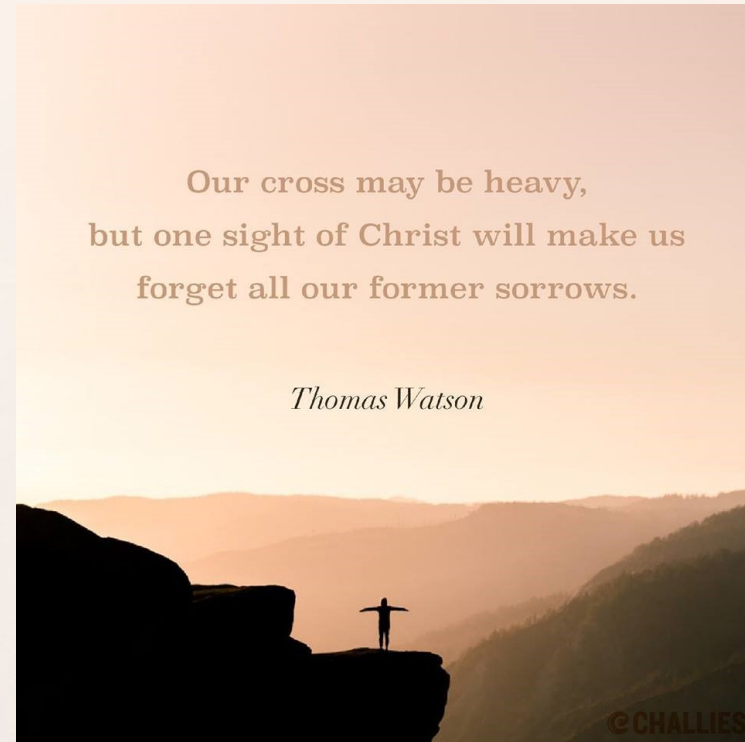


Game Night

The LPMC Hospitality Committee is hosting a game night for all of us on Saturday night, March 17. The event will begin at 5:00. Pizza will be provided, please bring drinks and snacks to share. This is a great way to get out and enjoy time with your LPMC family. Bring your favorite table game and join the fun. This would also be a great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor. Our evening together will be finished by 8:00.

Chmil Update

The Chmil family is finishing up their French language intensive course this month in Tennessee. They will then be back on the road for more support raising efforts. Their monthly support level is now at 96%. We thank God and rejoice with them for this good news! They are only \$330 per month away from being 100% supported and able to begin formal language training in France this fall. We are praying that God gets this all taken care of by summer, so they can focus on getting their home here in La Porte sold. Please join with us in praying for the Chmil family. Things are falling into place quickly now! God is good!



Don't forget to pick up your March issue of *Tabletalk* in the foyer.

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | LA PORTE MISSIONARY CHURCH |

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Holy Week Service Details

Our worship committee is working hard to plan our Holy Week services for 2018. We are planning to once again offer a 7:00 "Sunrise Service" this year before our Easter Breakfast. Follow us on Facebook or our website for more updates about our services.

We will host our annual Good Friday service this year on March 30, 6:00 PM in the sanctuary. Please join us for a service of contemplation and reflection on the work of Christ on our behalf.

Resurrection Sunday falls on April 1 this year. We are planning to enjoy an 8:00 breakfast together followed by an all church combined worship service at 9:00. In addition, we will host a 7:00 AM "Sunrise Service" celebrating the Resurrection in Scripture readings and song.

We look forward to celebrating Christ's resurrection with you!



March Events

- 7th Prayer Gathering
Communion Service
- 7th Hospitality & Worship
Meetings
- 11th Daylight Savings Starts
- 14th Church Board
- 15th Coffee & Conversation
- 17th Game Night
- 21st Discipleship & Outreach
Meetings
- 25th Palm Sunday
- 28th Deacons & Women's
Ministry Meetings
- 29th All Day Quilting
- 30th Good Friday Service

A Note from Chris and Michelle Allen

LPMC Family,

We are forever grateful for all of your sacrificial giving and continued prayers for our spiritual health while we continue to embark on this endeavor. We can't help but think of Paul and his letter to the Philippians. In his opening remarks we read, *"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now"* (Phil 1:3-5). The LPMC family has faithfully supported us from the first day we departed, much like the Philippians.

