

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 17

3rd Sunday of Advent

Giving Tree Gifts due back today

8:15am	DW	Worship Service
9:15am	DW	Adult Bible Study - Meeting Room
9:30am	ALL	Worship Service & Livestream
9:30am	DW	Nursery / Kids Ministry / Youth Ministry
11:00am	DW	Worship Service
11:00am	DW	Nursery / Kids Ministry
11:00am	DW	Seeker's Bible Study - Meeting Room

3:30-5:00pm **DW High School Skating - meet at Munn**
then dinner

MONDAY • DECEMBER 18

10:00am DW MOPS/MOMSnex Playdate - Gym - door 5*

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 19

10am-2pm	DW	Food Pantry
5:30-7:00pm	DW	Food Pantry
6:00-7:30pm	DW	Middle School Youth Group - Christmas Party

WEDNESDAY • DECEMBER 20

10:00am	DW	Senior Bible Study - Meeting Room - door 4*
7:00	DW	Worship Team Practice

THURSDAY • DECEMBER 21

9:00-10:30am	DW	Distribute Giving Tree Gifts
6:30pm	DW	MOPS/MOMSnex - door 3*

FRIDAY • DECEMBER 22 - Office Closed

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 23 - Building Closed

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 24

4th Sunday in Advent

3:00pm	DW	Christmas Eve Service
5:00pm	DW	Christmas Eve Service
7:00pm	DW	Christmas Eve Service

Nursery available at the 3:00 and 5:00pm services

If you are interested in a morning service, our St. Johns Campus will have a Christmas Eve Service at 9:30am.

Key: DW—DeWitt; SJ—St. Johns; ON—Online; All—Both Campuses

*Door numbers refer to the large white numbers on the building's exterior, above each outside door.

enews Would you like to receive our weekly enews?
Keep up with what's happening, sign-up for our weekly enews. Contact us at: office@dewittredeemer.org



ONE CHURCH. TWO LOCATIONS.
www.myredeemer.church

DeWitt (Main Office)

13980 Schavey Rd
DeWitt, MI 48820

517-669-3430

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8:30am-4:30pm

Sunday Services:

8:15, 9:30, & 11:00am
Online: 9:30am (FB & YouTube)

St. Johns

200 E State St.
St. Johns, MI 48879

989-224-6859

Office Hours:

Tue & Wed: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Sunday Service:

9:30am

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Traveling Light

Message: LET GO OF EXPECTATIONS
December 17, 2023

Text: Luke 1:26-32, 34-35, 38
Pew Bible page: 849

CHECK IN

You are important to us. Guests and members, let us know you are here or leave a prayer request by filling out the connection card in the pew and dropping it in one of the boxes in the back of the worship center. You may also check in online through our app or by scanning this QR code or by visiting: myredeemer.church/connect



WELCOME TO REDEEMER CHURCH

check in! →

Whether you're at one of our campuses, online, new, or here all the time, be sure to sign-in on a pew card or on the Redeemer app! You can also share prayer request, ask questions, and more.



Ice Skating
at Munn Ice Arena

Sunday, December 17
3:30 - 5 pm (dinner afterwards)

Redeemer High School
Event with a night of skating,
food, fun, and fellowship.
Invite your friends!

Redeemer High School Youth is hosting a night of skating, food, and fun at MSU Munn Ice Arena **THIS AFTERNOON**, with skating from 3:30 – 5pm and dinner afterwards at Brody Hall. Invite your friends!

- Meet at Munn Arena
- Skate rental available at Munn
- All fees for the evening will be covered by Redeemer



Christmas Eve LIGHT OF THE WORLD

3 PM | 5 PM | 7 PM

INVITE SOMEONE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

- DeWitt - 3, 5, & 7pm (Afternoon only)
- St. Johns - 9:30am (Morning only)

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would be willing to serve on Christmas Eve as:

- Greeter
- Usher

Please sign-up at the Information Center or email [SANDY](#).

2023 YEAR END GIFT

The end of the year is a perfect time to reflect on our many blessings including God's greatest gift to us, His Son, Jesus Christ. Why not make a special effort to honor Him in your giving – it may be the most important gift you give. All year-end gifts received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2023, will be entered as a charitable gift for 2023. Please note the church office is closed on Friday, December 29, but donations can be dropped off to the office until Thursday, December 28, before 4:30pm.

