

## **SECOND'S MATTERS**

**May 5, 2021**



**Second Church  
of Fremont**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

### **From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk**

Sunday morning Lizzie and I sat in a different place than our "normal" seat. It is always so interesting to me to see what sounds different when you move around the church. You hear other noises as people shuffle in their seats, you hear different voices singing, and it can feel like a different worship experience. This Sunday, I stopped to listen to everyone singing along to the music. It was especially beautiful to hear the children's voices belt out the songs – even when they didn't know all of the lyrics. There is something incredible about the faith of a kiddo.

I wonder when we all stopped having faith like kids – when did our faith get so complicated? I don't know about you, but for me, faith is constantly entangled in doctrine, church attendance, position statements, and what kind of music you like. Don't read what I'm not writing – those things are important and have their place. It is true, though, that our faith and the faith of our sisters and brothers from across the ages, denominational and national divides is rooted in a few simple truths. God is God. He created the universe, and he made us in his image. We messed up, but he enacted a plan of restoration that includes sacrificing himself, designed to bring all of creation and ALL people back into communion with him. He did this because He loves us more than we can imagine. It is so simple that children can understand it. As I listened to "all our hope is in you" sung in an off-key, high-pitched voice, I felt challenged to remember what it was like to have the uncomplicated faith of a child. I pray that as you reflect on this that you know, no matter what season of life you are in, Christ is there, inviting you to come. For the table of the Lord is set for the children of God.

### **From Your Music Director's Desk**

I experience Christmas every spring. In the fall, my horses grow a beautiful shiny, thick winter coat so they can endure very cold weather throughout the winter. As spring approaches, their beautiful coat becomes dull and starts to fall out. During the shedding season, it is unpleasant as I groom them because hair coat is flying everywhere, and the horses seem to have lost their best look. In fact, my old horse looks like a yak. But underneath the surface, next to the skin, a fresh new summer coat has grown, pushing out the winter coat. But the summer coat is not visible until the winter coat has been shed out. What a beautiful package underneath all of that dullness! Once all the winter hair is shed, the beauty of the animal is breathtaking! It's like watching a Christmas gift slowly being opened.

That is how it is with the event of the cross. I can only imagine the ugliness of how our Savior was treated. What the mother of our Lord must have felt when she witnessed the brutality of the crucifixion. Then He died. I'm sure the ones who were there that loved Him were devastated. But underneath, an amazing thing was happening; Jesus was conquering sin and the grave and bringing us the most precious gift in all of creation: Salvation. Yes, it was ugly, but the beauty of the cross was soon to emerge and bring us the most beautiful gift we can imagine! Thank you, Jesus!

### **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 Emmerly Folkema, daughter of Ian and Madi. 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](https://tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive)

### **Sunday Worship, May 16**

Rev Bob Pohler, a retired CRC pastor, will be leading us in worship. His message, "Honor your Mother – and Father" is based on Exodus 20:1-17.

### **Advanced Notice for Worship, May 30**

On Sunday, May 30, we will join in worship with other area churches for an outdoor worship celebration. Location and time information will be forthcoming.

### **Our Church Family**

**Helen Wissner** has a new phone number. Her new phone number is: 231-928-9546.

### **Congregational News**

#### **Request from Seminarian Jodi VanWingerden**

Hello, Second Church! Thanks so much for the warm welcome you have extended when I've joined you all for worship a couple of times recently. I have been so blessed by the opportunity to get to know you just a little bit. And I'm looking forward to being with you all again on May 23! In thinking about the message I will bring that day, I wondered if you might be willing to help me out. If you have a story to share about people helping or supporting each other during the past (Covid) year, would you be willing to share it with me? It doesn't have to be something earth-shaking (although those stories are welcome!)—I'm interested in the small things too that made an impact/impression in the moment. You can message me at [jfv075@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:jfv075@calvinseminary.edu). Thank you! — Jodi VanWingerden

#### **Save the Date**

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](mailto:fremontyl@gmail.com) to get registered to play or to become a sponsor.

#### **Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **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 9 – True North*

*May 16 – Fremont Young Life*

*May 23 – Christian Education Fund*

#### **Stock the Pantry**

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

#### **SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

(231) 924-0170

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