

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
20	21	22	23	24 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service	25 <i>Christmas</i>	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 Communion 9:30 am Pastor Simon "Freedom in Christ" Romans 7	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 9:30 am Pastor Simon "Life Through the Spirit" Romans 8:1-17	11	12 7 pm Admin Board	13	14	15	16

Heritage

HAPPENINGS

Volume #19, Issue 27

December 23, 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: "The Shepherds: Ordinary Messengers, Extraordinary God." Luke 2:8-20.



Celebrations...

Birthdays...
 Matthew Carlisle ~ December 31



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.



Thank you...

Thank you for the phone calls, cards and prayers in the loss of my brother and uncle. We are grateful to belong to such a loving church.
 Betty Vlietstra & The Durian Family

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.



Offering Schedule

- 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
- Jan. 17: General Fund & Faith Promise
Loose Change: Kalamazoo Christian Schools

Offerings (deposited for Dec. 20, 2020)

- Benevolence Fund ~ \$663.00
- Building Fund ~ \$2,110.00
- Christian Education Assistance ~ \$205.00
- Faith Promise ~ \$706.00
- General Fund ~ \$12,947.00
- Growing Hope Globally ~ \$160.00
- Kalamazoo Gospel Mission ~ \$247.00
- Memorial Fund ~ \$50.00
- Ministry Shares ~ \$365.00
- Misc. Income ~ \$3,941.24

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.

Severe Weather Cancellation: In the event of severe weather and Sunday services are cancelled, closing information will be posted on Channel 3 WWMT at least 1 hour prior to the worship service start time. You can also sign up to receive text or email alerts from Channel 3. Go to WWMT website, click on weather, then closings. Then sign up to receive texts on your phone or email alerts for Heritage Christian Reformed Church.



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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 24 - Gary Broekhuizen
- Dec 27 - Ferrel Stremmler
- Jan 3 - Lisa Durian
- Jan 10 - LillieAnn Durian

Family Faith Formation Tip

Kathleen Norris wrote, "True hospitality is marked by an open response to the dignity of each and every person."

As you go through your week, focus on approaching every person you meet with this kind of open response.

At the end of the week, look back at how this approach changed your attitudes and actions.

crcna.org/FaithFormation

The January Series of Calvin University

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.

