

"Use whatever gift you have received to serve others" -1 Peter 4:10

GREETERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am

Jan 26	South: Curt & Becky Wemple; North: Paul & Jan Rivera
Feb 2	South: Kyle & Abby Meyering; North: Al & Anne Thomas
Feb 9	South: Hilda Cruz; North: Greg & DaNay Tossey
Feb 16	South: Dave & Linda Wing; North: Todd & Jackie Schmid

NURSERY – Please arrive by 9:15 am

Jan 26	Megan Pluger, Cindy Vennema, Patti Koop, Penny Bruno
Feb 2	Brooke Benthem, Lizelle Bazuin, Bev Kamphouse, Amara Beerens
Feb 9	Kasey McQuestion, Shari Benthem, Jan Rivera, Elijah Rees
Feb 16	Karen Oeverman, Dana Baas, Jennifer Peterson, Aubrynn Bazuin

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Jan 26	Teacher: Miranda Dykhous; Helpers: Nicole Schultz, Gracyn Swiler
Feb 2	Teacher: Jordyn Richardson; Helpers: Lindsay Beerens, Harmony Kirkby
Feb 9	Teacher: Sara Bruno, Helpers: Steph VanHouten & Alan Thomas
Feb 16	Teacher: Kasey McQuestion; Helpers: Hillary Dracht, Harper Tossey

SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT

Jan 26	Cary Sikkema, Jon Ouwinga, Kendra Jenema
Feb 2	Matt Thompson, Deb Eisenga, Tami Eisenga
Feb 9	Kyle Meyering, Dan Ouwinga, Jodi DeHate
Feb 16	Matt Thompson, Kaylie Benthem, Deborah Ouwinga

USHERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am

January	Kevin Huttenga, Den Kamphouse, Butch Karsten, Aaron Koetje
February	Jerry Koop Jr, Joey Kulhawick, Bob Lee, Ryan McQuestion

2ND OFFERINGS:

January:	February:
5 th : Booster Club	2 nd : Booster Club
12 th : Project Canefire	9 th : Mississippi Mission Trip
19 th : Right to Life – Michigan	16 th : Matt & Emily Slack
26 th : Capital Improvement Fund	23 rd : Capital Improvement Fund



January 26, 2025

Highland Christian Reformed Church

"Striving to be the heart and hands of Jesus"

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."*

CORE VALUES:

*Worship joyfully and reverently.
Treasure familiar neighbors and warmly welcome new relationships.
Nurture our covenant children and serve our community.
Earnestly pray and eagerly work.
Embrace diversity and emphasize unity.
Empower ministry staff and employ the ministry gifts of all.
Give generously and invest globally.*

Rev. Mark Bonnes & Rev. Ashley Bonnes

office@highlandcrc.org Sunday Worship 9:30 am 9034 23 Mile Rd; Marion
www.highlandcrc.org Sunday School & Catechism (231) 825-2171
10:40 am – 11:30 am (Sept-May)

Welcome to
HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Morning Worship Service – 9:30 am
January 26, 2025

The People of God Gather:

Welcome & God’s Greeting
Greet One Another

To Praise God in Song:
How Marvelous (I Stand Amazed)
Goodness of God
Prayer of Praise

To Pray and Serve God
Ministry Update from Matt & Emily Slack
Announcements
Congregational Prayer

To Proclaim God’s Word
Children’s Message: Pastor Ashley Bonnes
Song of Preparation: *Lord, I Need You*
Scripture: Nehemiah 8:1-12
Title: We Now Understand!
Prayer of Response
Song of Response/Offertory: *Our God*
Today’s Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Capital Improvement Fund

To Go in God’s Name
God’s Blessing
Closing Song: *Jesus Draw Me Ever Nearer*
Postlude

Children’s Bulletins are available on the information table in the Fellowship Hall.
Nursery is available year-round downstairs for children ages 0 - 3 years old.
Children’s Church is available for children ages 3-Kindergarten immediately following the Children’s message. **Children under 7 must be picked up from their classroom by a parent/guardian.

COUNCIL CORNER:

Next Communion:
Sunday, March 2, 2025

Next Council Meetings:
Monday, February 10, 2025
6:30 pm Elders
7:00 pm Deacons
7:30 pm Full Council

Preaching Schedule:
January 26: Rev. Mark Bonnes
February 2: Rev. Mark Bonnes
February 9: Rev. Mark Bonnes
February 16: Rev. Ashley Bonnes
February 23: Rev. Mark Bonnes

HIGHLAND COUNCIL:

Council Officers for 2025:

President	Mark Eisenga	Pastor Mark Bonnes Pastor Ashley Bonnes *Please contact the church office for contact information (231) 825-2171
Vice President	Ken Meyering	
Clerk	Bob Vennema	
Sec. of Deacons	Carrie Thompson	
Vice Treasurer	James Bazuin	

Districts for 2025:

Elders	District	Deacons
Jerry Nemeth	#1, A-C	Carrie Thompson
Jason Benthem	#2, D-E	Jon Ouwinga
Bob Vennema	#3, F-L	Curt Wemple
Mark Eisenga	#4, M-O	Gary Hesselink
Joe Kulhawick	#5, P-T	Ryan McQuestion
Ken Meyering	#6, U-Z	James Bazuin

OFFICE CONTACT INFO:

Phone: (231) 825-2171
Email: office@highlandcrc.org
Main Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday; 8:30 am – 2 pm
**All bulletin announcements must be submitted to the church office by noon on Thursdays

MINISTRY LEADERS:

Care & Fellowship Team – Cindy Vennema
Education Team – Megan Pluger
Facilities Team – Greg Hesselink
Outreach Team – Jodi DeHate
Prayer Team – Sandy Rice
Service Team – Carrie Thompson
Worship Team – Bonnie McBride

Christmas Shoebox Collection: Thank you again for all the ongoing support and donations you have given for our recent Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection for 2024—it was a great year! We would like to ask the congregation for ongoing support and donations for this year as well. Once again, we will be collecting these items on a monthly basis. For **January/February** we would like to start out with **CRAFT ITEMS**—if you have a skill/talent with making dolls, or marble bags or toiletry bag this will be greatly appreciated! There will be a “Christmas Shoebox Tote” labeled for the donations needed each month located in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to purchase any of these items at any time as we greatly appreciate all the support. If you would like to give monetary donations that will be accepted as well! Thank you again for your ongoing support and generosity!

1989 Highland Cookbooks: Looking for the perfect gift? Highland CRC Booster Club did a reprint of the classic 1989 Highland CRC cookbook with the recipes that everyone loves (this is the one with vegetables on the cover). They are \$22 each. Available at McBain Grain and Highland CRC. Shipping available for a higher rate. Any questions, please contact Laura Swiler or the Highland Church office at (231) 825-217.

Save the Date for a Craft Day Retreat: Saturday, March 8 from 8 am - 8 pm. \$45 for a full day, or \$30 for a half day (8am-2pm or 2pm-8pm)! Join us for a well-deserved treat and day of crafting! Do you scrapbook, sew, quilt, knit, make jewelry; are you a DIY-er? How about photo books from your phone or laptop? Come and lavish in a quiet environment to get all your "back burner" projects done. All proceeds from this event go directly to R.E.V Moms group to help keep costs down for the mothers who attend, bring in speakers, meals, gifts for volunteers and moms, outreach, and more! Please email us at REVmoms22@gmail.com if you have any questions about registration, or the event. You can also find us on Facebook!

Denominational Survey: Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the 2025 CRC denominational survey. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please visit crcna.org/survey/1249 to answer the survey questions **by March 31**.

Mississippi Trip 2025: The Mississippi Trip will be March 21-29, 2025. We are planning our area church youth and adult mission trip to Port Gibson, Mississippi. The vision of this trip involves stewardship and loving others through Christ. As adult leaders and youth participants, we strive to encourage one another in our walk of faith, grow closer to God, and serve wholeheartedly with Christian Volunteer Services to the physical and spiritual needs of any of God’s people we encounter. The total cost of this year’s trip is \$125. If interested, please contact Dennis Anderson or Ross Vrieze. Youth and Adult application forms are available on the Information table in the Fellowship hall.

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE RESOURCES:

Thank you Highland church for all the thoughts and prayers, cards, visits and meals that you brought in. I am back to work this week and feeling better.
~Karen & Scott Oeverman & family.

PRAYER CONNECTIONS:

- Our condolences to the family of **Karen Eisenga** (81), who passed away on Tuesday, January 14. Private family gathering was held. Burial will take place in Highland Hillside cemetery in the spring. A full obituary can be found at <https://burkholderfamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/karen-altha-eisenga/>
- Our condolences to the family of **Isaiah “Zay” Benavides** (age 6) who passed away into the loving arms of Jesus on Saturday, January 28, 2025 after a heroic battle with cancer. A celebration of Life service was held at Northern Michigan Christian School this past Saturday, January 25. A full obituary can be found at <https://www.holdshipfuneralhomes.com/obituary/IsaiahZay-Benavides>
- **Bob & Lori Hesselink** would appreciate your prayers as Bob was recently diagnosed with cancer in his back. After undergoing additional testing, the decision was made to bring in Hospice care.
- Please continue to lift up **Mary & Butch Karsten** as Mary was taken back down to Grand Rapids this past Tuesday.

OUR MISSIONARIES:

****Prayer Letters and Updates are available on our Missions bulletin board:**

- **Josh & Mandy Shaarda & Family** (Serving in Uganda)
Email: jshaarda@crcnapartners.org; Blog: <http://shaarda.blogspot.com>
- **George & Sarah de Vuyst & Family** (Serving in Ukraine & the U.S.)
Email: gdevuyst@crcna.org; Website: <http://www.devuysts.com>
- **Matthew & Emily Slack & Family** (Serving in London, England)

OUR ACTIVE MILITARY:

- **SSgt, Tyler Bode** (US Airforce; currently stationed in Italy).

