



“Winning People for Christ and Equipping Them to Serve.”

A Rehoboth church filled with disciple-makers for Jesus, known and felt by our community as a place of spiritual renewal and grace.

DECEMBER 21, 2025

We welcome all who have come to this house of God on this 4th Sunday of Advent! God can and does meet us here in special ways in our common worship. But God also comes to us unexpectedly, just as he did when he surprised us by appearing on an ordinary night in an obscure town in the form of a baby boy.

-ORDER OF SERVICE-

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Worship Songs

His Name Medley

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Advent Candle Lighting: LOVE

Special Music

Kirk Smallegan - *Mary Did You Know*

Dismiss Kids

Prayer

Sermon

Jason Scholten

“LOVE: The Promise of Love”

Matthew 1:18–25 & John 3:16

Prayer

Closing Song

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Blessing

Postlude

Would you learn more about what it means to be a part of Rehoboth?
Please reach out to our Connections Pastor Kathy Vana at kathy@rehoboth.church

-SCHEDULE-

TODAY

First day of Winter
9 AM, Morning Prayer
9:30 AM, Worship Service
End of Service, Kids Church Dismissal
10:50 AM, Adult Sunday School
3 PM, Youth Group Sledding

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 22

1:30 PM Esther Circle

Tuesday, December 23

6 AM, Men's Life Group
1:30 PM, Blood Drive
7 PM, Worship Practice

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve
6 PM, Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day!
Loaves & Fishes Closed
Staff Out

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, December 28
9 AM, Morning Prayer
9:30 AM, Worship Service
End of Service, Kids Church Dismissal
10:50 AM, Adult Sunday School
5 PM, Middle School Youth Group
6:30 PM, High School Youth Group
6 PM, Elizabeth Circle Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 30

6 AM, Men's Life Group
7 PM, Worship Practice

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve!

Thursday, January 1, 2026

New Year's Day!
Loaves & Fishes Closed
Staff Out

Out: Staff: Dec. 25, 26 & Jan. 1

Sarah: Dec. 23, 24, 30, 31



***Today & on December 28 we will be dismissing Kids Church at the end of service for the holidays.**

Kids Church Dismissals: Kids Church classes will dismiss at 11 AM. Pickup is downstairs in the basement through the doors your kids went through during service. Toddler and nursery rooms will dismiss after service.

Kids Check-In: Don't forget to check-in your child(ren) upon arriving at church at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings! Here children will be registered, if they aren't already, and given name tags. Our name tags help the kids church volunteers learn names, they will include your phone number(s) to contact you during service if needed, and will even include any allergies your child(ren) may have.

Nursing others: Downstairs in the toddler room there is a private nursing room for you to nurse. There is a TV installed in the nursing room so that you can watch and enjoy service in real time in the comfort of the private room. You are most welcome to use it whenever the need arises.

Kids Church Busy Bags: Parents, do you have little ones that just aren't ready to venture to kids church and leave you yet? Worried they won't be entertained during service? We have the answer! "Busy Bags" are now available at the check-in desk near the welcome center. Please help yourself and take home.

-LOAVES & FISHES-

Food Distribution

On Thursday, December 11 we served...

130 Total Households

398 Total People

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

Youth Group Sledding: Middle and High Schoolers join us at Diggins hill in Cadillac **this afternoon** for some sledding. You are welcome to meet us at Diggins Hill at 3 PM, or you can have your child at the church by 2:30 PM if they need a ride. Bring a sled or tube, warm clothes, gloves, a hat, and an adventurous heart! Friends are welcome to come along as well. After sledding, we will return to the church for hot chocolate and cookies. Parents can pick up their kids at the church at 5:30 PM.

December Blood Drive: Come give blood at Rehoboth just in time for holidays on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD** from 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM. Sign-up at <https://tinyurl.com/dmjzxm9y> or scan the QR code, you can also sign-up with Sarah in the office. Thank you! *"The most meaningful gifts don't come in boxes – they come from the heart."*



Christmas Eve: You and your family are invited to join us in celebrating Christmas Eve at 6 PM on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**. We'll start by singing Christmas carols together, hear a short message, and close out the service singing carols and lighting candles. This is a special, not-to-be-missed evening! We'll be on site and on YouTube Live. We hope to see you there!

2026 Prayer Meetings! For the coming year we plan to meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8 AM at Reedy's. Please save the date and join us for coffee and prayer!

FYI: We are in the final stages of putting our search team together. On **SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH**, we will commission the search team during service. We will also be installing our incoming Elders and Deacons!

Women's Life Group! A new Life Group for women will begin on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 4** at 5 PM. The study from Right Now Media that we will be using is called *"The Cost of Control"* <https://tinyurl.com/yc39tmbj> You can sign up at the Welcome Center if you're interested. We'd love to have you join us!

January Young at Heart: On **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH** Young at Heart will meet at 11:30 AM and enjoy a potluck. Please bring a dish to pass. Everyone welcome! Fun & Fellowship!! See you there!

Indoor pickleball starts on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH** in the McBain Public Multiuse room. We will be going every Wednesday until March 4th. Pickleball is from 7 PM until 8:30 PM. If wrestling has a meet, then we can start at 6:30 PM. The dates for the early start are: January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 18 & March 4. Questions? Ask Gary Vana.

Calling all 20 Somethings! (Post high school to age 29): Rehoboth Reformed Church is kicking off a brand-new group on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH** at 6:30 PM, and we're starting strong—with cornhole, competition, and copious amounts of pizza. Bring your best bean-bag toss skills (or just your appetite). Questions? Find Kendrick & Katelyn Smallegan or Drew Vana.

