

Make Room in your Heart for
Joy
Matthew 2:1-12



DEACONS REPORT

Giving information will be available periodically until in-person worship resumes:

Received for General Ministries: \$10,335.00
Avg. weekly collection should be: \$6,445.00
Received for Christian Education: \$715.00
Avg. weekly collection should be: \$629.20

Community Offering:

Backpack Buddies \$250.00
Love INC \$150.00

DMS (Denominational Shares) \$325.00

Upcoming Community Offerings

TODAY: Roosevelt Park Ministries mission is to provide Christ-centered, holistic support to individuals, families, and youth living in and near the Roosevelt Park Community (around Grandville Avenue). They provide many support services from tax preparation to translation services to an annual coat drive.

Dec 27: Family Network of Wyoming

Jan 3: Mission French Africa – Paul & Charlotte Mpindi

Jan 10: Wycliffe Bible Translators

Jan 17: Pregnancy Resource Center

THIS WEEK

Monday, Dec 21

9am Food Pantry

Sunday, Dec 27

9:30am Worship (online)

Friday, Dec 25

9:30am Christmas Day Worship

COMING UP

TODAY: Sometimes we think of joy as a feeling of happiness; the Bible tells us that joy is so much more than a feeling, it is an outward action that comes from an inward assurance.

CHRISTMAS DAY: 9:30am livestream service. (Check the church website to see when in-person worship gathering resumes.)

STAFF

Tom VanderPloeg (Pastor)

Barb Sanders (Pastor)

Andrew Lenhart (Worship)

Sherri DeVries (Custodian)

Liz Boerman (Admin Assistant)

4375 Ivanrest SW, Grandville MI 49418. 616-532-2350

www.fellowshipcrc.com



December 20, 2020

Welcome!
We are glad you are here!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME in our service

Also available during worship

- Nursery for infants & toddlers
- "Busy Boxes" with kid's bulletin & activities
- Puzzle & sermon notes written by Pastor Tom for students Grades 3 & up (found by weekly bulletins)

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & SONGSHEETS are available at the sound booth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Advent Wreath Lighting

Prayers of the People

Scripture *Matthew 2:1-12*

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Message "Make Room in your Heart for Joy"

Joy To The World
Angels From The Realms Of Glory

God's Parting Blessing

TODAY:

9:30am Worship (online)

CHURCH LIFE

THIS WEEK the Council anticipates receiving updated guidance from the health department which will inform our decision for returning to in-person worship gatherings. Communication will be sent this week and posted on the church website before the Christmas Day service.

FROM THE DEACONS

The deacons have put giving envelopes for 2021 in your church mailboxes. If you would like to use them for giving purposes, you can either stop by church to get them, or you can contact your district deacon and we can work out how to best deliver them to you. You can also always give online or send in an envelope of your own.

UPDATE FROM DAVID & SARA LONT

We haven't had in person worship since March! There has also been no school since March in the entire nation. All meetings are prohibited in most parts of the country. We are doing everything online, but it has really been a joy for us. Most of our people connect with us each week. Our only problem is that on December 2, the Internet service quit working in our entire area. We pray it will be fixed soon, or else we'll have to try satellite internet. Right now, we have to travel to another location to get a signal.

I just heard that in our area COVID-19 is so bad that the local hospitals are sending everyone with COVID to a town over 3 hours away, since there's no room in the hospitals of the entire region. We pray for the Lord's protection over our family and our church.

PRAYER FOCUS

Recent Updates:

- Pray for **Rick Carter**. Rick has attended Fellowship a few times in past years; and some members of Fellowship continue to have contact with him. He has several health needs and recently called and asked for prayers.

Outreach:

- Roosevelt Park Ministries** as they continue their work to support individuals, families and youth living in the Roosevelt Park community.

Continuing Needs:

- Remember in prayer those who are not able to worship with us on Sundays and have restrictions on visitors: **Gloria DeWitte, Caroline Dik, Lois Oom, and Rachel Tjoelker**.
- Remember in your prayers those who have ongoing health needs and concerns: **Don & Ann Aardema, Russ Ballinger, Ron Dykstra, Valerie Fleming, Jo Hanenburg, Len Koetje, Gary Meengs, Arv & Pearl Tap, Rog Visser, Tom & Donna Westra**.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We invite you to drop a Christmas card in the mail to the individuals listed below. They are members at Fellowship who are "Shut-in", or missionaries supported by Fellowship:

Gloria DeWitte (Vista Springs #33, 2708 Meyer Ave SW Wyoming MI 49519)

Caroline Dik (Waterford Place #E109, 1725 Port Sheldon Jenison MI 49428)

Lois Oom (Waterford Assisted Living #202, 1725 Port Sheldon Jenison MI 49428)

Rachel Tjoelker (Grand Brook Memory Care #29A, 5281 Wilson Ave SW Wyoming MI 49418)

Jack & Cindy Ippel (PO Box 41, Rehoboth NM 87322)

David & Sara Lont (c/o Josefina Cruz del Angel, An. De Las Palmas No. 904, La Morena Seccion Norte, Tulancingo, Hidalgo 43625 Mexico)

Paul & Charlotte Mpindi (2221 Ridgewood Ave SE, Grand Rapids MI 49546)

Jesse & Jari Rodriguez (Apartado Postal 1076, Managua, Nicaragua, Central America)

THANK YOU

Thank you, Fellowship family, for the cards and expressions of sympathy given to us in the passing of Bill's sister, Ruth Weaver, who is now in her forever home! ~ **Bill & Carol Offringa**

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

Gloria DeWitte – 12/28 (Vista Springs Wyoming #33, 2708 Meyer Ave SW Wyoming MI 49519)

OUTREACH/VOLUNTEER

BACKPACK BUDDIES

We have 20 Children in our program at this time and we were able to deliver food to families that wanted to continue through the remote learning period. We received generous donations of peanut butter and Mac n cheese from Love Inc so we were able to provide extra for the families to use for lunches during the week. We will provide Christmas food baskets again this year for the holiday vacation period.

We have been so blessed with an abundance of donations the last 2 months that we are well stocked for December and January food needs at this time. We will put out a new list later for February. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!! ~ **Sandy Campo**.

LOVE INC FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry continues to operate on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons. Thank you for your ongoing support of donations.

LIFESKILLS

The Tuesday evening Life Skills classes have been canceled for December. We hope to be back to in person meetings starting January 5. Plans are being made for a few new families to start Budget class in January. This means we will need a Budget class teacher and possibly childcare every week. Contact **Laura VanderPloeg** for more information.