

NURSERY:

Jan 9	Becky Wemple, Shari Benthem, Jayden Benthem Diane Eisenga, Dana Baas, Franklin Baas
Jan 16	Ruth Kulhawick, Melissa Oeverman, Emma Oeverman Sue Cook, Megan Benthem, Kendyn Meyering
Jan 23	Nicole Schultz, Donna Veddler, Stephanie VanHouten, Maggie Southwick, Karianne Smith, Evan Wemple
Jan 30	Linda Ellens, Esther Bode, Leah Thompson, Diane Nemeth, Jodi DeHate, Barb Dore

LITTLE LAMBS / CHILDREN IN WORSHIP:

Jan 9	LL Teacher: Amy VanPolen; Helper: Alan Thomas CIW Teacher: Lizelle Bazuin; Helper: JD Bazuin
Jan 16	LL Teacher: Cindy Vennema; Helper: Jordyn Richardson CIW Teacher: Maggie Southwick; Helper: Emerson Tossey
Jan 23	LL Teacher: Kasey McQuestion; Helper: Leah Thompson CIW Teacher: Nicole Koetje; Helper: Linda Ellens
Jan 30	LL Teacher: Sara Bruno; Helper: Lindsay Beerens CIW Teacher: Hillary Dracht; Helper: Linda Wing

SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT:

Jan 9	Matt Thompson; Deb Eisenga; Kendra Jenema
Jan 16	Kyle Meyering; Dan Ouwinga; Deb Eisenga
Jan 23	Cary Sikkema; Jonathan Ouwinga; Sue Cook
Jan 30	Matt Thompson; Deb Eisenga; Tami Eisenga

OFFERINGS:

JANUARY
 2nd: Booster club
 9th: New Building
 16th: Josh and Mandy Shaarda
 23rd: Marion Food Pantry
 30th: Existing Building

FEBRUARY
 6th: Booster Club
 13th: New Building
 20th: World Renew
 27th: Friends Ministry

USHERS:

January: Jerry Nemeth, Scott Oeverman, Todd Oeverman, Jun Brinks
February: Steve Meeuwenberg, Jim Ouwinga, Devon Dracht, Aaron Pluger

****If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please find your own replacement.
 Please call the church office (231) 825-2171 if you have any questions. Thank you!**



JANUARY 9, 2022

HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Highland's Mission Statement:

*Centered on Jesus Christ and his Word,
 Highland Church seeks to glorify God with joyful and reverent worship;
 nurture our children and people of all ages through biblical teaching;
 promote Spirit-filled fellowship through acceptance and respect, healing and love;
 and share the good news of Jesus both individually and together.*

9034 23 Mile Rd. • Marion, MI 49665
 (231) 825-2171

Email: office@highlandcrc.org
 Website: www.highlandcrc.org

Rev. Neil Jasperse
 Sunday Worship: 9:30 AM
 Sunday School 10:50 AM

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 9:30 AM
Highland Christian Reformed Church
January 9, 2022

The People of God Gather:

Prelude
 Call to worship from Psalm 147: 1-2, 5, 11
 Welcome
 God's greeting
 Greeting one another

To Praise God:

“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”
 Ephesians 1:13b-14
“Blessed Assurance” (vs 1, 2, 4)
 Prayer of Praise

To Pray and Serve God:

Ordination / Installation of Elders and Deacons
 Vows of the congregation
 Song of Dedication: Take My Life and Let It Be (vs 1-3, 6)
 Announcements
 Congregational prayer

To Proclaim God's Word:

Children's message: Pastor Neil –The Baffle Box
 Song of preparation: *“God is Here” (1, 2, 4)*
 Scripture: **Galatians 5:1-6, 13-14 & Romans 14:1-5**
 Message: **Christian Freedom**
 Prayer of response
 Song of response & Offertory: *“For Freedom, Christ has set us Free” (vs 1, 3)*
 Offering: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: New Building Fund
 (Please remain seated during the song of response and offering)

To Go in God's Name:

God's blessing:
 Closing song: *“Freely, Freely” (vs 1)*
 Postlude

Council Officers for 2022:

Pastor	Neil Jasperse
President	Jon Dracht
Vice President	Jerry Koop, Jr.
Clerk	Ken Meyering
Secretary of Deacons	Greg Tossey
Vice Treasurer	Kasey Rees

Districts for 2022:

*all phone #'s have a (231) area code unless otherwise specified

Elders	District	Deacons
Den Kamphouse	#1, A-C	David Wing
Dale Fredin: Adjunct Elder	#2, D-E	Greg Tossey
Ken Meyering	#3, F-L	Devon Dracht
Paul Shaarda	#4, M-O	Kasey Rees
Jerry Koop, Jr.	#5, P-T	Doug Mitchell
Bryan Eisenga	#6, U-Z	Adam Swiler
Ken Roede: Adjunct Elder		Church Office 825-2171

PASTORAL VISITS: If you would appreciate a pastoral visit for whatever reason, please contact Pastor Neil via Sara Bruno in the church office by calling (231) 825-2171 or directly by email at npjasperse@gmail.com or in person.

