



March 19, 2023

Pastor Note:

Which do you like better, a mystery or a miracle? I suppose it depends on how badly you need a miracle. No question, the Bible (God's written revelation/word) has some serious miracles in it, a dry highway through the Red Sea, the river Jordan backing up without a dam, a shadow going backward, a jar of oil and a pot of flower not running out, water turning into wine, thousands of people fed with five loaves and two fish, a paralytic jumping up, and a dead man walking out of his tomb, just to name a few.

In some way every miracle is also a mystery because it is beyond a rational and scientific explanation, it defies human logic, natural laws, and what we think is possible. How did God by simply speaking bring the entire universe, its mass, energy, order, and life into existence? How can you instantly calm a storm by telling it, "Be still?" How can a virgin have a baby? How is it possible for the dead to be raised, even after thousands of years?

There are also "Why?" mysteries. Why did God create mosquitoes, rodents, and locusts? Why does He grant a miracle to some and not others? Why did Jesus Christ come when he did? Why has God entrusted the mission of spreading the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus, to the church, a collection of sinners who mess up a lot?

Before you make up your mind on what you think is the greatest mystery and miracle, consider the incarnation of Jesus, God taking on human flesh, confining Himself to a body, being exposed to temptation and evil, physically living among us. **"In the beginning was the Word/Jesus, and the Word/Jesus was with God, and the Word/Jesus was God ... And the Word/Jesus became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth"** John 1:1, 14 (ESV, italics mine).

"Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He, God, was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory" 1 Timothy 3:16 (ESV, italics mine).

Both the how and the why of Jesus', the Son of God, incarnation are mindboggling. The Apostle Paul in encouraging the Philippian Christians to live in unity and harmony reminds them to, **"Have this**

mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV). This gives us some insight into both the mystery and miracle of the incarnation of God, of Jesus becoming the God-man, being both fully God and fully man.

- It took total submission to God the Father's will, an emptying of self, a journey from equal to servant, down to an unjust death on a cross.
- It took incomprehensible humility. Jesus went from the throne room of heaven, surrounded by myriads of angelic servants, to a newborn infant born to parents without any status, completely dependent, having to cry when hungry, making a mess in swaddling clothes, and drooling when He cut his teeth.
- It took unfathomable restraint and patience. If anyone ever had the power to speed up time, skip a few grades, and create more favorable circumstances, it was Jesus.

As to the why of the mystery and miracle of the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, Jesus said, **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him"** John 3:16-17 (ESV). Paul reminded Timothy and us, **"It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners ..."** 1 Timothy 1:15 (NASB).

Jesus, the Son of God, became a man, a human being to carry out the greatest rescue mission in all of history, to make a way for dying sinners like you and me to be forgiven, saved from the wrath of God, reconciled to God, and be recipients of eternal life. There is no greater mystery – Why God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) loves us so? There is no greater miracle – How God made possible the impossible!

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

Health: Karen Souza, Shirley Wolfenbarger,
Mabel Mayes, JoEllen, Gabi Cox,
Rickie Jeffers
Family and Friends, Our Church's Ministries,

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Phillip, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray,
Farney, John Boykin, Peter, Mariah Ellis, Jimmy,
Shyrlee Stagner, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Mike Sharland,
Noah Martin, Rebekah Wilhelmly, John
Michael Chavez,
Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Dylan
Werner, Brian Sula,
Michael Thomasson, Thomas Hoffman,
Joel Thelen,

For those wanting to send cards & flowers to *Genevieve* see her new address below:

Brandel Manor
C/O Genevieve Alldrin
1801 North Olive Ave.
Turlock, Ca 95382
Ph # 209-410-7200

Prayers:

Spaghetti Dinner

*****And Raffle Drawing*****

In Downtown La Grange - IOOF Hall
30018 Yosemite Blvd., La Grange CA 95329

Saturday March 25, 2023
1 to 5 pm

Dinner Tix \$12.00 at the door
Kids 6 -12 \$5.00, 5 & Under Free
Take out Dinners - \$12.50

Raffle Tickets \$1.00 Donation
Info: Call Sandy (209) 769-3766
Or Chris (209)853-2128

Menu

Spaghetti, Green Salad
French Bread
Ice Cream Sundae for Dessert
Also Coffee, Iced Tea or Lemonade

Sponsored by the La Grange Odd Fellows -
Lafayette Historical Lodge #65

Being a Church that Cares Well

Training coming soon...

Why?

“The American church is facing an abuse crisis. Is your church doing all it can to be safe for survivors and safe from abuse? Churches should be a refuge for those who have experienced abuse. But, too often, survivors haven't found the protection they deserve and the care they need from the church. Are you ready to join us in changing that?”

Yes. We are committed to being a safe place for everyone from babies to elderly and we will continue to keep ourselves educated and trained in order to be able to love, love, love. In order for that we will have once-a-month trainings for 4 months for our church staff, Deacons, Board, Children and Youth Leaders, Women's Leaders, Men's Leader, and Food Basket Leaders, and any other adult that may be interested in attending. Each meeting will be at the church from **6:00-8:30 pm.**

Meeting 1: 2/13/23

Meeting 2: 3/13/23

Meeting 3: 4/10/23

Meeting 4: 5/08/23

The videos are survivor stories, educational training, and explaining why the church's response to abuse is a Gospel issue (meeting #1).

In addition to providing these monthly meetings, our leaders and administration will commit to protecting our children and church by training as Mandated Reporters and have a live scan background check.

If you would like to join our monthly meetings, please let Susie Frei know so there is a seat for you (skfrei@gmail.com or 209-247-9234) or let Jannett know.

March Announcements

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.**
- Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
- Communion Sunday - March 26th
(Deacon Fund Offering going toward the Food Bank Ministry)
- **Deacon Board Meeting every 4th Sunday after service**

Fellowship Time Snacks
were provided

By - *Beverly's Class & Youth*

Thank you

Next week Merle's Class is up!!

If you are interested in Church Membership,
please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

The church is looking for someone experienced in
Accounting. If that's **you** please get your name
to Jannett in the office or see Pastor Hans.



Giving

March 12, 2023

Offering:
\$2,248.00

Food:
\$10.00

Facilities:
\$.00

Missions:
\$75.00

Attendance:
104

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

Food Ministry:

9:00 AM -11:00 AM

Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM
Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM
Grief Share - 6:30 PM (On Hiatus)

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

Lake Don Pedro Baptist Church

4175 Abeto Street

La Grange California 95329

209-852-2029

ldpbaptistchurch@gmail.com

www.ldpbaptistchurch.com

S H A R E



1 Timothy 6:18



March 20th thru March 26th

DAY 1 - Luke 8
(Proverbs 20)

DAY 2 - Luke 9
(Proverbs 21)

DAY 3 - Luke 10
(Proverbs 22)

DAY 4 - Luke 11
(Proverbs 23)

DAY 5 - Luke 12
(Proverbs 24)

DAY 6 - (Proverbs 25)

DAY 7 - (Proverbs 26)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.