

SECOND'S MATTERS

August 4, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

I am what you would call a Christmas Crazy. (Just ask Lizzie or Val.) I think there is something extraordinary about sitting in a living room full of twinkle lights and cozy furniture with the smells of warm cider and greenery in the air. It completely changes the vibe. I believe our surroundings matter. I care that my office is set up so that I can get work done but that others feel comfortable stopping by. I care that the youth room is a place that is inviting to students and makes them feel safe. I care about the aesthetic of places because I believe it can change a conversation or an attitude. Think about some of your favorite memories. Do you remember everything about the space you were in?

I am heading off for a bit of vacation this week, and I am excited to experience different scenery. I love the regular rhythms of rest and sabbath that vacation offers and for the chance to experience God's goodness in new ways. I encourage you to look at your surroundings this week. What does the way you've set up your home tell you about what you value? What does the way the business sets up its space tell you about its values? What does the way you spend your sabbath time tell you about what is important? Friends, I've been praying for myself, my family, my youth group kids, and in worship for this church for a long time that we get better and better at seeing Jesus show up, in the significant ways and the little ways, in places we expect and in those we don't. Because when we pay attention, we notice things about our surroundings, we notice things about Jesus, and we notice things about ourselves. I encourage you to pay attention this week and see what you notice, and I'll do the same, and we'll talk about it again soon. You are beloved.

From Your Music Director's Desk

Do you ever feel a twinge of guilt if you cannot remember a sermon, or a passage of scripture you read recently? I know I have. Yes, it helps to take notes of the sermon, or journal the devotions you've just read so you can refer back to them throughout your day, but if we're left with just our brains to help us remember, we fall short.

What if we looked at that scenario from a different perspective? Envision a basket. A basket is woven together with strands of pliable materials and when the basket is completed it can hold anything from dishes to pots and pans, linens, bread, but when it comes to holding liquids, it strains straight through the basket because it is not waterproof. If water is poured through the basket it remains cleansed until it gets dusty again, therefore pouring water through it regularly cleans it over and over again. Our minds and hearts are like this basket; when we hear sermons or read and meditate on scripture, it runs through us cleansing and renewing us. That's why it's so important to hear sermons and read the Word on a consistent basis keeping us cleansed and renewed. We may not hold what the Lord has spoken to us for very long, but the cleansing keeps us pure and righteous and forgiven for our many shortcomings, including a short memory.

May the Lord continue to wash your hearts and minds this week.

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.

Sunday Worship, August 15

Pastor Bob Pohler will be leading us in worship.

Our Church Family

Thank you for the numerous expressions of sympathy I received upon the death of my mother. Again I recognize how blessed I am to be part of the Second church family; again, I experienced Christ's love through you in very meaningful ways. My deepest thanks. ~ **Karen Admiraal**

A combined celebration for the lives of **Ted Hoad** and his daughter, **Tamara "Tammy" (Hoad) Elliott**, will be held on Friday, August 6, 2021. There will be a time to visit with the family at the Kroeze-Wolffis Funeral Home from 1-3 PM, followed by a graveside service at Maple Grove Cemetery in Fremont, which will include military honors for Ted.

Congregational News

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.

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 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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