



9 a.m. **Pre-Talk & Awakenings**
 10 a.m. **Gathering**
 10 a.m. **C3 Kids** with **Miss Mary** and volunteer **Sally Alderink**
 11:20 a.m. **Talk Back**

Red Team Hosts: **Yvonne Olmsted, Skip & Mary Ackerson, Sarah Jacobs, Char Zoet**

Red Team Ushers: **Tom Webber, Joyce & Andy Cawthon,**

Welcome Table: **Jeff Crandle**

Next Week: **White Team**

C3 Board of Trustees

Chair: **Sally Alderink**

Vice-Chair: **Teresa Colbry**

Secretary: **Valerie Engeltjes**

Treasurer: **Shannon McMaster**

Trustees: **Beth Buelow, Andy Cawthon, Kim Crozier, Tom Edwards, Kathy Humphrey, Wayne Johnson, and Rod Van Abbema**

Next Week!

Speaker: **Ruth Zwald**

Musicians: **Folias Duo**

Meditation:

Charlotte Rozich

Gathering Host:

Nelleke Knarr

Kids' Volunteer:

Sandy Kate Stephens



c3westmichigan.org/support

Sunday, October 22, 2023

A Few Parting Thoughts

Speaker: **Kent Dobson** is spending his last Sunday Gathering with us as Lead Teacher, the position he has held since September 10, 2017. His teaching title that morning was ***A Thing Ripened***, and he offered us the words of Rilke, advising us to *wait like a thing ripened until it's real*. We have wrestled and ripened over these six years as we enjoyed and learned from Kent's teachings. Now it's time for us to thank him and wish him well as he and the family take up residence in Georgia.

Musician: **Grace Theisen** is a queer Americana artist originally from Kalamazoo. After graduating from Hope College, Grace moved to Nashville from 2015-2018 to run her nonprofit, Songs Against Slavery. She returned to Kalamazoo in 2019 and has been influential in the Michigan music scene. She is one-third of the band The Rebel Eves.

Music: **Grace Theisen**
Gathering Host: **Valerie Engeltjes**
Music: **Grace Theisen**
Meditation: **David Dean**
Moment of Silence
Reading/Teaching: **Kent Dobson**

However just and anxious I have been
 I will stop and step back
 from the crowd of those who may agree
 with what I say, and be apart.
 There is no earthly promise of life or peace
 but where the roots branch and weave
 their patient silent passages in the dark;
 uprooted, I have been furious without an aim.
 I am not bound for any public place,
 but for ground of my own
 where I have planted vines and orchard trees,
 and in the heat of the day climbed up
 into the healing shadow of the woods.
 Better than any argument is to rise at dawn
 and pick dew-wet berries in a cup.

-Wendell Berry, *A Standing Ground*

Music: **Grace Theisen**
Gathering Host: **Valerie Engeltjes**
Music: **Grace Theisen**



Celebration of Gratitude

Hope you're planning to stay after the Gathering to celebrate Kent's six years with us and wish him well as he and his family move to Georgia. There will be a short program followed by a potluck. If you forgot to bring a finger food to share, please stay anyway. You know you can count on C3 to have plenty to eat!

Patience, Please

We will need a short time at the end of the Gathering to move chairs, set up tables, move walls, and get organized for the program and finger food pot luck. If you are able to help with any of the setup, please do so. We also need to "tear down" at the end of our celebration with Kent, and vacate the Mackinaw Ballroom before a scheduled event at 1 p.m. Many hands will make light work!

An Exciting Opportunity at C3!

In the coming months, we will be hiring an Executive Director to join the C3 leadership team. Duties for the Executive Director will include everyday operational and administrative responsibilities as well as long-term and special activities that support our mission. Full details at C3westmichigan.org/employment. Resumes due by 10/31. Please help us spread the word!

C3 Community Annual Meeting

As you know, our annual meeting will be the first Sunday in November this year. It's an important time for our community to conduct business such as approving bylaw changes, electing new Board of Trustee members, and honoring one of our members with the Philip J. Koster Award for Meritorious Service. This year, especially, it's vital that we all stay informed about the many changes going on and how C3 continues to make its unique contribution to the greater community. Be sure to be there!

Usher Openings

Wanted: C3 members for simple 15-minute job once every five Sundays. Requirements: ability to smile, greet, and hand out bulletins. Pay: satisfaction from meeting nice people and serving C3. Contact Rod Van Abbema (rodvanabbema@gmail.com).

Sunday Dinner Group

There will be no Sunday Dinner Group this evening. Enjoy time with your C3 friends at the Celebration of Gratitude and Farewell for Kent.

C3 Book Club and Friends

At our next meeting, 6:30 p.m. at The Bookman, on November 21, we will discuss *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi. Please also start thinking of three books to suggest for 2024, when we meet for our holiday party and book selection process in December.

C3 Men's Club

The C3 Men's Group will continue to meet at the home of Ted Larned, 17420 W. Spring Lake Road, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening.

Vigil for Peace and Justice

Join us from noon to 1 p.m. the last Saturday in October along Washington at Central Park to advocate for much needed peace.

Women's Journey Returns

Would you enjoy getting together on a monthly basis to share stories, laughter, and build friendships with C3 women? Join us for an organizational meeting, tomorrow evening, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. at The Bookman (715 Washington, Grand Haven). We will make a plan for Women's Journey 2024! Contact Becky Park at frontdesk@c3westmichigan.org with questions.

New Fall Hours at C3 Office

Becky will be in the office Mondays and Tuesdays from 12 to 2:30 p.m. Other hours by appointment: call or text 616-842-1985 or email frontdesk@c3westmichigan.org.

Community Care and Concern

Contact: **Cheryl Van Abbema, 616-402-3108; Mike and Charlotte Rozich, 517-918-5483 or 517-918-5464.**

Patricia Johnson had knee-replacement surgery last week.

Jean Regester has moved to Mary Free Bed for stroke recovery therapy. Her address is Room 3327, Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital, 2235 Wealthy Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-5299.

Barb Van Leeuwen thanks those who have supported her during her long treatment period, which has recently ended. She continues recovery at home, 2669 Weatherby Hills Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

Tom Webber had back surgery on Wednesday this week. Cards may be sent to 13897 Van Buren Street, Holland, MI 49414.