

SECOND'S MATTERS

May 25, 2022



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From the Interim Pastor's Desk

Last week Wednesday I took a break in the afternoon and drove out to the Amish grocery store about 4 miles west of Wal-Mart. I was just past Comstock Avenue when the car in front of me pulled off on the shoulder. Sometimes people pull off on the shoulder for who knows what reason, and you just slow down a little and swing around them, not giving it a second thought.

As I was about to do just that, the driver of the car pulled back onto the road, and started to make a U-turn. I tried to go around her on the left shoulder, but she clipped me in the rear passenger door, and I heard the sickening sound of the collision. My car was not drivable.

She felt really bad, and apologetic, and I didn't want to make her feel worse than she already did. The nice lady sheriff and the nice tow truck driver both said kind words to her, and I did as well. People treating each other kindly when things go badly goes a long way to helping everybody feel better.

But I still felt bad. I started to think about all the consequences of this accident. One of them was I wouldn't get my "Second's Matter" article in on time, along with the other things I wanted to do to get ready for the congregational meeting. I wondered how I would get home, etc. etc.

The lady sheriff said "Well, if nobody's hurt, the rest of it is just stuff that can be fixed." The towing guy said the same thing. I appreciated their effort to be encouraging, and what they said was true. But I still felt bad, because even if it could have been worse, this was still bad.

I didn't start to feel better until I expressed my sorrow to other people (especially my family members) who listened and understood, and expressed how they felt bad for me.

One of my favorite scripture passages came to mind:

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. (2 Co 1:3-4)

And yes, it surely could have been a lot worse. God had protected me. He loved me. I started to feel God's comfort.

From the Student Ministries Director's Desk

If I am honest, I am struggling today. Another national tragedy – one that feels particularly close to my heart. As I have been processing it and trying to understand all of the thoughts whirling around my brain, I turned to Douglas McKelvey's "Liturgy for Grieving a National Tragedy" from *Every Moment Holy Vol. II*. Today I want to share just a few words of this as a prayer for the victims and for Texas, as well as for us and for our country. Will you pray with me?

"Be present in the midst of this far-reaching
Pain, O Lord, for we are reeling again,
At news of another loss of life that touches
Us all; news of flourishing diminished;
Of individuals harmed; of pain imposed,
Not only upon victims and their families who
Bear now the immediate brunt of it – but also
Upon our nation. For we are connected as a
People, and this hurt, this grief, touches us all.

...

Be With all who move toward this need:
The helpers, the counselors, the first responders,
Those who offer aid and protection, the pastors
And intercessors, those who meet immediate
Practical needs, those who seek to heal physical
Wounds, and those who come after to carry on
The long, hard work of rebuilding families and
Hearts and lives and community.

...
You alone have compassion enough to enter
Our widespread grief, and turn it to hope.
Be merciful, O Christ!
Amen."

Combined Worship, May 29

On Sunday, May 29 (Memorial Day 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. For those who would like assistance getting to the Veterans' Park lawn, please go to the drop-off location on N Weaver Street behind the amphitheater where golf carts will be available. Golf carts will also be available in the parking lots near the park. 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, you can access the livestream by clicking [HERE](#).

Our Church Family

Pray for healing and strength for **Josie Visser** as she under goes chemotherapy treatments.

Pray for **Wayne Homan** who has heart and kidney issues. Pray for Marian too as she cares for him.

Rich Kraley needs our prayers as he continues in his battle against cancer.

Community Announcements

Church Office

The church office will not have regular office hours this week. If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please submit it by Thursday at 5 pm. Next Monday, the Church Office will also be closed for Memorial Day.

SAVE THE DATE – June 26

Join us on June 26 for a picnic following the morning worship service; consider this a practice run for your 4th of July celebrations! We will provide Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, & Brats with all the fix-ins, drinks, and dessert, all you need to bring is a side dish to share – dinner will be served at 11:30p. There will also be lawn and board games for you to play as we socialize together! There is a signup sheet on the literature ledge, don't see this as a hard commitment, but more as a chance for us to get a rough headcount on meat. We hope to see you there!

From the Worship Committee

On Sundays we worship together as the body of Christ. Consequently we would like to involve more members of our body in that worship. If you would consider reading Scripture, giving a children's message, leading a liturgy (or perhaps you have another idea), please contact Pastor Dan or Karen Admiraal (335-2285). All ages are encouraged to participate.

Reeman VBS June 13-17

Journey through hidden ruins, ancient caves, and dense jungles. At TREASURED VBS kids will discover God's greatest treasure isn't diamonds, gems or gold - it's them! Join us from June 13-17 at Reeman CRC for this excellent week! [Sign up here!](#) For more information contact Lizzie Van Wyk or Carla Proctor.

Challenge for Life 2022, June 4

Insight Pregnancy Services is hosting the 22nd annual Challenge for Life fundraising event. Participants can choose to walk 2.5 miles or canoe/kayak 6 miles down the Muskegon River. We encourage families, individuals, and even teams to join in! Location: Newaygo High School, 200 East Street, Newaygo. You can register online (InsightPregnancy.com/challengeforlife) call or text (231) 335-2413 or email: Madison@InsightPregnancy.com if you have any questions.

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 Vansoelen, Torri 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:

June 5, 2022 – Wellspring Adult Services

June 12, 2022 – World Renew

Stock the Pantry

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

The Prayer Corner

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him
and He shall direct your path."

Proverbs 3:5-6

Recently while shopping with a friend I came across a small plaque with the words PRAY WAIT TRUST. The words literally jumped out at me and I knew the plaque was coming home with me. As I have thought about those words and how they were lined up I realized they were not in a random order, but instead a very intentional one. Before we can wait and trust, we have to pray. If we try to reverse the order we are doing things our way not God's way and we will run into trouble. It's that simple! Prayer is the foundation. It has to come first.

Pray, wait and trust are action words. They may sound passive, but they are anything but passive. They involve hard work on our part, perseverance, commitment and a relationship with our heavenly Father. Remember how in Matthew 26:40 in the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus asked His disciples "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" He asked Peter "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." If we don't stay connected to Him through prayer we will fall into temptation. Prayer requires a submissive spirit to yield to His timing and direction. When we pray we should adore Him, praise His name, and confess our sins before bringing our requests. When we come with our requests first, we have things backwards.

We all experience times of waiting whether in the grocery line, at a stop light, for medical test results, a job interview, direction in our lives or for God to answer the deepest cry of our hearts. To the Christian, waiting involves dependence on the Lord and trust that He knows the future. Think about the account of Mary and Martha and the death of their brother Lazarus in

John 11:1-37. In their minds, Jesus had waited too long. He could have saved their brother's life if only He had come sooner and they didn't hold back from telling Him so. Jesus had an additional purpose in bringing Lazarus back to life. He was teaching Mary and Martha to trust His timing and not to complain. While we are in "God's waiting room" however long or short it may be, we too have to listen to His voice while we continue to love and serve Him and without complaining.

Pray, wait and trust together form a cord that cannot easily be broken. There's strength, resilience and hope as we pray, wait and trust in the Lord. Are you learning to do so?

Closing Prayer

Lord, you know how prone we are to do things our way. Forgive us and teach us to pray first and then wait and trust you for the answers.

PRAY WAIT TRUST

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