

# SECOND'S MATTERS

December 13, 2023



**Second Church  
of Fremont**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

## **Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent**

Pastor Adam Sculnick will be leading us in worship. The sermon Sunday is 'The Joyful Returns' and based on Malachi 3:6-12. The children will have a Christmas program during the service, and we will be taking a noisy coin offering for the GEMS/CIA. The greeters are Bob and Kim Hayward.

## **Pre-Service Prayer**

Everyone is invited to join with others in the Fireside Room/Library at 9:05 am each Sunday morning for prayer. We share requests, read a portion of scripture, and have a time of silent and verbal prayer. Praying silently or out loud is your choice and no one is made to feel uncomfortable. If this is something you would like to try, please join us. We want you to know how welcome you will be.

**Sunday, December 17- Community Worship Service at 5:00p at First CRC.**

## **Our Church Family**

### **"Hey Second Family,**

I am so excited to share with you today the plans we have for the end of the year. In the next few weeks, I believe, many new faces are going to come through the door as God draws people nearer to Him for the celebration of the birth of His Son Jesus. In addition to our usual Sunday morning services, we have a Christmas Eve Candlelight service that is going to be truly beautiful at 5pm that evening, as well as a prayer event New Years Eve at 5pm that will be truly transformative for those who attend.

The Candlelight service is family style which I am very excited about, and in order to make the experience positive for all ages, there will be an activity book for your kiddos that will not just keep them busy, but keep them engaged as it is made to follow my sermon at an age-appropriate level. afterwards we hope you'll stay for hot cocoa and cookies too, before heading out to do whatever traditions you and your family have planned.

Regarding the Prayer experience, there is an event with all the details on facebook ([click here to see it](#)) but as a summary, participants will be taken on a self-guided walk through of multiple prayer stations throughout the sanctuary, inviting you and challenging you to deepen in your faith in Christ; yet at the same time will serve as a place where non-believers can encounter God for the first time. I am overwhelmed with excitement at what I trust the Holy Spirit to be doing during these two events and I'm asking you to pray with me about what impact the two events might have on this community.

As a separate announcement, the last Public Reading of Scripture of the year will be this coming Sunday at 6pm. We will be reading Psalm 12, Genesis 45-50, Mark 12-13 and concluding the evening with Psalm 25. It's open to everyone and we would love to have you join us, you won't have to read anything or come with any questions answered, just sit with us and listen to God's Word together.

That's all for now. In case I don't say it enough, thank you for being such a blessing to me and my family, and for the work you each put into making Second Church a place where people can become part of a family. See you Sunday,

**Hidden in Christ,  
Pastor Adam"**

Please continue to keep **John Van Hekken** in your prayer. John is currently undergoing another round of chemo and hopes to be released back home by the end of the wee.

**Wayne Vogel** continues to improve daily.

## Community Announcements

**Second Church** is very happy to announce that we have hired Gladys Pell as the new music director. Her email contact is [gladys@secondchrcfremont.org](mailto:gladys@secondchrcfremont.org).

### Welcome Center

With the addition of the new Welcome Center also comes a new opportunity. We would like to staff the Welcome Center with individuals to greet visitors and share information or answers questions about our church. If you are interested in helping or learning more about this role please contact Bryan Van Soelen or Pastor Adam.



### A Thank You from the Outreach Team

To all who filled Christmas shoeboxes for the children served by Appalachia Reach Out in Inez KY, thank you for sharing the love of Christ in this most tangible way. We were able to send 75 boxes to them. Thank you, church family.

To the kids and leaders of GEMS and CIA for making Christmas cards for the residents at the Newaygo County Medical Care Facility for our December 3rd caroling event. Thanks too to the over 20 people who came to carol and spread the joy of Christmas with the residents.

### WMC Christmas Collage

The WMC Christmas Collage will be held at the Frauenthal Theater in downtown Muskegon on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00 PM. Please join the WMC bands and choirs for this time-honored tradition, featuring treasured holiday carols and modern favorites. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased here: <https://western-michigan-christian-christmas-collage.square.site/>

### 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 for: December 17 – Christian Education Fund  
December 24 – Love, Inc  
December 31 - Wellspring*

### Stock the Pantry

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

## Prayer Corner

### Luke 2: 15-18

"When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about. So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them."

**Luke 5: 1-4, 9, 10**

“One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret with the people crowding around Him and listening to the Word of God, he saw at the water’s edge two boats left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon and asked him to put out a little from shore. There he sat down and taught the people from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” ...For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James, and John the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will catch men.” So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Jesus.

The shepherds joyously “spread the word concerning the child” and Simon and his companions were told by Jesus that they would be fishers of men. They left everything and followed Him.

As followers of Jesus we have the same mandate  
as the shepherds and the disciples.  
Go and spread the good news about Jesus!

**SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

600 Apache Drive, Fremont, MI 49412

(231) 924-0170

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