

SECOND'S MATTERS

June 29, 2022



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministried Director's Desk

Last week I was up in Traverse City camping at the State Park, and I was able to partake in the time-honored Van Wyk Family tradition – people watching. Observing people and seeing what you can learn is extremely interesting. For example, an older man and his wife struggled to park their camper in their spot; there was a lot of yelling and cursing, and eventually, the awning was ripped off before they got it settled. On Friday night, a large group of college guys showed up and began drinking heavily like they were at a frat party. For a few days, we had what looked like a retired couple next to us that didn't seem to speak much to each other but loved to talk to everyone else. If you are like me, you likely started making some assumptions about these people and what their lives might look like with just this little bit of information.

I know I am guilty of assuming what is going on in people's lives and not leaving space for nuance – especially for those different from us. There is probably a reason the older man and his wife were having issues that day; maybe he was tired, their cat had died recently, or their health was declining. There was probably a reason the college guys got together, and each had a specific reason for partying it up the way they did. I bet the retired couple does talk to each other, but I only saw them when they were reading a book. Here is my point: our lives are likely significantly more complex, challenging, and nuanced than anyone around us assumes. So why does that matter to us? As Christians, we know we are called to love our neighbors as ourselves and that the definition of neighbors is broad enough to include everyone. So, how do we love others – people just as challenging, nuanced, and complex as ourselves – in ways that honor God? And most importantly, can we do it better?

Sunday, July 3, Community Worship

On Sunday, July 3 (July 4 weekend), our church will be participating in a combined outdoor worship service at Veterans' Park beginning at 10 am. We are looking forward to worshipping together with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Golf carts will be available for those needing assistance entering the park from their parking location. Please bring your own lawn chairs and/or blankets. A Kids Korner will be available for kids ages 4-10. Fellowship is encouraged following worship and will include refreshments and kids' activities. For those unable to attend in person, the service will be livestreamed at www.facebook.com/FirstCRCFremont.

In case of rain, the service will be held at the First Christian Reformed Church, 721 Hillcrest.

Our Church Family

Our deepest sympathies go out to Kit and Audra Powell. Kit's nephew was killed yesterday in a motorcycle accident in Colorado.

Community Announcements

Church Hours

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 4. The office will be open Tuesday thru Friday, from 9-12 noon.

Baby Shower Crib: The Folkema Family

The 'shower' crib will be set up in the lobby until July 11 to welcome Oliver Folkema to the Second Church family and 'shower' him with gifts.

Insight Pregnancy Services

Thank you to all churches and community members who were involved in this year's Challenge for Life event on June 4!! Whether you helped spread the word, donated funds, paddled, walked, or prayed, we are so grateful for you! Our goal was to raise \$40,000, and to date, we have raised \$42,152.15!

Summer Get-Away

Ladies...this is for you! The word is out! We are planning a special morning summer get-away at The Shack in White Cloud on August 13 just for ladies! We'll plan to car pool from Fremont. It's open for high school gals and ladies of all ages, so mark your calendar now and plan to come and join us. You won't want to miss out!

More information will be out later. Got questions? Check-in with Gretchen Kronsbein, Michele Van Soelen, Tori Wilkinson, Vicki Gilliland or Bette Wagenmaker. See you at The Shack on August 13!

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: July 10 – Young Life Campership
July 17 – True North Tools for School*

Stock the Pantry

For June, the requested food items are soup and crackers. They can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

The Prayer Corner

As we look to the future and seek God's guidance to revive 2nd Church, I would like to share "A Prayer for the Ephesians" from Ephesians 3:14-21. As you read and meditate on these words, also think of this prayer as "A Prayer for 2nd Church"

"For this reason I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to this power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Last Sunday I attended the morning worship service at Hope Covenant Church in Grand Forks, North Dakota. The pastor closed his message with these thoughts:

Put your entire life into the hands of Jesus.

He offers hope.

Remove elements such as fear, regret and distrust that would destroy
and replace them with thanksgiving.

Look how God has blessed you!

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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