Love Link

December 2020

COOPERSVILLE REFORMED CHURCH

Inside This Issue:

Church News	*2*
Holiday Directory	*3*
Library News	*4*
Birthdays	*5*
Servant's Page	*6*
Calendar of Events	*7*

Bible Passage of the Month:

Luke 2:5-7

He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

As we look towards celebrating the birth of Christ, let us not forget what this season really is about. It isn't hard for the real meaning to be overlooked in the hustle and bustle of the season. And this year hasn't been an easy year. We have had restrictions on so many things, from wearing masks to a limit on gatherings. Some of us even saw our Easter and Thanksgivings look different than years past. Let us reflect on some of the hymns that so nicely remind us where our focus should be.

What Child Is This, Chorus only
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
This, this is Christ the King, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

O Holy Night, verse 1
O holy night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Savior's birth: Long lay the world in sin and error pinning. Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn: Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Silent Night! Holy Night!, verse 1
Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy Infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Go, Tell it on the Mountain, Chorus only
Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere, Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born.

May you and your family enjoy this wonderful holiday season. And let us remember why we truly celebrate.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Heather Smoes
Administrative Assistant/Love Link Editor

Poinsettias

Don't miss the chance to order for our December 13 and December 20 services. Call the church office (837-8949) by December 6 or email Heather at heather@coopersvillereformed.com. Please specify if you want it placed in memory of someone.

Congregational Meeting

Save the date of December 14th for our annual Congregational Meeting. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to approve the proposed 2021 general budget, approve the December 2020 bylaw amendments (copies available in the church lobby for review), and vote on the following nominees for Elder: Bennett Bassette (Admin), Rachael Kunnen (Care), Matt Mekkes (Care), and for Deacon: Jason Kunnen (Admin), Rory Ribnicky (Admin), and Rodney Tibbe (Care). Anyone may attend the Congregational Meeting. We are currently discussing how we will meet. Please be on the lookout for updates regarding ways in which you can attend our Congregational Meeting safely. Only communicant members (age 18 and older) of Coopersville Reformed Church are eligible to vote. Childcare will be available for the meeting. If you are unable to attend the Congregational Meeting, absentee ballots are available in the church office.

Proposed Budget

Copies of the 2021 proposed budget are available in the church lobby and in back of the Worship Center. Take time to look it over. Deacons Tom Bergy and Doug Sietsema are available to answer any questions by phone or email. Their contact information is listed on the back of the cover page.

Christmas Eve Service

Join us for our candle lite Christmas Eve Service on Thursday, December 24, 2020, at 5 p.m.

Love INC.

We currently have a Director of Client Services position open. It is a part-time position (30 hours a week) that works here in our office. Please contact our office at 616-895-5683 for more information.
We wanted to update you on a new GAP ministry we have been working on that will be starting in about a month. We have been working on creating a Mattress Ministry. We are going to be purchasing brand new mattresses and will be able to give these mattresses to families in need. We have seen so many requests for mattresses and have never been able to meet this need, but now with this new GAP ministry, we will be able to provide mattresses for families in need. We are very excited to see how God will use this new ministry. These mattresses will be used to help families who were recently homeless, but now have housing but can't afford beds, or for a grandparent who just got custody of their grandkids, but can't afford mattresses. We know this ministry will be a huge blessing for our community. We can only provide these mattresses because of your continued support.
Thank you for all you do. We are grateful for your prayers and financial support. We are holding each of you in our prayers.

