SECOND'S MATTERS

August 14, 2024



Sunday August 18

Pastor Adam Sculnick will be leading us in worship. The sermon Sunday is "Eyes Wide Open" based on Ephesians 1:18-23. Greeters are George and Jane Vogel. There will be a children's noisy coin collection for 938 FEST.

The Sunday morning pre-service prayer gathering will not be held during the summer months.

Sunday, August 18, 2024 - Evening Community Worship Service at First CRC at 5pm

Hey church family!

I am always so excited when I sit down to work out the sermon that I am going to preach on Sunday, but I have to share with you that preparing last Sunday's message was a special treat for me. The reason for that is because while praying through the content before beginning to develop the slides you saw on the screen, God opened up my heart in a very profound way. I felt Him saying to me, "There will always be people in your church that don't hear the gospel, just make sure you aren't one of them." So before I went to bed on Saturday night, as I was lying in bed, I was reflecting on what that meant. The gospel of Jesus Christ is an outpouring of grace to those who don't deserve it. But the Bible tells us that the gospel is foolishness to those who are perishing. What I think God was getting at was that until your eyes are opened to the things of God you will not, you can not hear the gospel.

Church, rather than give you any kind of updates today, I would rather make this simple but hopefully challenging statement that I have been thinking about for over a week now: Make sure that every day you are seeking the Lord, asking for Him to open your eyes.

See you Sunday, bring a friend.

In Service to the King, -Adam"

Our Church Family

Pray for Doug Hamming, Charlie and Melanie DeKryger's son-in-law, who has stage 4 cancer. Pray for strength as he navigates the next steps going forward.

Please continue to pray for healing and strength for those recovering from injuries, surgeries, and treatments.

Community Announcements

Sunday, September 1, Community Service

Second CRC is responsible for Greeters at the Labor Day Community Service on Sept 1st. We will need 6-8 people to greet, hand out communion/bulletins and collect the offering. If you are able to help a sign up sheet is on the Welcome Center.

To All Members and Regular Attendees

The church office will be producing an **Updated Church Directory** in the coming weeks. If you have changed address, phone number, email, etc., or would like to be added, please get the appropriate information to Valerie by emailing <u>office@secondcrcfremont.org</u> or calling the church office (231) 924-0170 by **August 30, 2023.**

Kids Hope

Are you wondering how you can make an impact and make Christ known in our community? Do you have one hour, once a week to spare? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you! Our Kids Hope program needs mentors for the 2024-2025 school year. If this is something you are interested in, please reach out to Stephanie DeKuiper (231) 414-5141 or Chelsea Breuker (231) 414-1122 for more information.

Prayer Partners

Check your mailbox for the student you will be praying for. We plan to have a meet and greet for you next Sunday at the church picnic.

Coffee Break

Ladies: Coffee Break Bible Study will resume meeting on September 10th here at Second CRC! Open to women in all stages of their Faith Walk, Coffee Break will be studying Genesis (covering chapters 12-25) on Tuesdays from 9:45-11am this Fall. Study guides will be available at our first meeting on September 10th, with the first lesson discussion starting on September 17th. Please note: No child care is available at this time. Additional questions? Contact Doris Broekema (231-286-8490) or Torri Wilkinson (231-355-0757).

Faith Promise Pledging for Missions

Have you made a pledge yet to help support the seven missionaries and mission organizations that our church supports through Faith Promise? There is still time to do so and remember, your pledge, regardless of the size, will help us reach our goal of \$35,000 which will provide \$5,000 to each of the following missions:

Appalachia Reach Out in Inez, KY, Dwayne Mills, director Growing Hope Globally (providing food for those in need) Haiti Foundation against Poverty Karin Medical Clinics, Gulu, Uganda, Hope Okeny, director Leah Sweetman, serving in Nicaragua under Resonate Global Missions Mission India S.O.S. Missions, Matamorous, Mexico

The Fall Kick Off picnic is almost here

When: August 18, after the morning service

Time: 12 PM

Where: Here at church

Food: Fellowship Committee will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. There

will also be ice cream sundaes for dessert.

Fun: Lawn games, chalking, bounce house, corn hole, volleyball net set up.

What to bring: a favorite picnic dish to share, a lawn chair.

Other information: We could use any pop up tents if you have one to help with shade while we eat. Contact Stephanie DeKuiper or Helen Mellema

To help with set up and the amount of meat to buy we need you to sign up on the table by the welcome center.

See you there!

COOKIES

Bakers or buyers are needed to help supply 10 dozen treats each Sunday morning this fall for our post-service fellowship time. Please sign up for a date or two if you are able to help by clicking on the link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA9AE2FABFC1-50295653-fall If you have any technical difficulties, please contact Stephanie 231-414-5141.



Stock the Pantry

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

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: August 18 – Newaygo Community Compassion House August 25 – Kid's Hope

Prayer Corner

How grateful we are as God's children that He keeps us on our calm routine days as well as during the stormiest days and seasons of our lives. The well known hymn "It is Well with My Soul" is a testimony of God's grace in the life of Horatio Spofford. God's grace is freely given to us too.

It is Well with My Soul Horatio Spofford

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When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to know[b]
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life,
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait, The sky, not the grave, is our goal; Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord! Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul.

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
A song in the night, oh my soul!^[c]

Refrain
It is well, (it is well),
With my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

This hymn was written after traumatic events in Spafford's life. The first was the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which ruined him financially (Spafford had been a successful lawyer and had invested significantly in property in the area of Chicago that was extensively damaged by the great fire). His business interests were further hit by the economic downturn of 1873, at which time Spafford had planned to travel to England with his family on the SS Ville du Havre, to help with Dwight L. Moody's upcoming evangelistic campaigns. In a late change of plan, Spafford sent his wife Anna and four daughters ahead while Spafford was delayed on business concerning zoning problems following the Great Chicago Fire. While crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship sank rapidly after a collision with a sea vessel, the Loch Earn, and all of Spafford's daughters died. Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "Saved alone ...". Shortly afterwards, as Spafford traveled to England to meet his grieving wife, Spafford was inspired to write these words as his ship passed the spot near where his four daughters had died. Bliss called his tune Ville du Havre, from the name of the stricken vessel.

(Source: Wikipedia)

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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