

The Leighton News
Week of May 8, 2016

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, May 8 – Happy Mother’s Day!:

Sunday’s Message – Part 4 of the Sermon Series: “*Better Than Happiness!*” Part 4 is titled “*Standing Together.*” Scripture passage is Philippians 2:1-12.

Children ages 4-7 are dismissed while the offering is 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 May.

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, May 9:

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

Tuesday, May 10:

4:30 p.m. Child Protection Team Meeting (Pastor’s Office)

6:30 p.m. Board of Elders Meeting (Pastor’s Office)

Wednesday, May 11:

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

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

Friday, May 13:

9:00 a.m. 50+ Event in Shipshewana (Those carpooling meet at church at 9:00 am)

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

MAY G.L.U.E. YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Youth Group is for all 6th-12th grade students. Friends are welcome!

May 8 – No Youth Group (It's Mother's Day!)

May 15 – Regular Youth Group at Getter's House 5:45-8:00 p.m.

May 22 – Lunch with Graduating High School Seniors, their Parents, and their Prayer Partners (more details to come)

Regular Youth Group at Getter's House 5:45-8:00 p.m.

May 29 – No Youth Group (It's Memorial Day Weekend!)

Contact [Misty Getter](#) for details or directions to their home.

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.

CHILD PROTECTION CLASS

A Child Protection Class is scheduled for Sunday, May 15th at 11:00 a.m. in the Prayer Room.

All those age 12 on up interested in helping in any way with youth group, Pioneer Clubs, Vacation Bible School, Nursery, MOPS, or any youth/children's ministry must take this class and have a background check completed.

Once approved, applicants can serve for 5 years before re-certification is needed. If you have not taken this class and plan to help with Vacation Bible School in particular, please plan to attend this session.

Those who are between the ages of 12 and 17 who plan on taking this class must have a parent attend with them.

Questions can be directed to [Stacey Aman](#)

CIRCLE OF JOY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The May Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship Gathering Is on Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge.

All women are welcome to come.
Judi Galloway will be presenting “*Chalk Talk.*”
Refreshments served afterward.
For more information, contact [Jean Bender](#)

MEETING FOR ALL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

All Vacation Bible School Volunteers are to attend a meeting on Tuesday, May 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

No matter what position you are serving in VBS, please come so you are familiar with the theme, the schedule for each evening, and expectations for each area.

If you cannot attend, please contact [Cindy Herring](#)

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Spring is finally here so it's time to think about gardening! Leighton Church has a garden which is stocked with produce/food for those in need in the community. The produce is grown in our church garden (God's Garden located behind the Family Center area of the church) and also members of the church grow extra vegetables in their home gardens to donate to the stand. Here are ways you can help with the garden:

- Donate a 10 lb. bag of Sevin's dust
- Donate money for seeds to be purchased (designate your gift as GARDEN)
- Help plant the garden on Saturday, May 21st at 10:00 a.m. (Rain Date is Wednesday, May 25th at 10:00 a.m.)
- Help pull weeds and/or pick vegetables throughout the season
- Put produce from your garden on the stand

Please notify [Clay](#) or [Luann](#) Snyder if you can help in any of these ways. Thank you to Chris Herring for spreading fertilizer and plowing the garden!

GRADUATION SUNDAY IS MAY 22ND.

Come and celebrate with our graduates!

SOFTBALL UPDATE

I am sorry to announce that we will not be having a church softball league this summer. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, there were only three teams available to play. We will evaluate the situation and perhaps try again next summer.

For this summer, we would like to have three Family Softball Nights. We will play softball (children and adults), eat ice cream, and enjoy the fellowship. Everyone is welcome.

The first one will be held on Monday, May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Bring your family, your glove, your lawn chair, and join us for an evening of softball. We also hope to play again July 11th and August 8th.
(Inclement weather will cancel these activities.)

Put these dates on your calendar and let's play softball!
~Pastor Dave

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Vacation Bible School 2016 is coming!
Sunday, June 26-Thursday, June 30 from 6:00-8:40 p.m.

