

SECOND'S MATTERS

April 13, 2022



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From your Student Ministries Director's desk

About six years ago, I wrote a "Stations of the Cross" booklet for my Young Life Bible study group. The booklet walks through the seven sayings of Christ from the cross and invites students to consider what each word or phrase means for them. I've probably used that booklet and its content 4 or 5 times over the last few years. What is incredible is that it seems like a brand new story to me each time I walk through it. Monday night, as we debriefed the experience, a student looked at me and asked, "Did you pick out these specific verses for me, or was this random? This stuff really meant something to me."

For the last few years, I have listened to the Holy Week stories from each day and tried to hear them as if I had never heard them before. I have to believe that I've heard this story hundreds of times, yet the beauty of the Bible is its power to speak into our lives at all times and in all situations. A leader, who had also done the booklet a few times, shared, "In 27 years, I've never felt this way about Easter. Every year Holy Week comes around, and it is the same story, yet every year, I find something new to blow me away." Here is my advice: has your week been bad? – Read the passion story! Has your week been great? – read the passion story! Has your week been somewhere in-between? – read the passion story! If I have learned anything in the last year or so, it is that, there is not an emotion too big or a situation too insignificant for Jesus to be a part of. I think the question before us each Easter is, "Are you keeping a part of your life from him, and why are you doing that?"

Good Friday Service, April 15, 2022

We will be having a combined service with First CRC at 7:00 pm here at Second. Pastor Drew Sweetman will be giving the message "Good News-Good Friday" and there will be various scripture readings by members of First CRC and Second CRC. We will partake of the Lord's Supper during the service.

Easter Service, Sunday, April 17, 2022

Pastor Dan's sermon "The Message of the Easter Angel" is based on Mark 16:1-8. The children will be taking a noisy coin offering 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.

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

Marv Folkema fell on Sunday and broke his hip. Please pray for healing

Thank you to all those who joined the call to prayer for Tuesday's Prayer Vigil at church or remotely. Now we must join together and trust God to answer the deepest prayers of our hearts for 2nd Church and our own needs.

Community Announcements

The **Wednesday afternoon Bible study** will not be meeting this week. We will meet at 2:30pm on April 20 and will continue our study in 1 Timothy 6. Please join us.

Mobile Food Truck, Wednesday, April 20 – Volunteers Needed

On Wednesday, April 20, we will again offer drive-thru pick-up. Recipients will stay in their vehicles, and prepared allotments of food will be placed in their cars. Thankfully, we can serve our community with this vital food resource that is needed more than ever. Volunteers are needed - please sign up by emailing Audra Powell (audrascott@hotmail.com) or on the sheet on the literature ledge. Please arrive by 4:15 to help. If you have plastic bags you would like to donate for the distribution, drop them off at the church office.

Senior Luccheon, Sunday April 24

It's that time of year again when the deacons look forward to hosting the seniors of our congregation to a special meal. All seniors are invited to join us for a soup and salad luncheon following the service. We ask that you sign up on the sheet on the literature ledge if you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!

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: April 17, 2022 – Cadets

April 24, 2022 – Newaygo County Compassion House

Stock the Pantry

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

The Prayer Corner

During Holy Week we will be concentrating our thoughts on Jesus's Prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane and on the cross.

- Jesus asked for human prayer companionship to strengthen Him during His darkest hours. When Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, he asked his closest disciples to be there with Him. He had shared His feelings and struggles with them and now asked them to watch and pray with Him. (Read Matthew 26:36-38)
- Jesus warns us that we will face obstacles to prayer. In the Garden of Gethsemane Peter could not stay awake. Jesus repeatedly tried to awaken him and said, "The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. (Read Matthew 26:41)
- Jesus showed us that praying God's will is sometimes difficult, yet prayer enables us to accept even the most difficult of spiritual journeys. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus agonized in prayer asking to be spared the suffering and death on the cross. Prayer enabled Jesus to be able to submit to the Father's will. "Yet not as I will, but as you will." (Read Matthew 26:36-46)
- Jesus tells us to pray for our enemies. (Read Matthew 5:43-48)

- Jesus tells us to watch and pray that we will be able to withstand persecution. (Read Luke 21:36)
- Jesus prayed that God would forgive those who crucified Him. (Read Luke 23:34)
- Jesus reminds us that our love for Him is the key to prayer. (John 16:26, 27)

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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