

# SECOND'S MATTERS

March 20, 2024



## Sunday, March 24, 2024

Pastor Adam Sculnick will be leading us in worship. The sermon Sunday is 'Dear Church ...It's a Gift' based on 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. The greeters are Ryan and Katie Boven.

### 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, March 24, 2024 – Evening Community Worship Service at First CRC at 5p



### Notes from the Music Director's desk

I have the privilege of being a guest contributor to the Second's Matters this week! First of all, thank you for such a warm welcome into your fellowship! I was totally enjoying retirement, but felt God was nudging me, saying He had something more for me yet. I wasn't sure I was ready to step back into a leadership role. It was a pleasure to go to church and just worship—not sweating all the details. But God kept putting people in my path and I felt Him calling me to say yes. So, after a bit of a crazy start (working a few weeks, leaving for a month, and now jumping back in), Dan and I look forward to growing in Christ with you! I want to give a huge thank you to Mary Folkema for helping me transition into my new role. She was, and still is, such a blessing to me! And then there's the rest of the staff...wow! The staff here provides such a great Christ-centered atmosphere in which to work and fellowship together! Add to that a great team of volunteers every Sunday morning, and I am feeling so grateful and blessed!

As I get more involved in my role, I want to share a bit of my thought process and vision. I think the biggest challenge I face is to find a balance between the familiar and the new. The church has committed to a vision of blended music. I love hymns—both old and new—but I also love learning the new contemporary Christian music. So, what will this look like for Second Church? For me, it starts with praying over every service plan. Then I need to actually choose music. My first step is to look closely at **lyrics** to see if they are biblically correct, doctrinally sound and God-focused. If a song meets that criteria, then I look at how **singable** it is for a congregation. This doesn't mean it will be easy the first time, but can a song be learned? One of my goals is to have music notes on the screen for as many songs as possible to help you learn them. Next, I look for songs that I hope have **depth and longevity**—not just be a fleeting popular hit. And when it's right, all of the pieces of a worship service will fit together to draw us closer to God! This is not an easy task, but God is faithful and I continue to look to Him to guide the choices we make. I covet your prayers and support. (How cool is it to read the prayer guide and know you were specifically asked to pray for me today?!?! THANK YOU!!)

As we heard last Sunday, all of life is worship! It is our posture—how we carry ourselves in every part of every day. When we see music as a part of this life of worship, hopefully we are reminded that the number one purpose of our music is to glorify God. Ask yourself: even if a song may not be my preferred style, can I—as a part of the family of God—worship God through it? I hope and pray that the music we choose allows you to answer that with a hearty **YES!** And on that note, I am always open to suggestions. Please feel free to connect with me during the week through emails, phone calls, or visits. I have an office in the corner by the elevator (with a candy dish!!) and would love to chat with you. I would also love to get more of you involved on the Praise Team, including some of our upper elementary/middle/high school age young people! I'm praying for hearts and minds to be open to this!!

Finally, we have a special week ahead of us, beginning on Palm Sunday, traveling down the *Via Dolorosa*—the way of suffering, to the cross, to the grave...and ultimately, to a Resurrection Sunday celebration! Invite your family, friends and neighbors to come, remember, and celebrate with us. Palm Sunday and Resurrection Sunday—9:30am and Good Friday Communion Service—7pm.

In His grip,  
Gladys

## Our Church Family

Our deepest sympathies go out to **Katie Boven and her family** on the death of her dad, **Eppe Wolfis** early Sunday morning, March 17. Pray for God's comfort and sustaining power during the difficult days and weeks ahead.

**Doug DeKuiper, Pat DeKuiper's** son, had successful back surgery on Monday. Thank you for all the prayers on behalf of him and please continue to pray for his continued healing.

Pray for **Kim Hayward's** continued healing following her recent surgery.

Keep **Nanci Nieboer** and **Josie Visser** in your prayers as they also recover from surgeries last week. Thanking God for bringing them through their respective surgeries well and for their continued healing.

Pray for **Madi Folkema's** grandpa **Mike Schneider** who has lung cancer.

## Community Announcements

**THANK YOU** to all the chefs that brought chili for our Chili Cook Off! We had many different crock pots to choose from and everyone of them was very good. It is always good to get together for fellowship but food seems to make the experience better.

### A Word of Thanks...

Dear friends,

It warmed heart to receive the love card from all of you who continue to remember us at S.O.S. Ministries and lift us up in prayer to our heavenly Father. God bless all of you. It means the world to us to know that we are not forgotten.

Love,  
Tere and Alicia  
S.O.S. Ministries, Mexico

(Paul Gonzales headed up S.O. S. Ministries until this death several years ago. Tere (Paul's wife and Alicia is Paul's sister.)

### Highlights from the February 2024 Special Council Meeting and Monthly Council Meeting

- A special council meeting was held with Pastors Drew Sweetman and Les VanDyke to hear recommendations about how we as a church can walk along side Pastor Adam in his desire for future ordination. Several options were suggested, and the council will do further research into each of them.
- At our regular meeting:
  - Fremont Area Foundation will continue support of Fremont Service Committee/Car Ministry
  - A letter of thanks was received from Feeding America
  - We received staff and care group reports
  - We reviewed Deacon and Elder minutes
  - We approved a motion to add a 4% raise for all staff to the upcoming budget, pending congregational approval
  - Stands for the offering boxes were discussed. One was selected and Andrian Platzer will be contacted about constructing them
  - Ministry reports were received for information, no action needed
  - Yearly staff evaluations have been completed
  - Elder and Deacon nominations were submitted and discussed. They will be contacted

### CALLING ALL COOKIE BAKERS (and buyers)!

The Fellowship Committee is looking for people to provide cookies or other baked goods for Sunday morning coffee time following the service. Please add your name and email to the signup sheet at the if you are able to help.

Thanks, The Fellowship Committee

## **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 March: March 24 – Hand2Hand*

## **Stock the Pantry**

For March, the requested food items are peanut butter and jelly. Items can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

## **Prayer Corner**

Pastor Adam reminded us last Sunday that worship is not just what we do on Sunday mornings. Rather it is a 24/7/365 heart posture. How you live shows others who and how you worship. It's how you carry yourself on the good days and the not so good days and the routine days. It's all about Jesus! We were created to love God, seek after Him and worship Him with every fiber of our beings. God wants our lives to be for Him and for absolutely every aspect to be filtered through His will. Make your life a daily, moment by moment surrendering to Him. That's how you are to worship!

### **Romans 12: 1-2**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters,  
in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,  
holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world,  
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.  
Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is  
—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### **SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

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