



Sunday, June 2, 2024

Things I Wish I'd Said

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

Blue Team Hosts: Tom Edwards & Annie Wassmann, Sarah Jacobs, Bill Klouw
Blue Team Ushers: Kim Crozier, Karen Frederiksen, Phil Leech, Beth Buelow
Welcome Table: Dick Kamischke
Next Week: Gold Team

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

Brad Ruggles, Lead Teacher
brad@c3westmichigan.org

Shannon McMaster, Executive Director
smcmaster@c3westmichigan.org

Next Week!
Teacher: Kent Dobson
Musician: Spencer LaJoye
Meditation: Charity McMaster
Gathering Host: Beth Buelow
Kids' Volunteer: Char Kole

Lead Teacher: Brad Ruggles (he/him) has been selected as C3's new Lead Teacher. He is a former pastor that deconstructed and later left the faith he was raised in after 18 years in ministry. He and his wife Lisa enjoy adventuring and traveling with their two adult daughters. His interests are diverse and include backpacking, meditation, breath work, yoga, sport kiting, and photography.

Musician: Grace Theisen (she/her) is a queer Americana artist originally from Kalamazoo. After graduating from Hope College in 2014 with a double major in Gender Studies and Psychology, Grace moved to Nashville from 2015 to 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: Tod Wyn
Music: Grace Theisen
Meditation: Charity McMaster
Moment of Silence
Reading/Teaching: Brad Ruggles

"There are so many ways of being despicable it quite makes one's head spin. But the way to be really despicable is to be contemptuous of other people's pain."
- James Baldwin, Giovanni's Room

How can we distinguish what is biologically determined from what people merely try to justify through biological myths? A good rule of thumb is 'Biology enables, culture forbids.' Biology is willing to tolerate a very wide spectrum of possibilities. It's culture that obligates people to realize some possibilities while forbidding others. Biology enables women to have children - some cultures oblige women to realize this possibility. Biology enables men to enjoy sex with one another - some cultures forbid them to realize this possibility.
- Yuval Noah Harari, Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind (Pg. 146-7)

Music: Grace Theisen
Gathering Host: Tod Wyn
Music: Grace Theisen





Welcome to Brad Ruggles

We extend a warm welcome to Brad Ruggles as he fills the Lead Teacher role now in our C3 Community. He has joined us wholeheartedly, jumping in with both feet, and teaching for three weeks in a row! Welcome also to Lisa.

C3 Summer Celebration

Mark Thursday, July 18, as the C3 Summer Celebration! We will recognize Brad Ruggles as our Lead Teacher and Shannon McMaster as our Executive Director with a potluck supper at Mulligan's Hollow. Expect more details as the date gets closer.

C3 Pride T-Shirts!

The C3 Rainbow Pride t-shirts will be available for pick up today at the Outreach table and also the C3 booth at the Grand Haven Pride Festival this coming Saturday, June 8, or at the Sunday Gathering on June 9. Perfect for wearing at the Pride Festival or anywhere you want to spread a little love and inclusion, C3-style!

C3 Kids Helpers Needed!

Mary Crouse is our C3 Kids teacher. She needs a helper each Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to noon. Mary plans the morning schedule and leads the activities. She needs a second adult with her for support and to accompany kids to the restroom down the hall. There are five women currently on the rotation to help Mary. We need three more volunteers, so that each person only needs to take a turn every eight weeks. Please consider joining this essential team. Men are also encouraged to volunteer! Contact Sally Alderink, 616-403-5521, sallyalderink@gmail.com.

Donations of Stocks and Bonds

C3 will gratefully accept donations of stocks and bonds. We are researching the most cost-effective brokerage account for C3 to utilize. If you're considering such a donation, please contact Andy Cawthon, treasurer@c3westmichigan.org, to begin the process. We thank you for your continued support!

Week 3@C3

We will support The Green Valley Samaritans, members of The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ, Sahuarita, AZ, who work to relieve the suffering of migrants and asylum seekers in the borderlands of Sonora, Mexico, and southern Arizona. They do desert searches for stranded migrants, maintain water drop stations, provide for El Comedor migrant station and assist at the Welcome Center in Tucson. Our monetary gifts will support general expenses of water, food, blankets, clothing and first aid. Cash, checks, and credit card donations are accepted. *Make checks out to C3, with "Green Valley Samaritans" in the memo line.*

Sunday Dinner Group

We meet at Paisley Pig this evening at 5:30. Sign up at the Welcome Table before leaving the Gathering.

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.

No Vigil for Peace and Justice on June 8

The Vigil for Peace and Justice will be suspended this Saturday, so that people can attend and volunteer at the Pride Festival.

Women's Journey

Our next meeting will be on Monday, June 17, 6:30 p.m. at The Bookman. Come prepared with a joke, a favorite travel memory, and a summer recipe.

C3 Book Club and Friends

On Tuesday, June 18, we meet at The Bookman at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Sisters Under the Rising Sun: A Novel* by Heather Morris.

News Items through June 14

News to be included in the C3 Update or C3 Matters should be submitted to Becky Park, frontdesk@c3westmichigan.org, and Annie Wassmann, awassmann@wassmannndesign.com by Wednesday morning.

Community Care and Concern

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

Mary Jane Montgomery is at home recovering from scheduled surgery earlier this week. Cards may be sent to P.O. Box 722, Grand Haven, MI 49417.

Pam Park had surgery on a smashed thumb on Wednesday.

She says dinners would be appreciated. Call (616) 834-7461 to coordinate. Cards may be sent to 11682 152nd Avenue, West Olive, MI 49460-9232.

Michael Tosa, Tom and Kathy's son, continues to wear a collar, as his first vertebra was broken. He gets rehab working on his hands and fingers and can sit up for a while. He is waiting to move to the next hospital for his focused rehab of 3-4 weeks. Kathy is there every day; Riley, his son, visits on weekends, and so does Mike's girlfriend.