

Haslett Community Church



HCC Connections

"We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings, and humbly explore God's love."

December 2022



Special points of interest:

- [Funding the Church We Love - cover](#)
- [Advent & Christmas schedule - p2](#)
- [Decorate HCC's Outdoor Tree - p3](#)
- [ADVENTure Club - p4](#)
- [Notice of Congregational Meeting - p6](#)
- [ADVENTURE Club for Grown-ups - p6](#)
- [Night of Poetry, Music, & Stories - p6](#)
- [CROP Update - p7](#)
- [Christmas Caroling - p8](#)
- [Connect, Reflect, & Celebrate! - p9](#)
- [Have You Noticed? - p10](#)
- [Meijer Holiday Simply Give - p10](#)
- [Experience Jewish Shabbat - p10](#)
- [Christmas Giving Project - p11](#)
- [Christmas Poinsettias - p8](#)

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Words	cover	Social News	8
Children / Youth	4 & 5	Spiritual Life	9-10
Commendations	6	What's Happening	13
Music News	7		

A digital version, with working links, can be found at: haslettcommunitychurch.org



"...Mary will bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" Matthew 2:23

God is with us.

Perhaps there is no greater truth in all of Scripture.

God is with us.

And while we recognize that God is with us always, during the Season of Advent we take time to think about what that really means. What difference does it make to us that God comes to us in the person of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, Prince of Peace? What does it mean that we wait for Christ to return again someday? How do we hear the familiar Christmas story anew? How do we orient our hearts, our minds, our spirits to remember and celebrate that in the Nativity, God is truly *with us*?

We prepare! That's what the Season of Advent is all about. Preparation. Preparation for Christ's presence in this world.

For some, this season of preparation is full of joy and happy expectation! Maybe you cannot wait to sing favorite Christmas hymns and carols, to exchange gifts, to hold candles on Christmas Eve, and be with family or chosen family as we celebrate Christmas.

For some, this season of preparation is difficult or lonely. Maybe you feel particularly vulnerable, or affected by the shorter days, or are grieving a loss that seems close this time of year.

There is room for you, and whatever you carry into Advent and Christmas, here at Haslett Community Church. God IS with us, and so are your companions at Haslett Community Church! No matter who you are, or where you are on your Advent journey, you are welcome here.

In Peace,

Pastor Betsy

Phone: 517.339.8383 x11

Cell: 517.282.7443

Email: aho.betsy@att.net

Fully Funding the Church We Love Update:

Of the 71 financial commitments we have received for 2023 by the due date of this article (Nov. 15, 2 Days after Commitment Sunday), we are about 72% to our goal. Here are some trends in Fully Funding the Church We Love:

- 39 commitments indicate increased financial investment in 2023 over 2022
- 18 are the same as in 2022
- 11 are new financial commitments (these are not part of the 39 increases)
- 3 are decreases to 2022

In 2022, we had 92 units that committed, and we reasonably expect that we have about 30 more pledging units yet to respond based on past trends. The Stewardship Team is following up! You can return your commitment card via mail or offering plate, or simply email hccfinance@att.net with your 2023 commitment.

We aren't there yet, but we are moving in the right direction and will keep you updated! Year-end gifts, and completion of 2022 commitments can be made any time by texting "GIVE" to 517-200-3995, by clicking [HERE](#), or by offering plate, or mail. Thank you for your faithful participation in Fully Funding the Church We Love and [investing](#) in Haslett Community Church, United Church of Christ for God's sake and for the sake of sharing love in the world.



Haslett Community Church is pleased to be celebrating the Advent Season this year together again.

There are opportunities throughout the season to come together and celebrate this special time with one another, from the Christmas Giving Project, our Living Christmas Tree, Wednesday ADVENTure club for our young ones, and ADVENTure Club for Grown-ups this year, Songfest, Christmas Carol-ing, Music for Peace and Comfort, to three times to celebrate together on Christmas Eve.

You can find information on these throughout this newsletter. We look forward to celebrating the Season with you!

Worship Schedule: Advent Through the New Year! We worship each Sunday at 10 a.m. in person, with a livestream at:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/HaslettCommunityChurch>

- Sunday Dec. 4: PEACE - Second Sunday in Advent; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, Isaiah 11: 1-10
- Sunday Dec. 11: JOY - Third Sunday in Advent; Songfest and Feast (treats while we worship and enjoy singing and listening to some favorite Christmas hymns & carols); Isaiah 42: 1-9, John 1: 1-5
- Sunday Dec. 18: LOVE - Fourth Sunday in Advent; Children's Christmas Service for All Ages!

