

SECOND'S MATTERS

July 27, 2022



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

From Your Student Ministries Director's desk

I've thought a lot about what to put in my last Second's Matters article. Truthfully the story I will share, I hesitated to because of a level of fear of judgment. As I've thought more, I feel strongly that this is the story the Lord wants me to share.

Last week I was at Timber Wolf Lake for Young Life camp. It was a... different experience than I expected. Due to a series of events, I ended up only having one boy on the trip with me, and because of some medical needs, he had to go home early. Here I was, night two, and at camp as a leader without a student (we did have a couple of girls with their leader). I considered going home but decided to stay and offer to wash dishes in the kitchen. Instead, they asked me to help by sharing a part of my story with the camp on their Real Life team – both of the guys who had done it the last few weeks couldn't stay for this final week of camp. Reluctantly I agreed.

After that first Real Life session on the morning of Day 3, they asked me to help with something else. I became a Head Leader for the rest of the week since they were down two –Head Leaders help the camp run smoothly, deal with issues as they come up, and are a resource for leaders. Apparently, someone on the Assigned Team had a dream that I should do it. As the week went on, despite wanting to go home, it was clear that the Lord had orchestrated this moment so I could step into situations and give rest to the team that had been serving at the camp for weeks. God showed up – in big and little ways.

I think more often than not, we think like me. We don't want to – even when it is really clear where God is pointing us. I know that most of us at Second Church have been struggling with this. Do we stay, or do we go? Do we go all in, or do we limp along? Do we try to find a solution, or do we give up? I've never pretended to have all the answers – truthfully, if I've learned anything in these last six years, finding the answer isn't the goal. I think our real goal is being faithful in the journey. The Lord fills in the cracks where we fall short; we know he will do that without failing. So as faithfully as possible, it is our duty to follow Jesus' command to love him with our whole selves and to love our neighbors as ourselves. So I have one last question for you, Second Church: Are you faithful in the journey; do your actions align with what you say and what the Lord has pointed you to?

Service of Restoration and Brunch on Sunday, July 31st

On Sunday, July 31st, we will be having a special service of restoration at 9:30am.

Pastor Drew Sweetman, pastor of First CRC, Fremont, will lead us in worship and will be preaching that morning. We will also be partaking of communion.

Following this service there will be a brunch at 11:00am, in the fellowship hall. All are invited!

Our Church Family

Pray for healing and strength for Karen Vogel, Dave Poel, Josie Visser, Wayne Homan.

Pray for Rich Krale, his wife Julie, their children and grandchildren. Rich came home from the hospital under hospice care. Pray for strength for Rich and his family for the completion of his earthly journey and for peace and comfort that only the Lord can bring.

Community Announcements

Prayer Vigil

Join with others in our church family for a prayer vigil today from 4-7pm. You are invited to pray at church or another quiet place of your choosing.

Christian Education Fund Projected Giving for 2022/2023 School Year:

A letter has been placed in your church mailbox along with a Projected Giving Card for the Christian Education Fund for the upcoming 2022/2023 school year. This year we estimate that we will have 15 children utilizing our Christian Education Fund at a cost of approximately \$102,000.

Please place your Projected Giving Card in the box in the church foyer by August 31st. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Wolffis at (231) 519-3686. We would also like to thank the congregation for helping us complete our obligations for the past school year!

Faith Promise 2022-2023

Our annual Faith Promise pledge will begin on Sunday, August 7. This year's goal is \$30,000 to be distributed evenly amongst our 6 mission which we support: Appalachia Reach Out, Karin Medical Clinic, Growing Hope Globally (Foods Resource Bank), SOS Ministries, Missian India, and Haiti Foundation. The Faith Promise booklet and pledge cards will be in your church mailbox by Friday, August 5.

Morning Getaway for Women, August 13th

Have you been wishing for a few hours to get away from the busyness, responsibilities and routines of life? Have you been wanting to connect with other women and gals but working it into your schedule is sometimes just too tricky? Have you wanted quiet, uninterrupted time alone with the Lord to read, pray and meditate? If your answer is "yes" to any or all of these questions we have something just for you!

Since we believe that women desire to be together in community and to spend quality, quiet time with the Lord, we are planning a focused, yet low-key morning getaway at The Shack, 2263 W. 14th St., White Cloud on August 13th from 8:30-11:30am. It's for high school gals and women of all ages. There is no cost to attend. We'll be in the pavilion, which is within walking distance from the main building and parking lots. Signs will guide you. For those needing assistance, we'll be ready to help you. Does this type of getaway sound very new to you yet something you want to check out?

We've titled the getaway "Finding Peace in Chaos: Exploring Wisdom" and our verse is: Then he taught me, and he said to me, "take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live."
Proverbs 4:4

Times of worship, a self-guided time of meditation/journaling between just you and the Lord, being with others in a small group, and a time of fellowship with snacks will fill out our three hour getaway. If meditation/journaling is new to you, take heart! No one will be checking up on you, there's no right or wrong answers and there's not one particular way to spend that time. Part of your meditative/journaling time could be spent taking a walk or just enjoying The Shack's beautiful surroundings. One more thing...you don't have to share your thoughts in the small group time unless you want to.

What to bring: yourself and your Bible and you'll want to wear comfortable shoes for walking on uneven ground.

What's provided: a tranquil, restful location, journals, pens, the morning's schedule with meditative/journaling guidelines and song sheets, light snacks and coffee, tea and water.

Registration is open! You may register online at 2nd Church's website, <https://secondcrcfremont.org>. Follow the get involved, adult ministries, and women's ministry links. Follow the link under women's ministries to register. You will also find questions relating to car pooling. We'd appreciate if you'd take a moment to answer those questions. Hard copies of the registration form, including the carpooling questions are also on the literature ledge. Please use either the online or paper option to register. Registration is open through Sunday, July 31st.

Sound interesting? We hope you'll come and join us! Questions? Contact Vicki Gilliland, Gretchen Kronsbein, Michele Van Soelen, Bette Wagenmaker or Tori Wilkinson.

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 31 – Fremont Christian School
Aug 7 – Resonate World Missions
Aug 14 – Western Michigan Christian High School
Aug 21 – Newaygo County Compassion House
Aug 28 – Fremont Service Committee

Stock the Pantry

For July, the requested food items are cereal, pancake mix, and syrup. They can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

The Prayer Corner

This Sunday is Restoration Sunday at 2nd Church. We are grateful that Pastor Drew Sweetman from First CRC in Fremont will be leading us in worship and preaching. Come on Sunday ready to worship, ready to hear God's voice and ready to fellowship with others at the brunch following the service. Come ready to be filled by the Holy Spirit and to feel His presence.

Restoration Sunday is for all of us for restoration affects all of us. Perhaps you have been hurt by someone else's comments, hurtful remarks or actions. Perhaps you have hurt someone else, intentionally or unintentionally. Perhaps you're frustrated and just want to move on. The point is that each of us can certainly find in ourselves and in others the need for restoration. As a part of Sunday's service we will have the opportunity to lay our past thoughts, words, and actions at the foot of the cross and seek restoration in quiet, silent submission to Him. This will be private between you and the Lord and it's serious business. It's God's way and we must do it for healing to occur.

O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you.
in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.
Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.
I will praise you as long as I live,
and in your name I will lift up my hand

Psalm 63: 1-4

Please be praying for Restoration Sunday and that we will lift up the name of the Lord and allow Him to work within our church family.

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

(231) 924-0170

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