

## December 1, 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 will continue our Advent sermon series on the women of Matthew's genealogy. For the second Sunday of Advent we will hear the story of the second woman in the genealogy: that's Rahab. Her story is told in Joshua 2:1-6. It will also be a communion service! We will join together as brothers and sisters at the Lord's table to partake of the Lord's Supper.

**Next Sunday Night** we will host Calvin University for their annual service of Lessons and Carols. There will be a service at both 3pm and 6pm.

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

**As the winter months' approach,** please remember to prioritize nearby parking spots for those with mobility needs.

**No Church School today.** 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> will meet next week Sunday, December 8.

**Youth Advent Opportunity (6th - 12th grade):** Rachel is hosting a 10 o'clock hour class focusing on the themes of Advent (Hope, Love, Joy, Peace) starting today. Please consider joining at least one or all of these classes. Contact Rachel Thorne if you have questions.

**An Advent Small Group Book Study,** using *The First Songs of Christmas: Meditations on Luke 1 & 2* by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth, will begin **TODAY** during the Ten O'Clock Hour. Sign up online or contact Chad Boorsma to learn more.

Join us tonight at 6:00 pm for **Vespers – a service of evening prayer.** Chad Boorsma will lead us as we gather in the chapel, take song and prayer requests, and spend time praying together as a church family. *Note – please park in the main lot and enter the building through the west (canopy) entrance.*


**CREW (9th-12th grade):** does not meet tonight. We will resume next week Sunday, Dec 8, from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in the Vault. This is our Christmas party and last event of the year.

**MSYG (grades 6-8):** Will not meet tonight.

**Thank you for remembering** to wear your LaGrave name tag each Sunday! This helps us all become better acquainted with each other and helps visitors identify who are members. If you lost your nametag, please fill out a short form located at the welcome center.

**Christmas Card Bags and list of names are set up in the narthex.** Only a little more than 2 weeks are left to fill the 48 bags, made by our GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior) girls for those members who are home bound. Boxes of Christmas cards are also still available on the self-serve sale table by the back door to the church office.

**Thank you to those who have turned in their stewardship commitment for the 2025 General Fund budget.** We are on our way to our goal of having 75% of the budget committed, as **52%** 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, ([ahermen@lagrave.org](mailto:ahermen@lagrave.org)). The Finance Committee will be making contacts in the next couple of weeks to those who have not turned in a Stewardship commitment. **Thank you for blessing your church in this way through your financial commitment.**



The  
**Ten O'Clock Hour**  
Growing in Fellowship and Faith Formation

**Here are the opportunities this week between services:**

- Nursery will be offered for ages 0-3 in the 2/3s room.
- Advent book study using *The First Songs of Jesus*: room 200
- Advent class for grades 6-12: upstairs 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> classroom
- Coffee, puzzles, fellowship & card making: multipurpose room

### UPCOMING

**Upcoming Special Events:**

- **December 8, 3:00pm & 6:00pm, Lessons and Carols**
- **December 15, 4:00pm, Children's Christmas program**
- **December 22, 6:00pm, Carol Sing**

**Wednesday night programming:** GEMS, Scouts, and Youth Outdoors meets this week Wednesday, December 4 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Grab 'n go dinner at 5:45 is soups and subs.

**Moms' Fellowship:** Thursday, December 5 at 7pm we will have Moms' Night Out at Alisha Doezema's house. Join us for food and fellowship open house style. More details can be found through the Facebook page. Friday, January 17 will be our annual card making session. Contact Alisha Doezema with questions: [alishadoezema@gmail.com](mailto:alishadoezema@gmail.com)

**Come sing for Advent:** 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 11:00pm on the 24th. For more details, contact Rob Hobgood [rhobgood@lagrave.org](mailto:rhobgood@lagrave.org) or Larry Visser [lvisser@lagrave.org](mailto:lvisser@lagrave.org).

**The Season of Advent** has begun. To help us prepare for Christ's coming, the Spiritual Formation Committee is providing a **prayer calendar** based on Isaiah 9:6b. Please pick up a copy at the Welcome Center desk in the narthex.

**Help us collect toys for kids in need this Christmas Season!** The Social Concerns Committee is supporting local families and The Other Way Ministries by providing Christmas toys that families can purchase at a discount. Bring toys for kids infant-16 to the MPR by December 7, or use the Amazon link in the News and Opportunities to have items shipped directly to LaGrave.

