

GREETERS:

Dec 15	<u>North Door</u>	<u>South Door</u>
Dec 22	Dan & Brenda Ouwinga	Kevin & Jodi DeHate
Dec 24 (Christmas Eve- 6 pm)	Scott & Diane VanPolen	Kevin Huttenga
Dec 29	Mary Dracht	Todd & Jackie Schmid
	Al & Joann Richardson	Ken & Jodi Meyering

NURSERY:

Dec 15	Nicole Schultz, Courtney Vanderhoef, Linda Ellens Maggie Southwick, Karianne Smith, Leah Thompson
Dec 22 (JUMP)	Jodi DeHate, Barb Dore, Jodi Meyering Kendyn Meyering, Diane Nemeth, Mikayla Powers
Dec 24 – 6 PM (Christmas Eve)	Mary Rees, DaNay Tossey, Madelyn Benthem, Cindy Vennema, Becky Bode, Jayden Bode
Dec 29	Julie Dorman, Lizelle Bazuin, Aubrynn Bazuin Anne Thomas, Addean Oeverman, Becky Wemple

Thank you!
...to everyone
who serves
either up front
or behind the
scenes each
week in helping
to further the
kingdom of
God!

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP – LITTLE LAMBS:

Dec 15	CIW: Teacher: Kasey McQuestion, Helper: Emma Oeverman LL: Teacher: Hillary Dracht; Helper: Amanda Lee
Dec 22 (JUMP) (Christmas Story)	CIW: Teacher: April Villwock; Helper: Sara Bruno LL: Teacher: Amy VanPolen & Tana VanPolen & Emerson Tossey
Dec 24 – 6PM (Christmas Eve)	No Children’s Church
Dec 29	No Children’s Church (Communion)

SOUND SYSTEM, VIDEO, POWERPOINT:

Dec 15	Kyle Meyering, Paul Rivera, Jodi DeHate
Dec 22 (JUMP)	Cary Sikkema, Dan Ouwinga, Tana VanPolen
Dec 24 (Christmas Eve)	Cary Sikkema, Al Fox, Deb Eisenga
Dec 29	Al Baas, Roger Hagerman, Tami Eisenga

DECEMBER
OFFERINGS

- 1st : Booster Club
- 8th : New Building
- 15th : Existing Building
- 22nd: Benevolence
- 29th : Project Canefire

JANUARY
OFFERINGS

- 5th : Booster Club
- 12th : New Building
- 19th : Mississippi Trip
- 26th : Centershot

DECEMBER USHERS: Aaron Koetje, Cole Dykhous, Larry Visser, Devon Dracht

JANUARY USHERS: Kevin DeHate, Mike Pluger, Al Thomas, Adam Southwick

Note: If you are unable to make it on your Sunday, please find your own replacement or call the office for assistance. If you do make changes, please let the office know so we can post those changes as well.



HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

December 15, 2019

Vision Statement:

**In our endeavor to seek Christ’s will and follow His calling,
we desire to strengthen our church through
growth in prayer,
growth in vibrant worship,
growth in committed outreach,
and growth in thriving fellowship.**

9034 23 Mile Rd. • Marion, MI 49665
(231) 825-2171
Email: office@highlandcrc.org

Morning Worship: 9:30 AM
Sunday school for all ages: 10:50 AM
Website: www.highlandcrc.org

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 9:30 AM
Highland Christian Reformed Church
 December 15, 2019
3rd Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Welcome & Greeting

Advent Reading: “JOY”

“Joy to the World”
“O Holy Night”

The Ten Commandments

Congregational Prayer
 Children’s Message

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

Scripture: Malachi 3:1-6 (page 1490)
 Sermon: *Refinement*

Offering: *“All Is Well”*
 1st - General Fund; 2nd – Existing Building

Blessing

“Refiner’s Fire”

Postlude

Children’s Church: Children are welcome to attend Children in Worship (preschool and kindergarten) and Little Lambs (3-4 yrs. Non-preschool) programs. They leave the sanctuary and go down the NORTH stairs to the basement. You may pick them up there after the morning service. **Please note, there will no longer be children’s church on the Sundays we have communion.**

Fellowship: Everyone is invited to refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following the morning service.

DVD: If anyone would like to see a video from a past church service, they are in the rack on the information table. The most current service is at the bottom of the rack.



