

The Leighton News
Week of March 6, 2016

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, March 6 – Fourth Sunday of Lent:

Pastor Dave continues his sermon series, ***“Challenging the World.”*** This Sunday’s sermon title is *“So What is Your Life Worth?”* Psalm 139:1-24

Parish Nurse, Linda McBride, will be available to take blood pressure readings in Pastor Dave’s office.

Children ages 4-7 are dismissed while the offering is being collected 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. See below for a list of items being collected throughout March.

Refreshments 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.

No G.L.U.E. Youth Group Sunday night.

Monday, March 7:

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

7:00 p.m. Discipleship Team (Lounge)

Tuesday, March 8:

7:00 a.m. Leighton Township Elections (Family Center until 8 p.m.)

6:30 p.m. Board of Elders & Leadership Team Meeting (Lounge)

Wednesday, March 9:

5:30 p.m. Family Dinner (Family Center)

6:15 p.m. Pioneer Clubs for kids age 4 thru 6th Grade

6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting (Lounge)

6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Library)

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

Thursday, March 10:

- 7:00 p.m. Adult Archery (Family Center)
7:00 p.m. VBS Decorating Team (Room 9)

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS ACCEPTED THRU MARCH 13

Orders for Easter flowers are being taken and are due March 13th. Flowers may be ordered in memory and/or in honor of your loved ones. The flowers will be displayed around the Sanctuary on Easter morning. Order forms are in the bulletin and also attached.

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring is just around the corner! March brings many opportunities for you to get connected at Leighton Church. Easter is March 27th. Check out the services held during Holy Week (week of March 20th) and special Easter morning services. The March calendar is attached. You can also check out the calendar on the church website www.leightonchurch.org/calendar

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.

ADULT ARCHERY

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Adults are invited to come and shoot archery on Thursday nights in the Family Center at 7:00 p.m. thru March 17th.

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](#)

GAME NIGHT FOR TEENS & ADULT PRAYER PARTNERS

Adults with a teen prayer partner are invited to youth group on Sunday, March 13th at 5:45 p.m. It will be a night of friendship, fun, and food. A variety of board games will be

available to choose from. Plan to come and enjoy time with your teen prayer partner.

CIRCLE OF JOY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

A special Circle of Joy for both men and women.

Monday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Renee, Isabelle, and Ana Seeley will be sharing about their mission trip to Guatemala.

Come and learn about their experience.

Refreshments served afterward.

WOMEN'S LENTEN BREAKFAST

The Middleville United Methodist Women cordially invites all the women of Leighton Church to a Lenten Breakfast on Thursday, March 24th at 9:30 a.m. at Middleville United Methodist Church located at 111 Church Street, Middleville. Please place your reservation by March 18th by calling Susan Foster at (269) 795-4628.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Vacation Bible School 2016 is coming!

Sunday, June 26-Thursday, June 30 from 6:00-8:40 p.m.

(NOTE: This is earlier than we normally hold VBS. Mark your calendar!)

This year's theme is:

Ocean Commotion
Diving into Noah's Flood

Throughout the week, kids age 2 (NOTE CORRECTION) on up through 6th grade will learn to stand for God, obey God, trust God, thank God, and fear God.

All positions for Vacation Bible School have been filled. Thank you to everyone who is willing to give of their time that week to make this important ministry to children happen. Please be praying over the VBS team and the children that will be attending.

TEAM LEADERS— There is a VBS Leaders meeting on
Tuesday, March 15th at 7:00 p.m. in Rooms 15/16.
Those who need to attend this meeting will receive a reminder.

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR VBS

Supplies are beginning to be collected for Vacation Bible School decorations and crafts.

See the list below for items needed. Items can be placed in the basket marked VBS Supplies which is located in the Lobby.

Pool Noodles (all colors)

3—2x4's at least 5' in length (See Cindy Herring)

Green streamers (variety of shades)

Blue streamers (variety of shades)

200 white Styrofoam cups (16 oz. size)

100 small white flameless LED tea light "candles"

100 fishing swivels (Do Internet search for fishing swivels for an example)

45 empty cube size Kleenex boxes

12 glue sticks

2 big boxes of fruit loops cereal

2 boxes of small shell pasta

Contact [Stacey Aman](#) if you have any questions about these items.

