

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

NURSERY

- Dec 11** Donna Veddler, Esther Bode, Jodi DeHate, Jayden Benthem
Dec 18 Barb Dore, Tami Eisenga, Jodi Meyering, Charlotte Thomas
Dec 25* Mikayla Powers, Lindsay Beerens, Jackie Schmid, Franklin Baas
Jan 1* Deborah Ouwinga, Megan Plugger, Melissa Oeverman, Emerson Tossey

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

- Dec 11** Teacher: Anne Thomas; Helpers: Amy VanPolen, Alan Thomas
Dec 18 Teacher: Kasey McQuestion; Helpers: Amy VanPolen, Karsyn Meyering
Dec 25* No Children’s Church
Jan 1* No Children’s Church

SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT

- Dec 11** Cary Sikkema, Dan Ouwinga, Kendra Jenema
Dec 18 Matt Thompson, Jonathan Ouwinga, Sue Cook
Dec 25* Cary Sikkema, Deb Eisenga, Tami Eisenga
Jan 1* Matt Thompson, Roger Hagerman, Jodi DeHate

2ND OFFERINGS

- | December: | January: |
|---|---|
| 4th – Booster Club | 1st – Booster Club |
| 11th – Benevolence | 8th – Building & Maintenance Fund |
| 18th – Freedom Summit Adventures
(see 12/11 bulletin insert) | 15th – Life Resources |
| 25th – World Renew | 22nd – Marion Food Pantry |
| | 29th – Friends Ministry |

USHERS

- December:** Scott Oeverman, Todd Oeverman, Jun Brinks, Larry Visser
January: Jerry Nemeth, Jim Ouwinga, Devon Dracht, Aaron Plugger

****If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please find a replacement.
Please call the church office (231) 825-2171 if you have any questions. Thank you!**



December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent: JOY

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
www.highlandcrc.org

Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday School 10:50 AM (Sept-May)

9034 23 Mile Rd; Marion
(231) 825-2171

HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Morning Worship Service – 9:30 am

December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent: JOY

Prelude: *Good News of Great Joy*

Lighting the Advent Candle: JOY

* Skit: Sara Bruno & Margaret Westmaas

How Great our Joy (vs 1 & 4)

Welcome

God's Greeting

Greet One Another

Luke 2: 15b

O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs 1 & 4)

Luke 2: 8

While Shepherds Watched (vs 1 & 2)

Prayer of Praise

Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Children's Message – Pastor Ashley

Song of Preparation: *Silent Night, Holy Night (vs 1, 2 & 4)*

Scripture: **How Do We Return?**

Sermon Title: **Luke 2: 15-20**

Prayer of Response

Song of Response/Offertory: *Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)*

Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Benevolence

God's blessing

Closing Song: *Joy to the World (vs 1, 2 & 4)*

Postlude

Our **nursery** is available downstairs for children ages 0 - 3 years old.
****Children's Church** is available downstairs for children ages 3 - Kindergarten immediately following the Children's Message.

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Officers for 2022:

(All have a 231 area code unless otherwise noted)

President	Jon Dracht
Vice President	Jerry Koop, Jr.
Clerk	Ken Meyering
Sec. of Deacons	Greg Tossey
Vice Treas.	Kasey Rees

<p>Pastors: Rev. Mark Bonnes Rev. Ashley Bonnes</p> <p>**Please call the church office for contact information</p>

Districts for 2022:

Elders	District	Deacons
Den Kamphouse	#1, A-C	David Wing
Dale Fredin: Adjunct Elder	#2, D-E	Greg Tossey
Ken Meyering	#3, F-L	Devon Dracht
Paul Shaarda	#4, M-O	Kasey Rees
Jerry Koop, Jr.	#5, P-T	Doug Mitchell
Bryan Eisenga	#6, U-Z	Adam Swiler
Ken Roede: Adjunct Elder		Church Office 825-2171

Important Upcoming Dates:
January 8: Installation of Elders and Deacons
January 9: Next Council Meeting
January 15: Communion

<p>Church Office (231) 825-2171 office@highlandcrc.org Office Hours: Mon - Thurs: 8:30 am-2:00 pm Fri-Sun: Closed **All bulletin content is due by noon on Thursdays**</p>	<p>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)</p>
--	---

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

REV Moms' 4th Annual Craft Day Retreat -Treat yourself to some "Me Time" from 8am - 8pm on February 25, 2023. Join us for a well-deserved day of crafting & self-care! Whether you scrapbook, sew, quilt, knit, make jewelry, or assemble photo books from your phone or laptop, etc...., we have a spot for you! We'll feed you 3 amazing meals with snacks and drinks, provide local music, giveaways, quiet rooms and gentle yoga. Price is \$30 for a half day or \$45 for the whole day.

Vogel Center CRC is hosting a weekly Grief Share support group beginning on Saturday, January 7, 2023 at 9AM through April 1, 2023. This group will offer help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. More information or questions can be directed to the Vogel CRC office at (231) 825-2053.

