

SECOND'S MATTERS

September 1, 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.

Have any of you ever met a sheep in person? Growing up, my grandparents raised all kinds of animals on their farm. I don't know if we ever told anyone, but my cousins and I used to chase and scare the sheep so that they would poop. (sorry, grandma and grandpa!) What I always found fascinating, while the sheep were terrified of us kids, the moment my grandpa walked into their enclosure, they trusted him fully. He was their shepherd, and they knew him.

I wonder if you've ever felt like the Lord is trying to tell you something? I like to listen to podcasts as I drive, and I have some favorites; you've probably heard me mention them. (*cough* That Sound's Fun *cough* by Annie F. Downs *cough*) A few weeks ago, as I was driving to and from Iowa, I listened to a ton of podcasts. And as I listened, many of them mentioned, reflected on, or were overtly about the book of *Numbers* or *Psalms* 23. What is wild, just a few days before, I got a quarterly box of preview Bible studies at church, which included ones on *Psalms* 23 and *Numbers*. Since returning home, it feels like either *Psalms* 23 or *Numbers* are regularly showing up in my life.

As I've dived into these pieces of scripture, I've learned a few things, but I don't think I've learned everything that God has for me there yet. Did you know that in the original Hebrew *Numbers* is sometimes also called *In The Wilderness*? *Numbers* feels like a very skippable book in the "Read the Bible in a Year Plan" because it has so many names, but it tells the story of the Israelites as they wander through a wilderness. Doesn't that feel a little familiar – being a wilderness, where you aren't quite sure who to believe, which way is up, and when this all will end? Feels familiar to me. *Numbers*, I think, points us right to *Psalms* 23, where we have the answer. "*The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all that I need.*" This world is big and scary, a true wilderness, but just the sheep on my grandparents' farm knew their shepherd would protect them; *Psalms* 23 reminds us that the Great Shepherd will protect us, no matter what wilderness we find. I needed this reminder, and I bet some of you do too. Friends, keep looking. God is showing up for us.

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.

Combined Worship, Sept 5

On Sunday, Sept 12, Rev. Bob Broekema will be preaching for us. We will also be commissioning our Student Ministries teachers and volunteers, and this will be the first day of the new Sunday School year.

Church Family

Dirk Kolk is at Mercy Health in Muskegon, recovering from surgery to fix his fractured hip. Please keep Dirk and Bev in your prayers as they figure out the next steps and as Dirk begins the healing process.

Congregational News

Student Ministries Update

A letter detailing the fall plans for Student Ministries went out last Thursday; if you missed that, you can find it [HERE](#).

Oasis Volunteers Needed

Oasis, our middle school youth group, is looking for male and female leaders. This is a twice a month, 2-hour commitment; please reach out to Zach if you or someone you know is interested!

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!!

2021 Directory

The 2021 directory is in your lobby mailbox. Please let the office know or grab one from the literature ledge if you need an extra one.

Greeters

Greeters have been assigned beginning Sunday, September 12 – a schedule is in church mailboxes. If you're unable to greet on your assigned date, we request you find your own replacement if possible. We ask greeters to be at the front door entrance by 9:10 am. There are name tags and bulletins available at the Welcome Center. You will be sent a reminder the week you are scheduled via email. Questions? Contact Karen Admiraal. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this way.

Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed on Friday, September 3, and Monday, September 6.

Bible League

The Fremont Division of the Bible League appreciates the generous contributions raised in our recent campaign. Our church raised \$745 for the ministry. Please pray with us for God's Word to reach a lost and needy world.

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.

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: Sept 12 – *Habitat for Humanity*
Sept 19 – *Fremont Service Committee*
Sept 26 – *Ferris Campus Ministry*

Stock the Pantry

For September, the requested food items are peanut butter and jelly. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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