

The LaGrave News

December 2023



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The Seventh-day Adventist Property

How can LaGrave best use the Seventh-day Adventist property? LaGrave's members will be invited soon to discuss that question. The church's Long-Range Planning Committee recently proposed a new long-range ministry plan. The congregation will have an opportunity to vote on that plan at the congregational meeting in January. You can find that plan at www.lagrave.org/sda.

LaGrave's facility plans, including plans for the SDA property, should reflect our overall ministry plans. Once LaGrave adopts a long-range ministry plan, LaGrave's members can address questions about the SDA property. Should we move youth programs away from the Vault building (across Sheldon) to someplace inside the SDA facilities? How can we most effectively integrate the SDA facilities with LaGrave's existing facilities? Should we use part of the SDA property for new community ministries?



Should we remodel part of our existing LaGrave facilities? These are all questions that need to be addressed.

When LaGrave acquired the SDA property, council created an SDA Ministry/Program Committee to consider the SDA property's best uses. SDA Ministry/Program Committee identified several ways LaGrave might use the SDA property for existing LaGrave programs and new community ministries. You can find that committee's report and supplemental report www.lagrave.org/sda.

Now it is time for you to offer your perspective. Early in 2024, LaGrave will hold congregational workshops to discuss its ministry and facility needs and how it can best integrate the SDA property with its existing facilities. Dates and times will be announced soon. We invite LaGrave members to share their ideas.

Welcome

New Members!



Jack Walsh
Joined: August 27, 2023



Rachel Thorne
Joined: September 11, 2023



Conner Phillips
Joined: September 11, 2023



Luke & Lora Bosscher
Joined: October 9, 2023



Mark & Laura Bosscher
(Sadie)

Joined: October 9, 2023



Mike & Cathy Bosscher

Joined: October 9, 2023



Nick & Nancy Tuit

Joined: October 9, 2023



Bruce & June Klanderma

Joined: October 9, 2023



Zachary & Ashley Joldersma

Joined: November 13, 2023



Fritz & Sandy Esch

Joined: November 13, 2023

Did You Know?

If you are a member of LaGrave, you have access to services offered by Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services at no cost to you through our Church Assistance Program (CAP). If you have any questions contact Kristy Manion at kmanion@lagrave.org

Staff Updates

LaGrave's Production Manager

By Allen Rodriguez

LaGrave community, I am pleased to be a part of the staff as the new Livestream Manager. From the beginning, volunteers and staff members welcomed me into a flourishing environment and supported me in serving the church well. I am a junior at Calvin University, Majoring in Film and Media. I have managed livestreams for various events at Calvin for over two years, and I come from Chicago, where I gained my church livestream background at Willow Creek Community Church. I can't guarantee perfection in the future, but I will use my God-gifted talents to bless the congregation moving forward.





A Very Warm Welcome

By Rachel Thorne

A question I often receive is, “How has your start at LaGrave been?” And my response to those who ask is that I have received a very warm welcome. This welcome has been expressed to me this past fall through different experiences in the youth ministry programs.

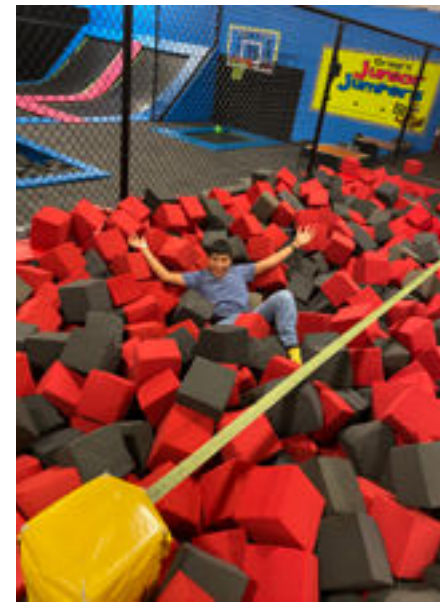
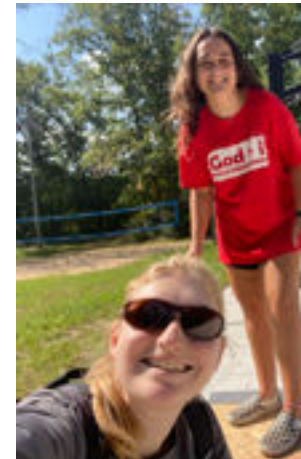
I was warmly welcomed into Church School by Lonnie Rynders, our 11th and 12th-grade teacher, who offered me some of the baked goods that she brings for her class each week. I was warmly welcomed into Youth Outdoors when a young boy gave me a nut he found on the ground and told me I should keep it forever (it is currently on my office shelf). I was warmly welcomed into GEMS when I made a wind chime with the 5th and 6th-grade group and when I played a “Would you rather” game with the 2nd-grade group. I was warmly welcomed into Scouts when they let me observe one of their meetings and see the supportiveness and camaraderie in their group. I was warmly welcomed into the Middle School Ministry when they invited me to go on their day retreat to Camp Roger.

