

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

GREETERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am	
Dec 14	South: Scott & Karen Oeverman; North: Greg & Laura Hesselink
Dec 21	South: Larry & Marilyn Visser; North: Lindsay & Amara Beerens
Dec 24 (pm)	South: Matt & Carrie Thompson; North: Devon & Hillary Dracht
Dec 28	South: Bob & Cindy Vennema; North: C.J. & Sara Bruno
NURSERY – Please arrive by 9:15 am	
Dec 14	Jan Rivera, Dana Baas, Amara Beerens
Dec 21	Karen Oeverman, Jennifer Peterson, Khloe McQuestion
Dec 24 (pm)	Becky Wemple, Diane Eisenga, Aubrynn Bazuin
Dec 28	Stephanie VanHouten, Ruth Kulhawick, Claire Thompson
CHILDREN’S CHURCH – (September – May; Sundays Only)	
Dec 14	Teacher: Miranda Dykhouse; Helper: Bentley Dracht
Dec 21	Teacher: Megan Pluger; Helper: Charlotte, Thomas
Dec 28	***Christmas Break***
SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT	
Dec 14	Matt Thompson, Jon Ouwinga, Jodi DeHate
Dec 21	Cary Sikkema, Dan Ouwinga, Deborah Ouwinga
Dec 24 (pm)	Kyle Eisenga, Kaylie Benthem, Tami Eisenga
Dec 28	Cary Sikkema, Jon Ouwinga, Jodi DeHate
USHERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am	
December:	Matt Thompson, Lars Fredin, Ken VanPolen Jr., Gary Hesselink
January:	Greg Hesselink, Kerwin Huttenga, Den Kamphouse, Jerry Nemeth
2ND OFFERINGS:	
DECEMBER:	JANUARY:
7 th : Booster Club	4 th : Booster Club
14 th : Single MOMM	11 th : Project Canefire
21 st : Marion Food Pantry	18 th : Right to Life
28: Capital Improvement Fund	25 th : Capital Improvement Fund
Parking Lot Pledges can be turned in at any time using the pledge envelopes available on the information table	



December 14, 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
Sunday Worship 9:30 am 9034 23 Mile Rd; Marion, MI
Sunday School & Catechism (231) 825-2171
10:40 - 11:30 am (Sept-May) www.highlandcrc.org

LIVE stream via YouTube: www.youtube.com/@HighlandCRCLIVE
Facebook: www.facebook.com/highlandchristianreformedchurch

Welcome to
HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Morning Worship Service – 9:30 am
December 14, 2025

Third 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 1-2)
Silent Night, Holy Night (vs 1 & 4)
Emmanuel (2x)
Prayer of Praise

To Pray and Serve God
Announcements
Congregational Prayer

To Proclaim God’s Word
Children’s Message: Pastor Mark Bonnes
Song of Preparation: *Thy Word (vs 1-2)*
Passage: **Exodus 19:16-25**
Sermon: ***Smoke and a Voice***
Prayer of Response
Song of Response/Offertory: *Angels from the Realms of Glory (vs 1, 2 & 5)*
Today’s Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Single MOMM

To Go in God’s Name
God’s Blessing
Closing Song: *Let’s Worship and Adore Him*
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:

2026 Council Installation: Sunday, January 4, 2026	Next Communion: Sunday, January 11, 2026
Next Council Meetings: Monday, January 12, 2026 6:30 pm Elders 7:00 pm Deacons 7:30 pm Full Council	Preaching Schedule: 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:

DUE TODAY - Single MOMM 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.

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.

Community Hope's "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR" Food Drive is coming soon! This year, the drive runs from **January 31 – February 13**. This food drive is the primary way we put food on the shelves of area food pantries that provide much-needed resources to the people of our community. More details to follow!

AREA EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Calling all 20 Somethings! (Post high school to age 29) - Rehoboth Reformed Church is kicking off a brand-new group on January 14 at 6:30 PM, and we're starting strong—with corn-hole, competition, and copious amounts of pizza. Bring your best bean-bag toss skills (or just your appetite). Questions? Contact Kendrick & Katelyn Smallegan or Drew Vana.

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.

THANK YOU:

Thank you to Highland Church and the Deacons for the Christmas basket. It was greatly appreciated - Pete DeHaan

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).**

COUNCIL CORNER: HIGHLIGHTS FROM 12.08.2025 COUNCIL MEETING

- Old and New Council met together to transfer responsibilities. The current deacons and elders will still serve till December 31.
- Installation service for new deacons and elders will be January 4.
- Communion service will be January 11.

