

SECOND'S MATTERS

August 12, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Music Director's Desk

KA-BOOM!

Close to midnight, it was one of those lightning episodes where the flash and boom happen simultaneously. It startled me so much my popcorn went airborne. I was certain that something on our property was struck and is now on fire, or a horse has been struck, and we need to get the neighbors backhoe. I put my raincoat on, grabbed my flashlight, and hoped for the best as I went out in the storm. As I looked around at our outbuildings, nothing seemed to have a smoking hole in it anywhere, so I made my way to the horses in their paddocks. All six of them were calm and looked at me as if to say, "What? Something wrong?" Did you catch the word "calm"?

We have heard various sermons, Bible devotions, and songs that we are to be calm and trust the Lord through storms, especially these last several months, not only as a church but as individuals. We as humans fail miserably most of the time, but the Lord is so patient with us as we strive to stay calm during storms. When the disciples thought they were surely going to die on the raging sea during that violent storm, Jesus was soundly sleeping in the bottom of the boat. I can imagine their worry as the sky started showing signs of violent weather brewing as it became closer and closer, with the sea becoming more active as the winds increased. They knew the Savior was exhausted and desperately needed His sleep, but the storm became so severe they began to fear for their lives. Becoming desperate, they went into the bottom of the boat totally panic-stricken, and shook Jesus awake, crying out that they are all going to perish! They could not fathom how He could sleep through all this commotion! I would have been right there with the disciples yelling at Jesus, telling Him to save us. What happens next? Jesus probably rubbed His eyes as He tiredly got up off His cot, sighed at the lack of faith from His charges, rebuked the violent storm, and as the disciples watched in utter astonishment, the sea calmed. Immediately.

"The men were amazed, and said," "What kind of a man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" " (Matthew 8:27 NIV). It's hard to imagine the power that Jesus had to calm that sea, but let us remember we serve a God that is in total control, no matter what it looks like, from our human perspective. God is fully aware of our "storms," and He is with us, calming our seas and protecting us. How amazing is He? May God's presence envelop you throughout this week.

Sunday Worship, August 15

Pastor Bob Pohler will be leading us in worship: his message "In the Beginning" will be based on Genesis 1:1-2:3.

Sunday Worship, August 22

Seminarian Rebecca Hall will be leading us in worship; her message "Hearing God in the Disturbance" will be based on Acts 19:23-41.

Our Church Family

Elsa VanHekken, Mary Folkema's mother, is at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids with complications from her recent surgery. Please pray for strength and healing for Elsa and peace for her family.

Congregational News

From the Council: Congregational Meeting on August 29

Following the August 29 worship service, we will hold a special Congregational Meeting Town Hall to discuss the what, why, and how of the Article 17 and for all of you to ask questions. Pastor John Huyser, a Church Visitor from Classis, will be with us to help moderate the discussion.

Volunteer Help Needed – Combined Worship September 5

We are looking for people willing to serve as greeters at the Combined Community Service on September 5. Greeters would welcome people at the parking lot entrances, collect offerings, hand out bulletins & communion elements, and bid farewell as the people exit. If you are interested in doing this, please reach out to Audra Powell at audrascott@hotmail.com, Bob Broekema @bobbroek@yahoo.com., or Wendy Kops @wendy@secondcrcfremont.org

Sunday Morning Greeters

A Greeters' List is soon to be put together. If you would rather not be on that list (or want to make sure you get on), don't hesitate to get in touch with Karen Admiraal (335-2285 or kladmiraal@gmail.com) by Friday, August 13. This is an opportunity to share the love of Jesus with all those who enter Second's doors.

Bible League

Please check your church mailbox for the letter from the Fremont Division of Bible League. Prayerfully consider giving to the Bible League Volunteers' Global Campaign so others can know about Jesus. Kindly respond on or before September. Thank you for making an eternal difference. - Your Bible League Volunteer: Jane Vogel

Updated Church Directory

The church office will be producing an updated church directory in the coming weeks. If you have changed address, phone number, email, etc., or would like to be added, please get the appropriate information to Valerie by emailing office@secondcrcfremont.org or calling the church office.

Harvest Table

If you have garden produce you are willing to share, please bring it to church on Sunday morning and place it on the harvest table in the lobby. Members and guests are invited to take it home. Any produce left will be donated to TrueNorth for distribution.

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.

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 15 – ARO Giving Campaign
August 22 – Torch Zuni Christian School
August 29 – Community Closet

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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