

Life at FRC

Today at FRC . . .

Greeters: Clayton & Chrissylynn
Dec 7 - Doug H.

Welcome Center: Cathy
Dec 7 - Lisha

Coffee Cleanup: Rachel
Dec 7 - Rick & Donna

Coffee Host/Hostess: Les
Dec 7 - Paul & Candy

Newcomer Table: Tina
Dec 7 - Frank & Ruth Ann

10:00 A.M. - Worship Service with Pastor Dan Eisnor
NO RISE Youth Group (Thanksgiving weekend)

This Week . . .

Tues. - 9:00 A.M. Worship Planning Meeting

Wed. - 4:30-6:15 P.M. Club 57 Youth Group
6:30-8:00 P.M. GEMS & Cadets

Thurs. - 6:45 P.M. Praise Team Practice

Looking Ahead . . .

Dec 7 - Communion/12:30 - 5 P.M. Private Event (no volunteer/maint. work)

Dec 8 - Building & Grounds Meeting (time TBD)

Dec 9 - 6:30 P.M. Elders/Deacons Meetings & 7:30 P.M. Consistory Meeting

Dec 13 - 9:00-10:30 A.M. Children's Christmas Program Practice/11:00 A.M.-
1:00 P.M. Cookie Walk Fundraiser (In Fellowship Hall)/4:00 P.M. Private Party

Dec 14 - Faith Promise Special Offering/Children's Christmas Program
12:30-5:00P.M. Private Event (no volunteer/maintenance work)

Dec 17 - 6:30 P.M. Gems & Cadets Christmas Party

Dec 22-29 - Rooms of Refuge at FRC Parsonage

Dec 24 - 9:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec 24-25 Church Office Closed for Christmas

Dec 27 - 11:30 A.M.-3:30P.M. Private Event (no volunteer/maintenance work)

Dec 28 - 11:30 A.M.-5:00P.M. Private Event (no volunteer/maintenance work)

Dec 31-Jan 1 Church Office Closed for New Years

*But those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.
-Isaiah 40:31*



FRC News & Events

A Giving Opportunity From Bridge Newaygo - Help brighten the Christmas holiday for single parent families in our community! Please take a tag from the Giving Tree in the Gathering Center, purchase the item on the tag, bring the gift back to church by December 7, and put it under the tree **WRAPPED**. (Attach the tag on top to label it. Gift cards can be left with the church office, or placed in an envelope and put back on the tree.) You are more than welcome to make a monetary donation instead and have someone do the shopping for you, if you prefer! (Leave any monetary donations with the church office.) The gift requests are from single moms and dads with kids, and grandparents raising grandkids in Newaygo County. Gifts will be brought to 1st CRC and distributed on Dec 13 at a Christmas party. Thank you for your generosity and desire to bless a struggling single parent this Christmas!

Christmas Card Project - If you would like to remember our shut-ins, widow(er)s, elderly, and snowbirds with a Christmas card this holiday season, there is a list with their names and addresses at the Sign-Up Center for you to pick up. What a great way to show them that they are loved and not forgotten!

FRC's Children's Christmas Program will be on December 14, during regular church service! There will be live beautiful praise songs, relevant Scripture reading, and plenty of joy to go around. The kids will show us the true meaning of Christmas, lead us in great worship songs, and delve into the history of the wise men.

GEMS Grandmas - The FRC GEMS Girls' Club is looking for "GEMS Grandmas" to help on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. We are looking for ladies who have a heart for kids, would love to share Christ with girls by spending extra time with them, and can help with crafts and supervision. We have had a huge number of girls from our community join the FRC GEMS Girls' Club this year, and we need extra help spending time with the girls and showing them how much God loves them. No lesson-planning or teaching is necessary! Flyers with more details are available at the Welcome Center. For more info or to sign up, please speak with Sarah C.

Operation Christmas Child Update

We had an amazing 630 shoeboxes packed from our FRC family this year! This includes 343 boxes from the packing parties and 287 boxes that our congregants personally packed. We are praising God for such an amazing amount of love shared with children around the world! As a drop-off location, we received 3,268 shoeboxes from other churches and people in the community. We are so very thankful and grateful for the many volunteers that make this ministry possible. Thank you to everyone who has donated their time, talents, and resources to support this ministry!



FRC News & Events

Rooms of Refuge - Through our Rooms of Refuge program, we can provide those experiencing homelessness a safe, warm place to sleep and hot meals during the week of Christmas (Dec. 22-28). How can you help? Volunteer to stay with our guests in the parsonage for one night, prepare a dinner and deliver it to the parsonage, provide some breakfast food items, or give a wrapped Christmas gift (more about this later). After church service today, Doug & LouAnn J. will be available in the Gathering Center to answer questions and sign up volunteers.

Christmas Cookie Walk Fundraiser will be **December 13, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** This event will help raise money for the Christian Education Fund. For \$20, you can fill a container with an assortment of homemade treats. While you're here, enjoy our free hot cocoa bar, browse the silent auction, and purchase personalized ornaments for \$3 each! Plus, rumor has it that Santa might stop by for a surprise visit! We're also seeking baked good donations to help make this event a success. If you'd like to contribute your favorite cookies or holiday treats, add your name to the sheet at the Signup Center. For questions or more info, see Tessa, Brittany, or Briann.

Snack Donations Needed - We are in need of snack donations for the GEMS & Cadets programs, which runs through April. Each Wednesday evening, we feed approx. 90-100 kids. If you would like to provide the snack for an evening, please add your name to the form at the Sign-Up Center. You can also donate non-perishable items such as individual or large packages of cookies or crackers, or large containers of juice or fruit punch at any time and we will use them throughout the year. Thank you SO much for your help!

Next Sunday, we gather for Holy Communion. Christ gives us this gift to build up our faith and remind us of His grace. Please examine your lives to make sure you are taking His grace seriously by living lives of gratitude. (1 Cor. 11: 28). If you fall short, repent and come to Communion in relief and thanksgiving that He receives us broken. If you are living gratefully and obediently, give thanks for His grace that has transformed you, and come to Communion to celebrate His victory over sin and death. Children who have not confessed their faith publicly are welcome to share in Communion provided they recognize the meaning of the elements and have parental permission.

Help with Hand 2 Hand donations needed! We are collecting peanut butter, pancake mix, pancake syrup, individually wrapped granola bars, and quart & gallon sized zip closure bags. All jars or bottles need to be plastic & NOT glass, and smaller portioned bottles or single serving packages are best. There is a box for donations in the Gathering Center near the library, and downstairs near the front doors. Thank you for your help in feeding hungry community kids on the weekends! For more info on this ministry, please visit the website: www.h2hkids.org. Questions, contact Marjory W.