PUERTO RICO YOUTH MISSION TRIP UPDATE

In July, a team of 18 teens and adults will be heading to Puerto Rico through an organization called Praying Pelican. The trip is scheduled for July 23-30. In Puerto Rico, the team will be running a VBS style softball camp, doing small construction type projects, visiting mercy ministries, and encourage the full-time missionaries that serve there.

The team consists of: Scott, Misty, Rachael & Rebecca Getter, Tina Peck & Gabby Nicholson, Bethany Tanis, Jerry & Crystal Mulero, Michaela Blain, Steven & Matthew Vannette, Corrine Galloway, Ana & Amanda Seeley, Nathan & Kaylie Taylor, and Josh Aman. Please be in prayer over this group and for their upcoming trip. The cost of the trip is about \$1,600 per person. Through various work and fundraising projects, nearly \$7,000 has been raised.

How can you help? Many of you have helped support this team already. There are several opportunities going on now where others can also help the team prepare for

their trip.

1. Wall of Envelopes—On the bulletin board outside the youth room (down the hall toward the gym), there are many envelopes with different dollar amounts written on them. Take an envelope with the dollar amount of your choice and place your donation in the offering envelope. (*Checks may be made payable to Leighton Church.*)
2. Purchase a homemade cheesecake for your Easter dinner! Orders are being taken now for cheesecakes made by Eric Peck. (If you attended the Dinner Theater and had cheesecake that night, you enjoyed a cheesecake made by Eric Peck.) Cheesecakes are \$13.00 each and will be available the week before Easter. An order form is in the Lobby or see any of the trip team members listed above.

Thank you for your faithful support both in prayer and financially.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Did you know that Leighton Church operates a small food pantry with non-perishable food items that services between 12 and 15 families? Throughout the month of March, the following items will be collected to stock the pantry:

- ◇ Toilet Paper
- ◇ Laundry Detergent
- ◇ Soup
- ◇ Cereal
- ◇ Canned Fish & Meats (tuna, chicken breast, etc.)
- ◇ Canned Fruit

Items will be collected by the children each Sunday during the offering time. Questions can be directed to [Stacey Aman](#).

THANK YOU!

Dear Church Congregation,

The Mission Team gives praise to God for your Faith Promise pledge of \$16,574.00. Your faithful support help people here at Leighton, in our community, in our state, in our country, and around the world. You are helping to take the word of Jesus to the ends of the earth through 15 missionary families and 10 mission focused organizations.

CONGRATULATIONS

Two Leighton teens have recently been spotted in the news. They have been recognized for their hard work and utilizing the gifts and talents the Lord has given to them.

Corrine Galloway, daughter of Todd & Judi Galloway, received first place in the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Poster contest.

Amanda Seeley, daughter of Tim & Renee Seeley, was recognized as student of the month for January at Thornapple-Kellogg High School.

Congratulations to these two talented young ladies. If you see Leighton Church folks shining in the community, pass the information on to [Stacey](#) in the church office. It will be included in the bulletin as space permits.

OFFICE HOURS

With Josh Webb's new class schedule this semester, his office hours have changed. His office hours are as follows:

Josh Webb, Director of Music Ministries
(616) 891-8028 or worship@leightonchurch.org

Mondays 8:00-11:30 a.m.

Tuesdays 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays 8:00-11:30 a.m.

Praise Team Practice remains on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Just a reminder the church office is open
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

(616) 891-8028

office@leightonchurch.org or
stacey.aman@leightonchurch.org

NEED A BULLETIN FROM A PREVIOUS SUNDAY?

Did you miss a Sunday or two or misplaced your bulletin from the previous Sunday? Extra copies of bulletins from the previous two Sundays are available in the literature rack on the table right outside the main entrance to the Sanctuary.

You can also receive an e-bulletin each week. Contact [Stacey](#) in the church office if you'd like to receive e-bulletins.

SNACKS FOR LOWER ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S CHURCH/SUNDAY SCHOOL

The lower elementary aged children receive a snack during Children's Church/Sunday School. If you'd be willing to bring a healthy snack for about 20 kids some Sunday, please sign up outside Room 3 or contact [Terri Farmer](#).

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

With severe winter weather in the forecast for the coming week, here's a reminder of Leighton's Inclement Weather Policy.

