

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:@ 10:00 AM

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Thursday by 8:00 am. Call,
leave a note, or e-mail to
churchoffice@heritagecrc.org.

OFFICE HOURS:
Wednesday: 8:00 am —12:00 pm
Thursday: 8:00 am —12:00 pm

Volunteer Schedule...

COFFEE SERVERS:

Dec. 22 & 29 Arnie Keur, Linda DeLoof, Becky Smith, Linda VanGoeye
Jan. 5 & 12 Cameron & Helen Brown/Sue, Hannah, Jonathan Mejeur

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY: Glen Wagner/Donnie Waterhouse

PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY: hcrprayer@gmail.com

SERVICE MINISTRY: Judy Wieringa/Kathy VanderMeer

Districts	Elder	Deacon
A-M	Glen Wagner	Cheri Gavin
N-Z	Rick Lingbeek	Roger Selles

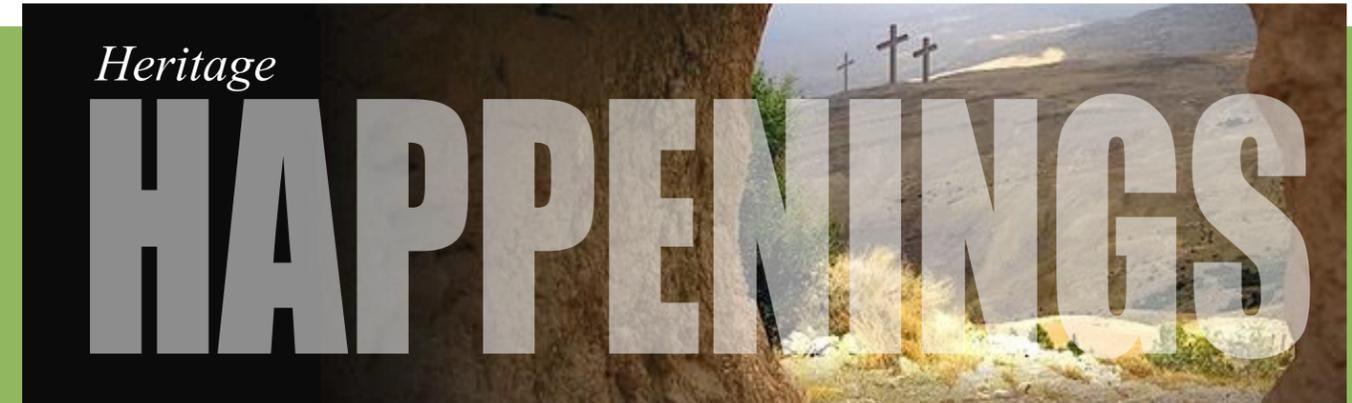
MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY:

Dec. 22 - Lisa Durian
Dec. 25 - Ian Tuin
Dec. 29 - Chris VandenBerg

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:

12/22 - Cheri Gavin & Wendy Rose
12/25 - Barb Razenberg
12/29 - Joyce Truscott & Nancy VDB

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				19	20	21 7:45 am Mobile Food Initiative 
22 10 am Pastor Simon "Be Genuine: Loving Obedience" Matthew 25:31-46 6 pm Candlelight Service	23	24	25 10 am Christmas Day Service 	26	27	28
29 10 am Pastor Michael VandenBerg "Covenant Renewed" John 14:15-31	30	31	1 	2	3	4
5 Communion 10 am Pastor Simon "Where Is The King?" Matthew 2:1-12 Epiphany Sunday	6	7 9:30 Coffee Break	8 8 am Men's Bible Study	9 9:30 GROW Group	10 9:30 Heritage Piecemakers	11



Volume #23, Issue 47

December 19, 2024

What's up in Worship

The Return of the King: While He first came as a babe in a manger and lived gently and lowly, when He comes again He will come as King of kings and Lord of lords. Join us this Advent season as we consider what Jesus says in Matthew 24 & 25 about how we should wait and what we should do as we wait for that day. This week's sermon is based on Matthew 25:31-46, "Be Genuine: Loving Obedience."



Candlelight Service: Come celebrate the birth of our Savior on December 22 at 6:00 pm. Through music, song and the lighting of candles we will celebrate the coming of Jesus as the light of the world.



Join us Christmas morning at 10 am for our Christmas Day Worship Service. The sermon title is "Meekness and Majesty" based on Luke 2:1-20.

Merry Christmas from our family to our Heritage family! May the One who has come and will come again fill you with joy and peace this Christmas and throughout the New Year.
Pastor Simon, Heather, Connor & Ian

Celebrations...

Birthdays...
Judy Fletcher ~ December 22



What's Happening This Week

Church Calendar for Dec. 21-28:

Saturday 7:45am Mobile Food Initiative
Sunday 10:00 Worship Service
6:00 Candlelight Service
Wednesday 10:00 Christmas Day Service



We want to thank you for all your well wishes all for Norbert's 70 birthday and our 50th wedding anniversary .

