

1st Connection



Seeking to...*Live Simply* so that others
may *Simply Live*

-a communication of the FRC family
February 21, 2010

This Week at First

- Wed.— **Family Night**
5:30 - 6:15 P.M. Family Night Dinner - **Everyone's Welcome!**
6:15 P.M. Prayer Meeting in Fireside Room (Pastor Kevin)
6:30 P.M. Praise Team/Praise Band Practice
6:30 - 8:00 P.M. Kingdom Kids (4 & 5 year olds)
GEMS/Cadets - for 1st - 8th grade
- Thurs.—4:00 - 11:00 P.M. Crafters and Laughter Crew - Pack up your projects and join us for a night of fun and laughter. Please bring a snack to share, come and go when you must.
- Fri.— 7:00 - 7:45 A.M. Men's Lenten Breakfast - at the 1st Congregational Church. The Beatitudes of Jesus, Matthew 5:1-12 theme: "Blessed are those who mourn". All men are welcome!

Looking Ahead:

- March 1 - Ministry Teams meet
March 2 and March 4 - Congregational Forums - The Forums will be a time to share any input and answer any questions you might have about two new ministries. (Gift-based ministry - how we do ministry and "Care groups" - a new ministry).
March 7-21 - Adult Explorers Class
March 9 - Consistory meeting
March 12-14 - J.O.Y. Spring Hill Retreat
March 20 - FRC's "Neighborhood Indoor Resale Market". Information and registration forms are available at the *information center*. Register by turning in your form with payment to the church office, space is limited.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX! Important information about two new opportunities for you to discover your great worth to God are in there! Please pick up the information, read it, and join us at the upcoming forums! Thanks! The Consistory

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

THE LENTEN SERMON SERIES - DISCOVER YOUR GREAT WORTH TO GOD! Do you realize how important to God you are? It's true! God has great plans for you (and for First Church)! Join for each of the next seven weeks to explore what that means, and along the way...Discover your great worth to God!

Sunday Mornings



Come to the
Prayer Room
at 8:45

Before Worship to pray for 15 minutes. Let's pack the room with prayer and people!

Contact Information

Pastor: Kevin Schutt, email: pk@frcfremont.org

Administrative Assistants:

Ruth Ann Ayre, email: rayre@frcfremont.org
Pat TerVeer, email: pterveer@frcfremont.org

Custodians: O'Neals: Randy— 231-519-5903
Karen—231-519-5902

Church building open:

Sunday—All day
Monday—Thursday 8:30 am—5:00 pm
Friday—Saturday - Closed



- February 22 - Tyler Dickinson
Margaret Sanborn
February 23 - Jean Stroven
February 24 - Phyllis Bushaw
Matt Schafer
Emily Shue
Lance Veenstra
February 25 - Allison Kublin
Cheryl Kublin
February 26 - Robin Moore
February 27 - Anson Boisvert
Logan Stroven
Carl Tuuk
Spencer Wilcox

The best mathematical equation:
 $1 \text{ cross} + 3 \text{ nails} = 4 \text{ given.}$

GOD'S PLAN FOR "DOING MINISTRY"

"Ok; what do you want me to do now?" When I served in staff ministry, I heard that a lot. Part of my responsibilities included recruiting staff for a number of ministries, so when people would see me coming, they'd run! Thank goodness I was faster than most, and could tackle well! Anyway, when I caught up to them, that was a common response; "Ok, what do you want me to do now?" While some said it in jest; most said it with at least a hint of seriousness. I have to admit; something about that response just never seemed right to me. With the body language and tone of voice I often got; you'd think I was going around looking for someone to clean toilets with a toothbrush for a year! To be sure, asking people to consider serving God was pretty eye opening. To be honest, people fled with good reason; they knew what the church's approach to ministry was. Recruiting had three steps. First step; approach the committed people who can't say no, and try to guilt them into serving. If that didn't work, it was on to step two; find some one, anyone. If they're alive; they qualified. Just fill the spot. If those steps failed, go to step three; ask a new person. They'll say yes out of sheer ignorance! And that was only part of the approach. It also included keeping people clueless so they would never know what they were being asked to do (or else they'd never say yes). And, the worst yet; once you said yes; you were in it for life! The only way you stopped serving was if you died, or the resurrection came. No wonder they fled.

But that's not God's plan. His plan is to not to have those He created, redeemed, gifted, and called, run from serving; but run to serve. Why? *Because God's plan leads to people discovering their great worth to God. Because God's plan creates opportunities for people to experience the rich blessing of being a part of something way bigger than they are (God's kingdom)...and that last forever!* The Consistory and I...we like His plan. In fact, we believe it's not only an excellent plan, but the very best plan! So we approved changing how we "do ministry" to put His plan into action. It's called "gift-based ministry" and you can read specific details about it in Rom.12, 1 Cor. 12, Eph. 4! In addition, you can read the information we put in your box this week, and come to the Forums coming up. Most important of all; you can "plan" to be a part of God's plan. Because that's when His plan works. That's when you discover your great worth to Him, and experience incredible blessings. It would be great to have everyone get on board, and be a part of God's plan. Then I wouldn't have to tackle anyone any more...I'm getting too old for that! Serving with joy, - PK

Thank you for all of your prayers, cards, and kind expressions of sympathy at the time of our sister's passing. Sally fought Pancreatic Cancer for just over five years with courage, strength and determination. She never lost sight of that God is good and He is in control. We praise God for his promise of eternal life and for giving us friends like you to lift us and our loved ones up in prayer during difficult times. Tom and Candy VanDusen

Spanky's Pizza Sale totaled 442 pizzas with a total profit of \$1,600 (all proceeds go towards the Guatemala building and medical supplies). Thanks for your support!
Team Fremont




Look back and thank God. Look forward and trust God. Look around and serve God. Look within and find God! God closes doors no man can open and God opens doors no man can close.

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☆☆ **The Health Department** ☆☆☆
☆☆ requires all products in the ☆☆☆
☆☆ refrigerator and freezer to be ☆☆☆
☆☆ labeled (what it is) and dated ☆☆☆
☆☆ (the date it was opened). ☆☆☆
☆☆ Please take the time to do ☆☆☆
☆☆ this! Any product that does ☆☆☆
☆☆ not have the required infor- ☆☆☆
☆☆ mation MUST be discarded. ☆☆☆
☆☆ Discarding of unmarked ☆☆☆
☆☆ product will begin next week. ☆☆☆
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If you would like to participate in the *All Church Car Derby and Pancake Supper*, April 16, cars can be purchased from a Cadet Counselor for \$3, at the display in the Gathering Room. Counselors will be available if you have any questions.

"Prayer is the place where burdens change shoulders."

 Please pick up an extra item or two and put them on the table at the south entrance of the church and we will see that they get delivered. Please contact Jean Rottman at 231-652-6140 with any questions.

Two tickets still available at the church office for the **22nd Annual Hope College Musical Showcase**, March 1st, 8:00 p.m. at DeVos Hall, Grand Rapids.

World Day of Prayer "2010" "Let everything that has breath praise God." This is the theme chosen by Cameroon Christians as they invite women and men to the *World Day of Prayer* service on the traditional first Friday of March. This is the 77th local observance. Reeman Christian Reformed Church will host the area celebration on March 5th at 1:30 p.m. (please note alternate date is Friday, March 12th) This is an ecumenical observance. It is written with the unique culture and customs of Cameroon worship focusing on the theme. Participants represent various local churches. A free will offering will be received, a portion benefiting ALFA women's center. Additional information is provided in your mailboxes.