

# SECOND'S MATTERS November 16, 2022

## Sunday, November 20

Pastor Ben Gandy will be leading us in worship. His sermon "To Him with Thanksgiving" is based on Luke 17:11-19. Two offerings will be taken, a Noisy Coin offering for the ARO Eastern Kentucky Flood Relief Fund, and an offering for the General Fund, with the special envelope offering for Fremont Christian School.

Greeters Sunday, November 20 are Phil and Judy Deur

## Thanksgiving Day, November 24

Second Church <u>will not</u> be having a worship service on Thanksgiving Day. You are welcome to worship with Trinity CRC (9:30am), Reeman CRC (9:30am) or First CRC (10:00am).

## Thanksgiving Day Offerings

As is tradition in our church, our Thanksgiving special offerings will be for the recipient of your choosing! These special gifts and offerings will be taken on Sunday, November 27. Please write the name of the recipient on the envelope!

## **Our Church Family**

Praise God with **Karen Admiraal** for the ordination of her daughter **Sherri Admiraal** at Hope Fellowship CRC in Denver, Colorado, where Sherri serves as the pastor.

**Rich Kraley** is still in ICU in Grand Rapids and his condition remains the same. Pray for peace and comfort for Rich and his family at this difficult time.

Keep John Van Hekken in your prayers as he continues to receive treatment for non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Pray for **Michael Dimkoff**, infant son of Josh and Beth and grandson of Graydon and Jennie. Michael has had two surgeries to correct heart issues in New York where they live. Pray for a full recovery and that soon he will be able to join his family at home.

Keep Glenn Vogel in your prayers as he recovers from recent back surgery

Pray for **Penny Sipe** and her family as she recovers at Mary Free Bed from an accident that claimed her husband Bill's life. Melissa Pell Sipe is Penny and Bill's daughter-in-law.

## **Community Announcements**

#### **Council Meeting**

Council meets tonight, November 16, at 7:00pm. Anyone is welcome to attend.

#### Shoeboxes for Appalachia Reach Out

Your filled and wrapped shoeboxes for Appalachia Reach Out are due back at church by Sunday, Nov. 20. Thank you for bringing Christmas joy to children in the Inez, KY area served by ARO.

#### **Christmas Decorating Party, November 20**

The Fellowship Team welcomes everyone to a Christmas Decorating Party on November 20 at 5pm. We will be assisting the Worship Team with decorating the church and end with a light supper of sloppy joes at 6. There will be a movie for the young children while everyone is working. Also, if you are available after the season, we will need help taking down the decorations. A sign up paper is on the table in the narthex for helpers, how many for dinner and if you will be helping take down. "Many hands make light work!"

#### Office Hours for November 21-25

Next week (November 21-25), the office will be open Monday, (9 am-2 pm), Tuesday (11 am-4pm) and Wednesday (9 am-?) and closed November 24 and 25. Second's Matters announcements need to be in by Monday at 5 pm. Sunday bulletin announcements need to be in by Wednesday at 9am.

## **Helping Ukrainian Refugees**

A presentation from the Outreach Committee on Sunday, November 20 right after the morning service will share information about a unique opportunity for Second Church to help Ukrainian refugees. A lead team is being formed and we are progressing step by step with Council and congregational approval. You'll want to join us on the 20th to hear about this exciting and challenging opportunity.

Quoting from the <u>welcomeukraine.com</u> website "**What is Uniting for Ukraine?** Uniting for Ukraine is a streamlined process that allows for Ukrainian citizens who have been displaced by Russia's aggression to apply for humanitarian parole in the United States. Under Uniting for Ukraine, the U.S. government allows people fleeing the war in Ukraine to seek refuge in the United States on a temporary basis known as humanitarian parole, with the support of a sponsor in the United States. The sponsor will provide financial support to meet the basic needs of someone fleeing Ukraine. They may also provide additional support, such as assistance enrolling in educational or training programs or securing employment."

#### Ladies Christmas Tea/Shower

The Fellowship Team is hosting a Ladies Christmas Tea Party/Shower on December 6 at 11am. This is open to all our church ladies as well as others in the community. Along with a light lunch there will be singing and games. Please sign up on the table in the lobby so that we know how many to plan for. Optional: gift to replace some small items in the kitchen. There is a list for this also on the table.

#### Reading through Luke in Advent

You are invited to read all 24 chapters of the book of Luke during Advent, in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. By starting on December 1st and reading one chapter each day, by Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's life. On Christmas Day you will wake up knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate.

#### **Fremont Service Committee**

As we enter this season of giving, the Fremont Service Committee asks that you consider a donation to the Car Ministry to fulfill our annual matching grant of \$20,000. Our four area churches are each encouraged to contribute \$5,000 toward this total. As of *Aug. 31st*, Second has contributed \$360 of this \$5,000 amount. Please assist us in serving a population struggling with transportation.

#### Newaygo Medical Care Facility

If you are willing to be a speaker at the Sunday afternoon worship service at MCF when we start holding services, please let Lewis Blohm (924-2009) or Bob Broekema (231-726-0666) know.

#### **Greeters:**

The welcome committee would like to thank the congregation for their participation with greeting members/visitors at our church every Sunday morning. The Greeter Schedule will be updated for the new 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 Dec 4, 2022: Bryan Van Soelen <u>bjmlvansoelen@gmail.com</u> Vicki Gilliland <u>vickigilliland2@gmail.com</u> Jane Vogel <u>gjvogel1970@comcast.net</u>

#### Agape Christian School, Gulu, Uganda

In the winter of 2019 our church family generously donated items for the Agape Christian School in Gulu, Uganda. Then Covid hit! Travel to Uganda ground to a standstill. But now, nearly three years later we are delighted to report that Rog Sikkenga from Kalamazoo will be going to Uganda and will be bringing our donations to the school! Thank you, Second church family, for caring for the children whether they are at school, at home or on the soccer field. Hope you can picture the joy and delight these gifts will bring to them! Click here for pictures of the donations.

#### Second Church Family

The Council has asked that members/visitors please sit in the pews close to the front of the church in either the middle or east section (over by the organ) of pews. Thank you

#### **Bible League International**

After 20 years, Jessie Rose is stepping down as chairperson of the Fremont Division of Bible League International. Please pry for someone to replace her and for volunteers for the Bible League.

## **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 for November are:

November 20 – Fremont Christian School November 27 – Western Michigan Christian High School

## Stock the Pantry

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

## **Prayer Corner**

As we move closer to Thanksgiving Day may the words of this well-known hymn be the prayer of your heart.

## For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth, and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild

For thyself, best gift Divine! To our race so freely given; For that great, great love of Thine, Peace on earth, and joy in heaven.

> Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise. Amen

Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864 and Conrad Kocher, 1838

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