

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. 24 & 31 Norbert & Joy Hegelmann/Bob & Jane Pangle
Jan. 7 & 14 Nick & Melissa Piontek/Ron & Sharon Stryd

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY: Glen Wagner/Donnie Waterhouse

PRAYER EMAIL MINISTRY: prayerline@heritagecrc.org

SERVICE MINISTRY: Judy Wieringa/Kathy VanderMeer

MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY:

Dec. 31 - Ian Tuin
Jan. 7 - Ian Tuin
Jan. 14 - LillieAnn Durian
Jan. 21 - Paul Booden

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:

12/31 - Mary Deters & Joyce Truscott
1/7 - Sue Florian & Ruth Mather
1/14 - Melissa Piontek & Joy Knurr
1/21 - Nancy Vandenberg & Wendy Rose



Volume #22, Issue 49

December 28, 2023

What's up in Worship

This week we welcome Rev. Michael Vandenberg as he leads us in worship. This Sunday's sermon is based on Luke 2:22-40, **"Amazing Message of Love"**



Celebrations...

Birthdays...

Ginny Carlisle ~ January 2
Lisa Durian ~ January 2
Michael Vandenberg ~ January 2
Lisa Bosch ~ January 6
Jonathan Mejeur ~ January 7



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				28	29	30
31 9:30 am Rev. Michael Vandenberg "Amazing Message of Love" Luke 2:22-40	1 	2 9:30 am Coffee Break	3 8:00 am Men's Bible Study	4 9:30 GROW Group	5	6
7 Communion Sunday 10:00 am Pastor Simon "The Superiority of Jesus" Hebrews 1:1-14	8	9 7 pm Admin. Council	10	11 9:30 GROW Group	12	13
14 10:00 am Pastor Simon "Steadfast Through Suffering" Hebrews 2:1-18	15	16 9:30 am Coffee Break 3:30 pm Shep. Elders	17 10 am Reformation Bible Study	18 9:30 GROW Group	19	20

Better: A Journey Through Hebrews – There has always been pressure on those who belong to Jesus to deny Him and find something better. Join us in this series on the book of Hebrews as we discover its resounding message that Jesus is better than everything we might try to satisfy the deepest longing of our hearts. The series begins January 7, 2024.



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Church Calendar for January 1-7:

- Tuesday 9:30 am Coffee Break
- Wednesday 8:00 am Men's Bible Study
- Thursday 9:30 am GROW Group
- Sunday 10:00 am Worship Service

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.



Coffee Break Ladies, please plan to meet on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 9:30 am when we will resume our discussion of the fruits of the spirit - lesson 4 - Peace.



Everyone is invited to a new Bible Study on "The Reformation". It will start on January 17 and meet weekly on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 am. This is a 10 week study and will end on March 20. We will look at the roots of the Reformation, major issues it addressed, major reformers of the period, clarifying the doctrine of the church and its Biblical corrections and are we still reforming the church? Please join us for this 10 week study. See Pastor Mike VandenBerg with any questions.



Today Booklets: The Jan/Feb booklets have arrived. Please pick up a copy outside the southeast sanctuary doors if you so desire a copy.

Offering Schedule

- Dec. 31 General Fund
Loose Change: Park Village Pines
- Jan. 7 General Fund & Christian Ed. Assistance
Loose Change: Rehoboth Christian School
- Jan. 14 General Fund & Ministry Shares
Loose Change: Luke Society
- Jan. 21 General Fund & Faith Promise
Loose Change: Kalamazoo Christian Schools

Offerings (deposited for December 24, 2023)

- Building Fund ~ \$135.00
- Christian Ed. Assistance ~ \$215.00
- Faith Promise ~ \$90.00
- General Fund ~ \$14,165.00
- Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries ~ \$1,134.00
- Ministry Shares ~ \$175.00

From the Deacons: December 31, 2023 marks the end of the year for financial gifts that will be included in the 2023 summary of tithes and offerings to Heritage Church. All contributions received and deposited after January 1 will be included on your summary for 2024. 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 Nicaragua Revolving Seed Fund

The Heritage Deacons have chosen to support the Solanos in their ministry to create a micro financing agricultural fund to be used as part of their economic development program in Nicaragua. They are asking the churches that support them to get 10 families to each give a one time donation of \$250 to support one family in their efforts to farm the land that produces income for them. If you feel led by God to make a one time donation of \$250 please pick up a packet of information on the table outside the office that explains the program that Jairo & Kelly Solano are asking our help with. If you have any questions please see Cheri Gavin. Checks should be made out to Jairo or Kelly Solano and sent to 4908 Weston Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49006.



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.



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!



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!



Family Faith Formation Tip

Eugene Peterson says of Scripture engagement, "Reading is an immense gift, but only if the words are assimilated, taken into the soul—eaten, chewed, gnawed, received in unhurried delight." Read your favorite Scripture passage that way today. Take time to savor and "gnaw" on it, noticing any new insights that come to mind. Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Big Plans - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Do you like to make plans? By making plans, you can be excited about what's coming and anticipate what you may need to prepare. But did you know God has made even bigger plans for you? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.

Groundwork: Your Questions about Scripture and Hope - Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 6:9-13, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 11:13-16, Revelation 20:1-6, John 15:18-25, and Psalm 46 to look at some of the questions you asked this year in response to our discussions on the Lord's Prayer, Joshua, and Revelation; then we'll talk about the issues that feel most pressing for our faith right now and where we can find the hope and encouragement to keep living faithfully each day. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Family Fire - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.