# SECOND'S MATTERS March 23, 2022



# From Your Interim Pastor's Desk

Change happens. All change is experienced, at least in part, as loss, and all loss is experienced, at least in part, as grief.

Some grief is and will be a part of our congregational life following Zach Van Wyk's announcement of his coming departure at the end of July. It will certainly be a part of Zach and Lizzie's life. We wish them both God's richest blessings as they begin some major changes in their lives.

But change isn't all bad. As a matter of fact, it can be an opportunity for continued adaptation to all the evolving challenges we encounter in a continually changing world. Growing Young – Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church by Kara Powell, is a book that I have found very helpful in further figuring out how a church can effectively minister to its own youth in today's world.

Here is a quotation of one of the user reviews of this book on Amazon.

So many great stories of hope... As a Youth Pastor, a a follower of Christ, and one who has invested most of my life into the development of young people I was particularly fascinated by this book's approach to understanding young people within the church context. We hear all the time about the decline of churches in America, how young people are leaving the church in droves. . . . This book nails it on the head with what's going on with young people in the church. . . . The book has appeal to me as a youth leader, but more importantly as a dad and a member of the body of Christ. It dispels the myth that we should attempt to paint pretty and fun pictures of Christianity all the time, but that young people really long for deep meaningful relationships, that are honest and challenging. I like that it helps me to identify ways as a member of the body of Christ to more thoughtfully and intentionally engage our young people with the congregation.

In coming months I would really value re-reading this book myself, and discussing it chapter by chapter with other members of the congregation. I'm thinking that a team of people doing this for the benefit of the whole congregation may be a great help to the congregation as we navigate the coming changes in our youth ministry.

Let me know if you are interested in being part of this endeavor.

### Sunday Worship, March 27, 2022

Pastor Dan's sermon "Peter's Restoration, Relapse, and Re-Restoration" is based on John 21:15-17 and Galatians 2:11-14.

#### **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.

#### **Sermon Note Sheets**

Do you like to take sermon notes or think you'd like to start? You'll find blank 5x7 note sheets on the literature ledge by the bulletins and at the welcome center for that purpose. Help yourself!

# **Our Church Family**

Thank you for all the prayers for my great-grandson, Liam Jefferies. He has been released from the hospital but please continue to pray for him, that his home situation will improve. **Marian Homan** 

# **Community Announcements**

#### Greeters

The welcome committee would like to thank the congregation for their participation with greeting members/visitors within our church every Sunday morning. The greeter schedule will be updated for the next year. If your family has been scheduled to greet in the past year, your name will be included in the new schedule. If you would like your name added or deleted from the schedule, please inform one of the following individuals by April 3, 2022:

Brad & Vicki Gilliland George & Jane Vogel <u>givogel1970@comcast.net</u>

#### Men's Lenten Breakfast

Just a reminder to any men who would like to participate in the Men's Lenten breakfast. It is held at the Church of the Living Christ on **Saturtday** mornings at 7:30 am. All men are welcome to come, have a good breakfast, and listen to a speaker.

#### **Insight Baby Bottles**

We are missing 3 baby bottles from the baby bottle fundraiser. If you still have a bottle at home, please bring it into church (filled or empty) to return to Insight.

#### **Community Evening Worship**

The Community Evening Worship held at First CRC Sunday nights will remain at 5 pm yearround.

### Vanco changes

If you use the GivePlus app to send in your offerings to church, Vanco is changing its giving app in April. You will likely receive an email from Vanco Faith explaining the steps you need to take if they previously used GivePlus. <u>Vanco Mobile Materials</u>

# Your members will use the same email and password they used for Give plus in the new Vanco Mobile app

#### 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.

### **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: <u>Online Giving.</u> If you wish to give to Christian Education or Faith Promise online, then download the "GivePlus" app.

Special envelope offerings are: March 27, 2022 – Fremont Christian School

April 3, 2022 – Fremont Christian School April 3, 2022 – GEMS April 10, 2022 – Western Michigan Christian High School April 17, 2022 – Cadets April 24, 2022 – Newaygo County Compassion House

#### **Stock the Pantry**

For March, the requested food items are peanut butter and jelly. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

# **The Prayer Corner**

We will focus on Jesus and prayer during these weeks of Lent and today the familiar and much beloved Lord's Prayer is here for your meditation.

From Matthew 6:5 -15

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. This, then is how you should pray:

> Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2nd CRC - Financial Update Contributions Compared to Budget Needs			
General Fund	\$18,606.00	\$30,917.00	(\$12,311.00)
Chr. Ed Fun	\$3,850.00	\$8,846.15	(\$4,996.15)
Faith Promise	\$2,020.00	\$1,615.38	\$404.62
	Contributions YTD as of February 2022	YTD Budgeted Income Needed	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$227,526.00	\$247,336.00	(\$19,810.00)
Chr. Ed Fun	\$44,530.00	\$57,813.46	(\$13,283.46)
Faith Promise	\$22,523.00	\$17,769.23	\$4,753.77
	ہ Expense Compared to Bu	dget Needs	
	Expenses in February 2022	Budgeted Expense for February 2022	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$23,861.00	\$30,922.00	\$7,061.00
	YTD Expenses as of February 2022	YTD Budgeted Expenses	Difference POS/(NEG)
General Fund	\$243,653.00	\$247,376.00	\$3,723.00

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