

**NURSERY:**

<b>Dec 5</b>	Amy Eisenga, Kasey McQuestion, Addean Oeverman, Shari Benthem, Jayden Benthem, Dana Baas
<b>Dec 12</b>	Becky Wemple, Diane Eisenga, Franklin Baas Megan Benthem, Melissa Oeverman, Evan Wemple
<b>Dec 19</b>	Stephanie VanHouten, Ruth Kulhawick, Emma Oeverman Sue Cook, Nicole Schultz, Kendyn Meyering
<b>**Dec 24 Christmas Eve</b>	Linda Ellens, Maggie Southwick, Karianne Smith, Donna Veddler, Leah Thompson, Mya Eisenga

**LITTLE LAMBS / CHILDREN IN WORSHIP:**

<b>Dec 5</b>	LL Teacher: Cindy Vennema; Helper: _____ CIW Teacher: Maggie Southwick; Helper: Emerson Tossey
<b>Dec 12</b>	LL Teacher: Kasey McQuestion; Helper: Leah Thompson CIW Teacher: Nicole Koetje; Helper: Linda Ellens
<b>Dec 19</b>	LL Teacher: Sara Bruno; Helper: Lindsay Beerens CIW Teacher: Hillary Dracht; Helper: Linda Wing
<b>Dec 26</b>	LL Teacher: Nicole Schultz, Helper: Addean Oeverman CIW Teacher: Anne Thomas; Helper: Karsyn Meyering

**SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT:**

<b>Dec 5</b>	Matt Thompson, Dan Ouwinga, Deb Eisenga
<b>Dec 12</b>	Matt Thompson, Jonathan Ouwinga, Sue Cook
<b>Dec 19</b>	Kyle Meyering, Roger Hagerman, Jodi DeHate
<b>**Dec 24 Christmas Eve</b>	Matt Thompson, Jonathan Ouwinga, Tami Eisenga

**OFFERINGS:**

**DECEMBER**

**5<sup>th</sup>:** Booster Club  
**12<sup>th</sup>:** New Building  
**19<sup>th</sup>:** Existing Building  
**26<sup>th</sup>:** Life Resources

**JANUARY**

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Booster club  
**9<sup>th</sup>:** New Building  
**16<sup>th</sup>:** Josh and Mandy Shaarda  
**23<sup>rd</sup>:** Marion Food Pantry  
**30<sup>th</sup>:** Existing Building

**USHERS:**

**December:** James Bazuin, Al Baas, Kyle Meyering, Jason Benthem  
**January:** Jerry Nemeth, Scott Oeverman, Todd Oeverman, Jun Brinks

**\*\*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!**



**DECEMBER 5, 2021**

**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](mailto:office@highlandcrc.org)  
Website: [www.highlandcrc.org](http://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**  
**December 5, 2021**

**The People of God Gather:**

Call to worship from Psalm 95:6-7  
 Welcome  
 God's greeting  
 Greeting one another

To Praise God:

*Love Has Come (vs 1 & 3)*  
 Ephesians 3:17b-19a  
*O How He Loves You & Me (vs 1-2)*  
 Prayer of Praise



To Prepare Our Hearts for Christ's Coming:

Reading of John 3:16; 1 John 3:16 –Dave & Linda Wing family  
 Lighting of the Advent Candle -LOVE  
 The Prayer  
*O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1 & 4)*

To Pray and Serve God:

Announcements:  
 Congregational prayer

To Proclaim God's Word:

Children's message: Greg Tossey  
 Song of preparation: *God Has Spoken by His Prophets (vs 1-3)*  
 Scripture: **Genesis 22:1-8**  
 Message: ***Because You Have Not Withheld Your Only Son***  
 Prayer of response  
 Song of response & Offertory: *My Savior's Love (vs 1-4)*  
 Offering: 1<sup>st</sup>: General Fund, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Booster Club  
 (Please remain seated during the song or response and offering)

To Go in God's Name:

God's blessing:  
 Closing song: *Let's Worship & Adore Him (vs 1-2)*  
 Postlude

**2021 COUNCIL**

Executive. Board: *		Church Office (231) 825-2171
<b>Elders</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Deacons</b>
Bob Vennema *Clerk	#1, A-C	Gary Hesselink
Dale Fredin *Pres.	#2, D-E	Greg Tossey *Sec. of Deac.
Ken Meyering	#3, F-L	Tom Ouwinga *V.T.
Ken Roede *V.P.	#4, M-O	Dan Villwock
Jerry Koop	#5, P-T	Doug Mitchell
Bryan Eisenga	#6, V-Z	Adam Swiler
<b>PASTORAL CARE VISITS:</b> If you would appreciate a pastoral visit for whatever reason, please contact your district elder or Pastor Neil via Sara Bruno in the church office by calling (231) 825-2171. To reach Pastor Neil directly, his email is npjasperse@gmail.com.		

