



Leighton Church

Proclaiming New Life in Jesus Christ

Pastor Dennis A. Weeks

Week of March 23, 2025

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

Sunday, March 23	Third Sunday of Lent Youth Group 4:45-7:15p
Monday, March 24	Gym in Use 5:30-6:45p Men's Basketball 7p
Tuesday, March 25	Adult Bible Study 9:30-11a Pastor's Café 2-3p Board of Elders 6:30p
Wednesday, March 26	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, March 29	50's Diner and Dessert Auction- Youth Group Mission Trip Fundraiser 5p
Sunday, March 30	Fourth Sunday of Lent Youth Group 4:45-7:15p
Monday, March 31	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.



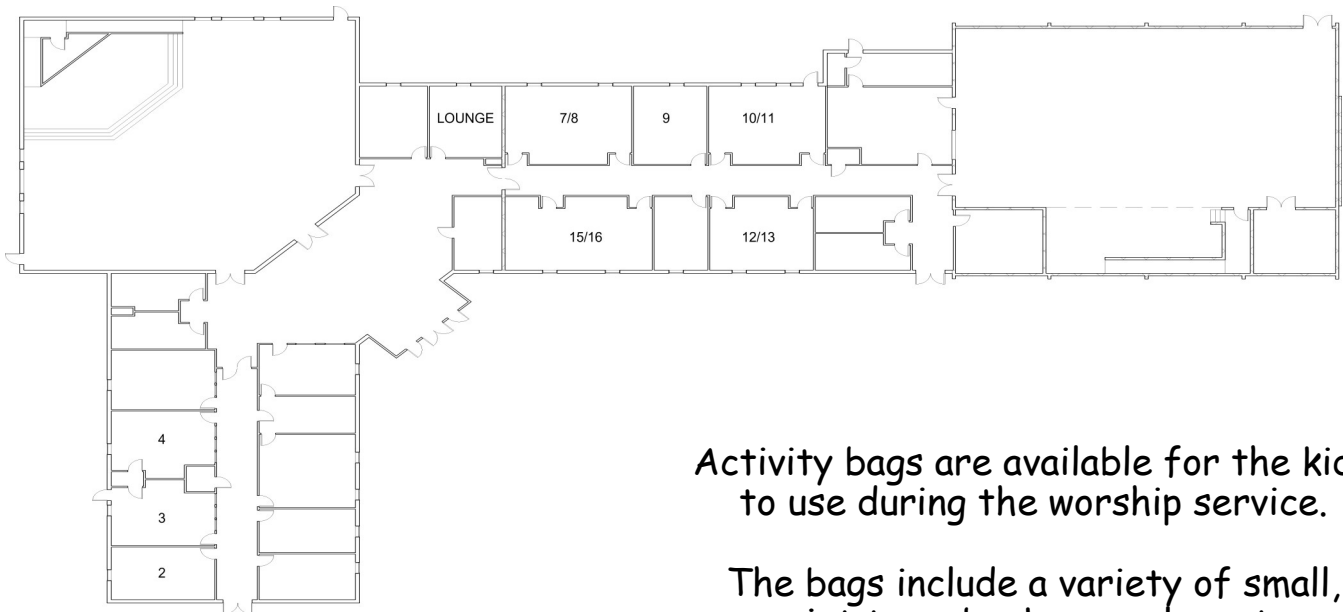


Sunday School Classes For Children, Teens & Adults 11:00-Noon

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)



Activity bags are available for the kids to use during the worship service.

The bags include a variety of small, quiet toys, books, puzzles, etc.

The bags are on a rack near the main entry to the Sanctuary. There are 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.





Good Friday Service of Communion & Worship
April 18th at 7:00 p.m.
All are welcome to come and remember Christ's
suffering on the cross to redeem each one of us.
Nursery services are not provided.

Sunrise Service at
7:00 a.m.
Hallelujah! Christ
has defeated death!
All are invited to
come and celebrate
our risen Savior!!



Sunday, April 20th
Easter Worship Service
9:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast
Served at 8:00a.m.
in the
Fellowship Hall
Pancakes, Eggs,
Sausage, Juice,
Coffee & Hot Tea

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!! Join us to worship Him! Join
us to celebrate Him! Join us to honor and glorify Him!
All are welcome!

