

Westview CRC Communicator
A Stephen Ministry Congregation
December 11, 2011

WELCOME

We welcome one another for worship today. May God direct us as we build relationships with him, each other, our neighbors and our world.

OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Morning Worship – Third Sunday of Advent – Andy will continue his teaching series from Matthew – The Cradle, The Cross, The Crown. The children will present their Christmas program. **READING for Dec. 11 – Matthew 2:1-12**

Evening worship - Ken Havert will preach from Luke 2:1-12 – Of All Places, A Manger.

Next Sunday morning – Fourth Sunday of Advent – Pastor Andy will continue his teaching series from Matthew – The Cradle, The Cross, The Crown. **READING for Dec. 18 – Matthew 2:13-23**

Next Sunday evening – Candlelight Christmas – “Service of Lessons and Carols”

Christmas Day – Dec. 25 – Morning Service Only

Christmas holidays – can be the most joyous time of the year. It can also be the loneliest. If you may be suffering from loneliness, depression, the loss of a loved one, a long-term illness, or just need someone to talk to, consider a trained, confidential Stephens Minister. We are here to help people in need of support. Check with Pastor Andy for more information.

CHURCH FAMILY

Remember our servicemen

- Devon VerBeek
- Sean McGorty, Savannah, Georgia
- Elliott Mast OS2, OPS OI, USS BOXER LHD4, FPO AP 96661-1663
- Matthew VanderWal, Box 489, Wheeler AAF, Hawaii 96854 (US postal service only).

STAFF, OFFERINGS & COUNCIL NEWS

November financial statements – will be available on Monday, December 12 in the Friendship Room.

Congregational Meeting – There will be a congregational meeting on Dec. 19 at 7pm to approve the 2012 budget. Copies of the budget are on the tables in the Friendship Room today. The Finance Committee will be available on Tues., Dec. 13 from 6 to 7pm in the Council Room to answer any questions.

Offering Schedule

Dec. 11 am – Kids Life – an organization that sponsors Bible Clubs in the elementary public schools in West Michigan. Kids' Life Bible Club materials are used by Westview leaders at Appletree and the K-5 Good News Club and others throughout West Michigan. They also provide moral support and supplies for the other levels of youth ministry at Appletree and others like it. All designed to teach Bible truths to children of the public school communities and the way of salvation through Jesus Christ and to lead the children to establish Christ-centered lives.

Dec. 11 pm – Back to God Ministries International – proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ worldwide through the strategic use of media that effectively communicates Christ within international cultures.
Dec. 18 am – Matthew’s House – a faith based, non-profit ministry that reaches out to neighbors in need on the northwest side of Grand Rapids.
Dec. 18 pm – Firstfruits – the ministries of Westview.

Volunteers in Service (VIS) – a 70 year old woman needs help moving on the NW side, boxed items and furniture moved. Please see Kurt VanVels (784-0996) or Matt VanHeulen (647-1130).

New Church Bulletin Format – In January we will be switching over to a new format which will merge together the Communicator and the Order of Worship. The format will consist of six panels, two folds and will provide space for note taking a and a tear-off form for guests to fill out. Announcements will be shorter and the layout will be organized in a user-friendly manner.

Friendship Folder Pads – After significant discussion, the Outreach Committee has concluded that the use of the Friendship Folders have very little value in our desire to connect with guests to Westview. We will provide a tear-off slip for guests to fill out at their own discretion.

YOUTH

High School Youth – TONIGHT we meet for super snacks and even better times at 6pm. We’ll be finished at 7:30pm. See you there at 2252 Westwinde NW.

GEMS – Christmas Party – this week Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 6:30 SHARP to 8:30 pm. Please bring with you a gift wrapped that is either made or a thing you don’t use and would like someone else to have a chance to use. Please don’t buy anything. We are singing at the Christian Rest Home at 6:45 with Walker Church, so please don’t be late to church.

CHURCH LIFE

Banquet for Sale - \$5.25 a stick – In the Friendship Room - Help support SOLE Group. Please place your money in the box when you take the banquet.

Sign up to make Coffee – There is a sign up sheet for the new year in the kitchenette. Don’t forget to take your turn. Sign up to make coffee one Sunday morning.

Upcycle – reuse (discarded objects or material) in such a way as to create a product of higher quality or value than the original. Worship Center is looking to reuse items from the following list to create learning opportunities for the children. Please place needed objects in the labeled container in the foyer. Thank you for your help! ► Corrugated cardboard

- Lightweight cardboard (ex. Cereal or cracker boxes) ► Oatmeal containers
- Plastic ice cream containers
- Empty coffee cans with lids
- Plastic blank CD cylinders
- Wooden dowels
- Styrofoam balls

Congregation – This Christmas we would like you all to join us in showing our love to the ladies at the parsonage and Judy Koets. We would like to purchase each lady one special gift from the congregation. Please bring your monetary donation to the church library by **TODAY** to allow time to purchase and deliver the gifts. Thank you so much! The WOW Committee

Senior Fellowship – The coach is going to leave our church at 5pm on Thursday, December 15, for Evergreen Commons in Holland, Michigan.

Westview Women's Book Club – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE! We will be meeting TUESDAY, December 13 at 7:30pm (instead of our usual Thursday) at the home of Pam Westhouse to discuss the book Big Russ and Me by Tim Russert.

