

# Heritage Happenings

Heritage Christian Reformed Church • 2857 S 11<sup>th</sup> Street • Kalamazoo MI 49009

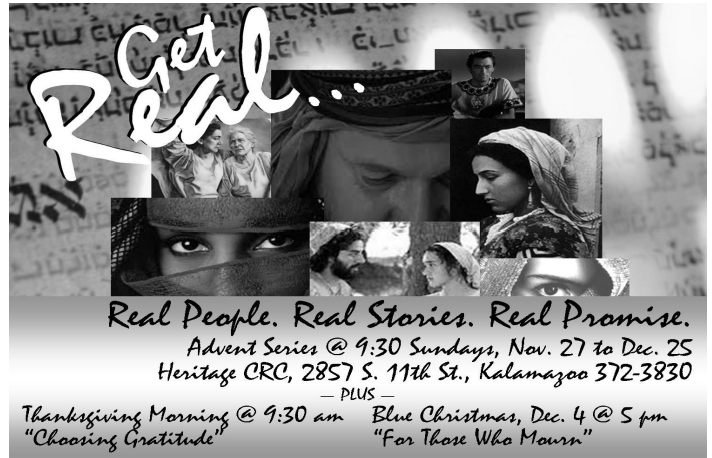
## Worship

**Blue Christmas Service:** While some Christians are alight with joy during the Christmas season, for many others it is a painful time as they grieve the death of someone they love, the loss of a dream, experience financial concerns, or work through relational difficulties.

This evening a "Blue Christmas" evening worship service is being planned. This service is for those who feel the brokenness of the world at Christmas time. It will be a service of worship with opportunity to sing and to hear comfort from the Word of God. Join us for this service and invite a neighbor or friend who might need to be reminded that Jesus also came to bring comfort to those who mourn.



**Christmas Choir News!** As requested, one extra rehearsal has been scheduled as part of our monthly Praise Team rehearsal this Wednesday, December 7. Praise Team members please plan on staying until 8 pm. Thanks everyone!



### Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule:

**December 4 at 5 pm:** Blue Christmas Service (see previous announcement).

**December 11 at 5 pm:** Children's Christmas Program titled "More than a Story".

**December 18 at 5 pm:** A Service of Lessons & Carols. Join us for this service of Word and song as we celebrate God's story of redemption and love through the coming of Jesus Christ.

**Please note:** There is no evening worship on Sunday, November 27 or Sunday, December 25.

**Congregational Meeting** is TODAY following the morning worship. Please plan to attend to consider the budget for next year & to hear stories of how God is at work through the ministry here at Heritage Church. A revised 2012 budget can be found in your mailbox this morning (light orange paper). Extra copies of the proposed budget can be found on the table in the Narthex.

**Christmas Food Basket Project:** A love offering for the Christmas Food Basket Project will be taken TODAY. The Deacons along with the Outreach Committee request your prayerful consideration, as your generosity will enable us to help more families in need. The baskets will be distributed on Thursday, December 22 around 5 pm. Sign up today on the table in the Narthex. Please help us as we serve God in this important outreach event.



## Fellowship

### Birthdays...

Carol Bonselaar ~ December 6  
Taylor Bruinwood ~ December 10



### Anniversaries...

Norbert & Joy Hegelmann ~  
December 7

## Thank you



Simply  
beautiful!

**A heartfelt thank you** to all the many helpers who took part in decorating the church for the Holiday Season this year. We appreciate all your time & effort to make our facilities so beautiful! You have out done yourself!

**Thank you so much** for the sleepers and blankets! The need is great and with winter coming they are very much appreciated. May God Bless!

*Alternatives Staff*

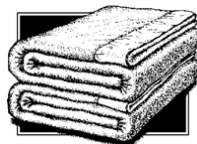


**“Cards & Cookies”** for our shut-ins is underway once again! Please have your Christmas Cards and cookies here by Sunday, December 18. Please place your cards in the basket on the table in the Narthex and your cookies in the Kitchen. A sign up sheet for cookies is on the table in the Narthex and a shut-in list can be found in your mailbox this morning. (Extras will be at the information center if needed.)