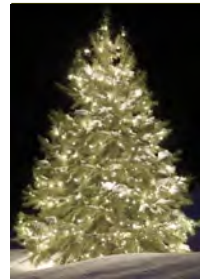


- Saturday Dec. 24: Christmas Eve! Luke 2: 1-14
 5 pm - Drive Up Parking Lot Service (with electric candlelight)
 7 pm & 9 pm - Traditional Candlelight Services with Choir in person and live-streamed

Sunday Dec. 25: Christmas Sunday Service of Poetry and Prayer



Sunday January 1: New Year's Day Service: LIVESTREAM ONLY; Matthew 1: 1-17



A Tradition Continues in Celebration of Advent

HCC has a tree outside on the property again this year, to be decorated by all of us throughout the coming weeks!

We're excited to have you help us bring the spirit of Christmas to all who come by our church.

The tree is once again generously donated by Dave and Nancy Ferguson. Thank you to all for this wonderful addition to our tradition!

Please see [page 3](#) for ideas on how you can help decorate our tree!

Music for Comfort and Peace

Barbara Freeman will once more be offering music for peace and comfort on Thursday nights during Advent (Dec. 1, 8, & 15) between 6:00 and 6:30 PM. All are welcomed, the sanctuary is darkened, sit where you wish, stay as long as you wish.



Help decorate HCC's outdoor tree

This year, bring any bird and squirrel friendly treat to decorate our outdoor tree and feed our furry friends!



String any fruit into a garland!
Cranberries, orange chunks, apples, pear, or raisins!

Freeze various types of fruit in ice molds to hang on the tree.



Turn scooped out orange halves into birdfeed ornaments!
Fill with berries or birdseed and hang on the tree!

Find recipes online for birdseed cookie-cutter ornaments!



Other ideas include:

- ~ Pinecone feeders covered with birdseed and peanut butter
- ~ Small suet balls, suet muffins, or small mesh bags of suet
- ~ Sprigs of native berries, like bayberry, juniper, or holly
- ~ Dried millet, dried sunflower heads, or other dried grains
- ~ Strings of broken walnuts or peanuts
- ~ Small birdseed muffins or cookies
- ~ Strings of plain air-popped popcorn or an unsweetened cereal
- ~ Cut shapes out of apple slices using a cookie cutter



Use peanuts or seeds to make wreath ornaments to hang on the tree!



Turn Ice Cream Cones into bird feeders. Fill with seed and string on the tree!

You are welcome to come and decorate the tree at anytime during Advent!



ADVENT CLUB

Children (3 years through 5th grade) are invited to join us on Wednesday nights in Advent.
 5:30-7pm on Wednesdays, November 30th, December 7th and December 14th.

We will do crafts, play games, and explore the Christmas story!
 Come one week, or join us for all three!

TO SIGN UP: call the church office (517.339.8383) or email Pastor Erin (erin.Heisler@att.net)

Haslett Community Church
 1427 Haslett Road, Haslett,




SUNDAY SCHOOL

In December, we will have Sunday School on Sunday, December 4th and Sunday, December 11th. Children will be in worship on Sunday, December 18th for the Family Christmas service (nursery care will still be provided on Sunday, December 18th).

The church nursery will not be open on Sunday, December 25th or Sunday, January 1st.

The child we sponsor through World Vision has graduated from their sponsorship program. Beginning in 2023, our Joyful Offerings will go to support various mission organizations in our community and around the world! Joyful Offerings are collected on communion Sundays, so our next one will be Sunday, January 8th. That offering will go to support Heifer International!



FAMILY SERVICE

Sunday, December 18th
 10am



Our morning worship on Sunday, December 18th will be our children focused family service. We'll explore the Christmas story through Scripture, carols and interactive story-telling. We are hoping to involve as many children as possible in the service! Does your child want to read a prayer or Scripture? Do they have a musical gift they can share with the congregation? Let Pastor Erin know and we can get them involved!



YOUTH GROUP in Dec.:

Youth Groups will only meet two Sundays in December. On December 4th and 11th both groups meet at their regular times:

Middle School 5-6:30pm
High School 7-9pm

if you have students in both groups, feel free to do drop off and pick up at 6:45pm.

