

# Heritage Weekly Newsletter

## December 10, 2023

### Sunday, December 10

10:55 am Catechism  
 11:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting  
 5:30 pm Live Nativity  
 6:00 pm Live Nativity  
 6:30 pm En Fuego

### Monday, December 11

9:00 am Walking Group

### Tuesday, December 12

9:45 am Coffee Break  
 6:30 pm Council Meeting

### Wednesday, December 13

8:30 am Men's Bible Study  
 10:30 am Senior Ladies' Bible Study  
 7:00 pm Friendship  
 7:00 pm Cadet Christmas Party

### Thursday, December 14

10:00 am Community Play Group

### Sunday, December 17

10:45 am Sunday School  
 10:55 am Catechism  
 11:00 am Adult Sunday School  
 6:30 pm Fusion Christmas Party

### Monday, December 18

9:00 am Walking Group  
 7:00 pm GEMS - Christmas Party

### Tuesday, December 19

9:45 am Coffee Break

### Wednesday, December 20

8:30 am Men's Bible Study

### Thursday, December 21

10:00 am Community Play Group

**The annual congregational meeting** to approve the 2024 budget will be held on December 10, following the morning service.

**Because there is a** congregational meeting after church today, December 10, Adult Sunday School will not be meeting as had been planned. We will be combining the last two lessons of this series and meet on December 17. We hope to see you then, and we are sorry for this change. On December 17: The two lessons are Confess Wholeheartedly & Prepare for Battle.

**On December 24, there will be NO** Children's Worship. Children will join their families in the Sanctuary & ARK or at the 11 pm Candlelight service to celebrate Jesus' birthday — God's gift of LOVE for all.



**LIVE NATIVITY** - On December 10 at 5:30 and 6:00 PM, we are hosting our Live Nativity outside on the front lawn here at church. We will be acting out the Luke 2 story while having live animals for kids to come

in and pet. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to invite family, friends or neighbors to attend with you. Join us for a great night. Donuts, hot chocolate and gifts for the kids will be provided.



### Community Play Group for children ages 0-5 with their caregivers

- Join us every Thursday from 10:00 11:00 am here at Heritage in the ARK. Email [erichards@heritagecrc.net](mailto:erichards@heritagecrc.net) for more information.

**Sunday School is collecting** again this year for Camp Tall Turf. They have a continuing need for arts and craft supplies, so we would welcome your donations of either monetary or craft items. We will have a collection time during Sunday School singing and will have a basket outside of the Connections Room.

### Thanksgiving Offerings

General Fund	\$2,100.00
South Christian	200.00
Byron Christian	200.00
Friends by the River	350.00
Selah Empowers	1,168.33
Hugs Ranch	518.34
Right to Life	543.33
Hope Unexpected	650.00
Feed My Starving Children	609.25
World Renew	2,800.00
Parking Lot	550.00
Fusion	100.00
Resonate Global Mission	2,500.00
Christian School Fund	3,094.00
Benevolence	300.00
Tuition Assistance	220.00
Faith Promise	3,500.00

**Mission Trip to Rolling Fork, MS, January 20-27.** We will be working through World Renew at the Cary Christian Center. We will be working on storm relief from a tornado from the hurricane that was on March 24, 2023. This trip is open to all ages, and is open to all men and women. We will be partnering with Zutphen CRC. If you have any questions, talk to Ron Rodenhouse 616-862-9882.



**Nursery volunteers** are needed for the next several months. If you are willing to volunteer for a spot, please sign up via this link [https://m.signupgenius.com/?](https://m.signupgenius.com/?fbclid=IwAR115CgjJxIbZu2zHkjoXUU3496siTBGTGeJJO2_2g4SM3gzRkJPK3dF3SI&mibextid=Zxz2cZ#!showSignUp/508094cadae2da1fb6-nursery1)

[fbclid=IwAR115CgjJxIbZu2zHkjoXUU3496siTBGTGeJJO2\\_2g4SM3gzRkJPK3dF3SI&mibextid=Zxz2cZ#!showSignUp/508094cadae2da1fb6-nursery1](https://m.signupgenius.com/?fbclid=IwAR115CgjJxIbZu2zHkjoXUU3496siTBGTGeJJO2_2g4SM3gzRkJPK3dF3SI&mibextid=Zxz2cZ#!showSignUp/508094cadae2da1fb6-nursery1)

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR FRIENDS BY THE RIVER** - As the weather is getting colder, there is an increased need of several items for those who are living outside. If you would like to donate some of these items, that would make a huge impact on some people in need. Items include sleeping bags, coats, gloves and hats [adult sizes], head lamps, AA and AAA batteries, hand warmers, canned soups/meals, 3-6 man tents, bikes or other items you think would help. Thanks for sharing with others in need. You can set items in the hall way to pastor Kevin's office.

**Propane Sponsors for Friends By the River** - We are looking for individuals or families to help sponsor propane and a heater for one of our homeless friends this winter. Right now it looks like there is a need to help 4-6 tents. Cost for the propane will likely be around \$250 for each tent as we will refill tanks about every week for these individuals. Please see Pastor Kevin if you would like to help sponsor one of these individuals or would like to purchase a my buddy heater. We are still in need of 3 of those. Thank you so much.



**We deliver 90 food bags** every other Wednesday to people at Byron Village. We need some more soup, canned fruit, spaghetti, spaghetti sauces, cereal, and canned vegetables. If everyone could bring at least one nonperishable food item per week, we will be able to continue delivery food bags and establishing relationships and spreading God's love in Byron Village.

