



9 a.m. **Pretalk**
 10 a.m. **Gathering**
 10 a.m. **C3 Kids** with
Miss Mary and volunteer
Sally Alderink
 11:00 a.m. **Talk Back**

White Team Hosts: **Patti Baldus, Kathy Humphrey, Elisha DeVries, Deb Schubert**
White Team Ushers:
John Leitner & Cindy Krause-Leitner
Barb & Jerry Van Leeuwen,
Cheryl Van Abbema
Welcome Table: **Sarah Jacobs**
Next Week: **Blue Team**

C3 Board of Trustees:
Chair: **Teresa Colbry**
Vice Chair: **Kathy Humphrey**
Treasurer: **Andy Cawthon**
Secretary: **Tod Wyn**
Trustees:
Tabitha Blanski
Karen Cotton
Kim Crozier
Bill Haug
Wayne Johnson

Brad Ruggles,
Lead Teacher
brad@c3westmichigan.org

Shannon McMaster,
Executive Director
smcmaster@
c3westmichigan.org

Next Week –
Teacher: **Kent Dobson**
Music: **Josh Rose**
Gathering Host: **Rod Van Abbema**
Meditation: **Gordy Alderink**
Kids' Volunteer: **Julia Davey**
Setup Volunteer: **Jeff Crandle**



c3westmichigan.org/support

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Sacred Earth
Week 5: Elemental Love

Core Teacher: **Ruth Zwald**, retired social worker/minister, makes her home on a farm, starting every dawn with good coffee and the crow of the rooster. Loving the cycles of the seasons, Ruth watches the moon and never misses a solstice or equinox turning. She is a Mesa Carrier on the Peruvian Medicine Path, which involves personal healing, transformational healing for others, and creating ceremony and ritual for ourselves and for the earth.

Musicians: **Stanley & Quiggle** (Owen & Jamie, he/him for both) are an indie-folk duo from Big Rapids, who were connected by music in their late high school years and paired up to embark on this journey together. With their vocals and a variety of instruments, they create an atmosphere filled with strong emotion and wonder. Having the rest of their lives to make music, the two hope to make an impact and have stories to tell along the way.

Music: **Stanley & Quiggle**

Gathering Host: **Valerie Engeltjes**

Music: **Stanley & Quiggle**

Meditation: **Nelleke Knarr**

Moment of Silence

Reading/Teaching: **Ruth Zwald**

In my tradition it is important to have intimate contact with the elements of life. This guarantees that we have harmonious lives – it promotes life and the cosmos entering into us and filling us...When on our path we are united in relationship to the elements, every day of our life has significance. I'll say to you now that we are going to open the doors of our hearts and start to receive the gifts that life gives us. We need to feel the help of air, water, earth, and fire...the whole of life that comes along in this moment.
 – don Alberto Taxo, Ecuadorian Yachak, *The Way of Abundance and Joy*

Music: **Stanley & Quiggle**

Gathering Host: **Valerie Engeltjes**

Music: **Stanley & Quiggle**



News from the Board of Trustees

Location search update. The landlord's counter offer to our lease terms proposal was extensive, and pushed a lot of expenses back on us. After careful consideration, the Board of Trustees voted to end consideration of this property. They determined that the gap between our needs and the landlord's desires was too great. Although this is disappointing, it frees up time and energy for us to find a sustainable solution for Gathering and operations.
Please attend the Community Meeting on the 18th for more information.
--Shannon McMaster, Executive Director.

Counting Team Needs a New Member

This involves working with one other person every fifth week for about 15-20 minutes after Sunday Gathering, starting the first week of July. Please see Lana Brock.

Join the Parks Clean-Up Blitz

Sign up today at the Outreach table for our Parks Clean-Up Blitz at Tanglefoot and Mill Point Parks in Spring Lake next Saturday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to noon.

News Items for Next Week's C3 Matters

Chrys will be taking a week off from her C3 duties. Please send all news items for next week's C3 Matters and C3 Update to both Annie Wassmann (awassmann@wassmannndesign.com) and Becky Park (frontdesk@c3westmichigan.org).

Week 3@C3: Humanity for Prisoners

During the month of May, we are collecting funds for Humanity for Prisoners (HFP), a nonprofit based in Spring Lake, whose motto is Action with Compassion. HFP offers one-on-one guidance and compassionate support to people in prison. Find more information about HFP on the Week 3@C3 table or on their website, www.humanityforprisoners.org. Giving Sundays are today and May 18. Checks, cash, credit card contributions are welcome. Include notation: Week3@C3 HFP.

Congratulations, Plant Up and Fly Right Environmentalists!

We are up to 58 trees so far. Thank you so much! We will be accepting donations until May 25 in honor of loved ones for Memorial Day. See the Outreach Table after the Gathering on Sunday. Your check, made out to C3, with "Plant Up," your email address and honoree's name on the memo line, will allow us to tell you where your tree is eventually planted.

Check Out Our New Member Directory!

After years with Wild Apricot, we have transitioned to a new member directory service, Member Planet. We expect a few hiccups, so please feel free to reach out to Shannon (smcmaster@c3westmichigan.org) with questions.

Cardboard Chaos: Join the C3 Flotation Nation!

Start saving strong pieces of cardboard! We're (questionably) racing in the Grand Haven Cardboard Boat Race on Saturday, July 26, at 1:30 p.m. Armed with duct tape, cardboard, and zero nautical wisdom, we need bold folks to help build or pilot our (soggy?) masterpiece. Want in? Email brad@c3westmichigan.org

C3 Kids Fundraiser

The C3 Kids' fundraiser on April 27 raised a total of \$412 for The People Center! Thank you for your overwhelming generosity and support of this self-guided project! We are so proud of them!

Sunday Supper Group

There is no Sunday Supper Group today, since it's Mother's Day.

C3 Men's Group

The C3 Men meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Choir Room at St. John's Episcopal Church. For questions, call Phil Koster at 616-402-1751.

Join the Vigil for Peace and Justice

Bring a sign (or borrow one of ours and stand with us to support the rights, freedoms, and dignity of all people, every Saturday, noon to 1 p.m. on Washington Avenue at Central Park.

Women's Journey

Our next meeting is May 19, a week early due to Memorial Day, 6:30 p.m., at 815 Ver Hoeks Street. All C3 women are invited.

C3 Book Club and Friends

We will meet at The Bookman at 6 p.m. on May 20, to choose our reading list for next year. Bring two or three suggestions and a small appetizer to share. Questions? Ask Kathy Tosa (616-510-1250) - katherine.tosa@gmail.com

Mindful Living Group

The next session of the Mindful Living Group is scheduled for May 21, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., but please note that the location has been changed for this month to the Spring Lake District Library.

Community Care and Concern

Contact: **Cheryl Van Abbema, 616-402-3108**

Jean King is back at home, with home care assistance, and walking a little each day. Cards may be sent to 11681 152nd Street, West Olive, MI 49460.