

**January 28, 2024**

**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 continue our *Formed by Jesus* sermon series. Rev. Jonker will preach on Mark 9:42-50-a passage where Jesus proposes extreme measures to deal with sin. **Next Sunday night**, we welcome one of our missionaries to our pulpit. Tim Berends will lead our service and he will preach on the message of Ephesians 1-2.

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

**Church School (3rd - 12th grade Church School (3rd - 12th grade):** Will meet today.

**MSYG (middle school youth group)** does not meet tonight. We meet next Sunday night in the MPR for worship, devotions, games and dinner.

**CREW (9th - 12th grade):** meets in the Vault today from **3:30pm-5:30pm**. There will be snacks provided, but not dinner. See you then!

**Growing U:** Join us today at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall as Erin Alley, Minister of Community Engagement, leads us in a conversation about our neighborhood. We will learn more about the city ordinances, the new fence at 100 Sheldon, and the impact of Dégagé's Complex Care Housing as well as discussing things we can do to be welcoming to our neighbors. Next week Calvin University Chaplain Mary Hulst will be with us to consider how we can understand and care for the rising generations

**Volunteer Q&A session:** We are in need of more volunteers in the Nursery and 2s/3s! If you are interested in learning more about what it means to volunteer, come by the Parlor between the church service for muffins, doughnuts, and coffee. If you have questions, contact Anna DeBoer or Rachel Thorne.

**Table Fellowship (2nd - 5th grade):** Table Fellowship class starts next Sunday, February 4 from 10am - 10:30am in the

classroom next to the 2s/3s room in the basement. The first session will be run by Pastor Kristy. Contact Rachel Thorne with questions.

**This evening** we will welcome to LaGrave our missionary from South Africa, Rev. Michael Ribbens. Michael will give a brief update during the evening worship service and then provide more details and answer questions about his work during a supper in the Multipurpose Room after the service.

### **UPCOMING**

**Nominations for Elders and Deacons:** Our annual selection of new Elders and Deacons has begun. The congregation is invited to nominate eligible LaGrave members to serve our council in the office of elder (administrative or visiting) or deacon (administrative or visiting). Council is the governing body of the church, so please prayerfully reflect on who God might be calling to serve. The nomination form and an explanation of the process is in Tuesday's News and Opportunities email. Paper copies of the form are available at the Welcome Center. Nominations are due by Feb 4.

**Attention young women ages 18-30:** Join us for *Weekly* Scripture Reading, ***Mondays at 7:15AM***. Let's read God's word in community to start the week! Location: Horrocks Market in their garden seating area. Monday, January 29. Text Emma 616-558-5787.

**Please join us next Sunday evening** when HBMS supported missionary, Rev. Dr. Tim Berends, will preach at the evening service. Following the service, you are invited to a light supper in Fellowship Hall where Tim will enlighten us regarding his work in discipling Muslims in Toronto and Central Asia.

**Women ages 18-30:** Let's Connect! We will gather at LaGrave to spend time together every other Monday night at 6:15pm. Join us at our next meeting on February 5. Text Emma 616-558-5787

**Mark your calendar now for an opportunity to help at Kids Food Basket!** Join the College/Career Adults on Thursday, February 1, 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! Register using the this link: <http://lagravecareergroup.kfb.volunteerhub.com/>

**PRIMERS:** Sign-up today in the MPR after the morning services for our Feb 8 noon event entitled "Steeple Chase ... East Side of the Grand River" and learn why Grand Rapids has been called "The

City of Churches" on this fascinating visual tour of religious landmarks. Along the way you will discover the historical importance and contemporary relevance of faith in Grand Rapids. Your tour guide will be Caroline Cook, a cheerleader for all things Grand Rapids and a history nut. The cost of the lunch and program is \$15/person payable at the time of sign-up. If you are unable to sign up for the luncheon, you are welcome to attend the presentation at 1:00pm Hosts: Jim & Barb Boelkins (616)403-4031 and Jack & Dottie Vande Gutche (616)209-2469.

**Tired of sitting at home this season?** The Fellowship Committee has a fun opportunity for you! An **All-Church Bowling Event** is scheduled for Saturday, February 24, from 2:00pm-4:00pm at *Clique Lanes*, a unique 16 lane, two-story retro bowling center. Come by yourself, with a friend, a spouse, or your entire family. All ages are welcome! This event is free, covered by the Fellowship Committee, but space is limited (max 64 bowlers), so look for the sign-up genius link in Tuesday's News and Opportunities and sign up soon. Feel free to call Chris Hoeksema 616-634-4245 with questions.

The **Sunday morning book group** will start a new book beginning in February: *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Trish Warren. The group meets between the morning services at 10am and new members are welcome. Contact Chad Boorsma 616-454-7204 [cboorsma@lagrave.org](mailto:cboorsma@lagrave.org) for more information.

**Calling all men to sing:** All men (7th grade and older) are invited to come sing a beautiful arrangement of "Jesus Paid It All" on Scout Sunday, February 4th, at the 11:00 Service (**please note the change of service**). Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday nights, January 24 & 31 from 6:30 to 6:55 in the choir room. We would ask that you make it to at least one of these rehearsals. Please contact Rob Hobgood at [rhobgood@lagrave.org](mailto:rhobgood@lagrave.org) if interested.