While we were there, we hiked around Pickerel Lake, and I got to know more about some of the kids in the group and saw them express their creativity as they documented pictures and notes in a journal about where they saw joy, nature and God. They were also very

kind to me as I dropped not one but two hot dogs into the fire. Finally, I have received a warm welcome at CREW, the high school youth group.

It has been an honor to spend time in small groups and hear a snapshot of the student’s lives from the past week. It has been a joy to play ping pong and foosball with different groups and stretch my competitive muscles. But the warmest welcome of all was having the privilege to share some of my own testimony at our first Celebration service.

So thank you, LaGrave church, and specifically LaGrave Youth Ministries, for giving me a very warm welcome. I look forward to the end of this semester and the turn into the spring semester.



A Wonderful Gift

By The Art Committee

In November 2021, LaGrave received a wonderful gift of an early painting by Ed Boevé from Patricia Schuurin, who had inherited the painting from her uncle. As Patricia explains, “My uncle, Bob Haan, was a good friend of Ed Boevé and was given this painting as a gift... I don’t have any more information as I was just a young child when I first saw it. I had helped Bob move five times, and every time he moved, the painting had a place of honor in his home. I know that LaGrave was a very important part of Bob’s nurturing and growth as a Christian. That’s when I decided to call the church to see if they would be interested in preserving this very special painting”.

As a student at Calvin College (now University), I had the privilege of taking Ed’s course Introduction to Art History. When I first saw the painting, I was struck by how it seems to convey in a personal manner everything from Ed’s excellent course. His course included a study of Medieval art styles from their beginning in the early days of the Christian era to their high point in the Gothic period of the thirteenth century. In addition, Boevé understood both the Western and Eastern art traditions.

Initially, I thought the painting depicted the Last Supper when Jesus presented the Passover meal. But now I realize that the painting commemorates the Agape or Holy Communion of the Apostles, also known as the Eucharist. Boevé would always enthusiastically highlight the thanksgiving meaning of the Greek word Eucharist and its importance for the church.

With Jesus in the center of the composition, surrounded by his disciples, the table is tilted up in the manner of early Flemish Christian art. That suggests a more sacramental interpretation of the Last Supper. Boevé does this by symbolizing the elements of chalice (wine) and host (loaf of bread) on the table for all to see. The disciples each have a smaller cup to represent communion with each other and Jesus’ loving spirit.

Perhaps those who remember Ed Boevé can find a self-

portrait of him in the painting as one who identifies himself as a disciple and follower of Jesus. Ed Boevé often said that, for the Christian, making artwork is an act of worship.

Miller Fenwood of Holland, Michigan, has beautifully restored the painting. It now hangs in the entrance to the parlor. We are looking for LaGrave members who are interested in assisting in the various areas and tasks of the Art Committee to join us as the need arises. Please contact David M. Versluis with your inquiries and questions at versluis@dordt.edu or (712) 441-9909.





Open Doors. Transform Lives.

Reflecting Jesus

By Social Concerns Committee

Loving and caring for the marginalized in our communities is how we reflect Jesus. Throughout the Bible, Jesus prioritizes the marginalized by welcoming children (Matt. 19:14), women (Luke 8:48), ministering to the “unclean” (Mark 1:41-42), accepting Samaritans (Luke 10), and most importantly, dying for sinners. He came to Earth to reach and restore the broken.

