

SECOND'S MATTERS

May 19, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

This weekend I planted my vegetable garden, fine-tuned some flower pots, and got to spend time outside playing with my dog Nyx. I've loved this warm summer-like weather. Sunday afternoon, as I went on the first pontoon cruise around the lake, I noticed that my eye started to itch. Like any normal person, I ignored it, assuming it was a slight irritation from my allergies and it would go away soon. As we putzed around Fremont Lake, it started to feel like there was something in my eye. By the time we arrived back at the dock, my eye had swollen shut, I was in pain, and I couldn't see. A Benedryl, a cold compress, and an ER visit later, the swelling had started to come down, but it still looked like I had been socked in the face. A little earlier intervention and I may not have had that kind of reaction.

I wonder if any of you have ever ignored something and hoped it would go away like me? Maybe it wasn't an allergic reaction. Perhaps you've told a little white lie to get out of a commitment, and it snowballed. That second beer at dinner is probably fine until it turns into a third or fourth every night. One more shopping trip is fun until that credit card bill is too high to pay off. These situations might not be something you've experienced, but I would bet that you've experienced a snowball type situation before – if not in your own life, then in the life of someone you care about. I think this is why over and over, scripture invites us to live a life of enough, a life characterized by "our daily bread." A life of enough is not about living a life in need, but living a life where you don't have more than you need. This concept has convicted me recently to reexamine how I spend my time, energy, and resources. Where do these things need to be reallocated? How does the way I think about this affect the Kingdom of God? How will this change me? I encourage you to ask yourself some of these questions.

From Your Music Director's Desk

Bobby Sue is my young horse that is still learning to process scary (at least to her) situations. She is slowly maturing into a steady trail horse that loves to be out in the woods. However, when something concerns her, she feels scared and alone and looks to me to guide her. Recently we were going along a trail, and a bridge appeared ahead of us. She stopped and looked intently at it. She would have rather turned around and ran as fast as she could to her safe place, but I did not want to turn around. I assured her that she could go over the bridge as I gently encouraged her and patiently waited for her to trust me enough to carry me over so we could continue on our way. When we made it to the other side, she relaxed and learned that I will not push her into a situation that will cause her to be injured; she trusted me as her leader.

Trusting the Lord as we walk through this life can be challenging at times because we have to go through difficulties exercising our faith. When we can see an event coming in our lives that will challenge us, we want to bulk and have doubts in our ability to go through them. We can panic and feel like running away from the problem. Even though we cannot physically see the Lord, He is there, encouraging us and reassuring us that we have the strength and ability to endure. That we can depend completely on Him to hold our hand and walk through with us. We are not alone. Jesus is always with us to guide us through whatever life brings to us. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29: 11. (NIV) God bless you all this week.

Sunday Worship, May 23 – Pentecost

Seminarian Jodi VanWingerden will be leading us in worship. Her message, "Singing Our Story," is based on Exodus 14:29-15:24. We will recognize our 8th grade, high school, and college graduate's accomplishments during this service and pray over them. Nursery and Story Hour are offered. We welcome your worship participation in person or via our [livestream](#).

Combined Outdoor Worship, May 30

On Sunday, May 30, we will join in worship with other area churches for an outdoor worship celebration. The service will start at 10 am in the West Gerber Parking Lot (cross streets of Stone and Hemlock, with entrances on Hemlock.). We encourage you all to pack up the Lawn Chairs and blankets and join our community for worship. In case of inclement weather, we will be at First Reformed Church using an FM transmitter.

Our Church Family

Thank you to everyone at Second Church for all the prayers, cards, and emails during my 10-week recovery from leg fractures. We really appreciated all the love and concerns expressed by so many. -**Alvera Kidder**

Change of Address: Phil and Rachel Pinkston, 7574 Orchard Circle, Fremont, MI 49412

Congregational News

Council Update – Fiscal Year 2020-2021

As a reminder, our fiscal year ends June 30. At the end of April, our General Fund is behind our budget by almost \$30,000, and our Christian Education Fund is over \$20,000 behind. Over the next several weeks, please prayerfully consider what you can give to 2nd Church to help reduce this deficit.

Outreach Committee Request

The Outreach Committee is currently seeking two additional committee members. If you are interested in joining this committee or would like more information on the work being done by the Outreach Committee, please contact Tyler Cook (616) 443-2374.

Save the Date – June 12

Fremont Young Life is holding its annual Golf Outing Fundraiser on June 12 at Water's Edge Golf Course in Fremont. Join us for a great game of golf and to support a wonderful ministry. Email us at fremontyl@gmail.com or talk to Zach to get registered to play or to become a sponsor.

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 23 – Christian Education Fund

June 6 – Bethany Christian Services

June 13 – Wellspring Adult Care Services

June 20 – World Renew

June 27 – Hope 101

Stock the Pantry

For May, the requested food items are spaghetti sauce, rice, and noodles. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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