

Heritage CRC

2857 South 11th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
(just south from Stadium Drive)

Phone: 269.372.3830
Prayer Line 372.3830 x 5
churchoffice@heritagecrc.org
Pastor Simon:
pastorsimon@heritagecrc.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP:@ 9:30 AM

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Thursday by 9:00 am. Call,
leave a note, or e-mail to
churchoffice@heritagecrc.org.

OFFICE HOURS:
Wednesday: 8:00 am —1:00 pm
Thursday: 8:00 am —1:00 pm

Connecting with our Community

Please continue to reach out via phone or e-mail to our church community.



Thank you for your faithful support through your tithes and offerings. If you mail your contributions, the mailbox is checked each day of the week.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 8 am Mobile Food Initiative |
| 20 9:30 am Pastor Simon "Joseph: Ordinary Man, Extraordinary God" Matthew 1:18-25 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30 am Pastor Simon "The Shepherds: Ordinary Messengers, Extraordinary God" Luke 2:8-20 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 January 2021 | 2 |
| 3 9:30 am Pastor Simon "Freedom in Christ" Romans 7 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

Heritage

HAPPENINGS

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH, KALAMAZOO HERITAGECRC.ORG

Volume #19, Issue 26**December 17, 2020****2020 Advent Series**

Sermon Series: "A Remarkable Advent"

Overfamiliarity can be dangerous. It's true of the story of Jesus' birth. Some have called it "The greatest story ever told." Yet instead of gasping in wonder, we tend to skim over the words and turn the page. Perhaps this year we need to unfamiliarize ourselves with the Christmas story and hear it again as if for the first time. Join us for this Advent series and see how God works through ordinary people to do something extraordinary and why God still works this way through us. This Sunday's sermon title: "Joseph, Ordinary Man, Extraordinary God." Matthew 1:18-25

**Celebrations...****Birthdays...**

Esther Manni ~ December 20 ~ 89 years young
Dorothy VanDenBerg ~ December 21 - 80 years young
Judy Fletcher ~ December 22



Office Hours: The week of Christmas, Lisa will be working in the office Tuesday and Wednesday morning. Please have all newsletter requests into the office by 9 AM Wednesday morning. Thank you.

Announcements**Safety Items**

- Please wear a mask when entering and exiting the building. Masks may be removed when seated in the sanctuary.
- It is essential that 6 feet of physical distancing be observed when entering the church prior to the service and during the time of fellowship after the service.
- Please continue to enter the building at the front entrance or the Fellowship Hall.
- Hand sanitizer and masks are available at each entrance.

A Roshan Update (as of 12/14/20)

Thanks for the many people who supported the paintings sale last week. The land for the school has been purchased and we are now focusing on the \$35,000 cost of building the school itself. We have \$4765 in the school fund and can now add \$5775 from the sale of the paintings. Result: \$10,540. Wow! **All praise to God!**

The **Coffee break** ladies are again requesting winter items for Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries. Items needed are winter coats and clothing for all ages, blankets, sleeping bags. There is a box in the foyer in which to put your donations. Everything is appreciated.

**Directory Update**

There are some updates for your church directories in your mailboxes this week. Thank you.

What's Up in Worship

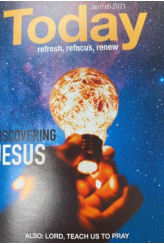


Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Come celebrate the birth of our Savior on Christmas Eve, December 24 at 6:30pm. Through music, song and the lighting of candles we will celebrate the coming of Jesus as the light of the world.

From the Shepherding Elders: At our meeting this week, the shepherding elders spent time discussing the evening service in light of COVID-19 and the coming Winter season. For both of these reasons the decision was made to place the evening service on hold until March.

Video Recording

A video recording of the morning worship service will be posted to our church YouTube page either on Sunday or Monday. Here is the link to our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCutET663hVzpPohBMiCXEQa>. If you haven't already done so, be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel and click the notification bell to receive updates whenever a new video becomes available.



Today Booklets: The January/February booklets have arrived. Please pick up a copy outside the southeast sanctuary doors if you so desire a copy.

Offering Schedule

- Dec. 20: General Fund & Faith Promise
Loose Change: Kalamazoo Gospel Mission
- Dec. 24: World Renew
- Dec. 27: General Fund & Building Fund
Loose Change: Forgotten Man Ministries
- Jan. 3: General Fund & Christian Ed. Assistance
Loose Change: Rehoboth Christian School
- Jan. 10: General Fund & Ministry Shares
Loose Change: Bethany Christian Services

December 31, 2020 marks the end of the year for financial gifts that will be included in the 2020 summary tithes and offerings to Heritage Church. All contributions received and deposited after January 1, 2021 will be included on your summary for 2021. In January, the deacons will place this summary in the mailbox of each member for whom a report is available. Questions? Please contact one of the deacons.

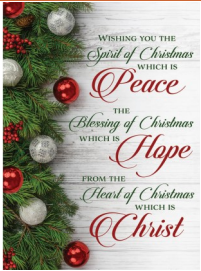
Thank You!

The Deacons would like to thank our Heritage Church family for your gracious support and giving to our church in 2020 despite the many challenges this year has brought. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. A big thanks from your Deacons.

The Bible League Division is thankful and appreciates our church's donation of \$350 toward the Project Philip. Continue to pray with us for the provision of God's word to a lost and needy world. Thank you!



From the Deacons: Due to the current Covid 19 pandemic, the deacons have decided to not deliver flowers or cards to the homebound members of our congregation during this Christmas season. The deacons would like to request that members of the congregation send a Christmas card to these members to brighten up their holidays. There are copies of the addresses on the table in the lobby. Please feel free to participate in this important ministry to our homebound members with an encouraging card, note, or letter. Thank you from the deacons.



Calvin Advent Series
The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship is presenting a series of weekly lessons and carols advent services online; it started November 29. Each service premieres at 7 p.m. EST Sunday evening on youtube; services may be viewed later if you wish. To listen, do a search on youtube.com and enter Healer of our every ill 2020 in the search box to locate and listen.

Volunteer Schedule...

- PRAYER LINE MINISTRY:**
Glen Wagner/Judy Fletcher
- PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY:**
prayerline@heritagecrc.org

- MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY:**
Dec 20 - Paul Booden
Dec 24 - Gary Broekhuizen
Dec 27 - Ferrel Stremmer
Jan 3 - Lisa Durian

Prayer line Reminder: If your email address has changed, you wish to have your or a friend's email added to the Prayer Line, or you wish to no longer receive Prayer Line emails, please send an email request to: prayerline@heritagecrc.org or jerry.oele@yahoo.com

Family Faith Formation Tip

"... and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them."

"This Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own concern."

crcna.org/FaithFormation/practices



The January Series cultivates deep thought and conversations about important issues of the day in order to inspire cultural renewal and make us better global citizens in God's world. Our long tradition of offering a **free** 15-day lecture series continues, but 2021 will look different.

This year the January Series will be a completely **virtual** experience. You can watch each presentation (12:30 to 1:30 p.m. EST) on your own devices in your own location, or you can gather at one of our small remote sites available across the continent. And if you can't join us live, the presentation will be available for the entire day. The link, however, will only be live until midnight, so don't delay. We are only able to permanently archive a handful of this year's presentations on our website, so it will be important to plan ahead and watch the day-of.

The January Series is completely free, but **you will need to register** to watch. The simplest way is to sign up now to receive a daily email reminder with a link for viewing that day's presentation. Or, beginning January 6, come back to this page on the day(s) you'd like to tune-in and simply click on the Watch Now button. You'll be asked to fill out a simple form that will redirect you to the daily presentation.