(the 11th is our Christmas party- please read the article about it on this page. No ygs on Dec. 18th and 25th).



11th Grade Dinner
Thursday, December 1st
6-7:30pm at HCC

8th Grade Dinner
Monday, December 5th
6-7:30pm at HCC

12th Grade Dinner
Monday, December 12th
6-7:30pm at HCC

For all dinners we eat at the large table by the kitchen, please use door #3. RSVP to Erin by that morning!



Sunday, December 11th
Youth Group
Christmas Parties
MS 5-6:30pm
HS 7-9pm

Wear your favorite ugly Christmas sweater or cosy Christmas PJs. Please bring a snack to share and a \$10 wrapped gift for the gift exchange.



Thursday, December 15th
7-8:30pm

All youth invited to gather for a time of fun conversation together. Please bring money for your food. We are usually in one of the corner booths.



Before school donuts for your last day before break!
Friday, December 16th
7-7:45am
HCC kitchen (use door #3)



Saturday, December 17th
8pm

CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT
Come in your favorite Christmas comfies, bring pillows, blankets, etc. Snacks provided!



ALL YOUTH (all ages) are invited to come on the **mission trip to Nashville, Tennessee** June 17-24th.

Cost for the trip is \$500/person (with a discount offered for families with more than one participant attending. Each additional family member is \$400/person).

As always, we offer **confidential scholarships in any amount** that is helpful (partial, half, full). Just reach out to Erin to let her know that would be helpful.

We are anticipating having a large group this year, so that means that planning is already in full swing. Detailed letters have been mailed and emailed to parents/guardians. With the letter there was a form of commitment for both youth and adults to sign. It would be a tremendous help if these **letters and deposits (\$100) could be returned to the church by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH!**

This helps start our participant list, so we know what type of housing we are seeking, as well as how many chaperones and vehicles will be needed as well.

ADULTS: Consider being one of our adult chaperones! If it is helpful to talk to past chaperones about what to expect, please reach out to Erin and she can make that happen!



Our Church Family



Thanks to these individuals who have recently served the church in special ways:

- To Roberta Otten for her dance and prayer interpretation at the Thanksgiving Dinner.
- To David Jones for leading the Documentary and Discussion for “The Reason I Jump” on October 30.
- To everyone who helped with mission trip reveal: Courtney Stolicker, Larissa Vessell, Sue Fisher, Kim Tyler, Steve Newman, Jim Durr, Tara Pugmire, Julie VanAcker, Meagan Wheeler, Anna Porritt, Katie Sloan, Cheryl Edwards, Kelly Flagg, Kelly Hammerle, Bob & Sally Heisler, Karen Klein, Maria Cowan, Kate Quin, Laura & Tim Roumpz, Sandra Porter, Rachel & Nate Sestak, Steve & Barb Decker.
- To parents who helped drive middle schoolers to Zap Zone: Steve Newman, Nate Sestak, and Cindy Meteyer.
- To volunteers who drove youth to the haunted house: Courtney Stolicker, Tara Pugmire, Justin Grinnell, Kim Tyler, Sam Zuke, Cindy & Brett Meteyer.
- To Stefanie Zin & Menetta Kass for teaching Sunday School in November.
- To Kelly & Don Flagg and Pat Dalton for window and screen cleaning at church.
- To Mike Mahon for help with office lighting.
- To Betsy Aho, Tara Pugmire, Courtney Stolicker, Chelsea White, Olivia Sleeper, Meagan Wheeler, and Lisa Walraven for driving on the high school 11.11.22 overnight! And for Bob & Sally Heisler for helping with set up for that overnight as well.
- To the Loaves and Fishes Team for December: Sally Heisler, Nancy Ferguson, Carolyn Solomon, Carol Cramer, and Paula Fry.

Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 15, 2023
11:00 a.m.



A full agenda and more information will be shared prior to the meeting date. The main purpose of the meeting is to vote on Council nominees and the 2023 Church Budget. More information coming soon.

For questions, please contact Malinda Barr, Church Moderator, at: malibarr339@gmail.com

ADVENTure Club for Grown-ups!

**5:30-7p.m. on Wednesdays
Nov. 30, Dec. 7, & Dec. 14**

While Erin and the children have ADVENTure Club, the grown-ups will have an Advent Devotion Time as well.