If anyone would like to donate eggs towards Easter Sunrise breakfast, please contact
Mike Lepeak (616) 322-3565. It is estimated that 12 dozen eggs are needed.

Easter Sunday is April 20th this year. Easter flowers are available to order
in memory/and or in honor of your loved ones now through March 30th. A
variety of spring flowers are available; Easter lilies, daffodils, hyacinths and
tulips in a variety of colors, and hydrangeas. Flowers will be placed around
the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday and available for you to take home following
the worship service. Each pot will be labeled with



**Easter
Flowers**

the name of the purchaser. Orders are due
March 30th. Contact Stacey Aman if you have any
questions. (616) 891-8028 Tues-Thurs 9a-3p or
Stacey.aman@leightonchurch.org

Easter Flower Order Form

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LEIGHTON CHURCH OR MAKE YOUR PAYMENT ONLINE AT
 WWW.LEIGHTONCHURCH.ORG/GIVE AND SELECT HOLIDAY FLOWERS. FOR ONLINE PAYMENTS,
 FORWARD YOUR ORDER FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE. office@leightonchurch.org

ORDERS DUE

MARCH 30th.

<u>Flower type</u>	<u>Cost Per Flower</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u> (except grayed areas)	<u>Total</u>
Easter Lily (6" pot, 3-5 blooms)	\$9.50			
Easter Lily (8" pot, 10+ blooms)	\$20.50			
Easter Lily (10" pot, 15+ blooms)	\$30.50			
Daffodil (6 inch pot)	\$8.50			
Hyacinth (6 inch pot) (blue, pink, or white,)	\$8.50			
Hyacinth (8 inch pot) (blue, pink, or white)	\$16.50			
Tulip (6 inch pot) (lavender, pink, white, yellow, red, or bi-color)	\$8.50			
Tulip (8 inch pot) (lavender, pink, white, yellow, red, Bi-color)	\$16.50			
Hydrangea (6" pot) (blue or pink)	\$18.50			
				TOTAL DUE:



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

Games...Snacks...Relevant Bible Teaching

Youth Group Sunday, March 23rd.
Invite your friends to come along.

The discussion topic is:
THE MAKING OF; a series on Spiritual Growth

Kids can access the lesson by using the
Grow Code 30Q8

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

Youth Group Snacks

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 2 more Sunday night's needed: March 30 and April 27!



Questions?

**Contact Terri Farmer
(616) 780-8444**



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



It's time for the annual Spring Clean Up!

Saturday, April 12th

Breakfast will be provided starting at 8 a.m. Bring your yard tools (shovels, rakes, leaf blower, etc.) to help spruce up the church and parsonage yards after a hard winter. There will also be interior jobs , too (window cleaning, wash walls, clean in the kitchen, etc.) All ages are welcome! It's a great project for families to come and work together. With enough help, all jobs will be finished by Noon.

**Questions? Please contact Chris Herring, Board of Trustees Chairman
(616) 437-3484**

Pastor Dennis is 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



Next Steps & Membership Classes

Hello All,

In the coming weeks, the first set of Next Steps and Membership Classes will be implemented since Leighton Church has become an independent church. Here is some information about these classes.

The Next Steps class is an introductory class that will help attenders of the church to learn more about Leighton Church and help to become more familiar with ways to connect with the Leighton Church family. Attenders will be exposed to some of the different ministries of the church, the sacraments, the bylaws, and so on. An important component of this class will be the Spiritual Gifts survey. Through the prayer and discussion surrounding it, my hope is to help connect people together in ministries in which God has prepared them as well as to help me better understand the gifting of our church.

The Membership Class will be for those that are interested in learning about becoming members of Leighton Church. This class will focus on what membership *is* and what it *is not*. The faith statement of the church will be reviewed and any questions regarding the bylaws will be addressed. Some of this information will overlap with the Next Steps Class. By the end of the course, the hope is that people will feel more confident about their decision to join the church.

Dates and times for these classes are listed below. These will be taught in lieu of my normal Sunday School class, but I believe they will be helpful and encouraging for those that choose to attend. If you find it difficult to fit these times into your present schedule, please contact me and we can plan to review the material independently. Also, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding these classes or the material in them.