**Upcoming Council Meetings (\*\*Note New Date)**

November 13      6:30 pm      Elders  
 November 13      7:00 pm      Deacons  
 November 13      7:30 pm      Full Council (current in incoming council to attend)

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

<b>November</b>		<b>2nd Offering</b>	
7th	5,284.00	Highland Booster Club	2,185.00
14th	5,704.00	New Building Fund	25,609.00
21st	5,240.00	Benevolence	2,043.00
Thanksgiving	15,374.75		
28th	4,817.08	George & Sarah DeVuyst	1,401.00
Budget needed weekly	5,765.14	CRC Loan Fund - Beginning Balance	187,213.38
Times 48 weeks	<u>276,726.65</u>	Principal Paid to Date	56,666.50
Received to date	276,774.41	CRC Loan Fund - Ending Balance	130,546.88
Balance	47.76		
		Interest paid to date	7,187.75

<b>Thanksgiving Offering</b>			
General Fund	15,374.75	Josh & Mandy Shaarda	2,080.00
New Building Fund	21,640.00	NMC	545.00
Highland Booster Club	1,250.00	World Renew	1,395.00
Basement Project	10,324.46	Friendship Family Home	215.00
Benevolence	1,070.00	Project Canefire	100.00
George & Sarah DeVuyst	750.00	Church Building Fund	520.00
Highland MOPS	50.00	Misc. Gifts	60.00
<b>Thanksgiving Offering Total</b>			<b>55,374.21</b>

**SERMON OUTLINE**

**Title: Because You Have Not Withheld Your Own Son**

**Text: Genesis 22:1-18**

- 1 God's test: take your son, whom you love; sacrifice him. (verses 1-2)
- 2 Abraham's obedience: he got up and set out for the place God had told him. (3-4)
- 3 Abraham's faith: we will come back to you. (5-8)
- 4 Isaac's cooperation: He bound his son Isaac on the altar. (9)
- 5 Abraham passes the test: he took the knife to slay his son. (10-12)
- 6 Jesus' fulfillment: God sent Jesus to be a sacrifice for us

**Notes:**

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- **Nursery** is available in the basement for children ages infant-3 years old.
- **Children's Church:** Little Lambs is available for ages 3-4 and Children in Worship is for ages 5-Kindergarten. A parent/guardian must pick them up from their classrooms in the basement 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 the following Monday afternoon from the office.

**PRAYER CORNER**

We lift up in prayer those that need healing: Please pray for Ken VanPolen, Dick Bruno, 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.

**Prayer Requests & Updates:**

- **Bob Vennema** is scheduled to have knee replacement surgery on Thursday, December 9. Please pray for successful surgery and patience throughout the healing process.
- Please pray for **Ron Vander Tuuk** (Highland local and Ken Roede’s brother-in-law). Ron has been in the ICU battling COVID. Please pray for healing and renewed strength.
- Thank you to our Highland friends and family for your many prayers over Jenny through her surgery and recovery. The surgery to correct a Chiari malformation at the base of her skull went well and she continues to improve.  
~Keith, Jenny, Ken & Arla Roede

**PRAYER FOCUS**

During this advent season we join our hearts and prayers by focusing on one attribute of our awesome God each day.

**God is LOVE: “I Praise you because you are a loving God, whose very nature is love. ‘You showed your love among us when you sent your one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him’” (1 John 4: 9 & 16)**

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

**ANOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:**

**Notes to Pastor Mark Pluimer-** At our November 21 congregational meeting we decided to call Rev. Mark Pluimer to serve with us as our pastor. An official letter of call has been sent. Personal notes from individuals can be very helpful to put a face on our call, along with specific reasons we hope Pastor Mark will earnestly consider our call. (\*\*address is not posted online; call the office for info)

**Family Night Christmas Party!** –We will have pizza for our Family night dinner on December 15<sup>th</sup>. We would also like to have Christmas cookies available for everyone. If you would be willing to make two-dozen cookies, please see the sign-up sheet for “Family Night Christmas Cookies” in the fellowship hall.

**Thank you** so much for your pie orders and donations for our fundraiser. We were so overwhelmed by the orders and people that reached out to us. We nearly tripled the original goal set for the fundraiser, and are so humbled by the support. We appreciate all of those willing to share with us how adoption has touched their lives as well. We ask for your continued prayers as we wait for the match God has for us. ~Brad and Abby Pluger

**God’s Creation Calendars:** Highland CRC MOPS (a program for moms to get together to support and encourage each other through motherhood) is selling 2022 God’s Creation Calendar’s. The money made from the calendars will help pay for the attending moms fees. If you are interested in buying one please contact Deborah Ouwinga.

