

LIFE AT CENTRAL December 18, 2011

ADVENT WREATH: Advent is a season of penitence and preparation as we remember the Christ who came and will come again. As we light the candles each Sunday, God grant that the “*light of the world*” Jesus Christ, will shine ever brighter in our hearts and homes. Lighting the fourth candle on our Advent wreath this morning is the **Webb** family.

OUR LITURGIST is **Rev. Tom Bos**. A Grand Rapids native, Tom is a graduate of Hope College, Western Michigan University, and Western Seminary. He has served the Addisville Reformed Church in Richboro, PA, and the Bethany and Orchard Hill Reformed Churches in Grand Rapids. He currently supervises the Newhall Community Church. He is married to Rev. Mary Bos, our Minister to Seniors.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- **Lee Sneden** continues to recuperate at Kent Community Hospital.
- **Ann Wolters** is under Hospice Care.
- **Anne De Boer** remains at Blodgett Hospital after gall bladder surgery and hopes to go to Porter Hills Rehabilitation sometime this week.

KIDZ PRODUCTION **KiDZ Kringle** will be performed **TODAY** at the Fellowship Stage downstairs at 11:00 AM. Grab a cup of coffee and come enjoy the play!

POINSETTIA PLANTS: Due to the Christmas holiday falling on a weekend, the poinsettia dedications will be in the Christmas bulletin. However, if you wish, feel free to take your plants home following the **Candlelight Service on December 24**. Those that remain may be taken home after the 10:00 AM worship service on Christmas Day. *Thank you for beautifying our sanctuary this Christmas season!*

-Liturgical Decorations Committee

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve—A Family Christmas at 4:00 PM

A Christmas Eve worship experience designed for families with young children. There will be angel, shepherd, and sheep costumes for kids, and the Christmas story will be presented in a way our youngest members will enjoy and appreciate. **What a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to your church!**

Christmas Eve—Service of Lessons and Carols at 11:00 PM

A traditional service of Scripture and singing that has become a Grand Rapids favorite for people from all backgrounds. Guest instrumentalists will join organist Brian Bartusch and the Chancel Choir in singing the songs of Christmas. The service will conclude, as always, with a sanctuary bathed in candle light, as the congregation sings *Silent Night*.

Christmas Day Worship Service at 10:00 AM

Dr. Lotz will preach and the Chancel Choir will sing.
We will worship at **10:00 AM, not the customary 9:30 AM.**



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MEN'S GROUP: We will meet again this **Thursday, December 22 at 5:00 PM** at Kent Country Club. Discussion will center on *"How Do I Unplug the Christmas Machine?"* and return to the real reason for the season. If you're interested in coming, please contact Scott Webb at swebb0516@gmail.com.

NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT: What better way to usher in the New Year than to hear the brilliant sounds of trumpet and organ blended together? On **Saturday, December 31st**, the Barker Series is very proud to welcome the organ/trumpet duo *Hornpipes!* as our special guests of this annual and much-loved holiday tradition. Trumpet virtuoso Pamela Smither-Baker and organist Scott Montgomery will present a wonderful concert of music for the season that will culminate in the singing of the holiday favorite *Auld Lang Syne*. The performance begins at **8:00 PM** – be sure to mark your calendars now!

ADOPT A FAMILY CHRISTMAS: At the beginning of Advent we decorated our Christmas Tree with 105 paper ornaments, each bearing the name of an individual or family at the Domestic Crisis Center and Clancy Street Ministries. Three weeks later, EVERY ornament was taken, gifts were purchased and delivered. **Thank you for your wonderful generosity!!**

ADDIE'S PANTRY: For December we are in need of cereal, bottled juice, and soup. Please put your items in the shopping cart by the east entrance or in the Atrium by the mailboxes. *Thank you for your continued support of our pantry!*

FAIR TRADE COFFEE: A portion of the purchase price goes back to those who grow and harvest the coffee. If you would like to be a sponsor sign up in the Atrium or with Coleen Hamman. This week's coffee sponsors are the Stratford Travelers.

THANK YOU: Thank you for the cards, visits, phone calls, and prayer shawl that I received during my illness. I appreciate your thoughtfulness so much! ***Norma Jolman***

EPIPHANY GIFTS: Epiphany Sunday is Sunday, January 8, 2012. This year the Christian Action Team is again asking for new blankets, which will be given to and distributed by ***In The Image***. Blankets are needed for the poor and homeless in our community. Please bring your blankets with you to church on January 8. Thank you!

PHONE BOOK RECYCLING: You will have an opportunity to recycle your old phone books into insulation for *Habitat for Humanity*. Look for collection boxes at the north and east doors of the church. Keep those phone books out of the waste stream and put them to good use. If you have questions, call Tom Vande Bunte at 997-5048 or ask anyone on the Christian Action Team.

