

LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

- M 9:30a Women's Bible Study: Fellowship Hall
2:00p Open Door: Foundation
6:30p Celebrate Recovery
- T 9:30a Coffee Break: Fellowship Hall; Childcare
2:00p Open Door: Foundation
6:30p Divorce Care: Howard's Office
6:30p GriefShare: Fellowship Hall & Online
- W 5:00p CR Women's Step Study: Office in the Nursery
6:15p Mid-Week @ PS
7:00p Prayer Meeting: Classroom E
- Th 2:00p Open Door: Foundation
7:00p CR Men's Step Study: Office in the Nursery

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT

MARK YOUR CALENDAR — Our congregational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **December 8 at 7pm**. We will select new elders (4) and deacons (1), provide an update on the search for a Worship Director, the building restoration project, and review and approve the 2022 budget. Printed meeting materials will be available at the sanctuary entrances.

CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER — For our shut-ins at this time of the year: Mike Beinema, Alice Cook, Nellie De Vries, Arthur & Henrietta Hoogendyke, Babe Nydam, Harold Swart and Theona Taylor.

GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

PAGEANT FAMILY SERVICE & POTLUCK LUNCH — Sunday, December 12, at 9:30am. Join us for stories, songs and an interactive pageant. After the pageant we will celebrate with a Potluck gathering. Please bring your favorite dish, and remember that desserts will be provided—hope you can join us and celebrate the season with with food, friends, and festive fun!

COLLEGE ADDRESSES — We would like to send a small gift of encouragement to our college students during the upcoming exam season, so please write a note of encouragement. See the table in the fellowship hall. Thanks for your support!

ON BEHALF — Of the Deacons and the NAC, a big **THANK YOU** to those who generously gave so that approximately 26 families in Northbridge could truly have a Happy Thanksgiving. We saw lots of very grateful faces Sunday afternoon, one of the most rewarding "jobs" we Deacons are blessed to have. It would not have been possible without our generous church family.

NAC CHRISTMAS — tags are on the table in the Fellowship Hall, we are providing gifts to 27 families, including 43 children. Each child will receive a gift item (approx \$25) and a clothing item (approx \$25), and each family will also receive a food card. Please helps to support this great cause to help those in our community less fortunate than we are so we can show them Christian love. The Deacons thank you in advance for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS EVE — Friday, December 24, at 6pm. Invite your family and friends to join us. A special offering will be received for the Deacons' Benevolent Fund. "O come let us adore Him!"

LAST SUNDAY FOR CADET CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUNDRAISER — Decorations will be conveniently delivered free of charge to houses in Northbridge and adjoining towns the morning of Saturday, December 4. For details or to place an order by **today**, please contact one of our cadet boys, Scott Schneider, Chuck McGrath or Mike Anema. Order forms are placed in the mailboxes and fellowship area.

SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

FAITH PROMISE UPDATE — We have collected 33 pledges totaling \$33,800 for our 2022 Missionary Support—thanks for your pledges! This is the **final Sunday** we will be collecting the cards. If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider filling out a pledge card and help us reach our goal of \$50,000. For Jesus and his Kingdom—*Ruth Bandstra, Beth Bol, Lauren McGrath, Wanda VanderZee, Your Faith Promise Team!*

REACH OUT — CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

COOKIES & CAROLS — Friday, December 5 at 4pm. Let's join the Presbyterian Church at 51 Cottage Street, Whitinsville for some homemade Christmas cookies, hot cocoa, special songs and activities for kids.

Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church

508.234.5268 + Office: 8a–3p Mon-Fri

November 28, 2021 + 9:30 am

Welcome! We are so glad that you are here!



If you have been worshipping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries. If you're asking questions about faith and spirituality, join us in our formation opportunities and ministry events to learn more and meet others. Help us get to know you or let us know how we can pray for you by filling in the Communication Card in the fellowship hall and putting it in the offering basket—we'll be in touch.

WORSHIP — Celebrate What God Is Doing

We would love to help your kids become devoted followers of Christ! Please visit the Children's Ministry check-in station in the fellowship hall to get a security tag so your children can join us downstairs. The nursery is open for infants through 3 year olds during the whole service. KidStreet Children's Church for age 4-2nd grade is dismissed to go with teachers right before the sermon. Please bring your security tag to pick up your children in the nursery or classroom C after the service. Echo for kids in 3rd-5th grade will meet in classroom B but will be dismissed to the fellowship hall at the end of the service.

We are excited to serve you!

The Lord be with you!

Prayer of Preparation

Immanuel, as we wait for your return, help us see your glory and love through the reading and preaching of your Word in our worship this morning. We pray in your name. Amen.

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship — Hebrews 11:16; Psalm 130

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We set out on our Advent journey with a reminder - this world is not our home.

Even now we live by faith, longing for a Better Country and a New Creation.

Even now I wait for the Lord and in his Word I hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

Even now there is no darkness with you, O Lord.

People of God, hope in the Lord! For even now we do not wait in vain.

(The water is poured in the font) We wait marked by God's promises.

(Bread is placed on the table) We walk toward God's Future Feast.

(the Bible is set on the Pulpit) We carry the book of God's

People of God – Welcome home!

Even now there is no darkness with you, O Lord.

SONGS: *My Soul in Stillness Waits*
Comfort, Comfort My People

Lighting the Advent Candles

**The First Reading: Hebrews 11:1, 4, 13*

Friends, this is God's Word!

Thanks be to God!

**The Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-18*

Friends, This is the Gospel of Jesus!

Thanks be to God!

SONG: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

RENEWAL

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

Always with us, always coming:

We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your arrival.

We have confused Hope for what we can own;

it has made our elbows sharp and we have hurt those who get in our way.

We have exchanged the promise of your Kingdom for the temptation of power;

It has taught us to reach for the sword and we have often wounded ourselves.

We have mistaken the experience of Grace for that which we think we deserve;

It has made us entitled, and we are consumed by our own concerns. We cannot see the hurt we have caused around us.

Lord, Salvation is your gift to those who have no other options.

Lord, save us from ourselves. Lord, create in us New Hearts.

Lord, renew us in your forgiveness and renew in us expectant faith.

Through Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

SONG: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Words of Assurance — Matthew 1:21

Friends, all the promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus Christ who has come, and will come again. Even now, the Spirit comes and announces the good news of Jesus to us – through Jesus' death and resurrection he has opened to us a path to New Life. By the Spirit we Hope in the Lord;

Receiving God's forgiveness, Expecting God's return, Waiting with lives full of God's love, Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

SONG: *Hope is Dawning*

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

KidStreet Dismissal

[Children age 4 through 2nd grade are dismissed]

WORD

Morning Prayers

Isaiah 40: 1-11 (p 586) +

“This Great Hope: A tender Word to Wounds”

TABLE

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Tasting Grace

COMMIT

Morning Offerings: Ministries of Pleasant Street;

SEND

Dismissal & Benediction

God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for eternal life. God the Son, who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge, reveal to you the path from darkness to light. God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the virgin Mary conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness. **Amen.**

SONG: *Land of the Rising Sun*

The candle in the front is lit as a symbol that Jesus Christ is present in our worship this morning