This past September, the Social Concerns Committee had the opportunity to tour Dégagé, an organization that truly reflects Jesus’ desire for us to take action, meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable in our community and to reach and restore the broken. Dégagé’s mission of “reflecting Christ’s love in action and word” is apparent as you walk through the different facilities, each with a warm, inviting, and hope-filled atmosphere. At the Community Center, they serve three nutritious meals a day and use it as a cooling and warming center during extreme temperatures. The Wellness Center provides basic things like showers and haircuts, and the Rest Center provides a comfortable space for those recovering from surgery or illness. There is also the Open Door Women’s Center, which provides an emergency shelter for up to 100 women a night and offers multiple other programs.

The programs focus on empowering women to achieve stable housing and offer avenues to create sustainable income. One way they do this is through Dégagé’s social enterprise

businesses, which employ the people they serve while also raising funds for Dégagé. Two of these amazing businesses are the Open Door Bakery, a cafe that sells beautiful cookies, and The Thrift on Div store and artisan market, both of which are open to the public. Dégagé’s belief that “a hand up is better than a handout” and that “no one is so broken that there is nothing they can contribute” are apparent in all their programs. Patrons can do chores to earn vouchers for meals, prescription co-pays, and safe storage for their belongings; services that facilitate the human need for dignity and respect.

Dégagé’s ministries reflect God’s desire to reach and restore broken people by breaking the cycle of

poverty and homelessness. They walk alongside them while they navigate the obstacles presented when working toward safe housing, stable jobs, sobriety, and health, all with the goal of independence. Dégagé prioritizes the marginalized in a way that reflects Jesus’ desire for each of us to embody. If we consider all the times we see Jesus drawing the outcasts to Himself, He listened, took action, and met needs. His emphasis was on transforming, equipping, and sending out.

I was heavily impacted by the hope I felt when leaving Dégagé. I witnessed the true heart of Jesus through the people who work there and the possibility for real change for those impacted by Dégagé’s mission. I saw Jesus in the faces of the people they serve. As followers, we should endeavor to do the same: reflecting Christ’s love in action and in word to create the change needed for our neighbors.

“no one is so broken that there is nothing they can contribute”

Radical Grace Church

600 LAFAYETTE AVE NE | GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49503

Come learn with us!

SUNDAY FOUNDATION AND SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION (FAST) 9AM

WEDNESDAY KEEPING IT REAL, RELEVANT AND RAW BIBLE STUDY (KIR3) 6PM

Come celebrate with us!

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10AM

*Lift each other in prayer;
Lift Yahweh in praise!*

REV. ADRIEL SAVILLE MORGAN, M.DIV. -LEAD PASTOR



Coit Community Church Welcomes New Minister and Name

By Evangelistic Outreach Committee

In October, the Evangelistic Outreach Committee (EOC) met with Adriel Morgan, Lead Pastor of Radical Grace Church. LaGrave members might recognize Radical Grace under its former name, Coit Community Church. They chose this name because the church is on Lafayette, not Coit. Also, because church members wanted something more inclusive and appealing to seekers. Radical Grace is a CRC congregation and has long been supported as an outreach ministry by LaGrave.

Originally from Portage, Adriel was licensed to preach in the Baptist church at age 16. He attended the US Naval Academy, was discharged for medical reasons, and later graduated from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary (now Cornerstone). In addition to being a minister, he's also a high school Spanish teacher and Cornerstone track coach (yes, he's a busy guy!). In January, he joined Coit Community, as it was then still called, as Associate Pastor under Lead Pastor Jerome

Burton. He became Lead Pastor in April, shortly before Jerome's death in July. Radical Grace is small but strong in its outreach efforts, hosting a community brunch and neighborhood block party. It also has a food pantry and provides non-food items like diapers. Please pray for Adriel and Radical Grace as they begin a new era of ministry!

Belonging

Through Fellowship

By Jana Eding



If you are a mother of young children at LaGrave, you may have noticed email blasts and bulletin announcements detailing what Moms' Fellowship here at LaGrave entails. Hopefully, you have been personally invited to join us. I thought I would take this opportunity to share how much this group has meant to me.

I became a first-time mother in March of 2020. Motherhood can already be terribly isolating, but nothing prepared me (or anyone else, I'm sure!) for the loneliness, confusion, and fear of those times. When I finally was ready to venture out into the world with my young children, I was plagued with doubts. Would I fit in with the other parents? Would my boys do all right with someone else caring for them? Did I even remember how to socialize?

