

November 19, 2023

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 Chad Boorsma will preach, and we will conclude our "I Was Just Wondering" series with a look at Matthew 5:38-48. The message will consider the question, "How do I love and forgive my enemies?"

No service next Sunday evening for Thanksgiving weekend.

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

Church School (3rd - 12th grade): Church school meets this morning in the classrooms on the 2nd floor between the morning services. We are off next Sunday, November 26 and resume again on Sunday, December 3. **Nursery for 3 and under will be offered for the Thanksgiving Day Service.**

College/Career - It is Cinnamon Roll Sunday! Join us today at 9:40 for homemade cinnamon rolls! We will meet in the parlor.

Today is **Mini-Muffin Sunday**. Join us in the Multipurpose Room between the services for fine fellowship, coffee, and a variety of these sweet treats.

CREW (9th - 12th): We are meeting tonight from 5:30 - 7:15pm in the Vault. We are off Sunday, November 26 for Thanksgiving break. We will resume again on Sunday, December 3.

MSM (middle school youth group 6th-8th grade) meets tonight in the MPR from 5:30-7:15 for worship, devotions, games and dinner. All middle schoolers are welcome! We will not meet next Sunday, November 27, due to Thanksgiving break. Contact Jess Hollenbach with questions (616) 821-3694.

UPCOMING

Our annual Thanksgiving Day service will be held on Thursday, Nov. 23 at 10:00 am. We gather together to celebrate God's bounteous mercies and countless blessings.

The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. All bulletin information must be turned in by **10:00am on Monday, November 20** for the **November 26 bulletin.**

Wednesday Night Activities - There are no Wednesday night programs this week, November 22, due to Thanksgiving break. We will resume again on Wednesday, November 29.

GEMS Girls' Club (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior) NO GEMS meeting or Counselors' meeting next week. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you on staff - you are LOVED and we are thankful for you!

Women's Book Club: Please join us on Monday, Nov. 27 at 7:30pm in The Parlor to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Books are available at local libraries and Schuler Books. Please wear name tags.

Grab and Go Meals: Our next grab and go meal is Wednesday, November 29. Menu is TBD.

Still Wanted: a few good, fun-loving men. GEMS Club will have a Father-Daughter night on Wed Nov. 29 from 6:30-8pm. Because the activities are better done 1:1 we are asking some "Special Hims" to offer to fill in for those Dads who have multiple daughters in GEMS or cannot be there. The activity is mostly sedentary, but creative. If you are willing to help out, please let Tina Rooks know 616-723-3041. Thank you for stepping up-you will not regret it!

Mark your calendar now for an opportunity to help at Kids Food Basket! Join the College/Career Adults on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 6-7:30 pm to help out at Kids Food Basket. This is for anyone interested in helping pack supper lunches for area students. Families are welcome to bring their children (must be at least 5) and make it an evening event! All within the church are welcome to join! You just need to register using the following link: <http://lagravecareergroup.kfb.volunteerhub.com/>

Mom's Fellowship: December 1st we will have a Moms' Night Out. December 8th we will meet in the library at 9:00 a.m. Bring some of your favorite Christmas traditions to share with the group. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding Moms' Fellowship, please feel free to contact Jill Rosenboom at jrenae310@gmail.com.

Upcoming Special Events:

- December 3, 3:00pm & 6:00pm, Lessons and Carols
- December 10, 4:00pm, Children's Christmas program

- December 17, 6:00pm, Carol Sing

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Thank you to those who have turned in their stewardship commitment for the 2024 General Fund budget. We are on our way to our goal of having 75% of the budget committed, as 36% is committed to date. If you have not made your commitment yet, please either fill out the form that is available at the Welcome Center and place it in the box provided, click on the commitment form that was in the Tuesday email blast, or email Amy Hermen, Administrative Manager, (ahermen@lagrave.org) in the church office. Please make this a priority this week.

The third offering of the year for the Henry Beets Mission Society will be collected during the Thanksgiving Day Service. The current annual cost for supporting our HBMS missionaries, who share the gospel in this country and around the world, is \$146,870. HBMS is grateful for the \$57,239 that has been received so far this year.

Want to learn more about the Henry Beets Mission Society (HBMS)? Pick up a copy of the Henry Beets Mission Society booklet available at the Welcome Center and in the Library. This booklet describes the rich history of HBMS and the unique ways the gospel has been spread globally for over 75 years thanks to your faithful, generous financial support.

