

GREETERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am	
Nov 30	South: Hilda Cruz; North: Greg & DaNay Tossey
Dec 7	South: Dave & Linda Wing; North: Todd & Jackie Schmid
Dec 14	South: Scott & Karen Oeverman; North: Greg & Laura Hesselink
Dec 21	South: Larry & Marilyn Visser; North: Lindsay & Amara Beerens
NURSERY – Please arrive by 9:15 am	
Nov 30	Julie Dorman, Bev Kamphouse, Emma Lee
Dec 7	Kasey McQuestion, Shari Benthem, Penny Bruno
Dec 14	Jan Rivera, Dana Baas, Amara Beerens
Dec 21	Karen Oeverman, Jennifer Peterson, Khloe McQuestion
CHILDREN’S CHURCH – (September – May; Sundays Only)	
Nov 30	**Thanksgiving Break**
Dec 7	Teacher: Amanda Lutke; Helper: Sam VanHouten
Dec 14	Teacher: Miranda Dykhouse; Helper: Bentley Dracht
Dec 21	Teacher: Megan Pluger; Helper: Charlotte, Thomas
SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT	
Nov 30	Cary Sikkema, Deb Eisenga, Deborah Ouwinga
Dec 7	Kyle Meyering, Kaylie Benthem, Tami Eisenga
Dec 14	Matt Thompson, Jon Ouwinga, Jodi DeHate
Dec 21	Cary Sikkema, Dan Ouwinga, Deborah Ouwinga
USHERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am	
November:	Don Ellens, Greg Hesselink, Kyle Veltema
December:	Matt Thompson, Lars Fredin, Ken VanPolen Jr., Gary Hesselink
2ND OFFERINGS:	
NOVEMBER:	DECEMBER:
2nd: Booster Club	7 th : Booster Club
9th: World Renew	14 th : Single Moms
16th: Love INC	21 st : Marion Food Pantry
23rd: Benevolence	28: Capital Improvement Fund
27th: Thanksgiving Envelopes & Food Drive	
30th: Capital Improvement Fund	
Parking Lot Pledges can be turned in at any time using the pledge envelopes available on the information table	



November 30, 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
November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

The People of God Gather:

Prelude
Welcome & God’s Greeting
Greet One Another

To Praise God in Song:
Be Still for the Presence of the Lord (vs 1-3)
Behold Our God (vs 1-3)
Prayer of Praise

To Pray and Serve God
Update from Single MOMM
Announcements
Congregational Prayer

To Proclaim God’s Word
Children’s Message: Pastor Mark Bonnes
Song of Preparation: *Holy Ground (vs 1-2)*
Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15
Sermon: “God, the Compassionate One”

Prayer of Response
Song of Response/Offertory: *O Come, O Come Immanuel (vs 1-3)*
Today’s Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Capital Improvement Fund

To Go in God’s Name
God’s Blessing
Closing Song: *We Receive Your Blessing*
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 (Sept-May) following the Children’s message downstairs.
Children must be picked up at the classroom immediately following the service

COMING UP:

Next Council Meetings:
Monday, December 8, 2025
6:30 pm Elders
7:00 pm Deacons
7:30 pm Full Council

Next Communion:
Sunday, January 4, 2026

Preaching Schedule:
November 30: Rev. Ashley Bonnes
December 7: Rev. Mark Bonnes
December 14: Rev. Mark Bonnes
December 21: Rev. Mark Bonnes
December 24: Rev. Mark Bonnes
December 28: Rev. David McBride

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

CHURCH OFFICE INFO:	MINISTRY LEADERS:
Phone: (231) 825-2171 Email: office@highlandcrc.org Normal Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm *Bulletin announcements due by NOON on Thursdays	Care & Fellowship Team – Cindy Vennema Education Team – Megan Pluger Facilities Team – Greg Hesselink & Devon Dracht Outreach Team – Committee Prayer Team – Sandy Rice Service Team – Carrie Thompson Worship Team – Bonnie McBride

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:

Winter Clothing Drive: The Service Team is holding a Winter Clothing Drive through the months of November, December, January. We are accepting new and gently used (in good condition) items. Needed items: coats, snow-pants, boots and gloves. Please placed donated items on the table in the east wing.

