

# SECOND STORY

Second Reformed Church Newsletter



November / December 2019

## Holidays are Great Holy Days



The word holiday comes from an Old English word which literally means, “Holy day.” There’s something about a holiday that inspires people to pause and reflect on the holy. Holidays create unique spaces in time for us to break out of our normal routines. We gather with family and friends. We eat. A lot! Many people will choose to attend a worship service. There are others who probably won’t attend a worship service on their own initiative, but if they were invited, there’s a good chance they would. With the approaching holidays, we who are Jesus-followers have a unique opportunity to offer that generous invitation to a friend, a neighbor, a coworker, or a family member. Suppers @ Second on Nov. 27th at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Thanksgiving Eve service at 6:30 p.m. is one possibility. The Candlelight Christmas Eve worship service at 6:30 p.m. is another great possibility. Who might you invite?

### Thanksgiving Eve is a Joint Service with First Reformed and Community Reformed in Clinton

The offering on Thanksgiving Eve

is designated for our

Feliz Navidad Christmas Outreach.

RUN

HIDE

FIGHT

What would you do if there was an active shooter during a worship service? Local officer, Jeremy Leitzen, will provide training Monday, Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m., at Fulton Presbyterian Church. Join the other churches in town for this valuable training.

### Children’s Christmas Program

The Sunday Connect Christmas Program will be held during worship on Sunday, December 8.

Sunshine Choir and Treasure Seekers will be singing several songs.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be performing a play called ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas. It will be important for those participating in the play to attend practices so that they are comfortable with the play, songs and service.

Practice dates are:

Sunday, November 17 - 11:00-11:40

Sunday, November 24 - 11:00-11:40

Sunday, December 1 - 11:00-11:40

Saturday, December 7 - 10:00-12:00 \*

\*Dress Rehearsal- (Lunch will be provided.)

Any youth who would like to provide special music for the Christmas program, please contact Abby Temple (309) 798-7126 or email [abbymtemple@gmail.com](mailto:abbymtemple@gmail.com).

✓ Mark Your  
Calendar

Nov. 27— Thanksgiving Eve  
Service @ 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 8— Christmas Caroling  
@ 4:30 p.m.

Dec. 11— Last Family Night  
of the year. We will resume  
Jan. 8.

Dec. 15— Last Sunday  
Connect class of the year.  
We will resume Jan. 5

Dec. 24— Christmas Eve  
Service @ 6:30 p.m.

## FELIZ NAVIDAD



Second’s Annual Family Christmas Outreach will take place on Sunday, December 15, 5:30-7:00 p.m. at church. This year’s theme is Feliz Navidad. We are inviting around 25 single parent families or families with financial need from our church and the community to our Mexican Fiesta.

During the event the kids will have the opportunity to choose and wrap gifts for their parents. Every family will also go home with a “Taco Night” themed food basket, and three \$25 gift cards to a grocery store, restaurant, and gas station.

Donations are needed for the food baskets and the gift cards. We also need personal shoppers to assist the children in selecting and wrapping their gifts. Sign up for these opportunities at the Welcome Desk. Donations may be brought to the church office.

Thank you for helping us make this night possible.

The planning team: Deb Christopher, Sarah Brubaker, Devin Dierks, Re’Nee Grant, Susan Phillips, Karen Smidt, and Cindy Wherry.



### Toy Making Project

Please remember to bring your finished toys to The Gathering Space by December 8. This will give us enough time to distribute them to the recipient families.

### Deacon’s Corner

Year end Income/ Expense  
projections are:

Income at 12-31-19  
\$312,400

Expenses at 12-31-19  
\$322,730

Middle School  
Youth Group  
meets  
Wednesday  
6:30—7:30 p.m.

High School  
Youth Group  
meets  
Wednesday  
8:00—9:30 p.m.