Parents: Do you have a son/daughter that is currently attending college? The College Ministry is sending care packages to our college students. Make sure that Heidi Glover hglover@lagrave.org has their mailing information by **today, Nov. 19**. Care packages will be mailed the week of Nov. 26.

Power-Assisted Bathroom Door: Ever find it hard to negotiate church bathroom doors at LaGrave? A new power assisted door opener has been installed on one of the single stall restrooms near the Parlor. We hope this allows members and guests to stay more comfortably for worship services and events at LaGrave.

Pastoral Care is putting together a new resource for the congregation called Recovery and Respite Ministry. This ministry will provide care to members who are recovering at home after illness, surgery or other major life events. Volunteers will be available to help with light household

duties, companionship, and minimal medical care (medication reminders, etc). No training is necessary, just a willingness to help others when extra care or companionship is needed. Please contact Jennifer Schroder jennschroder@gmail.com if you are willing to volunteer your time (we already have six people signed up!). Once we get enough people, we will start offering this to members in need.

Instrumentalists: If you are interested in participating in the all-church orchestra at the Instrumental Carol Sing on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 6:00 p.m., please sign up via the link in last Tuesday's email blast, or return the green invitation card in your mailbox to Dr. Visser's office mailbox. Any questions may be emailed to Dr. Visser (lvisser@lagrave.org).

LaGrave will once again be supporting The Other Way Ministries annual Christmas Store. If you would like to donate toys for a family in need, we will be collecting in the multipurpose room from November 19-December 6. If you would like to make your shopping easy, you can purchase via the Amazon Wishlist link found in the weekly email blast. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/BFK51A8MFYYP/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_3

The Cardboard Chronicles: The Biblical Art of Rudolph Bostic's collection of paintings begins in the Parlor and continues in the Lower Level hallway leading to the Fellowship Room. We are privileged to have this exhibit from the private collection of the Sandra Bowden family.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENT

You're invited to the Calvin University Oratorio Society's 104th Annual Performances of Handel's Messiah. Sean Ivory is this year's conductor alongside a 113-member chorus and four guest soloist; Lindsay Kesselman, Myka Murphy, Martin Bakari, Ben Clements. We welcome you to join in on this holiday tradition by attending one of our two performances on Friday, December 1 at 7:30pm or Saturday, December 2 at 3:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at <https://calvin.universiticket.com/>

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 19

8:40 AM Morning Worship
Infant & Toddler Childcare

10:00 AM 2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room
10:00 AM Age 4-2nd Grade Choir, Jr. Choir Room
10:00 AM Church School 3-12
10:00 AM Mini muffins in the MPR
10:00 AM College/Career Gathering, Parlor
10:00 AM LiveSafe Meeting, LL
10:00 AM Small Group, Council Room
11:00 AM Morning Worship
Infant & Toddler Childcare
2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room
4:00 PM Bells Gloria
4:40 PM 7-12 Youth Choir, Chancel Choir Room
5:30 PM CREW, Vault
5:30 PM MSM, MPR
6:00 PM Evening Worship

Monday, November 20

5:00 PM Evangelistic Outreach, Library
5:30 PM Finance Committee, Parlor
6:30 PM Youth Ed Committee, Parlor
7:30 PM Fellowship Committee, Library

Tuesday, November 21

6:30 PM Bells Jubilate

Wednesday, November 22

1:15 PM Intercessory Prayer, Chapel
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 23

10:00 AM Thanksgiving Day Worship Service

Assisting This Week: November 19

Security: 8:40: Karl Ondersma & Paul Ondersma

11:00: Steve Schroder & Mitch Schroder

Greeters:

8:40: Tower Doors: Dave & Carmen VandenBerg

Covered Doors: Matt & Erin Kuipers

11:00: Tower Doors: Jim Oppenhuizen

Covered Doors: R. Sipp & Eileen Hutton

Assisting Next Week: November 26

Security: 8:40: Jeff Konyndyk & Grant Konyndyk

11:00: Jeff Scholtens & Chase Scholtens

Greeters:

8:40: Tower Doors: Jeffrey & Maria Uekert

Covered Doors: Lynn Kranendonk

11:00: Tower Doors: Bruce & Barb Engbers

Covered Doors: Erin Alley