

The Leighton News
Week of December 20, 2015

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Sunday's Message: - Advent Series "A Fearful Christmas Story" – "God Wants You!"
Luke 2:8-20

Children ages 4-7 will be dismissed during the worship service to go to Children's Church which is held down the Children's Wing.

Non-perishable food items, paper products and cleaning items are collected during the offering time by kids and the ushers. Your donations of these items stock our food pantry.

Coffee, tea, lemonade, and treats are available in the Lobby immediately after the worship service.

Sunday School classes for all ages are held each Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-Noon

G.L.U.E. Youth Group Sunday night at the church from 5:45-8:00 p.m. for all 6th-12th grade students.

Final Christmas Choir Practice Sunday night 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 21:

7:00 p.m. Adult Basketball (Family Center)

Tuesday, December 22:

4:00 p.m. Parents Night Out Child Care/Gift Wrapping until 9 p.m.

Wednesday, December 23:

No Family Dinner, Pioneer Clubs, Prayer Meeting or Adult Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 24:

Church Office Closed

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service

Friday, December 25:

Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR LEIGHTON CHURCH FAMILY

Save on postage and bring Christmas cards for your church family to be distributed at church. A table is in the Lobby for cards to be dropped off & picked up. Cards are arranged in alphabetical order by last name.

Please stop by the table to see if there are cards waiting for you!

ADULT BASKETBALL MONDAY NIGHTS!

All adults are welcome to come Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Center for pick-up games. Contact [Doug Thaler](#) for more information.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Parents, do you need a night out where you can finish your Christmas shopping without the kids or would you like help wrapping presents?

On Tuesday, December 22nd, the youth and adults going on a mission trip to Puerto Rico next summer will be offering these services from 4:00-9:00 p.m. at the church. Drop off your kiddos or bring your gifts to be wrapped. Your donation will not only give you a night out and gifts wrapped, but will support the team going to Puerto Rico in July of 2016. Contact [Misty Getter](#) for details.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Thursday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Friends and family members are welcome.

Come and celebrate the Christ of Christmas – the greatest gift of all!

YOUTH & ADULT ARCHERY

Archery will be held again in the coming year in the Family Center.

Youth archery & breakfasts will be on Saturday mornings in January & February.

Adult Archery will be on Thursday nights in January & February.

See complete details below.

YOUTH ARCHERY

Youth Archery is gearing up for another season.

Saturdays January 9-February 27 in the church Family Center.

Bring the kids to learn to shoot archery or to fine tune the skills they already have.
Equipment is provided or bring your own.
Enjoy breakfast from 8:30-10:00 and shoot archery from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the Family Center. No cost to participate, but donations appreciated to help cover the cost of breakfast and archery equipment. For info, contact [Eddy Landon](#)

ADULT ARCHERY

Adults are invited to come and shoot archery on Thursday nights in the Family Center at 7:00 p.m starting January 14th.

Bring your own equipment. High school students (9th grade on up) are welcome to come, but must have an adult with them. For more information, contact [Steve McBride](#)

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*In lieu of Christmas cards, those listed below have given gifts in honor of you, their Leighton Church Family, to various missionaries/organizations.
Wishing you a Christ-filled Christmas!*

Barb Moore has given food to the Leighton Church food pantry.

Nancy Geertman has given a gift to Scott & Jenni Pollmann, missionaries in Alaska, toward the purchase of their Honda (4-wheeler).

Ruth Kaechele has given a donation to Feed the Children.

Doug & Judy Hanlon have given food to the Leighton Church food pantry.

Art & Connie Hooker have given a gift to missionaries, Shad & Sarah Deal, who serve in Indonesia.

END OF YEAR GIVING REMINDERS

Your gifts to the ministries of Leighton Church and the time that you give enable Vacation Bible School, Pioneer Clubs, worship services, mission trips, and so much more. Thank you for your faithful support. Just a few reminders about year-end gifts to be eligible for a charitable contribution deduction for 2015.

- Checks must be in to the church office by December 31st. Checks received January 3, 2016 will apply for 2016 tax deductions regardless of the date on the

check.

