

SECOND'S MATTERS

February 16, 2022



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Interim Pastor's Desk

In kind of ministry to which I am called at this point in my life, I come into situations in which there is some personal conflict in the Body of Christ. As a matter of fact, that's been the case in every congregation I've been a part of at any point in my life.

I find Philippians 4:2-9 to be very instructive and relevant in such circumstances.

When flawed human beings (That's all of us -- DUH!) interact closely with one another, inevitably some interpersonal conflict rears its ugly head. It can quickly become a life-diminishing drag, not only for the individuals directly involved, but for all the others in their community.

This was the background context of Philippians 4:2-9. This passage begins with Paul addressing a severe personal conflict that was currently disrupting the life and fellowship of the Philippian church.

² I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you, loyal yokefellow, help these women who have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Notice that both of these women had a long history of fruitful ministry together, working for the cause of the Gospel on Paul's mission team. Both of these women were genuine followers of Christ who served their Master well. Both of their names were written in the book of life, and therefore they were destined to be in Heaven forever -- and together.

Nonetheless, in this life now they had somehow gotten seriously sideways with each other, and their interpersonal conflict threatened the peace and joy of the whole community. Paul is pleading with these two dear friends to reconcile their differences, and he is calling for all the members of his mission team to help them do so.

Interestingly, Paul himself experienced this same difficulty early in his own life, as he and Barnabas, his good friend and ministry partner, disagreed about something so strongly that they had to part ways for a while. We don't know the story of how they eventually worked things out between themselves, but it's obvious from certain scripture passages written years later that they did indeed work through their differences -- so that they could work together again as if their past split had never occurred.

I can't help but believe some of their fellow Christians helped Paul and Barnabas become reconciled, and I don't doubt that they were able to do this difficult work of peace-making by drawing on the power of prayer, finding joy and strength in the joy of the personal presence of the Lord, and by dwelling on all that was good and beautiful as they dealt with discouraging interpersonal difficulties in the Body.

Sunday Worship, February 13, 2022

Pastor Dan's sermon "The Essential Role of Old and Gray in Our Church" is based on Psalm 71. The children will be taking a noisy coin collection for Appalachia Reach Out

Pre-service Prayer

Do you long for a few moments of meditation, quiet and prayer before the Sunday morning worship services begins? Join us in the Fireside Room/Library each Sunday morning at 9:05am for a short reading from God's Word and a time of prayer and leave refreshed.

Our Church Family

Thank you for all the prayers and concerns for Lewis. He is now back home but on oxygen yet as he recovers from Covid.
Lewis and Sharon Blohm

Fred Bultman has moved. His new address is: 2105 Raybrook St SE
Unit 5031
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-7731
(231) 225-5908 fbultman3@comcast.net

Community Announcements

Administrative Team meeting 2/9/22

1. The Administrative Team strongly encourages members to contact a council member with thoughts, suggestions, issues, etc. as we go forward in working towards enriching of our Second Church family. We welcome open discussion on building our church, God's church.
2. The Administrative Team spent time discussion our current Safe Church policy.

clerk JPM

Fremont Christian Puerto Rico Trip

Please be in prayer for the group of 7th & 8th graders and their chaperones leaving for Puerto Rico today and coming back Monday. A total of 16 people (10 students & 6 adults) will be making the trip and several of them are part of the 2nd Church family. Many of these students have been involved in the Spanish Immersion program at FCS since Kindergarten and 1st grade. This is an amazing opportunity for them to see more of God's creation and apply what they have learned in a different cultural setting. Please pray specifically for their safety, that they make lifelong memories and that they bring praise and glory to God throughout their trip.

After Church Discussion Time

Do you have questions about the Bible, current issues or other topics that you would like to discuss in an informal setting? Join us in the old nursery upstairs on Sundays from 11-11:30am as together we explore questions from God's perspective.

