

GREETERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am

- Dec 8** South: Matt & Carrie Thompson, North: Devon & Hillary Dracht
Dec 15 South: Bob & Cindy Vennema; North: Jean Venema
Dec 22 South: Kevin & Tami Eisenga; North: Steph & Sam VanHouten
Dec 25 South: Jim & Bev Ouwinga; North: Steve & Sue Meeuwenberg
Christmas
Dec 29 South: Jason & Shari Benthem; North: Paul & Carole Shaarda

NURSERY – Please arrive by 9:15 am

- Dec 8** Kasey McQuestion, Shari Benthem, Jan Rivera, Ben Thompson
Dec 15 Karen Oeverman, Dana Baas, Jennifer Peterson, Kendyn Meyering
Dec 22 Becky Wemple, Diane Eisenga, Ruth Kulhawick, Evan Wemple
Dec 25 Maggie Southwick, Donna Veddler, Esther Bode, Harper Tossey
Christmas
Dec 29 Nicole Schultz, Cam Mulder, Jodi DeHate, Owen Wemple

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

- Dec 8** Teacher: Sara Bruno; Helpers: Lindsay Beerens, Alan Thomas
Dec 15 Teacher: Kasey McQuestion; Helpers: Steph VanHouten, Harper Tossey
Dec 22 Christmas Break – No Children’s Church
Dec 25 Christmas Day – No Children’s Church
Dec 29 Christmas Break – No Children’s Church

SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT

- Dec 8** Matt Thompson, Kaylie Benthem, Kendra Jenema
Dec 15 Kyle Meyering, Jon Ouwinga, Jodi DeHate
Dec 22 Cary Sikkema, Dan Ouwinga, Kendra Jenema
Dec 25 Matt Thompson, Kaylie Benthem, Deb Eisenga
Christmas
Dec 29 Kyle Meyering, Jon Ouwinga, Deborah Ouwinga

USHERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am

- Dec** Ryan McQuestion, Todd Schmid, Kendyn Meyering, Kerwin Huttenga
Jan Kevin Huttenga, Den Kamphouse, Butch Karsten, Aaron Koetje

2ND OFFERINGS:

- December:**
1st: Booster Club
8th: Single MOMMS
15th: Friendship Bible Ministry
22nd: Right to Life
25th: No 2nd Offering (Christmas Day)
29th: Existing Building Fund
- Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers that so graciously give of their time and skills each week to serve Highland Church*



December 8, 2024
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
December 8, 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent

The People of God Gather:

Prelude
Welcome & God’s Greeting
Greet One Another

To Praise God in Song:

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (vs 1, 3)
O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs 1, 2)
Joy to the World (vs 1, 2)
Prayer of Praise

To Pray and Serve God

Confession & Lighting of the Advent Candles
Announcements
Congregational Prayer

To Proclaim God’s Word

Children’s Message: Scott Akom
Song of Preparation: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (vs 1, 2)*
Scripture: Isaiah 9.2-7
Message: Praying for Real Peace
Prayer of Response
Song of Response/Offertory: *Shine On Us (vs 1-3)*

Today’s Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Single MOMMS

To Go in God’s Name

God’s Blessing
Closing Song: *The Light of the World (vs 1, 2)*
Postlude

***Nursery** is available year-round downstairs for children ages 0 - 3 years old.
Children’s Bulletins are available on the information table in the Fellowship Hall.
Children’s Church is available for children age 3 - Kindergarten downstairs following the children’s message. Kids must be picked up directly from their classroom following the worship service.*

COUNCIL CORNER:

Next Council Meetings:

Monday, January 6, 2025
6:30 pm Elders
7:00 pm Deacons
7:30 pm Full Council

Preaching Schedule:

Dec 1 – Rev. Ashley Bonnes
Dec 8 – Rev. Mark Bonnes
Dec 15 – Rev. Mark Bonnes
Dec 22 – Rev. Mark Bonnes
Dec 25 – Rev. Mark Bonnes
Dec 29 – Rev. Mark Bonnes

HIGHLAND COUNCIL:

Officers for 2024:

President	Don Eisenga	Pastor Mark Bonnes Pastor Ashley Bonnes *personal contact info is not posted online. Please call the church office.
Vice President	Bob Vennema	
Clerk	Alan Baas	
Sec. of Deacons	Kyle Meyering	
Vice Treas.	Curt Wemple	

Districts for 2024:

Elders	District	Deacons
Jerry Nemeth	#1, A-C	Carrie Thompson
Alan Baas	#2, D-E	Kyle Meyering
Bob Vennema	#3, F-L	Curt Wemple
Mark Eisenga	#4, M-O	Gary Hesselink
Don Eisenga	#5, P-T	Scott Oeverman
Don Ellens	#6, U-Z	Anne Thomas

OFFICE CONTACT INFO:

Phone: (231) 825-2171
Email: office@highlandcrc.org
Office Hours:
Mon. – Thur.: 8:30 am - 2:00 pm
Fri. – Sun.: Office Closed
**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

Single MOMM: Single MOMM is a non-profit organization that started in the Traverse City area in 2008 and is slowly expanding services to Wexford, Missaukee and Osceola Counties. It is a ministry 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. ***As a Service Team project, Highland Church will be helping to provide this organization with \$25 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 we 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 40 gift cards by **December 22nd** 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.

Center Lake Bible Camp presents: Follow the Star - A Christmas Tradition for the Whole Family. Immerse yourself in the wonder of Christmas with our Live Nativity. Walk through the biblical story, savor delicious cookies, and vote for your favorite decorated tree. The first group of each night at 6pm is transported by wagon, providing a comfortable option for those with limited mobility. Dates: December 6th-8th; Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS:	
World Renew	4,393.00
General	3,846.00
Benevolence	3,375.00
Capital Improvements	2,655.00
Josh & Mandy Shaarda	2,130.00
Matt & Emily Slack	1,970.00
George & Sarah De Vuyst	1,535.00
Booster Club	1,043.00
Friendship Bible Ministries	1,000.00
Highland Home Missions	525.00
NMCS Major Drive	500.00
Voice of the Martyrs	500.00
Strong Tower	250.00
Friendship Family Home	200.00
REV Moms	105.00
NMCS Tuition Assistance	50.00
Marion Food Pantry	50.00
Total	24,127.00

Concert: The A.M.E.N. Chorus, Women's Philharmonic Chorus, and Bells of Peace Hand-bell Choir will be presenting *"Hope Lives"* on Saturday, December 7 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 8 at 4:00 pm at the Cadillac High School Auditorium, 500 Chestnut Street, Cadillac, MI 49601. We invite you to join us for this special program. Free admission with a free-will offering received.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
~ John 8:12 ~

PRAYER CONNECTIONS:

- Our heartfelt condolences to Butch and Mary Karsten in the recent passing of his brother, Kerwin Karsten (88) on December 4. Funeral services will be held at 3:00 PM Monday, December 9, 2024 at Rehoboth Reformed Church with Pastor Kathy Vana officiating. Visitation will be Sunday, December 8, 2024 from 7-9 PM at Peterson Funeral home in Cadillac.

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

- **Josh & Mandy Shaarda & Family** (Serving in Uganda)
Email: jshaarda@crnapartners.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 Asia)

OUR ACTIVE MILITARY:

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

WE WANT TO PRAY FOR YOU:

At Highland, we strive to lift each other, in the good times and bad, in prayer and we have a few ways of doing that:

- **Weekly Bulletin:** Our bulletin has a section called Prayer Connections. If you would like a prayer request added to the bulletin in addition to or in place of a Prayer Chain message, please contact the church office.
- **The Prayer Chain** is a phone call sent out by the church office to the entire congregation through our Bright Arrow phone-tree. To request a prayer chain be started, please contact an Elder, Pastor, or the church office. If you are not already a part of the Prayer Chain but wish to be added, please contact the church office at (231) 825-2171.
- **Prayer Warriors:** These individuals are dedicated to confidential and consistent prayer over specific needs and concerns that might not yet be public knowledge. If you have a prayer request for one of our Prayer Warriors, or if you would like to become a Prayer Warrior, please contact Sandy Rice directly.

OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 8-14

SUN 12/08	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:40 PM	Sunday School (Christmas Program Practice), Catechism & Profession of Faith Class
	6-8:00 PM	MS/HS Youth Group –Christmas Parties
MON 12/09	6:30 PM	Elders Meeting
	7:00 PM	Deacon Meeting
	7:30 PM	Council Meeting
TUES 12/10	12:30 PM	J.O.Y Group Christmas Dinner
	5:45 PM	REV Moms
	7:00 PM	Praise 9 & Guys Practice
WED 12/11	1-6:30 PM	Versiti Community Blood Drive

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bonnie Veddler celebrated her 90th birthday this past Friday, December 6th. Bonnie loves and is very thankful for her church family and friends. In continued celebration, there will be cake served after the church service.

Practice for the Sunday School's Christmas Program & MS Light Show will be December 1, 8, & 15 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 Deborah Ouwinga with any questions. **HS Catechism** will meet in the Youth Building for their regular lessons each week as normal.

Council Meeting on Monday, December 9: Elders at 6:30 pm, Deacons at 7:00 pm and Full Council at 7:30 pm. This will be for both current and incoming council members.

SAVE-THE-DATE **Highland's Sunday School Christmas Program: Attention Parents and Grandparents, please mark your calendar for our annual Sunday School Christmas Program *"Picture A Christmas"* on **December 15**, 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 (nearly) famous Middle School Light Show! Cookies, milk and coffee to follow!!

Directory Update Sheets – Thank you to everyone that has turned in their sheet. If you have not yet done so or still need a blank copy to fill out, please contact the church office. Forms can still be turned in through the church office (wire basket on the desk).

Keys for Kids Advent Devotionals are now available on the information table.

J.O.Y. Group will be gathering for their Christmas Dinner on December 10 at 12:30 in our Fellowship Hall. Join us for a delicious meal and wonderful fellowship, interesting entertainment and ending with some of our favorite Christmas carols. A sign-up sheet is on the table in Fellowship Hall!

REV Moms will be meeting this Tuesday at 5:45 pm in the MS Youth Room.

Praise 9 & Guys will be practicing this Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary.

Versiti Blood of Michigan will be here this coming Wednesday, December 11 from 1-6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. We still have plenty of openings! To schedule our donation, please call (866) 642-5663 versiti.org/mi.

The Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study will be holding their Christmas Brunch on Tuesday, December 17 at 9:30 am.

Christmas Carols Needed!! Anyone interested in Christmas Caroling are invited to do so on December 18 after Family Night Dinner. We will begin with dinner at church at 6:30 then break off into small groups to carol at a few homes while the kids take part in their regular Centershot/GEMS activities. If you have kids in either of these groups, please remember to be back to church by 8 pm to pick them up. For planning purposes, carolers please sign up in the Fellowship Hall!

Winter Clothing Drive. We are again having a Winter Clothing Drive on behalf of Marion Public Schools and local community resources. We need Coats (all sizes), boots (all sizes), snow pants (all sizes, preferably black in color), and gloves. We are all set in the hat department! All donations should be new or gently used. Donation can be placed by the service team table in the east wing. Items will be delivered throughout the winter months.

Memorial Poinsettias have arrived and have been placed in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. Please contact Bonnie McBride if you requested a plant but have not yet turned in payment.

* * * * *

Poinsettias have been placed in Loving Memory of:

Henry & Reka Eisenga

Alan Thomas Sr

Jake & Jo Eisenga

Al & Tena Medendorp

Whip Koetje

Dave Westmaas

Marian Ouwinga

June & Ada Oeverman

Tom & Shirley Boven

Brenda VanHouten

Bonnie Oeverman

Josie Thompson

Helen VanHaitsma

Jon Dracht

Elton & Hilda Sikkema

James Taylor

Bill VanPoler

Ralph & Marie Brinks

Lewis & Nettie Agema

Minard & Mary Ouwinga

John & Anne Vennema

Abe & Freda Kamphouse

Anna VanPoler

Bob & Rhea Dore

Dick Dormar

Bernard Eisenga