Membership Update: At their request, the shepherding elders released the membership of Harold & Phyllis Triezenberg to Harvest Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Wyoming, MI. May God bless Harold & Phyllis as they commit themselves to this faith community.



Pastor Simon will be out of the office December 26-January 2. If a need arises please contact one of the elders.

Offering Schedule

- Dec. 22 General Fund & Building Fund
Loose Change: Kalamazoo Valley Gleaners
- Dec. 25 Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes
- Dec. 29 General Fund
Loose Change: Park Village Pines
- Jan. 5 General Fund & Christian Education
Loose Change: Rehoboth Christian School

Offerings (deposited for December 15, 2024)

- Building Fund ~ \$60.00
- Christian Ed Assistance ~ \$270.00
- Faith Promise ~ \$647.00
- General Fund ~ \$10,690.00
- Loaves & Fishes ~ \$100.00
- Memorial Fund ~ \$350.00
- Ministry Shares ~ \$105.00
- Park Village Pines ~ \$50.00
- World Missions ~ \$20.00
- World Renew (CRWRC) ~\$221.25

From the Deacons: December 31, 2024 marks the end of the year for financial gifts that will be included in the 2024 summary of tithes and offerings to Heritage Church. All contributions received and deposited after January 1 will be included on your summary for 2025. 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.

Dear Friends,
As we celebrate the gift of Jesus this Christmas, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for all the ways you have supported ReFrame Ministries this year. Whether through ministry shares, special offerings, personal gifts, or your faithful prayers, your generosity has made a difference.

I've been especially blessed by our conversations and the privilege of being trusted with your stories and prayer requests.

We are so grateful to partner with you in sharing Christ's love. May this Christmas season fill your church and community with an abundance of His joy, peace, and hope.

Blessings,
Jessica Fox,
ReFrame Ministries



Christmas Card Ministry:

If you are dropping off Christmas cards for our home-bound members at the church, this Sunday, December 22 is the deadline. If

you would like to help deliver the cards, please contact one of the deacons, Jonathan Mejeur, Roger Selles and Cheri Gavin.

ATTENTION COFFEE BREAK LADIES

Coffee Break Bible Study will resume on Tuesday January 7. We will be discussing material from our book on the Disciple John. Look forward to seeing you in 2025.



GROW GROUP

Our Thursday morning GROW Group will take the next few Thursdays off and will meet again on January 9. As always all are welcome to join us on Thursdays at 9:30 am.



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.



It's that time again. Time to make room for new winter wear! Once more, the Coffee Break ladies will be gathering **winter coats, hats, scarves, blankets, etc.** for those in need within the community. This will be an ongoing effort until the holiday season is over. Right after the year's end we will gather the items and deliver them to Kal. Gospel Ministries. Look for the box in the lobby area to place your donations. Any questions, please talk to Barb Nieboer or Joyce Truscott.



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



World Renew

The Gift of Christmas - Next week, we celebrate the gift of Jesus, who left his heavenly home to offer us the hope of eternal life with him. Your gift for World Renew this season gives hope to people who live with poverty, disaster, and injustice worldwide. Put families in need on your Christmas list this year by giving generously in the World Renew offering. Traveling over the holidays? You can give at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972.



Alternatives of Kalamazoo: A baby basinet in available in the gym/fellowship hall for donations to support Alternatives Pregnancy Care Center of Kalamazoo. Needed items include diapers, baby food, new or gently used clothing, receiving blankets, etc. A list is available in the basinet. **Special needs right now are toddler clothing, sizes 2T-5T.** Thank you!

Family Faith Formation Tip

For you Jesus Christ came into the world: for you he lived and showed God's love; for you he suffered the darkness of Calvary and cried at the last, "It is finished"; for you he triumphed over death and rose in newness of life; for you he ascended to reign at God's right hand. All this he did for you, though you do not know it yet. And so the word of Scripture is fulfilled: "We love because God loved us first." -Adapted from the French Reformed Church liturgy. **During this week of Christmas, tell the familiar story of the birth of our Savior with the hope of hearing it in new and beautiful ways, remembering Christ's incarnation and birth for YOU. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive**

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Advent Week 4: The Blessing - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. We cannot repay God for his love. What we can do is give his love to others and bless those around us the same way God blesses us. Christ is the ultimate blessing, and when we receive him, it's not something we keep to ourselves. As God's children, he wants us to share the good news of Jesus's birth, death, and resurrection with others. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Story of the Shepherds.

Groundwork: Jesus: Our Prince of Peace - As we celebrate Christmas, join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 9:6, Psalm 137, Isaiah 49:6, Isaiah 53:4-12, Ephesians 2:14-19, and Luke 2:1-21 to discover the deep and meaningful shalom Jesus brought to us in his birth, that he promises to establish permanently when he returns, and how we can be his agents of peace in our world here and now. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Calvin University

The January Series - The January Series of Calvin University returns January 20 through January 31. From Paralympians to historians, adventurers, and innovators, we have a topic for you to deepen your curiosity. Join us in the Covenant Fine Arts Center on the campus of Calvin University or online. More information can be found at www.calvin.edu/january-series