

“God with Us”

Matthew 1

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
John 3:16

Sunday, December 8, 2019

At 8:25, 9:55 & 11:25 AM

Pastoral Staff
“GOD WITH US”
Matthew 1

At 5:00 PM

Pastor Mark Rolling
“A SAVIOR IS BORN”
Matthew 1

At Hackensack at 11:00 AM

Pastor Mark Rolling
“GOD WITH US”
Matthew 1

*The floral arrangement today is in loving memory of
Mrs. Rose Cardillo, given by her family.*

Welcome Welcome to Hawthorne Gospel Church!

We are glad you are here to worship with us. If you are new or looking to connect, please fill out the *Welcome/Prayer Request* card located in the back of the pew and hand it to a *Connector* at the Welcome Center for a small gift and some helpful information about our church. Please join us in the Pavilion between the morning services for a time of fellowship and coffee, and where you'll obtain information on upcoming events.

The Starting Place

Whether you are new to HGC or have been attending for years, this is an opportunity to find out more about our church, how to get involved, and how to grow in your faith. **The Starting Place** will be held in January. The meeting dates will be announced in the bulletin; or if you should have any questions, please contact Pastor Kirk De Boer at 973-427-6960, extension 175, or kirk@hawthornegospel.org.

Baby Dedications: At the 11:25 am service, Antoinette Lielle and Josephine Florence will be dedicated to the Lord by their parents, Michael and Amy Policelli.

Celebration & Praise!

Today is *Grace of Giving* Sunday

We are excited to see how far the building project has come and for what the Lord will do in and through the Hawthorne Gospel Church in future years. Today at the end of each service, a **special offering** will be received so that you might have the opportunity to participate in the Lord's work at HGC through the *Paving the Pathway* Building Program. Please prayerfully consider how you can be involved in giving on this special day.

Paving the Pathway Update

Goal: \$5,628,181.00!

Received: \$4,180,637.15 (through December 4th)

Needed: \$1,447,543.85

A Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 8

- 8:00 am *Intercessory Prayer* (C/11/12)
- 10:00 am Adult/Children/Youth Sunday School (Church/Ed./Chapel/Lounge)
- 10:00 am College-Age Small Group (Upper Room)
- 11:30 am Children's Church I (3-, 4-, & 5-year-olds; C-8)
- 11:30 am Alpha & Omega Children's Choir Rehearsals (C-10)
- 1:00 pm *COMMUNITY* (Ages 18-27; Warren home)
- 1:30 pm *Perspectives Class* (The Chapel)
- 7:00 pm Sr. High Youth Group (Y-401/TheLOFT)

Monday, December 9

- 6:00 am Early Morning Prayer (Conference Room)
- 1:30 pm *Moms in Prayer* (HGC Library)
- 1:30 pm *Bone Strengthening* (The Chapel)
- 7:00 pm *War Room: Pray for Our Pastoral Staff* (Conference Room)
- 8:00 pm College & Young Adults (Women Ages 18-27; Warren home)

Tuesday, December 10

- 9:30 am *Women of the Word* (Lower Chapel)
- 10:00 am *God's Little Singers* (C-6)
- 10:30 am *ENCORE* (The Chapel)
- 11:00 am *God's Little Singers: Play & Pray* (C-6)
- 7:00 pm *Ladies' In-Touch Fellowship* (The Chapel)
- 7:00 pm HCA Middle & Upper Schools Christmas Concert (Sanctuary)
- 8:00 pm College & Young Adults (Men Ages 18-27; Warren home)

Wednesday, December 11

- 9:30 am *Daughters of the King Bible Study* (Lower Chapel)
- 7:00 pm PRAYER MEETING (The Chapel)**
- 7:00 pm *Truth Seekers Women's Bible Study* (Upper Room)
- 7:00 pm Deaf Ministry Co-Ed Bible Study (Lower Chapel)
- 7:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study
- 8:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study (TheLOFT)

Thursday, December 12

- 7:00 am Prayer Meeting (Pastor John's office)
- 9:30 am *Deep Roots Women's Bible* (The Chapel) & *StoryTime* (C-5/6)
- 6:30 pm *New Beginnings* (Newark facility)
- 8:00 pm *COMMUNITY* (Women & Men Ages 18-27; Warren home)

Friday, December 13

- 5:00 pm *New Beginnings: Christmas Bag Stuffing* (Church foyer)
- 7:00 pm Jr. High Youth Group (Y-401/TheLOFT)
- 7:00 pm Co-Ed Adult Bible Study with Pastor Tim (Y-301)
- 7:00 pm Legacy Builders: Co-Ed Pickleball (Pavilion)

Saturday, December 14

- 10:00 am *GriefShare: Hope for the Holidays* (The Chapel)
- 10:00 am HCA: Christmas Craft & Vendor Expo (Pavilion)
- 6:00 pm HGC Worship Community *The Carols of Christmas* (Sanctuary)

