

SECOND'S MATTERS

October 27, 2021



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk

Last week, I attended a retreat with other Church Partners (people who work for a church, but the church donates some of their time to Young Life). It was an excellent time of checking in, learning, and sharing best practices. This weekend I got to spend some time with my parents. We rarely get dedicated time with them because there is usually a holiday to prepare for, a special event, or a gaggle of nieces, siblings, and extended family around. This week I have already and will spend some time with college friends, some of which distance and pandemic have kept apart for years. I don't know about you, but some of the most meaningful moments of my life are connected to the relationships I get to steward. I think it is in relationships we find fulfillment in this life.

When I think about the Church in general and our church specifically, I think about the various relationships fostered there. From its very conception, Jesus intended this to be a family. Just look at all of the times he uses the language of parents, children, and siblings when describing the body of believers. The thing about family, at least in the ones that I am a part of, sometimes things go really smoothly, and sometimes they make you want to rip your hair out. Yet, at the end of the day, they are your family, and you are in this together.

As a church, we have really been through some things – and I don't just mean the last nine months or so. We've navigated seasons of grief and joy, seasons growth and decline, and everything in-between. We've been able to accomplish this thanks to the grace of God and the community of believers here at Second. I've been challenged to reinvest in relationships that matter to me, and I want to invite each of you to do the same. How beautiful would our church, town, and world look if we were known for how we love each other and what we are for, instead of against? How would our church family be different if we invested more in our relationships with each other than our preferences for how church looks?

From Your Music Director's Desk

"You're not good enough." "You're not educated enough." "You don't belong here." "What you are bringing is not what they want." "You have a less-than-adequate ability in your skill level." Have you ever felt that way about your purpose in life? I was struggling with those thoughts throughout last week and wondered if I had somehow missed God's "real" calling in my life. This is what God did for me:

Every Sunday morning, when I arrive at the church, I am usually alone there. The first thing I do is go beneath the cross in front of the sanctuary and give the service to God. Those of us who are in charge of leading worship have a deep desire to have God's presence fill the church with warmth and that every person that comes through the doors will feel it. That they would come with open hearts and minds to offer worship to Him, and that we as leaders are not in the forefront but pointing to Christ. I felt in my heart these words: "Wendy, you are right where I have placed you because I have a purpose for you in this place during this time." I cannot express the overwhelming joy and relief that I felt. I deeply desire to help our church heal and grow and to be a part of the solution. God is omnipotent and holds this church in His hands.

I realize now that the enemy of my soul is where those negative thoughts were coming from. I told him to "get behind me, Satan," and focused my eyes on Jesus again. We can never let our guard down. God bless you this week as you stand firm in Jesus with your eyes on Him.

Sunday Worship, October 31

Pastor Jack Roeda will be leading us in worship. His message "live by the Spirit" is based on Galatians 5:13-26.

Join us in the Fireside Room at 9:05 am to pray for the service, our church, and other requests.

Sunday Worship, November 7

Pastor Dan Brouwer will be leading us in worship.

Church Family

Please continue to pray for **Dani Vogel**, her family, and the doctors as they navigate these next steps.

Helen Veenstra is starting to recover from the mini-stroke she recently suffered. Helen is still weak and has continued problems with her balance.

Congregational News

From the Council – Interim/Specialized Transitional Minister Update

On Monday evening, a few council members met with Pastor Dan Brouwer to discuss some concerns raised after he led us in worship a few weeks ago. That meeting went very well, and Dan appreciated the open conversation. He is excited to come back and preach again, and he will lead us in worship on November 7. Council is continuing discussion regarding Dan and the possibility of extending an offer for him to be our Specialized Transitional Minister. We plan to vote on this in the very near future.

District #10 Health Department COVID Reminder

Due to an increase in the current COVID positivity rate in Newaygo County, the Newaygo County Health Department and the CDC recommend the use of masks in indoor spaces.

Thank you

Wellspring ADS would like to thank you all for the support shown at our “Fill the Well” Auction. We feel both privileged and humbled by the success of our fundraiser. We thank you for the opportunity to continue to offer this great resource and high-quality program because of you! We are truly blessed to be able to serve the seniors in our community.

Cookie Makers

We need bakers willing to bring four dozen cookies on Sunday mornings for fellowship following the service. We would like to have two people each Sunday, so we have a total of 8 dozen cookies. The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the kitchenette area.

Christmas Shoe Boxes for Appalachia Reach Out

It's time to fill Christmas boxes for children in Inez, KY, served by ARO. The boxes are on a table in the lobby with information on ages and necessary instructions. Boxes need to be filled, wrapped, tag attached to the outside, and returned to the church by **November 28**. Remember, you just need to wrap the container, not the individual items in the container. Thank you for reaching out in the name of Christ to children in Kentucky who will be delighted to receive a box of fun things just for them. Contact a member of the Outreach committee if you have any questions.

Service opportunity:

Jennifer McDonell, a resident at Dallas Darling Home on Baldwin, and Janet McNulty, a resident at Deerfield on Meadow Hills Lane, desire to worship with us regularly. However, to do so, they are dependent on rides to church. Is this a service you would be willing to offer to these ladies? You would be assigned a month and asked to provide transportation at least once during that month; if you're willing to do more, that would be wonderful. If you have any questions or are willing to do so, please get in touch with Karen Admiraal (335-2285) or Bruce Essebaggers (923-8723).

Evening Worship At First CRC – Time Change

Starting November 7, evening worship at First CRC will be at 5:00p. This is a different time from previous weeks.

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 31 – Muskegon Angel Community Church

November 4 – World Renew

November 11 – Western Michigan Christian High School

November 21 – Newaygo County Compassion House

Stock the Pantry

For October, the requested food items are canned fruit and vegetables. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

(231) 924-0170

[WEBSITE](#) | [FACEBOOK](#)