A sign up sheet to attend the April/May Next Steps Class and May membership class will be in the Lobby starting April 6th. Pre-registration is not required, but it is helpful.

Next Steps Class (2-week course)	Membership Class (1 session)
Room: 7/8	Room:7/8
Dates: April 27 & May 4 August 17 & 24 December 7 & 14	Dates: May 3, August 2, December 6
Time: 11am-12pm(ish)	Time: 10am-11:30am

Thank you and God bless,

Pastor Dennis Weeks



WANTED: Men, Women, & Teens to Volunteer and Help with Vacation Bible School!

Sign up today to help with Vacation Bible School!

Sunday, June 22–Thursday, June 26

6:30–8:30 p.m. for Preschool–6th Grade

Many open positions available!!

See the list below and the sign up in the Lobby TODAY!

Sign up sheets are located at the VBS display!

Assistant Director

Music Coordinator

Sound/AV Coordinator

Carpenter Joe's Craft Assistant

Toddler 4Y-Young 5's Assistant

K-1 gr Truth Teacher

4-6 gr Teacher Assistant

4-6 gr Group Guide (3)

Group Floater (3)

Registration/Sign In

Water Helper

Time Keeper

Substitute (3)

Drama (3) 1 Adult 2 Teens or
College Age

As Needed if Available (2)

Sheriff & Deputy Memory Verses



To My Leighton Church Family,

Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and phone calls following my recent hospitalization. I certainly felt your love and concern and am very thankful for you. I am grateful for the hospital visits from Pastor Dennis and John VanderMeer. That meant so much to me.

Sincerely,

Leone Biesbrock



The Last Wednesday Night Supper and Wednesday Night Kids Program will be April 16th! (Note New Date)



5:15-6:00 p.m. in the gym

All are welcome!

Join us March 23rd

Donations appreciated to help off-set expenses.

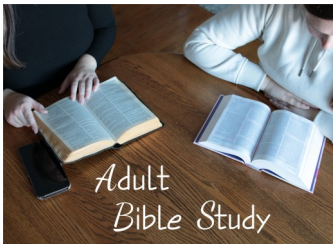


For kids age 4 on up
5:45-7:00 p.m.

This week's topic is:
Prayers of the Bible



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



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 Luncheons: April 3rd and 17th at 1:00p.m.

Meet at Curley Cone
12850 W. M-179 Hwy, Wayland

TUESDAY MORNINGS

NOW thru March 25th

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



ADULT BIBLE STUDY



Smorgasbord

Community Dinner
Friday, April 4, 2025
4:30-7:00 p.m.

On the Menu:

Bavarian Sauerkraut, Homemade Meatballs, and Tuna Noodle Bake
A variety of sides, salads, desserts, and beverages

Welcome Corners United Methodist Church, 3185 N Broadway/N M-43 Hwy,
Hastings

Cost is : **NEW PRICE** \$17/adult, \$5 kids age 4-12, no charge for kids under 4



1950'S DINER &
DESSERT AUCTION



Saturday, March 29th 5:00 p.m.
\$10/person by March 23rd
\$15/person at the door

All proceeds support the Youth Group Mission Trip to
Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota

Six teens and three leaders are going to minister to the Dakota tribe at Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota June 15-20. Through Youthworks, the group will be working with other youth groups to complete service projects. Come and support the youth! They'll be serving hamburgers, fries, and vanilla milkshakes.

The goal is to raise \$2,000.00.

Advanced Reservations DEADLINE is MARCH 23rd.

Reservations can be made by :

Signing up in the Lobby

Payment:

Cash or checks payable to Leighton Church can be given to Terri Farmer
OR

Go to www.leightonchurch.org/events

To pay safely & Securely by credit/debit/Google Pay/PayPal/Venmo or
ACH.

Questions? Call Terri Farmer (616) 780-8444

Jill Smith (269) 795-4212



Desserts Needed!

There will be a Sign Up Sheet in the Lobby for anyone that would like to donate a dessert for the auction.



BIBLES FOR THE WORLD

"PROCLAIM GOD'S GLORY AMONGST THE NATIONS" (PS. 96:3)

Bibles for the World (BFTW) works in areas where there is restricted access to God's Word, where copies of the Bible are scarce, and among the people where Christianity is beginning to take root-like Nepal, Cambodia, India, and other Asian and SE Asian nations. BFTW provides copies of the New Testament or Gospels of John to the people of these areas.