**The poinsettias at the front of our sanctuary have been placed in loving memory of those no longer by our side but forever in our hearts:**

Jo & Jake Eisenga	Brenda VanHouten	Dave Westmaas
Ralph & Marie Sikkema	June & Ada Oeverman	Ken Sikkema
Duane Sikkema	Whip Koetje	John Dracht
Pete Sikkema	Marv Veddler	Ed & Effie Bloomsma
Al & Tina Medendorp	Bob Eldridge	Hank & Reka Eisenga
Dick Dorman	Minard & Mary Ouwinga	Gordon VanWylen
Ben Eisenga	Jerry Eisenga	Margaret VanWylen
Tom Boven	Patty Jasperse	

**OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 5-11**

<b>SUN</b> 12/05	9:15 AM	A time of prayer in the prayer room
	9:30 AM	Morning Worship Service
	10:50 AM	SS & MS -Christmas Program Practice; HS -Catechism
	4:30 PM	Teaching Forum: Women in Church Leadership
	5:30 PM	Extreme & Strong Tower –Christmas Party (meet in YB)
<b>TUES</b> 12/07	11:30	Christmas Luncheon for Seniors –Fellowship hall
<b>WED</b> 12/08	9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study
	1-7:00 PM	Versiti Blood Drive
	7:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
<b>SAT</b> 12/11	11AM–5PM	Fellowship Hall Use

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TEACHING FORUM- Women in Church Leadership:** All professing members of Highland Church are urged to attend the teaching forums on women in church leadership. The first will be held this afternoon- Sunday, December 5, 4:30- 6:00pm. Pastor Neil will present the official Christian Reformed summary of the biblical case for the historic conviction- that only men are to serve as ministers and elders in the church. Questions for clarification will be included but not discussion. Child care will be provided. The second forum- on the inclusive conviction- will be presented the following Sunday, December 12, 4:30-6:00pm.

**TONIGHT: New Date for Xtreme & Strong Tower Christmas Party-** Our Christmas party has been moved up to TONIGHT to avoid any schedule overlap with the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 19. We will meet at church at 5:30pm and then head to Cadillac at 6:00pm to go axe throwing at **Skeggox**. Parents need to fill out a waiver in order for their kids to axe throw. No waiver, no axe throwing. A link for the waiver is available on the youth group’s Facebook page. Copies are also on the information table. We will be paying for the pizza and axe throwing but if the kids would like rolled ice cream, they will need to bring their own money. We will return to church at 8:00pm. Hope to see everyone tonight!!!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:**

**The Annual Sunday School Christmas Program is scheduled for Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.** We will start practicing with our Sunday School kids today after church, during the Sunday School hour. **Parents:** Due to the short time frame, we only have 3 practices, so it’s very important that kids attend each one. Each child will have some sort of role in the program. If you know that your child will not be at the program, please let us know. **Congregation:** Due to many families traveling, Sunday School numbers for the program are a little low. We are currently planning a few special numbers, but are wondering if anyone in the congregation would like to participate in a special music number, reading or instrumental piece. We feel as though this is a great way for all in our church to celebrate Christ’s birth. Also, we will be serving cookies and milk after the program. If able, please sign up to bring 2 dozen cookies, bars or baked goods. **Middle-school** will be joining the Sunday School for practices; **High-school** will continue to meet for their regular lessons. Please contact Dana Baas, Kasey McQuestion, April Villwock or Carrie Thompson if you have any questions!!

**All senior citizens are invited to a Christmas luncheon** this Tuesday, December 7th at 11:30 am at Highland Church! Come for an afternoon of food, fellowship and a fun activity. Please sign up on the sheet provided on the information table in the fellowship hall if you are planning to attend. Please contact Cindy Vennema or Bev Taylor if you have questions or need assistance with transportation.

**Versiti Blood of Michigan** will be holding a blood drive here in the fellowship hall this Wednesday, December 8th from 1:00-7:00 pm. Appointments are preferred and still available although walk-ins are welcome. To schedule your donation, please call Versiti directly at 1-866-642-5663 or visit [Versiti.org/MI](http://Versiti.org/MI). You may also schedule through Sara in the church office by calling (231) 825-2171.

**The Ladies of the Wednesday Morning Bible Study** would like to invite all Highland ladies to a **Christmas Brunch** on Wednesday, December 15th at 9:30am. There will be food, fun and fellowship. Please bring two \$1.00 gifts for one of the activities. Please RSVP by December 12, to either Hilda or Sara in the church office to let them know if you are able to come.