

# SECOND'S MATTERS

December 20, 2023



**Second Church  
of Fremont**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

## **Sunday, December 24, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Pastor Adam Sculnick will be leading us in worship. The sermon Sunday is 'Finally' and based on Malachi 3:13-4:6. The greeters are Bob and Kim Hayward.

## **Candlelight Service, December 24 at 5pm**

### **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 24 and 31 – There will not be an evening Community Worship Service at First CRC.**

## **Our Church Family**

"Hey family,

I cannot believe I get to say this, but Merry Christmas! We are 4 days from our Christmas Eve Candlelight service, and of course the final week of Advent concludes that morning at our regular Sunday service. It is so crazy to me that we are already less than 2 weeks until the end of the year and with so much going on, the planning the staff, council, and I did to make the final few events of the year special is being realized as it unfolds for everyone to see. It's so magical to see the work that's going in, so many hands working together to reach the people of Fremont with the message of the Gospel. So in this second to last letter from me this year, I'm challenging each of you, invite someone you know to church. Invite people you don't know to church. Invite everyone to church, because everyone in this town matters to the Lord we serve, and they all should get a chance to encounter Him; and what better time than now at Christmas. Between the candlelight service and the Renew & Rejoice event the following Sunday evening for New Years Eve, there are 2 perfect occasions to suggest to people so that they might come to know and love the God that chose to love you. It matters, and I pray that you'll join me in letting everyone know.

**Hidden in Christ,  
Pastor Adam"**

Please continue to keep **John Van Hekken** in your prayers. He will be returning to the hospital on December 25<sup>th</sup> for another chemo treatment and other procedures to determine the next course of treatments.

**Tithing of your time, talents, treasures...** called by God to use them for His glory! We heard these challenging words from Malachi last week. You are invited to join the praise team and offer your gift of praise! If this interests you and you would like more information, please contact Gladys in person or through email ([gladys@secondcrcfremont.org](mailto:gladys@secondcrcfremont.org)).

## **Community Announcements**

**There will not be** Sunday School (grades 5-12) Children's Choir (grades k-4) on December 24 and 31.

**There will be no Prayer Guide or Prayer Corner** the week between Christmas and New Years.

## Church Key Codes

On January 2, the code for unlocking upper doors will be changed. Please call the church if you need the new code. The church is open from 9-12, Monday thru Friday and usually into the afternoons of those days.

## Update from Leah Sweetman

Click [here](#) for update from Leah Sweetman

## 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.



## Thank You

To all who helped decorate the church for Christmas



## 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 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

As we approach Christmas may your life shine brightly to those around you and reflect the love of Christ to a world desperately needing hope, love, joy and peace.

Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright  
Emmy Kohler 1858-1925

Now shine a thousand candles bright

Upon the world's dark sphere  
The deep blue sky  
Is set a light as myriad flames appear

In suburb, ghetto, farm, and town  
They spread the news abroad  
That Jesus Christ is born tonight  
Our savior and our God

Oh star, that shown o'er Bethlehem  
Now let your kindly light  
With tranquil hope and glory  
Shine in ev'ry home tonight

To every dark and anguished heart  
Send down your ray divine  
And may the light of God's own love  
Like Christmas candles shine

**SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

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