

Everlasting Father  
Isaiah 45:14-19



### FROM THE DEACONS

Thank You to the congregation for the gifts received Nov 27-Dec 10:

Received for general ministries:	\$ 18,159.28
Received for Christian Education:	\$ 2,045.00
Community Offering:	
Backpack Buddies	\$ 1,200.00
Resonate (Rodriguez)	\$ 790.51
Desert Streams (Lont's)	\$ 500.00
Fellowship Food Pantry	\$ 100.00
Bible League	\$ 20.51

### Community Offerings

#### **TODAY: All Belong (formerly CLC)**

We envision a world where every student with a disability is known, needed, and experiences belonging in their Christ-centered school. What happens when this vision is achieved? A school that adopts an inclusive education approach serves all students better.

Launched in 2019, the All Belong brand articulates the heart of our forty-year mission—that persons of all abilities belong within community. The redefined brand identity positions us as the go-to resource for inclusive, Christ-centered communities and shares our commitment to faithfully build belonging. Thanks to the support and efforts of donors, partners, and advocates, together we are creating a world where communities are marked by belonging for persons with varied abilities.

**Dec 24:** Partners Worldwide

**Dec 31:** Safe Haven

**Jan 7:** Mission French Africa (*Mpindi*)

### THIS WEEK

#### **Monday, Dec 18**

#### **Tuesday, Dec 19**

9:15am Tuesday Small Group  
6pm Life Skills

#### **Wednesday, Dec 20**

2pm Blood Drive  
7pm Worship Team Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, Dec 21**

#### **Friday, Dec 22**

#### **Saturday, Dec 23**

#### **Sunday, Dec 24**

9:30am Worship

### COMING UP

**Dec 25** Christmas Worship

**Jan 7** Elder/Deacon Nominations due  
Youth Group

**Jan 15** Exec

**Jan 21** Youth Group

**Jan 22** Elders  
Deacons

### STAFF

Tom Vanderploeg (Pastor)

Barb Sanders (Care Ministry)

Andrew Lenhart (Worship)

Barb Van Ryn (Youth Ministry)

Laura Williams (Admin Assistant)

Katherine Sneller (Custodian)

# December 17, 2023



## 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

**TODAY:** Third Sunday of Advent — And he shall be called...**Everlasting Father**; Jesus is the savior who loves us.

**NEXT WEEK:** Fourth Sunday of Advent – Christmas Eve 9:30am

Service of Lessons & Carols – Christmas Day 9:30am

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

[www.fellowshipcrc.com](http://www.fellowshipcrc.com)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Call to Worship

*O Come O Come Emmanuel*

## The Third Candle of Advent

*Joy to the World  
My Soul Magnifies the Lord  
Adore*

**Ministry in Music** Elise Dysart singing *Noel*

## Prayers of the People

**Scripture** *Isaiah 45:14-19*

<sup>14</sup> This is what the Lord says:  
“The products of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush,  
and those tall Sabeans—  
they will come over to you  
and will be yours;  
they will trudge behind you,  
coming over to you in chains.  
They will bow down before you  
and plead with you, saying,  
‘Surely God is with you, and there is no other;  
there is no other god.’”  
<sup>15</sup> Truly you are a God who has been hiding himself,  
the God and Savior of Israel.  
<sup>16</sup> All the makers of idols will be put to shame and disgraced;  
they will go off into disgrace together.  
<sup>17</sup> But Israel will be saved by the Lord  
with an everlasting salvation;  
you will never be put to shame or disgraced,  
to ages everlasting.  
<sup>18</sup> For this is what the Lord says—  
he who created the heavens,  
he is God;  
he who fashioned and made the earth,  
he founded it;  
he did not create it to be empty,  
but formed it to be inhabited—  
he says:  
“I am the Lord,  
and there is no other.  
<sup>19</sup> I have not spoken in secret,  
from somewhere in a land of darkness;  
I have not said to Jacob’s descendants,  
‘Seek me in vain.’  
I, the Lord, speak the truth;  
I declare what is right.

