



COMMUNITY
CHURCH
ROSELAWN

LIVES *transformed* BY *Christ*



Welcome to Today's Worship Service

Song: *Behold Him*

Welcome/Announcements

Greeting Time

Advent Candle Lighting by Art and Vicki VanKley

Song: *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Reading: **Luke 2:15-18 by Vanderzee girls**

Song: *Sing We the Song of Emmanuel*

Time of Prayer by Butch Zandstra

Allison Kerulis' Profession of Faith

Offering

Kids Church Dismissal

Reading: **Proverbs 3:3-6**

Song: *How Great Thou Art*

Message

Prayer

Song: *What Child Is This*

Blessing

Offering: General Fund and Classis Illiana

Online giving instructions can be found on our webpage,
communitychurchroselawn.com

December 10, 2023

Worship 9:30 AM

Preaching: Jeff White

Scripture: Luke 2:8-10
page 1560

Message: The Joy of the
Shepherds

Next Week: Dan Kuiper



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Offerings from 12-3-23

General: \$11,668.00
Weekly Budget: \$14,125.00
Missions Support: \$1,546.27

Offerings Next Sunday:

General Fund and
Kuyper College

Hearing loop equipped:
Please switch your hearing
aid to Telecoil "T" mode.



WELCOME to Community Church Roselawn A Place Where Lives *are Transformed by Christ Through the Power of the Gospel*

Welcome, Next Steps and Prayer cards can be found on seat backs. You may drop completed cards into the offering or at the Welcome Center.

Prayers

Joni VanderWoude is thankful for the response to her recent request for caregivers. She has an urgent need for afternoon, evening and weekend nurses and caregivers. Her dad, Jim Clark, has postponed his surgery due to a lack of caregivers. Your prayers are much appreciated. Questions? Call Joni at 219-898-0581.

Also, Joni has received news that her wound is not operable at this time. The plan is to use antibiotics to stop the infection. Please pray for this and caregivers.

Announcements

Community Cookbooks are available. They make excellent gifts and stocking stuffers. See the cute display in the lobby. Suggested donation is \$5.

Candlelight Cookies: We are looking for 10 to 12 people to make 4 dozen homemade cookies for the candlelight service. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby if you are able to help. Please bring them to church at the morning service.



Kids Hope USA is getting started at Lincoln Elementary School! This program lets a student in need be mentored by you for an hour a week. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Sylvester or check the back of the bulletin.

55+ Lunch bunch will meet on December 14 at noon at Pizza King, 527 N Halleck in DeMotte. You are welcome to join in the conversation over lunch.

Gifts for Lincoln School: We have the opportunity to bless teachers and students at Lincoln Elementary! Through a wish list created by Lincoln teachers, you can purchase items on the list, return the item to the office and we'll take it off of the list. Please label items with the teacher's name so we can deliver your gift to the correct classroom. Thank you! See list at Info Center!

Snow Shovelers needed on call basis. If you can help shovel the sidewalks and sprinkle salt at the church doors, please add your name to be called and lend a hand by marking the back of the bulletin.

The **BreakAway** menu for December 13, includes ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, veggies, Jello, roll and dessert.

If you can stick around for a bit and help pick up after BreakAway, it would be very much appreciated.

Be a Small Groups Catalyst: We are looking for a small team interested in putting together short-term small groups for this January. This team, with support from the staff, would suggest study materials, recruit leaders, and offer signups. If you are passionate about small group ministry, please talk to a staff member today!



Phil's Friends is a group that makes cards, blankets and care packages for those affected with cancer. They are in great need of women's fuzzy socks which are easy to find during Christmas time.

They meet on Tuesdays, 10 AM to 4 PM. Come and go as you please. See Tracy Sz if you have any questions. It's a great way to do good while having a good time.

The **Mobile Food Pantry** will be back in our area on February 9 at 10 AM. It is for anyone, not just Newton Co residents. If you can help that morning, please let Laura H know. Thank you.