We will use Kate Bowler’s “*The Season of Waiting (and Waiting ... and Waiting ...)*” as a guide to our time together, which will hold space for the joys and the sorrows that this season can hold.

Whether you have a student at ADVENTure club or not, you are welcome to attend! This particular program will only be offered in person, because we plan to meet in the basement, which doesn’t have a good signal for Zoom.

Join us for all 3 weeks or whenever your schedule allows - in the Mary & Martha room downstairs.

Save the Date!
Tuesday, January 24, 7:00 p.m.
Refuge Lansing: An Evening of Poetry, Music, Stories



Haslett Community Church is proud to serve as the host site for this meaningful evening of entertainment and learning, which is open to the public. While admission is free, donations are gratefully accepted to support the important work of the Refugee Development Center of Greater Lansing.

Join local musicians and poets: Richard Illman, Laura Apol, Judy Kabodian, Ana Cardona, and more, and hear from Ruelaine Stokes and Erika Brown Binion of the [Refugee Development Center](https://www.refugeedevcenter.org/).



Dear Friends,
This Christmas season will see the return of our friends Tana Denning and Fred Johnson in the Songfest on

Sunday, December 11, and a new flutist, Rachel Bullock, will be joining us. We hope you will plan to join us for what has become a wonderful holiday tradition at HCC.

There will also be special music by the choir at the Songfest and on Christmas Eve. We are also “getting the band back together”, so special thanks to Jim Gornick, Dave & Helen Jones, Regula Arnosti, Becky Leefers, Nancy White, and Mary Trebilcock.

We are coming to the close of a year that has seen many changes for all of us, but it is closing

with a feeling of Hope in our hearts, and in the heart of this church. The members of the HCC Choir, who have been giving so generously of their time on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings to bring special music to worship, are helping to build that feeling of hope. I (We, the church) thank them so much for carrying on the musical tradition of the choir that was nurtured for so many years by our beloved Judy Connelly, and unbounded thanks to you, Judy!

Merry Christmas to all!! 🎄 🎵 🎄

~ Barbara (517-881-9976, call or text)

Choir rehearses each Wednesday, 7:00-8:30pm, and you are always welcome to come give it a try!

CROP Hunger Walk – HCC raises more than \$9,000 in 2022!

HCC’s annual participation in the CROP Hunger Walk is one of the highlights of our service to those in need in our community and country and around the world. On a sunny day - October 9 -

our 30+ walkers and your generosity raised \$9,035! Twenty-five percent of those funds are distributed locally, including some to the Haslett Community Food Pantry, Advent House, and Volunteers of America. The main beneficiaries are people around the world, where Church World Service provides food, medical care, disaster relief, and self-help development efforts. Churches throughout Lansing participated in the walk and contributed to making it a success, and HCC members Bob Purosky and Mary Trebilcock provided leadership for the Lansing Area Walk.

We had a great contingent of walkers and fund-



raisers for this walk, including Pastor Betsy Aho, Morgan Collins, Amber Petersen, Larry Leefers, Becky Leefers, Carol Cramer, Allison Reynolds, Kirk Riley, Nathan Hess, Ruth Linneman, Kim Hess, Brett Meteyer, Cathy Rowe, Katie Riley, Therese Bradley, Paula

Fry, Mary Trebilcock, Leigh Collins, Lynne Quint, Derek Blumke, and Deborah Blumke. And we had 10 HCC Youth who participated in the walk, along with Pastor Erin Heisler.

My thanks, also, to everyone who supported our walkers. People in the Lansing area and around the world are the real winners. We are only 11 months from the 2023 Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Walk. I hope to have YOU walking with us!

--Kirk Riley,
HCC CROP Team Captain



Social Committee is here to guide and encourage us to stay connected. The members of the Social Committee keep our minds a-brewing with ideas for creative ways to bring us together. Many of these events are weather dependent. Please keep a lookout for fun events we are trying to bring your way. We are looking forward to spending time with you!

Call or text Kim Carnes at (517) 331-3586 if you'd like to be involved, or have ideas. **We usually meet at 7:30pm on the 2nd Monday** of each month. **NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 5, @ 7:30pm in HCC's Friendship Hall**

HCC Christmas Caroling

Do you like to sing Christmas carols? Do you like to bring joy to others? Gather with others for HCC's Christmas Caroling event on Sunday, December 18.



