

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH, KALAMAZOOHERITAGECRC.ORG

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP:  
@ 9:30 AM (Nursery provided)  
SUNDAY EVENING @ 5:00 PM

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:  
Thursday by 10:00 am. Call,  
leave a note, or e-mail to  
churchoffice@heritagecrc.org.

OFFICE HOURS:  
Wednesday: 10:00 am—3:00 pm  
Thursday: 10:00 am—3:00 pm

Volunteer Schedule...

NURSERY: December 3: Joyce Truscott & Ellen Byle  
December 10: Tara Razenberg & Ann Nieboer

COFFEE SERVERS:  
Dec. 3: Phil & Barb Nieboer; Jack & Evelyn Wenke; Bob & Barb Razenberg  
Dec. 10 & 17: Pat & Carol Schewe; Nick & Ann Nieboer; Ken & Judy Fletcher


HALLMARK LIVING  
(Services begin at 3:30 pm & last approximately 30 minutes)  
December 3: Gary Broekhuizen & Judy Wieringa  
December 10: Bill Vroegop & Ellen Byle

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY: Glen Wagner/Judy Fletcher

PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY: prayerline@heritagecrc.org

SERVICE MINISTRY: December: Betty Vlietstra

MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY: Dec. 3: Lisa Durian Dec 10: Ferrel Stremler  
PM: Gary Broekhuizen

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 COMMUNION SUNDAY ADVENT #1 9:30 am Pastor Simon “What Are You Waiting For?” Isaiah 64:1-9  5:00 pm Pastor Simon “Trinity— God Is”	4	5  Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30 –11 am	6  Men’s Bible Fellowship 8 am  Book Club 2 pm	7	8 	9
10 ADVENT #2 9:30 am Pastor Simon “Are You Ready?” Isaiah 40:1-11  Congregational Meeting  5:00 pm Pastor Simon Lessons & Carols	11	12  Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30 –11 am  Admin. Board 3:30 pm	13	14	15	16  Mobile Food Initiative Prairie Ridge Elem. 8 am Set Up 9 am Food Distribution
17 ADVENT #3 9:30 am Pastor Simon “How Do You Hear This News?” Isaiah 61:1-11  5:00 pm Pastor Simon Candlelight Service	18	19  Shepherding Elders 3 pm	20  P.U.S.H. Prayer Meeting 7 pm	21	22	23
24 ADVENT #4 9:30 am Pastor Simon “What Do You Do When the Lights Go Out?” Isaiah 9:1-7  No Evening Service	25 Christmas Day Worship 9:30 am “Glory to God in the Highest” Luke 2:1-14	26	27	28	29	30

Heritage


HAPPENINGS

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Volume #16, Issue 45

December 3, 2017

What’s up in Worship



O Come, O Come Emmanuel

The season of Advent is for those who know Jesus has come and will come again. It is also for those who need to hear the Good News of the One who is the light that shines in the darkness. This Advent season, which begins today, join us as we discover through the prophet Isaiah why we celebrate Jesus’ birth and how to live in hopeful expectation of His return in glory.



Celebrations Birthdays  
Della Porter ~ December 3  
Carol Bonselaar ~ December 6

Anniversaries  
Norbert & Joy Hegelmann ~ December 7


A Congregational Meeting meeting is scheduled for Dec. 10, 2017 at 10:45 a.m. following the morning Worship Service to review the past year of ministry and adopt a budget. During this meeting, we will also deal with the adoption of the Restated Articles of Incorporation for Heritage Christian Reformed Church, a copy of which were placed in each family member’s mailbox a few weeks ago. Additional copies are available upon request.

Christmas Cards & Cookies

If you are able, please remember our homebound members with a card and/or cookies. Please place the cards in the basket at the Information Center and the cookies in the kitchen by **December 17**. At her request, Judy Zwart has asked that her name be removed from the list. Thank you!



What will you give to help fill the gap?




This Advent, World Renew asks you to stand in the gap with people in need.

With your help, World Renew can fill the gap with literacy, agriculture, or good health. Include a gift catalog item on your Christmas list this year. Extra copies are available at the Information Center.



Ministry Continued. . .

The **Coffee Break Ladies** will be collecting winter **coats, mittens, hats, scarves, blankets, and other warm clothing** for all ages. Children’s clothing will be delivered to Prairie Ridge Elementary and the adult clothing will go to a downtown organization. A box has been placed in the narthex for your items. Thank you!



**Book Club** will be meeting Wednesday, December 6 at 2:00 pm to discuss the book **Ordinary Grace** by William Kent Krueger.

**CHRISTMAS GATHERING THANK YOU**  
A very sincere thank you to all who participated in any way for the 3rd annual Christmas Gathering held here at Heritage Church last Tuesday evening. Special thanks to the Hostesses who planned and set beautiful tables for their guests, including many from our own church as well as lots of visitors. What a pleasure to see so many attend - friends, relatives, neighbors, and even several guests from foreign countries.

Deep appreciation also goes to the five ladies who spoke to the group about their Christmas experiences in various countries. Thank you, Luciana, Kris, Anum, Jennifer and Ann. All did such a wonderful job and gave us insight as to how others celebrate the Christmas season and holiday.