Pastoral Leadership Team

John Minnema, Senior Pastor pastorjohn@hawthornegospel.org
Kirk De Boer, Executive Pastor kirk@hawthornegospel.org
Howard Van Dyk, Jr., Associate Pastor
pastorhowie@hawthornegospel.org
T. James Richmond, Pastor Emeritus Call the church office
Jake Minnema, Pastor of Student Ministries jake@hawthornegospel.org
Scott Warren, Associate Pastor of Student Ministries
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Mark Horn, Director of Junior High Ministry mhorn@hawthornegospel.org
Sandy Lynn Bober, Director of Children's Ministries
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Kathryn Wansong, Director of Women's Ministries
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Mark Rolling, Pastor of Discipleship pastormark@hawthornegospel.org
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jessicac@hawthornegospel.org

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With Heartfelt Thanks!

I want to give thanks, praise, and honor to my Heavenly Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the comforting Holy Spirit for giving Esther to me and my family. I believe with all my heart that she was God's perfect match for me. She was my wife, best friend, lover, and loving mother and grandmother to our children.

The past few years have been hard and yet richly rewarding. Esther's illness drew our family and friends closer together, and closer to the Lord. Esther lost the ability to speak two or so years ago, but her life and gentle spirit spoke in a mighty way. She taught me and others to trust and give thanks to the Lord, no matter what. I want to express my deep thanks and appreciation to our family and friends around the world...and to Hawthorne Gospel Church...who have supported, encouraged, and prayed for us.

We will need you to stand with us in the days ahead. They will be hard without Esther here. Our confidence and hope is in God: *In You our fathers put their trust; they trusted and You delivered them. To You they cried out and were saved; in You they trusted and were not put to shame (Psalms 22:4-5).*

Doug Christensen

Opportunities to Be a Blessing

During our Christmas concerts and the Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, we need additional volunteers to help in the Nursery. If you can volunteer during one of these special holiday events, please contact Sandy Lynn Bober at 973-427-6960, extension 166, or at sandy@hawthornegospel.org.

In need of spiritual encouragement or prayer? The Board member on call this week is Douglas Hart (dhart@hawthornegospel.org).

**Board
Member
on Call**

ENCORE

Our Senior Adults will meet on
Tuesday, December 10th, at **10:30 am**
in The Chapel.

The Homeschool Chorale, directed by Beth Prins, will share the wonderful message of Christmas in song, and Pastor Howard Van Dyk, Jr. will give the devotional.

Reminder: Bring a bag lunch and a friend; beverage and dessert will be provided by the committee.



Hawthorne Christian Academy

presents its

Middle & Upper Schools Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 10th at 7:30 pm

Join us in the HGC Sanctuary for this evening
of praise through song!



You're invited to join us for our

Christmas Craft & Vendor Expo

Saturday, December 14th, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Find that perfect Christmas gift at this year's
Craft & Vendor Expo being held in the Pavilion!

Vendors will showcase a wide range of hand-crafted items,
pottery, jewelry, toys, books, fragrances, handbags, leggings,
personal accessories, home décor, face painting, and much more!

Free Admission | Free Parking | Free Door Prizes

Come, Celebrate with Us!

Tuesday, December 24th, at 3:00 and 5:00 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Ring in the New Year!

Tuesday, December 31st, 2019

Annual Watchnight Service

Dessert & Fellowship at 5:00 pm
in the Church foyer

(Bring a dessert to share.)

Service begins at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Pray for the Sick Home: Jay & Wendy Aftab; Vera Amaral; Marian Bakker; Ellie Bauer; Vicki Calabrese; Laura Christenson; Kari Ann Dale; Judy Delaney; Vince Della Ratta; Marie D'Elia; Michael De Urso; Phil Dimitri; Helene Dubetsky; Robert Estrada; Chuck Evans; Ellen Forstrom; Glenn Garside; Mark Halliwell; Mark Hastings; Carolyn R. Hubertz; Bobbie Jones; Jack & Dee Kemper; Ben Kudisch; Charlie Landers; John Lee; Joseph Letterese; Jake & Arlene Locicero; Lisa Lovell; Carol Lupano; Lisa & Ruth Marion; Michael & Janice Martin; Karen Meima; Steve Meyers; Emelia Misovic; Carlos Moran, Jr.; Len Mulé; Andrea, August, & Dawn Nicholas; Raymond Obsuth; Ermetta Olson; Ralph Opderbeck; Phil Paolucci; Carol Pavlik; William Pezzuti; Joan & Tom Podschelne; Jennifer Powell; Luz Pring; Rich Prins; John Prochaska; Michael Quinn; Alice Rascio; Laura Rehbein; Al Rick; Julie Rieke; Gladys Rink; Kaci Rodriguez; Bob Rogers; Jacinta Ruiz; Connie Sayles; Lories Slockbower; Laura Smith; Diane Spath; Adolf Stelter; Tim Tileston; Julia Anne Torrano (*newborn—gain weight*); Ilse Troper; James Unrath; Pablo Valentin; Lisa Van Hise; Diane Vigilanti.
Hospitals & Rehabs: Aidan Raudenbush; Antonia Spagnola.