Moms' Fellowship was immediately a place of belonging for me. I have found it to be a source of mutual encouragement where I can share my joys and frustrations honestly with women currently in the thick of it,

“Moms' Fellowship was immediately a place of belonging for me.”

just like me. Lynn Setsma and Joanne Arnoys are such a blessing to all of us as they read to and play with our children so we can have a much-



needed breather. They have taken the time to learn which of my fraternal twin boys is which and seek them out at church, making our whole family feel valued and loved. My sons have formed friendships with the other children concurrently as I have formed friendships with their mothers. This group has truly made me feel like I belong to a community after so much isolation.

Moms' Fellowship is casual and welcoming, so please join us! We know not all women can make a weekday morning work, so we also plan a few nights out in someone's home throughout the year. We would love to see you and support you through motherhood. Please reach out to Jill Rosenboom (jrenae310@gmail.com) or me (jceding@gmail.com) if you would like more information.

MUSIC AT LAGRAVE



Advent and Christmas Season

Special Worship Services:

- **Sunday, Dec. 3, 8:40 and 11:00 a.m.**
The First Sunday of Advent with the sacrament of Holy Communion.
- **Sunday, Dec. 3, 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.**
Calvin University presents the annual service of Lessons and Carols. The Campus Choir, Capella, and the Women's Chorale will participate along with readers and instrumentalists. Dr. Pearl Shangkuan and Dr. James Borst are the directors and Dr. Ken Bos will serve as organist.
- **Sunday, Dec. 10, 4:00 p.m.**
The children of LaGrave will present the annual Children's Christmas Service with singing and enacting a Christmas pageant. This Koinonia service will be followed by a post-service meal.
- **Sunday, Dec. 17, 8:40 and 11:00 a.m.**
The Third Sunday of Advent will feature an opportunity for members to join the Chancel Choir in the annual singing of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus.
- **Sunday, Dec. 17, 6:00 p.m.**
The annual Instrumental Carol Sing will be led by an all-church orchestra and organ as the congregation will sing several beloved Christmas carols. Dr. Rob Hobgood will serve as the orchestra director.
- **Sunday, Dec. 24, 10:00 a.m.**
Because Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year, we will hold one morning service at 10:00 a.m.
- **Sunday, Dec. 24, 4:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**
The first service is a Family Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 p.m. and the second is a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 11:00 p.m. A lengthy prelude featuring organ, instruments and handbells will usher in the service, and the Chancel Choir will sing several anthems within the service, concluded with a congregational candle lighting ceremony.
- **Sunday, Dec. 31, 10:00 a.m.**
Just one morning worship service will be held at 10:00 a.m.
- **Sunday, Dec. 31, 6:00 p.m.**
The annual New Year's Eve Service will be held and will include a reflection on the year past, a remembrance of all who have died in the past year, and the sacrament of Holy communion.

Dordt University Chamber Orchestra on Tour

LaGrave will be hosting the Dordt University Chamber Orchestra from Sioux Center, Iowa, on Saturday, Jan. 6 (time TBA). Due to limited space in our own chancel, the concert will take place at Central Reformed Church, which has ample space to accommodate a large ensemble. The orchestra will be on tour and will play a variety of repertoire under the direction of Dr. Onsby Rose. Start the New Year by supporting one of our Christian universities and hearing stirring music played by this excellent student ensemble.

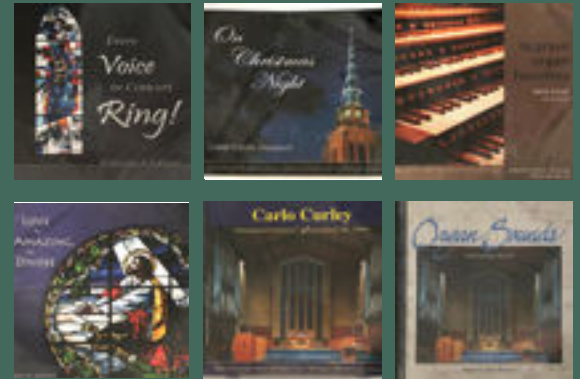
Come Sing With Us!

