

January 24, 2021

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 Sunday morning, we continue our Growing Deeper series based on the Sermon on the Mount. Reverend Jonker will preach on Matthew 5:43-48, the passage where Jesus calls us to love our enemies.
Next Sunday night, Pastor Jonker will preach on Matthew 14:13-21.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Today, January 24, at 10 AM is our **Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting** to consider the 2021 budget, this meeting will be held virtually. The link will be sent to you.

The annual financial booklet reporting on the activity of the general fund and the other major funds of LaGrave along with the proposed 2021 general fund budget was emailed out on Thursday, January 14. There are some copies on the receptionist's desk.

2s & 3s and Children's Worship will meet during both of our services this morning.

Church School classes (grades 3 – 12) RESUME TODAY between the morning services. Classes meet from 10 – 10:45 on the upper level.

CREW (9th – 12th graders): Celebration worship tonight at 6 PM at the Vault! "Find Yourself in this Picture" is our theme. Bob will give the message based on Mark 2:1-12, Emily will lead the prayer time and the Albers Family will lead the singing. As with worship in our sanctuary, singing is permitted and masks need to be worn. Hope to see many of you there. **Next Sunday,** we are planning another outdoor event so watch for details.

Growing Young: How many high school age young people do you know by name? How many high school age young people know you? We are looking for 40 additional persons to join our team whose goal is to pray for and connect with our high school students. As part of our "Growing Young" efforts, we hope you will consider joining our Caring Adult Team designed to help LaGrave "Grow Young." Please contact Pastor Bob for more information or to volunteer.

Thank You! After several years serving as LaGrave's **Growing U Coordinator, Julia Fletcher** has decided to step away from this role. We wish her well in a new chapter of life! Julia helped plan, implement, and host adult education sessions that were valuable in shaping our community to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. She envisioned a new Growing U logo and transitioned the ways we communicated about Growing U into a digital format. She also thought "outside the box" as she offered Growing U sessions that invited increased participation and conversation with members. When you see Julia, please join us in thanking her for her work and presence among us!

Covid 19 Vaccine: If you need help or more information about getting signed up for the COVID 19 vaccine or will need a ride in order to receive one, you are invited to call the LaGrave office and someone from the Pastoral Care Committee will respond to your request.

Pastoral Care Corner

The Pastoral Care Committee wants to encourage the LaGrave family to stay connected and emotionally healthy during this time of being apart. In this space, we'll post ideas to promote connection and health.

Our partners at Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services recommend that when our own personal expectations for ourselves and others is not met, we feel disappointed, guilty, anxious, upset and more conflict is likely to increase. The challenge today is to remember to adjust our expectations to align with our new reality (that things are difficult right now, that doing less might be wiser than striving to do more). Then, we will find ourselves confidently enduring this most challenging period of time that our world is facing.

Notes of Thanks:

- Thank you, LaGrave family, for your prayers and cards after our mom's home going. We appreciate your support and encouragement and ask for continued prayers as we care for our dad who is now under Hospice Care at home. Sincerely,
Sarah and Jim Breuker, Heidi and Jack VanSledright and our families
- Thank you to my LaGrave Church Family for your expressions of love and comfort through your prayers, cards, and phone calls. Losing the sight in my right eye and decreasing vision of my left eye has certainly been a shock to me (and Barb). I continue to struggle daily adjusting to my "new normal". God is good, and I know He will reveal His new plan for me in the future.
Riley Swinehart

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 24

8:40 AM

Morning Worship

2's & 3's Church Time, 3's Room

8:55 AM

Children's Worship, 4s – 2nd Grade

10:00 AM

Church School 3-12, Upper Level Rms.

11:00 AM

Morning Worship

2's and 3's Church Time, 3's Room

11:15 AM

Children's Worship, 4s – 2nd Grade

5:00 PM

CREW (Zoom)

6:00 PM

Evening Worship

CREW/MSM Celebration Worship, Vault

Monday, January 25

6:30 PM

Mission Committee (Zoom)

Tuesday, January 26

4:00 PM

Facilities Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, January 27

6:00 PM

Boy's Group, Offsite

7:00 PM

GEMS Counselors (Zoom)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Congratulations to:

- **Lee and Erin Heeringa** in the birth of **Callum Wallace** on Monday, December 14.

Let us faithfully pray for:

- **Jim and Bea Hoek's daughter**, Jackie Crawford, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will soon begin treatment.
- **Ken Karsten**, who was recently diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia and has begun treatment.
- **Barbara Swinehart** who fell ice skating and severely fractured her left radius and dislocated her left ulna, and is currently having much pain and discomfort. She will see an orthopedic specialist this week for further evaluation.
- **Sharon Snoeyink**, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will likely undergo surgery soon.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

- **Rudy Dykhuis** whose brother Ernie and sister-in-law Mary both died of Covid-19. Ernie passed away on Monday, January 4, and Mary passed away a week later on Tuesday, January 12.
- **Al and Joyce Jongsma** in the death of Al's sister Grace Nyenhuis in Massachusetts, who is also sister-in-law to **Lynn and Dave Setsma**.

Please pray for those with continuing needs:

Norman Bouma, Bob Bristol, Sandy Buter, Cloe Ann Danford, Katherine Doezema, Roger Dekker, Lois Dykstra, Rob Entingh, Mary Granstra, Shirley Grassmidt, Kathy Krager, Ken Gritter, Sherri Kantan, Marv Klyn, Sheryl Maliepaard, Eve Meeter, Hattie Patterson, Tom Penning, Addie Post (granddaughter of Roger & Phyllis Post), Rich Postma, Riley Swinehart, Gerri Tiggleman, Bob VanderLey, Sharon VanHouten, Joyce VerHaar, Glenda Veltman, Paul Wright

HBMS Missionary Update:

- Brent Seely lives in Bangkok, Thailand where he is working as a social worker and communications specialist with SaiLom. This nonprofit organization seeks out young men with physical and mental challenges who are living in poor conditions in government houses, showing them God's love through assessment of their needs and skills and then helping them gain employment and independent lives. Due to Thailand reopening its borders to tourists in December, there has been a second wave of Covid-19. The resulting lockdown has made it difficult for Brent and the SaiLom team to continue their ministry. Brent asks for prayers for the mental and physical health of these young disabled men and the SaiLom team and for the vaccine to soon be available. Pray too for a positive outcome for the economic and political upheaval that Thailand is currently experiencing.

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 those who grieve the loss of a loved one to COVID 19. We pray for our local non-profits who continue to address the needs of the marginalized in this challenging time. We pray for business leaders facing difficult decisions that touch the well-being of their employees and customers, and impact the long-term health of their businesses. 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.