

Illumination

Matthew 1:18-25

2 Corinthians 9:15

Introduction



I. The Surprise of God's Gift

II. The Substance of God's Gift

III. The Significance of God's Gift

Conclusion

TODAY: Fourth Sunday of Advent - We welcome Dr. Jeffrey Weima from Calvin theological Seminary who brings a message taken from Matthew 1.

CHRISTMAS DAY: worship service 9:30am

NEXT WEEK: Pastor Tom has been talking throughout advent about various airport experiences; the last item on our way out of this advent season is to stop by the baggage claim.

DEACONS REPORT

Thanks to the congregation for the gifts received on Dec 12:

Received for General Ministries:	\$13,780.00
Avg. weekly collection should be:	\$6,445.00
Received for Christian Education:	\$1,070.00
Avg. weekly collection should be:	\$629.20

Community Offering:

Safe Haven Ministries \$20.51

Upcoming Community Offerings

TODAY: Access of West Michigan

The mission of Access is to connect the faith-based community to issues of justice and stewardship within their benevolence outreach by providing casework services at no cost. The shared goal is that a relationship can be built between congregations and their neighbors.

December 26: ASJ (Assoc. for a More Just Society)

January 2: Backpack Buddies

January 9: Mission French Africa

THIS WEEK

Monday, Dec 20

Tuesday, Dec 21

Wednesday, Dec 22

Thursday, Dec 23

Friday, Dec 24

Christmas Eve

Saturday, Dec 25

Christmas Day

Sunday, Dec 26

9:30am Worship

COMING UP

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Jan 1

ELDER MEETING, Jan 25

DEACON MEETING, Jan 25

STAFF

Tom VanderPloeg (Pastor)

Barb Sanders (Pastor)

Andrew Lenhart (Worship)

Katherine Sneller (Custodian)



December 19, 2021

Welcome!
We are glad you are here!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME in our service

Also available during worship

- Nursery for infants & toddlers
- "Busy Bags" 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

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
Angels From the Realms of Glory
What Can I Do*

Prayers of the People

God's Gifts to the World - lighting the candle of peace

O Holy Night (Elise Dysart, soprano)

Scripture Matthew 1:18-25, 2 Corinthians 9:15

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Message "Illumination"

The First Noel

God's Parting Blessing

For the Beauty of the Earth

TODAY:

9:30am Worship

10:50am Carol Sing

CHURCH LIFE

Join us for **CHRISTMAS DAY** worship at 9:30am on Saturday, December 25.

CAROL SING

TODAY at 10:50am-11:20am, we will be singing traditional Christmas Carols in the sanctuary. Please join us for a worshipful time celebrating these songs.

PLEDGES

Pledge forms for the 2022 budget were placed in mailboxes last week. Please return pledges to the marked slot at the Welcome Center by January 2.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Will not be meeting today, Dec 19; or next week, Dec 26.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Classes will not be meeting today, Dec 19, nor will they on Dec 26 and Jan 2 due to the Christmas break. Classes will resume on Jan 9.

GIVING ENVELOPES

If you are currently using giving envelopes but would like not to receive them next year, or are not receiving them but would like a set next year, please inform your district deacon.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To Gloria DeWitte who will be celebrating her birthday on Dec 28. Cards may be sent to: Vista Springs #33, 2708 Meyer Ave SW, Wyoming, MI 49519.

Thank you Fellowship friends for all the lovely cards I received upon my transition to a new position. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work in a supportive role at Fellowship over the last several years and will miss the relationships built with you, the congregation, and the staff at Fellowship. Thank you all for your kindness and grace.

Blessings on you - Liz Boerman (& family)

I have completed my six week round of treatment. Thank you for the many cards, e-mails, and prayers. God is Good! - Judy Nieuwkoop

Many thanks to our wonderful guest singer, Elise Dysart, for coming today to share her gift of music with us! She is a senior at Grand Valley State University where she studies voice.

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pastor **Bill Huyser** had a stroke last week that impacted his speech and the use of his right arm. This past week he was transferred to nursing care at Holland Home Breton Woods Rehabilitation Center (2589 44th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512). Continue to pray for Bill and Alvina and their family during this uncertain time.
- For ACCESS of West Michigan as they bring congregations together in Kent County to cultivate a community rooted in equitable systems.
- For those who serve as CRC chaplains who provide spiritual care to people in pain or spiritual distress.
- For the Love Food Pantry and the families that receive support through this ministry.
- Remember in prayer those who are not able to worship with us on Sundays: **Gloria DeWitte, Lois Oom, and Rachel Tjoelker.**
- Remember in your prayers those who have ongoing health needs and concerns: **Rick Carter, Valerie Fleming, Marv Houtstra** (cancer), **Pastor Bill Huyser, and Len Koetje.**

OUTREACH/VOLUNTEER

FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your continued support as we serve our community. We have served 12 households so far this month.

Some items we could use are:

Mustard, Grape jelly, Soft flour tortillas, Taco seasoning, Brownie mix, Macaroni noodles, Ground coffee

please note: we have been overly blessed with canned vegetables and are not in need of more at this time

BACKPACK BUDDIES

We currently have **39 children** from Central Elementary in our program. Feeding America continues to be a good source for many needed food items through the CARES and USDA programs but some items we use are not available through the agency.

Our needs for the coming weeks include:

fruit and applesauce cups, Nutrigrain bars, boxed pastas or rice (Chicken & Tuna Helper, Rice-a-Roni, Pasta Roni, etc.), snacks (individual pretzels, popcorn, granola bars, fruit snacks) and plastic grocery bags. Cash donations or gift cards to Meijer, Aldi & Costco can be given through the deacons. Please place items in the wooden box in the lobby.

Thank you for showing Christ's love to our neighbors through your support of this ministry ~ **Sandy Campo** 616-889-3134.