If you've always wanted to sing with the choir but can't commit to the whole season, now is your chance! You are invited to join the Chancel Choir as they lead in worship any Sunday morning during Advent or for the Christmas Eve Service at 11:00 pm on the 24th. The Chancel Choir sings at 11:00 am. Service on December 3 and 17, and at the 8:40 Service on December 10 and 17. We ask that you plan to come to at least two rehearsals before the date you'd like to sing. Contact Rob Hobgood at rhobgood@lagrave.org or Larry Visser at visser@lagrave.org for more details.



CDs Make Great Christmas Gifts!

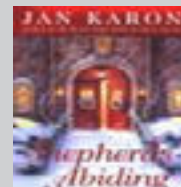
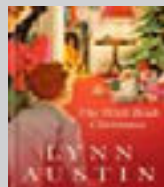
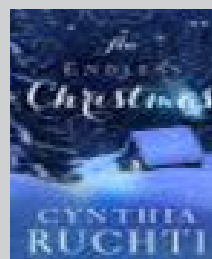
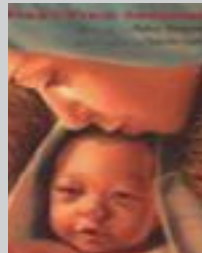
Did you know that LaGrave's Music Ministry and Dr. Larry Visser have recorded several professionally produced CDs that feature the great music that you hear every Sunday in worship? The vocal and handbell choirs and instrumentalists have recorded CDs for the Christmas and Lenten seasons, and Dr. Visser has recorded two organ solo recordings, *LaGrave Organ Favorites* and *On Christmas Night*. And, there are also recordings from the carillon and Steve Girod, a previous LaGrave organist. Any of these CDs would make a great Christmas stocking stuffer gift. If you are interested in purchasing any of these recordings, please see or contact Dr. Larry Visser (lvisser@lagrave.org).



Media Center

Over the years, many books about Christmas, both fiction and nonfiction, have been added to the Media Center collection.

You are cordially invited to drop in and browse our special displays of Christmas-themed books for adults and children.



Did You Know? All books and movies in the Media center are free to check out for LaGrave Members.



Heartfelt Appreciation

In every service, a crew of 4-5 individuals of the 32 total volunteers ensures that the sermon resonates within the sanctuary and reaches homes, where hundreds of live-stream viewers tune in every Sunday. Their collective efforts extend the reach of LaGrave's services and music, providing a connection for homebound members and those otherwise unable to attend in person.

Our audio, visual, and live stream volunteers often operate behind the scenes, tucked away in the production room, or perched on the balcony managing the soundboard. Yet, their impact is far-reaching. We want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you for the early mornings spent setting up, activating equipment, arranging microphones, and initiating the Live stream. Your commitment, even on holidays, does not go unnoticed.

Thank you!

Programs

Sundays

Visitors coffee

Every first Sunday of the month | Parlor

We want to get to know you, whether it's your first time visiting or have been a visitor for a while. Visitors coffee is a great way to meet church leaders and learn about how you can get involved in the life of the church.

Church School 3-12

In between morning services

The church school program is an integral part of the entire educational program for the children and youth of our church who are in grades 3-12. This curriculum seeks to lead our youth to a meaningful profession of their faith. It seeks to equip our children and youth to share their faith and serve others in the community. For more information contact Rachel Thorne at rthorne@lagrave.org

Growing U

Select Sundays | 10:00 am | Fellowship Room

Growing U is an adult education program. We believe you should always be growing in your spiritual life, to become better-equipped disciples of Jesus Christ, and put your faith into action. Subscribe to the churches newsletter for details on upcoming lectures.

4 year old- 2nd grade choir

10:00 am | Youth Choir Room

The Littles Choir (working title) is for age 4 through grade 2, directed by Jess Hollenbach. They work to prepare songs to sing in the worship services, as well as sing church songs and play music games. For more information contact Jess Hollenbach at jessmedema@hotmail.com

Youth Choir (7-12th Grade)

4:40 pm | Junior Choir Room

Directed by Rob Hobgood, this group sings mostly three part music, and leads in worship every 4-6 weeks. For more information contact Rob Hobgood at rhobgood@lagrave.org

CREW

6:00 pm | The Vault

CREW is our high school age Ministry program designed to challenge our teens to know the triune God, become disciples of Jesus Christ and serve him daily in all aspects of life. The primary focus is on learning how to become disciples of Christ which require a rich environment of nurture and interaction with all members of the church. For more information contact Rachel Thorne at rthorne@lagrave.org

Middle School Ministries (MSM)

