

# Week of February 9, 2025

4180 2nd Street
Caledonia, MI 49316
(616) 891-8028
office@leightonchurch.org
www.leightonchurch.org
Office Hours: 9a-3p

Tues/Wed/Thurs

Sunday Worship: 9:30a Nursery provided for infants-age 3 Sunday School: 11:00a

Classes for children, youth &

adults

### **Board of Elders:**

Scott Pollmann (Chairman), Todd Galloway, Wayne Ingersoll, Jerry Slagh, Doug Thaler, Pastor Dennis Weeks

Hearing assist system available from the sound booth at the back of the Sanctuary.

@LeightonChurchMI
Worship Services on
YouTube
@leightonchurch7311

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, February 9	Begin VBS Volunteer Recruitment
	No Youth Group
Monday, February 10	Gym in Use 5:30-6:45p
	Men's Basketball 7p
Tuesday, February 11	Adult Bible Study 9:30-11a
	Pastor's Café 2-3p
	Board of Elders Meeting 6:30p
Wed., February 12	Family Dinner 5:15p Wednesday Night Kids 5:45-7p Adult Bible Study 5:45-7p Prayer Meeting 6:15p Men's Group 6:30p Praise Team Practice 7p
Saturday, February 15	Youth Group Sledding Party
Sunday, February 16	Youth Group 4:45-7:15p
Monday, February 17	Circle of Joy at Jean Bender's 1:30p
	Gym in Use 5:30-6:45p
	Men's Basketball 7p



Would you like prayer for healing? Prayer for struggles in your life? Prayer for wisdom and discernment?

The Board of Elders are available for prayer at the end of the worship service each Sunday. Just come forward to the altar or to the front pew.



## Hey kids....3rd-8th Grade...

Here's a fun way to tune in to what is being taught during the worship service, get into the music, and learn about Jesus and God's Word.

Pick up a clipboard out of the blue tub in the Lobby, fill out the sermon notes paper and turn it in to Rebecca Shanahan or Valerie Lepeak after the service to get a prize.

There's a spot for you to write the name of the sermon, words you didn't understand, what verses were read from the Bible, and the name of a song that was sung during the service.

After awhile, you'll discover how much you've learned about God and how the Bible is important in developing a relationship with Him.



Immediately following the children's message, kids age 4 thru 2nd Grade are dismissed to go to Children's Church, which meets in Room 3.

In Children's Church, kids have their own time of worship, Bible lesson, craft and more!

PARENTS....after the worship service, please proceed to Room 3 to get your children and take them to their Sunday School class.



## **Sunday School Classes** For Children, Teens & Adults 11:00-Noon

Toddlers-Preschool: Britney Bredeweg (Room 4)

Young 5's-2nd Grade: Jan Geukes & Terri Farmer (Room 3)

3rd-5th Grade: Nancy Slagh (Room 2) 6th-8th Grade: Cindy Herring (Room 9)

9th-12th Grade: Butch Klooster (Youth Room-Rooms 10/11)

#### Adults:

"Calling, Character, Conviction: Lessons on Leadership in the Historical Books" Doug Thaler—Lounge

"The Body of Christ Alive" John VanderMeer-Rooms 15/16

The Book of Galatians Pastor Dennis—Rooms 7/8

All Belong Special Needs Adults: Connie Blain (Rooms 12/13)





The bags include a variety of small,

quiet toys, books, puzzles, etc.

The bags will be on a rack near the main entry to the Sanctuary. There will be blue bags for boys and pink bags for girls.

Please place the bags in the white return basket after the worship service. Return all contents with the bags.



## Jr & Sr High Youth Group Sunday Nights 4:45-7:15p

Games...Snacks...Relevant Bible Teaching

No Youth Group February 9th but kids can access the lesson by using the **Grow Code EUNS** 

Youth Group will resume on Sunday, February 16th.
Invite your friends to come along.
The discussion topic on February 16th is:
ON YOUR OWN; the importance of Godly Friendships

Questions? Contact Brian Smith (616) 881-1488 or Youth@leightonchurch.org

## **Youth Group Snacks**



Questions? Contact Terri Farmer (616) 780-8444

Youth Group meets on Sunday nights from 4:45-7:15 p.m. Part of the weekly meetings is snack time.

