

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 9:30 am. Call,
leave a note, or e-mail to
churchoffice@heritagecrc.org.

OFFICE HOURS:
Wednesday: 8:30 am—12:30 pm
Thursday: 8:30—12 pm

Volunteer Schedule...

NURSERY
December 9: Glen Wagner & Gert Nieboer
December 16: Ellen Byle & Matt Carlisle
December 23: Kris Carlisle & Ruth Wagner

COFFEE SERVERS
Dec 9/16: Dave & Carol Bonselaar, Sue Mejeur, Fred & Pam Gould
Dec 23/30: Dave & Kathy VanderMeer, Ken & Ellen Byle, Bonnie Colvin

HALLMARK LIVING
(Services begin at 3:30 pm & last approximately 30 minutes)


December 9: Gary Broekhuizen
December 16: Simon Tuin & Phyllis Triezenberg
December 23: Bill Vroegop & Judy Wieringa

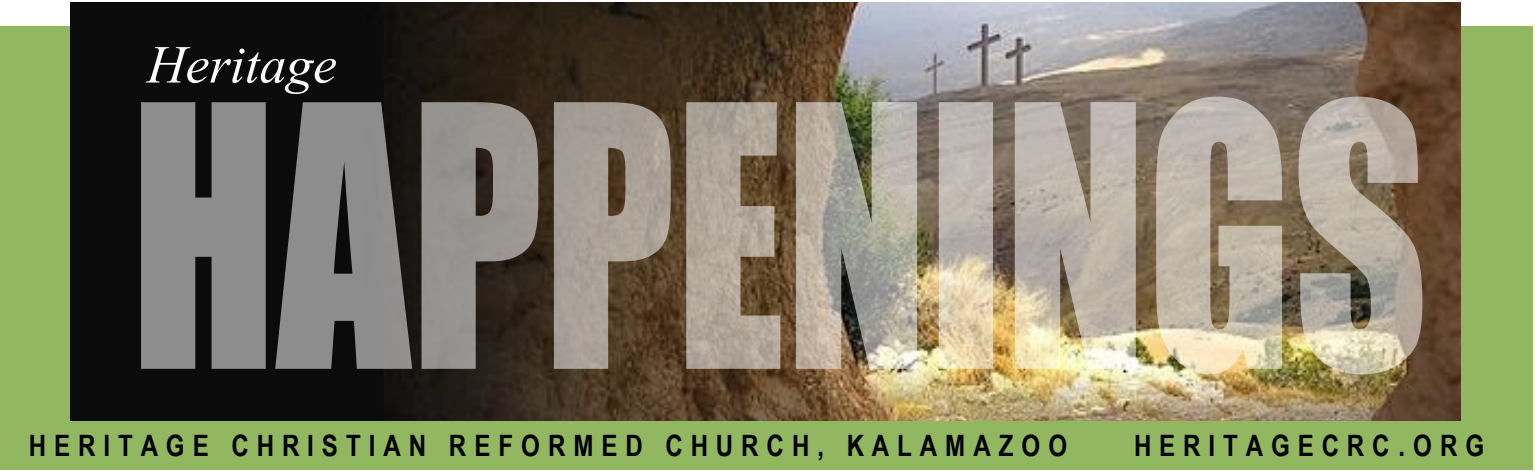
PRAYER LINE MINISTRY: Glen Wagner/Judy Fletcher

PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY: prayerline@heritagecrc.org

SERVICE MINISTRY: December: Betty Vlietstra

MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY: Dec 9: Ferrel Stremmer Dec 16: Paul Booden
PM: Gary Broekhuizen

