

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

## NURSERY

- Dec 10** Brooke Benthem, Lizelle Bazuin, Bev Kamphouse, Leah Thompson  
**Dec 17** Shari Benthem, Jan Rivera, Karen Oeverman, Karsyn Meyering  
**Dec 24 am** Becky Wemple, Stephanie VanHouten, Ruth Kulhawick, Harper Tossey  
**Dec 24 pm** Diane Eisenga, Dana Baas, Nicole Schultz, Alan Thomas  
**Dec 31 am** Maggie Southwick, Karianne Smith, Donna Veddler, Gracyn Swiler  
**Dec 31 pm** Bonnie McBride, Diane Nemeth, Jodi DeHate, Aubrynn Bazuin

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- Dec 10** Teacher: Kasey McQuestion; Helpers: Lindsay Beerens, Alan Thomas  
**Dec 17** Teacher: Megan Pluger; Helpers: Jordyn Richardson, Harper Tossey  
**Dec 24 & 31** No Children's Church: Christmas/New Year's Break  
**Jan 7** Teacher: Miranda Dykhouse; Helpers: Lindsay Beerens, Emerson Tossey

## SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT

- Dec 10** Cary Sikkema, Dan Ouwinga, Jodi DeHate  
**Dec 17** Kyle Meyering, Kaylie Benthem, Deborah Ouwinga  
**Dec 24 am** Cary Sikkema, Jonathan Ouwinga, Kendra Jenema  
**Dec 24 pm** Matt Thompson, Roger Hagerman, Deb Eisenga  
**Dec 31 am** Kyle Meyering, Roger Hagerman, Deborah Ouwinga  
**Dec 31 pm**

## USHERS

- December:** Steve Meeuwenberg, Isaac Baas, Dale Taylor, Aaron Pluger  
**January:** Kevin Eisenga, Bob Lee, Mike Southwick, Kendyn Meyering,

## 2ND OFFERINGS:

- December:**  
**3<sup>rd</sup>:** Booster Club  
**10<sup>th</sup>:** Lydia Shaarda  
**17<sup>th</sup>:** Existing Building Fund  
**24<sup>th</sup>:** Benevolence  
**31<sup>st</sup>:** Marion Food Pantry

**\*\*If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please find a replacement.  
For additional assistance, please call the church office (231) 825-2171.**



## December 10, 2023 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)

# HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Morning Worship Service – 9:30 am

December 10, 2023

*\*\* Second Sunday of Advent \*\**

## The People of God Gather:

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship

God's Greeting

Greet One Another

### To Praise God

*O Come, O Come Immanuel (PH #328 vs 1,4)*

*Angels We Have Heard on High (PH #347 vs 1,3)*

*Away In A Manger (PH #348 vs 1-3)*

Prayer of Praise

### To Pray and Serve God

Announcements

Congregational Prayer

### To Proclaim God's Word

Children's Message & Advent Candle Lighting

Song of Preparation: *You Are Our God, We Are Your People (PH #272 vs 1,2)*

**Scripture: Genesis 15**

**Sermon: More Than Land**

Prayer of Response

Song of Response/Offertory: *O Holy Night (vs 1-3)*

Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Lydia Shaarda

### To Go in God's Name

God's blessing

Closing Song: *Oh For A Thousand Tongues*

Postlude

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

December 4 at 6:30 pm -Elders

December 4 at 7:00 pm -Deacons

December 4 at 6:30 pm -Council

## PREACHING SCHEDULE:

December 3 – Rev. Ashley Bonnes

December 10 – Rev. Mark Bonnes

December 17 – Rev. Mark Bonnes

December 24 am – Rev. Mark Bonnes

December 24 pm – Rev. Mark Bonnes

December 31 am – Rev. Mark Bonnes

December 31 pm – Pastor Mark Bonnes

## HIGHLAND COUNCIL:

### Officers for 2023:

<b>President</b>	Jon Dracht	<b>Pastor Mark Bonnes</b> <b>Pastor Ashley Bonnes</b> *personal contact info is not posted online. Please call the church office.
<b>Vice President</b>	Don Eisenga	
<b>Clerk</b>	Alan Baas	
<b>Sec. of Deacons</b>	Kyle Meyering	
<b>Vice Treas.</b>	Kasey Rees	