**Lenten Book Studies:** This Lent we will again be dedicating the Growing U time at 10 am on Sundays for two book studies. The books will be *Draw The Circle* by Mark Batterson, a 40 day exploration of prayer, and *The Tech-Wise Family* by Andy Crouch which explores wise use of technology in our homes. Books will be provided. Consider including one of these opportunities on your discipleship journey this Lenten season!

**Women’s Book Club:** Please join us on Monday, February 27 at 7:30pm in The Parlor, for A Man called Ove by Fredrick Backman. Books are available at local libraries and Schuler Books. Please wear name tags.

**The Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Guild of Organists** will present Larry Visser in a program on Monday, Feb. 19 at 7:00pm consisting of several of his hymn-based organ compositions. Other guests include cellist Calin Muresan and the LaGrave Chancel Choir. The program will be held at LaGrave and is free and open to the public.

*Do you know that there are Christian Reformed Churches in Cuba?* The CRC has had a longstanding relationship with the church in Cuba, dating back to the initial efforts of LaGrave Avenue CRC. LaGrave Avenue sent its first missionary to Cuba, Clarence Nyenhuis, in 1958.

**Calling LaGrave Artists:** The LaGrave Worship Arts Committee, Gallery Group, is planning a congregational art show for September 2024 called Imaginations: A Festival of the Arts. The exhibit is open to all LaGrave members-artists of any age. You are encouraged to prepare and enter your best piece. All styles and mediums are welcome. Look for more announcements and details in the future. Contact David M. Versluis if you have any questions.

**Bound for Glory: Celebrating the Gift of African American Spirituals Through the Expressive Calligraphy of Timothy R. Botts.** Bound for Glory is a powerful and colorful collection of 24 original calligraphic paintings by world-renowned calligrapher Timothy R. Botts. They are on display at LaGrave through March 31, 2024. The Paintings are visual interpretations of African American songs in words and pictures. These amazing songs are an important part of our American heritage. They continue to give us hope in the face of life’s many challenges

**Membership Transfer:** We send with blessing Jesse Holcomb and Hillary Scholten (James, Wesley Scholten-Holcomb) who have resigned their membership at LaGrave to affiliate with another church and denomination.

CALENDAR

<u>Sunday, January 28</u>	
8:40 AM	Morning Worship Infant & Toddler Childcare

	2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room
10:00 AM	Church School 3-12
10:00 AM	4-Year-Old-2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade (Littles) Choir
10:00 AM	Growing U, Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM	Youth Volunteer Sign Up, Parlor
10:00 AM	Small Group, Council Room
11:00 AM	Morning Worship Infant & Toddler Childcare
	2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room
3:30 PM	CREW, Vault
4:00 PM	Bells Gloria
4:40 PM	7-12 Youth Choir, Chancel Choir
6:00 PM	Evening Worship
7:00 PM	Missionary Dinner, MPR
<u>Tuesday, January 30</u>	
6:30 PM	Bells Jubilate
<u>Wednesday, January 31</u>	
8:00 AM	Men’s Morning Bible Study, LLMR
9:00 AM	Women’s Morning Bible Study, Library
9:30 AM	Spiritual Journey, LLMR
10:00 AM	Women’s Mid-Morning Bible Study, Parlor
5:15 PM	3-6 Children’s Choir
6:30 PM	Women’s Bible Study, 200
6:30 PM	Faith Journey Bible Study, Parlor
6:30 PM	GEMS Counselor Meeting, Council
6:30 PM	Scouts, Vault
6:30 PM	Youth Outdoor Group
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
<u>Thursday, February 1</u>	
9:30 AM	Beth Moore and More, Parlor, Library, 217
<u>Friday, February 2</u>	
8:30 AM	Men’s Bible Study
<u>Assisting This Week: January 28</u>	
<b>Security: 8:40:</b>	Andrew Schimmer &Chris Vermeulen
<b>9:30-11:30:</b>	Charles VanEerden
<b>11:00:</b>	Brad Post & Conner Phillips
<b>Greeters: 8:40:</b>	<b>Tower Doors:</b> Ryan & Mary Cook
	<b>Covered Doors:</b> Ken & Carla Avink
<b>11:00:</b>	<b>Tower Doors:</b> Russell Brummel
	<b>Covered Doors:</b> Bert & Julie Bowden
<u>Assisting Next Week: February 4</u>	
<b>Security: 8:40:</b>	Nate Versluis & Jake Versluis
<b>9:30-11:30:</b>	Ben DeGraff
<b>11:00:</b>	Kevin Scholten & Judy Scholten
<b>Greeters: 8:40:</b>	<b>Tower Doors:</b> Marsha Kooistra
	<b>Covered Doors:</b> Sharon Etheridge
<b>11:00:</b>	<b>Tower Doors:</b> Ron & Debbie Nol
	<b>Covered Doors:</b> Ken & Beth Mulder