Council Officers for 2026:

President	Steve Meeuwenberg	Pastor Mark Bonnes (765) 532-4612 hcrcpastor@gmail.com Pastor Ashley Bonnes (765) 532-0331 bonnes.ashley@gmail.com
Vice President	Ken Meyering	
Clerk	Greg Tossey	
Sec. of Deacons	Jon Ouwinga	
Vice Treasurer	James Bazuin	

Districts for 2026:

Elders	District	Deacons
Greg Tossey	#1, A-C	Kevin DeHate
Jason Benthem	#2, D-E	Jon Ouwinga
Steve Meeuwenberg	#3, F-L	Miranda Dykhous
Paul Shaarda	#4, M-O	Kyle Veltema
Doug Mitchell	#5, P-T	Ryan McQuestion
Ken Meyering	#6, U-Z	James Bazuin

Ministry Team Liaisons for 2026:

Ministry Team	Chair	2026 Council Liaisons
Care & Share Team	Cindy Vennema	Jason Benthem
Education Team	Megan Pluger	Miranda Dykhous
Facilities Team	Greg Hesselink & Devon Dracht	Ryan McQuestion
Prayer Team	Sandy Rice	Rev. Ashley Bonnes
Outreach	Committee	Pending
Service Team	Carrie Thompson	Doug Mitchell
Worship Team	Bonnie McBride	Rev. Mark Bonnes
Human Resources	Hillary Dracht	Steve Meeuwenberg

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24 at 7:00 pm. Nursery will be available for infants up to age 3.

Fellowship Bible Study is on break for the remainder of December and will begin Season 2 of Ray Vander Laan’s “The Study” near the end of January. More details to follow in January. Contact Sandy Rice to reserve your Season 2 participant guide.

Freedom in Christ Bible Study: All are invited to join a Bible study recommended by Josh and Mandy Shaarda. This 11-week study will be held on Thursday evenings at 7 pm, beginning January 15. Each lesson is video-led followed by a time of discussion. The course focuses on how to believe, not how to behave and will help you clear away the spiritual cobwebs and connect with Jesus in a deeper way. This course will help you grasp the amazing truth of your new identity in Christ and teach you to uncover and resist the enemy's deception. Homework is not required, but is optional to review what we are learning. Please contact Linda Wing with any questions and to reserve your participant workbook.

Poinsettias at the front of the sanctuary have been placed in loving memory of:

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	

TREASURER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2025

November General Fund		2nd Offerings	
2nd	6,464.00	Booster Club	1,636.00
9th	6,704.00	World Renew	1,366.00
16th	6,918.00	Love Inc	828.00
23rd	5,545.00	Benevolence	2,315.00
Thanksgiving	4,620.48	Thanksgiving	26,089.00
30th	<u>no church</u>		
Total Nov. Offerings	30,251.48		
Budget needed weekly	6,341.59	Parking Lot Fund	40,797.50
Times 48 weeks	304,396.19	Offering	<u>4,025.00</u>
Received to date	<u>314,723.45</u>	Parking Lot Fund	44,822.50
Balance	10,327.26		

Thanksgiving Envelopes

General Fund	4,619.00
Capital Improvement	300.00
Booster Club	1,550.00
Benevolence	1,325.00
George & Sarah De Vuyst	1,350.00
Josh & Mandy Shaarda	4,575.00
Matt & Emily Slack	1,440.00
Parking Lot Fund	3,425.00
Marion Food Pantry	500.00
Friends Ministry	1,250.00
Highland Home Missions	25.00
Highland REV Moms	100.00
NMCS	2,545.00
World Renew	1,935.00
Miscellaneous	<u>1,150.00</u>
	26,089.00

OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 14-20

SUN 12/14	8:45 AM	SS/MS Christmas Program Practice (1)
	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:40 AM	SS & MS Christmas Program Practice (2)/HS Catechism
	-----	Fellowship Bible Study is on winter break
	6:30 PM	SS & MS Christmas Program
MON 12/15	5-7 PM	YB Use
TUES 12/16	9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study - Christmas Brunch
WED 12/17	6:30 PM	Family Night Dinner
	7:00 PM	Centershot, GEMS and Christmas Caroling

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

****New LIVE Stream Platform**** As of November 30th, our LIVE stream has moved from our Facebook page over to our YouTube channel, **Highland CRC LIVE** (make sure it says LIVE) <http://www.youtube.com/@HighlandCRCLIVE>. Links can also be found on our Facebook page and under “sermons” on our website.

TODAY: Last Practice for Sunday School Christmas Program & MS Light Show this morning 10:40-11:30 am. Please ensure your child is present for this practice. Please contact Anita Kvasnak with any questions. **HS Catechism** will meet as normal.

****TONIGHT** Highland's Sunday School Christmas Program:** Attention Parents and Grandparents, you're invited to our annual Sunday School Christmas Program “*Just A Little Christmas*” tonight, **December 14**, starting at **6:30 pm**. Come for an evening of traditional Christmas carols and the Christmas Story, as well as our fantastic Middle School Light Show! Refreshments to follow.

The Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study will be meeting for their annual Christmas Brunch, this Tuesday, December 16 at 9:30 am. They will be on break December 23rd and 30th and resume regular lessons on January 6.

Family Night is this Wednesday, December 17,

- 6:30 PM – Family Dinner or pizza and Christmas cookies (please sign up if you are willing to provide Christmas cookies.
- 7:00 PM – Centershot, GEMS and Caroling (see below)

Christmas Caroling this Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Please sign-up at the information table if you would like to take part in the caroling so we can coordinate how many groups we'll need.

Readers Needed for Christmas Eve: We are looking for a handful of volunteers to serve as scripture readers for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24 at 7pm. Please contact Pastor Mark or Pastor Ashley yet this morning if you are interested.