

November 22, 2020

Welcome to worship at LaGrave. It is our hope and prayer that you will receive a deep spiritual blessing as we listen to and praise our Lord. The sanctuary and the chapel are equipped with T-coil loop systems.

Preparing for Worship: Next week we will start our Advent series, "Making the Crooked Straight: Isaiah Prophecies about Jesus." Rev. Manion will preach from Isaiah 1.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Thank you to those who have turned in your stewardship commitment for the 2021 General Fund budget. We are on our way to our goal of having 75% of the budget committed, as 34% is committed to date. Use the commitment form that was in the Tuesday email blast to make your commitment confidentially. Or if you prefer, you may call (454-7204) or email to Ruth Ringnalda, Administrative Manager (rringnalda@lagrave.org) in the church office. This process is an important part of our church and we have to find new ways to facilitate it, please make this a priority this week. The 2021 Stewardship Newsletter that includes the budget can be found on the website under Announcements along with the Commitment Form. Thank you!!

GEMS Christmas Card bags list of names: Congregation, this year, more than any other, we need to do all we can to get cards to the people on the list. The list for this year has 48 names and came out in the *News and Opportunities* email on Tuesday. It is also on the Welcome Center table. You may also email Judy Eppinga (jaeppinga@yahoo.com) for a copy. Please note the specific instructions on the list about not placing cards directly into the bags, but into the decorated box in the narthex during church office hours (Monday - Thursday). GEMS counselors will place the cards into the bags. Thank you for blessing our members with your cards and Christmas greetings.

GEMS Christmas cards for sale: The counselors will have a large assortment of \$5 / box *Christmas cards* available this year, but are not able to set up tables like we usually do. Beginning Thursday (11/19), you can email Tina Rooks (tina.erooks@gmail.com) or Judy Eppinga (jaeppinga@yahoo.com) for information about the 10 types of

Christmas cards we have and receive an email with an order form. We also have many non-Christmas cards coming, and will make those available after December 1. Thank you for your support of our fellow church members and our Club.

Please remember that the Pastoral Care Committee has started a **medical equipment lending program**. If you have anything you would like to donate or need to borrow, please contact Dick Kanten (richardkanten1953@gmail.com) or Pastor Ruth Boven (rboven@lagrave.org). Thank you!

The Pastoral Care Committee seeks a new member to join us in caring for the family of LaGrave. We meet once a month (currently via Zoom) at 4 pm on the third Wednesday of the month. If you are interested in serving a three-year term with us or have any questions, please contact Jennifer Schroder, chair. (jenschroder@gmail.com).

LaGrave is pleased to offer a prayer booklet entitled "Prayers of Comfort and Care in Times of Grief." Written by two of our members, Jolene DeHeer and Chad Boorsma, the booklet contains two sets of 31 scripture-based prayers – one set to be prayed for people you know who are grieving; and the other set to be prayed if you are experiencing your own grief. The booklet will be delivered or mailed to all members of the church who are widowed. If you would like a copy of this helpful prayer booklet we would be happy to send you one. Remember, if you are widowed, you do NOT need to request one. You'll receive one by mail or delivery soon. If you'd like to request one, please make your request to info@lagrave.org or contact Rev. Boven.

Note of Thanks:

- Dear friends at LaGrave, Thank you for all the prayers for me and my recovery from surgery. I am improving some each day and should be free of the brace by Christmas. This has been a long recovery, however, I am thankful for the love and support from all of you. Also, all the cards I received are appreciated and reread frequently. **Helen Wentzheimer**

PRAYER CONCERNS

Praise God for:

- **Scott Johnson**, who received the sacrament of baptism last Sunday, November 15.
- **Ethel Brunger**, who will celebrate her 96th birthday on Friday, November 27.
- **Ivan Timmer**, who will celebrate his 91st birthday on Saturday, November 28.

Let us faithfully pray for:

- **Lois Dykstra**, who began an experimental treatment for her lung cancer.
- **Kathy Krager**, who broke her ankle on Thursday, November 5.
- **Ben Nagel**, who is recovering at home after an Epicardial Ablation.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

- Our Christian sympathy to: **Judy and Kevin Scholten, Matt and Rachel Scholten (Jude, Rhys, Wells, Wade)**, in the death of mother and grandmother, Marguerite Koster on Thursday, November 5.
- **Carol Gootjes**, in the passing away of her husband **Dick Gootjes** on Tuesday, November 17. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, a private prayer service will be held, with a celebration-of-life service to be announced at a later date.
- **Carol VanBruggen**, in the passing away of her husband **Dean VanBruggen** on Wednesday, November 18. His service is pending.
- **Bill VanDyk**, in the death of his daughter-in-law Rhonda VanDyk on Thursday, November 19.

Please pray for those with continuing needs:

Norman Bouma, Sandy Buter, Cloe Ann Danford, Katherine Doezema, Roger Dekker, Rob Entingh, Mary Granstra, Shirley Grassmidt, Sherri Kanten, Jim Kipp, Marv Klyn, Sheryl Maliepaard, Eve Meeter, Hattie Patterson, Tom Penning, Addie Post (granddaughter of Roger & Phyllis Post), Rich Postma, Gerri Tiggelman, Bob VanderLey, Sharon VanHouten, Joyce Verhaar, Glenda Veltman, Paul Wright

As Members of God's Family, we pray for all our members who are lonely and isolated at this time, especially those who are immune-compromised or elderly. We pray that we can be an encouragement to them as we reach out with cards, calls, and other contacts. We also continue to pray for healthcare workers who are working long and hard for the safety and health of this community, and in some cases, caring directly for those suffering from COVID 19. We pray for healing for those affected by the virus and protection for all others. We pray for our local non-profits who continue to address the needs of the marginalized in this challenging time. We pray for patience, for the will to love our neighbors well, and for the light of Christ to shine brightly in all we do.

CAP: Don't forget that Pine Rest offers tele therapy with a counselor for concerns such as depression, anxiety, life adjustments, sexual abuse and trauma, stress management, relationship issues, anger, and many more. If you would like to benefit from these services call 455-5000 and mention that you are part of LaGrave's CAP program. Your first three sessions will be at no cost to you. Feel free to call Rev. Boven with questions.

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 22

10:00 AM Morning Worship Livestream

Monday, November 23

5:00 PM Finance Committee (Zoom)

6:30 PM Mission Committee, (Zoom)

7:00 PM Communications Committee, (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 24

4:00 PM BTF Trustees, (Zoom)

6:30 PM Worship Committee, (Zoom)

Thursday, November 26

10:00 AM THANKSGIVING DAY - Livestream