Alfred (Al) Molzan, a faithful attendee, entered into the presence of the Lord on December 4th. Our Christian love is given to his daughter, Debbie Vander Wiele.

Meal Ministry Team

Through a team of volunteers, we will provide three meals for two weeks to church members/attendees in times of need. We serve families and individuals after the birth of a baby, surgery or a hospitalization, or during times of a crisis. Volunteers are contacted through email and are asked to sign up to provide a meal through a meal calendar. Sound like something you might like to do? If so, please contact Kathryn Wansong at the church office (kwansong@hawthornegospel.org) to make us aware of a need or to volunteer to help serve our church family.

New Beginnings

Christmas Stocking Outreach

Last week, Ziploc bags and a list of suggested items needed to fill those bags for HIV/AIDS patients at a Newark facility, were made available to all who wished to participate. **Reminder:** Completed bags are due back this **Thursday, December 12th**, and should be placed in the *New Beginnings Christmas Stocking Collection Box* that is located in the church foyer—team members will be filling the gift bags this Friday.

Ministry Volunteers Needed

Our New Beginnings Ministry offers an opportunity for you to come with us one Thursday evening as we visit with men and women who are ill and in need of encouragement and prayer. If you've ever thought that God might be calling you to serve Him in this way, now is the time to join us for an evening to experience His blessing in serving others. Our team of both men and women currently has an opening for another man. Why not join us for a visit—or for details, contact Cara Greene.

UPCOMING SERMON SCHEDULE

Wednesday Prayer Meeting, December 11th, 2019 at 7:00 pm in The Chapel
Pastor Mark Rolling

December 15th, 2019 AM Services

Pastoral Staff
"The Son of the Most High"
Luke 1

December 14th, 2019 at 6:00 pm and
December 15th, 2019 at 5:00 pm

Worship Community and the
Alpha and Omega Children's Choir
"The Carols of Christmas"
Directed by Rommel Guingon

At Hackensack at 11:00 AM

Pastor Howard Van Dyk, Jr.
"The Son of the Most High"
Luke 1

Wednesday Prayer Meeting, December 18th, 2019 at 7:00 pm in The Chapel
Pastor John W. Minnema

Christmas Sunday

December 22nd, 2019 AM Services

Pastor John W. Minnema
"Christ the Lord"
Luke 2

December 22nd, 2019 PM Service

Pastor Jonathan D. Minnema
"The Messiah Is Born"
Luke 2

At Hackensack at 11:00 AM

Pastor Jonathan D. Minnema
"Christ the Lord"
Luke 2

No Prayer Meeting on December 25th, 2019
Have a Blessed Christmas!

December 29th, 2019 AM Services

Pastor John W. Minnema
"Wonderful, Encouraging Words
from Jesus"

December 29th, 2019 PM Service

Pastor Howard Van Dyk, Jr.
"Dancing with Devotion:
Living a God-Pleasing Life"

At Hackensack at 11:00 AM

FBC Missionaries to Italy
Keith & Debbie Jones
will be reporting!

No Prayer Meeting on January 1st, 2020
Have a Blessed New Year!

Come...Celebrate "Three Wisemen and a Baby"

Children's Ministries Nativity Tour
Friday, December 20th, at 7:00 pm

Bring your family and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies as you hear from the wisemen about the new baby King. You'll make a craft and feed *live* animals along the way. Tours leave every 20 minutes from the church foyer. For more information, please contact Sandy Lynn Bober (sandy@hawthornegospel.org or 973-427-6960, extension 166).

Ministry Financial Needs Update!

October 31 st , 2019 ~ Year-to-Date	General Fund	Missionary Fund
Received	\$ 2,610,208	\$ 487,988
Needed	\$ 2,722,505	\$ 480,532
Balance	\$ (112,297)	\$ 7,456

December Giving

As we approach the end of this year, we would like to see our **General Fund end the year in the positive**. Please prayerfully consider how you can be part of this with giving an extra gift, in any amount, to this fund. **Thank you for giving!**

Ways to Give: APP ~ WEB ~ PLATE

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

Hope for the Holidays

A Christmas Remembrance Service

with Pastor Howard Van Dyk, Jr.
will be held on

Saturday, December 14th, at 10:00 am
in The Chapel

Luncheon will be served following the service.

To register, come to the Pavilion this morning,
email nelac@hawthornegospel.org, or
call 973-427-6960, extension 122.

Mark Your Calendars!

Membership Classes

will be held on Sunday, January 19th and 26th, 2020
at 11:30 am in room C-10. Complete details to follow.

The HGC Worship Community
and the

Alpha & Omega Children's Choir
Present

"The Carols of Christmas"

on

Saturday, December 14th, at 6:00 pm

and

Sunday, December 15th, at 5:00 pm

in the Sanctuary!