SECOND'S MATTERS

January 31, 2024



Sunday, February 4, 2024

Pastor Adam Sculnick will be leading us in worship. The sermon Sunday is 'Dear Church ...Build That Wall' based on 1 Corinthians 5:6-11. The greeters are George and Jane Vogel.

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, February 4, 2024 - Evening Community Worship Service at First CRC at 5pm

Our Church Family

Hey family!

We are already a full month into 2024 and already we are seeing some beautiful movements of God here at Second Church. This past Sunday we baptized 2 believers among us and received theirs and one other profession of faith. It is such a blessing to see new life in Christ and new movements of His Spirit in His Church. Thank you for being a big part of building His Kingdom. And a big thank you to everyone who was able to join me for the 2024 Vision meeting this past Sunday. I didn't receive any additional questions so the video recording of it, which you can access here, will give you everything that was shared. The handout is simply a copy of all the slides and if you open the video and look at the caption, there is a link to the slides for clearer viewing.

Now, in light of all that has happened, let's talk about what is happening. First, tonight is the next meeting of DudeStuff, our all new men's Bible study. God is doing some really cool things in that group. What was intended to be a once a month get together has blossomed into a weekly study where all the men involved come expecting to encounter Christ and His Church. Each week there is a topic that we all research independently as we are led by the Spirit, and then at the meeting we simply share what we found. We play music and worship God together, we pray with and for each other, and we enjoy a really nice time of fun and fellowship. 6pm to roughly 7:30-8pm every Wednesday here at Second Church. High School-aged and up men looking to be around and grow with other godly men are all welcome. This week's topic is work, how does God work through our jobs as men, why is it important for men to work and what does it mean to the individual man and to the kingdom that Adam was given the calling to work before he was given a wife and before humanity fell into sin?

Next, Public Reading of Scripture is still going strong on Sunday nights at 6pm. Join us as we hear directly from the bible and discuss what we each noticed and wondered about in passages from both the Old and New Testaments. No prep required and no homework given, just God's Word being read to God's people.

This next thing is extremely exciting to me, and that is the all new Starting Point class for those seeking membership here at Second Church. I announced it at the vision meeting and the first round of classes will begin soon. Dates will be on the calendar by Sunday and you can sign up in the church lobby at the welcome center before or after the service. Learn who we are as a church, learn about our history, the history of Christianity, the vision we have for the future of the Kingdom and how your membership plays a role in it all. Anyone curious about membership is encouraged to take the classes with no obligation to join and if you are already a member and are curious about what we are teaching and where we are going as a family, join as well as simply indicate on the sign up that you are already a member and simply observing.

Lastly, as a reminder, Communion is this Sunday. Please take some time this week to prepare your heart and soul to receive this gift from God. Make amends with those you've wronged, seek forgiveness from them and from God, bring grievances to those you hold something against and work them out and above all else pray that God would purify you to come into His presence with joy and thanksgiving. Then come Sunday with a clean heart and a willing spirit. Service is at 9:30 as always with Communion to follow after the message and any faithful believer in Christ is welcome to take part in Communion with us.

Thanks for listening and God bless you until next we meet,

Pastor Adam

Please continue to keep John Van Hekken in your prayers.

Jim Deur passed away Saturday, January 27, 2024. His funeral is tomorrow at 11am with a visitation from 10-11 at Second Church.

Evie Afman broke several ribs in a fall in Arizona last week. Pray for guick healing for Evie.

Community Announcements

Property Committee will meet tonight at 7:00 PM

From Council

As council prepares for the church year 2024-25, we welcome suggestions of names, people for the office of elders/deacon from the congregation. Please prayerfully consider and/or suggest individuals who you feel exhibit God's presence in leading our church. A box is available on the lobby on the literature ledge for the suggested names.

Calvin January Series, 2024

The January Series lectures will be live video streamed at the Dogwood Center, 4734 S. Campus Court, Fremont, from 12:30-1:30p Monday through Friday, January 15-February 2. The lectures are free and open to the public. The Black Box will be available for seating and attendees may bring their lunch. View the speaker schedule at www.dogwoodcenter.com and pick out which one you would like to attend. Speakers:

Wed, Jan 31 – Abram Van Engen, Joanne Diaz and Marilyn Nelson: "A Live Recording of the Podcast, "Poetry for All" with Marilyn Nelson

Thurs, Feb 1 – Tim Dalrymple: "What's Becoming of Us? Artificial Intelligence and the Future of the Church"

Fri, Feb 2 – Pearl Shangkuan: "Tuning Our Minds, Ears, and Hearts to Song God's Grace: Reflections of a Conductor"

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: February 4 – Wellspring Adult Services

February 11 – Crossroads Bible Institute

February 18 – Kid's Hope

February 25 – Ferris State Campus Ministries

Stock the Pantry

For February, the requested food items are macaroni and cheese, tuna, canned meat. Items can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

Prayer Corner

Seeking the Lord when Life Feels Empty

While having lunch in a restaurant last week I overheard a lady in the booth behind us telling her friends about a time when her soul had felt empty. I could relate and I wondered what she was going to say next. Rather than despairing, she told how she had prayed and the Lord had answered her call for help and sent her the song, "Fill My Cup Lord." What a refreshing response to hear! This lady sought God and He answered, reminding her that He is the only one to fill the emptiness..

We know that we should seek the Lord on a daily basis and it seems so much easier when things are going well than in times of spiritual drought. Emptiness can come to any of us at any time and for a variety of reasons. When they come, **pray and seek God** rather than relying on your own resources, He is our faithful God.

Fill My Cup Lord Richard Blanchard (1925-2004)

Like the woman at the well
I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy
And then I heard my Savior speaking
"Draw from My well that never shall run dry"

Fill my cup, Lord
I lift it up, Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of Heaven, feed me 'til I want no more
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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