

GREETERS – Please arrive by 9:15 am

- 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
Jan 5 South: Dale & Bev Taylor; North: Bonnie Veddler

NURSERY – Please arrive by 9:15 am

- 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
Jan 5 Barb Dore, Tami Eisenga, Jodi Meyering, Alan Thomas

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

- 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
Christmas
Dec 29 Christmas Break – No Children’s Church
Jan 5 Christmas Break – Children’s Church

SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT

- 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
Dec 5 Matt Thompson, Deb Eisenga, Tami Eisenga

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: | January: |
| 1 st : Booster Club | 5 th : Booster Club |
| 8 th : Single MOMMS | 12 th : Project Canefire |
| 15 th : Friendship Bible Ministry | 19 th : Right to Life – Michigan |
| 22 nd : Right to Life | 26 th : Capital Improvement Fund |
| 25 th : No 2 nd Offering (Christmas Day) | (formerly known as the Existing Building Fund) |
| 29 th : Existing Building Fund | |



December 15, 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 15, 2024
3rd Sunday of Advent

The People of God Gather:

Prelude
Welcome & God’s Greeting
Greet One Another

To Praise God in Song:

Silent Night (vs 1,3,4)
O Holy Night (vs 1,3)
Shine On Us (1-3)
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: Pastor Ashley Bonnes
Song of Preparation: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (vs 1, 2)*

Scripture: Isaiah 42: 5-9

Title: I see the Light

Prayer of Response
Song of Response/Offertory: *The Light of the World (special music)*
Today’s Offerings: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Friendship Bible Ministry

To Go in God’s Name

God’s Blessing
Closing Song: *Angels We Have Heard on High (vs 1,3)*
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 13, 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

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 VanPolen	Ralph & Marie Brinks
Lewis & Nettie Agema	Minard & Mary Ouwinga	John & Anne Vennema
Abe & Freda Kamphouse	Anna VanPolen	Bob & Rhea Dore
Dick Dorman	Bernard Eisenga	

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.

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.

Grief Share sessions for 2025 at Vogel Center CRC 1789 E. Stoney Corners Rd. McBain, MI will be held on Saturdays, January 4 - March 29 from 9-11 AM. For more information - VCCRC Office@outlook.com or (231) 825-2053 or Pastor Adam Barton (616) 566-7937.

THANK YOU:

- Thank you to everyone that helped me celebrate my 90th birthday. Your cards, visits and phone calls were all greatly appreciated. ~Bonnie Veddler
- Thank you, Highland Church, for your donation to the Marion Food Pantry and support of our local community. The Pantry is being used more each week so it really is appreciated. ~The Marion Food Pantry
- Dear Highland CRC Family, Marion isn't close to Uganda, Ukraine or Asia, but ministry occurs in each place as an extension of your own ministry in Northern Michigan, and we are truly grateful for your prayerful support for those carrying on the ministry in those places. ~Randy Bohl, Resonate Global Missions

PRAYER CONNECTIONS:

- **Mary Karsten** had a heart cath. this past Tuesday, but that came back clear. She is now being referred to a heart and lung specialist Please pray that the cause of her breathing issues can be found and addressed. **Butch Karsten** also had a procedure this past Wednesday and it went well.
- We lift up those in prayer that are battling long-term and recent health concerns. We pray for healing and strength and wisdom through those journeys and for the caregivers walking alongside.
- We also pray for those struggling with the loss of loved ones, especially during the holiday season. We pray that they are wrapped in God's love and comfort.

OUR MISSIONARIES:

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

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

HIGHLAND COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS • DECEMBER 9, 2024:

- Council welcomed new members and elected officers for the next year: Mark Eisenga - President, Ken Meyering - Vice President, Bob Venema - Clerk, Carrie Thompson - Secretary of Deacons, and James Bazuin - Vice Treasurer.
- With the new council comes new district elders and deacons. Please review the list below to see if your district elders and deacons for 2025 have changed. These are the deacons and elders you are encouraged to contact if you have any questions, concerns, or needs:

Elders	Districts	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

- Council would like to thank the congregation for their generosity not just for thanksgiving but throughout this entire year.

Upcoming Dates:

- Christmas Day Service has been moved back to 9:30 am –please update your calendars.
- Communion is scheduled for January 5
- Installation of new Elders and Deacons is scheduled for January 12.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

November General Fund:		Thanksgiving Offering:	
Balance	42,881.16	General	3,846.00
3rd	6,466.00	World Renew	4,393.00
10th	12,212.00	Friendship Bible Ministries	1,000.00
17th	5,618.00	Josh & Mandy Shaarda	2,130.00
24th	4,616.82	Friendship Family Home	200.00
Thanksgiving	<u>3,846.00</u>	Benevolence	3,375.00
Total Nov. Offerings	32,758.82	Booster Club	1,043.00
		Capital Improvements	2,655.00
Budget needed weekly	6,471.23	Matt & Emily Slack	1,970.00
Times 47 weeks	304,148.01	NMCS Tuition Assistance	50.00
Received to date	<u>310,555.07</u>	George & Sarah De Vuyst	1,535.00
Balance	6,407.06	Highland Home Missions	525.00
		Strong Tower	250.00
November 2nd Offerings:		Voice of the Martyrs	500.00
Booster Club	1,093.00	NMCS Major Drive	500.00
Benevolence	1,191.00	Marion Food Pantry	50.00
Josh & Mandy Shaarda	1,667.00	REV Moms	105.00
Capital Improvement Fund	730.00	Thanksgiving Total	24,127.00

OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 15-21

SUN 12/15	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:40 PM	Sunday School (Christmas Program Practice), Catechism & Profession of Faith Class
	6:30 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program & MS Light Show
TUES 12/17	9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study – Christmas Brunch
WED 12/18	6:30 PM	Family Night Dinner – Pizza Party
	7:00 PM	Centershot, GEMS and Christmas Caroling
THURS 12/19	7:00 PM	JUMP Practice

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Final Practice for the Sunday School’s Christmas Program & MS Light Show is this morning from 10:40-11:30 am. Please ensure your child is present for practice. All Sunday School and Middle School students need to be in their classrooms by 6:15 pm HS Students will be decorating Christmas cookies for after tonight’s program.

****TONIGHT** 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**. 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!!

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

Family Night this Wednesday: Dinner will begin at 6:30 pm with Pizza and Christmas cookies! Centershot & GEMS will begin at 7:00 pm. This year, we will also be Christmas Caroling beginning at 7:00. Any interested adults and older youth will be invited to 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 pizza planning purposes, carolers please sign up in the Fellowship Hall!

Skit Practice for anyone involved in the Christmas Day Service will be Monday, December 23rd at 6:30 pm.

December Calendar Correction: Highland’s Christmas Day service will be held Wednesday, December 25 at 9:30 am.

Keys for Kids Advent Devotionals are still available on the information table. These 13-day Advent devotionals are great for sharing with others! Keys for Kids is a publication filled with stories and activities that kids can readily identify with! It teaches biblical truths on a daily basis and helps them to develop good habits to be in God's Word every day.