

SECOND REFORMED
CHURCH



Prayer Concerns

**Larry Sikkema-
Harbor Crest Skilled
Care**

**Sympathy is extend-
ed to the family of
Robert Wiersema,
who died on April 20**

The Second Story

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 3

MAY 2018

Easter Sunday is New Member Sunday!



Dan & Michelle Schadt

Dan and Michelle live in Clinton. They have three grown children, Erin, Jocelyn, and Rob. Dan is a retired pastor. Michelle works part time as a receptionist at The Alverno. They both enjoy camping and time with their grandsons. Dan also likes riding his bike and his scooter and Michelle is a reader. Dan's favorite Bible verse is John 3:16 and Michelle's is Philippians 4:6.

Luke & Kara Bush Bella, Harvey, & Jethro

Luke is a Highway Maintainer with the State of Illinois and Kara works from home as a merchandiser for DotDotSmile. Bella is in 4th grade, Harvey is 4, and Jethro is 2. Together, they enjoy time as a family and camping. Luke also loves to farm and Kara is interested in social media marketing strategies. Luke's favorite verse is John 15:13 and Kara's is Psalm 139.



Mike Breeden & Linda Lowman Jonathan, Ella, & Erin Breeden

Mike and Linda will be married July 6. Mike is a heating and air conditioning technician and



Linda is the housekeeping manager at Country Inn and Suites. Mike enjoys bowling and fishing and Linda loves to hike and explore nature. Jonathan is 6 and Ella and Erin are 4. Mike's favorite Scripture is Hebrews 3:4 and Linda's is Jeremiah 29:11.

Denise Whitney Claire & Lauren

Denise is married to David. Claire is 10 and in 5th grade and Lauren is 8 and in 3rd grade. Denise teaches at Eagle Heights Elementary School in Clinton. Her favorite Scripture is the picture of love portrayed in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.



BUNDLE UP FOR A WEEK OF COOL VBS FUN AT POLAR BLAST!!

No question about it. Polar Blast at Second Reformed Church, to be held June 25-29, will be the coolest VBS around. For kids entering kindergarten-fifth grade, they won't be the only ones having a blast. Every crew leader, craft station leader, storyteller, and helper will also have a blast as we go on an icy cool adventure discovering that Jesus will always love us!



Cool Bible Adventures will happen in The Igloo, the new worship and story space in the kids' zone.

Craft stations will be set up at The South Pole (fellowship hall) and will feature making snow, painting with icy snow paint, creating a snowman out of a sock and rice, crafting a whale game, assembling a snowflake ornament, weaving a God's Eye, and mixing bath bombs. Along with these craft stations, kids will fuel up at the Ice Box and explore our tropical Haitian room where they will learn more about Mission Starfish Haiti.

The Snow Show will begin and end our days at Polar Blast. We'll meet Dr. Jack Frost, a scientist studying penguins, watch science experiments that will connect to the daily story and theme, and sing new Polar Blast songs and also sing some of the VBS Greatest Hits!

YOU ARE NEEDED AT POLAR BLAST: Crew leaders and helpers are still needed. Sign up on the website (secondreformedchurch.net). Click on "church life" and then "ways to serve" to get to the Polar Blast Sign-up.

Check the sign-up sheets that will be posted across from the elevator for helper sign-ups, Ice Box snack donations, and closing celebration food donations. Plus,

we still need lots of used, clean socks for our snowball fight (leave in the kitchen) and we are still looking for a polar bear or penguin or snow globe inflatable for the church lawn to promote Polar Blast beginning late May-June (contact Laura at 589-3425).



“One generation will tell of your wonderful works to the **next.**”

Psalm 145:4

A year ago we were reviewing the plans for Next, anticipating the next century of Second's ministry, with a vision for a renovated campus that would allow us to more strategically engage with our community. Plans involved the parsonage becoming our church office, the children's area (Destination Awesome) being re-vamped with an emphasis on security, replacing our elevator with one that was larger (and more reliable) to be more hospitable to those for whom the stairs are an obstacle, an attractive Gathering area to create a more welcoming space, new restrooms, and an improved audio-visual system along with a more versatile platform. Quite an expansive vision!

Even though it was a daunting challenge, the congregation responded courageously to this vision, pledging to give \$677,525 over the course of three years. Remarkably, to date the congregation has given \$380,128 towards their pledge.

The financial portion of Next is very healthy, but, per our plan, we will need a loan to complete the "Bricks and Mortar" portion of the project over the next two months and continued giving is necessary to repay the loan over the remaining two years of Next. Bottom line, God has blessed us, allowing us to do well, and we look to God and to you for your continued generosity over the remaining two years of the Next Campaign.

Fulton Food Pantry

With the recent sale of the Robert Fulton Community Center, a new location is needed for the pantry. Currently the city is placing for bid a lot-and-a-half to the south of the School District building with the intention of selling that to the Pantry. If approved by the city, building begins this summer. Our hope is that we will be able to complete as much of the work through labor donated by the members of our community churches. We will be looking for carpenters (framers and finish), electricians, concrete, HVAC, painters, drywall finishers, licensed plumbers, metal workers for siding and roof, and block layers. Dale Sikkema has generously agreed to serve as the project manager but we are looking for someone to serve as the volunteer coordinator for Second. If interested, please contact Pastor Scott or Dale. The projected costs for this structure will be approximately \$60,000. Contributions can be made by check to "Riverbend Ministerial Association" and submitted to the office.

Consistory Notes

- For the consistory devotion, Galatians 5:22-23 was read (fruits of the Spirit) and a conversation was engaged asking the question, "How do these fruits inform the way we engage in conversations, especially with people with whom we disagree?"
- Received the resignation of Marilyn Fee as Resounding Joy Bell Director. Marilyn has served as the Director for 10 years and she and Mike would like, at this time, to engage more actively with the ministries of their church, Zion Lutheran. Please thank Marilyn for her service if you see her. A meeting with existing bell members will be scheduled to determine level of interest moving forward.
- Approved the gift of \$5,000 from funds that were allocated for Community Initiatives through the Next campaign to the Fulton Food Pantry for the purchase and building of a permanent pantry in town.
- Approved the gift of \$500 from Next Community Initiative funds to support the continued operation of the community senior meal program.
- Approved conducting a feasibility study regarding offering a Wednesday evening community meal from 5:30—6:30 p.m. and a feasibility study regarding offering a midweek Wednesday night worship service from 6:30—7:30 p.m.

Second Reformed Church

703 14th Avenue

Fulton, IL 61252

815-589-3425

secondreformedchurch.net

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Fulton, IL

Permit No. 90

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor Scott Stephan:

pastorscott@secondreformedchurch.net

Director of Ministries Laura Wessels:

laura@secondreformedchurch.net

Secretary Susan Phillips:

secretary@secondreformedchurch.net

We are a community of faith on a mission to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Treasure Seekers & Sunshine Choir Park Party