Upcoming Council Meetings

February 7	6:30 pm	Elders
February 7	7:00 pm	Deacons
February 7	7:30 pm	Council

<p align="center"><u>CHURCH OFFICE</u> (231) 825-2171 office@highlandcrc.org Normal Hours: Mon-Thurs: 8:30 am – 2:00 pm Fri-Sun: Closed **All bulletin content is due by noon on Thursdays**</p>	<p align="center"><u>MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS</u> Worship Team (DaNay Tossey) Care & Fellowship Team (Cindy Vennema) Education Team (Megan Plugger) Outreach Team (Jodi DeHate) Prayer Team (Sandy Rice) Service Team (Carrie Thompson) Facilities Team (Greg Hesselink)</p>
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ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

Pastor Neil and Ruth will be on vacation January 10-17 to visit their eldest son in California. Please contact your district elder or the church office if you have any pastoral care needs or questions during that time.

Our Church Directory is ready! Please pick up your copy in the fellowship hall after this morning's service. Each household will receive 1 color copy. Any additional prints will be black and white. If you would like an additional copy for a family member no longer within the Highland congregation, please leave a request in the church office and one will be made available once the initial distribution has been completed.

Ladies Bible Study will resume this Wednesday, January 12 at 9:30 am. We will begin with Lesson 1 of our new study on the book of Mark.

The Marion Food Pantry has expressed their appreciation for all that Highland Church has done to support the Marion Food Pantry and it's service to our local community.

Grocery Shower –Please help us celebrate the upcoming wedding of Logan Nemeth and Kara Hughston with a grocery shower of pantry items and paper products! The wedding is planned for January 22 at Highland. A basket has been provided in the fellowship hall next to the information table.

Our MOPS group will be meeting this Tuesday, January 12 at 5:45 pm. We will be serving our breakfast menu that was previously scheduled for December 14. If you had signed up to bring an item at that time and would be willing to still contribute, please have them to the church by 5:30 pm this Tuesday. Thank you for supporting our local MOPS group!

Lake City CRC is hosting Financial Peace University: Begins Wednesday, January 12, 6:30—8pm: If you're looking to get better with your money, you've come to the right place. Financial Peace University will show you how to dump debt, save for emergencies, and build wealth. It's all about getting on the right financial plan! There is still time to register! Contact the Lake City CRC office at 231.839.4978 or office@lakecitycrc.org or register through the church website www.lakecitycrc.org.

SERMON OUTLINE:

Title: Call to Be Free

Text: Galatians 5:1-6; 13-14: Romans 14:1-5

Introduction: Americans have a great thirst for freedom

1. The biblical back story
 - a. God created us with freedom; a major theme in God's Word
 - b. A brief biblical tour: creation, fall, redemption
2. A background to the Galatian church
 - a. Many Jewish believers
 - b. The Judaizer group believed OT practices were still binding
3. Paul's counsel: You were called to be free. (Galatians 5:13)
 - a. Christian freedom comes as a surprise to the world
 - b. Freedom from- sin, judgment, and Old Testament regulations
 - c. Freedom to- to soar in ways that fit our God-given tastes and talents
 - d. Example of a hermit: free to choose poverty- or not
4. Christian freedom should be defended (Galatians 5:1,13)
 - a. The issue of eating meat sacrificed to idols (Romans 14)
 - b. Halloween today
 - c. The issue of holy days (Romans 14)
5. Christian freedom should be guided by love- not self-indulgence (Galatians 5:13-14)

Notes:

- **Nursery** is available in the basement for children ages infant-3 years old.
- **Children's Church:** Little Lambs is available for ages 3-Kindergarten downstairs following the children's message. A parent must pick them up from their after the service.
- **LIVE streaming** of our Sunday service is available on our Facebook page;
- **Video recordings** are available on USB at the sound booth after the service or on DVD by request.

PRAYER CORNER

Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4:16

We lift up in prayer those that need healing: Please pray for Dick Bruno, Danielle Ozeran, Carol Niver, and Jean Kriebel. Lord, give them the healing and the patience they need and bless each of them in ways only you can do.

Please pray for the family of **Justin Gernaat** who passed away December 31st after an intense battle with metastatic colon cancer.

We extend out condolences to the family of **Bob Kuiper**, the former pastor of the Marion Chapel. Bob passed way December 30th in Illinois.

DAILY PRAYER FOCUS

Please join us in daily prayer for our council:

Gracious Lord, give our council wisdom to prioritize the tasks before them. Guard them against the tyranny of the urgent and help them discern what is most important. Reveal to them your agenda for your Church here at Highland.