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30 am Pastor Simon “Peace: Have No Fear” Luke 1:26-38 5 pm Pastor Simon Lessons & Carols	10	11 Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30—11 am Admin Board Meeting 3:30 pm	12 Daniel Bible Study 6:45 pm In Library	13	14	15 Mobile Food Initiative Centerpoint 8 am set up 9 am food delivery
16 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30 am Pastor Simon “Joy: The Lord Is With You” Luke 1:39-56 ~Congregational Meeting~ 5 pm Pastor Simon Candlelight Service	17	18 Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30—11 am Shepherding Elders 3 pm	19 P.U.S.H. Prayer Meeting 7 pm	20	21	22
23 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30 am Pastor Simon “Love: That Changes the World” Luke 2:1-20 ~ No Evening Worship~	24	25 Christmas Day Worship 9:30 am “Peace on Earth?” Isaiah 9:6	26	27	28	29
30 9:30 am Rev. Dale Slings 5 pm Pastor Simon	31	1 	2	3	4	5



Volume #17, Issue 47

December 9, 2018

What’s up in Worship

Advent 2018:
Series: We Believe
The Advent season is an invitation to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. In His incarnation, Jesus stepped into our world as the Son of God our Savior and We Believe He came to redeem, transform, and make all things new and will one day come again. Join us the 4 Sundays leading up to Christmas for the We Believe series as we seek to experience the hope, joy, peace, and love of God and believe in the One who has come and will come again!



Upcoming Special Services: Plan to join us for the special services planned for this Advent Season:

- Lessons and Carols:* Join us tonight at 5 pm for our annual “Lessons and Carols” service. This traditional service includes nine scripture lessons, tracing salvation history from Genesis through the gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols and hymns.
- Candlelight Service:* Join us next Sunday, December 16 at 5 pm for our annual Candlelight Service. Through the singing of carols and the lighting of candles we will journey together to Bethlehem and rejoice in all we have seen and heard!



Winter Ice Cream Social is planned for tonight immediately following our Lessons and Carols service. This is a “thank you” to Heritage for use of the Fellowship Hall by the 4th grade girls basketball team of Kalamazoo Christian.

Christmas Cards & Cookies

If you are able, please remember our home-bound 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 16**.
Thank you!

Celebrations

Birthdays

John Bruinwood ~ December 10
Melissa Piontek ~ December 18
Esther Manni ~ December 20
Dorothy VanDenBerg ~ December 21
Judy Fletcher ~ December 22



Ministry

Annual Congregational Meeting (Note the date change): The annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 16, 2018 following the morning Worship Service to vote on several proposals and to adopt a budget for 2019. A copy of the agenda and the proposals along with the proposed budget for 2019 were placed in mailboxes. Extra copies are available at the Information Center. If you are unable to be present at the meeting, absentee ballots are also available at the Information Center. Please vote on the ballot, seal your ballot in the envelope provided, and sign your name on the outside of the envelope. Place your envelope in the box.

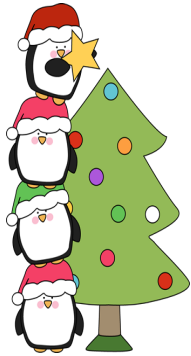
Ministry continued...

TITHES & OFFERINGS

December 31, 2018 marks the end of the year for financial gifts that will be included in the 2018 summary of tithes and offerings to Heritage Church. All contributions received after January 1, 2019 will be included on your summary for 2019. 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

II Corinthians states: "Thanks be to God for His indescribable Gift!" And so, as a committee and congregation we are thankful. It was a privilege to celebrate this Wonderful Gift at the 4th Heritage Church Christmas Gathering held this past Tuesday evening. More than 80 ladies shared a delightful evening together, complete with delicious soup and salad, a great program, wonderful conversations around the table, along with some fun and singing. Special thanks to the 10 Hostesses who provided a pretty table for their guests to enjoy, along with special treats and dessert. Sincere thanks, also, to Ginny Carlisle for reading the Christmas story to us, to Esther Manni for her beautiful piano music, and to all who provided rides for those who could not drive. Thanks also to the men who helped in the kitchen, cleaning the dishes and keeping us supplied with coffee, and to everyone who helped in any way. We are grateful for all our guests who came to share the evening with us, some driving an hour or more to come. And we also thank Lynelle Pierce and her husband, Tom, for coming. We are thankful for her entertaining and inspiring words to us reminding us of God's marvelous grace which we celebrate each Christmas. Above all, we thank God for answering our prayers for good weather and clear roads, and for His many blessings on the entire evening. 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...
John & Kim Bruinwood ~ Jerry An
Ken & Ellen Byle ~ Van Ankum Family
Bill & Kathy Cobern ~ Kathleen Lauder
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