And then, to many others who made the evening a success: the planning committee, all who set up the tables and chairs (and took them down!), those who decorated the fellowship hall; to Helen for playing the piano, to all who had any part in the program and making it run smoothly, and special thanks to the men in the kitchen who took care of the food, washed lots of dishes and scrubbed five big soup pots!!! Most of all we give thanks to God for all the blessings of the event. We felt His presence and His pleasure in the joy and fellowship of the evening. Thanks again to all who came and to all who helped in any way. Soli Deo Gloria!!

Missions & Missionaries...

**Loaves & Fishes wish list:**  
**December:** Canned meat

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

**Emails or Letters to Missionaries...**  
Fred & Pam Gould ~ Jairo Solano  
Joy Hegelmann ~ Larry Spalink  
Norm & Bonnie Langeland ~ Van Aukum Family

*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 next to the mailboxes*

<b>Offering Schedule</b>	
Dec. 3	General Fund & Christian Education Loose Change: Rose Arbor Hospice
Dec. 10	Genera Fund & Ministry Shares Loose Change: World Renew**
Dec. 17	General Fund & Faith Promise Loose Change: Benevolence Fund
Dec 24	General Fund: Building Fund Loose Change: Kzoo Gospel Mission

**Offerings (deposited for Thanksgiving)**  
Kalamazoo Gospel Mission ~ \$100.00  
Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes ~ \$594.00  
World Renew ~ \$15.00

**Deposited for November 26...**  
Adopt a Cow ~ \$25.00  
Building Fund ~ \$425.00  
Faith Promise ~ \$605.00  
General Fund ~ \$4,054.00  
Kalamazoo Gospel Mission ~ \$249.00  
World Renew ~ \$100.00

**\*\*Christmas Project Special Offering**  
Next Sunday, December 10, the deacons will take a special offering for our yearly Christmas project. Because of the ongoing needs for hurricane ravaged areas, the deacons have decided that our offering will again be for World Renew. We are so grateful for your incredible generosity in the previous offerings and hope that you can again show compassion to those who have lost everything.



Requested Announcements

Twin Lakes Reformed Church will be hosting an **Advent/Christmas Concert and Sing-Along** featuring The Silvertones. The concert will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Twin Lakes Reformed Church is located at 5475 Ravine Rd., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. For more information, please contact the church at 269-382-1158.

**Christmas Carol Sing:** Grace CRC invites you to join them as they present, "How to Save the World: The Story of Christmas through Scripture and Song" on Sunday, December 10 at 7p.m. A light lunch will be served before the carol sing.

**Advent Devotional Series** - Looking for more meaning in the midst of a busy Christmas season? This Advent, ReFrame Media offers a special email devotional series just for you. With daily devotions and encouragements from Today, Family Fire, Groundwork, and the fun of Kids Corner, we designed it to help your whole family experience the true wonder of Christmas, the coming Christ. Subscribe at [reframemedia.com/advent](http://reframemedia.com/advent).

**Vendor Blender Holiday Sale** at Kalamazoo Christian High School Gym on Saturday, December 16 from 9 am to 1 pm. This is a fundraising event for a student trip to Israel. Sample of items available: fused glass, woodcraft products, crocheted and knitted items, leggings, hand-woven rugs, freshly made kettle corn, baked goods, hand made jewelry, alpaca wool fiber goods, baby items, coloring books, candles, bath salts and scrubs, nail polish, headbands, Mary Kay, LulaRoe, Thirty-One, Young Living Essential Oils, Tastefully Simple, Color street, Avon, Rodan and Fields, Pampered Chef, Norwex, Pink Zebra, Oragami Owl—and much, much more!

- COUNCIL REPORT for 11/21/17 MEETING**

  - ♦ Pastor Simon Tuin opened with prayer and lead discussion on Chapters 2 & 3 “Growing Young: 6 Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church.”
  - ♦ The Shepherding Elders shared a verbal report of the meeting held earlier that day.
  - ♦ The Shepherding Deacons shared a verbal update of their work and the meeting held just prior to the Council meeting, including that the Christmas project offering on Dec. 10 is scheduled for World Renew. The deacons will give a report and “thank-you” to the congregation for their generosity at the Congregational Meeting on Dec. 10.
  - ♦ The work of the Administrative Board was reviewed, including the following items:
  - ♦ Motion was supported and carried to approve restroom faucet replacements in the amount of \$2,700 to be taken from the Building Fund.
  - ♦ Building security was discussed and noted that all doors (including main entrance) are now to be locked during services. It was also noted that the Kalamazoo Co. Sheriff Dept. has been contacted for recommendations to enhance security.
  - ♦ The October financial report was reviewed and will be distributed to the congregation.
  - ♦ The proposed 2018 Budget was approved and will be presented to the congregation for their review and approval at the Dec. 10 Congregational Meeting.
  - ♦ Pastor Simon’s Sabbatical report was gratefully received and will also be distributed to the congregation for their information. In addition, he provided a detailed report of his activities the past two months.
  - ♦ Affirmed the agenda for the congregational meeting:
    1. Approval of revised Articles of Incorporation
    2. Presentation of proposed 2018 budget
    3. Pastor Simon's sabbatical report
    4. Ministry updates & sharing of blessings
  - ♦ Next Council meeting is Tuesday, January 23, 2018.