### Districts for 2023:

Elders	District	Deacons
Den Kamphouse	<b>#1, A-C</b>	David Wing
Alan Baas	<b>#2, D-E</b>	Kyle Meyering
Jon Dracht	<b>#3, F-L</b>	Devon Dracht
Paul Shaarda	<b>#4, M-O</b>	Kasey Rees
Don Eisenga	<b>#5, P-T</b>	Scott Oeverman
Don Ellens	<b>#6, U-Z</b>	Anne Thomas

### Church Office

(231) 825-2171

office@highlandcrc.org

### Normal Office Hours:

**Mon-Thurs 8:30 am – 2:00 pm**

**Fri-Sun: Closed**

\*\*All Bulletin announcements must be submitted to the office by noon on Thursdays.

### Ministry Team 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** (DaNay Tossey)

*\*\*Our Nursery is available downstairs for children ages 0 - 3 years old.*

*Children's Church is available downstairs for children age 3 years old - Kindergarten following the children's message.*

**Winter Clothing Drive:** We are again having a Winter Clothing Drive for the Marion Public Schools. Coats (all sizes), boots (all sizes), snow pants (all sizes, preferably black in color), and gloves are needed (we are good in the hat department!). All donations should be new or gently used. Donations will be delivered throughout the winter months.

**LIVE Nativity:** Come and experience the story of Jesus' birth with a live nativity walk through down town McBain! Sunday, December 10th, 4-5:30 pm. Head to main street and you'll find 4 LIVE nativity stations that take you along downtown McBain. Local businesses will be open for warm drinks, food, treats, and kids activities. Make your way down to the tree lighting with more family fun activities, including Santa, the Grinch, Oscar the Draft Horse, wagon rides around town, carols led by a choir and the tree lighting at 5:30 pm!

**The Patriots present "A Christmas to Believe In"**- Join us for our Christmas Concert and Bake Sale on Friday, December 15 at 6:00 pm at the United Methodist Church 1020 E. Division, Cadillac, MI 49601.

**Theological Foundations of the Restoration of Ukraine:** I (George De Vuysts) would like to invite you to an upcoming event at Calvin Theological Seminary. I'll attach the flyer below, but one of my ministry partners, the Poltava Theological Seminary, will be presenting at Calvin Seminary on the evening of December 14 about the future of Ukraine and the role of sound theological education in the rebuilding of Ukraine. It promises to be a very informative and, hopefully, interactive evening. The president of Poltava Theological Seminary, Pavlo Mykhnevych, and the academic dean, Ihor Skrypnichenko, will be presenting. I will be moderating the event. The event is also open to anyone who is interested, so we would extend the invitation to the congregation as well. The Poltava Theological Seminary would like to have a sense of the number of people who will be in attendance, so they ask for people to register in advance using this google form: <https://forms.gle/8oyqdZExikpzi9kK7>

## THANK YOU:

We would like to express our thanks for all of the calls, cards and prayers as our mom was called home to Heaven. We will definitely miss her, but she is home, and we will see her again! God Bless! ~The Family of Shirley Boven.

## PRAYER CONNECTIONS:

**Prayer Chain:** Please continue to pray for our Church Secretary, **Sara Bruno** who broke the lower part of her leg this past Monday. She had surgery Monday and is home recovering. Please pray for healing and patience. \*\*Please note that our regular office hours will be modified until further notice as we work to reorganize in her absence. Please submit all bulletin announcements via the church email, [office@highlandcrc.org](mailto:office@highlandcrc.org). For any urgent church matters, please call either Pastor Mark or Pastor Ashley directly.

### Weekly Prayer Emphasis:

**During the month of December, we want to focus on Peace and Reconciliation:**

- **This Sunday**, we pray for our marriages.
- **In the coming week and next Sunday**, we pray for peace in our families.

