

November 27, 2022

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. During the offering please take the time to sign the Welcome Register and pass it from the center aisle to the outside aisle and back to the center so that you will be able to greet your fellow worshippers by name following the service. We pray that your worship experience today will be a blessed one, and that together we will see Jesus.

Next Sunday morning we will continue our Apocalyptic Advent series. We will look at another text that points to the second coming of Jesus, and that's Luke 21:1-28 where Jesus himself prophesies about the end of history. Reverend Jonker will preach. **Next Sunday evening** we will enjoy our annual Lessons and Carols service. There will be two services, one at 3 pm and the other at 6 pm. Calvin University's choirs will lead us.

TODAY

2 & 3s, Children's Worship and nursery will be provided this morning.

NO CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES today. Classes resume next Sunday, Dec. 4 for 3rd – 12th graders.

CREW (High School) There are no regular CREW activities tonight but student & adult leaders will meet from 5:30-7:30 at the Vault for planning and Christmas decorating. Next Sunday is Growing Your Faith with Jim.

No middle school youth group tonight, but see you next week at the Hollenbach's house for a Christmas party! All middle schoolers are welcome to attend!

UPCOMING

Women's Book Club - Please join us on Monday, November 28 at 7:30pm in The Parlor, to discuss The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson. Books are available at local libraries and Schuler Books

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS – Dinner will be served from 6 – 6:30 this week Nov. 30 & next week Dec. 7.

GEMS Girls' Club will meet this week Wednesday: Although it is the last Wednesday of the month, it is an extra one, so we will be meeting in church and doing some fun indoor activities. See you there at 6:30pm. Remember, friends are also welcome!

Upcoming Calendar for Middle School youth group:

Christmas gathering at the Hollenbach's house on December 4. Join CREW for a Celebration at the Vault on December 11. No meeting on December 18 due to carol sing. Open gym, pizza and hang-out night on Wednesday, December 28, 6-8 pm. Friends welcome!

The Calvin University Music Department will present the annual service of **Lessons and Carols on Sunday, Dec. 4** at both 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at LaGrave church. The service, entitled **For God So Loved the Cosmos**, will feature the Women's Chorale, Campus Choir, the Capella, organ, instruments, and readers from the faculty and student body.

The Children's Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 11 at 4 pm, with a rehearsal on Saturday, December 10 at 9:30 am. Children aged 4 through grade 6 will be participating with singing and acting. Children aged 2 and 3 will have a small part in the program. The youth choirs will also be involved. For more details, look for an email, as well as a letter distributed in Children's Worship and Children's Church. Contact Jess Hollenbach or Peter Jonker with questions.

The King's Choraliers Christmas Concert at LaGrave – You are invited on December 11 at 7:30 pm to take some time during the Christmas season to reflect and immerse yourselves in the amazement of God's love – "O Come, Let Us Adore Him, Christ the Lord" We will be celebrating the significance of Christ's birth through choral music and carol singing. Our special musical guests will be The South Christian High School Women's Choir, a 30-voice women's choir, under the direction of Ms. Katie DeVries, and a special group of instrumental musicians. A freewill offering will be received. Please join us to worship and celebrate! Also on the Welcome Center are some King Choralier's CDs that are available for no charge.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

The deacons want to remind our community that a benevolence fund is available to our members. We would be honored to help you with financial needs, both emergency and non-emergency. All requests are handled confidentially. For more information, please contact church staff, your district elder/deacon or email benevolence@lagrave.org.

Thank you to those who have turned in your stewardship commitment for the 2023 General Fund budget. We are on our way to our goal of having 75% of the budget committed, as 36%

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 Amy Hermen (ahermen@lagrave.org) in the church office. Please make this a priority this week.

Instrumentalists: Today is your last chance to reserve your spot in the all-church orchestra for the **Annual Instrumental Carol Sing** on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 6:00 p.m. (rehearsal at 4:15). Members of all ages and skill levels who play a traditional band or orchestra instrument are invited to participate. If you are interested, look for the sign-up form in the Nov. 22 email blast, or contact Dr. Larry Visser (lvisser@lagrave.org).

The Social Concerns Committee (SCC) is seeking 8-12 LaGrave members to host a Christmas party at Dwelling Place's Verne Barry apartments for approximately 100 residents of this building. The event will take place on Monday, Dec 19, with a maximum time commitment of 12 pm-3:30 pm that day, which includes time for set up and clean up. If you can't attend but still want to contribute you can write cards or donate supplies for the event by Sunday Dec. 11. If you have any questions please email Erin Alley erialley@lagrave.org or Kristin Batts kristinbatts@yahoo.com.

