

The Leighton News
Week of July 24, 2016

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, July 24:

Sunday's Message: *Watch Out for the Lean* – Matthew 7:24-27

Parish Nurse, Linda McBride, will be available in Pastor Dave's office to take blood pressure readings. Stop in before or after the worship service.

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 the month.

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. All adults are invited to meet together during the Sunday School hour throughout the month of July. Pastor Dave is leading this study.

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

Monday, July 25:

7:00 p.m. Adult Basketball

Wednesday, July 27:

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

6:30 p.m. *"Be the Person God Called You to Be"* Bible Study (Library)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS FOR ADULTS

ADULTS....

Throughout the month of July, Pastor Dave is leading a Sunday School class for all adults in Rooms 15/16.

All adults, whether you currently attend a Sunday School class or not, are invited to come! This class begins on Sunday, July 3rd from 11:00 a.m.-Noon.

ADULT BASKETBALL MONDAY NIGHTS!

All adults, men and women, are invited to come play basketball on Monday nights in the Family Center at 7:00 p.m. Games are pick-up games; not a league. Contact [Doug Thaler](#) for more information.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. through August 3rd

Become the person God called you to be!

An adult Bible Study is meeting on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Library.

Discover who God called you to be through this video study with Neil Anderson, author of *Victory Over the Darkness* and *The Bondage Breaker*.

Books are not necessary, but reading the book *Victory Over the Darkness* will be helpful.

This Wednesday, July 27th at 6:30 p.m., there will be a special guest at Adult Bible Study.

Dean VanderMey from Set Free Ministries will be attending and speaking. Everyone is welcome to come even if you have not been attending Bible study. Adult Bible Study meets in the Library. Contact Mike Olger with any questions (616) 240-5429.

Contact [Mike Olger](#) for more information.

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, July 31st is Friendship Sunday.

Everyone is asked to wear a name tag in an effort to get to know one another. Name tags will be available in the Lobby.

This is also a great Sunday to invite someone to come with you to church.

BACKYARD PICNIC FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is invited to come to the Backyard Picnic Fellowship at Art & Connie Hooker's home

Sunday, July 31st at 6:00 p.m. (NOTE NEW DATE)
All food and beverages provided.

Bring your lawn chair to sit by the fire, take a wagon ride behind the tractor through the field, sit and visit with friends.

This is a great opportunity to invite unchurched family or friends to an event!

Contact Art & Connie for their address and directions to their home.

50+ POTLUCK LUNCH

Everyone age 50 on up is invited to attend the August 50+ Potluck Lunch on Wednesday, August 3rd at 11:30 a.m. in the Family Center.

Bring a dish to pass and your table service.
Water, lemonade, and coffee will be provided.

After lunch, Marissa Freyling will share her journey and the reasons for her victory. A video called "*A Life Rewritten*," which chronicles the many challenges Marissa faced, will be shown.

Don't miss her story of survival, hope, and faith.
Friends and family welcome. Contact [Jean McCaul](#) with questions.

GRADUATION OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to celebrate the graduation of Elisa Taylor from Thornapple-Kellogg High School by attending her open house on Sunday, August 7th in the Leighton Church Family Center

Noon-4:00 p.m.

Share your memories of Elisa for a special memory book such as; memories you have of her, a prayer for her, or words of encouragement as she enters her new phase of life.

FAMILY SOFTBALL NIGHT PICNIC

MONDAY, AUGUST 8TH

6:30 P.M.

Kids, teens, and adults are invited to an open night of softball. Bring your bat and glove.

Not a ball player? Bring your lawn chair to watch the game and cheer on the players. Ice cream will be available at the Ice Cream Shack and there will be hot dogs, chips & pop!

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS) COMING THIS FALL!

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS)

A new ministry coming to Thursdays, starting, October 6th, meeting every other week, 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.

MOPS is a world-wide Christian organization that encourages women raising young children to be the mom God designed them to be.

There are many ways you can be involved even if you no longer have preschool age children. Women are needed for:

Mentor Moms, Moppets Leader and Workers

See the display table in the Lobby to find out how to get involved.

