until next spring. This car has a lot of life left, and when it's clean and shiny, I am enthused to keep driving it.

Aren't we grateful that when we get dusty and grimy in this life that our Heavenly Father does not consider getting rid of us? In His eyes, we are pure and clean because of the blood that Jesus shed on the cross, covering our sins and keeping us clean. His grace is sufficient for us, and He is never bored with us and loves us more than we can imagine. God bless you this week and keep trusting Him.

Sunday Worship, May 2

Rev. Joseph Fox will lead us in worship. His message "Spiritual Warfare" is based on Ephesians 6:10-18. Communion will be served – make sure to get some elements from the lobby. Masks are recommended, and social distancing measures are in place. Nursery and Story Hour are offered. We welcome your worship participation in-person or via our livestream: tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive

Sunday Worship, May 9

Rev. Bob Broekema will be leading us in worship. His message, "Honor Your Mother –and Father is based on Exodus 20:1-17. Today we will celebrate the baptism of Emmery Folkema, daughter of Ian and Maddi.

Our Church Family

Continue to pray for Josephine McLeod, **Renee Pell's** mother, who, at almost 90 years old, is undergoing therapy for a broken hip. Josephine's address is P.O. Box 445, White Cloud, MI 49349.

Thank you, Second Church, for all the prayers, cards, calls, and concern for Darlene and me during my recent bout with covid. I am continually improving and feel very blessed to be part of the Second Church family.

Jim and Darlene Beadle

Congregational News

Update from the Council

A summary of the Pastor Church Resources consultation report has been put in your church mailbox and on the literature ledge in the lobby. If you would like a copy of the summary emailed to you, please contact Valerie at office@secondcrcfremont.org or by calling her at church, 924-0170. Copies of the full report from PCR are available upon request.

Parents of 8th Grade, High School & College Grads:

Make sure that you check your email for a note regarding the upcoming Graduate Recognition service and booklet. Let Zach know if you have any questions.

Mother's Day Ad in Hi-Lites

Mother's Day is the perfect day to honor those who gave us life. If you would like to thank your mother, grandmother, or any special woman for choosing life, place their name on the list on the literature ledge in the lobby and enclose \$2.00 for each name. They will be printed in the Hi-Lites on Mother's day, May 9, by Newaygo Right to Life. Every life is precious and designed by God.

Offering Information

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:

May 2 – Insight Pregnancy Services

May 9 – True North

May 16 – Fremont Young Life

May 23 – Christian Education Fund

May 30 – Resonate World Mission

Stock the Pantry

For April, the requested food items are canned fruit and vegetables. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.



Blessings to the wonderful members of Second who gave their time and willingness to help with the Mobile Food truck last week. We were able to serve over 60 families.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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www.secondcrcfremont.org

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