

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 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. 10 & 17 Matt & Lisa Durian/Bonnie Colvin & Teri Wagner
Dec. 24 & 31 Norbert & Joy Hegelmann/Bob & Jane Pangle

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY: Glen Wagner/Donnie Waterhouse

PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY: prayerline@heritagecrc.org


SERVICE MINISTRY: Judy Wieringa/Kathy VanderMeer

MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY:

Dec. 10 - LillieAnn Durian
Dec. 17 - Paul Booden
Dec. 24 - Lisa Durian
Dec. 31 -

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:

12/10 - Pam Gould & Sue Mejeur
12/17 - Joy Knurr & Wendy Rose
12/24 - Barb Razenberg
12/31 - Mary Deters & Joyce Truscott

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				7 9:30 GROW Group	8 9:30 Heritage Piecemakers	9
10 9:30 am Pastor Simon "God's Promise: The Greatest Proof of All" Isaiah 7:1-17 10:45 Congregational Meeting	11 7:00 pm KCHS Choral Concert in our sanctuary	12 7 pm Admin Council	13	14 9:30 GROW Group	15	16 7:45 am Mobile Food Initiative 
17 9:30 am Pastor Simon "God's Promise: It Will Happen in Bethlehem" Micah 5:1-5a	18	19 9:30 am Coffee Break 3:30 Shep Elders 5-8 KCSA Preschool Program at our church	20	21 9:30 GROW Group	22	23
24 9:30 am Pastor Simon "God's Promise: Salvation Will Come Through My Servant" Isaiah 42:1-9 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28	29	30



Volume #22, Issue 46

December 6, 2023

What's up in Worship

This week Pastor Simon continues his Advent series "Prepare Him Room". The season of Advent celebrates the first coming of Jesus Christ in the light of His saving work on the cross and the anticipation of His return. This Advent season we will explore some of the prophecies that foretold Christ's coming hundreds of years before it happened. Plan to join us as we trace God's plan to redeem all the way to Christ's second advent. This Sunday's sermon is based on Isaiah 7:1-17, "God's Promise: The Greatest Proof of All."



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Come celebrate the birth of our Savior on Christmas Eve, December 24 at 6:00pm. Through music, song and the lighting of candles we will celebrate the coming of Jesus as the light of the world. Note: We will still meet Sunday morning at 9:30 for our regular gathering of worship.



Celebrations...

Birthdays...

Taylor Bruinwood ~ December 10



Anniversaries...

Cameron & Helen Brown ~ December 16



Church Calendar for December 11-17:

Tuesday
7:00 pm Admin Council

Thursday
9:30 am GROW Group

Saturday
7:45 am Mobile Food Initiative

Sunday
9:30 am Worship Service



Thank you for the cards and prayers during my recovery after I (Clarence) injured my lower back due to a fall. Though we live so far from you, it's a gift to be deeply cared for by the Heritage Church community. Clarence & Jenny Tuin

Council News

Annual Congregational Meeting: The annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 10 following the morning Worship Service. A copy of the proposed budget for 2024 was sent out via e-mail this week. Extra copies are available on the table outside the church office. *Also on the agenda is the recommendation to change the start of the morning service from 9:30 am to 10 am.* If you have any questions, please contact Matt Durian, council president, Jim Bosch, council VP/clerk or Jonathan Mejeur, Administrative Deacon.

Needed: Sunday Operations Manager ~ After almost 20 years of opening and closing the Church on Sundays and for special services, Jerry & Ruth Mather will step down from this position at the end of 2023. We thank them for their ministry and are now in search of someone willing to fill this position. A job description is available upon request. Please contact Matt Durian or Jim Bosch if you are interested or have any questions.



Hey, do you like to do puzzles? Want a fun activity for those long winter months? We now have a "puzzle swap". You can find a nice variety of puzzles available in the north wing of the foyer. Please feel free to share any puzzles you may have. Enjoy!

Offering Schedule

- Dec. 10 General Fund & Ministry Shares
Loose Change: Kal. Christian Schools
- Dec. 17 General Fund & Faith Promise
Loose Change: World Renew
- Dec. 24 General Fund & Building Fund
Loose Change: Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries
- Dec. 31 General Fund
Loose Change: Park Village Pines

Offerings (deposited for December 3, 2023)

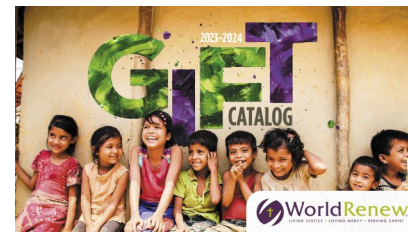
- Benevolence Fund ~ \$353.00
- Building Fund ~ \$115.00
- Christian Ed. Assistance ~ \$135.00
- Faith Promise ~ \$2,275.00
- General Fund ~ \$7,861.00
- Growing Hope Globally ~ \$304.00
- Hospice Care of SW Michigan ~ \$232.00
- Loaves & Fishes ~ \$295.00
- Ministry Shares ~ \$45.00
- Organ Fund ~ \$2,348.00



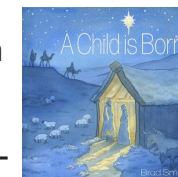
It's that time again. Time to make room for new winter wear! Once more, the Coffee Break ladies will be gathering winter coats, hats, scarves, blankets, etc. for those in need within the community. This will be an ongoing effort until the holiday season is over! Right after the year's end we will gather the many blessings and deliver them to Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries. *Look for the box in the lobby area to place your donations.* Any questions, talk to Barb Nieboer (343-5378) or Joyce Truscott (342-1686). Thank you!

World Renew

God's Love at Christmas - As we begin the Advent season, share the warmth of God's love with a person living in poverty through your donation for World Renew's Gift Catalog. Give a life-changing gift to a family that is facing hardship and hunger in the year ahead. Donate today at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972. The catalogs are on the table by the church office.



A Gift of Christmas Music: Brad Smith is a 25-year Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra musician (Oboe) who with his wife, Wendy has been attending Heritage Church the past few years. He has kindly provided a gift of Christmas music in the form of a CD he produced 2 years ago. The CD is available at the information center and you are encouraged to take one home with you. The music from this CD and a Christmas CD he produced and recorded in 1995 is also available on his website: <https://bradsmithoboe.com/free-download>.



Mobile Food Initiative is Saturday, December 16.

7:45 AM at Heritage CRC.

*****Please let the office know if you can help out. See you there!***



Family Faith Formation Tip

In the Bible, the Greek term that is usually translated as "hospitality" means "love of strangers." How might your home (whether it's a house, an apartment, a dorm room, or another place) become a space to practice the love of strangers? Learn more at crc-na.org/FaithPracticesProject

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Promises and Peace - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. During Advent, we remember the story of Mary, a teenager, called by God to be Jesus' mother. "How could this be?" she wondered at first. But the angel Gabriel assured Mary. "God's favor is on you," he said. "Anything is possible with God." Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "The Birth of Jesus."

Groundwork: Jesus: Our Mighty God - The prophet Isaiah next calls the coming Messiah "Mighty God." Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 10:21, Acts 1:6-8, and Revelation 5:6,11-14 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus. Together, we'll discuss how his presence as a helpless baby displays the awesomeness of God's power and gives us hope as we anticipate his return. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Devotions for a Blue Christmas - In the midst of hard times, find strength and encouragement through God's word. A set of fourteen encouraging Today devotions reassure you that even during the darkest of Christmas seasons, you're not alone. Receive this free email series and ebook when you subscribe to Today at todaydevotional.com/bluechristmas