- Checks mailed to the church must be postmarked in 2015.
- E-giving dated in 2015 will apply for 2015 charitable contribution deductions.

If you have any questions, please contact [Stacey Aman](#) in the church office.

PIE SALE FUNDRAISER FOR MISSION TRIP

There are a group of adults and teens from Leighton going to Puerto Rico in July of 2016 on a mission trip. To raise funds toward the cost of the trip, the group is selling homemade Dutch Apple pies for \$10.00 each. Pies are frozen ready to bake. See [Misty Getter](#) or [Tina Peck](#) if interested in buying a pie.

CHURCH COOKBOOKS

Church Cookbooks are available now for just \$5.00!

Cookbooks make great Christmas gifts!

Contact [Stacey Aman](#) or [Jean Bender](#) if interested in purchasing one.

JOIN THE LEIGHTON CHURCH CLEANING CREW!

Our church family is blessed to have a team of volunteers who give of their time each week to clean our facility.

Additional volunteers are needed to either help on a weekly basis (1-2 hours) or fill in as needed. If interested, please contact [Jackie Corwin](#)

LEIGHTON MISSIONS T-SHIRT ORDER:

One of our missions here at Leighton is to go out and be the hands and feet of Jesus. When we do, people wonder who we are and what we are doing. Let people around know by ordering a t-shirt and wearing it when you participate in church or missions projects. Use the attached t-shirt order form and return it along with payment to Connie Blain. Orders will be taken ongoing. Shirts are bright red and cost \$10 each (2X-5X are \$1 per X).

NEED PRAYER? PRAYER ROOM OPEN SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP.

The Prayer Room is staffed on Sunday mornings following the worship service. If you would like to be prayed for or have a need you would like prayer for, feel free to stop in

the Prayer Room which is located across from the Coffee Bar. Questions can be directed to Nancy Geertman.

SERVICE IN ACTION

COFFEE SERVERS:

December 20—Kate Webb & Bonnie McBride
December 27—Todd, Jodi, Ashley & Andrea Smith
January 3—Open

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

December 20—Jackie Corwin & Tina Peck
December 27—Todd, Jodi, Ashley & Andrea Smith
January 3—Nona Steeby

GREETERS:

December 20—Mike & Christine Syswerda
December 24—Doug & Judy Hanlon
December 27—Clay & Luann Snyder
January 3—Shirlee Cheers & Barb Moore

NURSERY:

December 20—Jonathan & Amanda Athearn
December 27—Mike & Christine Syswerda
January 3—Eric & Tina Peck, Gabby Nicholson

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

December 20—Jonathan & Amanda Athearn
December 27—Sam Farmer, Bonnie McBride
January 3—To Be Announced

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

December 20—Becca Getter & Britney Bredeweg
December 27—Sam Farmer, Sarah Getter, Gabby Nicholson
January 3—To Be Announced

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Your donations of non-perishable food items to our food pantry give assistance to the 13 families that regularly visit our pantry (regularly means at least once a month). Any items you can donate are appreciated. Food items are collected each Sunday during the offering time.

Laundry Detergent
Toilet Tissue
Spaghetti & Sauce
Canned fruit & meats
Cereal
Soup
Boxed meals/pasta & rice side dishes
Macaroni & Cheese
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Shampoo & Conditioner
Toothpaste
Deodorant for Men & Women
Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Salad Dressing

Please do not donate items that have been opened or are outdated. Items are collected each Sunday during the offering time. Thank you!

SHOPPING FOR MISSIONS

You can help support the ministries of Red Bird Mission in Kentucky just by shopping at Meijer through the Meijer Rewards program. Just sign up by going to [Meijer.com/rewards](https://www.meijer.com/rewards) or to the customer service counter at any Meijer store with the Leighton United Methodist Church code 415811. Then use your rewards card whenever you purchase gas, pharmaceuticals, general merchandise, and groceries. Payment for purchases to count for rewards must be cash, debit, or Meijer credit card (no checks). Another \$100 has been received through Meijer Rewards and it has been sent to Red Bird Mission to be used where they need it most. For more information, contact Luann Lewis Snyder 616-891-8348.

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE COLLECTION

Did you know that many pastors, Christians, missionaries around the world do not have access to materials to prepare sermons, Bible studies, or for their own personal devotions?

An organization called Christian Resources International collects Bibles, devotional books, curriculum, and more to send to pastors, evangelists, Bible colleges, and missionaries around the world. If you have any of these items that you would like to donate, bring them and drop them in the box in the Lounge. Dave & Sharon Kaechele will deliver them to CRI.

DONATE ANY EXTRA/UNWANTED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

If you have any extra or unwanted medical equipment (walkers, crutches, canes, knee braces, wheelchairs, etc.) in your home, contact [Tiffany Thaler](#). Each August, Grand Valley State University's physical therapy program makes a trip to Guatemala with Hearts in Motion. Medical equipment is needed to help aid local residents. Any donation can make a difference.

SON-LIFE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER NEEDS SECRETARY

SON-Life Camp & Retreat Center is accepting applications for a part-time secretary. If you are interested in joining their ministry, submit an application and resume by mail or to hope@son-lifecamp.org. Applications and a job description can be found on the camp website at www.son-lifecamp.org

PROJECT HOPE HAS MANY VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN!

Would you like to serve the Lord a few hours a week and enjoy being with the "Body of Christ" or even fulfill the deep need to have purpose for the Lord? Come to Project Hope! We are in need of people to fill these volunteer positions:

Cashiers (Must be 18 years or older)

Drivers to pick up food (CDL is not required, but must have a good driving record)

An experienced person to price antiques and restock floor

A puzzle-putter-together/counter. Can be done in the comfort of your own home and at your convenience.

Volunteers needed to price clothing, housewares, etc. Can be as young as 15 with parental consent.

"Jewelry Happenings" (sorting and pricing) first Thursday of every month. Snacks provided!

Cosmetics and cards.

Frames, pictures and wall hangings – price and stock floor

Gardner to help keep up the "Annetta Garden Center" and the landscape around the building.

If interested in helping us out as a driver or gardner, call Sandy at (616) 681-HOPE ext.

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Please call Jean Bodo, Thrift Store Director (616) 681-HOPE ext. 106 if interested in any other volunteer positions listed.

LAY SERVANT CLASSES REGISTRATION OPEN

Lay Speaking Ministries is hosting lay speaking classes on Saturday, January 23, 2016 and Saturday, February 6, 2016 at Grand Rapids Trinity United Methodist Church located at 1100 Lake Drive SE. Those completing lay speaking classes receive certification to speak at area churches filling the pulpit for pastor's.

Classes are held both dates from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. with lunch provided. Both basic and advanced courses are offered on both dates.

Basic class is \$25.00 which includes materials and lunch.

Advanced classes are \$25 which includes lunch.

There must be at least 10 registrations to hold class.

To register, call Jody Pratt at 269-792-0481 or prattgji@hughes.net.

Saturday, February 13th is held as an alternate date in the event of a weather cancellation. For more details on lay speaking classes, you may also talk to [Jim Ciluffo](#) who has taken the basic course.

43rd ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS JURIED SPIRITUAL ART SHOW

Coming February 12-24, 2016 to Grand Rapids First Church located at 227 Fulton St. East, Grand Rapids.

Celebration of the Arts began in 1972 as part of the Music and Arts Ministry of First Church. In its 43rd year, Celebration has grown to represent one of the largest juried sacred art shows in the country. It features artists from throughout the Midwest in a variety of media including oils, acrylic, watercolor, sculpture, fiber, photography, and more. During the 13 day festival, there are many individual events including concerts, drama, and art activities.

This year's juror is Mark Mehaffey, a nationally recognized artist and signature member of the National Watercolor Society and the American Watercolor Society.

Cost is \$20.00 for the first entry, \$10 for the second entry.

Media accepted are oils, acrylics, watercolors, prints, drawings, sculpture, ceramics, fiber, textiles, collage, photography, multi-media, etc.

For more information go to www.thecelebrationofthearts.com.

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