Share your voice in music and spirit to bring cheer to those who are not able to get out and about very often. We will gather in the church parking lot at 4:00 p.m., and caravan to recommended houses to sing some carols and brighten the season.

Please sign up on the board in Friendship Hall so we have a head count and know how to contact you with details! "This is the most wonderful time of the year!"



Gingerbread House Decorating

Join Judy Peterson Sunday, Dec. 4, after worship, in Fellowship Hall to decorate a gingerbread house.

There are supplies and **space for 24 people, so sign up on the clipboard near the HCC Office if you'd like to join in.**

25th Annual HCC Ski Trip: Update

There are still rooms left (as of this writing) for the HCC ski trip! Please contact Kim Carnes at 517.331.3586 for availability and details. Read on for basic details of the trip:



hill and cross country), cards and games being played, sports watching, eating, laughing, swimming, eating, worshipping, tubing, laughing, and just having a great time being together!

The Social Committee invites you to the HCC 25th Annual Ski Trip! We are ready for your reservation for a great weekend of fun in the snow.

We will be traveling once again to Treetops Resort in Gaylord where there will be lots of skiing (down-

The dates are: January 5 thru January 8, 2023. The cost is \$134 per night for a Standard Room and a total of \$268 for 2 nights (includes all taxes and resort fees). There is an option of coming on Thursday for a 3-night stay. Ask for details if interested. If you have questions, please contact Kim Carnes at 331-3586.

Social Committee



- Gingerbread House Decorating Sun., Dec. 4 11:15 am
- Social Committee Meets Mon., Dec. 5 7:30 pm
- Beeswax Candle making Sun., Dec. 11 1:00 - 5:00 pm
- Christmas Caroling Sun., Dec. 18 4:00 pm, leave from HCC
- Ski Trip Meeting Mon., Jan 2 7:30 pm
- HCC Ski Trip Jan. 5-8, 2023 Treetops Ski Resort - Gaylord
- Social Committee Meets Mon., Jan 9 7:30 pm

This year, we're once again filling the Sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas Eve! You have an opportunity to sponsor the 6.5 inch or 8.5 inch potted flowers and help beautify our space for the season!



You can fill out an online order form [HERE](#) or grab a paper order form at worship on Sunday.

Please order with payment by December 18.



Spiritual Life's members, Don Flagg, Cambria Decker-Larkin, Carolyn Lucas, Katie Riley, and Jenn Tafel, recently welcomed new member, Kris Belonge. We meet each month to envision ways of carrying out our three-part mission: supporting our clergy and staff in liturgical activities, creating and enhancing individual spiritual growth opportunities, and facilitating spiritual connections among our community. Our committee expresses appreciation for the hard work of our pastor and staff for the many details attended to (e.g., implementation of new nametags, and many other details) as well as overall planning and direction of our worship and programming!

At the church-wide event on September 11, some of you expressed interests in book groups, Bible Studies, and Life Groups. Anyone interested in initiating something in any of these areas, please contact current chair Carolyn Lucas. As a committee, we are interested in giving support to your efforts. In our October meeting, ideas for an event inviting planning and participation of the church at large were presented and are being pursued.

Our **next meeting will be Tuesday, December 6, at 7:00 pm on Zoom.** If you would like to attend, please send your request to Carolyn Lucas at csrlucas@aol.com or text her at 517.881.4241.



Coffee With Jesus is a group sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee to help us reflect on and grow

in our spiritual life, as well as foster closer ties between us.

We are continuing our discussion and practice of prayer. We met as a group the Sunday before the November 8 election, praying for safety, courage, and unity. We are continuing to join at a distance to pray on Wednesday mornings.

You are invited to join us in praying on Wednesday mornings around 7:30am. Picturing the connections among our community here and beyond with love, and bowing together to our Creator, we seek

to pray for Presence, transformation, and courage and wisdom to follow the Christ. Our group's specific prayers during this time of increased upheaval include prayers for honesty and integrity among public officials, wisdom and courage in making decisions and acting in ways that can challenge and overcome the evils rampant in the systems around us, letting go of fear, seeking the courage to know and confess our own weaknesses, wisdom and trust to follow our callings, and an on-going desire for openness to continuing growth in grace.

