

SECOND'S MATTERS

July 28, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

I love the story that Pastor Bruce shared with us on Sunday. I've always loved the idea that it took a lot of faith for Peter to get out of that boat. I've loved the idea that Jesus gave us our own chances to step out of the boat, to step out of our comfort zone, and to move in faith. This has been a Young Life club talk and a FYSH lesson, and I'm sure you've heard the sermon, maybe even a couple of times. It's a simple message from an inspiring passage. Bruce didn't preach that sermon.

The phrase, "Jesus knows, Jesus prays, Jesus cares, and then He shows up" keeps running through my head. "Where is Jesus?" "Why do bad things happen?" "Where do we go from here?" I often hear these questions from students, and truthfully, I find myself asking them almost every week. If we are honest with ourselves and with our hearts, we would realize that we all keep asking those same questions – no matter how often we get an answer. I pray that we get better at seeing Jesus. The truth is He's there, but if we think he doesn't know, or won't pray for us, or doesn't care, then why would we think he'd show up.

I'm an Enneagram 6, which means, without going into all kinds of detail on this personality typing system, that I struggle with overthinking and worrying if everything will be ok. This week as I was overwhelmed by everything going on in my life, I was brought back to a verse in 1 Peter that says, "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you." Friends, I'm not sure who needs the encouragement today to believe this, but the truth is: Jesus knows exactly what you are going through. Jesus is right now, literally right now, interceding on your behalf. Jesus cares so much about what's going on in your life. And Jesus is showing up for you. I promise, it might not be the way we expect, but He's there. We just have to open our eyes and see Him.

From Your Music Director's Desk

"Be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

-1 Timothy 4:12 (NKJV)

When reading this verse, it sure seems to be quite a tall order for how we as believers are to be good examples to those around us. We do not know all who are watching us in how we handle life's challenges; are we dealing with them with a sense of hopelessness and defeat? Or are we facing them head-on with our eyes on Jesus? We do not know the future, and that is such a good thing. We can rest in the fact that God is perfect, and His grace is all sufficient for whatever we walk through. But keeping our eyes on Jesus can be very challenging, but by doing so, God, through His Holy Spirit, gives us a peace that cannot be explained. Our lives are in His hands, and as we minister in the here and now, we will bear much fruit in the day of reaping. I pray your week is full of God's presence.

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. New elders and deacons will be installed, and we will celebrate the Lord's Supper.

Sunday Worship, August 8

Pastor Larry Slings will be leading us in worship; his message "Worshipping a Holy God" will be based on Isaiah 6:1-9.

Congregational News

Faith Promise and Christian Education Pledges

We are in the middle of our Faith Promise and Christian Ed pledge seasons. If you are making a Faith Promise pledge, please drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or put it in Tyler Cook's mailbox. If you are making a Christian Ed pledge, please place it in the offering plate or the box in the lobby.

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 signup 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.

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: August 1 – Resonate World Mission
August 8 – Prison Fellowship – Providing Bibles for those in prison
August 15 – ARO Giving Campaign

Stock the Pantry

For August, the requested food items are macaroni & cheese and tuna. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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