SECOND'S MATTERS Sept 22, 2021



From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

Growing Up, whenever I was sick or had surgery (chronic ear tubes - UGH), my Grandma Van Wyk would show up with two chocolate shakes from Dairy Queen. One to drink then, and one to put in the freezer for later. It was our little routine. Lizzie and I have this habit of walking with coffee in the first snow of the year – usually, we don't talk and instead just experience the beauty of creation. It has been a fun yearly tradition. I don't work on Tuesdays as a Sabbath, but I also spend the day sabbathing from TV and videos. Instead, I spend time working on something with my hands, reading, listening to podcasts, or in silence. It's a habit I have that helps me prepare myself for the week ahead.

I don't know about you, but I think these (and other) habits, routines, and traditions are a beautiful part of our lives. I think they help ground us and remind us of what is important. In the Church context, we plan a season ahead all the time. I started getting the curriculum together and thinking about Youth Group lessons for this fall, in the summer. As a church staff, We have already begun preparing for Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas (I bet most of you read that and thought, "WOW, chill out.")

The truth is our lives are a series of preparations. We prepare for marriages, baby births, anniversaries, field trips, meals, and retirement. All of these things are important, but how often do we think about how we prepare for church? Do we prepare for the Lord to do something in our lives? I think the truth is, we don't do it as much as we could. What would it look like if we are started preparing our souls to give thanks to the Lord? What would it look like if we began to anticipate the coming of the light of Christmas now? How would we be different? Would this change the way we structure our lives?

From Your Music Director's Desk

Expect the unexpected. As we go through life's journey, we are to live in expectation to live in Heaven for all eternity when our life here on Earth is finished. Speaking of journey, Bobby Sue and I are on a journey for which we start at one end of our state in Oscoda at Lake Huron, then finish our journey when we ride into Empire at Lake Michigan ten days later. Many things have unexpectedly happened. For instance, today, it was raining, and we came to a busy road that we needed to cross. Normally traffic doesn't bother her, but this time the tires of the vehicles were making a constant slushing noise as they crossed in front of her as we were waiting for it to clear so we could continue on. I could feel her nervousness as she so bravely tried to hold it together while the strange noise was coming from the cars. We made it safely and continued down the trail.

That is how it is with us, too, in our life's journey. We busily accomplish our duties, but sometimes things can be so scary for us, but if we just hold it together the best we can, we can see the other side and know that God is there guiding and protecting us even though we are facing uncertainty.

May your week be filled with God's peace, even though the unexpected should be expected.

Sunday Worship, Sept 26

Rev. Bob Broekema will be leading us in worship. His message "Our God Rains" is based on Matthew 7:24-27. Kaitlyn Arendsen will be playing piano and leading our Praise Team.

Gathering together for prayer matters! You are encouraged to join others in the Fireside Room at 9:05 am each Sunday morning to pray for the service, our church, and other requests.

Sunday Worship, October 3

Pastor Mike Wissink, Ferris Campus Ministry, will be leading us in worship. We will celebrate the baptism of Cora Boven, daughter of Ryan and Katie, and the Lord's Supper.

Church Family

Please keep **Roger Rauwerda** in your thoughts and prayers as he will be having hip replacement surgery Monday, Sept. 27.

Thank you to the Second Church family for all of the prayers, cards, and expressions of sympathy in the recent passing of our mother, **Marge Moon**. Also, to Pastor Nate Kooistra and the ladies who served the luncheon. It is a blessing to be part of the Second Church family. -The Marge Moon family

Congregational News

From the Council - Interim Pastor Update

Our search committee consisting of John Mellema, Ken Wolffis and Mariel Poel met with Pastor Dan Brouwer today as a potential specialized transitional minister. The meeting with Pastor Dan was very positive and next Wednesday our staff and council hope to meet with him. We will continue to provide you with updates on filling this interim pastor position as they come up.

Pastor Dan currently resides in Dutton MI and has a wealth of knowledge working as a specialized transitional minister. He has most recently worked as a specialized transitional minister with three church's throughout the Midwest over the past 5 years.

Coffee Break Begins September 28

Coffee Break is a Bible study on Tuesdays at 9:45a for all women at any stage in their faith journey. This year we will study "Wisdom for Living," based on I Corinthians. Please note the organizers encourage masks, but they are not required. Questions? Contact Doris Broekema (231-286-8490) or Karen Admiraal (231-335-2285). Hope to see you then.

The Property Committee will meet on Wednesday, Sept 29 at 7 pm

2021 CROP Walk

The Fremont Hunger CROP walk to fight local and world hunger will be on Sunday, Oct 3 at 1 pm at the Veteran's Memorial Park, downtown Fremont. With registration beginning at 12:45 pm. Walkers can pick up and sign out a donation envelope from the literature ledge in the church's lobby. Donations can be put in Bruce Essebagger's church mailbox.

Evening Worship, October 3

Sunday night, October 3, 6:00 pm, evening worship will resume at 1st Fremont CRC. This service is directed by a steering committee comprised of members of the Fremont Area CRCs. They hope this service will be self-sustaining through its offerings and will also be an opportunity to reach out into the Fremont community with the good news of God's love.

Library News

Our church's library is always adding new titles! We also have a growing selection of kids' picture and non-fiction books. Is there a book title or a subject you feel should be included in the collection? Please share your suggestions with our librarian Bette Wagenmaker!

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 26 – Ferris Campus Ministry

October 3 – Wellspring Adult Care Serevices October 10 – Christian Education Fund

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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