

The Leighton News
Week of December 27, 2015

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, December 27:

Sunday's Message: - "Don't Miss the Bigger Picture" - John 1:1-18

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 Josh & Robbi Hilton's home from 5:45-8:00 p.m. for all 6th-12th grade students. Contact [Robbi Hilton](#) for directions.

Monday, December 28:

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

Tuesday, December 29:

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 30:

Church Office Closed

No Family Dinner, Pioneer Clubs, Prayer Meeting or Adult Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 31:

Church Office Open 9a-Noon

New Year's Eve

Friday, January 1, 2016:

Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR LEIGHTON CHURCH FAMILY

Check the table in the Lobby to see if there are Christmas cards waiting for you!

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS WEEK OF DECEMBER 28TH

Please take note of the church office hours for this week:

Monday, Dec. 28th—Closed
Tuesday, Dec. 29th—Closed
Wednesday, Dec. 30th—Closed
Thursday, Dec. 31st—9:00 am-Noon
Friday, Jan. 1st—Closed

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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRIES

Family Dinner, Pioneer Clubs, Prayer Meeting, and Adult Bible Study will not meet Wednesday, December 30th. All of these ministries will resume on Wednesday, January 6th as follows:

Family Dinner 5:30 p.m. in the Family Center
Pioneer Clubs 6:15-8:00 p.m. for kids age 4 thru 6th Grade
Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the Lounge
Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m. in the Library

Praise Team Practice will be held this Wednesday, December 30th at 6:30 p.m.

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](#)

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.

THANK YOU!

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the church staff, I would like to offer our thanks to you all for your loving and generous Christmas gift. Indeed your kind words and support are blessings we receive all year long. It is our privilege and delight to serve the church of Jesus Christ with you. Our love and best wishes go out to the entire church family during this Christmas season. God bless everyone.

~Pastor Dave

JANUARY CALENDAR OF MINISTRIES

The January 2016 calendar of ministries happening at Leighton is attached. Check out all that is happening in January and get connected as you can. The calendar can also be found on the church website www.leightonchurch.org/calendar

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.

TRANSPORTATION TO YOUTH GROUP NEEDED

Looking for a couple to transport teens to youth group on Sunday nights. Teens live within a mile or two radius of the church. If you are able to help each Sunday night, or

even just once or twice a month, please contact [Misty Getter](#).

SERVICE IN ACTION

COFFEE SERVERS:

December 27—Todd, Jodi, Ashley & Andrea Smith

January 3—Wayne & Noreen Ingersoll

January 10—Open

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

December 27—Todd, Jodi, Ashley & Andrea Smith

January 3—Nona Steeby

January 10—To Be Announced

GREETERS:

December 27—Clay & Luann Snyder

January 3—Shirlee Cheers & Barb Moore

January 10—Dale & Lois Byars

NURSERY:

December 27—Mike & Christine Syswerda

January 3—Eric & Tina Peck, Gabby Nicholson

January 10—Cindy & Rebecka Thaler

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

December 27—Sam Farmer, Bonnie McBride

January 3—Sam Farmer, Josh & Kate Webb

January 10—Josh & Robbi Hilton

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

December 27—Sam Farmer, Sarah Getter, Gabby Nicholson

January 3—Sam Farmer, Britney Bredeweg

January 10—Josh & Stephanie Aman

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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