Profession of Faith

Hi, Community Church! My name's **Allison Kerulis** and I've attended here for a few years now. God has blessed me with the gift of being able to stay home and raise my baby this past year, and I'm sure it's one I'll never forget. I enjoy thrifting, antiquing, reading, and I'm currently trying to sharpen my baking skills. Some of my favorite days are those spent with Sully and Sophie.



Statement of Faith

When looking back at my journey of faith, I can see that God was always there. I was baptized in the Lutheran church as a baby and attended regularly until around fifth grade, when my parents separated. I had grown up being taught the word through church services, Sunday school, and midweek programs. We said prayers before dinner and before bed everyday as a

family. We checked off all the religious boxes that we should have, but it wasn't enough. Abuse and addiction tore my family apart. After years of strife and despair striking my family, my parents divorced. I can now see how everything that happened to us revealed that God was not the foundation we were truly built on. When the storms in our lives came, our home was destroyed. Knowing God through a system of religion and having an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ are two very different things. And while I'm grateful that seeds were planted in me as a child, I can see how really knowing and connecting with the one, true God was not reached.

After my parents' separation, my mom had to work seven days a week to support us, and we stopped attending church. So I grew, life carried on, and I had no real peace that only the Holy Spirit can provide. Home didn't feel like a sound place and there was chaos between us siblings with no authority, as my mom was always working. By the time I hit high school, I developed depression from having lifelong problems with anxiety that had never been addressed. In my state of sadness, however, I was still a very curious person. Curiosity can be an awful thing when God is not on your mind or near your heart. I began to experiment with alcohol, drugs, promiscuity, and at times, dangerous people. I put myself in so many unbelievably bad situations, that I know the hand of God is the only reason I'm alive. By the time I made it to college, I felt suicidal, so I decided to leave my apartment and come home. A few years later, I met my now-fiancé and was brought back to a church environment. More seeds of faith were planted in me, but I hadn't fully committed my life to Christ and changed my ways. Through this, I became a mom to a beautiful baby girl. It wasn't until after having her and taking on the role of a single parent, that I repented for my carnal ways and sought a deeper connection and understanding of Jesus Christ.

The more I sought in Christ, the more I found. I began to see with full clarity the non-stop spiritual fight for each and every soul on the planet. I could so clearly see how the devil came and rocked my family so hard- each and every one of us over the years. To say that he did a number on my family is an understatement. I feel no pity or regret from what happened to my family, or about the many poor choices I made. God had a lot for me to learn in a small span of time. He's given me so much insight through experience and I wouldn't be who I am today without them. I have no clue what God has in store for me, but I'm excited to find out. He kept me around for a reason. God showed me, through myself and my family's lives, what sin and a lack of His presence will do. He's also shown me the dangers of pride and stagnancy in a Christian life. Through some tough circumstances, He's shown me that growth in your walk with Him should never cease. Studying the Bible and renewing one's mind should be continual; there's always more that can be absorbed. The only answer is to put God at the center of everything. I praise God for saving me and pray that His renewal of me never ends.



Christmas Opportunities at Community

The most wonderful time of year is almost here! Yet for many of us, it's the most distracted and stressful time of the year. Our vision is for each of these Christmas worship services to be an oasis from the busyness, a time to refocus on Christ, and an opportunity to rediscover the hope, joy, peace and love that come to us through the birth of our Savior.

1. Join us for worship:

- Candlelight Service on December 24 at 5pm – This is our big, can't-miss Christmas celebration. Be sure to invite friends and neighbors to join us that night. Expect a moving time of worship, ending with carols by candlelight, and of course hot chocolate and cookies!
- Christmas Morning service at 9:30am

2. Get involved:

- **Create some art!** Visual artists are encouraged to submit their artwork to be used as backgrounds to our songs during the Christmas season. Please note that the art must be dark enough for white text to show up clearly over it.