Offering Schedule

Dec 9	General Fund: Ministry Shares Loose Change: Kzoo Gospel Mission
Dec 16	General Fund: Faith Promise Loose Change: Benevolence Fund
Dec 23	General Fund: Building Fund Loose Change: Kzoo Gospel Mission
Dec 25	World Renew
Dec 30	General Fund Loose Change: Forgotten Man Minis

Offerings (deposited for December 2)

Adopt a Cow ~ \$160.00
Building Fund ~ \$1,410.00
Christian Education Assistance ~ \$220.00
Faith Promise ~ \$230.00
General Fund ~ \$7,095.80
Memorial Fund ~ \$25.00
Ministry Shares ~ \$160.00
Rose Arbor ~ \$183.25



From the Deacons: The Christmas project offering today will be a monetary offering for the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. They have put out an urgent plea for bread because they have lost their bread vendor. They will need donations until they can write some grants for new vendors. We will use the money from the offering to buy bread for them. Thank you in advance for your generous giving!!

Mobile Food Initiative is this **Saturday, December 15** at Centerpoint Church.

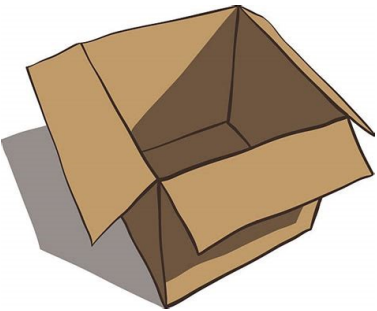


8 am set up
9 am food deliveries

It's That Time Again! The gals from Coffee Break are ready to collect winter things again for distribution to "new" homes. We need:

- ♦ Mittens
- ♦ Hats
- ♦ Scarves
- ♦ Jackets
- ♦ Vests
- ♦ Sweaters
- ♦ Sweatpants
- ♦ Sweatshirts
- ♦ Boots
- ♦ Blankets

Everything is appreciated! Please drop off items in large box in Narthex. Thank you.



SORRY, SON...THERE'S NO APP FOR THAT



Family Faith Formation Tip

Advent Family Faith Formation Tip: Teach Us to Pray, published by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, is a wonderful resource for family worship. If you're looking for a meaningful way to celebrate Advent at home, the Advent section of this book is available as a free download at tinyurl.com/CICWAdvent. Each day's page includes a Bible reading, questions to talk about, prayer ideas and more.

Random Ministry Ideas for Home Bound Members...

- ♦ Pray daily for the homebound person and the caregiver.
- ♦ Offer to assist in bringing the homebound and caregiver to church.
- ♦ Offer transportation to medical appointments.
- ♦ Commit to making a weekly phone call.
- ♦ If the homebound person lives alone, visit regularly with coffee, snacks and news of the church.
- ♦ Commit to regularly scheduled visits so they can be anticipated.
- ♦ Read to the homebound if unable to read or provide assistance to obtain "audio books."
- ♦ Serve as translator with service professionals if a language barrier exists.
- ♦ Help write letters or cards with the homebound to send to friends or family.
- ♦ Assist with insurance or other paperwork.
- ♦ Prepare meals weekly, or have several people take turns 1-3 times a week.
- ♦ To relieve the caregiver, offer to stay with the homebound once or twice a week or if possible for a weekend.
- ♦ Remember to ask about the caregiver's physical and emotional health.
- ♦ Offer to help with heavy housekeeping chores or arrange a "maid brigade" of church friends.
- ♦ Offer tools and time to help with household or car repairs.
- ♦ Mow the lawn or shovel snow when needed.