MISSIONS/MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED		
The Gideons International 8671 Buchanan St. West Olive, MI 49460	Western Michigan Teen Challenge 440 Pontaluna Rd. Muskegon, MI 49444	Jeff Totten Baseball Chapel Leader The Detroit Tigers PO Box 99026 Troy, MI 48099-9026
Jaime & Martha Amaro 2da Privada de Madero 13 San Lorenzo, Cacaotepec, Oaxaca 68263 Mexico marthaborja@hotmail.com	Grace Covenant Ministries P.O. Box 340 Annville, KY 40402	Words of Hope 700 Ball Ave., NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503
G.V.S.U. Campus Ministry G.V.S.U. 1 Cook-DeWitt Center Allendale, MI 49401	Love INC. 6633 Lake Michigan Dr. P.O. Box 131 Allendale, MI 49401	Coopersville Cares 180 68th Ave. N Coopersville, MI 49404
Paradise Bound Ministries & Chuaquenum Church Plant P.O. Box 652 Allendale, MI 49401	Bob Van Zyl United World Mission Email: bandkvz@gmail.com	
SICK, SHUT-INS, AGED ONES (Birthdays)		
Marilyn Breen (May 18) 640 W. Randall St., Room 14 Coopersville, MI 49404	Clarellen Doornbos (March 15) 1410 S. Ferry St., Room J1 Grand Haven, MI 49417	Lucy Folkema (April 29) 6156 Pebble Dr. Allendale, MI 49401
Mel (March 18) & Della (April 23) Molyneux 4124 Garfield Coopersville, MI 49404	Dorothy Veeneman (March 6) 243 Lincoln St. Coopersville, MI 49404	Betty Wiggers (April 17) 52 Henry St. Coopersville, MI 49404
MILITARY (Birthdays)		
PFC Jacob Kooistra (July 15) 11893 Cline Rd. Ravenna, MI 49451	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Smoes (September 13) 21558 Searfoss Ct. Lexington Park, MD 20653	Spc. Eric Steadman 1436th Horizontal Engineer Company 8061 Cook St. Montague, MI 49437
Samuel B. Vander Ark (July 12) 3003 Margot Lane Grovetown, GA 30813		

Take a few moments and send a Christmas greeting to our missionaries, shut ins, and military members.

The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate
This historical novel is the dramatic story of three young women searching for family amid the destruction of the post-Civil War South, and of a modern-day teacher who learns of their story and its vital connection to her students' lives. Lisa brings to life startling stories from actual "Lost Friends" advertisements that appeared in Southern newspapers after the Civil War, as newly freed slaves desperately searched for loved ones who had been sold away.
The above review is taken from the jacket cover.

Two Reasons to Run by Colleen Coble is the second book in her Pelican Harbor series.
Police Chief Jane Hardy is faced with a crisis. A murder aboard the oil platform Zeus exposes an environmental terrorist's plot. As she works to solve this murder and uncover the plot, she also needs to rely on the help of documentarian Reid Dixon when their son is threatened by the killer.
Bestselling author Terri Blackstock sums up this novel nicely when she wrote "suspense that keeps you wanting to know more and characters that pull at your heart."

Murder at the Courthouse by A.H. Gabhart is the first book of the Hidden Springs Mystery series.
Michael Keane is back in his hometown of Hidden Springs. He is looking forward to a more peaceful, relaxing life as their deputy sheriff. He is tired of his stressful days as a police officer in Columbus. However, when a dead body is discovered on the courthouse steps, Michael needs to use all of his abilities to find the killer. Read along as Michael discovers that life in Hidden Springs isn't so peaceful after all.
I really enjoyed this mystery that kept me guessing. I look forward to reading book two.
Review by Norene Sattler.

Under Our Skin... by Benjamin Watson with Ken Petersen
Are you struggling to understand the perspective of Black Americans related to the police? Is your life exposure to people who don't look like or talk like you rather limited? Do you want to be a positive voice in racial reconciliation, especially within the church? These questions have been front of mind for me even before our explosive 2020. This book is an extension of a Facebook post by Benjamin Watson, (former NFL player, father of 7, outspoken Christian) penned after the Ferguson, Missouri, verdict in 2014. You'll find some of this book hard to hear. There will probably be some of it you will disagree with. But it will challenge you to see the current racial crisis from a different perspective. Ultimately, it will encourage you to put Jesus Christ front and center as the ONLY solution. The root source of the strife is SIN and only HE can address it. The Body of Christ MUST lead the way towards racial reconciliation. It starts with US.
From page 202 "I wonder what would happen if ... white men and black men came together in a regular small group to talk about families and marriages and work and challenges and triumphs."
Review by Bennett Bassette.