Single MOMMS is a local, non-profit organization that "addresses the core issues of single motherhood and provides innovative and diverse solutions for families desiring to reach self-sufficiency." More information can be found at their website: www.singlemomm.org. ***Highland Church will once again be helping to provide this organization with Meijer gift cards that they can then hand out to their clients, depending upon their specific need/situation. Cards can be used for general merchandise, food or gas. The Christmas tree in the fellowship hall is full of tags. Each tag represents a \$25 gift card that they need. Please take a tag if you are willing to buy a \$25 Meijer gift card. Gift cards should be turned in to either Carrie Thompson, Sara Bruno or Pastor Ashley Bonnes. Our goal is to gather 50 gift cards by **December 14th** to donate to this great organization!! **Please note that we will NOT be calling to request the purchase of gift cards over the phone or online. If you receive one of those calls, hang up. There will be a monetary offering taken on December 14th.

AREA EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Christmas Worship Extravaganza: Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6, 7pm: Lake City CRC is hosting its 4th year the Christmas Worship Extravaganza! Over 59 musicians from local churches and communities coming together in worship. Plan now to be a part of this special evening. Lake City CRC is located at 1657 S. Morey Rd., Lake City.

You're invited to a Christmas Program by **The AMEN Chorus, Women's Philharmonic Chorus and Bells of Peace Handbell Choir** at the Cadillac Auditorium on Saturday, December 6 at 7:00 pm and Sunday December 7 at 4:00 pm. We invite you to join us for this wonderful time of fellowship through music. Free will offering.

GriefShare 2026 sessions will begin at Vogel Center CRC on Saturday, January 3 from 9:00-11:00AM and will continue every Saturday through March 28. Please share this information with those who are grieving a loss and help them find hope and healing after the death of a loved one. For more information, contact Pastor Adam Barton at adam.mh.barton@gmail.com or (616) 566-7937.

Project Canefire is gearing up for their 2026 trip with 20 volunteers and a full schedule of projects. These projects include two new houses being built, 2 church repairs (a new one needs trusses and a roof and the other needs repairs due to termite damage), 10-12 wells will be installed, about 10 sewing machines will be distributed along with classes and ongoing micro-enterprises and student scholarship recipients will be visited. Your Thanksgiving offerings and end of the year monetary gifts are so important to make these projects happen. Gifts may be sent to Project Canefire P.O. Box 556 Lake City, MI 49651. Thank you for helping us share God's love, through these gifts, to His people in the Dominican Republic.

THANK YOU:

- Thank you to everyone that organized, provided and served the delicious food for our annual Thanksgiving dinner this past Sunday.
- **Christmas Shoeboxes:** Thank you, Highland Church for your ongoing support in purchasing the shoebox items as well as covering the shipping costs. We filled and delivered a total of **53 boxes** to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Cadillac this week. The Sunday School and Middle School kids were able to help with our packing party and seemed to enjoy choosing items for a specific age and gender. A special THANKS to Arla Roede who made all of the shower/travel bags and small pouches as every box was able to have at least one this year. These bags are very helpful to children to carry personal hygiene and/or school supplies. Just to give you some world data: Since 1993 more than 232 Million shoeboxes in more than 170 countries and territories have received and Operation Christmas Child Shoebox. Thank you again for all your support! ~Becky Wemple on behalf of the Highland Service Team & Samaritan's Purse

PRAYER CONNECTIONS:

Colter Bailey is done with stem-cell transplant #1 and currently home for the holidays. Please continue to pray for protection from any secondary infection and for pain management & relief from any side effects of the chemo & transplant process. They expect to start stem-cell transplant #2 after Christmas. Please continue to renewed strength and healing through this process.

Chris Sheats is receiving chemotherapy treatments. His chemotherapy regimen consists of three sessions per week, with medication taken orally at home and injections administered at the Cadillac infusion center. Please continue to pray for comfort & healing.

OUR MISSIONARIES:

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

OUR ACTIVE MILITARY:

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS • NOVEMBER 23, 2025

The **Proposed 2026 Budget** was approved: 147 Yes, 5 No.

Incoming Elders are Steve Meeuwenberg, Doug Mitchell & Greg Tossey. Paul Shaarda was also drawn to serve a 1-year term.

Incoming Deacons are Kevin DeHate, Miranda Dykhouse & Kyle Veltema.