To make a gift, simply use any envelope in your monthly mailing or mark any pew envelope with 'Year End Gift'. A gift can also be made through the mobile app or on our [WEBSITE](#). Thank you for your support.



COME FOLLOW THE STAR
JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Thank You!

Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped make Journey to Bethlehem a wonderful experience for all. Nearly 200 people came together and enjoyed a Christmas program, snacks, and crafts.



2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICES | DECEMBER 31
TRADITIONAL 8:15 & 9:30 AM SERVICES



Giving Tree

THANK YOU FOR
HELPING US BLESS
LOCAL FAMILIES
THIS CHRISTMAS!

MAKING
CHRISTMAS
MEMORABLE

Thank you for joining us to provide Christmas for 41 local families!

- We'll inventory all gifts today - any missing gifts will be purchased.
- If you forgot to bring your gift in – please email item descriptions and tag numbers to [SUZIE](#) or text to (269) 275-8773.
- Please pray for the Giving Tree families and that they will be connected to the love of Jesus through these gifts!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Starting in January, we will have several #BeTheChurch volunteer opportunities available to both campuses!

The first event is at Greater Lansing Food Bank during school break - seed sorting, ages 14 on up can sign up to join us!

Signup on the Redeemer mobile app or our [website](#).

This year we have made such an impact to thousands of people locally through Redeemer's #BeTheChurch Outreach Ministry. Thank you to everyone who has supported #BeTheChurch through either volunteering your time, praying for our efforts and recipients, or through monetary donations. We are making a difference and *connecting people to the love and life of Jesus Christ!*



Christmas Offering

UMCOR
DISASTER RELIEF + FOOD & SHELTER

THE CITY RESCUE MISSION of Lansing
FOOD · SHELTER · HOPE

BLESSING PEOPLE IN THEIR MOMENT OF GREATEST NEED

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Each year in December, Redeemer Church invites the congregation to give to the [CHRISTMAS OFFERING](#), a gift over and above their regular tithe. This year, our gifts will be dedicated to two separate organizations who care for individuals and families in the moment where they are facing their greatest needs.

THE CITY RESCUE MISSION OF LANSING

- Bringing hope, love, and Jesus' redemption to those in need
- In ministry for over 110 years
- Serving men, women, and children
- Food and shelter, a place of safety, and a sense of dignity

THE UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF – UMCOR

- Assisting United Methodist churches to become involved locally, regionally, and globally in direct ministry to persons in need.
- UMCOR serves those who suffer from disasters of all types
- Offering help and hope to the most vulnerable, unable to recover on their own



MESSAGE: LET GO OF YOUR PAST

LUKE 1:26-32, 34-35, 38

PEW BIBLE PAGE: 849

BIG IDEA: LET GO OF EXPECTATIONS AND RELEASE PLANS TO JESUS

GETTING STARTED

How do you think you would respond if you were Mary or Joseph in this situation? (Luke 1:26-38)

REFLECTION/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you suppose Mary felt about the angel's message foretelling her supernatural pregnancy? What do you think was the hardest for her?
2. Why do you think the angel Gabriel told Mary about Elizabeth's condition? (v.36-37)
3. If an angel today were to reveal God's plan for your life, what would you do?
a) ask a lot of questions, b) wonder if I had any say in it, c) rejoice that God could use me, d) worry about my ability to do it, f) gladly obey. Why?
4. What do you learn about Jesus from the angel's announcement? (v.30-33)
5. "Travel Light—Release your expectations and plans into the hands of Jesus." In this Christmas season, when is this easy for you? When is it difficult for you?
6. In what area of your life do you need to believe that nothing is impossible with God? What keeps you from believing this?
7. What are the prayer requests on your mind and heart today?

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, thank you for showing your love and care for our world and each person in it. We release our own expectations for this season and ask that you would help us to experience your joy in all ways. Fill our hearts with more of you as we release our worries to you. Amen.

GOING DEEPER: Read Luke 1:5-38. How does Gabriel's word to Mary compare with his word to Zechariah? (v.13-17) Compare Mary's reaction to the angel's message with Zechariah's reaction. How are they similar? Different? How can you be obedient, even when things are different than what you expect?

FOCUS SCRIPTURES:

DECEMBER 17, 2023

"In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, 'Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!' Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. 'Don't be afraid, Mary,' the angel told her, 'for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus.'"

Luke 1:26-31 (NLT)

MY NOTES: