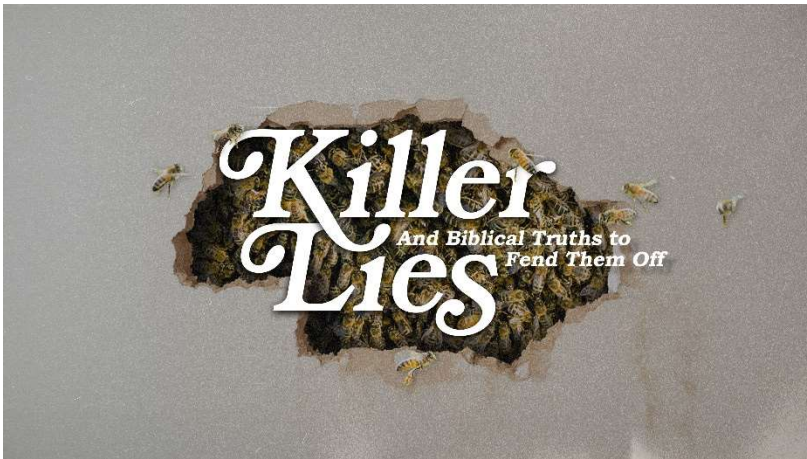


**ORDER OF SERVICE****Prelude** - "Stand In Your Love"**Welcome/Announcements/Prayer***"Give Us Clean Hands"**"All I Have Is Christ"***Celebrate Communion***"Restore My Soul"***Bless & Release Kids** (Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup>)*"Jesus Paid It ALL"***Sermon – Pleasure vs. Purity***"Be Lifted High"***Closing Remarks/Prayer****SERMON NOTES** – "Casual Pleasure vs. Covenantal Purity" – 1 Thess. 4:1-8 (ESV) – Pastor Patrick**The Killer Lie:** "CASUAL Pleasure Doesn't REALLY Hurt Anyone..."

- "But Everyone Does It..."
- "But We Didn't Cross the Line..."
- "But I Only Looked at the Menu. I Didn't Order Anything."
- "But We're Committed to Each Other, and It's Consensual."

**The Biblical Truth:** God's GOOD Design is COVENANTAL Purity...

It's about Seeking, First and Foremost, to \_\_\_\_\_ God... (1 Th. 4:1)

- Purity begins, continues, and ends with our Ultimate \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship with God through Christ (1 Cor. 6:13-15; 7:6-9, 32-35; Mt. 22:29-30)

It's about God's \_\_\_\_\_ for your life, Growing in Christlikeness (sanctification)... (1 Th. 4:2-6)

- \_\_\_\_\_ from Sexual Immorality ("porneia" of mind, heart, or body)...
  - o Choosing Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ Self-Control
  - o Knowing that first, it's \_\_\_\_\_ against God, and second, it's \_\_\_\_\_ our brother or sister in the Lord

It's about God's \_\_\_\_\_ on your life, to be Holy (set apart) Devoted to Him... (1 Th. 4:7-8)

- And remembering this is \_\_\_\_\_ about the Church's Religious Rules for you...

**But what if I've already swallowed the Lie(s)?**

*"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin... Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit."*

- Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12 (of David, after Adultery and Murder)

# NEWAYGO CAMPUS NEWS

**WELCOME BOX FOR YOU!** – If you're a guest with us today, we're glad you're here! Please stop by the **Welcome Desk**, fill out a **Connect Card**, drop it off in the offering box, and be sure to take a **Welcome Box** before you go, our gift to you!

**CINCO DE MAYO ECUADOR FUNDRAISER (Sunday, May 5)** – In support of our Ecuador team, we are having a Cinco De Mayo lunch/game afternoon!! Join us right after service for some fantastic Mexican food and some family building games, even a Pinata! Get to know the team, ask questions, and inquire about ways you can pray. Please also consider financially supporting our team while enjoying this fun time, thanks!

**HOMESCHOOL REFRESH RETREAT @ NWG Campus (Saturday, May 11, 9am-4pm)** – The theme for this year's retreat is "FAITH in my Home(schooling)." For more information, please go to [hsrefreshretreat.com](http://hsrefreshretreat.com) or talk to Rachel Faber.

**SR. PASTOR TRANSITION PRAYER REQUEST** (from the Elders): Please be asking the Lord to give great wisdom as He leads the Elders in selecting the Search Team members in May, defining the search criteria, and commissioning the Search Team in June.

**ELDER REAFFIRMATIONS** – Joe Gardner, Steve Wheeler and Scott Landstra are requesting congregational input as they screen for another three-year term as an elder. Please review the Biblical qualification (I Tim. 3:1-7; I Pt. 5:1-3; Titus 1:5-9) with them in mind. If you have questions or concerns, please address them to each directly to avoid misunderstanding. If approved by the screening committee, members will vote to re-affirm them at the Congregational Meeting.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (Next Sunday, April 28, After Service)** –

All are invited to join us for our next congregational meeting! Only members can vote, but all are welcome to hear updates on how God is at work in our church family at both campuses. A meal will be provided before we begin. One thing we're excited about is welcoming NEW Member Candidates!

The Elders have approved and now present these 30 persons for your voting into membership at the meeting. Please reach out to and welcome them.

**Newaygo Campus:** Kelly & Kendal Beerman, Don & Shannon Hendershot, Tom & Nancy Kaastra, Andrew & Breanna Kulikowski, Shane & Janine Smith, and Zach & Ashley Wood.

**Big Rapids Campus:** Gabe & Joanna Boe, Isaac & Mariah Hertzler, Matthew Holsworth, Zachary Logan, Jackie Miller, Owen Myers, Kyle Nelson, Tyler & Karen O'Dell, Tom & Karen Parks, Jon & Ashley Peterson, Alyssa Tarkowski, and Dave & Karen Westrate.

## **Congregational Meeting Agenda for April 28, 2024**

- I. Confirm Quorum & Call to Order
- II. Opening Prayer
- III. Approve minutes from November 2023
- IV. Reports:
  - A. Vision Update
  - B. Big Rapids Campus Update
  - C. Newaygo Campus Update
  - D. Elders' Report
- V. New Business:
  - A. Vote to Accept New Members
  - B. Vote to Affirm Elders
- VI. Financial Report
  - Missions Report and Vote on New Support
    - i. FYI: Rafa and Yoli
    - ii. Jeffrey and Ingrid Cagwin
- VII. Announcement Result of Ballot Voting
- VIII. Closing Prayer
- IX. Adjournment