

## **SECOND'S MATTERS**

**November 17, 2021**



**Second Church  
of Fremont**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

### **From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk**

When Lizzie and I first started dating, she was really into *Grey's Anatomy*, a medical drama in its 9<sup>th</sup> season at the time. I grew up with parents who liked watching *ER* and *Mash*, so I wasn't new to the genre. A few years later and nine more seasons, I think I might like the show more than she does. The other day I watched an old episode (as one does, it's just like comfort food) where a patient and a doctor were undergoing a crisis of faith. The patient, not understanding the Bible is a compilation of Hebrew historical tradition, poetry, prophecy, etc., exclaims, "Then what is any of this even for? What good is it!" Sitting on my couch, I was blown away by those words; they resonated in a place I didn't even know I had.

I have found myself asking those questions a lot in the last few years. I have to believe you have as well – between political infighting, pandemic tension and fatigue, struggles at church, favorite restaurants closing down, and likely 63 other things. Our world is full of some really terrible and terrifying things; at the same time, it is full of some really beautiful things. In the last two years, I have welcomed new nephews, I've seen love in its various forms, and some of the best of humanity. It is a real "yes, and" world that we live in. I think we also serve a "yes, and" kind of God. Why else would He tell us that "For all have sinned... [and] the wages of sin are death," and still show up as our savior?

When I think of Thanksgiving, I think of all the things in my life that didn't turn out how I wanted them, and I thank God for showing up and putting me on the right path. I know I couldn't have done it on my own. Then I think of all the great things in my life I have been blessed by. I invite you to wonder how our "yes, and" God has shown up for you. Yes... that experience was not great, and God is still good. Yes... I am sad that I got quarantined, and I'm thankful for more time with my family. Yes... I wish it went this way, and I can see that God has a bigger plan. Yes, and.

### **Sunday Worship, November 21**

Calvin Seminary Student Rebecca Hall will be leading us in worship. Her message "Christ Our Eternal King" is based on 2 Samuel 23:1-7. Two offerings will be taken, a Noisy Coin offering for the Camp Tall Turf, and an offering for the General Fund, with the special envelope offering for the Newaygo County Compassion House. Join us in the Fireside Room at 9:05 am to pray over the service, our church, and the world.

### **Thanksgiving Worship, November 25**

We will be holding a special service at 9:30 am on Thanksgiving day to thank the Lord for the many blessings we have been given.

### **Sunday Worship, November 28: The First Sunday of Advent**

Pastor Dan Brouwer will be leading us in worship. His sermon "Mary's Exemplary Faith" is based on Luke 1:26-38.

### **Church Family**

**Dani Vogel** has been moved out of intensive care. Her family thanks everyone for their continuing prayers in her recovery.

**Joyce Hoad** passed away on Sunday, November 7. Visitation will be from 1–3 pm on Friday, November 19, 2021, at the Kroeze-Wolffs Funeral Home, and a graveside service will follow at Maple Grove Cemetery in Fremont.

## **Congregational News**

### **Pray for Uganda**

Please be in prayer for Hope Okeny, the Karin Medical Clinics, and the Agape Christian School. Kampala, the nearest large city to the clinics and school, was the site of a terrorist attack very early Tuesday morning, November 16. Schools have been closed, and there is chaos everywhere. These attacks are possibly connected with ISIS. This information is shared with us from Hope through Rog and Joan Sikkenga.

### **Office Hours**

Due to staff schedules and the holiday week, the office will be open Monday, 9 am-5 pm, Tuesday, 9 am-noon, and Wednesday, 9 am-noon. Second's Matters announcements need to be in by Monday at 5 pm. Sunday bulletin announcements need to be in by Wednesday at 9 am. If there is a pastoral concern during this week, please contact your Shepherding Elder (see directory); they will ensure that information gets where it needs to go.

### **Advent and Christmas Decorating**

Our Worship Committee and Worship Planners have been busy preparing for Advent and Christmas. But, we need your help – are you willing to help decorate the church for the season? Contact Jane Wolffis (janewolffis@gmail.com) to find out more about the logistics of preparing our church for the season.

### **2022 Giving Envelopes**

2022 giving envelopes have been placed in mailboxes. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Valerie in the office.

### **Christmas Shoe Boxes for Appalachia Reach Out**

There are just a few Christmas boxes left to fill for children in Inez, KY, served by ARO. 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.

### **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.

### **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:* November 21 – Newaygo County Compassion House  
November 28 – Fremont Christian School  
December 5 – Fremont Young Life  
December 12 – Karin Medical Clinic

### **Stock the Pantry**

For November, the requested food items are spaghetti sauce, pasta, and rice. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

## **SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

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