Northern Michigan Christian School is seeking Lead Teachers & Classroom Aides for the following areas:

- Lead Young 5's Teacher: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday - starts 1/2/22
- Young 5's Classroom Aide: Tuesday and Thursday - starts 1/3/22
- 2 Summer Care Lead Teachers: Monday through Friday - starts summer '23
- Lead Teacher & Classroom Aide for After School Care: 2:30 - 5:15 daily during the school year.

Preferred requirements for Lead Teachers: Obtained or pursuing a CDA or an associate degree in Early Childhood or Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood or a related field. Please send resumes to Scott Curell at scurell@nmcs.us. For additional information, please call (231) 825-2492.

Friends Ministry has a position open for a part time Office Administrator. Employee would be responsible with assisting clients with needs related to crisis relief and self-sufficiency. Position is shared with another employee and will average 30 hours every two weeks. Interested applicants should contact Friends Ministry for more information.

Community Hope presents "Taste Tested Hometown Cooking" -A great collection of favorite recipes from 14 Missaukee County churches! We are so pleased churches can work together to support area food pantries in Lake City, McBain and Falmouth! Your purchase of a book will provide food for someone's table! Cookbooks are available in the fellowship hall. Suggested donation is \$20.00 each. Checks can be made payable to **Community Hope** and given to the church office or mailed to Community Hope, P.O. Box 265, Lake City MI 49651. Please write cookbook on the memo line. A great Christmas gift that keeps giving all year long!

PRAYER CORNER

- ✚ We lift up in prayer those that need healing: **Amanda Lee, Bonnie Veddler, Dick Bruno, Carol Niver, Bruce Vennema and MaryJo Lee.**
- ✚ We extend our condolences to the Lee, VanPolen and Zuiderveen families in the passing of Barb's sister, **Martha Zuiderveen** on Monday, December 5. She was a spirited 82 years young. The funeral service was held at Vogel Center CRC this past Thursday. Please pray for comfort and peace as they navigate this sudden loss.
- ✚ **Amanda Lee** continues to improve and is hopeful of returning home by the weekend.
- ✚ **Josh and Mandy Shaarda** are requesting our prayers that the spread of Ebola will stop in Uganda. The recent spread has prompted the prison systems to lock out on-essential visitors. Please pray that the Lord will make a way for their team to enter the prisons to resume discipleship.

DAILY PRAYER FOCUS

God of JOY: "I give You praise, O Lord, because *'you have granted me eternal blessings and made me glad with the joy of your presence'*" (Psalm 21:6)

*Content for the Daily Prayer Focus is provided by the Highland Prayer Team.

Prayer Resource: If you did not receive a copy of "Prayers to Start Your Day" and would like one, there are additional copies still available for you on the Prayer Table and the Information Table.

Copies of the Shaarda's most recent Prayer Letter are now available next to the Missionary bulletin board.

OUR MISSIONARIES

*Contact the office for mailing address

George & Sarah de Vuyst & Family
Serving in Ukraine & the U.S.
Email: gdevuyst@crcna.org
Website: <http://www.devuysts.com>

Josh & Mandy Shaarda & Family
Serving in Uganda
Email: jshaarda@crnapartners.org
Blog: <http://shaarda.blogspot.com>

OUR ACTIVE MILITARY

*Contact the office for mailing address

Seth Nowland
(Sergeant First Class; U.S. Army)
Camp Casey Army Base, South Korea
**Parents: Larry & Marilyn Nowland

Tyler Bode
(Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air Force)
Davis Monthan Airforce Base, Tucson, AZ
**Parents: Dale & Becky Bode

OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 11-17

SUN 12/11	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Morning Worship Service
	10:50 AM	Christmas Program Practice (Prek-8 th) / HS Catechism **dismissal at 11:30**
	6:00 PM	Extreme & Strong Tower Christmas Party
TUES 12/13	5:45 PM	REV Moms
WED 12/14	7:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
THUR 12/15	1-6:30 PM	Versiti Blood Drive (fellowship hall)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Christmas Program Practice - *Please note that Sunday school will only go until 11:30 the 3 Sundays that we have practice.* It's very important that any kid who's planning on participating be in attendance for each practice!

Save the Date: Please mark your calendar and plan on attending the annual Highland Sunday School Christmas Program on December 18th, 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!!

High School Winter Retreat- We will be going to the Elevate Winter Teen Retreat at CranHill Ranch! Along with great speakers and a praise band there will be many fun activities! This retreat is for high school students only and will be Feb. 17-19. Registration fees have already been covered but you still need to sign up to reserve your spot. PLEASE contact Lindsay Zuiderveen no later than **December 14** if you are planning on going or if you have any questions!

The Service Team has started planning for the holiday and winter season. Over the next couple months, we will be gathering the following items to disperse to area agencies. All of the donations can be placed on the table in the east wing. Any questions, please contact Carrie Thompson.

- **December 1-17:** Hoodies (all sizes), socks and underwear (all sizes) and full size personal hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.)
- **Month of January:** Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, disinfectant wipes, etc.).