Capital Improvement Projects: 5 - year plan:

- 2026 - Update lighting in North basement classrooms and hallways. Update nursery ceiling, lighting, paint, and alter heat ducts if possible. Add/update outlets.
- 2027 - Fellowship Hall Floor
- 2028 - Youth Building Roof
- 2029 - East Wing - New Windows and Siding
- 2030 - South Wing & Bell Tower - Siding as needed

**Results of the meeting were sent out via a Bright Arrow phone tree 11/23/25.

OUR CHURCH WEEK: NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 6

SUN 11/30	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:40 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (Dismiss at 11:30 am)
	4:30 PM	Fellowship Bible Study – Finish Season 1 of “The Study”
MON 12/1	5-7 PM	YB Use
TUES 12/2	9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study – Lesson 12
	5:45 PM	REV Moms
	7:00 PM	Praise Team Practice
WED 12/3	6:30 PM	Family Night Dinner
	7:00 PM	Centershot & GEMS

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

****New LIVE Stream Platform**** As of November 30, 2025 (today), our LIVE stream has moved from our Facebook page over to our YouTube channel, **Highland CRC LIVE** (<http://www.youtube.com/@HighlandCRCLIVE>) . There is also a direct link posted on our Facebook page, the Sermon section of our website or simply search for the channel directly through the YouTube app. This will also make it easier to view our LIVE stream directly on your Smart TV/devices as long as they are connected to the internet. Please reach out to our church office if you have any difficulty finding our YouTube Channel. As always, we appreciate your patience as we work to make this switch a positive experience for everyone.

Fellowship Bible Study will finish up Season 1 of Ray Vander Laan’s “The Study” this evening at 4:30 pm in the fellowship hall. This will be our last meeting for this year but we will begin Season 2 near the end of January. Please contact Sandy Rice to reserve your participant guide for Season 2.

Practices for the Sunday School’s Christmas Program & MS Light Show will be November 30, December 7 and 14 from 10:40-11:30 am. Please ensure your child is present for each practice if they want like to participate in this year’s program. Please contact Anita Kvasnak with any questions. **HS Catechism** will meet in the Youth Building for their regular lessons each week as normal. Please save the revised the SS schedule from last week. Additional copies are available on the information table.

Ladies Bible Study will meet this Tuesday at 9:30 am for Lesson 12 of the Life-Guide Bible study on the book of Genesis. Please note the following dates:

- December 2: Lesson 13
- December 9: No Lesson; JOY Group at 12:30 pm
- December 16: Ladies Bible Study Christmas Brunch
- Bible Study will take December 23 & 30 off and resume weekly study on January 6.

Please contact Hilda Cruz with any questions.

<i>Poinsettias at the front of the sanctuary have been placed in loving memory of:</i>		
Minard & Mary Ouwinga	John Dracht	Jerry Eisenga
Bill & Mary Dracht	William Rice	Dave Westmaas
Brenda VanHouten	Joseph Peterson	Jim Taylor
Helen VanHouten	Marlin Venema	Josie Thompson
Henry & Reka Eisenga	Jake & Jo Eisenga	Bernard Eisenga
John & Margaret Keen	Whip Koetje	Marvin Veddler
Elton & Hilda Sikkema	Ben Eisenga	Al & Tena Medendorp
Ralph & Marie Brinks	John & Anne Vennema	Tom & Shirley Boven
Abe & Freda Kamphouse	Bob & Rhea Dore	June & Ada Oeverman
Dick & Brenda Dorman	Bud & Nettie Agema	

SAVE THE DATE:

J.O.Y. Group will gather on Tuesday, December 9 at 12:30 p.m. for a Christmas dinner along with some fun and fellowship. A sign-up sheet is on the information table in the fellowship hall. If anyone is willing to make a nice salad for our dinner, please contact Cindy Vennema or Bev Taylor. We will also be playing Christmas Bingo and ask that each person brings a wrapped white elephant gift for the Bingo prizes.

Versiti Blood of MI will be here on Wednesday, December 10 from 1-6:00 PM. To schedule a life-saving donation, please call (866) 642-5663 or online at Versiti.org/MI.

Highland’s Sunday School Christmas Program: Attention Parents and Grandparents, please mark your calendar for our annual Sunday School Christmas Program “*Just A Little Christmas*” on **December 14**, starting at **6:30 pm**. All children in grades PreK-8th will participate. Come for an evening of traditional Christmas carols and the Christmas Story, as well as our fantastic Middle School Light Show! Refreshments to follow!!