# **SECOND'S MATTERS**

November 23, 2022



## Sunday, November 27

Pastor Cody Statema will be leading us in worship. His sermon "Hope for the Hopeless" is based on Isaiah 40:25-31

Greeters Sunday, November 27 are Kathy Shira and Louise Slager

#### Thanksgiving Day, November 24

Second Church will not 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**



The Fellowship Team thanks all those who came out to help decorate our church last Sunday night.

We had a great time working together and sharing a meal.

Pray for God's comfort, strength and peace for **Doug and Marleen Frens** and their family following **Rich Kraley's** death last Thursday.

Pray for complete healing for **John Van Hekken**, who is receiving treatment for cancer. Pray for **Glenn Vogel's** return to good health following back surgery several weeks ago. Pray for safe travels for those traveling this holiday weekend.

## **Community Announcements**

#### **To Our Church Family**

On the literature ledge are copies available of the final report from the Classis Muskegon Oversight Committee. Also there are copies of their letter to prospective pastoral candidates for our church. Please feel free to take one, questions see a council member.

## Reading through Luke in Advent

As a Second Church family, let's commit to reading the book of Luke together during Advent. There are 24 chapters and if we start on December 1st and read one chapter each day, by Christmas Eve we will have read an entire account of Jesus's life. On Christmas Day we will wake up knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate. It's a wonderful way to prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus coming to earth, living among men, women, boys and girls and dying to be our Savior. Join with others in reading Luke this December!

### **Ukraine Pledge Program**

A presentation from the Outreach Committee was made on Sunday, November 20 about a unique opportunity for Second Church to help Ukrainian refugees.

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."

Please make your pledge and/or sign up to volunteer in the program by December 15, 2022.

#### **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.

#### **Christmas Books in the Library**

In the busyness of the season it can be a welcome change to relax with a good Christmas read. It's also a great time to read a new or old favorite with your children too. Perhaps this will start a new family tradition. We have a good selection of titles on the top of the bookcase in the library just to the left of the door. Help yourself and please remember to sign out your books before taking them home.

#### **Fremont Service Committee Update**

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 *November 1*, 2022, Second has contributed \$2,477 of this \$5,000 amount. Please assist us in serving a population struggling with transportation.

#### **Love Offering**

An envelope has been placed in your church mailbox labeled "Love Offering" to show our goodwill and appreciation for our church staff this Christmas season. If you would like to participate, please return your envelope in the offering plate on Sunday morning, to Jeff Breuker, or the church office by December 11. Please specify how you intend your gift to be dispersed. Please Note: any late offerings that come in following December 11 will be added to the General Fund.

#### **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 <a href="mailto:bjmlvansoelen@gmail.com">bjmlvansoelen@gmail.com</a> Vicki Gilliland <a href="mailto:vickigilliland2@gmail.com">vickigilliland2@gmail.com</a> Jane Vogel <a href="mailto:gjvogel1970@comcast.net">gjvogel1970@comcast.net</a>

### 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.

#### 33rd Annual Christmas Craft Fair

Please join us for our 33rd Annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, December 3 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Fremont, 714 Hillcrest. Many new quality craft and wood gifts and decorations will be available in our Christmas Shoppe, our Plum Pudding Shoppe will have holiday foods to purchase and new this year we will have a Children's Shopping Room where children can purchase gifts for that someone special. Price range \$1.00 - \$5.00 - this includes the gift being wrapped and ready to give. For event information call the church at 231-924-4710 or Gail Cooper at 231-924-2126.

## **River Country Community Choir**

Mark your calendar for an evening concert presented by the River Country Community Choir on Sunday, December 11 at 6:00 p.m. at the Grant Fine Arts Center. The choral presentation focuses on "This Little Babe" **Promise** - The Coming of Christ ~ **Power** - Jesus Arrives on Earth ~ **Joy** - The Power of Christ in Us. The concert will also include some individual special numbers.

# 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: <a href="Online Giving.">Online Giving.</a> If you wish to give to Christian Education or Faith Promise online, then download the "GivePlus" app.

Special envelope offerings for November are:

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**

May gratitude fill your heart as you celebrate Thanksgiving Day this week. May your thanks overflow from a heart humbled by the richness of God's unlimited provisions for you.

#### Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us;
and now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks...

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#### SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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