This year's theme is:

Ocean Commotion Diving into Noah's Flood

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

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR VBS

Most of the supplies needed for VBS crafts and decorations have been received. Thank you to everyone who graciously gave. Just one item remains on the supply list.

4 or 5 cans of spray paint (any shade of blue and/or green)

If you have some spare spray paint that is still good or you are willing to purchase some, please place your donation in the marked basket in the

Lobby.

Thank you for faithfully supporting the Vacation Bible School ministry.

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

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS) COMING THIS FALL!

A new ministry is coming to Thursdays, starting, October 6th for mothers of preschoolers (infants thru Kindergarten).

This is not only a ministry for Leighton Church moms, but also an outreach to moms in our community.

Experienced moms are needed to be mentor Moms and adults to help with nursery care or to lead classes for toddlers and preschoolers.

Contact [Sarah Geers](#) or [Amanda Athearn](#) for info.

www.mops.org

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

FOOD PANTRY SHOPPING LIST FOR MAY

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 May, the following items will be collected to stock the pantry:

Cereal, Oatmeal
Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Fruit
Boxed Potatoes
Rice (bags and boxed rice mixes)
Shampoo & Toothpaste

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

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](#).

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.

FAMILY CENTER FLOORING PROJECT UPDATE

The Family Center is the most widely used part of our church building. It is used for church potlucks, athletic activities; youth group meetings, family reunions, baby/bridal showers, Pioneer Clubs, and much more. The current floor is nearly 20 years old. The floor is buckling causing a safety concern. Twenty years of dirt, grime, and food has created unsanitary conditions. The tiles are breaking causing them to move out of place.

Funds are being raised to replace the current flooring with new flooring—Taraflex Sport M Plus. It's easy to maintain, has welded seams which won't allow food and dirt through, and takes the wear and tear needed for our many activities in the Family Center. (A sample of the proposed new flooring is in the Lobby for your viewing.) The amount needed to purchase the flooring have it installed is \$43,300.

Previous Balance	\$ 15,780.00
Received May 1st	\$ 6,132.05
Current Balance	\$ 21,912.05
Needed to Reach the Goal	\$ 21,387.95

Together we can reach the goal!

Use the special offering envelopes in the Lobby or in the pew holder to contribute to the Family Center Flooring Project.

You can also donate online at www.leightonchurch.org/give and select the Special Offering Family Center Flooring.

Watch the progress on the Family Center Flooring Display in the Lobby.

SERVICE IN ACTION

COFFEE SERVERS:

May 8—Gary & Jean McCaul

May 15—Kate Webb & Diana Smith

May 22—Wayne & Noreen Ingersoll

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

May 8—Phyllis Jaworowski & Noreen Ingersoll

May 15—Andrea Landon & Valerie Lepeak

May 22—Crystal Mulero & Barb Moore

GREETERS:

May 8—Tim & Sue Brown
May 15—Todd & Judi Galloway
May 22—Don & Jan Geukes

NURSERY:

May 8—Renee & Amanda Seeley
May 15—Cindy Herring & Stephanie Aman
May 22—Jake & Allison Draaisma

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

May 8—Jake & Allison Draaisma
May 15—Jerry & Crystal Mulero
May 22—Matt & Stephanie Haan

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

May 8—Becca & Sarah Getter
May 15—Sam Farmer, Emily Mulero
May 22—Amanda & Ana Seeley

SHOPPING AT MEIJER 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 \$105 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.

ALLEGAN COUNTY CEREAL DRIVE

Allegan County is attempting to collect 40,000 boxes of kid-friendly cereal during the month of May. This will allow one box of cereal each week for each child whose family receives food from an Allegan County food pantry. Drop off donations at various locations throughout Allegan County including Hardings Friendly Markets in Wayland, Plainwell, and Otsego Dick's Market in Door

"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

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR PROJECT HOPE

If you enjoy bluegrass music, you will enjoy this concert to benefit the ministries of Project Hope located in Dorr.

