

SECOND'S MATTERS

July 21, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's

I distinctly remember the first thing I ever bought on Amazon. I had convinced my mom to let me preorder the final Harry Potter book and have it delivered to my house. At the time, I was a 13-year-old 7th grader who was found with a stack of half-read books more often than not. I remember the excitement that I had when the mail carrier walked up to the house with my package. I grabbed it from them, threw the envelopes at my mom as I ran into the house, and headed to my bedroom to start reading what I hoped to be the best Harry Potter book yet.

When was the last time you were really excited about something? Was it some new gadget? Did you get to go to a long-awaited event? Did you hit a milestone? Maybe it was something else? Either way, when we get excited about something, we start developing a list of hopes for that thing. We hope that the book wraps up the series nicely. We hope that the gadget improves our life. We hope that the event is fun. Sometimes these things live up to our hopes, and sometimes they don't.

As Christians, we talk a lot about the Hope that we find in Jesus. In Jesus, we have the Hope of restoration, wholeness, new life, and forgiveness. This is not the kind of hope that shows up in an Amazon box; it is a capital "H" kind of Hope. Capital "H" Hope looks a lot less shiny or fun than everyday hope because often, it is born out of some type of darkness. But, Hope invites us to find the light of Christ, which shines into all manner of darkness. Friends, where is your hope? Who is your hope in? I pray in this growing season; we learn more and more what it means to Hope as individuals and as Second Church.

From Your Music Director's Desk

"Wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times,
and the strength of salvation."

-Isaiah 33:6.

Wisdom is something we possess only when we've allowed God to work in our lives as He teaches us to follow Him closely. It is something that we do not completely achieve until our life is done here on Earth. Sometimes we are indifferent toward Him, but He still longs for our time and affection. The sacrifice Jesus made on the cross is such a wonderful gift to us, and our giving Him time and affection in private worship, even though our tasks for the day are looming, is time never wasted. The wisdom and knowledge we gain by spending time in God's word is helping us to grow in our walk with Him. God wants us to come to Him, complete with all of our faults and flaws. It is a struggle to find time in our day to worship our Lord privately, but the peace, comfort, and strength we gain from that small sacrifice helps us to have a joyful day in God's presence.

I hope you all are having a wonderful week.

Sunday Worship, July 25

Rev Bruce Ballast will be leading us in worship; his message "When the Storms Come" will be based on Matthew 14:22-36. We will also hear a Grace Encounter from Dave Breuker.

Sunday Worship, August 1

Rev Bob Broekema will be leading us in worship; his message "The Strong Deliverer" will be based on Luke 22:1-6, 14-23, 31-34.

Our Church Family

Our Christian sympathies go out to Karen Admiraal, and her extended family in the passing of Karen's mother, Rose Zigterman, on Monday.

Congregational News

From the Council: Annual Congregational Meeting Tonight

The annual congregational meeting is tonight at 7:00p. The meeting packet has been put in your mailbox and sent out in an email last week Friday.

Mobile Food Truck Today!

This afternoon we will again host a Feeding America Food Truck Distribution. Volunteers are needed – please arrive around 4 to help serve our community in this way. If you have any questions, please reach out to Audra Powell (audrascott@hotmail.com).

Church Office Hours and Prayer Guide

The office will be closed next week Friday. There will be no Prayer Guide the next two weeks.

Sunday Morning Cookie Update

Thank you to all who have signed up to bring cookies for the after-church fellowship. Hospitality would like to start having two people bringing in 3 dozen each instead of one person bringing in 6 dozen. A new cookie sign-up sheet has been put on the counter that reflects this change.

GEMS

GEMS (weekly girls group for grades 1-5) will start again in October 2021. They need counselors (weekly volunteer) and a craft coordinator (once a month). If you are interested in helping in this ministry or want to know more, please contact Kara Buter via email: karabuter@gmail.com.

Pastoral Counseling Opportunity.

During our time of pastoral vacancy, Arnie Dykstra, who has regularly worshiped with Second for several years, is volunteering his services as a pastoral counselor. Arnie has previously worked as a Christian Counselor at Sunshine CCRC, Grand Rapids, as well as a board member and counselor with Set Free Ministries. If you would like to take advantage of this confidential pastoral counseling help in resolving personal, spiritual, or relational issues, contact Arnie by calling (231) 924-4572, or emailing arndyk@gmail.com.

Offering Information

Our Deacons encourage our support to our congregation's financial obligations through 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: July 25 – Tools for School
August 1 – Resonate World Mission
August 8 – Prison Fellowship – Providing Bibles for those in prison

Stock the Pantry

For July, the requested food items are cereal, pancake mix, and syrup. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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