Youth Group Pop Cans! Jason and the Youth Group are once again asking for any pop cans or bottles they can return to fund any future expenditures like mission trips or retreats. If you have any returns please consider donating to the Youth Group. Thanks!

Loaves & Fishes NEW Volunteer Opportunity! We are looking for 3 volunteers each week to help unload the Feeding America Trailer that arrives approx. at 9 AM. This is a new category that has been added to Sign-Up Genius. We would need help unloading the trailer and setting up tables. We are hoping this will help the driver unload the food quickly, efficiently and most importantly safely. If this sounds like something you could do please reach out to Sarah in the office. Thank you!!

-COMMUNITY-

Grief Share 2026 sessions will begin at Vogel Center CRC on **SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD** from 9 AM – 11 AM and will continue every Saturday through March 28th. Please share this information with those who are grieving a loss and help them find hope and healing after the death of a loved one. For more information, contact Pastor Adam Barton adam.mh.barton@gmail.com or (616) 566-7937.

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday: Please join the pro-life community across the nation in observing Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. We mourn and pray for the hundreds of millions of innocent lives lost to abortion, the women harmed, and the families and communities forever impacted. Join us locally, as we commemorate the sanctity of life at the Northern Light Church, 115 Cobb Street in Cadillac, on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 18TH** at 2 PM. A brief memorial update will be given by Wexford/Missaukee Right to Life followed by an open microphone for those who would like to offer group prayer. Hot coffee, chocolate and homemade cookies will be served. Wexford/Missaukee Right to Life (231) 839-2583

-CONSISTORY MEETING SUMMARY-

November 11, 2025

Devotions and prayer were offered by Mike, reading from James 1:5, speaking of wisdom and humility in leadership, always seeking and being open to God's will.

Financial Report: The deacons provided the October financial report and shared that the offerings for the Mission Conference totaled 20,470.25, Praise the Lord! Also, the offering at the Thanksgiving Eve service will be designated for Love Inc. ministry.

The Ministry Team Reports were reviewed by all members prior to the meeting and discussion followed as needed.

Ongoing Ministry/Business: Ministry Teams for 2026 were discussed, the Harvest Network has quarterly Zoom meetings and a yearly conference, the Executive Team has recommended that at least one consistory member join in on these meetings, to process and assist Pastor Kathy in sharing the resources available within the network.

An update was given from the Congregational Celebration that was held on November 2, we welcome, Greg Buning and Rick Kars as Elders - Cainen Gilde and Holly Mulder as Deacons. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend a Rehoboth Vision Prayer Gathering that will be held on Tuesday morning, November 18, from 8:00 am – 9:00 am, at Reedy's Restaurant.

New Business: Pastor Kathy, Troy and Barb have met and drafted A Vision Fulfillment Plan that will assist all Rehoboth Ministry Teams to include the Rehoboth Vision in their 2026 planning.

At this time, Pastor Kathy recused herself and Pastor Ben remotely joined the meeting, as each Consistory member worked together to form the Pastoral Search Committee, after open discussion, eight candidates will be sent letters and some alternates were selected. Each candidate will be contacted by a Consistory member about their willingness to serve. At the December meeting, one Elder and one deacon will be selected as team members. A subcommittee was created to complete the Pastoral Profile, this will be shared at the December Consistory Meeting. Pastor Ben shared his thoughts as we move forward after the Pastoral Search Team is completed.

Mark closed the meeting with prayer.

Minutes written by Barb Scholten – Clerk for Rehoboth Reformed Church

-PAST PRAYER CHAIN MESSAGES & UPDATES-

"This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life." ~ Psalm 119:50

UPDATE 12/15: Lisa & Bruce DeBoer: "A huge thank you to everyone who has been praying for our daughter, **Cortni**. Her surgery went exceptionally well. They were able to take the whole thyroid without injury to her parathyroid and they were also able to get a good sample to send to pathology. Nothing was found in any of her lymph nodes or surrounding areas. She came home from the hospital the following morning feeling tired and sore, but she is able to manage her pain with Tylenol and Motrin. We give praise to God! We could not have asked for a better outcome! Please continue to pray for her healing to be complete and that her pathology report comes back as low risk so she will not need to have the Iodine radiation. Thank you!"

-KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS-

Keep in your prayers the members of our congregation who are in nursing or health care facilities, Dorothy Bazuin at Maple Ridge Living Center in Cadillac, Jeanette Derrick & Kay Hofstra at Curry House in Cadillac, Betty Meyering at Whispering Pines in Lake City, and Joan Sutton at Autumnwood in McBain.

Be in prayer for the following person(s), as they undergo treatment and receive on going care for cancer: Don Schepers, Mary Jo Blackmer, Pastor Dave McMahon and Colter Bailey.

-SPECIAL THANKS-

Rehoboth,

Thank you so much for the encouragement and positive feedback after the children's Nativity Story play that took place on December 14th. We had so much FUN planning it! So much so that we hope to make it a yearly tradition! We learned so much after our first performance that we can only expect it to get even better...*how is that even possible am I right!*? Thanks again to ALL involved...and to all those who helped improvise on the fly on Sunday...you're rockstars!

Merry Christmas!!

– Sarah & Teresa

Thank you Rehoboth for the wonderful Christmas gift delivered to me. It was very much appreciated!

–Jean VanderTuuk

2025 Consistory

Elders

Mike Bosscher
Troy Finstrom
Barb Scholten
Doug Buning
Mark Scholten
Ken Gilde

Deacons

Tom Lutke
Pam Smallegan
Chris DeKam
Brandon Reinink
Nate Buning
Brent Whetstone