

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

NURSERY

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
Jan 7 Barb Dore, Tami Eisenga, Jodi Meyering, Claire Thompson
Jan 14 Mikayla Powers, Mary Rees, DaNay Tossey, Addean Oeverman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Dec 24 & 31 No Children's Church: Christmas/New Year's Break
Jan 7 Teacher: Miranda Dykhouse; Helpers: Lindsay Beerens, Emerson Tossey
Jan 14 Teacher: Sara Bruno; Helpers: Nicole Schultz, Steph VanHouten

SOUND / VIDEO / POWERPOINT

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 Matt Thompson, Deb Eisenga
Jan 7 Cary Sikkema, Kaylie Benthem, Jodi DeHate
Jan 14 Matt Thompson, Jonathan Ouwinga, Deborah Ouwinga

USHERS

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

GREETERS – PLEASE ARRIVE BY 9:15 AM

Jan 7 Paul & Jan Rivera - South, Curt & Becky Wemple – North
Jan 14 Kevin & Jodi DeHate – South, Kyle & Abby Meyering – North

2ND OFFERINGS:

December:
3rd: Booster Club
10th: Lydia Shaarda
17th: Existing Building Fund
24th: Benevolence
31st: 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 24, 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 24 2023

*** Fourth Sunday of Advent ***

The People of God Gather:

Prelude: *We Three Kings* and *Little Drummer Boy*

Welcome & Call to Worship

God’s Greeting

Greet One Another

To Praise God

O Come all ye Faithful

Angels we have Heard on High

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: *Silent Night*

Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

Sermon: Yes, It’s a Promise

Prayer of Response

Song of Response/Offertory: *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

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

To Go in God’s Name

God’s blessing

Closing Song: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Postlude

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

Children’s Church is on break December 24 & 31. This program will resume January 7.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

Tuesday, January 9

6:30 pm -Elders

7:00 pm -Deacons

7:30 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 – Rev. Mark Bonnes

HIGHLAND COUNCIL:

Officers for 2023:

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

Districts for 2023:

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



<http://xmas.coloringpages.blogspot.com.au/>

THANK YOU:

Thank you to the dear people of Highland Church for all of the delicious meals, cards, calls, visits and help with transportation following my accident. Your continued prayers for healing and patience are still greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Bev Taylor, Deb Eisenga and Jodi Meyering for covering my responsibilities at church. ~Sara, CJ, Penny & Cody Bruno

On behalf of **Single MOMM** Nonprofit thank you for your generous donations to benefit single moms in the year ahead. We exceeded our goal and received \$1200 in gift cards!

PRAYER CONNECTIONS:

Dan Ouwinga's knee replacement surgery has been reschedule for Monday, January 15. Please pray for a successful surgery and good recovery for Dan.

Please pray for **Paul Shaarda** as he had gall bladder surgery on Thursday in Cadillac, and then will have tongue surgery in Traverse City on January 9.

Ken Meyering was able to come home from the hospital on Sunday, December 17, following the heart attack he had a few days before. Please continue to pray for a good recovery for Ken.

Our condolences to Bev and Den Kamphouse and family in the passing Bev's mom, **Agnes Euwema**. Agnes (89) passed away on December 16. The funeral service was held at Vogel Center CRC this past Wednesday.

WEEKLY PRAYER EMPHASIS:

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

- **This Sunday**, we pray for peace in our world and between neighbors.
- **In the coming week and next Sunday**, we pray for the New Year Service.

✚ Our Missionaries:

- **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@crna.org; Website: <http://www.devuysts.com>

✚ Our Active Military:

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

OUR CHURCH WEEK: DECEMBER 24-30

SUN 12/24	9:15 AM	Prayer
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	-----	No Sunday School or HS Catechism, Dec. 24 & 31
	-----	No Fellowship Bible Study (December & January)
	6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
MON 12/25	11-5:00 PM	Youth Building Use
WED 12/27	7:00 PM	Prayer Meeting
SAT 12/30	11-5:00 PM	Fellowship Hall Use
	1-4:00 PM	Youth Building Use

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MERRY CHRISTMAS from the Pastors: Since we can't send Christmas cards to everyone in the congregation, we would like to take a moment to wish you all a Christmas filled with love and joy. We have now been at Highland for over a year. We came with some fear and trepidation, wondering what life would be like here. We have been so blessed this past year by your generosity, your love of others, your hospitality, and especially your sincere faith in Christ. We truly hope your Christmas time and especially the year ahead is full of the blessings that only God can provide. From Pastor Mark, Pastor Ashley, Tucker, and Hadley.

Children's Church, Sunday School & Catechism will be on break December 24 and December 31. Classes will resume January 7, 2024.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be at 6:00 this evening. Join us in this special celebration of Christ's birth.

New Year's Eve Service: Area CRC Churches invite you to a Community New Year's Eve Worship & Communion Service on Sunday, December 31st at 6:00 pm at Highland Christian Reformed Church. Let us join together for a time of worship, prayer and reflection on the past year and in eager anticipation of God's plans for the year ahead.

Reminder: Our regular office hours will be modified until further notice Sara is out of the office. Please continue to submit all bulletin announcements via the church email, office@highlandcrc.org. For any urgent church matters, please call either Pastor Mark or Pastor Ashley directly.

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.

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.

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.

Versiti Blood Drive Results: Our December 13 blood drive was a success! We are happy to share these results! Our donors are so consistent and generous! We had 22 donors and collected 23 pints of blood which will help save approximately 69 local patient lives! What an immense and special impact this blood will make this holiday season for so many families!

Messiah Sing-Along: The annual sing-along of Handel's Messiah will be hosted by the First Congregational Church of Cadillac at 3pm on Sunday, December 31. There will be a rehearsal (not mandatory) at 7 pm on Wednesday, December 27, and it is helpful to have singers then too. Eight soloists will sing also. A good number of scores are available to use for singers. Listeners are most welcome.