**Holiday Depression** - Not feeling very merry or bright during the holidays? Family conflict, financial strain, changes of the season, loss of a loved one and holiday pressures can all be very overwhelming. We have contracted free experts to help you and any of your household members. Call 1.800.442.0809 (press 1) and say you are a CAP member with Heritage CRC to receive free and confidential support.

## **EN FUEGO [Grades 6-8<sup>th</sup>]**

**EN FUEGO CHRISTMAS PARTY** - Our Christmas party will be on December 10 from 6:30-8:30PM after the live nativity. Bring a wrapped "fun" \$5 gift for our gift exchange. We will be having pizza, so plan on eating at church. We will be starting our night after the live nativity is all done. Plan on meeting in the Loft! You are welcome to bring a friend!

**EN FUEGO CHRISTMAS BREAK BOWLING** On Wednesday, December 27 at 1-3:00 PM, we will be having a time of bowling for you and your friends at the Hudsonville Lanes. No need to sign up - just show up for a fun afternoon with friends. Cost will be \$5 which will include a drink, snacks and bowling.

## **FUSION [Grades 9-12]**

**FUSION CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT** On Sunday, December 17, we will be meeting from 6:30 - 8:30 in various homes. Plan on bringing a wrapped \$5 fun gift. Pizza will be provided, so come hungry.

**FUSION CHRISTMAS BREAK BOWLING** - On Wednesday, December 27 at 3-5:00 PM, we will be having a time of bowling for you and your friends at the Hudsonville Lanes. No need to sign up - just show up for a fun afternoon with friends. Cost will be \$5 which will include a drink, snacks and bowling.

**PRAYER ENCOURAGEMENT TEAM**  
**Weekly Prayer Guide**

**MONDAY**

Pray for God's strength to be with the many persecuted Christians in the country of Syria.

**TUESDAY**

Pray for God's blessing and protection this week on Heritage staff members, Heather Oosterman, Kids Hope Director.

**WEDNESDAY**

Ask God to B.L.E.S.S. (Body, Labor, Emotional, Social, Spiritual) those who do not yet know Him.

**THURSDAY**

Pray for all of our missionary partners. This week especially pray for Arbin & Bimala Pokharel (Nepal).

**FRIDAY**

Pray for God's blessing on our young adults.

**SATURDAY**

Ask God to bless the civil and church leaders of our city, state, and nation.

**GIVING GIFTS**

Thank you for offering your time, talents and treasures for God's glory and the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

The General Fund is supported through gifts received during the Sunday morning offering and white budget envelopes.

Gifts for the Building Fund, Faith Promise Missionary Support, Christian Education Ministry, Tuition Assistance or another cause can be designated through your blue budget envelopes.

On line giving is available. You can go the Heritage CRC website or go to <https://heritagecrc.net/online-giving>.

**Church Communications**

To receive prayer requests, worship information, and the weekly church newsletter, please contact our church secretary, Brenda at [office@heritagecrc.net](mailto:office@heritagecrc.net).

**Morning Special Offerings**

December 10 Christian Ed Ministry  
December 17 Benevolence  
December 24 Christian Ed Ministry  
December 31 Building Fund

**Evening Special Offerings**

December 10 World Renew  
December 17 Selah Empowers

**Heritage Christian  
Reformed Church**

A Community of Christ Followers  
Serving Him, His People, and His World.

**Office Hours/Sunday Worship**

Monday—Friday 8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Sunday Services are at 9:30 AM & 5:00 PM

**Contact Us**

Heritage Christian Reformed Church  
3089 84th St., SW, Byron Center, MI 49315  
616.878.1992  
[office@heritagecrc.net](mailto:office@heritagecrc.net); [www.heritagecrc.net](http://www.heritagecrc.net)

**STAFF**

Rob & Stephanie Green, Custodians  
Bob Huisman, Pastor of Preaching & Worship  
Heather Oosterman, Kids Hope Director  
Dianne Meyering, Custodian  
Dan Mouw, Director of Care  
Elisabeth Richards, Outreach Director  
Kristy Tuttle, Tech Director  
Kevin Van Wyhe, Youth Pastor  
Vicki Williams, Director Music & Worship  
Brenda Gilder, Office Administrator

**Resources**

**Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services  
Church Assistance Program (CAP)**

616-455-6210 or 1-800-442-809

The CAP online library is <https://pinerest.org/CAP>.  
Password = "HeritagecrcCAP".

**Right Now Media Digital Discipleship Resource**

Free access to thousands of video Bible studies and supplemental materials for children, adults and groups. Contact the church office with your email to receive your invitation.

**If you want to watch** the online services, you can find them on Heritage's Facebook page, on YouTube, or on the website [www.heritagecrc.net](http://www.heritagecrc.net).

**Elder/Deacon Households**

Family Last Name

Elder/ Deacon Team

Adams - Buquet	Jack DeGroot/Bill Selles
Burgess - Dykstra	Kurt Meekhof/Zach Blacquire
Edema - Hartgerink	Harry Myers/Andy Helmholdt
Haveman - Kloostera	Dave Haagsma/Ben Quist
Knarr - Mouw	Jon Diekema/Tyler Dreyer
Mulder - Quist	Rob Green/Chris VanderLaan
Raak - Smith	Jay Miedema/Eric DeGroot
Smits - VanderKooi	Paul Burgess/Nick Meekhof
VanderLaan - Zull	Randy VanLaar/Brandon Mingerink

The Elders and Deacons welcome you to call anytime you have a praise or concern.