OUR CHURCH WEEK: JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 1

SUN 1/26	9:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:40 AM 4:30 PM	Prayer Worship Service Sunday School & Catechism resume; Dismissed at 11:30 Fellowship Bible Study & Potluck – Video Lesson 1
TUES 1/28	9:30 AM 11:00 AM 5:45 PM	Ladies Bible Study – Lesson 3 Prayer Team Meeting REV Moms
SAT 2/1	9 AM – 1 PM	Council Retreat in the Youth Building

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fellowship Bible Study will resume tonight at 4:30 pm in the fellowship hall with potluck to follow. Join us for Ray Vander Laan’s six-lesson video series, “Kings & Prophets”. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Sandy Rice.

Ladies Bible Study (w/ Hilda) will meet this Tuesday at 9:30 am for Lesson 3 of their new Life-Guide Bible study “*Nehemiah - The Courage to Face Opposition*”

Community Hope’s 2025 LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR FOOD DRIVE, Feb. 1 - 14: You can help our local food pantries by donating non-perishable food items such as soup, cereal, canned vegetables, fruit and meat, boxed rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce and peanut butter. We will have a LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR collection box in the fellowship hall between Feb. 1-13. You can also help by volunteering to sort food on Feb. 14, 9:00-noon (lunch provided) or by picking up food from local collection sites and transporting it to the Junction, 1551 S. Morey Rd in Lake City on Feb. 14, 8:00-10:00am. If you are willing to volunteer on February 14, please email Jen@communityhopemc.org. Your volunteer efforts and donations help us to put food on people’s tables, Thank you!

Strong Tower (HS) Mission Trip: Last fall, we sat down with the group and talked about the upcoming year. One of the things the students mentioned was doing some sort of service trip so here we go! We are planning to go to Lafayette, Indiana to work with Lafayette Urban Ministry February 14-16. This is will be during winter break weekend and we are super excited! Pastor Mark is putting us in contact with them and is planning on going along with us. We have transportation lined up and a tentative schedule that we will be locking down soon. Please talk with your high school student about how enriching this can be for them and the impact they can help us make while we are there. We will have more information each week along with ways that you can support us for the trip. It has been a while since we've done this so your prayers and support will be greatly appreciated. Thank you, Alan and Dana Baas

Clothing Drive Update: The Service Team will continue to take donations to the Marion Elementary, Junior High and High Schools as they come in. Most needed, as of this date, are shoes and boots, all sizes. Thanks so much for your commitment to this project!

Help Needed: Love INC is getting calls daily from people in our community who need assistance filling their propane tanks, so they're doing a fundraiser to help fill the need. Highland CRC has donated \$1500 towards this cause out of the Benevolent fund in the last week. If you would like to join them in helping our neighbors stay warm this winter, write your check out to **Love INC** and put "**Propane 2025**" in the memo line. You can mail your check to 753 Sunnyside Dr, Cadillac, MI 49601 or bring it to church on Sunday, drop it in the offering plate and we'll mail all the donations that come in together.

Save the Date: J.O.Y. Group - Plan on joining us on Tuesday, February 11 at 12:30 pm in our fellowship hall for a Valentine Luncheon of hot soup, delicious salads, and fantastic desserts! A sign-up sheet will be on the table in our fellowship hall! Anyone interested in contributing a pot of soup or a salad should contact Cindy Vennema or Bev Taylor.

Save The Date: Protect Young Eyes Presentation- Parents and caring adults, the Education Team is hosting an event titled *Fabulous & Fragile: Mental Health, Tech, & Our Kids*, and you won’t want to miss it! Devices and technology are capable of so much and easily captivate our children. Come unpack the brain, science, and solutions needed to help our amazing kids navigate an addictive digital world. Join us Saturday, February 22, from 1:00-2:30PM for this compelling presentation. This is a free event open to the public with childcare provided, refreshments, and door prizes. Donations will be accepted at the door to help cover speaker costs. We are also looking for sponsors for the event. If you are interested in financially supporting this endeavor, please contact the church office at (231) 825-2171.

Save the Date: Highland’s 2nd Annual Chili Cook-off: The Fellowship Team invites you back for another chili cook-off on Sunday, February 23 at noon (following Sunday School). To know if we have contestants and to plan fun prizes, we would like those entering chili in the competition to sign up in the Fellowship Hall as soon as possible. Could this be your year to claim the bragging rights?

Abide: Wednesday, February 5 at 6:30 pm: A multi-church gathering for a time of worship, prayer, testimony, and resting in the presence of God. Hosted at Lake City CRC, 1657 S. Morey Rd., Lake City.

Discovery NMCS Open House: February 7th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. If you or someone you know is interested in Christ-centered education and extracurricular opportunities, we encourage all prospective students and families to join us for this special opportunity. This is the perfect opportunity to tour the school, meet current families, meet teachers and administration, and discover the many opportunities that NMCS has to offer. To register for the open house and for further information visit our website at www.nmcs.us/admissions We are excited about what God is doing at NMCS and we are eager to share that with as many families as possible.