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

www.mops.org

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

FOOD PANTRY SHOPPING LIST FOR JULY

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

Cereal
Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Fruit
Canned Vegetables (Corn, Peas, Carrots, Potatoes)
Boxed Potatoes
Rice (bags and boxed rice mixes)
Soup
Spaghetti & Sauce

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

DIAPERS & GENTLY USED CLOTHING NEEDED FOR THE NURSERY

The Nursery is collecting diapers and a few extra clothing items to have on hand for kids who may need them while utilizing the church nursery.

Needed are:

Pants size 2T-7 for boys and girls
(knit pants or leggings preferred; no jeans)

Underwear size 2T-7 for boys and girls

Diapers size 2-5

Pull-ups learning diapers size 2T-5T

Donations can be given to [Sarah Geers](#), Nursery Coordinator

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 and have it installed is \$43,300.

Previous Balance	\$ 30,173.05
Received July 17th	\$ 1,565.00
Current Balance	\$ 31,738.05
Needed to Reach the Goal	\$ 11,561.95

Together we can reach the goal!

The goal is to have the funds raised by August and have the flooring installed in September before fall ministries begin.

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

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

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.

CHURCH COOKBOOKS

Church Cookbooks are available 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.

THANK YOU!

Dear Leighton United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your generous gift to the ministries of Southeast Asia. We are grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and financial support as we seek to minister and share Christ to the unreached and the unseen. The demonstration farm, village sized clean water filtration systems, and Mercy Medical Boat are the three primary areas of ministry. We are grateful for your compassion and partnership.

Blessings,

Ron & Melin Green

Your gifts to Faith Promise supports the ministry of Ron & Melin.

SERVICE IN ACTION:

COFFEE SERVERS:

July 24—Todd, Jodi, Ashley & Andrea Smith

July 31—Randy & Bonnie Adams

August 7—Brad & Lori Cramer

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

July 24—Todd, Jodi, Ashley & Andrea Smith

July 31—Kate Webb & Alverna Truax

August 7—Leone Biesbrock & Nona Steeby

GREETERS:

July 24—Mike & Christine Syswerda

July 31—Jim & Bonnie Ciluffo

August 7—Gary & Jean McCaul

NURSERY:

July 24—Matt & Stephanie Haan
July 31—Amanda Brandt & Emily Mulero
August 7—Brad & Sarah Geers

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

July 24—Jake & Allison Draaisma
July 31—Sam Farmer & Robbi Hilton
August 7—Josh & Kate Webb

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR GERMAN BAND MEMBERS

A band from Germany is coming at the end of August and will be performing at the Baptist Church in Middleville. Host families are needed to provide housing and meals for the band members. The band arrives Tuesday, August 30th in the evening and will depart on Friday, September 2nd in the morning. They will be performing on Thursday night at the First Baptist Church in Middleville. If you have a bedroom or two to spare and would be willing to host a couple of band members, please contact Jean DeVries at (616) 299-5710. There are a couple of Leighton Families who are planning on hosting members.

MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS DISCONTINUED

The Meijer Community Rewards program has now ended. Leighton Church has used this program as a fundraiser for Red Bird Mission for many years. Thank you to each of you who have supported this effort. You may now dispose of your rewards card.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CLEANING CREW

Men, women, couples, families needed to join the custodial crew. Leighton Church is cleaned by several faithful volunteers. A few members of our cleaning crew are stepping down. Cleaning generally takes place Thursdays, Fridays or Saturdays. Opening spot for volunteers to vacuum, empty trash, and clean tables down the Children's Wing. If interested contact [Jackie Corwin](#)

FARMER'S MARKET

Gaines Church, located on the corner of 92nd Street and Kalamazoo Avenue, is having

a Farmer's Market on Thursdays from 3:30-6:30 p.m. throughout the month of August. Come and browse through the market or rent a booth to sell your wares. Booth rental is \$15/week or \$50/4 weeks. Booth rental fee will support missions of Gaines Church.

The profits you make from your sales are yours to keep!

To rent a booth, contact Bev at (616) 698-9419.

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.

PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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 prcforld.org/how-you-can-help/events.

COMPASSIONATE CARE JOB OPENING AT PROJECT HOPE

Project Hope/Annetta Jansen Ministries is now accepting applications for a Compassionate Care Director. Hours: minimum of 25, maximum of 32 per a four day week. Prior experience in Social Work is preferred.

