

SECOND'S MATTERS

May 8, 2024



**Second Church
of Fremont**

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

Sunday, May 12, 2024

Pastor Adam Sculnick will be leading us in worship. The sermon Sunday is "The First Commandment: I Am The LORD" based on Exodus 20:1-3. The greeters are Bruce and Karen Haveman.

Pre-Service Prayer

Everyone is invited to join with others in the Fireside Room/Library at 9:05am 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, May 12, 2024 – Evening Community Worship Service at First CRC at 5pm

"Hey Church Family,

It has been a challenging few weeks for me as your pastor. I'd be lying if I said that I was fine and things are business as usual. But it is also true that God promises to be with us in the valley, and friends, He has shown up in such beautiful ways. We have seen as a church just in these last few weeks the spiritual birth of new believers and the arrival of new faces to our service and to our family. We have seen the end of the Sunday School year and the beginning of an amazing new ministry to women called Connection Point. We have taken pause to mourn losses of loved ones and the closure of a church in our community, yet also paused to reflect on the fathers love in communion. At a time in our community and in our nation where pastors and churches are struggling to reach people, we are seeing revival. God is so good church, He is so so good.

A few things to note, beginning with our plans for Pentecost Sunday. That evening, we will be holding a service to celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit, the gift of the Spirit to the Church, and the way that He heals our body, mind and soul. There is no promise here of miracles happening, no smoke and mirrors of any kind, just an honest seeking after the Spirit and trusting that He is going to do what He has always done, love us and care for us and show up for us. I hope you'll make plans to join us for that service which begins at 7pm, Sunday the 19th.

Next, as we close in on nearly 30 weeks of reading in Public Reading of Scripture, we will be moving to a new format so that others can follow along, even if they miss a week. Make sure you subscribe to our Youtube Channel because in the coming weeks we will be launching a PRoS playlist that you can watch any time you want. Having a Bible reading strategy is so important and I pray that you would find the Lord working in you each time you open His Word. PRoS meets every Sunday from 6-7:15pm to listen to the Word of God together in community. I should mention that because of the Healing service, PRoS will take a break on the 19th.

And finally, just a challenge to issue, from me to you. Think about what you love most about your relationship with Jesus, and then tell someone else what you came up with. Imagine what would happen if we all took time this week to make Christ the focus of just one more conversation. I pray He opens doors for you to do that and that He works powerfully through those conversations for your good and for His glory.

*In Service to the King,
-Pastor Adam"*

Our Church Family

Please keep **Kim Hayward** and **Nanci Nieboer** in your prayers as they undergo treatment for cancer and **Doug DeKuiper** as he continues to recover from surgery.

Please pray for **Pat DeKuiper** and her family as they mourn the loss of her grandson Samuel DeKuiper. Sam's funeral service will be held on Saturday, May 11 at noon at New Hope Community Church, 5100 Bethesda Ct, Williamsburg, MI. Visitation will take place on Friday 4-7pm and on Saturday, 10am – Noon. If you would like to reach out to Pat's son, Dennis and Brenda DeKuiper, their address is 5942 Vance Road, Grawn, MI 49637.

Community Announcements

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL NOT BE HAVING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS FROM April 29 to May 10. Please send, via email, any announcements for Second's Matters in by Tuesday 3pm and for the bulletin by Thursday 9am.

Our annual **Congregational Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00pm. The following members are nominated for elder and will be approved: Gaylen Byker, Nick Donkersloot, and Gail Wagenmaker. Two will serve a 3-year term and one will serve a 2-year term. The following members are nominated for deacon: Mike Love, Jon Mellema, and Todd Visser. Two will be drawn by lot for 3-year terms.

Connection Point—a Women's Gathering!

Who: Women of all ages and stages. If you have littles at home, feel free to bring them along!
What: An opportunity to get to know women from the church in a casual setting.

When: We will be there on the first and third Wednesday of each month, beginning on May 1, from 8:45-9:45am (or as long as you wish to stay).

Where: **The Koffee Kuppe***—downtown Fremont. Note: the back door is temporarily closed, due to patio construction.

Questions: text/call/email—gladys@secondcrcfremont.org or 231.924.0990

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together...encouraging one another...." Hebrews 10:24-25

*Plan to purchase your own beverage/food.

Summer Cookies Sign-up

Our summer cookie signup for Sunday mornings is now available online. If you are able to bake (or buy!) 6 or 12 dozen treats for Sunday mornings we are asking you to click on the link and signup for a date. Thanks for making our Sunday mornings extra sweet! sweet!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA9AE2FABFC1-49138606-summer>



Wellspring Adult Day Services

Volunteer Opportunity! Wellspring Adult Day Services is looking for volunteers who are passionate about working with seniors. Our volunteers' responsibilities include building relationships with guests and assisting in the daily program. If you feel this would be something you would enjoy, please call Allie Maat at 231.519.5450 or email at wellspringads@gmail.com for more information.

From Grace Adventures

Grace Adventures is hiring for all four campuses as we seek to impact people with Jesus Christ. We have some year-round roles as well as season positions which can be found here:

<https://graceadventures.org/employment/>.

In the Fremont area, we need staff to help serve our guests at The Shack, a Christian Conference and Retreat Center. For specific roles and to apply please go to the website:

<https://shackcountryinn.com/employment/>

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: May 12 – Fremont Christian School
May 19 – Bible League*

Stock the Pantry

For May, the requested food items are spaghetti sauce and pasta/rice. Items can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth.

Library News

There are new books in the library! You'll find kid/teen books on top of the bookcase just to the left as you enter the library. On the right beyond the closet you'll find adult fiction and non-fiction titles, including Pastor Adam's new book *Intentional Fatherhood*. Do you have a book which you would like to see in the library? Please let Bette Wagenmaker know.

Prayer Corner

Those "Ya Betcha Moments!"

One morning last week as I was in the produce department of a local store I struck up a conversation with a man who was searching for just the right package of romaine lettuce. As we talked, I made the comment, "Ya betcha", to which he replied, "You're from Minnesota!" How could he have known? In astonishment I told him I had been born in Minneapolis and had lived in Duluth for a couple of years too. It was my "ya betcha" that was the clue to my Minnesota connection. That little interaction led me to think about a spiritual application. Do people know you love Jesus by the way you talk and live your life? They should. Do they see Jesus in you at home, while driving or shopping, at church or in fact everywhere you go? They should.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:14-16

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

In II Corinthians 4: 6 we read

"For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."

God allows His light to shine in our hearts and out to others as a acknowledgement of what He has done in our hearts. This brings us hope to be able to face unexpected turn of events with grace and strength of character. We all face mountains from time to time but those mountains become conquerable hills and valleys when God's light is shining into a situation. When the light of Jesus is in you it becomes evident to those around you through your

words and actions. It is Him working through you! When your light shines out to others you aren't looking for the recognition or the approval of others. The more you give Him the glory, the less you think about yourself and the more you want people to see Jesus. Thank God today for the opportunities He gives you to shine His light out into your neighborhood, community and church; opportunities that often come when you least expect them. Watch for the "ya betcha moments" in your life that show others your connection to Jesus and then ask the Lord how He will use them to point others to Him.

A Prayer in closing...

Dear Father help me to be so connected with you that God can use me in the small everyday moments of my life as well as in large "once in a lifetime" experiences. Keep me watchful and with eager anticipation.

Amen.

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