**Year-end Accounts Payable Reminder:** If you have any 2024 invoices or reimbursement forms that need to be paid out of the 2024 budget, please get them to Amy Hermen in the church office by December 15, 2024. Thank you!

**Giving Statements for 2024** will be emailed out in 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, select the giving tab and your giving history will be there. If you haven't accessed Elexio yet, call the office and talk to Marie Jansen. You may also reach out to Amy Hermen ([ahermen@lagrave.org](mailto:ahermen@lagrave.org)).

**The Bowden Collection: "Alfred Manessier: Composer in Colors":** Alfred Manessier is a non-figurative French painter and stained-glass maker of sacred art from the last half of the twentieth century. He is also known for his vibrantly colored lithographs many of which are in this exhibition. These works evoke the central narratives of his Christian faith. The titles of his works allude to the religious meaning made evident

through combinations of symbols, color and abstract imagery.  
It will be on display in the Parlor until **January 30, 2025**.

### **THANK YOU**

**Dear LaGrave friends**, thank you so very much for all the many ways you encouraged and supported me during my recent heart surgery and recovery. Your cards, texts, and calls brightened my days and your prayers for healing have been answered by our gracious Heavenly Father. I was humbled and honored to be cared for in such a loving way. With much appreciation to all of you, *Ruth Stacey*

### **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On Friday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Calvin University Chapel, celebrate the coming Christ with songs and carols from around the world with the **Calvin Alumni Choir**. No tickets required.

On Friday, December 6 at 7:30pm and Saturday, December 7 at 3:00pm, in Calvin University's Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium, the **Calvin Oratorio Society** will present Handel's Messiah. Under the leadership of conductor, Sean Ivory, congregation members Paul Titchenell and Curt Witte will sing alongside a 105-member chorus, full of orchestra and four guest soloists to put on the yearly holiday tradition. See Calvin's website for ticket information.

### **CALENDAR**

#### Sunday, December 1

8:40 AM Morning Worship  
Infant & Toddler Childcare  
2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room  
10:00 AM Visitors Coffee, Parlor  
11:00 AM Morning Worship  
Infant & Toddler Childcare  
2s & 3s Church Time, 3s Room  
12:00 PM Visitors Coffee, Parlor  
6:00 PM Vespers Prayer Service, Chapel

#### Monday, December 2

4:00 PM Executive Committee, Parlor

#### Tuesday, December 3

1:15 PM Knitting Group, Parlor  
4:30 PM Welcoming Committee, Parlor  
6:15 PM Bells Jubilate

#### Wednesday, December 4

8:00 AM Men's Morning Bible Study, LL  
9:00 AM Women's Morning Bible Study, Library  
9:30 AM Spiritual Journey Bible Study, LLMR  
10:00 AM Women's Mid-Morning Bible Study, Parlor  
5:15 PM Children's Choir  
5:45 PM Grab 'n Go Meal  
6:30 PM GEMS  
6:30 PM Scouts  
6:30 PM Youth Outdoors Group, Workshop  
6:30 PM Women's Bible Study, Library  
6:30 PM Young Adult Group (WAV), Vault  
6:30 PM Faith Journey Bible Study, Parlor  
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, December 5

9:30 AM Beth Moore and More Bible Study, Parlor

#### Friday, December 6

8:30 AM Friday Men's Bible Study, Parlor

#### Assisting This Week: December 1

**Security: 8:40:** Jeff Konyndyk, Grant Konyndyk,  
Karel deWaal Malefyt

**11:00:** Leo Christner, Mark Christner

**Greeters: 8:40:** Galen & Thelma Meyer, Brenda Witte

**11:00:** Scott & Sarah Lingenfelter

**Ushers: 8:40:** Paul Stuit, Peter Ackerman, James VanHekken

**11:00:** Larry Bos, Matt Alcumbrack, Sally Jonker

#### Assisting Next Week: December 8

**Security: 8:40:** Paul Ondersma, Karl Ondersma, David Scrace

**11:00:** Ryan Hekman, Matt Scholten

**Greeters: 8:40:** Erin Alley

**11:00:** Glenda Buteyn

**Ushers: 8:40:** Conner Phillips, Brad Schaap, Sam Schat,

**11:00:** Larry Bos, Jim Oppenhuizen, Jeff Scholtens