

SECOND'S MATTERS

Sept 29, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

Have you ever heard of the stereotype of white girls and fall? It involves a lot of flannel, pumpkin spice lattes, and apple orchards. My name is Zach, and I am a recovering fall addict. (Although I have to admit I had a pumpkin chai latte from Starbucks yesterday, and it was one of the best seasonal drinks I've ever had. – anyway, I digress.) Fall is one of my favorite times of the year, and I think the same is true for many of us. I think we love fall because it holds a lot of special memories. We remember the holidays, trick-or-treating as kids, and school starting. We remember Friday night lights, the trees changing color, and family time spent inside as it gets dark earlier. This past weekend, I went to Young Life's Leadership Weekend with some of my leaders at Timber Wolf Lake. We couldn't help but feel good in a place that shows off fall beauty as much TWL.

This weekend our speaker, the camp musician, and the seminar leaders (myself included) spent a lot of time talking about the dichotomies of life we live in. In other words, how our world is full of "yes, ands." Yes, fall is my favorite season, and it can still hold some really traumatic memories for me. At the final club, the camp musician led us in *Graves into Gardens* by Elevation Music, which reminded me of this idea of "yes, and.". There is a lyric in that song that stuck in my throat – "Cause the God of the mountain // Is the God of the valley // And there's not a place // Your mercy and grace // Won't find me again." Later the speaker reminded us that "God is God, and you are you."

I wonder how often we forget these things. I wonder why we try to take God's place. I wonder why we forget that the valley is just as much God's as is the mountain top. I talk with my students all the time about how easy it is to love God when things are good or seasons are happy and life is simple. It is much harder to love God when those things aren't that way, but it is more important. Friends, this season might be better than the last. (I pray it is so for our church family.) This season of life might be worse than the previous. Either way, I want you to know – the same God who parted the seas, and resurrected from the dead, and reconciled all things, walks alongside you whether you are on the mountain tops or in the darkest valley. He walks our church. He is God, and we are His. In that, we can put our trust.

From Your Music Director's Desk

I know each and every one of you have had experiences in your life that interrupted your plans. Whether you are delayed in traffic, resulting in you being late for your appointment, or an event that caused you to change course in your plans. Are we flexible and go with the flow? Or do we fret and throw a tantrum? I wish I could say that I consistently display the former rather than the latter.

Last week I wrote about the journey that Bobby Sue, and I were on in which we were crossing our beautiful state of Michigan in ten days. We had traveled about 200 miles in eight days, and we only had about 30 miles to go in the next couple of days to complete our trek. On the morning of the 9th day, I went out to get her saddled, but when I led her to where I was going to tie her, I noticed her front leg was swollen, and she limped. I immediately pulled her out of the ride, and we did not qualify for the completion trophy. I was greatly disappointed, but I did not want to cause further injury by making her carry me for the remaining 30 miles. My plans were abruptly interrupted, but I could not help but believe that God orchestrates our lives, and perhaps there was something He was protecting me from if I had continued on with my agenda. Whenever our plans are interrupted, let's work hard at trusting that God is in control of our lives, and He does what it takes to keep us protected and in His will. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) Look to the Lord this week if your plans are thwarted; He knows what He's doing.

Sunday Worship, Oct 3

Pastor Mike Wissink, Ferris Campus Ministry, will be leading us in worship. His message "Love That Brings Us to His table" is based on Mark 14:12-26. We will celebrate the baptism of Cora Boven, daughter of Ryan and Katie, and the Lord's Supper.

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, Oct 10

Pastor Bruce Ballast will be leading us in worship. His message "What's Going On Beyond What's Going On" is based on 2 Kings 6:8-19.

Church Family

Roger Rauwerda was scheduled for hip replacement surgery Monday, Sept. 27 – please keep him in your prayers

Please remember **Kristine Jennett** (a former Friendship person) in your prayers. She is living in Newaygo and still dealing with seizures.

Birthday wishes go out to **Jennifer McDonnell** whose birthday is tomorrow.

Congregational News

From the Council – Interim Pastor Update

Our search committee consisting of John Mellema, Ken Wolffis, and Mariel Poel has met with Pastor Dan Brouwer as a potential specialized transitional minister. Today our staff and Council meet with him. We will continue to provide you with updates as they come up.

From the Council – S.O.S. Ministry

Our Council is working with other local churches to financially support Tere Gonzales, wife of our recently passed missionary Paul Gonzales. Please issue a check to Church of the Living Christ and write in memo line Tere if you would like to contribute. You can mail a check to Kathy Painter 560 Middle St. Newaygo, Mi. 49337.

Hispanic Heritage Festival, Friday, Oct 1

Community friends, you are invited to the FCS Hispanic Heritage Festival at the Fremont Christian School Gymnasium, Friday, Oct 1, from 4:30-8:00 pm. Our Spanish Immersion students are hosting a cultural event where you can experience different tastes, sounds & student performances from our varied cultures (US, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Spain). We will have three food trucks for dinner and special cultural treats made by students.

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, Oct 3

Sunday night, Oct 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: October 3 – Wellspring Adult Care Services

October 10 – Christian Education Fund

October 17 – Bethany Christian Services

October 24 – Hand2Hand

*October 31 – Muskegon Angel Community Church (member of
Classis Muskegon)*

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. For October, the requested food item are canned fruit and/or vegetables.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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