Can Tho, with a population of 1.5 million, is the main city in Vietnam's MeKong River Delta. This location was chosen as a site for a massive evangelistic event-and amazingly, the government authorities gave permission for this "Season of Love Festival" in December. Bibles For The World joined with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and hundreds of Christian churches in the region to bring God's Word-both preaching and in print-to this community where atheism, Buddhism, and ancestor worship mix.

During this event, more than 24,000 people heard the gospel, more than 1,200 made the decision to receive Jesus as Savior, and each new believer received a New Testament Bible courtesy of Bibles For The World.

Through the generosity of Bibles For The World, donors, and friends, more than 1.5 million people have received the Scriptures in their own language through these major outreach events. These major events allow for the opportunity to distribute a large quantity of Scriptures a in short time, and the opportunity to work with national/indigenous partners by helping demonstrate the strength of collaboration to advance God's kingdom., BFTW's involvement also provides Scriptures for pastors and churches to take back with them when they return to their home communities. These festivals are a strategic, viable, and extremely productive method of distribution of Bibles to all.

Bibles For The World also help thousands experience God's love through a mobile medical camp. Through the long term partnership with the U.S. based Project C.U.R.E., they provide free medical services for tens of thousands of men, women, and children in north east India. The C.U.R.E. nurses check patients in, and then send them to the necessary department for treatment. Screening is free for TB, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, malaria, typhoid, and more. All services are provided free of charge including lab work, minor surgeries, and distribution of medication. The staff prays and counsels those who express a desire for it. Many of them are blessed physically and spiritually through this outreach, as well as the staff and volunteers who attended to them.

Your gifts to the Faith Promise Missions Fund of Leighton Church supports the ministry of Bible For The World. You can find more information at their website <https://www.biblesfortheworld.org>. Thank you for giving! Check out the literature rack in the Lobby for newsletters from missionaries and mission organizations.

From this To this

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

Dear Leighton Family,

Last year, as many of you might remember 1,061 shoeboxes were packed, and sent on their way with the help of Moline Baptist Church. The countries they were sent to include Eswatini, Guyana, Malawi, Jamaica, Trinidad, Tobago and Zambia.

Within the past few weeks, I received 2 emails from parents in Eswatini thanking us for the gifts in those shoeboxes. One parent asked us to pray for their son in school. When he finishes he would like to further his education and become a teacher. Both emails at the end asked that God will bless us for the generosity to their children.

We have also been collecting t-shirts. I am busy cutting them up to make them into jump ropes, koosh balls and small bags. For the rest of March and the month of April we will be collecting small items like card games, small cars, stuffed animals, and such. Right now Dollar Tree has a wide selection of these items that are of good quality and will work very nice. Also, the small items could be toothbrushes or kids size silverware. Wal-Mart has packs of 5-6 toothbrushes for a dollar. If you go to the Perrigo Store in Allegan, you can get a good price on toothbrushes as well. Kids silverware can be purchased from IKEA for 6 sets for \$1.99 right now, and any purchase over \$50 is free shipping.



I am currently working on a list of other items that we will be collecting. Thanks to a couple of generous, anonymous donors we have a good start on pencils, erasers, and small items. Quarter containers will be placed in the Lobby soon. Take 1, take 2, fill with quarters and return. This money will go toward shipping. Please know, the shipping cost covers from the time the shoeboxes are delivered to the processing centers to the time it is placed in the child's hands. Even though it sounds like a lot, it really is just a little compared to what it means to the children.

There are many crafty things we could use help with! We would really appreciate help braiding the t-shirts to make the jump ropes among other things. Thank to the Ladies Circle of Joy group for working on jump ropes Monday during their meeting.

Blessings,

Patty Hoekstra (269) 804-7887 or pcookies68@gmail.com



Problems

By: Mary Hanna

Rob grew up in a quiet town, but his parents moved to a big city with business and loud noises all around. He was going into the 7th grade and would have to make new friends. He soon realized that he needed to belong to a group because that was how much your popularity depends.

He heard stories about two of the groups that were trying to get to him. The first group was well known for being tough, strict, and met in a rundown old building, known as "The Gym." The second group was quietly attending church and Sunday School and met once a week at the bowling alley. They invited him many times but he thought they were childish and too much like his old friends and he wanted more excitement so he went to "The Gym" at their next rally.