**Message** “And he shall be called... **Everlasting Father**”

*His Name Shall Be*

## God’s Parting Blessing

# CHURCH LIFE

**COUNCIL NOMINATIONS** We are requesting nominations for the office of Elder and Deacon for terms beginning in May 2024. **Nomination forms are available at the information desk.** Please place completed nomination forms in the appropriate slot at the information desk or email nominations to **Jon Meengs** at [meengs.jon@gmail.com](mailto:meengs.jon@gmail.com). Nominations are due by Sunday, January 7, 2024.

## Members of Fellowship CRC,

Your **Building & Grounds Committee** is looking for new volunteers to help oversee the church building and property. We are looking for two individuals to join our committee. The committee meets at a minimum once during the quarter or typically every other month. If you have questions or are interested, please feel free to contact any of the current committee members: **Gordon Bell, Mike Philo, Diane Ronda** or **Jeff DeWitte**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** The class is in Room 10, and it will begin around 15 minutes after the end worship and will end 45 minutes later. All are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact **Mike Philo** ([LMPHILO@aol.com](mailto:LMPHILO@aol.com)) or **Dave Cook** ([dcook0104@gmail.com](mailto:dcook0104@gmail.com)).

**BLOOD DRIVE** On Wednesday, December 20, we will be hosting our final Blood Drive for the year from 2-7pm. To reach our goal, we need 28 people to sign up to donate; we currently have 17 appointments filled. If you would like to sign up to donate, please use the link in the midweek email to find available appointments. THANK YOU to all of the members of Fellowship who have donated blood this year! The first Blood Drive of 2024 will be held on February 14.

★Keep up to date with all the activity of the Church Renewal Lab at [www.fellowshipcrc.com/crl](http://www.fellowshipcrc.com/crl).

**From the Treasurer:** Financial report thru 10/31/23:

Revenue \$243,630.43

Expenses \$255,558.71

Please prayerfully consider end-of-year offerings in the coming month so that we may close the gap between our revenue and expenses for 2023.

## PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for **Mark and Sheryl Offringa**. Mark is scheduled to have knee replacement surgery on December 21. Pray surgery goes well and for a good recovery process.
- Continue to pray for those with ongoing health needs and concerns: Bob Aardema, Rick Aardema, Jayne Barnhill (**Sandy Campo**’s sister), **Jean Cisler, Ellie Klifman (Sheryl Offringa**’s mother), Kim Mulder (family of **Bonnie Houtstra** and **Tamie DeWitte**), **Lois Oom, Jo Postema**, Katherine Sneller, **Rachel Tjoelker**, Barb Voskuil (**Carole Dykstra**’s sister), Susan (**Sharon Walcott**’s daughter-in-law).
- For **All Belong** as they advocate belonging for people of all abilities in their education and community.
- For the **LOVE Food Pantry** and the families that receive support through this ministry. Pray that they are able to meet the growing demand in our community.

## TODAY

9:30am Worship

10:45am Church School

10:45am Adult Bible Study

11:30am Youth Orchestra Rehearsal

## MISSIONS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**FOOD PANTRY** Thank you to everyone who has donated supplies for the pantry! Food insecurity is an increasing issue for many families in our area. Requests for food has increased significantly this fall. Everyone is so appreciative and thankful for our help.

With schools closing for Christmas, we anticipate an increase in requests for food. Will you help refill our shelves with kid friendly breakfast and lunch items? Some ideas...Breakfast cereals, pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, jams, canned spaghetti, shelf stable milk (available at Dollar Tree), snack crackers, fruit snacks, and pretzels are just a few suggestions. Because the holidays are on Mondays, the pantry will be closed. Donations should be brought to church December 17. Thanks again for your continued help...

**BACKPACK BUDDIES** We are currently collecting several items for food bags for our 38 Backpack Buddies.

### Our current needs:

- Snacks: granola bars, rice krispie treats, fruit snacks, cheese or peanut butter crackers, etc.
  - Fruit: applesauce, small boxes of raisins (bags of 12 little boxes are great)
  - Canned chunky soups
  - Canned Chicken
  - Nutrigrain bars
  - \*\$25 gift cards for Christmas family baskets (they can purchase perishables and meat for their Christmas meal)
  - \*Cash donations can be made through the deacons.
  - \*Food donations can be placed in the wooden box in the narthex.
- Thank you for your generosity and continued support! **Sandy Campo**