

DEPARTMENT LEADS

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OTHER STAFF

Michelle Bennett, Communications Coordinator

Taren Durham, Staff Accountant

Kimberly Korpak, Pastoral Assistant

Jessica Mix, Worship Ministry Assistant

Suzanne Roth, Office Assistant

Matt Walker, Maintenance Custodian

SERMON NOTES

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December 23, 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Praise the God of Grace and Glory

Welcome

Michael Weller

*Joy to the World

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing/King of Heaven

*Joy Has Dawned

Offering

Coventry Carol

Tim Friesen/Linda Galien

Prayer

Scripture

Luke 2:28-35

Marty Wondergem

Simeon's Song

Message

Simeon's Song: What does Christmas mean to you?

Pastor Rob Peterson

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(Hymn #120)

*Come, You People of the Promise

Benediction

*Congregational song

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The Prayer Team will be under the cross following the service if you would like to pray.

If you are our guest this morning, stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a gift we have for you.

Worship Resources | To help you worship throughout the week, we've prepared
Worship Resources available online (thornapple.org/media) and at the Welcome Center.

Special Thanks | The artwork displayed at the front of the Sanctuary was created by the following artists from our congregation:
Kayleigh Blue (Dec. 2; Song of Mary); Alex Weller (Dec. 9; Song of Zechariah); Barbara Hoffman (Dec. 16; Song of the Angel);
and Evan Silvernale (Dec. 23; Song of Simeon). We are blessed by their talents.

Connection Card form with fields for Name, Email, Phone, Street Address, City, State, Zip, and checkboxes for First time, Second time, Visiting with friends/family, College student, Regular attendee, Member, and Update my info.

We're asking EVERYONE to fill out a Connection Card during worship. These cards will give us your contact info and help identify your "next step" or share a prayer request. Cards can be placed in the offering plate or left at the Welcome Center. During the week, staff will follow up with people as needed.



6595 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616.957.0580 | thornapple.org

Bulletins left at the back of the Sanctuary will be recycled.



CALENDAR

Sunday 12/23

9:00am • Worship/Nursery/Children's Worship
10:30am • Worship/Nursery/Children's Worship/Crew 52/Huddles/Sermon Discussion Group (Conference Room)

Monday 12/24 | Christmas Eve

4:00pm • Family Worship
9:00pm • Candlelight Worship

Tuesday 12/25 | Christmas Day

Office Closed

Wednesday 12/26

Thursday 12/27

7:30pm • Worship Team Rehearsal

Friday 12/28

Saturday 12/29

Sunday 12/30

10:00am • Worship/Nursery
11:00am • Staff Snack for the Congregation

Monday 12/31 | New Year's Eve

Office Closes at Noon

Tuesday 1/1 | New Year's Day

Office Closed

Wednesday 1/2

Thursday 1/3

5:30pm • Family Movie Night
7:30pm • Worship Team Rehearsal

Friday 1/4

10:00am • Prime Timers' Soup & Study

Saturday 1/5

Sunday 1/6

9:00am • Worship/Nursery/Children's Worship
10:30am • Worship/Nursery/Children's Worship/Sermon Discussion Group (Conference Room)
7:00pm • HS Night Huddle

Weather Updates | Periodically we may need to cancel events or worship services at Thornapple because of inclement weather. Cancellations are posted online at: thornapple.org/weather and listed with WOOD TV and WZZM TV 13.

EVENT INFORMATION

- **Christmas Eve Services** | Tomorrow Thornapple will have two services for Christmas Eve: a family-friendly service at 4:00pm and a candlelight service at 9:00pm. Nursery will be available through age 3 at 4:00pm.
- **Christmas Eve Parking** | In anticipation of a full parking lot for the 4pm service, we will be offering a shuttle service starting at 3:30 (and resuming following the service) from the two FHPS Administration Building lots across Cascade Road. We would like to give priority in Thornapple's main parking lot to families with young children and those with mobility concerns.
- **HS Twin Cities Service Trip (July 14-20)** | Early Bird sign up deadline is Dec. 28 (save \$100). Final registration deadline is Jan. 27. Learn more and register: thornapple.org/twincities.
- **NOTE: There will be just ONE service at 10:00am NEXT Sunday, Dec. 30.**
- **Family Movie Night** | Thursday, Jan. 3 at 5:30pm in The Commons. Join us for pizza, popcorn and a family movie. Suggested donation of \$10/family. Learn more and sign up: thornapple.org/familymovienight.
- **Prime Timers' Soup & Study** | Anyone 60 and older is invited to join us Friday, Jan. 4 at 10:00am when Soup & Study resumes in 2019. The morning features a speaker, meal and fellowship.
- **Hearts for Sewing** | Next meeting Jan. 10 (not Jan. 3) at Noon in the lower level. Sewers and non-sewers are invited to join the group in making clothing items to send to children in Africa. Learn more at thornapple.org/heartsforsewing.
- **Men's Breakfast** | On Saturday, Jan. 12 at 8:00am all men are invited to join us for a meal, fellowship and speaker, Dan Behm. Childcare is available; please register (everyone) in advance: thornapple.org/mensbreakfast.
- **12 Below** | Anyone who has been attending Thornapple 12 months or less is invited (with their families) to a luncheon with staff following the second service on Sunday, Jan. 13. Learn more and sign up: thornapple.org/12below.
- **Financial Peace University** | We're offering a new session of FPU classes taught by Sue Smith at the Mary Free Bed YMCA (5500 Burton St SE) starting Wednesday, Jan. 16, 7:00-8:30pm and running through March 13. This class is for you, your friends, coworkers, family and neighbors! Learn more and register here: thornapple.org/fpu.
- **Horizons' To Tell the Truth Game Night** | Join us Saturday, Jan. 19 at 7:00pm at Dave and Susan Harrell's home (8097 Cameron Dt. Se, Caledonia). Can you tell fact from fiction when you hear tales from other people's lives? Bring a sweet or savory snack to share and find out! Sign up: thornapple.org/horizonsgamenight.
- **Save the Date: We ♥ TSM Brunch** | Sunday, Feb. 3
- **Thailand Vision Trip 2019** | Next June 8-17, a small group from Thornapple will travel to Bangkok and Chiang Mai to build relationships with missionaries. Thornapple supports in Thailand, getting to know the people with whom they work and those they serve. It is an intergenerational experience, open to high school students and older; the cost is around \$2000. Please contact Pastor Karen (kingebretson@thornapple.org) by Dec. 28 if you are interested.