None of the school kids knew their parents had formed a group of their own. Rob's parents were invited as the group was discussing all the problems there were to be bemoan. The parents of "The Gym" group were very unhappy because they didn't know what to do anymore so they willingly let the church group have prayer at the beginning of each meeting and at their ends. The church group promised them if they trusted God's guidance. He would help them get some answers because it's through God's love every question and answer stems.

"The Gym" parents had many problems with their kids both at school and with the local police, so far they were minor offenses and they were quickly released.

One hot summer afternoon, "The Gym" group told Rob they were going to have a skip day from school the very next day. Rob was looking forward to it until after breakfast the next morning his dad bowed his head to pray. His parents always started each day with prayer and Bible verse. He told them he needed to get to school early as he quickly ran out the door before he felt any worse.

From then on "The Gym" gang kept pulling even more pranks at school and in their neighborhood, but nobody seemed to be paying any attention to them, or what they were planning, and of course they did nothing good!

The parents and police were all waiting until the right time to "arrest" them all and make them work all summer long, but God had other ideas how to make the kids see His ideas of right from wrong. In school one day there was a huge explosion in the lab. Rob was glad he wasn't in the lab class at that hour, because Rob knew his dad would make him work off a large portion of that tab!

None of the boys from either group were in that class on this terrible day, but all of the boys rushed to help before the ambulance was even on its way. Both groups found themselves forgetting their problems and were helping others. They were all working to get people outside as a fire had started as soon as the explosion spread its embers.

When things settled down and the police and parents could see how God had answered their prayers for themselves and the boys that day, the police held a special day of thanks for everyone that helped, and honored the boys in a very special way.

Everyone including the boys, praised God, and thanked Him for once again answering prayers. God may not answer our prayers the way we want but He's always there and listening when our lives need big or little repairs.

Service in Action

How do I get involved?

GREETER MINISTRY: March 23: Butch & Joan Klooster March 30: Andy & April Taylor, Olivia and Emilee April 6: Art & Connie Hooker	Get involved: Diane Porter, Coordinator (616) 888-0071, dianepor93@gmail.com
Intercessory Prayer: March 23: Debi Warren March 30: Jean McCaul April 6: Chris Herring	Get involved: Alverna Truax, (616) 275-0061, truax616@gmail.com Pray during the worship service. Serve every 6-8 weeks.
Nursery: March 23: Valerie & Hollie Lepeak March 30: Mike & Christine Syswerda April 6: April & Olivia Taylor	Get Involved: Rebecca Shanahan (616) 312-3070, rebeccashanahan84@gmail.com Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done.
Coffee Bar: March 23: Kelli & Helena Weeks March 30: Servers Needed April 6: Servers Needed	Get Involved: Contact Connie Hooker (616) 891-8742 or sign up at the Coffee Bar
Treats for Coffee Fellowship: March 23: Debi Warren & Jane Hannan March 30: Cookies In The Cupboard April 6: Keith Pratt & Patty Hoekstra	Get Involved: Contact Nona Steeby, (616) 890-4387
Acolytes: March 23: Keagan Shanahan & Hollie Lepeak March 30: Helena Weeks & Isabella Brandt April 6: Emilee Taylor & Abbi Pollmann	Get Involved: Luann Snyder (616) 891-8348, luannlewis@yahoo.com
Children's Church: March 23: Christine & Ava Syswerda March 30: Rebecca & Keagan Shanahan April 6: Lauren Risner & Britney Bredeweg	Get Involved: Rebecca Shanahan (616) 312-3070, rebeccashanahan84@gmail.com Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done.
Youth Group Snacks: March 23: Christine Syswerda March 30: Snacks Needed April 27: Snacks Needed	Get Involved: Sign up in the Lobby or contact Terri Farmer (616) 780-8444 or farmert7796@gmail.com
Sermon Notes Hand Out Teams March 23: Ian & Rylee Norris March 30: Abbi Pollmann & Celia Weeks April 6: Elijah Weeks & Scott Farmer	Get Involved: Jr & Sr High Students interested in helping, contact Brian Smith (616) 891-8028 ext. 2004 or youth@leightonchurch.org