



9 a.m. **Pre-Talk & Awakenings**
 10 a.m. **Gathering**
 10 a.m. **C3 Kids** with **Miss Mary** and volunteer **Char Kole**
 11:00 a.m. **Talk Back**

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Gold Team Hosts:
Betty Porter, Jenny Roberts & Bob Burleigh, Mike & Charlotte Rozich
Gold Team Ushers:
Cheri Eshenaur, Martha Perko, Rod & Cheryl Van Abbema
 Welcome Table:
Ellie Williams
 Next Week: **Green Team**

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C3 Board of Trustees:
Chair: **Teresa Colbry**
Vice Chair: **Tod Wyn**
Treasurer: **Andy Cawthon**
Secretary: **Beth Buelow**
Trustees:
Tabitha Blanski, Karen Cotton, Kim Crozier, Cheri Eshenaur, Kathy Humphrey, Wayne Johnson, Rod Van Abbema

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Next Week!
Speaker: **Joe Pittenger**
Musician: **Josh Rose**
Meditation:
Charlotte Rozich
Gathering Host:
Mary Ellen Mika
Kids' Volunteer:
Eleanor Hills



c3westmichigan.org/support

Sunday, January 21, 2024
Damage Done; Damage Undone

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Speaker: **Jack Ridl** is the author or editor of 14 works of literature published by Wayne State University Press, CavanKerry Press, and St. Martins. His collections have been named Best Poetry Collection by Foreword Review and The Society of Midland Authors; and he has been nominated 17 times for the Pushcart Prize. Named Michigan Professor of the Year by The Carnegie Foundation, more than 90 of his students have earned their MFA and more than 100 are published, several having won first book awards.

Musician: **Kyle Rasche** (rhymes with Kashi) has carved his place as one of West Michigan's most dependable songsmiths of the poetic, soul-bearing sort. 2021 saw his foray back into the solo-songwriter world, with a pile of new songs, and an updated list of accolades—including being named a finalist in Kerrville Folk Festival's prestigious New Folk Songwriting Competition.

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 Music: **Kyle Rasche**
 Gathering Host: **Valerie Engeltjes**
 Music: **Kyle Rasche**
 Meditation: **Beth Buelow**
 Moment of Silence
 Reading/Teaching: **Jack Ridl**

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 excerpt from *Saint Peter and the Goldfinch*
 The chickadees would take a seed, fly into the branches of the hemlocks surrounding the house and batter to get to the meat. Time and time again they returned. Peter tried to count then wondered why, stopped and thought about what to plant in the pots, where he would place them within the striped grass that made a nest for the house to sit within. He liked thinking he had nested. He liked thinking everything here could be taken away. He had cosmos, impatiens—no perennials until bloom and loss became a ritual, sacred. There was a breeze. There was the tea. And then there was a goldfinch, just one, at the thistle feeder, its startle of yellow and black seamless within its feathers. Peter watched as it took the seed, sat above him. He watched as the bird flew to the feeder, flew back to the same branch. St. Peter and the goldfinch here in the day's beginning. He could not bow his head. He knew joy's coupled sorrow. He knew that this was time. He knew what the earth knew.
 - **Jack Ridl**

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 Music: **Kyle Rasche**
 Gathering Host: **Valerie Engeltjes**
 Music: **Jack Ridl**



Canceling the Gathering

The decision to cancel our Gathering last week was shared both on C3's Facebook page and by email. Executive Director **Shannon McMaster** has initiated the process of getting C3 to be a part of the televised lists of closings as another avenue to inform C3 members and friends of any cancellations. For the present, cancellation announcements will be made via the C3 email list, our Facebook page, Instagram and Fox 17 news

2024 Board of Trustees

The C3 Board of Trustees for 2024 met for the first time on January 10, and the new executive committee was elected that evening. Here are our new C3 Officers: **Teresa Colbry**, Chair; **Tod Wyn**, Vice-Chair; **Beth Buelow**, Secretary; **Andy Cawthon**, Treasurer. See the listing of all Board members on the front of the bulletin.

Your Feedback on the Gathering

The Sunday Gathering Team recently began developing a larger pool of guest teachers. Thanks to many suggestions, we're inviting some of them to teach in the next couple of months, so you'll be seeing a lot of new faces. We'd love your feedback on these guest teachers—as well as the musician(s) and the overall Gathering experience. Please either talk to a member of the Sunday Gathering Team or take a few minutes to fill out the forms that are located at the back of the room, along with pens, and boxes in which you can put your feedback. You can be anonymous or sign your name. Thanks for your help! Sunday Gathering Team: **Leslie Newman, Beth Buelow, Valerie Engeltjes, Marianne Fischer, Chrys Moelter-Gray, Jean Regester, Chuck Tawney, Rod Van Abbema, Cindy Van Ittersum, and Ellie Williams**

Sunday Dinner Group

Sign up at the Member Table to join the Sunday Dinner Group tonight at The Kirby at 5:30 p.m.

C3 Men's Club

The C3 Men's Group meets each Tuesday, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at St. John's Episcopal Church in Grand Haven, Room B. Contact **Phil Koster** at 616-402-1751 for more information.

C3 Book Club and Friends

Join us on at 6 p.m. on **February 20** at The Bookman to discuss ***The Forty Rules of Love: A Novel of Rumi*** by Efi Shafek.

March 19: ***Bee Season: A Novel*** by Myla Goldberg

April 16: ***The Last Green Valley*** by Mark Sullivan

Women's Journey

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 26, at 6:30 at The Bookman. Bring a favorite children's book or story. **Leslie Newman** will be leading us. Please continue to consider ideas for the new year!

Community Care and Concern

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

Pastor Tim from Life Church and his family lost their home and everything in it, including pets, to a fire recently.

We are collecting funds to provide a gift card from Meijer, which can be used for food, clothes, household items to help them with a new start, or even gas for the car if needed. Monetary donations can be made through C3 in the usual ways, earmarked "Family in Need" in the memo field. Online donations can be made under the "Support C3" tab on the website. Click on the Donate button, then there's a box that allows you to choose between "General Fund" or "Family in Need" (click on the arrow to the right in the box).

Creative, crafty people might be inspired to make something for them, to make a new place feel like a home.

If you have household items to donate, please send photos of them to **Charity McMaster** by **February 4**, to share with the family, so they can decide if they'd like those items.

Nelleke Knarr's mother entered hospice care at home in Indiana recently, and Nelleke is now back at home herself recovering from COVID. Contact Nelleke at 747 Fuller Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506 (email: likecelica@gmail.com)

Joan Sutton will turn 90 on January 29. She is doing well, but doesn't get around as much as she used to. She talks about C3 often. You can send birthday wishes to **13892 148th Avenue, Grand Haven, MI 49417**. Daughter Gayle invites you to an informal open house for Joan on February 3, 1:30 - 4 p.m. in the Woodbine Room at Central Park Place.