We have now entered February, and this means the beginning of a new semester for Chris. He is taking 6 classes this semester. He has now finished his first year at Reformed Theological Seminary, which means there are only two years until completion. Michelle is continuing in her 3rd grade position at The Master's Academy. She is delighted to be surrounded by godly men and women who encourage and support her daily. The boys are continuing to grow up too fast. They both loved being in northern Indiana because of the snow. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

-The Allens

Growing Without Compromise

You are invited to join us for our annual "Growing Without Compromise" conference on Saturday, April 7. This conference is held at First Baptist Church in Kingsbury. The conference is a cooperative effort between Pastor Steve and two other pastors, Tim Williams of First Baptist Kingsbury and Rod Neilsen of Agape Church. The conference runs from 9:00 AM until 1:30 PM. There are three sessions. Snacks and lunch are provided along with a huge selection of free resources for Christian growth. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Men's Prayer Group

Beginning Saturday morning, March 3, the men of LPMC are invited to join us at the church for a time of prayer. We will meet at 8:00 AM. Along with a time of prayer, there will be a devotional shared. This is a great time to build community with our brothers as we come before the Lord together for our families, our church and our community. If you have any questions about this please contact Dale Knouse.

Matthew Smith & Indelible Grace

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for an evening of worship with Matthew Smith and Indelible Grace. We are bringing Matthew and the IG band in for a one night only concert on Tuesday, April 24. The concert will be held at Christ Church in La Porte. We are still working on an exact time for the concert, so keep checking our Facebook page or website for more details. Indelible Grace is a music ministry team from Nashville who write new melodies for old hymns. We sing many of their songs as part of our Sunday morning worship service. You will be blessed by their ministry. The concert will be free of charge but we will take an offering to help cover some of the cost of the event. You can learn more about Matthew Smith at: <http://www.matthewsmith.us/> and Indelible Grace at: <http://www.igracemusic.com/>



As your pastor, one of my responsibilities is to communicate a "vision" for the future of LPMC. To dream and to think about ways we can fulfill our mission to make disciples. In light of this responsibility, I would like to share the vision I have for our new sanctuary.

Very soon we will be calling a congregational meeting seeking approval for a new building - a sanctuary where more than 300 people can gather each week, together, for worship. There are several good reasons to build this new sanctuary.

1. A single worship service. This has been a goal here at LPMC for the past ten years. The occasional opportunities we've had to worship together in a single service have been rich times of worship and community. Almost half of our regular second service attenders have already made the transition to the first service in order to be a part of the "larger" worship service.

2. The potential for growth. A building project always generates a certain level of excitement in a congregation. We are more motivated to get involved and to invite others. It is also a sign to those driving by that the church is moving forward. It generates a certain level of curiosity.

3. Better use of our volunteers. Having a single service means we are more efficient with our volunteer team. It will also allow us to involve more people in our "worship team" as well as ensuring that members of the team are not called on to lead each week but will be able to worship alongside their families on the weeks they are not serving us.

4. Greater opportunity for community. Half our people only attend the Sunday morning

worship service. Too many of these people don't even know each other as they don't attend the same service. This amounts to essentially having two separate churches meeting under one roof. This situation might be understandable in a church with 600 people attending, but not for one our size.

5. For such a time as this. Our neighborhood is growing! Building is a sign of health to the community. Today, in this season at LPMC, we have the will and the means to make this happen. More than sixty years ago the first congregants of LPMC built a bigger church than was needed. They did that in the hope that someday God would send them people to fill the space. For more than fifteen years we have been at "capacity" in this building. If we expand our space now, we can position a future generation to fill that sanctuary, even if God doesn't do it for us right away! There is a unanimity of agreement among your pastoral staff, boards and committees for this vision to become a reality. Please take the time to pray with us and consider your part in joining us as we prepare to come alongside our Savior in making disciples.

I know that some may have questions about the affordability of this project. Our financial situation here at LPMC is solid! Over the past several years you have been giving to the building project so faithfully that we have raised over a quarter of a million dollars to see this dream become a reality. Continued giving at this level will more than cover the cost of finishing the project. Your faithful giving is an encouragement to me.

There are many more great reasons to make this happen and I am sure you have thought of others. Let's work together to make this dream a reality!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Pastor Steve