We generally **meet once a month, on the third Sunday, right after worship and coffee time (11:15 am) in Mary & Martha's room** (next to Youth room downstairs). **Our Next Meeting will be Sunday, Dec. 18.**

Save the Date! Connect, Reflect & Celebrate!

February 4, 2023—spend the afternoon and evening at HCC enjoying fellowship, fun, food and faith exploration.



Spiritual Life Committee will be hosting this event for our HCC friends of all ages, with plenty of details coming in the new year. Hold that date! We will be excited to see you there!



MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group continues to meet regularly in different ways, including **online Zoom meetings on most Saturday mornings at 9:00am** (see info below).

**** On Saturday, December 17, we will be meeting in-person for breakfast at Blondie's Restaurant in Haslett, at 9am.**

Please **contact Dave Vietti** if you're interested in connecting with this group: 517-339-5731

vietti@msu.edu

Zoom Meeting ID: 416 360 920
 Passcode: 48840
 Call In** 301.715.8592



**“Have You Noticed?”
Advent Edition**
by Jenn Tafel

“Do You Hear What I Hear?”

is one of my favorite songs during the season of Advent. The time leading up to celebrating Christmas is stress-inducing, noisy, chaotic, and honestly the antithesis of the intention behind Advent. The intentions of the season of Advent include waiting, anticipation, preparation, and expectancy. The question, “How am I creating space for Christ to enter my life?” may be a good starting point for the season.

I think this is why I resonate with the message of the song, “Do You Hear What I Hear?.” The song calls for us to slow down, pay attention, and prepare for Christ. I encourage you to read the back story about the song and producer, Noël Regency, if you haven’t done so.

I share my reflections about this song and the season of Advent to encourage you to explore the worship space as it’s undergone big changes

as we are cultivating a way for the Christ child to enter our lives as a community. What have you noticed?

Questions to consider during the Advent season: Is baby Jesus in the manger on the altar (why/why not)? How many candles are in the Advent Wreath and when are they lit? What is an Advent Wreath? Will there be more than one star on the parament (altar/pulpit cloths)?

As the liturgical seasons* change during the year, the Spiritual Life Committee encourages you to keep exploring, asking questions, and preparing the way for Christ to enter into your life and the community.

*Liturgical seasons: The church year, also called liturgical year, annual cycle of seasons and days observed in the Christian churches in commemoration of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and of his virtues as exhibited in the lives of the saints. The colors of the paraments as well as other traditions are ways to celebrate this in the church.



**Meijer Simply Give
Holiday Campaign**

The Haslett Community Food Pantry has been selected by Bath Meijer store to be the beneficiary of the **Simply Give** holiday giving campaign.

The campaign will run in Bath Meijer from now through January 2, 2023.

Meijer will **double donations** on **Saturday, December 17, 2022.**

On that day for every \$10 donation card purchased, Meijer will provide an additional contribution of \$20 resulting in a total donation of \$30. Donation cards are available on the HCC kitchenette counter or at the Bath Meijer store.

While other days are not double matched, a Simply Give donation on any day is welcome as the total campaign produces much valuable food pantry assistance!!

Thanks to generous customers and Meijer Foundation support, the Simply Give campaign generated over \$57 million in food donations for more than 430 food pantries throughout the Midwest since 2008.

**Experience a Jewish *Shabbat* Service at
Congregation Shaarey Zedek
Friday, December 16, 6-8 p.m.**

Rabbi Amy Bigman has invited HCC to an evening of learning about Judaism and experiencing a worship service at Congregation Shaarey Zedek. Many who participated in the Intro to Hebrew Class will attend, but you need not know anything about Hebrew to participate – really!

Shaarey Zedek is located at 1924 Coolidge Rd. in East Lansing. There is plenty of parking.

At 6:00 p.m., we will gather as a group and Rabbi Bigman will speak with us, prepare us for the service, answer questions and show us a Torah scroll. At 7:00 p.m., the service will begin and will last approximately one hour. You are welcome to join us!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Information you’d like included in the January 2023 Newsletter is due to **Michele no later than December 20,** (the 3rd Tuesday of this month)

Please send to: hcc1@att.net



Christmas Giving Project - Gifts

Over seventy families with approximately 220 children will request gifts this year. You and your friends are invited to purchase gifts. Five gifts for each child are included on a gift list.

