

Mission Statement:
God's life-changing, never-giving-up,
all-inclusive love transforms us into a
multicultural community
of hope.

December 27, 2020

We will be joining each other in worship from our homes.

<u>God's Word:</u> Pastor Dave Sieplinga will bring a message, Christmas Timing from Galatians 4:4-7

Oakdale Park Church will be streaming worship services at **10:00 a.m**. on **Sunday mornings**, until we can meet again, on the OPC website https://oakdaleparkchurch.org/live/.

Offering: Missions: James & Barbarita Lee

<u>Responding:</u> Please contact the prayer team, your elder, or a pastor with any prayer requests.

Virtual Coffee Hour: You will have the opportunity to connect with others immediately following worship. Join a coffee hour by clicking on one of the Google Hangout links, posted below the service stream on the OPC website.

Today

10:00 am	Worship Service - virtual (Links above)
11:15 am	Join us for online coffee hour! (Info above)
1:00 pm	Kinyarwanda worship—streamed on YouTube.

Sunday, January 3: Online worship

10:00 am Online Worship 1:00 pm Kinyarwanda Service

For Your Personal & Family Prayers

Continue to pray for **John Pastoor** as he was moved back to Grand Rapids again and is still fighting COVID. He is still unable to walk. Please pray for full healing. Pray also for Luann as this is yet another change for John and her. Pray for peace.

Doug and Cindy Plantenga's 9 ½ month old grandson **Micah**, who lives in Seattle, will be having surgery tomorrow to remove a growth/cyst by his eye. Please pray that the surgery goes well, the results are good, and he quickly recovers. Pray also for his parents as they go through this with him and care for him.

Emma Jones's sister is very sick and in the hospital. She has fluid on her brain and may lose an eye. Please pray for miraculous healing for her.

Continue to pray for **Emily Veenstra-Banning** as she recovers from COVID. Praises that her husband Andrew currently has no symptoms.

Donna Meyer, a dear former member of OPC, passed away last week. Pray for comfort for her sons, her daughter-in-law, her special friend Debra Armstrong, and her grandchildren.

Please pray for **the friends and family** (especially **Patsy Gidner** who used to attend our church) of **Keith**, a resident of Adams Apartments, who was sick with health issues and then contracted COVID and passed away this week. Pray for peace and comfort.

Pray for peace and comfort for **Cora Lee's family** as her children's father and Cora's former husband, **Roosevelt Lee**, passed away this weekend.

Denise Jones' appointment regarding her heart and the results of her heart monitor was changed to December 30th. Please pray that this appointment goes well and that Denise would experience great health.

Praises that **Rose Marshall** received a good report on her eye and won't need to see the doctor again until March.

Praises that **Nicole Verbeek's** surgery went well and she is home recovering. Thanks for praying!

Pray for people who are struggling with **mental illnesses**. Many are struggling with depression. Our church partners with Pine Rest in the CAP program. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you are in need of help or to reach out to help others who you know may need help. As a member of OPC, each member of your household is able to access up to 3 free confidential counseling sessions at Pine Rest through the Church Assistance Program (CAP). Find info at: https://www.pinerest.org/eap/employee-assistance-program-2/faith-based-organizations/ or reach out to your elder.

Pray for our church as we are in transition. Pray for our **discernment team** as they seek God's guidance on next steps for our church in multiple areas. Pray that OPC will be clearly led to whoever God desires to be in the role of our next teaching pastor. Praises that God has blessed us with Pastor Dave's leadership and teaching during this time of transition.

Praises for the miracle of prayer!!! We thank God for always listening and always being available to all of us, anytime and anywhere. Praises for all of the answered prayers this year. God has been faithful to OPC. We give HIM praise!

Pray for strength and encouragement for friends: Duke and Marilyn Bazuin, Harold & Jessica Kuizema, Roger & Doris Van't Hof, Diane DeHaan, Sid Lautenbach, John & Luann Pastoor, Bill (&Lee) VanderKodde, John & Joan Nidefski, Alexis Coger, & Joanne Ruis.

Oakdale Park Church

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Ministry Staff

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Council

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Aaron Vanderploeg-Deacon Chair

Aaron Jonker—Council Clerk

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Deacon's

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Oakdale Opportunities & Announcements

As you plan your charitable giving for the balance of 2020, an extra gift of any amount to **Oakdale Ministries** would be greatly appreciated! Contributions must be delivered or postmarked on or before December 31, 2020. Checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked or received at the church office in 2020 will be reflected on your annual giving statement and will be deductible in 2020. **Any new online contributions must be submitted by December 26.**

At this time of celebrating Christ's birth, we would like to especially remember those who may feel disconnected: those who cannot get out, those who have been unable to watch the live-stream services, those in the military. With the changes from the pandemic, this year we ask: could you please call or mail a card to some of our Oakdale friends. Addresses of those who would love cards was mailed out with bulletin a few weeks ago but contact the church office if you still need this list. Please mail these yourself (not drop off) to keep our Oakdale family that are "shut-in" safe from COVID. Thanks!

At-Home Faith Formation Tip (crcna.org/FaithFormation): the Practice of Hospitality: Kathleen Norris wrote, "True hospitality is marked by an open response to the dignity of each and every person." As you go through your week, focus on approaching every person you meet with this kind of open response. At the end of the week, look back at how this approach changed your attitudes and actions.

In December, please pray James and Barbarita Lee

Our missionaries are a vital part of the Oakdale family. Last Christmas several small groups blessed each missionary family with a CARE package. In this year of Covid-19 we want to involve the entire congregation in encouraging and financially helping our missionaries with some **special needs.** The Mission committee has already contacted them and received their ideas and needs. We hope to give them a financial gift that would be for their families as well as enough for a specific ministry opportunity. So we are inviting you to give a 'special' Christmas faith offering to be equally divided among our four missionaries. May we show they are valued, remembered, and loved. Our four missionaries are the Lees, VanAndels, VanWeerdhuizens and Lemahieu/Gela. Please make a check or cash offering (online not available) to Oakdale church and marked Christmas Love offering for Missionaries. Mail to Oakdale Park Church, 961 Temple St SE, GR MI 49507 or deliver to the church mail slot before Dec. 20.