OUTREACH / MISSIONS / SOCIAL ACTION

King's Chorals Male Chorus of Grand Rapids – will present their 62nd annual Christmas concert tonight at 8pm at LaGrave Ave CRC. Special guests will be G.R. Christian H.S. Chamber Choral. Ample free parking. Free will offering. Audience carol sing.

The Meijer/NW Food Pantry Donation Card program – is in progress and will run through January 7, 2012. The 2010 program helped support the pantry and the community until July 2011. Meijer again will donate \$100,000 to this program. Donation cards may be found on the table in the Friendship Room. This is a wonderful opportunity for your yearend giving. These cards MUST be purchased at the ALPINE store. The scanned card is your receipt. The pantry is grateful for Westview's ongoing support.

Tidbits from the Northwest Food Pantry

Families: 2010 – 447, 2011 – 518

People: 2010 – 1393, 2011 – 1576

Our numbers just keep going up as families are really struggling to make ends meet. Thank you for all your support with the Thanksgiving offerings. Supplies are really low on many items, especially personal items and dairy products. If you are willing to provide a basket, call Waverly at 451-4036. We are in need of some new faces as volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please call Waverly. Items needed: shavers, deodorant, tooth brushes, tooth paste, dish soap, bar soap, paper towel, used pencils, any and all food.

Plumbing Help Needed – Coit CRC is in need of plumbing help. They have already inquired within but have no one that is qualified. The ROCK (the ministry house next to the church) has a kitchen sink that will not drain. All other drains are working. They have replaced the plumbing under the sink and so that is clear. They are also having the same problem in the church kitchen as well (all other drains clear). Please contact Pastor Jerome at 893-7773 if you'd like to take a look at it.

Poems from Prison – CBI (Crossroads Bible Institute) students express their reentry fears, battles with addiction and love for Christ through poetry. Go to www.cbi.fm to listen to Crossroad Connection – a restorative justice ministry of Crossroad Bible Institute.

WPRR – 1680 AM – Sunday – 6:45am

WPRR – 95.3 FM – Sunday – 6:45am

TEAR OFF SECTION

2012 Transportation Schedule – Can you help out with some transportation? If so, please fill out the form below and you will be put on a rotating schedule.

___ Sandy Erickson – AM service

___ Betsy DeKorne – AM service

___ Vets Facility – 1st & 5th Sunday of month

Thank you for volunteering. Please tear off and put in offering plate or in Ruth Fridsma's deacon mailbox.

Today – December 11, 2011

Custodian – Kurt / Mark

Sound – Dan Dykstra

Video – AM & PM – Bob Zwiens

9:30am Morning Worship Service

11:00am Adult Sunday School

11:00am Church School

4:00pm Candlelight Rehearsal

6:00pm Evening Worship Service

Mon-12 10:00am Mens Camaraderie & Coffee

Tues-13 7:00pm Executive Council

7:15pm Coffee Break – for women

Wed-14 6:30pm GEMS – Christmas Party

7:15pm Ladies Bible Study

Thu-15 6:15am Men's Bible Study – lounge

6:30am Men's Bible Study – council room

Nursery

AM Lori, Rachel & Jeanette Bigelow

PM Dot Hekman, Rachel Bigelow

Worship Center – NO Worship Center

Kids Choir Program

Little Lambs – God gave us the gift of our bodies

Laurie Dykstra, Jessi Dykstra

Rover Greeter Schedule

AM - Phil Slachter Family

PM – Phil Slachter Family

Parsonage Ladies – Terry Mast

Medical Response

AM – Joel Bartels & Nan Crater

PM – Norm Noordeloos & Sherry Nederveld

Coffee Makers – Dave & Lynn VanLoo

Next Sunday - December 18, 2011

Custodian – Mark

Sound – Jeanette Bigelow

Video – AM & PM – Dan Kloet

9:30am Morning Worship Service

11:00am Adult Sunday School

11:00am Church School

6:00pm Evening Worship Service

Nursery

AM Al & Kristy Tubbergen, Emma Burghgraef

Worship Center – Shepherds & the Magi

Nina VanHeulen, Lauryn Slachter, Joel VanHeulen

Little Lambs – The Big News

Laurie Dykstra, Jessi Dykstra

Vets Facility Transp. –

Betsy DeKorne Transp. – Cal & Dot Hekman

Sandy Erickson Transp – Jim & Mary VanderWerp

Rover Greeter Schedule

AM – Steve Bykerk Family

PM – Bill & Joan Sturuss

Parsonage Ladies – Joyce Ossewaarde

Ushers for November & December

AM – Matt VanHeulen, Jim Mast, Luke Mast, Dave Sturuss

PM – Fritz Burghgraef, Harold Ilbrink, Fred DeVries, John

Ossewaarde, Gord Nederveld, Bob Vermaire

Medical Response

AM – Pam Westhouse & Betsy Ludwick

PM – Sue VanderVennen & Dan Hoekema

Coffee Makers – Tom & Josie Buskard

Elder Greeter Schedule – December

East – Mel DeVries, south – Jim Veldheer

Elder Prayer Schedule - December

AM – Roger Nyman, PM – Kurt Staal

Let's Recycle
GREEN BINS located in workroom

- Empty inkjet, laser and toner cartridges
- Greeting cards (fronts only)
- Cell phones
- Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 9 volt, etc.)