## Evangelism & Missions

**Blankets, Mittens, Scarves, Hats & any winter items** are needed at the Kalamazoo Deacon's Conference. They are desperately in need of *blankets* for their clients this winter. The Coffee Break Ladies will be collecting them in the box in the Narthex. It's a good time to clean out those closets!



### Loaves & Fishes: *Wish list:*

***December: Macaroni & Cheese***

*Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the fellowship hall*



### Emails or Letters to Missionaries

Ken & Ellen Byle ~ Wayne DeYoung  
Bonnie Colvin ~ Jimmy Lin  
Roger & Jackie Croy ~ Joseph Mutebi  
Ann DeMaagd ~ Larry Spalink

Check out the latest newsletter from Joseph Mutebi & the Spalink's on the missionary table!

*If you do not have a copy of our missionaries' email addresses, both their most current newsletter and email addresses are on the Missionary table right next to the mailboxes!*

## Offerings and Tithes

PM	<i>Offering is always for the General Fund</i>	
Dec 4:	General Fund	Christian Education
	Loose Change	Heritage Christmas Proj
Dec 11:	General Fund	Ministry Shares
	Loose Change	CRWRC
Dec 18:	General Fund	Faith Promise
	Loose Change	Benevolence Fund
Dec 25:	General Fund	Debt Reduction
	Loose Change	Rose Arbor

### Offerings deposited for Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, & 27<sup>th</sup>...

Adopt-a-Cow ~ \$140.00
Benevolence Fund ~ \$30.00
Building Fund ~ \$150.00
Christian Education Assistance ~ \$125.00
CRC World Hunger ~ \$8.00
Debt Reduction ~ \$10.00
Faith Promise ~ \$620.00
General Fund ~ \$8,701.00
Kalamazoo Christian School ~ \$114.00
Kalamazoo Gospel Mission ~ \$175.00
Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes ~ \$830.00
Memorial Fund ~ \$140.00
Ministry Shares ~ \$295.00
Miscellaneous Income ~ \$169.24

## Requested Announcements

**Mark your calendar:** Ballet Arts performance of "The Nutcracker" with Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra & Kalamazoo Children's Chorus providing accompaniment will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 2 pm & 7 pm and Sunday, December 11 at 2 pm at the Chenery Auditorium. ***Kelsey Bruinwood*** is

dancing in the production & **Cassidy Bruinwood** is putting her talents to work backstage. Tickets are on sale at Miller Auditorium. Kim Bruinwood has a “group” set up already. If you request to add to the “Kim Bruinwood group”, tickets are \$12/each.

**The Aftermath of the London Riots** CBI United Kingdom Director Matthew Savage reflects on the London riots and how they have affected the prison population. Go to [www.cbi.fm](http://www.cbi.fm) to listen to **Crossroad Connection** ~ a restorative justice ministry of Crossroad Bible Institute.

**You Asked! Part 2:** We are thankful for the listeners who write letters, post questions on our Facebook page, and email us. On this week’s program we’ll dig into scripture together to answer some of the questions you’ve asked **Groundwork**. Join the December 11<sup>th</sup> Groundwork conversation. Tune in to Groundwork – find a local radio station or listen online at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com).

**Merry X-Monsters:** What’s the true meaning of Christmas? On this week’s **Kids Corner**, you can help Liz figure this out. Then check out [kids@kidscorner.net](mailto:kids@kidscorner.net) for devotions, puzzles and more of Liz’s adventures.

**Love INC Adopt-a-Family for Christmas:** The Christmas season is rapidly approaching and there are many families in our community who will not be able to have gifts under the tree for their children. Love in The Name of Christ of Kalamazoo County partners with churches to bless families in need. In early November, Love INC will begin receiving requests for Christmas help and then verifying those requests. Those with legitimate need will be matched with volunteers willing to “adopt” a family. Volunteers could be individuals, families, or small groups with the church. If you are interested in adopting a family for Christmas, please call Love INC at 353-6798 and give us your name, contact information and the size of the family that you are willing to adopt and we will provide you with the details. We ask that volunteers be willing to deliver the gifts to the family and use this as an opportunity to show the love & compassion of Jesus Christ our Savior.



