

# **SECOND'S MATTERS**

**August 25, 2021**



**Second Church  
of Fremont**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

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

*Readers Note: In the Aug 4 edition of "Second's Matters," Zach invited us to be intentional about looking for Jesus in the world around us. For the next few weeks, he will tell you where he saw Jesus while on vacation.*

Despite appearances, I grew up familiar, albeit not necessarily super excited, with the work it takes to keep the family farm going. My grandparents lived on a farm, my dad sold farm equipment and for a time co-owned a dealership, and it was a regular occurrence to get brought out to the farm to help with some kind of project. (Sometime, ask me how pulling fences posts turned into me working at a pizza place for the next four years.) The farm task I found the most interesting was getting an ear of corn and checking it out to estimate how good the yield would be. A few weeks ago, I watched my 63-year-old dad and my 86-year-old grandpa debate how good the yield would be. They disagreed. It is good to know that some things never change.

I love the simplicity of Iowa summers on the farm and how simple things can seem. Wake up, check the corn, pray it keeps growing, fix something that's broken, go to bed, repeat. (Dad, when you read this, I know there is a lot more to it than that.) There is a rhythm to farm life that centers around praying, doing what you can, and hoping for the best. I often think, at least for me, that our rhythms look a little bit more like: accomplish everything, climb the ladder, hurry to the next thing. I think there is a kind of faithfulness to farmers and farm life that I find impressive. Their livelihoods are based on this going well, yet they know that there is only so much they can do to help their corn grow. I wonder what our lives would look like if we spent a little less time striving and a little more time hoping in the promise that God is working "all things God works for the good of those who love him." My Dad and Grandpa's faithfulness is something that I admire, and I strive to live my life a little more like them. Doing what I can to make my corner of the world a better place, praying, and believing that God will take care of the rest. Friends of Jesus Christ, I invite you, in this season of transition, to join me in this work of learning to trust the Lord more and more each day. I don't believe we will be disappointed.

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

Bobby Sue decided to be naughty the other day. She was chomping at the bit and excited to get going down the trail before I was ready. I was tacking her up and making sure everything was fastened properly before we set out because if I failed to complete every step, there could be a wreck. There's nothing that describes the feeling of horror when the horse travels faster than the saddle. (Now there's a story for another day!) I completed my tasks, and as I got on her, she threw a temper tantrum by trying to rear, buck, spin around, anything to get away from my control. SMACK! As hard as I could on her shoulder. That startled her enough that it got her attention, and low and behold, she immediately decided that being naughty and suffering the consequences was not worth it. From that point on, she was as good as she could be, and I did not have to discipline any further, and we experienced a wonderful ride.

In our lives, we have a tendency to be disobedient at times. When we disobey the Lord, He sometimes lets us try to get ourselves put together before He disciplines us. He only lets us misbehave for just so long but eventually, He disciplines us. When we are disobedient, we are acting foolish, but God loves us so much that He allows just enough punishment to come our way to keep us on track to stay in His will. "Behold, how happy is the man whom God reproves. So do not despise the discipline of the Almighty." (Job 5:17 NASB) I pray God's loving guidance is with you this week.

## **Sunday Worship, Aug 29**

Pastor John Huyser of Fruitport CRC will be leading us in worship; his message "The Power of Nostalgia" will be based on Haggai 2:1-9 and Ezra 3:10-13. Following this 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. Nursery will be provided as needed.

## **Combined Worship, Sept 5**

On Sunday, Sept 5, we will 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.

## **Congregational News**

### **Prayer Partners**

We are once again asking you to be prayer partners for the students of our church. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby and a sheet with more info in mailboxes. Please consider being involved!!

### **Worship Leadership and Participation Opportunity**

Are you interested in becoming a part of the planning team that chooses music approximately once a month, sing on the praise team, or play an instrument for our services? Please get in touch with Wendy to express interest, ask questions, or learn more about how you can help lead worship.

### **GriefShare**

GriefShare is a 14-week course that offers help and support to those who are grieving. The class has a \$10.00 fee that covers your workbook, which you will use in the program to help and guide you in your healing. There is an open door policy so you can join at any given time. Sessions will be on consecutive Tuesdays beginning Sept 7, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Registration at First CRC (231-924-2460) is helpful for planning but not required. For additional information, check out [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

### **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. Please take any produce you can use – anything remaining will be donated to TrueNorth.

### **Faith Promise and Christian Education Pledges**

The Faith Promise and Christian Ed pledge seasons end August 31.

### **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 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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