Must have a strong Christian faith and be a member of a Bible believing church. Needs to be able to establish relationships quickly and be filled with compassion. Computer skills are a must, being proficient in Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, Publisher, and Power Point, accompanied with excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Must also have mathematical skills and be detail oriented.

Please send applications, complete with references to:

Project Hope, c/o Sandy Zuidersma, P.O. Box 241, Dorr, MI 49323

Or e-mail to sandyzprojecthopene@yahoo.com

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

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT FOR RIGHT TO LIFE

Join the fun at the 4th annual Benefit for Life Pickleball Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, August 6th & 7th at Belknap Park (30 Coldbrook Street NE, Grand Rapids). Players will be matched by skill level and may register as men's, women's, or mixed doubles. The registration fee is \$40 (early bird) or \$45 (after June 16). To participate in this event, sponsored by Grand Rapids Right to Life, register, pay, and sign a waiver online at PickleballTournaments.com. For more information, contact Grand Rapids Right to Life at (616) 532-2300, info@grrtl.org or visit grrtl.org/pickleball. Registrations are due by August 1.

FOCUS ON LIFE BENEFIT DINNER

The 29th annual Focus on Life Benefit Dinner at the DeVos Place ballrooms in downtown Grand Rapids will take place on Monday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. Judge Andrew P. Napolitano, senior judicial analyst for FOX News Channel, will be the keynote speaker. Napolitano is an outspoken analyst of the legal system, a fervent critic of government intervention into personal lives, and a passionate defender of the Constitution, including the right to life. Tickets are \$100 per seat or \$1,000 per table of 10. For more information, contact Grand Rapids Right to Life at (616) 532-2300, info@grrtl.org or visit grrtl.org/dinner.

SUMMER CRAFT FAIR

Genesis United Methodist Church is hosting a summer craft fair on

Saturday, July 23rd from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Come rain or shine! The Fair will be held indoors.

Crafters welcome. If interested in participating, contact Daniel Dobbs at (616) 485-1146 or djdobbs@comcast.net.

Genesis UMC is located at 1601 Galbraith Avenue SE, Grand Rapids (Cascade area)
(616) 974-0400

GUN LAKE CHARITY CHASE 5K RUN, 5K WALK, KIDS FUN RUN

Gun Lake Community Church is hosting its 2nd Annual Gun Lake Charity Chase to support local food banks in Dorr, Orangeville, Wayland, Martin, Caledonia, Hastings, & Middleville

Come and run or walk...your choice of 5K Run, 5K Walk, or Kids Fun Run
Saturday, August 13th

Cost for the 5K Run/Walk is \$20 (pre-registered) or \$25 (late registration)
Cost for the Kids' Fun Run is \$10 (pre-registration) or \$15 (late registration)

To get complete details or to register go to

www.gunlakecommunitychurch.org

Registration forms are also located at Leighton Church on the bulletin board by Rooms
15/16.

SANDI PATTI FOREVER GRATEFUL FAREWELL TOUR

See Sandi Patti in concert on her farewell tour

With special guests Veritas

Sunday, October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Christ Memorial Church in Holland

Ticket prices range from \$18.50 to \$100.00

Tickets available online at premierproductions.com or the Christ Memorial Church Office

E-mail ticketing questions to support@premierproductions.com or call (616) 396-2305

SENIORS' RETREAT AT MARANTHA IN NORTON SHORES

Marantha Retreat Center is hosting a weekend retreat for seniors

October 3-6

Featuring Bible teacher, Jay Kesler, and worship leader, Burt Kettinger

For pricing and information, call (231) 798-2161 or visit vacationwithapurpose.com

Group discounts are available.

"FAMILY UP" IN SYNC MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

For engaged couples, newlyweds, as well as seasoned married couples.

A time for you to strengthen and encourage your marriage or marriage-to-be, as God
has created them to be.

Guest speakers are Richard & Judith Anniss from Manchester, United Kingdom.

Richard and Judith give senior leadership to King's Church with sites throughout the
U.K. They have a strong marriage, are the parents of three children ranging in age from
10 to 16, and carry great insight on healthy family dynamics and how to raise children
with a passion for God.

The cost is \$60.00 until August 1st.

The conference is being held at The Point, located at 3449 76th Street SE, Caledonia.

For more information and to register go to thepointchurch.com/insync

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