Advent: Waiting with Acts of Kindness: Watch the email blast for "Advent: Waiting with Acts of Kindness." This is an opportunity to share an act of kindness each day during Advent, beginning on December 1.

Toy collection for The Other Way Christmas Store. We will be collecting toys from November 6 - December 4. The flyers are attached with wish lists and I have created an Amazon Wish List if people want to use this.

GEMS Counselors' Christmas Cards for sale: There are boxes for sale on the small table by the back office door. It is an honor system where you take your card choice and leave your payment or an IOU in the locked wooden box. Cards are \$10 for the boxes of 48/50, and \$5 for the smaller boxes/pkgs. Thank you for supporting our GEMS Club while blessing friends, family, and fellow church members.

College Care Packs - Thank you, Congregation, for your wonderful support, prayers, and encouragement with the College Care Packs! We had a wonderful response and it is greatly appreciated!

Christmas card bags and list of names: *Only 16 more days to fill the card bags.* The list of names of home-bound members and 43 card bags are set up in the hallway near the MPR and will remain there until December 14, when they will be delivered by girls and counselors. You may also email Judy Eppinga (jaeppinga@yahoo.com) for a list, get it off the News and Opportunities email, or from the church member part of the website under announcements. Thank you for supporting our church family.

Giving Statements for 2022 will be emailed out at the beginning of January. However, if you want to know where you are at with your pledge commitment or what you have given to LaGrave this year, you can check that out yourself on Elexio. When your profile opens up, you select the giving tab and your giving history will be there; you can even print your own statement. If you haven't accessed Elexio yet, call the office and Marie Jansen will be able to help you. You may also reach out to Amy Hermen (ahermen@lagrave.org).

Holiday Depression: Feeling sad and not-so-wonderful around the holidays? Family conflict, loss of a loved one, and holiday pressures can be overwhelming. LaGrave's participation in Pine Rest's Church Assistance Program means you can reach out for support. Call 1.800.442.0809, press 1, and let the operator know you are a CAP member with LaGrave to receive free and confidential support.

LaGrave News: If you haven't checked out the new issue of LaGrave News there are hard copies available on the welcome center and a digital copy on the LaGrave website.

Today in The Parlor and adjacent hallway! There you will find The Art of Forgiveness, an exhibit of artwork inspired by the parable of the Prodigal Son. The exhibit was thoughtfully made available to LaGrave Church from the collected original artwork of Larry and Mary Gerbens. Also included are three original prints by Sadao Watanabe on loan from Calvin University. The exhibit continues for viewing through January 15, 2023.

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 27

8:40 AM	Morning Worship Infant & Toddler Childcare 2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room
8:55 AM	Children's Worship, 4s-2 nd Grade

10:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal, K-2 nd , Jr. Choir Room
11:00 AM	Morning Worship Infant & Toddler Childcare 2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room
11:15 AM	Children's Worship, 4s-2 nd Grade
4:00 PM	Bells Gloria Rehearsal NO EVENING SERVICE

Monday, November 28

6:00 PM	Mission Committee, Parlor
7:00 PM	Communications Committee, Library
7:00 PM	Spiritual Formation, LL
7:30 PM	Women's Book Club, Parlor

Tuesday, November 29

2:00 PM	Crèche Meeting, MPR
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Wednesday, November 30

8:00 AM	Men's Morning Bible Study, LLMR
9:00 AM	Woman's Bible Study, Library
9:30 AM	Spiritual Journey, LLMR
10:00 AM	Mid-Morning Woman's Bible study, Parlor
12:30 PM	Woman's Bible Study, Rm 200
5:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal; Grades 3-6 th
6:00 PM	Grab & Go Dinner, MPR
6:30 PM	Faith Journey Bible study, Parlor
6:30 PM	GEMS
6:30 PM	Scouts, Vault
6:30 PM	Youth Outdoor Group, Off Campus
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, December 1

9:15 AM	Beth Moore and More, Parlor, 210, 200
10:00 AM	Comfort and Care Team, Rm 218
6:30 PM	Bells Jubilate

Friday, December 2

8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
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Assisting This Week November 27

Security: 8:40 – Justin Holford & Harvey DeMaagd
11:00 – Kevin Scholten & Judy Scholten

Assisting Next Week: December 4

Security: 8:40 – Andrew Schimmel & Doug VanBeek
11:00 – Jeff Scholtens & Chase Scholtens