Pick up a gift list from the gift table in Friendship Hall Sunday morning after worship, or you can request a gift list remotely by sending an email to hccChristmas@att.net with Gift Request in the subject line. **Put your name, phone number, and the number of children you wish to sponsor** (remember there are 5 gifts per child) **and your preference of the child's gender and age.** You will receive a gift list and gift preparation instructions via return email. We also welcome community members to request gift lists via email.

You can pick up a gift list in person from 10 to 11am every Saturday, and on Sundays from 11am to noon. Wrapped gifts will be accepted at the same times.

Wrapped gifts are Due Sunday, December 11.

If you choose to support the project financially, without shopping, you can donate on our website under the Giving tab ([HERE](#)) by choosing Christmas Giving Project in the Fund menu. You can also mail a contribution to HCC, P.O. 217, Haslett, MI 48840. Put Christmas Giving Project in the memo line of the check .

Many Volunteers Needed for Christmas Giving Project

Gift Helpers - Volunteers are needed each Saturday and Sunday afternoon to distribute gift lists to donors and to collect wrapped gifts. Click the link below to select a day to help:



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A9A623A4F5C52-gift2>

Packing Groceries - Groceries given to families will be packed. It is VERY important to sign up in advance. Click the link below to make a commitment to pack food:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a9a623a4f5c52-grocery2>

Distribution - Volunteers are needed in four separate shifts on the day recipients pick up gifts and food. **All distribution will be done on Thursday, Dec. 22.**

Descriptions for each role are at the top of the signup page here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a9a623a4f5c52-distribution1>

If you wish to volunteer without using the signup links above, you can send an email to hccChristmas@att.net to say how you want to help, or call Ruth Linne-mann at 517.339.6138 or 517.50.3147.



Boxes Needed for the Christmas Giving Project

We will need many boxes for the Christmas Giving Project. Please begin bringing boxes and their covers to the church. **Copy paper boxes, including their covers, are ideal;** any box approximately 11" by 17" by 10" is helpful.

The building is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday mornings for dropping off boxes. They can be placed on top of the coat rack near the Food Pantry storage room.

If you have boxes to donate but can't get them to the church during those times, call or text Richard Baumgartner at 517.755.6198 to let him know, or to arrange for a pickup.

HCC Generosity

Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We are still The Church with a mission and a staff, and we receive your gifts with gratitude.

There are several options to make giving more convenient:



1. You can mail checks, which are accounted for weekly.
2. You can also PayPal us at: HCCgenerosity@gmail.com.
3. Online Giving, Text Giving, and Giving via Mobile App are all available to help make your support of HCC even easier! Visit www.haslettcommunitychurch.org/giving for more information, or use the QR code above to access our Giving page.

- **Online Giving** - is available through our relationship with easyTithe™ and is accessible through our website.
- **Mobile Giving** - utilizes the easyTithe™ Giving App which you can download from [The App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).
- **Text Giving** - Just text GIVE to our secure giving number: 517-200-3995

Thank you for your generosity & support!

Sermon Preview Bible Study
Thursdays 9-9:45 a.m.
Via Zoom



Join Pastor Betsy for a weekly Bible Study based on the Scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday sermon.

No preparation is needed, but the group will be given scripture passages in advance if participants would like to read ahead. This discussion is appropriate for those who are new to Bible study, and those who have been at it for years, and you can come any weeks that are convenient for you.

Zoom Meeting ID: 879 0122 4109
Passcode: 48840



Property Committee meets next:

Monday, December 12, @ 6:00pm via Zoom.
Contact Laura Clark-Roumpz if interested.



Member Caring

will meet on **Sunday, December 4** after Worship, in the HCC Library.

Knitters, Crocheters, & Wannabees



Our Next Meeting will be **Sunday, December 11, at 11:15 am**, after worship, in the HCC Library.



Church Council meets on the second Tuesday of most months.

Our next meeting will be: Tues., December 13, at 7:15 pm

If you would like to join us, please be in touch with Michele, Office Manager, for details: hcc1@att.net or 517-339-8383.



HCC Green Team is taking a break in December and meets next on: **Monday, January 9, at 7pm**, via Zoom:

<https://msu.zoom.us/>

Meeting ID: 985 9271 4278
Passcode: 48840

Safety Team is taking a break in December and meets next **Tuesday, January 24, at 7pm** in Fellowship Hall.