Birthday Celebrations

1 Reagan Hill, Dick Van Dop
2 Jamie Hill
3 Trisha Schippers, Abigail Visser
6 Don Van Beek
8 Katie Powers
9 Karen Gish, Dale Schaaphok
10 Stephanie Rosel
11 Curt Lemmen
13 Mark Speet
14 Amanda Casler, Kimberly Downs
18 Jim Hall
19 Wayne Bos
20 Helen Hines, Cameron Neumann
21 Mikayla Bakker, Ben Bukrey, Ellie Bukrey
23 Ann Lemmen
24 Isaac DeVries, Aaron Powers
26 Steve Bos
27 Jerry Bos, Alexa Davis
28 Justin Bamford, Jan Metten, Samuel Quist
29 Chris Mayeaux
31 Kali Chatman

Nursery

		9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
December 6	Infant Toddler	Casey Van Antwerpen Suzanna Van Dop Mary Baird, Maggie Van Dop	Amber Vander Tuin, Lily Keller Carmen Langlois, Onna DeVries
December 13	Infant Toddler	Beth Baron, Nolan Baron Mary Baird, Sam Baron	Amber Vander Tuin, Ryan Vander Tuin Trisha Schippers, Hailey Hazelton
December 20	Infant Toddler	Shelly Visser, Maddi Nobert Mary Baird, Naomi Smoes	Amber Vander Tuin, Miniya Lothschutz April DeMull, Hannah Mast
December 27	Infant Toddler	Julie Kleinjans, Allysha Westveld Mary Baird, Jenna Casler	Amber Vander Tuin, Annie Sietsema LeighAnn DeVries, Abby Mast

Little Tykes

		9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
December 6	Leader Helpers	Amanda Casler Abby Mast	Michelle Hazelton Kyren DeVries, Trinity Hazelton
December 13	Leader Helpers	Amanda Casler Allysha Westveld	Michelle Hazelton Annie Sietsema, Carly Neumann
December 20	Leader Helpers	Amanda Casler Jenna Casler	Michelle Hazelton Isaac DeVries, Ryan Vander Tuin
December 27	Leader Helpers	Amanda Casler Anneke Bakker	Michelle Hazelton Avery Burk, Miniya Lothschutz, Jake Sietsema

December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir Practice	*2* 6:15-8 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time	*3* 7:00 pm Men's Small Group	*4*	*5*
6 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 5-6:30 pm Crossroad 6 pm Women's Small Group 6:30-8 pm One Way	*7*	*8* 6:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir Practice	*9* 6:15-8 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time	*10* 7:00 pm Men's Small Group	*11*	*12*
13 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 5-6:30 pm Crossroad 6:30-8 pm One Way	*14* 7:00 pm Congregational Meeting	*15* 6:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir Practice	*16* 6:15-8 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time	*17* 7:00 pm Men's Small Group	*18*	*19*
20 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship NO Crossroad NO One Way	*21*	*22* 6:00 am Rooted in Prayer	*22*	*24 Christmas Eve* 5:00 pm. Christmas Eve Service	*25 Christmas Day* Office Closed	*26*
27 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship NO Crossroads NO One Way	*28*	*29* 6:00 am Rooted in Prayer	*30*	*31 New Year's Eve*		

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Coopersville Reformed Church
423 W. Randall Street
Coopersville, MI 49404
www.coopersvillereformed.com

COOPERSVILLE
REFORMED CHURCH
Growing Roots, Bearing Fruit

STAFF

Pastor John Hines
Lead Pastor
Email: pastorjohn@coopersvillereformed.com
Phone: 837-8949; ext. 1579

Arnold Van Beek
Director of Senior Adult Ministries
Email: pastorarnold@coopersvillereformed.com
Phone: 616-502-2872

Cookie Speet
Director of Children's Ministries/Kids Hope USA
Email: children@coopersvillereformed.com
Phone: 837-8949, ext. 1583

Bethany Courson
Assistant Director of Children's Ministries
Email: bethany@coopersvillereformed.com

Michelle Hazelton
Director of Early Childhood
Email: earlychildhood@coopersvillereformed.com

Dori Keller
Director of Youth Ministries
Email: dori@coopersvillereformed.com

Heather Mekkes
Director of Discipleship
Email: heather.mekkes@coopersvillereformed.com

Tami Schoolcraft
Director of Administration
Email: tami@coopersvillereformed.com
Phone: 837-8949, ext. 1580

Heather Smoes
Administrative Assistant/Love Link Editor
Email: heather@coopersvillereformed.com
Phone: 837-8949, ext. 1581

David Van Klompenberg
Director of Facilities
Email: dave@coopersvillereformed.com
Phone: 837-8949, ext. 1584

Beth Mast
Treasurer
Email: treasurer@coopersvillereformed.com

Terry Metten
Choir of Praise Director
Email: janicemetten@gmail.com

Geoff Hansen
Director of Contemporary Worship
Email: geoff.hansen@coopersvillereformed.com