The Youth Group is seeking donations of snacks or folks to bring in snacks for the group. You are also welcome to stay and serve the group to get involved and connected with them.

Sign up in the Lobby for the date that works best for you. A reminder will be emailed to you a week prior to your scheduled date. If you deliver snacks, please arrive by 5:15

Snack suggestions include: Fruit, Ice Cream, Chips, Doughnuts, Cookies, Veggies & Dip, etc. Provide enough for 20 people.

Only 5 more Sunday night's needed: March 2, 9, 30, and April 27!



## Are you unable to attend services on Sunday because you are ill, unable to get-out or out of town? Now you don't have to miss a worship service!!

Sunday morning worship services are recorded and posted on the church YouTube channel on Mondays.

Subscribe to the church's YouTube channel and get notifications when the sermons are uploaded OR visit the church website to be directed to YouTube to watch services.

Questions? Contact Jerry Slagh worship@leightonchurch.org



Pastor Dennis is once again hosting the Pastor's Café every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and visit with Pastor Dennis. It's an informal time to get acquainted, ask theological questions, or just chat. No appointment is necessary. If Tuesday afternoon doesn't work for you, contact Pastor Dennis to set up another time that is more convenient for you.

Office 616-891-8028 ext. 2001 Cell: 517-424-5581

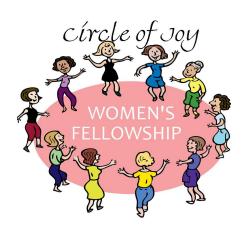
Email: pastor@leightonchurch.org



### **TUESDAY MORNINGS**

NOW thru APRIL 1st
9:30-11:00 a.m. in Room 9
Answers in Genesis Bible Curriculum Unit 5
Digging deeper into the book of Genesis and the accounts of Jacob & Esau, the life of Joseph and Israel's Blessing.

Led by Cindy Herring
616-299-0083 or bigcowdoc@yahoo.com



The Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship is meeting on Monday, February 17th at 1:30 p.m. at Jean Benders house 3050 N. M-37 Highway Middleville MI 49333. More details to come next week.

Questions? Contact Jean Bender (269) 795-3458 or mjbhorseranch@yahoo.com

New Adult Sunday School Class

Pastor Dennis is teaching on the book of Galatians.

Join us in Rooms 7/8

11:00 am-Noon



### Still Available FREE ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREES



The Church has two seven foot artificial Christmas trees looking for a new home. One tree is in a box. The other is loose in 3 pieces.

If interested, contact Lori Haselden (269-838-5941, lghaselden@gmail.com) or Jodi Smith (616-877-4963, jodi.smith@notionsmarketing.com)



We are well into the new year with January food bags delivered to fourteen students without interruption, even with all of the recent school closures.

The pantry is stocked and February bags have been packed; however, we are always in need of canned tuna, canned chicken, and canned vegetables (corn, cut green beans and peas). It is also my hope that we can again provide hams for Easter, so we are accepting donations toward that goal. In addition, we are in need of plain boxed scalloped potatoes for the Easter meal.

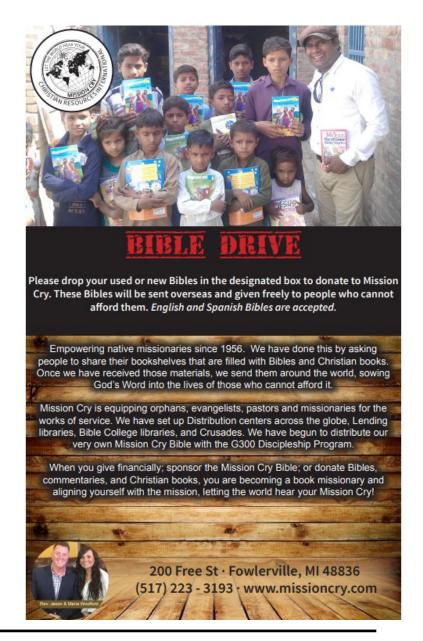
Again, thank you for your support of these children through donation and prayer.

Lori Haselden, Hand2Hand Coordinator (269) 838~5941 or lghaselden@gmail.com

Do you have Bibles that you no longer use collecting dust on your shelves? There are people around the world who would cherish a Bible and missionaries are looking for Bibles to use as they minister to people.