*Content for the Daily Prayer Focus is contributed by the HCRC Prayer Team

Missions	Josh & Mandy Shaarda & Family Serving in Uganda Email: jshaarda@crcnapartners.org Blog: http://shaarda.blogspot.com/	George & Sarah de Vuyst & Family Serving in Ukraine Email: gdevuyst@crcna.org Website: http://www.devuysts.com
	Tyler Bode (Staff Sargent, U.S. Air Force) Davis Monthan Airforce Base, Tucson, AZ	
Military		

OUR CHURCH WEEK: JANUARY 9-15

SUN 01/09	9:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:50 AM 4:30-6 PM	A time of prayer in the prayer room Morning Worship Service & Installation Sunday School & Catechism resume Teaching Forum: Women in Church Leadership (Part 2)
TUES 01/11	5:45 PM	MOPS
WED 01/12	9:30 AM 7:00 PM	Ladies Bible Study Prayer Meeting
SAT 01/15	All day	MOPS Steering Team Retreat in YB

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This morning we will have the Installation of Elders and Deacons for 2022-
 Incoming Elders: Jon Dracht, Paul Shaarda & Den Kamphouse; Incoming Deacons: Dave Wing, Kasey Rees & Devon Dracht.

Thank you- As we install new elders and deacons to serve on the Highland Church council, we honor those who have just completed two year terms of service: elders Dale Fredin, Ken Roede, and Bob Vennema and deacons Gary Hesselink, Tom Ouwinga, and Dan Villwock. We honor them for investing their time, their energy, and their heart in serving as leaders and servants at Highland Church. They began their terms at a time when there was tension within the council, when several staff members left, when there was discouragement. We are grateful to God for their fortitude- being a source of God's blessing during a transitional time.

Tonight at 4:30 pm- Teaching Forum #2 re: Women in Church Leadership. If you were unable to attend the first Teaching Forum, we invite you to check out the video of that session on our Facebook page. A link to that video is also available on our website under the bulletin tab. The Listening Circle is scheduled for Sunday, January 23 at 4:30 pm.

Sunday school and Catechism will resume this morning starting at 10:50 am.

Tonight at 6:00 PM- Strong Tower will be meeting at Rehoboth Reformed Church for a combined meeting with their youth group. HS will have their snack there. **Xtreme** will still meet at Highland CRC that night at 6:00 pm.

JANUARY HIGHLAND COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS:

The Highland council, including the new elders and deacons, met on January 3. Here are some highlights:

1. Sara Bruno, our Administrative Assistant, reported that the long-awaited church picture directories should be assembled on January 8 and handed out after the January 9 worship service.
2. The elders reported that they approved a proposal to ask Dale Fredin to serve as an adjunct elder, continuing to care for a shepherd elder district, in order to free up Elder Jon Dracht for his responsibilities as council president. The elders also approved a proposal to ask Ken Roede to serve as an adjunct visitation elder at large. Since none of our current elders are retired, Ken can also accompany the pastor in serving communion to members who cannot readily get out. Note: Both Dale and Ken have agreed to these roles.
3. New Vice-Treasurer Kasey Rees reported that every ministry fund (general, building, benevolence etc.) has an ample balance. The final 2021 finance report showed that expenses totaled far less than budgeted, partially due to part-time staff roles that have not yet been filled as we seek a senior pastor. A recommendation from the deacons was approved to allocate general fund money beyond a rainy day buffer of \$35,000: \$5,000 for our missionaries; \$10,000 to pay down our building loan; \$15,000 to build a covered drive-through structure by the north doors for safe entry during inclement weather.
4. The council held a listening circle, with everyone having the opportunity to respond to two questions: what key biblical truths did you learn from the teaching forum on women in church leadership and what advice do you have on moving forward in unity despite differing convictions?

TREASURER'S REPORT:

December		2nd Offering	
5th	5,102.00	Highland Booster Club	713.00
12th	3,697.00	New Building Fund	53,360.00
19th	4,886.00	Church Building Fund	671.00
26th	5,236.16	Life Resources	858.00
Budget needed weekly	5,765.14	CRC Loan Fund - Beginning Balance	187,213.38
Times 52 weeks	<u>299,787.20</u>	Principal Paid to Date	<u>109,474.29</u>
Received to date	295,695.57	CRC Loan Fund - Ending Balance	77,739.09
Balance	(4,091.63)		
		Interest paid to date	7,739.96

Our 2021 Year End Budget Report can be found in your mailbox this week.

Loan Update: Back in 2014 Highland Church took a big step of faith and commitment to build a new worship wing on our facility. It cost about \$1,400,000. To cover the cost we took out a \$700,000 loan from the Christian Reformed Loan Fund- to be paid back in twenty years. With faithful giving, the loan was reduced to \$187,000 by the end of 2020. With steady giving in 2021 and then major contributions at Thanksgiving and year end, we have paid down our loan to under \$78,000. We praise God for his material blessings on us and generous giving in response!