Small Group Surveys

Our Discipleship Team is looking for your responses to a small group ministry survey. You can fill out that survey by [clicking HERE](#) or by filling out a paper copy (available on the literature ledge) and returning it to the Church Office. We hope to get small group ministries up and running again as a vital part of our worship here at Second CRC.

Midweek Bible Study

Join us for a Midweek, Wednesday Bible Study that will be walking through 1 Timothy. There is no preparation needed, just come when you are able. The study will start at 2:30 with a time of fellowship beginning at 2:00. Questions? Connect with Pastor Dan or Bette Wagenmaker.

SAVE THE DATE: Winter Fun

The Discipleship Team invites you to an afternoon of fun, games, and food on February 27 at the Branstrom lodge. We will serve a hot dog lunch at 12:30, followed by a time of sledding on Branstrom Hill and board games and fellowship inside the lodge. This event will be open-house style, so feel free to come and go as needed – we hope to see you there!

Advanced Notice for GriefShare

This non-denominational 13 week course which offers help and support for the grieving and is open to any adult who has lost a loved one. Each class is special and different, focusing on a DVD featuring grief experts and real-life stories. The \$10.00 fee is for your personal workbook, which you will use in the program to help and guide you in your healing. Although you might not be able to attend

each week, you are encouraged to do so. This is an open-door policy so new people can join at any given time. Sessions will be on consecutive Tuesdays beginning March 8, 2022, from 6:30-8:30p at First Fremont CRC (721 Hillcrest, Fremont). You may register online at www.griefshare.org or call 231-924-2460.

Preregistration is helpful for planning but not required.

Council Nominations

Our Council is currently seeking names for potential council nominees for the term beginning July 1st, 2022. If you're interested in serving on the council, please get in touch with any current council member for more information.

Insight Pregnancy Services Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Insight has started its baby bottle fundraiser drive for 2022. If you wish to participate, grab an empty bottle from the display in the lobby and fill it with change, paper money, and/or a check. Return the baby bottle to church by February 20. Last year the bottles raised over \$20,000, and Insight hopes to reach that goal again.

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 using 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: February 20, 2022 – Kid's Hope
February 27, 2022 – Community Closet
March 6, 2022 – World Renew Disaster Relief
March 13, 2022 – Love, Inc

2nd CRC - Financial Update			
Contributions Compared to Budget Needs			
	Contributions in January 2022	Budgeted Income Needed	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$23,086.00	\$30,917.00	(\$7,831.00)
Chr. Ed Fun	\$8,570.00	\$8,846.15	(\$276.15)
Faith Promise	\$2,470.00	\$1,615.38	\$854.62
	Contributions YTD as of January 2022	YTD Budgeted Income Needed	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$208,920.00	\$221,173.00	(\$12,253.00)
Chr. Ed Fun	\$40,680.00	\$50,805.00	(\$10,125.00)
Faith Promise	\$20,503.00	\$15,615.00	\$4,888.00
Expense Compared to Budget Needs			
	Expenses in January 2022	Budgeted Expense for January 2022	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$26,422.00	\$30,922.00	\$4,500.00
	YTD Expenses as of January 2022	YTD Budgeted Expenses	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$219,841.00	\$216,454.00	(\$3,387.00)

Stock the Pantry

For February, the requested food items are macaroni and cheese and canned meat. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

The Prayer Corner

Dear 2nd Church Family,

Please join in praying for our church. We need everyone to be praying. We are in a spiritual battle.

Pray without ceasing
1 Thessalonians 5:17

“What prayer does is to enable us,
not to find a way round the hard thing,
but to go straight through it,
not to avoid it but to accept it and overcome.
Prayer is not evasion; prayer is conquest.”

William Barclay

“Prayer is not primarily
God’s way of getting things done,
It is God’s way of giving the church
‘on the job’ training in overcoming
the forces hostile to God.”

Paul Billheimer

taken from Prayer Power Points
compiled by Randall D. Roth

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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