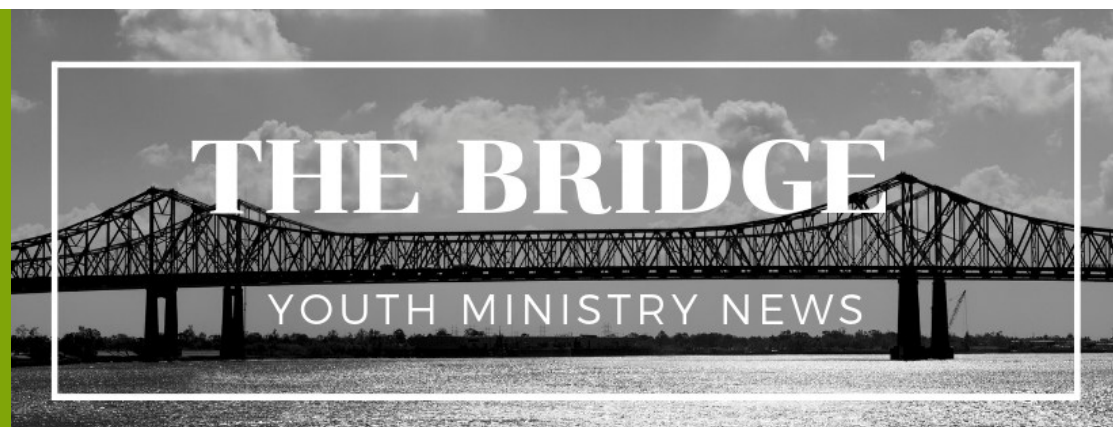


SAVE THE DATE

THE BRIDGE  
YOUTH  
MINISTRY'S

ANNUAL TRIVIA  
NIGHT

JANUARY 12, 2020  
@ 6:30 P.M.



### Meet Our Newest Staff Member!

We are thrilled to announce the hire of Nate Johnson as the Director of Student Ministry & Worship. Nate is married to Christine (Abbott) and they have two daughters, Rebekah (2) and Ellie(1). The Johnsons live in Clinton where Nate is currently serving at Journey church in a similar capacity. Nate will continue at Journey Church through the end of 2019 and will begin here at Second in the new year. His focus will initially be student ministry and then gradually he will assume worship leadership responsibilities. We look forward to welcoming the Johnson family to our community of faith here at Second!

A great big thank you to the search team who has worked diligently during this lengthy search process (Michele Eissens, John Dail, Clint VanZuiden, Tim Daley, Travis Ray, Kristin Huizenga, Pastor Scott). Also, special thanks to Mike Ankrom, John Dail, Clint VanZuiden and the incredible team of adult leaders who have invested so much into the ongoing success of The Bridge Youth Ministry.

### Consistory Notes

- Contracted with Daryl Cripe to facilitate a strategic visioning retreat to discern where God is guiding us to concentrate our efforts over the next several years and the most critical initiatives to begin that journey. More information will follow.
- Designated \$18,000 of the Elmer Bielema memorial to fund the work of the visioning teams over the course of the next three years.
- Formed a security team to implement measures to improve security at Second.
- Designated \$1,000 of the Gertrude VanZuiden Memorial to help fund the high school youth mission trip to Colorado in the summer of 2020.
- Investigating the cost of installing acoustic panels to walls in the gathering place.

**SUPPER  
@  
SECOND**

**Free Community Dinner**  
Served every Wednesday  
5:30—6:15pm

*Everyone is Welcome!*

### Menu for November / December

Nov. 20—Chicken Pot pie, applesauce, salad, desserts

Nov. 27—Chicken noodle soup, crackers, hot ham & cheese sandwiches, pumpkin pie

Dec. 4—BBQ sandwiches, chips baked beans, vegie & ip applesauce, cookies & bars

Dec. 11—Baked Ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, jello, dinner roll, Christmas cookies

Dec. 18—TBA

Dec. 25 & Jan 1 No Meal—Meals resume on Jan. 8.

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Visit us on the web: [secondreformedchurch.net](http://secondreformedchurch.net)