*From the Cradle to
 the Cross*

Council Corner

2019 Council		
Exec. Board: *	Rev. Dr. Gregory J. Kett, Pres.*	825-2171 Church
<u>ELDERS</u>		<u>DEACONS</u>
Joe Kulhawick V.P.*	District #1, A-C	Matt Thompson –Sec. of Deac.*
Lars Fredin	District #2, D-E	Kyle Meyering
Al Thomas –Clerk*	District #3, F-L	Rick VanPolen
Bryce Eisenga	District #4, M-O	Adam Southwick V.T.*
Larry Witt	District #5, P-T	Larry Sikkema
Chad Dodde	District #6, V-Z	Ryan McQuestion

Visitation: One of the joys of being part of a church, is that we get to fellowship with one another. If you would like a visit from the elder or deacon of your district, or Pastor Greg, please let them know. They would love to connect with you at your home, over a cup of coffee, or wherever is convenient for you.

<p><i>Pastoral Support:</i> <i>Pastor Greg Kett (231) 825.2171</i> <i>Normal Office Hours:</i> <i>Mon-Thurs:</i> <i>8:15 AM – 12:00 PM & 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM</i> <i>or by appointment as needed. Call anytime.</i></p>	<p><i>Ministry Team Leaders:</i> <i>Connection Coordinator</i> (Amie Kett) <i>Care & Share Team</i> (Cindy Vennema) <i>Prayer Team</i> (Sandy Rice) <i>Education Team</i> (Mary Rees) <i>Service Team</i> (Julie Dorman) <i>Worship Team</i> (Committee) <i>Facilities Team</i> (Rick Dorman) <i>Safe Church Team</i> (Linda Wing) <i>Safety Team</i> (James Bazuin)</p>
<p><i>Church Office:</i> <i>Sara Bruno (231) 825-2171</i> <i>Normal Office hours:</i> <i>Mon-Thurs 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM</i> <i>**Please have bulletin announcements to church by Thursdays at 12 pm.</i></p>	

Christmas in Bethlehem is a new children’s book written and illustrated by former Highland Church pastor, Steven Elzinga and his son Michael Elzinga. He writes:

“I have grandchildren. In fact three of them are in this book. I wanted to write a Christmas book where they could insert themselves in the middle of the story. Toward the end of the book, the main character (my granddaughter) says to her mom, ‘I was there, Mom’. My hope is that your child or grandchild will be able to say the same thing”. The illustrations in this book are actual photos captured by his son Michael while they were in Israel. “*Christmas in Bethlehem* was written so that you and your child might experience, in some way, the wonder of being in Bethlehem to witness one of the most significant events ever celebrated—the birth of Jesus.”

Copies of *Christmas in Bethlehem* are \$15 each and will be available for purchase in the fellowship hall starting today. Each book contains a payment envelope.

Directory Update: Please send an updated family photo to the church office as we are working to update our website directory info and Pastor Greg’s prayer wall. Photos can be dropped off or emailed to the church office at office@highlandcrc.org. Please include names, phone #’s, address, email, full birthdays (with year) for adults and children, & anniversary information. Thank you!

Notes

PRAYER CORNER

Dear Heavenly Father, please be with Steve Sluiter, Dick Bruno, Marilyn Ouwinga, Dawn Richardson, Mike Dodde and Sarah Dodde. Bless each of them in ways only you can do. Give them the healing and the patience they need and may your light shine on them and through the caregivers you have sent to help. Surround them with your love and comfort. Fill them with the Holy Spirit, that they may be a testimony to your greatness.

During this season of Advent, let’s join our hearts and prayers by focusing on one attribute of our awesome God each week:

God of Joy: “I give you praise, O Lord, because ‘you have granted me eternal blessings and made me glad with the joy of your presence” (Ps 21:6)

OUR MISSIONARIES:

George & Sarah de Vuyst & Family
Serving in Ukraine
Email: gdevuyst@crcna.org
Website: <http://www.devuysts.com>

Josh & Mandy Shaarda & Family
Serving in Uganda
Email: jshaarda@crnapartners.org
Blog: <http://shaarda.blogspot.com/>