NEWS

- ♦ **Please pray** for Scott and Jill Bolinder, and his extended family, as they grieve the passing of Scott's mom, Jean, on Dec. 18.
- ♦ **NOTE** | All year-end donations must be postmarked or received by Dec. 31 to be reflected in your 2018 giving statement. The church office will be closing at Noon on Monday, Dec. 31.
- ♦ **Receive a 31-day journey** through the book of Matthew to learn more about the life of Jesus, text "hi" to 616.207.0725 to receive a PDF.
- ♦ **Volunteer Cleaning Help** | Anyone interested in helping keep the facility fit for ministry is invited to contact Matt Walker (mwalker@thornapple.org or 616-818-0520) to express interest. Help is needed with vacuuming, dusting, trash removal and other light cleaning tasks.
- ♦ **Christmas Eve Offering** | We have had a tradition of designating our Christmas Eve offering for a cause outside the walls of our church. For the fifth year, our Christmas Eve offering will support the Paul Carlson Partnership Congo Clinic Initiative. The clinic is part of an initiative to raise the standard of healthcare in northwest Congo through the existing medical system of hospitals and rural clinics. Our previous four offerings have provided \$45,421 to support rural village clinics with essential resources and personnel. To learn more about this initiative, visit paulcarlson.org/congo-clinic-initiative.
- ♦ **Children's worship resources** are now available at the back of the Sanctuary by the sound booth.
- ♦ **Are you connected?** Would you like to receive our weekly email newsletter and future communications from our pastoral staff and ministries. Sign up: thornapple.org/contact.

I M M E R S E

The Bible Reading Experience™

In February and March, every person at Thornapple is invited to read through the New Testament in 8 weeks; small groups will be forming just for this experience and current small groups are encouraged to do this as well. Learn more, register for a group and/or reserve a book: thornapple.org/immerse.

MINISTRY INFORMATION

If you have questions or to learn more about these and other ministries, visit the links listed next to each ministry name or visit our website at thornapple.org.

CHILDREN | thornapple.org/children

- **Nursery** | Birth-3yrs, lower level
- **4s-1st grade** | Children's Worship, both services
- **2nd-5th grade** | 10:30am only [Not 1st Sundays]
- **Trailblazers (3rd-5th)** | 1st/3rd Wed., 6:30-8pm (Not Jan. 2)

STUDENTS | thornapple.org/students

- **MS/HS Huddles** | At 10:30am [Not 1st Sundays]
- **MS JAM** | 1st and 3rd Wed., 6:30-8pm (Not Jan. 2)
- **HS Refuel** | 1st and 3rd Wed., 7-8:30pm (Not Jan. 2)
- **HS Night Huddle** | Jan. 6
- **HS Small Group Sunday** | Third Sundays

YOUNG ADULTS | thornapple.org/adults

- **Small Group** | 2nd and 4th Mon. evenings, 7:30-9pm at 6578 Brookhills Ct. SE, Grand Rapids. Contact Shalini Bennett (shalinibennett@gmail.com).

HORIZONS | thornapple.org/adults

- **Game Night** | Sat., Jan. 19 at 7pm at the Harrell's home; learn more/register: thornapple.org/horizonsgamenight

PRIME TIMERS (60+) | thornapple.org/adults

- **Soup & Study** | 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 10am. Program, fellowship and lunch. Resumes Jan. 4.

WOMEN | thornapple.org/adults

- **WholyFit** | Exercise and worship (childcare provided). Classes meets Fridays, 9:30-10:30am.
- **Women's Bible Studies** | Wednesdays at 9:30am (childcare available) and 6:30pm (Precepts only).

MEN | thornapple.org/adults

- **Men's Small Group Studies** | Still open for joining: thornapple.org/smallgroupmens
- **Men's Breakfast** | Sat., Jan. 12 at 8:00am with speaker Dan Behm.