5:30 pm | The Multipurpose Room

6th-8th graders meet at least three times a month for fellowship, fun, service, study, and worship. Through both large and small group activities, relationships are built and students are challenged to live as radical followers of Jesus. For more information contact Jess Hollenbach at jhollenbach@lagrave.org

Young Adult Book Club

6:00 pm | Location Varies

This book club is aimed at helping Young adults grow in their faith with those at the same stages in life. For more information contact our Young Adult Ministries Coordinator Heidi Glover at hglover@lagrave.org

Bells Gloria (Children's Bell Choir)

4:00 pm | Handbell Room

Bells Gloria is our children's bell choir, open to fifth through ninth graders. These choirs bring the message of Christ to our fellow worshipers through music and build fellowship and community within our congregation. For more information contact Rob Hobgood at rhobgood@lagrave.org

Wednesdays

Women's Bible Studies

10:00 am | The Parlor

The Women's Mid-Morning Bible study meets every Wednesday morning from 10:00 – 11:30. The group works through 2-3 various Bible based studies a year from September to May with a break from mid-December to mid-January. The women build relationships through sharing prayers and praises and by engaging in discussions prompted by the studies. Contact Shelly Schat at 616-443-7105, or schathome@gmail.com, or Jamie VanHekken at 616-285-8186 or jjhekk2@gmail.com

Spiritual Journey

9:30 am | Lower Level Meeting Room

This group gathers to read a short Scripture passage, slowly and reflectively; listening for specific words or themes that capture attention. Then everyone separates in order to privately meditate on and respond to the Word. For more information contact Ellie Vanderwell at handevan@sbcglobal.net

Children's Choir (3-6th Grade)

5:15 pm | Junior Choir Room

The Junior Choir members glorify God with their voices. Directed by Rob Hobgood, this group sings mostly one and two part music, and leads in worship every 4-6 weeks. For more information contact Rob Hobgood at rhobgood@lagrave.org

Grab & Go Dinner

Most Wednesdays | 5:45 pm | Fellowship Room

These dinners are designed to make it a little easier to participate in Wednesday evening activities. These dinners are primarily for those participating in Wednesday activities but everyone is invited to come if they wish. There is no

charge but donations are accepted to defray the costs. For more information contact Rachel Thorne at rthorne@lagrave.org

Faith Journey Bible Study

6:30 pm | The Parlor

We will be starting the new year 2024 studying an old classic, Mere Christianity by CS Lewis, that will help us in our faith journey and study God's holy Word. Anyone is welcome. Contact Dean Rooks for more information at rooksarchitecture@gmail.com.

GEMS

6:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

The girls are led by mentors who are Christian women. Girls in 1st through 8th grade enjoy singing, Bible studies, earning badges, and doing/making crafts that have a special purpose according to the current lesson. GEMS girls have fun personally learning more about God and building friendships that grow year after year. As a group, we enjoy various outings, service projects, and sleepovers together. For more information contact Tina Rooks at tina.erooks@gmail.com

Scouts

6:30 pm | The Vault

This is a program affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America and is for boys in 6th - 12th grade. The boys learn the ways of the Scouts and work up in rank and earn merit badges. For more information contact Rachel Thorne at rthorne@lagrave.org

Youth outdoors Group

6:30 pm | Usually off campus

LaGrave Youth Outdoors (formerly Cub Scouts) is a K-5th grade program for boys that meets primarily outdoors. The goal of Youth Outdoors is to equip boys with outdoor skills and cultivate an appreciation for God's creation. Popular outings include shelter building, knife care and use, fire building, snowshoeing and many outdoor games. For more information contact Matt Scholten at scholten.matthew@gmail.com

Chancel Choir

6:30 pm | Choir Room

The Chancel Choir's purpose is to engage in praise and adoration of God through singing anthems that enhance the liturgy. LaGrave's Chancel choir participates alternately in the 8:40 or 11:00 am worship services and one 6:00 pm service per month, September through early June. Everyone high school age and above who can read music is encouraged to sing in the Chancel Choir. For more information contact Rob Hobgood at rhobgood@lagrave.org.