If Thornapple-Kellogg schools is closed or cancels evening sporting events, church events are cancelled.

The church voicemail will have a message stating closure information, an e-mail will be sent out, and cancellation notice will be posted on the following TV and radio stations:

WWMT Channel 3, WZZM Channel 13, WOTV 41, WOOD TV 8, and WXSP
WCSG 91.3 on the radio or wcsg.org

If bad weather occurs on Saturdays during archery season or Sunday mornings causing worship service to be cancelled, the same media formats will be used for notification.

CHURCH COOKBOOKS

Church Cookbooks are available now for just **\$5.00!**

Cookbooks make great gifts!

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

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:

March 6—Art & Connie Hooker
March 13—Wayne & Noreen Ingersoll
March 20—Dan & Judy Terpstra

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

March 6—Shawn Eaton & Connie Hooker
March 13—Alverna Truax & Stephanie Haan
March 20—Sarah Geers & Nancy Geertman

GREETERS:

March 6—Gary & Jean McCaul
March 13—Randy & Bonnie Adams
March 20—Jim & Bonnie Ciluffo

NURSERY:

March 6—Cindy & Rebecka Thaler
March 13—Renee & Amanda Seeley
March 20—Cindy Herring & Britney Bredeweg

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

March 6—Jonathan & Amanda Athearn
March 13—Josh & Robbi Hilton
March 20—Sam Farmer, Josh & Kate Webb

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

March 6—Gabby Nicholson & Emeline Seeley
March 13—Britney Bredeweg & Sam Farmer
March 20—Becca & Sarah Getter

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.

FRANKLIN GRAHAM'S PRAYER TOUR OF AMERICA

Franklin Graham, son of evangelist Billy Graham, is traveling to all 50 states in 2016 to hold prayer rallies, to preach the Gospel, and to challenge believers to take a stand and take action. He'll be urging Christians to vote, to live out their faith in every part of their lives, and to pray for our nation just as Nehemiah cried out to God to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and restore hope to His people.

Follow Franklin Graham's journey or even join Michigan's prayer team. Go to www.decisionamericatour.com for complete information and locations.

RETREAT FOR LAY SERVANTS & LAY SPEAKERS

Do you feel the Lord calling you to serve Him by becoming a certified Lay Speaker, which is someone who can fill the pulpit while a pastor is away on vacation or off on extended leave?

The West Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church is hosting a weekend retreat which includes 3 courses needed to become a certified lay servant or lay speaker.

April 22 & 23 at Lake Michigan Camp in Pentwater, MI

Cost is \$100 for overnights which covers class material, food & lodging
Or \$75 for those who would commute (this cost covers meals & class materials).

The courses offered at the retreat include:

Basic Lay Speaking, Wesleyan Heritage, & Worship Design

To register and make a class selection, contact Jody Pratt at prattgji@hughes.net or 269-792-0481. Individuals are welcome to take classes even if not seeking Lay Servant or Lay Speaking certification. Participants must register.

GULL LAKE MINISTRIES SCRAPBOOK RETREAT

Gull Lake Ministries is hosting a scrapbook retreat March 11-13. The weekend includes two relaxing nights in comfortable accommodations, six sensational meals, snacks, table space, and activities. Bring your scrapbook/crafting supplies, Bible & notebook, comfortable shoes & clothing for a variety of weather and activities, spending money, and laptop computer and extension cord. You'll have an opportunity to update online albums, design cards/work on craft projects, take a walk or relax by the lake, get a massage (extra charge), spend time in the prayer room, enjoy engaging worship, create, design & be inspired!

Cost is \$188/person for condo housing
\$168/person for lodge housing
\$160/person for cottage housing
\$50 non-refundable deposit per person.

Register by calling 800-350-2442 ext. 205 or online at gulllake.org.
Gull Lake Ministries is located at 1800 Burlington Drive, Hickory Corners, MI.

PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date for these upcoming events to support Pregnancy Resource Center.

WALK FOR LIFE – Saturday, June 18th. Walk for Life is a family-friendly fundraising event to support the life-saving work for the Pregnancy Resource Center. There are various walk locations throughout our area.

GOLF FOR LIFE – Friday, September 16th.
15th Annual Golf for Life is sponsored by Dan Vos Construction Company. Enjoy a round of golf at Boulder Creek Golf Club while supporting life.