### ✚ Our Missionaries:

- **Josh & Mandy Shaarda & Family** (Serving in Uganda)  
Email: [jshaarda@crncpartners.org](mailto:jshaarda@crncpartners.org); Blog: <http://shaarda.blogspot.com>
- **George & Sarah de Vuyst & Family** (Serving in Ukraine & the U.S.)  
Email: [gdevuyst@crcna.org](mailto:gdevuyst@crcna.org); Website: <http://www.devuysts.com>

### ✚ Our Active Military:

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

**OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 10-16**

<b>SUN 12/10</b>	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:40 AM	SS & MS Christmas Program Practice begins; HS Catechism – Reg. lesson
	-----	No Fellowship Bible Study (December & January)
	9-6:00 PM	MS & HS Youth Group Christmas Parties
<b>TUES 12/12</b>	12:00 PM	J.O.Y. Christmas Luncheon
<b>WED 12/13</b>	1-6:30 PM	Versiti Blood Drive
	7:00 PM	Prayer Meeting

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Highland’s Annual Sunday School Christmas Program and Middle School Light Show - December 17 at 6:00 PM**

- **Sunday School’s Christmas Program Practice** TODAY in the sanctuary during the normal Sunday School hour. **Parents-** please ensure your child is present for each practice December 3, 10 and 17 after the worship service if they want like to participate in the Christmas program. Please contact Carrie Thompson or Anne Thomas with any questions.
- **Middle School Light Show Practice** begins today: If you want to participate in the Light Show this year please meet in the Middle School Room downstairs directly after the worship service. We will also be meeting BEFORE the Church service and AFTER the service on December 10<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup>. Please be to church by 8:45am each of those Sundays. **Parents-** please ensure your child is present for each practice December 3, 10 and 17 before and after the worship service if they want to participate in the Christmas program. Please reach out to Becky Wemple for any questions.
- **HS Catechism** will meet in the Youth Building for their regular lesson each of these weeks.

**MS & HS Youth Groups Christmas Parties: TONIGHT from 6-9 pm.** Pizza will be provided. Please check with your Youth Leaders for additional details.

**J.O.Y. Group Christmas Luncheon** will take place on Tuesday, December 12, at noon in the fellowship hall. Sign-up is on the information table.

**Highland’s Annual Sunday School Christmas Program & Light Show:** Please mark your calendar for our annual Highland Sunday School Christmas Program on December 17th, starting at 6pm. 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!!

**Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study** (w/ Hilda) is on break for the remainder of December but will still hold their Christmas brunch on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am

**Our Fellowship Bible Study** group will be on break for the months of December and January. Details on their next study will be posted in mid-January.

**Our Family Night Dinner** on December 20 will be a pizza party topped off with homemade Christmas Cookies. Please sign up at the information table in the fellowship hall if you would like to donate cookies.

**New Prayer Resources** are now available on the table in the east wing. New materials including some DVDs as well as assorted books for kids! New DVD titles include: *“The Chosen”* (DVDs: Seasons 1-3) and *“Christmas with The Chosen”*. New books titles include: *“My First Read and Learn Book of Prayers”*, *“The Power of a Praying Girl”*, *“You Can Pray Big Things”*, and *“Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer”*. Please remember to return items to the table when you are done with them so they can be shared.

**“Leftover” containers needed** – If you have any clean, gently used containers (with matching lids) you’d be willing to share with the church kitchen, please bring them in or contact Cindy Vennema. These are greatly appreciated for Family Night leftovers. Thank you!

**Greeters:** Beginning the first of the year, we are planning to have greeters once again at the sanctuary doors. If you are interested in serving Highland CRC in this way, please sign-up at the information table.

**Single MOMM Nonprofit:** Started in 2008, Single MOMM is a non-profit organization that started in the Traverse City area 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](http://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. A Christmas tree full of tags has been placed in the fellowship hall. 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 17th** 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.