Mission Cry is seeking new or used Bibles (all versions, foreign languages too). Mission cry is an organization located in Fowlerville, Michigan, that collects Bibles and Christian literature and ships these items to equip orphans, evangelists, pastors, and missionaries for works of service.

Bring your Bibles to donate to Mission Cry now through March 9th. Place them in the designated box in he Lobby.





# Celebrating 25 years of Mel Trotter Ministries

You are invited to an unforgettable event that the honors the legacy of compassion, service, and community that is the cornerstone of Mel Trotter Ministries mission. Enjoy lunch, take a guided tour of the Mission to witness first hand the life-changing work.

Thursday, February 27th
11:00 a.m. Welcome
11:30 a.m. Guided Tours
12:15 p.m.- 1:00 p.m. Luncheon
225 Commerce Ave. SW Grand Rapids MI 49503
To RSVP go to meltrotter.org/events



## God's Promise Written by Mary Hanna

Tina and Shay had been married about 5 years, They met in college, he played football, she led the cheers.

Shay had given her a necklace with heart shaped flowers of blue, He said her eyes sparkled just like the necklace with its beautiful hue.

Shay had faithfully served in the reserves and was drafted into the army and sent far away, They both wrote long letters to each other every single day,

Shay's letters were getting fewer and fewer as the months slowly passed, She heard he was missing in action and people said their love wouldn't last.

But God, Shay, and Tina had a secret they shared,

Neither would part with their half of the necklace until God took their life or for however long it was spared.

Though they never had children of their own, Tina lived a full life. She kept busy with family, her church and friends,

They had a party for her on her 90th birthday, she still loved and trusted God and His love that transcends.

She kept telling everybody that they would all know about this secret that God, Shay, and her shared for many years,

People would nod and pretend that what she said was true, but behind her back they thought she was slowly getting Alzheimer's and they wept many tears.

During a terrible storm one Sunday morning everyone watched in awe as a lightning bolt split their classroom wall in two,

Now would they all have to admit what Tina said, so many times was true?

Those in the classroom were positive that a hand with the other half of the necklace reached out, out to her.

The two halves were solidly welded together and that Shay took her hand and they were gone in a super fast misty blur.

Had the people really seen what they thought they saw?

Had the two policeman in church that day found any evidence outside of the law?

Nothing was found that Sunday, that week, that month, or all through the year, There were many stories that were told that caused confusion or fear.

Some said that Shay had been working as a spy and had gone on many government missions, Others said Tina would join him and they worked together in many situations.

She was always gone on a trip through Valentines Day,

She never talked about her trips, who she saw, what she did, or even little hints to give anything away.

There were many, many guesses down through the years! They did finally leave together that final Sunday,

Did Shay finally retire? Did Shay know that God was going to make that storm? Did they make their final trip together that last day?

Happy Valentine's Day





5:15-6:00 p.m. in the gym All are welcome! February 12th Menu:

### **Mexican Fiesta!!**

Donations appreciated to help off-set expenses.



All are welcome to come to pray over the needs in the church, community and around the world.
6:15-7:00 p.m.
In the Prayer Room
Led by Pastor Dennis
& Kelli Weeks



For kids age 4 on up 5:45-7:00 p.m.

This week's topic is:

THE PRAYERS OF THE BIBLE



A foundational study of God, His Word, and the Trinity

For men and women of all ages and phases of life.

5:45-7:00 p.m. in Room 9 Thru March 26th Led by Cindy Herring (616) 299-0083 bigcowdoc@yahoo.com



6:30 p.m. in Rooms 15/16

For men of all ages and phases of life.

The group is studying the book of

Philippians.

Led by C.J. Yarrington

616-366-3387



### **JOY Lunch (Just Older Youth)**

1st & 3rd Thursday of each month Everyone age 50 on up is welcome! Invite a friend or two. Next Luncheon: February 20th at 1:00p.m.

Meet at Curley Cone 12850 W. M-179 Hwy, Wayland Questions? Contact Luann Snyder (616) 891-8348



# Please turn off the lights!

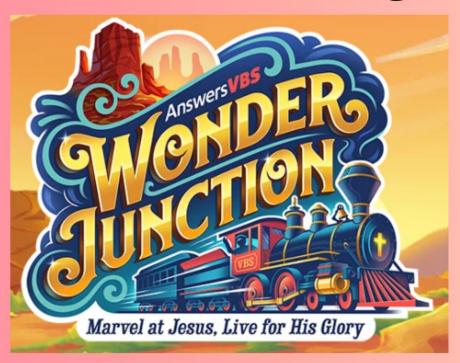
If you are the last one in a room or in the building, please be sure ALL of the lights are turned off.

This is being a good steward of our facility and the finances.

Thank you!



Grab yer boots and yer hat and VOLUNTEER to make VBS a rootin' tootin' good time!!





Vacation Bible School 2025
Sunday, June 22-Thursday, June 26
6:30-8:30 p.m. for Preschool-6th Grade
Volunteer sign up begins February 9th!





Project Hope is located in Dorr, MI. They share the hope and love of Jesus Christ through their ministry as they provide the necessities for daily living, and encourage people to make next steps toward greater self-sufficiency in order to realize their value as a unique individual created with purpose. Their goal is that many in the community and surrounding areas will shop at their retail outlet to help to fund the ministry. Annetta's Pantry provides food at no cost for those in need in NE Allegan County. They also have a Community Room that is used for Bible Study groups and Alcoholics' Anonymous.

It takes many people to carry out the variety of tasks and duties required to run their ministry and are very grateful to those who faithfully and lovingly give of their time and resources all year long. In the food pantry the teams run a very efficient operation providing assistance to around 300 families monthly, each receiving an average of 118 pounds of food, paper goods, and other necessities. Prior to selecting their groceries, clients are prayed with and given words of encouragement.

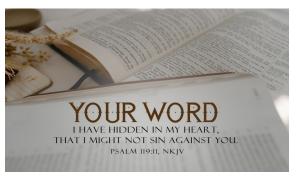
The Compassionate Care ministry helps many people with various financial needs such as housing, utilities, vehicle repairs, and fuel vouchers. Often church connections and other organizations help make the best use of resources and meet the needs of people by providing a church connection if they don't have one.

The Thrift Store team works diligently to provide a clean and attractive, pleasant shopping experience for shoppers. They keep interest high with fun sales events throughout the year providing funds that go directly back into the ministry. They are thankful for those that regularly donate quality goods that can be used to fill their shelves and furniture barn. Through this part of the ministry they were able to donate to approximately 40 other organizations from their bounty to make the blessings continue.

Project Hope is very thankful for all the trust people have in them, for the faithful support, and are very mindful of the responsibility they have to honor the Lord by using the resources to serve His people, and bless the community. They look forward to being the "hands and feet of Jesus" as they serve the community and are grateful for the opportunity to do so.

Your gifts to the Faith Promise Missions Fund of Leighton Church supports the ministry of Project Hope. For more information on this ministry go to https://projecthope-dorr.org.

Thank you for giving! Check out the literature rack in the Lobby for newsletters from missionaries and mission organizations.



"Until the time that his word came to pass, The word of the Lord tested him." ~Psalm 105:19

Until Joseph was a teenager, God gave him a vision that one day he was going to rule. Bu Psalm 105 tells us that God sent Joseph into Egypt fettered with irons and shackled with chains from his teenage years well into his thirties. The word of the Lord tested him as he was thrown into a pit, then taken from a pit to a prison, and from a prison to the palace. Joseph was made to be a world changer, but first he had to go through the work of character development.

I believe that God wants to use you to change the world where He's planted you. It starts with the people you know the best. Today you're going to encounter family members, friends, and coworkers that you know don't know Jesus. You can help bring change to them by loving them with the love that God gave you. What kind of love is that? He loved you unconditionally when you were dead in your sins, and it was only through His love that you found grace for salvation. When you're willing to work on loving somebody like that, God will use you to bring change to your world. Ask Him today, "Lord, what work do You have for me to do for Your glory?"

#### THE BLESSING

Lord God of Heaven, mend every broken heart that has been destroyed or wounded by selfish behavior. Give to us the heart of God that would be willing to love our sister and our brother in Christ even as God has loved us, unconditionally. Give us the strength each and every day to constantly demonstrate our willingness to love one another so that when the world sees our relationships, they would long to be in them rather than avoid them. Heavenly Father, strengthen marriages and strengthen homes. Let every sacrifice of love that is made be honorable before God in heaven and received in the hearts of our loved ones here on earth; that even if it's not perfect in its effort alone, they would be gratified. In Jesus' name, we pray and ask and receive his blessing.



