

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
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 10am-4pm Roshan Project Fund Raiser in the Fellowship Hall
13 9:30 am Pastor Simon "Mary: Ordinary Woman, Extraordinary God" Luke 1:26-56 Congregational Meeting after the morning service	14	15 7 pm Shepherding Elders	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

Heritage

HAPPENINGS

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH, KALAMAZOO HERITAGECRC.ORG

Volume #19, Issue 25**December 10, 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 un-familiarize 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: "Mary, Ordinary Woman, Extraordinary God." Luke 1:26-56

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

Melissa Piontek ~ December 18

**Thank you. . .**

Thank you so much for your prayers, calls and get well wishes sent to me after my recent surgery.

Ferrel Stremmer



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 Opportunity

This Saturday, December 12, please join us in our Fellowship Hall for the display of 90 small paintings done by Sy Ellens. All proceeds from the sale of these works, reasonably priced from \$50 to \$150, will be donated to the building of the Roshan school in Pakistan. From 10 AM to 4PM, *interested persons are invited to come as the CDC guidelines are observed.* No food or drinks may be taken into the building. Updated information will be given if the guidelines are changed. Questions may be directed to Jan at 269-873-7282.

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.



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.

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.



Annual Congregational Meeting: The annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, December 13, 2020 following the morning Worship Service to vote on a budget for 2021. A copy of the proposed budget for 2021 was placed in mailboxes. Extra copies are available at the Information Center. If you have any questions, please contact Donn Carlisle, council president, or Bob Razenberg, council VP/clerk.

Offering Schedule

- Dec. 13: General Fund & Ministry Shares
Loose Change: Benevolence Fund
- 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

Offerings (deposited for Dec. 6, 2020)

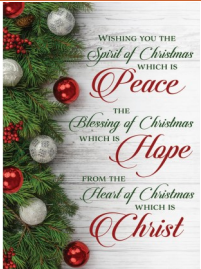
- Benevolence Fund ~ \$20.00
- Building Fund ~ \$1,100.00
- Christian Education Assistance ~ \$150.00
- Faith Promise ~ \$190.00
- Forgotten Man Ministries ~ \$20.00
- General Fund ~ \$3,355.00
- Kalamazoo Gospel Mission ~ \$20.00
- Ministry Shares ~ \$150.00
- Rose Arbor Hospice ~ \$190.00
- World Renew (CRWRC) ~ \$20.00

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.



The World Renew Gift Catalog gives you the opportunity to choose how you want to support families around the world achieve sustainable, healthy lives. Whether it be a goat, a chicken, a hand-washing station, or an empowerment training for at-risk youth, your gift could be just what someone needs to move forward with hope. Every gift loosens the chains of injustice and poverty in real and sustainable ways. Extras can be found in the lobby.

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 13 - LillieAnn Durian
Dec 20 - Paul Booden
Dec 27 - Ferrel Stremmer

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

Ponder this quote from Mother Teresa:

"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."

How might you and your family love and serve others during this season?

crcna.org/FaithFormation/practices

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.