GALA – Thursday, November 10th
Gala is their premier fundraising event held at the JW Marriott, with guest speaker Abby Johnson.

For more information on these events, call 616-259-1522 or visit prcforlife.org/how-you-can-help/events.

"THE BEAMS ARE CREAKING" COMING TO MASTER ARTS THEATER

Master Arts Theater presents "*The Beams are Creaking*," the inspiring true story of Deitrich Bonhoeffer, the German pastor who defied the Nazi's and ultimately led an assassination attempt against Adolf Hitler.

This compelling drama captures the Bonhoeffer story and paints it on a theatrical canvas without ever sacrificing the very human drama at the base of it. Part political thriller leavened with moments of humor, it is a show filled with compassion that reaffirms one's faith in man and God.

"The Beams are Creaking" opens April 14th and runs through May 7th. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and a matinee show Saturdays only at 2:00 p.m.

Cost is \$16.00/adult, \$14.00/senior citizens and students.

Groups of 20 or more receive \$1.00 off per ticket.

Group sales begin February 15th and general public sales begin March 14th.

Call (616) 455-1001 to reserve your tickets.

Master Arts Theater is located at 75 77th Street SW, Grand Rapids.

www.masterarts.org

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS AT CALEDONIA UMC

Caledonia UMC located at 250 Vine Street in Caledonia is offering Lenten Soup Suppers every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. during Lent (February 16-March 22). Soup, salad, bread, dessert and beverages will be provided at no charge. Free will donations will be accepted.

"IRON SHARPENS IRON" MEN'S CONFERENCE COMING TO GRAND RAPIDS

CSB Ministries in Byron Center (Christian Service Brigade) presents *"Iron Sharpens Iron"* Men's Conference Saturday, April 16th at Brookside Christian Reformed Church located at 3600 Kalamazoo Ave., Grand Rapids.

Keynote speakers include Don Davis, who played 11 seasons in the NFL and retired from the New England Patriots in 2007. Don became ordained in 2007 and in 2008 entered full-time sports ministry.

Also speaking is Chuck Stecker, president and founder of A Chosen Generation, who recently wrote a book called *"Men of Honor, Women of Virtue, Raising Kids to Keep the Faith."*

The conference features a number of seminars for men of all ages and some tailored for men at certain stages in life. Seminar titles include:

Be the Dad: 26 things kids needs from a dad

Compassion without Compromise (seminar presenter is Adam Barr from Peace Church in Middleville)

Creating MoMEntum for Every Man

Every Man a Warrior: Helping Men Win the Battles of Life

Family Devotions that Blow up the Box

Grandfathering that Changes Lives

Leave Your Baggage at the Door

Making a Difference

Raising a Modern Day Knight

And much more!

For details see ironsharpensiron.net

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT PROJECT HOPE

Project Hope located in Dorr, operates a food pantry for those in need in the Northeast section of Allegan County. They also have a thrift store that helps fund the ministries of Project Hope. Volunteers are needed to cashier in the thrift store. Also needed are volunteers to help sort items that are donated to stock the thrift store. If you are interested, please contact Jean Bodo (616) 681-4673

FUN FAMILY OPPORTUNITY FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Help Grand Rapids Right to Life create a strong prolife presence during the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Grand Rapids! Bring your friends and family for a fabulously fun time at this annual event. All prolife people are welcome to walk with our group or ride on the float that proclaims the message: "Life: A Precious Gift." Get in the spirit and dress in green! Gather at the float on Lyon Street (between Monroe and Ottawa Avenues) at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 12th. The parade begins at 11:00 a.m. For more information, visit grrtl.org/parade or contact Kelley at (616) 532-2300 or info@grrtl.org

FREE SCREENING OF DOCUMENTARY FILM "THE DROP BOX"

Grand Rapids Right to Life and Cornerstone Students for Life are partnering to host a FREE screening of the award-winning documentary film "The Drop Box." Pastor Lee built a box that has received over 600 unwanted babies who otherwise would have been abandoned on the streets of Seoul, South Korea. Don't miss this inspiring community event on Thursday, March 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Corum at Cornerstone University (1001 E. Beltline Ave. NE, Grand Rapids). For more information contact Erin at 616-532-2300 or at info@grrtl.org.

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