Other Programs

Caregiver Support Group

Approximately once a month | Library

LaGrave has a Caregiver Support Group that meets approximately once a month. This group is for people who are caring for a loved one – whether that person is still at home or in a care facility. It's a safe place to share stories, frustrations, challenges, etc. while also being supported by others, prayer, and God's Word. If you would like to know more, contact Chad Boorsma (616-454-7204, cboorsma@lagrave.org)

Bells Jubilate

Tuesdays | 6:30 pm | Handbell Room

Bells Jubilate is open to adults. These choirs bring the message of Christ to our fellow worshipers through music and build fellowship and community within our congregation. For more information contact Rob Hobgood at rhobgood@lagrave.org

Beth Moore and More

Thursdays | 9:15 am | The Parlor

During the week, members spend time alone with God working through each day's homework. At the meetings, small groups discuss the homework and then come together as a large group to view a DVD teaching from Beth Moore. For more information contact Jolene DeHeer at jolene@jolenedeheer.com

Mom's Fellowship

Third Friday of the month | 9:00 am | Library

This group provides opportunities for women of LaGrave and the community to participate in times of fellowship, sharing, and encouragement. Childcare is provided in the nursery during regular meetings. For more information contact Jill Rosenboom at jrenae310@gmail.com

Don't see your group or program and what it displayed in the next LaGrave news? Contact Jared Mulder at jmulder@lagrave.org

Volunteering Opportunities

Heartside Spa Day

Heartside Spa Day creates a sense of community one Tuesday a month where volunteers, Calvin University Nursing Students and faculty, LaGrave members and the Heartside neighbors come together for a time of fellowship and mutual encouragement. The neighbors receive help with basic health and social needs including foot care, health screening, haircuts, clothing assistance, and a meal. Volunteer opportunities include: food prep/ serving, clearing tables, guest experience enrichment, set-up & tear-down, entrance greeting, registration, clothing & free items table, foot care (nurses only), blood pressure & blood sugar screening (nurses only), resource connections. If you would like to volunteer contact Erin Alley at ealley@lagrave.org

Kids Food Basket

December 14 | 6:00 - 7:30 pm

You can join the College/Career Adults 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! Register using the QR code below.



Scan me or visit www.lagrave.org/volunteer-at-kids-food-basket/

Memorials

Jim Bontuis

Jim was a generous man who loved giving to church and other ministries. He enjoyed traveling with Elinor and was a faithful caregiver following her stroke. He loved spending time helping his family, even if it meant pruning bushes or removing wallpaper.

Jon Wiersma

Jon Wiersma was born in Zeeland, Michigan. Jon spent his career working in prosthetics and orthotics, but his family was the most important thing to him. His favorite place was sitting at a Thanksgiving table surrounded by friends and family while everyone enjoyed a meal that he'd cooked. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed games, vacations, and road trips.

James Burman

James Burman was dearly loved by his wife Barb and his children, and he loved them well. James was passionate about many things. He loved backpacking, TIG welding, model rockets, and more but one of his favorite passions was film/black and white photography. He owned a studio and took many wonderful photos throughout his life. He was a quiet but friendly man that could fix anything. He had an answer for anything you might ask, like a walking encyclopedia.

Chris Walkley

Chris Walkley was born on October 5, 1976 in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Robert Edson and Mary Jo Walkley. He had a deep desire to know and serve Jesus. He came to the Christian faith as an adult and professed his faith at LaGrave. He completed an intensive discipleship course with Pastor Mike Hoogeboom and was eager to be an ambassador of Christ's love for his friends and neighbors.

Nancy Crater

Nancy worked as a nurse at Greenville United Memorial Hospital for several years before becoming a surgical nurse for 33 years at Spectrum Hospital in Grand Rapids. She loved being a nurse and was well-respected by patients and colleagues alike. She enjoyed singing, including opportunities in choirs, and attending Sunday worship was a highlight of her week.

Verna Belle Zeilstra

Verna Belle Zeilstra was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Verna was a loving, kind, selfless, and resourceful woman who would be deeply missed by all who knew her. She worked as a travel agent at Carlson Wagonlit and relished helping people realize their travel dreams. In her free time, Verna loved to challenge herself with crossword and jigsaw puzzles and expressed her creativity through crochet, knitting, sewing, and cooking. These hobbies brought her joy and allowed her to share her talents with loved ones. Verna enjoyed attending LaGrave Christian Reformed Church, where she found solace and community. She had a deep faith and found comfort in her religious beliefs.



LaGrave Avenue

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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