-**Join the Candlelight Youth Choir!** One of our favorite traditions at Community Church is the Christmas Candlelight Service. This year, students in 1st-12th grade are invited to join an informal Candlelight Youth Choir that will help lead some songs to add volume and energy to the congregational singing! If you love to sing, please join us! Required practices are Thursday, December 21 at 7pm, and gathering at 3pm on Sunday December 24 to warm up before the service. Please see the signup sheet in the lobby.



Monday: Coffee Break 9:15 AM

Please add your name for our next study on ***The Gospel According to John***! We will learn how to "have life to the full" beginning on January 10. We need your name now to be sure to have your book.

Bloom Studies: The Gospel of John begins January 10

- Tues @ 6:30 PM at Jo Vz's
- Wed @ 9 AM in the Café
- Wed @ 6:30 PM at Marjie's

Sprouts: Wed @ 9 AM Experienced babysitting is available, as well as a preschool Bible class for ages 3 and up.

Thrive: BreakAway Weds, in the Youth Group Portable, 6:30-8 PM

2023 Elders: Jim Bykerk - Admin, Pres of Council, Mike Johnson - Admin, V P of Council, Steve Bos - Admin, Clerk of Council, Ken Jellema - Yellow Care Group, Bob Hamstra - Green, Dan Koselke - Purple, Henry Herr - White, Tim Coffey - Blue, Jake Dawson - Red

2023 Deacons: Eric Roosma - Admin, Treasurer, Dan Hilarides - Admin, Asst. Treas., Jake Prairie - Admin, John Hendon - Chairman of Deacons and Yellow Care Group, Jeff Lakin - Secretary and Green, Robert den Dulk - Benevolence Lead and White, Dustin Leyshon - Purple, Josh Betz - Blue

This Week at Community Church



Today, Sunday, December 10

Profession of Faith Sunday
Morning Worship in person 9:30 AM
and livestreamed on Facebook & YouTube
Kids Church
Sunday School 11 AM
Youth Group 5 PM

Monday, December 11

Coffee Break 9:15 AM
Staff Meeting 10 AM
AA 7:30 PM

Tuesday, December 12

Phil's Friends 10 AM-4 PM

Wednesday, December 13

BreakAway Meal 5-6:30 PM
Kingdom Kids/GEMS/Cadets 6:30-8 PM
Thrive for Women 6:30-8 PM

Next Sunday, December 17

Morning Worship in person 9:30 AM
and livestreamed on Facebook & YouTube
Kids Church
Sunday School 11 AM
Youth Group 5 PM



Dec 24: Candlelight Service 5 PM
No Sunday School or Youth Group
Dec 25: Christmas Service 9:30 AM
Office Closed
Dec 31: No Sunday School or Youth Group
Jan 10: BreakAway night
Jan 20: Wild Game Dinner 5 PM
Feb 9: Mobile Food Pantry 10 AM

Bulletin announcements are due Thursday morning by 9 AM.

**Get Yourself Connected at
Community Church Roselawn**

I would like...

- ☐ to provide childcare help on BreakAway nights.
- ☐ to be a Small Groups Catalyst
- ☐ to be a Sunday morning greeter
- ☐ to be on the Missions Team
- ☐ to join the Worship Team
- ☐ to be a Kids Hope mentor
- ☐ to be called to shovel and salt the sidewalks at church

☐ I am a visitor.

Please return to offering basket, Welcome Center or to the office mailbox.

Name _____

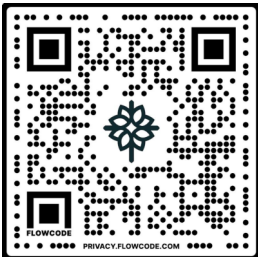
Cell # _____

Email _____



One Church: Please update your info and/or photo in One Church. See Kelly at the Welcome Center if you would like her to take your picture.

Please add this dedicated One Church phone number to your cell ph contacts; 1 833-225-9450 It is Community Church Roselawn's number for texting



Open your
smartphone's
camera and
point



here for
quick
"Connections"

Sermon Notes

Luke 2:8-10

The Joy of the Shepherds