WORDS OF HOPE: Devotionals for January—March are available in the Atrium for you to pick up. Some of the March devotionals were written by Dr. Lotz. Please pick up your copy today. They are provided for you at no cost.

<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>	
<u>Weekly Budget Requirements</u>	<u>Last Sunday Contributions</u>
\$13,235	\$11,963
<u>YTD Budget Requirements</u>	<u>Actual Contributions Received</u>
\$320,344	\$304,399



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KIDZ Central Schedule

“KiDZ Kringle”

11:00 AM at the Fellowship Stage
Refreshments Following

Everyone is welcome to this brisk and lively performance by the talented children of Central. The choreography was designed by Mrs. Brenda Pratt. The main musical numbers are by Sally K. Albrecht and Jay Althouse, with orchestration by Tim Hayden. The performance runs about 40 minutes.

Christmas Eve at 3:00 PM we will have a Children’s Celebration with a Live Nativity, Refreshments and Carolers. At 4:00 PM we will have our Family Participation Worship Service: *Through the Eyes of a Child*.

YOUTH News

WINTER PARENTS MEETING ON JANUARY 15 AT 5:30PM. Dinner will be provided, and we will discuss – among other things – the Belize mission trip!

Clubs tonight. JH from 4:30-5:30, dinner 5:30-6:00, SH from 6:00-7:30(-ish). Tonight is the JH Christmas Party, including a white elephant gift exchange (wrap something you already have... no shopping!) After dinner, SH will be visiting/caroling at Hope Network’s Lawndale Home. We will carpool there (it’s very close), and may run a little late getting back to church.

SH Breakfast Club is at Wolfgangs this Wednesday AT 9:00AM.

Next JH “Snack Club” at Olga’s in EGR is Thursday, Jan 12 after school until 4:00!

Upcoming meal providers for Clubs: 12/18 – Tillema, 12/25 – NO CLUBS, 1/1 – NO CLUBS, 1/8 - Timmer

Next youth Addie’s Diner is **Tuesday, January 3.** *Jesse E, Alek M, Nathan S, Jack B, Dakota C, Grace VR, and Kate VM* are scheduled to serve. Plan to serve from 5:45-7:00pm. If you can’t make it, please find a sub!

SH students...**It’s time to register for Genesis 2012** (really awesome weekend, March 9-11 at Grand Traverse Resort...bands, speakers, quality time together!) REGISTER IMMEDIATELY at <http://www.genesis2012.org/register.html>, because registration closes completely this Tuesday, December 20. Payment is due to todd by January 8.

ACTIVITIES

Acolytes
Banner Bearer
Bible Bearer
Crucifer
Visitor Hosts
Ushers
Sound
Security
Infant Nursery
2s/3s Nursery

TODAY

James Ozinga, Allison Smith
Joshua Brand
Lily Thompson
Sydney Troost
Ken & Mary Bauman
Greg Verseput, Steve Ziel
Steve Ozinga
Tom Smith
Teresa Rinvelt
Jill Gearhart, Leslie Hooker

DECEMBER 25

Emma Gearhart, James Ozinga
Duncan MacLean
Anna Wormmeester
Collin Troost
Dan & Linda Ballast
Kathy Stewart, Jack Van Houten
Tom Smith
Bryan Snoeyer
Kristin Borgman, Kim Bernard
Anne Hooker, Cassidy Clark

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY 12/18	9:30 AM	Worship Service—Dr. Louis Lotz
	11:00 AM	KiDZ Kringle Performance
	11:00 AM	Klokkenkoor
TUESDAY 12/20	12:00 N	Addie's Pantry
	6:00 PM	Addie's Diner
WEDNESDAY 12/21	4-6 PM	KiDZ Kringle Cast Christmas Party
	6:30 PM	Adult Discipleship
	6:30 PM	Celebration Ringers
THURSDAY 12/22	12:00 N	Addie's Pantry
	5:00 PM	Men's Group at Kent Country Club
	7:15 PM	Chancel Choir
FRIDAY 12/23		Church Office Closed at Noon
SATURDAY 12/24	3:00 PM	Children's Celebration Live Nativity
	4:00 PM	Family Worship Service
	11:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
SUNDAY 12/25	10:00 PM	Christmas Day Service—Dr. Louis Lotz

CARE CONCERNS: Please contact Carol Bergman at clstaff@iserv.net after hours or on the weekend. Office hours are 9:00 AM—5:00 PM. Contact the office at 456-1773 or you may email mbeebe@crcgr.org on Tuesday & Wednesday, or krusso@crcgr.org on Thursday & Friday. The church office is closed on Monday.