Maranatha Valentine's Getaway
4759 Lake Harbor Road
Norton Shores, MI 49441
Sign up online maranthamichigan.org or by calling
231-798-2161

Join Maranatha Bible and Missionary on Friday, February 14, for an unforgettable evening of romance, gourmet food, and passionate worship featuring Justin Unger and his friends. Special overnight getaway rates are available for the ultimate Valentine's gift! A Christian music artist and worship pastor, Justin is formerly part of the Christian pop-rock duo "Across The Sky." He is dedicated to uniting the Church in worship by bridging cultural and generational gaps as Christ prayed in John 17:21. Justin will be joined by his wife and a few musician friends, making for a wonderful concert and dinner event.



Patty Hoekstra is collecting old t-shirts to make into jump ropes to put in the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. If you have old t-shirts that you'd like to get rid of, please put them in the designated box in the Lobby.

The shirts can have holes and stains on them.

Questions? Contact Patty at 269-804-7887 or pcookies68@gmail.com



Degage Ministries offers hope and opportunity to those facing homelessness and poverty in Grand Rapids. They are looking for team members who are interested in transforming lives and restoring hope.

Degage Ministries has many job opportunities
All shifts (1st, 2nd & 3rd), Part time & Full time, Salary and Hourly Pay
Most jobs start at \$19/hour with an increase after 90 days and good performance.

Current Open Positions:

Safety and Community Center Manager
HR Administrative Assistant
Part-time Kitchen Assistant
Safety & Security Specialist Monday-Friday, 11 pm– 7 am
Safety & Security Specialist Weekends
Open Door Support Specialist

For more information, visit www.degageministries.org/employment-opportunities

To apply for a job, please send your cover letter and resume to:

careers@degageministries.org



## **Service in Action**

## How do I get involved?

**GREETER MINISTRY:** Get involved: February 9: Randy & Sharon Grinage Diane Porter, Coordinator February 16: Don Hilton Sr. & Debi Warren (616) 888-0071, dianeporter93@gmail.com February 23: Art & Connie Hooker **Intercessory Prayer:** Get involved: February 9: Chris Herring Alverna Truax, (616) 275-0061, February 16: Alverna Truax truax616@gmail.com February 23: Drew & Jackie Corwin Pray during the worship service. Serve every 6-8 weeks. **Nursery: Get Involved:** February 9: April & Olivia Taylor Rebecca Shanahan (616) 312-3070, February 16: Mike & Christine Syswerda rebeccashanahan84@gmail.com February 23: Scott & Terri Farmer Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done. Coffee Bar: **Get Involved:** February 9: Chuck & Jane Hannan Contact Connie Hooker (616) 891-8742 or sign February 16: Servers Needed up at the Coffee Bar February 23: Drew & Jackie Corwin **Treats for Coffee Fellowship:** Get Involved: February 9: Amanda Shanahan & Diane Norris Contact Nona Steeby, (616) 890-4387 February 16: Amanda Brandt & Jackie Corwin February 23: Christine Syswerda & Joan Klooster **Acolytes:** Get Involved: February 9: Emilee Taylor & Abbi Pollmann Luann Snyder February 16: Celia Weeks & Hollie Lepeak (616) 891-8348, luannlewis@yahoo.com February 23: Keagan Shanahan & Olivia Taylor Children's Church: **Get Involved:** February 9: Valerie & Hollie Lepeak Rebecca Shanahan (616) 312-3070, February 16: Christine & Ava Syswerda rebeccashanahan84@gmail.com Must attend Child Protection Class and have a February 23: Rebecca & Keagan Shanahan background check done. **Youth Group Snacks:** Get Involved: February 9: Snacks Not Needed Sign up in the Lobby or contact Terri Farmer February 16: Nancy Slagh (616) 780-8444 or farmert7796@gmail.com February 23: Snacks Needed

### **Sermon Notes Hand Out Teams**

February 9: Devin, Gwen, and Xander Triick

February 16: Ian & Rylee Norris

February 23: Abbi Pollmann & Celia Weeks

### Get Involved:

Jr & Sr High Students interested in helping, contact Brian Smith (616) 891-8028 ext. 2004 or youth@leightonchurch.org