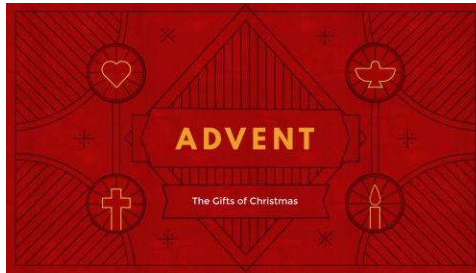


The Gift of Joy
Romans 6:1-14



FROM THE DEACONS

Thank You to the congregation for the gifts received Nov 17-Dec 1:

Received for General Ministries:	\$ 13,927.11
Received for Christian Education:	\$ 1,260.81
Community Offering:	
Backpack Buddies	\$ 1,721.02
Desert Streams/Lonts	\$ 760.00
Fellowship Food Pantry	\$ 225.00
Love Your Neighbor	\$ 107.00

From the Treasurer:

Year to Date Receipts: \$251,128.76 Year to Date Expenses: \$ 264,303.92
(through 11/30/2024)

Community Offerings

TODAY: LOVE Your Neighbor

Their mission is to mobilize local churches to transform lives and communities. Through their partnerships, they coordinate over 50 different ministries. Fellowship CRC helps to offer a Life Skills Program that empowers individuals toward authentic life transformation and a food pantry.

<https://lovewm.org/>

Dec 22, 29: Love Your Neighbor
Jan 5: Resonate Global Mission *Rodriguez family*

THIS WEEK

Monday, Dec 16

Friday, Dec 20

Tuesday, Dec 17

Saturday, Dec 21

6pm Life Skills

Sunday, Dec 22

Wednesday, Dec 18

9:30am Worship

1:30pm Blood Drive

11 am Adult Bible Study

Thursday, Dec 19

7pm Choir/Youth Orchestra Rehearsal

COMING UP

Dec 25 Christmas Worship
Jan 5 Youth Group meeting
Jan 13 Exec
Jan 19 Youth Group Winter Jam
Jan 27 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)

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

www.fellowshipcrc.com

December 15, 2024



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 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 — So much of what we experience as joy at Christmas centers on the people we get to be with at Christmas. So also, the joy we experience in God at Christmas is not just what Jesus does *for* his people, it is primarily what Jesus does to be *with* his people.

NEXT WEEK: Fourth Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Angels We Have Heard on High

His Name Shall Be

Adore

Ministry in Music Elise Dysart singing “Noel”

Prayers of the People

Scripture Romans 6:1-14

Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

⁶ What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³ Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

Message “The Gift of Joy”

Joy to the World (with Shout for Joy)

God's Parting Blessing

TODAY

9:30am Worship

11am Adult Bible Study

CHURCH LIFE

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

Upcoming dates for the proposed 2025 budget:

January 5 — budget copies available

January 12 — Q&A meeting after service

January 19 — congregational vote

Thank you for the wonderful retirement celebration event! It was meaningful to celebrate and remember years of ministry. I am grateful for the generous gift towards hopeful travel plans and for the many cards with words of appreciation and gratitude. I would also like to express a special thanks to those who gave time to aspects of planning and preparation: Barb VanRyn, Laura Williams, Kathy Kikkert, Katherine Sneller, Pam Kortman, Pastor Tom, Anderew Lenhart, Dan Sanders with granddaughter Via Sanders.

With Gratitude, Pastor Barb Sanders

★ Keep up to date with all the activity of the Church Renewal Lab at www.fellowshipcrc.com/crl

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for **Jerry and Diane Ronda** and their family. Jerry has been diagnosed with bladder cancer and surgery was scheduled for Thursday, December 12, to remove the bladder.
- Pray for **LOVE Your Neighbor** as they create bridges in the community – connecting resources and services to under-served families in Hudsonville, Jenison, and Grandville.
- Continue to pray for those with ongoing health needs and concerns: Rick Aardema, **Jean Cisler, Len & Lois Koetje, Randy & Cathy Kraker, Rog & Mary Visser.**
- For the **LOVE Food Pantry** and the families that receive support through this ministry.

MISSIONS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

FELLOWSHIP FOOD PANTRY

THANK YOU to the congregation for your generous giving during Thanksgiving. The pantry shelves are full!

BACKPACK BUDDIES

Thank you for remembering the Backpack Buddies in prayers and giving!! December food items needed for the 30 children in the program include:

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Pasta (spaghetti O's type items)
- Fruit Cups, applesauce cups
- Oatmeal (boxes of individual envelopes)
- Gift Cards: we will again offer Christmas break food baskets and, if possible, we would like to include a \$25 Meijer gift card so that they can purchase Christmas dinner items and perishable foods. We anticipate 10-12 families will RSVP for a food basket. You can give gift cards to me or through the deacons (mark them for Backpack Buddies).

Thank you for your support of this ministry.
Sandy Campo (616)889-3134

DECEMBER BLOOD DRIVE

The holidays are here, and your blood donation is greatly needed! [Join us this week Wednesday, December 18, from 1:30-6pm in the Fellowship Room.](https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11404810)

A Sign Up for the canteen is on the M&CC Bulletin Board.

Use this link to schedule your appointment today!

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11404810