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**Save the Date:** Wednesday, January 18 is a GEMS/Cadets Roller Skate Night at Great Skate on Portage Road and Wednesday, February 15 is an all Kalamazoo Area GEMS Clubs Swim Night at Western Michigan University’s Pool.

**Glorious Sounds of the Season:** The WMU School of Music will present three concerts in celebration of the Christmas season, showcasing student and faculty artists in ticketed performances to benefit School of Music scholarships. The annual “**Choral Christmas**” on Saturday, December 3, will include traditional holiday favorites in Kalamazoo’s First Presbyterian Church. The two performances at 4 pm and 7:30 pm will feature over 160 singers and University Organist Karl Schrock. Student and faculty performers will present “**Jazz for the Holidays**” on Sunday, December 4 at 3 pm in Miller Auditorium. Medleys of holiday tunes will be featured, mixed with unique, fun arrangements of traditional songs and carols, highlighted by an audience sing-along. The third concert in the series is the Western Brass Quintet’s popular Christmas concert on Sunday, December 18 at 3 pm in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. “**A Brass Celebration of Christmas**” will feature the quintet and an ensemble of outstanding brass and percussion students and faculty colleagues from students, and are available from Miller Auditorium at 269-387-2300 or [www.millerauditorium.com/som](http://www.millerauditorium.com/som).



**NURSERY Dec 4:** Heather Tuin & Ellen Byle

**Dec 11:** Pam Gould & Teri Wagner

**COFFEE SERVERS: Dec 4:** Dave & Kathy VanderMeer, Phil & Barb Nieboer, Donna Penning, Bonnie Colvin

**Dec 11:** Herm & Gretchen Vanders, Jack & Evelyn Wenke, Jerry & Trudy Oele

**HEARTLAND HEALTHCARE CENTER (Services begin at 3:30 pm & last approx 30 minutes)**

**Dec 4:** Bill Vroegop & Ellen Byle

**Dec 11:** Gary Broekhuizen & Donna Penning

*If you can't speak or play on the date you are scheduled, please trade with someone else on the list.*

**PRAYER LINE MINISTRY ~ December:** Glen Wagner

**PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY** ~ prayerline@heritagecrc.org

**SERVICE MINISTRY ~ December:** Betty Vlietstra



**MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY ~ Dec 4:** Lisa Vlietstra    **Dec 11:** Pat Schewe    **PM Gary Broekhuizen**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>4</b> <b>Communion</b>  9:30 am Pastor Simon <b>"Rahab: Real Faith"</b> Joshua 2 & Matthew 1 10:50 Congregational Meeting 10:50 Christmas Prog Prac 5 pm <i>Blue Christmas Service</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30 – 11 am Elders Meeting 3 pm Deacons Mtg 7 pm	<b>7</b> Men's Bible Fellowship 7 am Praise Team Practice 6:30-8:30 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>  8-9 am Christmas Choir Prac 9:30 am Pastor Simon <b>"Ruth: Real Joy"</b> Book of Ruth & Matthew 1 10:50 Christmas Prog Prac 5 pm <b>"More Than A Story"</b> (Children's Christmas Prog)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30 – 11 am Admin Board Meeting 7 pm	<b>14</b> Ladies Fellowship Bible Study 9:45 – 11 am	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>  9:30 am Pastor Simon <b>"Bathsheba: Real Peace"</b> 2 Samuel 11 & Matthew 1 No Sunday School 5 pm Lessons & Carols	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> P.U.S.H. Prayer Meeting 7 pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>  9:30 Pastor Simon <b>"Mary: Real Love"</b> Luke 2:1-7 & Matthew 1 No Sunday School No Evening Service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Book Club 2-4 pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

**Newsletter articles need to be submitted by Wednesday at noon.**

**Call, leave a note, or e-mail your announcement to [churchoffice@heritagecrc.org](mailto:churchoffice@heritagecrc.org).**

**Cancellations** A tornado watch or warning in effect 1 hour prior to a worship service or meeting will result in the worship service or meeting being cancelled. Announcements regarding worship services will be announced on WWMT channel 3, WOODTV Channel 8 and WOTV channel 4. **Office Hours** Tuesday – Wednesday: 9-2 pm & Thursday 9-Noon

**Newsletter DEADLINE**