Cookies Needed: Our next Family Night dinner will be Wednesday, December 21. In addition to pizza, we will be serving Christmas cookies. If you are able to donate 2 dozen Christmas cookies to this dinner, please sign-up in the fellowship hall.

Versiti Blood of Michigan will be here next week Thursday, December 15, from 1:00-6:30 pm for our next Blood Drive. Appointments are preferred but walk-ins are welcome! For an appointment, please call 1 (866) 642-5663, or go to www.versiti.org/mi. You may also schedule through our site-coordinator, Sara by calling the church office at (231) 825-2171.

Operation Christmas Child Update- Highland CRC was able to complete and ship **40 shoeboxes this year!** Thank you to the Sunday School Superintendent, Mary Rees for the coordination and implementation of making this happen and appreciation to the church for assisting with costs of shipping for the majority of the shoeboxes! The shoeboxes were taken to the Regional Center in Tustin where **16,122 shoeboxes** were collected and put in larger boxes to be sent to one of the National Distribution Centers. **We have begun planning for next year's collection and would like to request specific items needed for each month in 2023. Those items can then be brought in and held until we can have a Packing Party closer to the collection date! Some other ideas were given of making dolls or making hygiene/care bags. For those of us that are creative and crafty --please let me know if you are interested in making any types of these items as patterns can be shared. Thank you again for your ongoing support! -Becky Wemple

World Renew: Please consider giving a gift to World Renew this Christmas season! There are 3 simple ways you can give: visit worldrenew.com/gifts, call 800-552-7972 or mail the completed form (found in the back of the catalog) and your check to World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr.; Byron Center, MI 49315. To register to volunteer call 800-848-5818. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Dracht.

The Poinsettias in the Sanctuary were placed in Loving Memory of:

Josie Thompson	Tom Boven	Adrian & Freda Kamphouse
Brenda VanHouten	Dave Westmaas	Seitse & Johana Ouwinga
John Dracht Sr.	Bill Dracht	John & Sara Ouwinga
Dick Dorman	Marve Veddler	Sid & Marilyn Ouwinga
Sid Sikkema	Ken Martin Jr.	Ralph & Marie Brinks
Peter Sikkema	Anna VanPolen	Hank & Reka Eisenga
Duane Sikkema	Al & Tina Medendorp	John & Ann Venema
Whip Koetje	Elton & Hilda Sikkema	

Freedom Summit Adventures (Formerly “Created Free”)

The Cadillac Created Free ministry started six years ago on March 21, 2016. The name is now Freedom Summit Adventures. It is now a non-profit 501 C3 organization! Leading retreats and outreach in various ways to people involved in the sex trade industry!

This is a local ministry of 4 faithful women, a 100 + prayer warriors, car prayer warriors joining with God to experience Him and share His love.

Our mission- to provide resources, and most importantly, the Gospel, to women experiencing exploitation through various means of prevention, outreach and holistic, spiritual care.

What we do- We go into the pink building in Cadillac every other Tuesday to minister to the women that work there. We call these women GEMS.

The WHY?

This IS a Spiritual battle. We were called to DO something, to be disturbed. God is giving us a vision of our role as we go.

We have the opportunity to show Jesus' love to women in the sex industry who have husbands, children, brothers/sisters

Many of the women that work at Coz's say they like their job, the hours, and the money. Some women feel like this is their only work option due to a criminal history. This is their reality. We have learned that they are contracted workers.

Our GOAL- to help them feel loved & to point them to Jesus.

HOW?

- By simply loving these women where they are.
- By sharing stories about life & how Jesus impacts our lives.
- Our simple steps of faith can liberate. *“God gives life to the dead & calls things that are not as though they were.” Rom 4:17b*
- We are there to listen.
- To hear what is shared.
- To share the Word of God
- To bless
- To love
- To see the wounded, invisible
- To be available

A typical Tuesday night at the pink building starts with us praying outside in a vehicle.

We then go into the building with a meal.

We are greeted with hugs and hot coffee.

We pray together, holding hands and share a meal together.

We talk of faith, family, kids, and work. We strive to let the Spirit guide our conversations.

We leave with hugs.

We are blessed to shine Hope and light in a dark place.

Would you like to help us shine his light?

Here is how you can help...

- 1- PRAY! Sign up for the email that is sent out after each visit (see email below)
- 2- GIVE gift items for our gems. Some ideas are body wipes, feminine products, bath bombs, gift cards, or any small item that we could bless them with.
- 3- JOIN us as a parking lot prayer Warrior or join our team in the building (after orientation/training)
- 4- GIVE a gift of money to help us with expenses such as gifts, meals, or retreats for our GEMS. **An offering for this ministry will be taken at Highland CRC on 12/18/2022.**
****Checks should be made out to Freedom Summit Adventures.**

Blessings,

Your Cadillac team, Amy, Brenda, Connie, & Jan

To contact us:

Email: cadillacncc@gmail.com

Mailing Address:
Freedom Summit Adventures
PO Box 211
McBain, MI 49657