The concert features Luke Lenhart Family & Friends and The Williams Family.

The concert is Sunday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m. at

Dorr Christian Reformed Church located at 4220 18th Street, Dorr

Monetary donations and non-perishable food items are appreciated to support the ministries of Project Hope which include a food pantry, thrift store, counseling, and financial assistance.

Come for a night of praise and worship, enjoy the music, and support Project Hope.

LADIES' DAYS

Gull Lake Ministries presents it's annual LADIES' DAYS 2016.

Come any of the four days or one evening to enjoy dynamic speaking and uplifting worship music.

Choose from either June 7, 8, 9, or 10 (the program is the same each day).

Morning coffee and pastries are served beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Program and lunch is from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

The cost for the days tickets are \$25.00 each. Groups of 10 or more are at a reduced price of \$20 each with a free ticket for every 10 purchased.

OR if days don't work for you, there is an evening gala on Thursday, June 9th beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a meet and greet with the guest speaker and musician with program and dinner buffet beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The evening gala tickets are also \$25.

Guest Speaker, Annie F. Downs, is an author, blogger, and speaker. She has written three books – *Let's All Be Brave*, *Perfectly Unique*, and *Speak Love*.

Musician Lindsay Huggins is a multi-talented artist who expresses her musical ideas in a matchless style.

Tickets can be purchased online at gulllake.org/conferences/ladies-days or mail check payable to Gull Lake Ministries to 1800 Burlington Drive., Hickory Corners, MI 49060, which is the same address where the event is held.

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. This year the walk is only being held at Catholic Central High School located on Sheldon Street in Grand Rapids. There is also a 5k run that same day happening at Cornerstone University on the East Beltline in Grand Rapids

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.

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

WOMEN'S FALL RETREATS

Grace Adventures, a non-profit Christian Training Center located near Silver Lake, is hosting women's retreats 4 different weekends this fall.

September 23-25 features guest speaker, Lina Abujamra, author of *Thrive: The Single Life as God Intended*, and *Stripped: When God's Call Turns from Yes to Why Me?* In 2012 she started a ministry called Living with Power. Lina is single and was born in Lebanon, but now calls Chicago home.

September 30-October 2 features guest speaker Karen Ehman, who is a Proverbs 31 Ministries speaker and New York Times Best-selling author. Karen writes for Encouragement for Today online devotions. She has been a guest on national television radio programs including The 700 Club, At Home Live, FamilyLife, and more.

October 7-9 features guest speaker Cindy Bultema. Cindy has been in ministry over 15 years and has trained leaders and created programs within a variety of settings. Cindy is now a popular women's speaker, author, blogger, and Bible teacher. She is a member of Carol Kent's national speaking team and Proverbs 31 Speaker Coach.

October 14-16 features guest speaker Jennifer Shaw, a Telly Award winning speaker, author, singer, songwriter, and five-time Top 40 Billboard artist. Her ministry has been featured on Focus on the Family, Insight for Living, FamilyLife Today, and many more.

Her new book *Life Not Typical: How Special Needs Parenting Changed My Faith* has brought national attention to the issue of Sensory Processing Disorder.

Cost for the retreats is \$89 (if commuting-no lodging needed), \$149 if staying at a local hotel, or \$124 if staying on-site at Grace Adventures Retreat Center.

There are a variety of activities to do.

Register online at graceadventures.org/adult-retreats/womens-retreat

AWAKENING FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 10-12

If you're a high school student going into grades 10-12 and would like to grow in your skills and passion about worship and the arts, this is the week for you.

Are you a musician, an actor, an artist, a dancer, a sound technician or a philosopher?

Take this opportunity to develop your gifts-and perhaps discover gifts you never realized.

Join us on the beautiful campus of Hope College in Holland, Michigan to work with nationally known pastors, ministry leaders, professors, church musicians, artists, dancers, and technical arts specialists.

June 12-17, 2016

Hope.edu/awakening

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