Please contact *Sally Heisler* for details about this group: 517-230-4043 or

sally.m.heisler@gmail.com

What's Happening at HCC

What's Happening no longer shows individual committee meetings. Instead, you can find specific committee meeting information on [pages 8, 9, & 12](#) of this newsletter and [HERE](#). Please remember to check with Michele in the office to coordinate building and grounds space use for your group (hcc1@att.net or 517.339.8383).

WEEKLY

Worship Service (p2)

Sundays, 10:00am **Songfest, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day*
Sanctuary*, parking lot via 88.7 FM, [YouTube](#)

Sunday School (p4)

Sundays, Dec. 4 & 11, during worship, Downstairs

Coffee Fellowship

Sundays after worship, Friendship Hall

Youth Group (p5)

Sundays: Dec. 4 & 11, Youth Room
5:00-6:30pm Middle School (MS)
7:00-9:00pm High School (HS)

Onsite Office Hours (p14)

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30am-1:00pm
HCC Office

Pastor Betsy's Drop-In Office Hours (p14)

Wednesdays, 11:30am-1:00pm
(She is also available by appointment Tue-Fri)
HCC Office

Kids: ADVENTure Club (p4)

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14, 5:30-7:00pm
Fellowship Hall

ADVENTure Club for Grown-ups (p6)

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14, 5:30-7:00pm
Mary & Martha's Room downstairs

Choir Rehearsal (p7)

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm
Sanctuary

Sermon Preview Group (p12)

Thursdays, 9:00 - 9:45am, Zoom

Music for Comfort & Peace (p2)

Thursdays, 6:00-6:30pm
Sanctuary

Men's Group (p9)

Saturdays, 9:00am
Zoom (except Dec.17 - in-person @ Blondie's)

Christmas Giving Project Pickup (p11)

Saturdays, 10am-11am, Sundays after worship

ONCE THIS MONTH

Gingerbread House Decorating (p8)

Sunday, December 4, 11:15am
Fellowship Hall

Knitters, Crocheters, etc. (p12)

Sunday, December 11, 11:15am
Library

Beeswax Candle making (p8)

Sunday, December 11, 1:00-5:00pm
The Barn at Ralya House, Haslett

Church Council Meets (p12)

Tuesday, December 13, 7:15pm
Fellowship Hall & Zoom

YOUTH: Culver's Night (p5)

Thursday, December 15, 7:00-8:30pm
Okemos Culver's

YOUTH: Before School Donuts (p5)

Friday, December 16, 7:00 - 7:45am
Door 3 - Kitchen

Men's Breakfast (p9)

Saturday, December 17, 9:00am
Blondie's

YOUTH: Christmas Movie Night (p5)

Saturday, December 17, 8-10pm
Friendship Hall

Coffee With Jesus Meets (p9)

Sunday, December 18, 11:15am
Mary & Martha's room (downstairs)

Christmas Caroling (p8)

Sunday, December 18, 4:00pm
Meet at HCC

Newsletter Items Due (p10)

Tuesday, December 20, 10:00am
Email to hcc1@att.net

Christmas Giving Project (p11)

Packing: Mon & Tuesday, Dec.19-20
Assembly: Wednesday, December 21
Distribution: Thursday, December 22

Christmas Eve Services (p2)

Saturday, December 24
5:00pm Service: Parking Lot, Radio
7:00 & 9:00 pm Services, Sanctuary

HASLETT COMMUNITY CHURCH
PO Box 217
1427 Haslett Road
Haslett, Michigan 48840-0217

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



HCC Connections

December 2022

Haslett Community Church

Office Hours: Tue. & Thu., 10:30am - 1:00pm (HCC Office)
Wed., 11:30am - 1:00pm (Betsy Office Hours)

Email: hcc1@att.net Phone: 517-339-8383
www.haslettcommunitychurch.org

Pastor:	Rev. Betsy Aho	aho.betsy@att.net
Minister for Youth & Children:	Rev. Erin Heisler	erin.heisler@att.net
Office Manager:	Michele Booher	hcc1@att.net
Organist/Pianist & Acting Choir Dir.:	Barbara Freeman	bff7@comcast.net

3 Ways to Worship Sundays at 10:00 am: In the sanctuary <> Via 88.7 FM <> [YouTube](#)

A digital version of HCC Connections, with working links, can be found at: haslettcommunitychurch.org

[\(Back to Top\)](#)