***CURRENTLY SERVING IN OUR MILITARY:**

Mike* & Dawn (Dodde) Winkle (Master Sargent, Air Force) – Spokane, WA
Tyler* Bode (Senior Airman, Air Force) Davis Monthan Airforce Base, Tucson, AZ
Caleb* Dodde (Private, Army Reservist) – Fort Leonard Wood, MO

OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 15-21

SUNDAY	9:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:50 AM	Prayer in the Prayer Room Morning Worship Service (3 rd Sunday of Advent) Sunday School (Christmas program practice) & Catechism; No Sermon Deep Dive.
MONDAY	6:00 PM	Men's Yoga
TUESDAY	9:30 AM 7:00 PM	Ladies' Christmas Brunch at Pam Pluger's house MOPS Steering Meeting in Youth Building
WEDNESDAY	6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Family Night Dinner Youth Ministries (no Xtreme) Prayer Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Dates:

- **December 24:** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:00 pm.
- **December 29:** Baptism of Adalyn Pluger, daughter of Aaron & Megan Pluger
Installation of new Elders
Communion
- **January 5:** Installation of new Deacons

All Ladies are invited to join the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Ladies for a Christmas Brunch this Tuesday, December 17 at 9:30 AM at Pam Pluger's house.

The Poinsettias in the sanctuary have been placed in memory of these loved ones: Darryl Baas, Tom Boven, Virginia DeHaan, Ron Dodde (20 years), John Dracht, Hank & Reka Eisenga, Jake & Jo Eisenga, Jerry Eisenga, Whip Koetje, Al & Tena Medendorp, Mark Miller, Bonnie Oeverman, Loretta Swiler, Josie Thompson, Anna VanPolen, and John & Anne Vennema

Sunday School Christmas Program will be next Sunday, December 22nd at 6:00 PM.

****Note for Parents:** We will not be adding parts after today but we want everyone to have a chance to be involved. If your child was unable to attend practice last week, please be sure to have them there today. Any questions, please contact Al or Dana Baas. Thank you!

Small Groups- We will be starting up small groups again for January, February and March. If you are interested in taking part in a small group or even hosting a small group, please sign up at the information table or contact the church office.

Friends Ministry is searching for a Director. Call/text or email Larry Stahl (231) 830-5321 or lsstahl@mail.com for information about the position and the job requirements.

Wexford/Missaukee Right to Life has chartered a 52 passenger bus to attend the 47th annual "March for Life" in Washington DC on January 24th. For more information, please see the flyer posted on the bulletin board by the mailboxes, or call (231) 839-2583.

Operation Christmas Child (Shoeboxes) Thank you all for your donations, thoughts and prayers for and over these shoeboxes. Highland was able to pack and send 34 Shoeboxes this year! So great that we are able to help children all over the world with these gifts. The Relay Center that covered Osceola, Lake and Wexford County had accumulated 1,098 shoeboxes. Traverse City area was able to ship out 15,364 shoeboxes that included our region. Please keep this mission event in mind throughout the year as it is a great time to gather sale items or clearance items that could be used for next year's shoeboxes... thanks again for your prayers and support this year! Becky Wemple

Thank you for your generous gifts of money and clothing donations! All the needed items have been collected and passed out for now. The Marion school district hopes to make these items a year-round resource for their students. To help make this possible, we welcome everyone to bring clothing donations and personal hygiene items throughout the year. All donated items can be placed in the helping hands box near the east coatracks, where they will be collected by our service team.

Kids Hope Mentors Needed: Marion Schools and Highland CRC are teaming up once again through our Kids Hope program. We are looking for individuals that would like to become mentors. If you would like more information or would like to sign up, please contact Kasey McQuestion. Thank you!

World Renew Gift Catalogs- Trying to find a special gift for that person who has everything? How about a chicken? A cow? Provide training for abuse prevention? A well-baby kit? Tools for farming? Free a family from poverty for less than \$1/day? The list is endless! Prices range from \$3 to \$3,900. You can find your World Renew Gift Catalog on the back table.

NMCS Job Opening – NMCS needs a qualified individual to drive bus for athletic games, field trips, and a daily route. This part-time position requires a CDL License (NMCS pays for the road test), all appropriate endorsements, and a current physical. Please submit a cover letter, resume and references to Scott Curell, Superintendent scurell@nmcs.us

McBain High School Baseball Taco Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Thursday, December 19th at the public school from 5-7:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 for everyone over the age of 6 and \$5 for those younger.