

**The Leighton News**  
**Week of February 28, 2016**

**On The Calendar This Week:**

**Sunday, February 28 – Third Sunday of Lent:**

Pastor Dave continues his sermon series, ***“Challenging the World.”*** This Sunday’s sermon title is *“If God is So Good, Why is There So Much Evil?”* Romans 8:18-25

Sign up to help with Vacation Bible School continues. Only 3 positions left to be filled! VBS is June 26-30 6:00-8:40 p.m.

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, February 29—Leap Day:**

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

**Tuesday, March 1:**

6:30 p.m. Leadership Team Meeting (Lounge)

**Wednesday, March 2:**

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

6:15 p.m. Pioneer Clubs for kids age 4 thru 6th Grade – *“Camp Pioneer Clubs”*

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 3:**

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

### **EASTER FLOWER ORDERS ACCEPTED THRU MARCH 13**

Orders for Easter flowers are being taken and are due March 13<sup>th</sup>. 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 27<sup>th</sup>. Check out the services held during Holy Week (week of March 20<sup>th</sup>) and special Easter morning services. The March calendar is attached and will also be in this Sunday's bulletin.

### **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.

### **SPECIAL NIGHT AT PIONEER CLUBS!**

This Wednesday, March 2nd is a special night at Pioneer Clubs. Kids age 4 through 6th Grade will get a taste of summer camp at  
*Camp Pioneer Clubs!*

Family Dinner will feature camp style food for everyone to enjoy.

At 6:15, the camping experience begins in the Family Center.

Kids and their families can make crafts, play games, and listen to Bible stories around the campfire!

Check out the Christian summer camps information that will be on display.

### **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 17<sup>th</sup>.

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](#)

### **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 4 on up through 6th grade will learn to stand for God, obey God, trust God, thank God, and fear God.

Thanks to everyone who signed up to help. There are only 3 positions available as listed below. Stop by the display table in the Lobby or contact [Cindy Herring](#) if interested.

2 Craft Assistants

1 Music Assistant

Teens (at least 12 years of age) and adults, please sign up!

All volunteers must take the Child Protection Class if not already approved as a Child/Youth Care Provider. Upcoming classes will be announced soon.

### **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"  
50 sheets of sand paper, any grit (not expensive paper)  
100 fishing swivels (Google fishing swivels for photo)  
75 empty cube size Kleenex boxes  
30 glue sticks  
5 bottles of glue  
2 big boxes of fruit loops cereal  
2 boxes of small shell pasta  
1 box of food coloring  
5 rolls of Scotch tape

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

### **PUERTO RICO YOUTH MISSION TRIP UPDATE**

Dear Church Family,

We are so very grateful for all the support you have given us over the past few months prayerfully and financially to get our mission team to Puerto Rico in July. In raising funds, we are over halfway there with just about \$9,000 left to raise. We have decided however that we are pretty tired of always raising money instead of just being a part of the church family. So our plan is this; we are going to discontinue fundraising for the next 6 weeks and just love on our church family, serving them without having to worry about payment due. If you would like to support us in these weeks, we have a wall of envelopes on the youth group bulletin board located outside of the youth room (down the hallway toward the Family Center). Grab one that represents the amount you would like to support us and place it in the offering.

Thank you!

Scott & Misty Getter and the Youth Puerto Rico Mission Team

## **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](#).

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:office@leightonchurch.org) or  
[stacey.aman@leightonchurch.org](mailto: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 [wcsq.org](http://wcsq.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 Christmas 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:**

February 28—Doug & Judy Hanlon

March 6—Art & Connie Hooker

March 13—Open

### **PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:**

February 28—Lori Cramer & Allison Draaisma

March 6—Shawn Eaton & Connie Hooker

March 13—Alverna Truax & Stephanie Haan

### **GREETERS:**

February 28—Mike & Linda Horton

March 6—Gary & Jean McCaul

March 13—Randy & Bonnie Adams

### **NURSERY:**

February 28—Mike & Christine Syswerda

March 6—Cindy & Rebecka Thaler

March 13—Renee & Amanda Seeley

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:**

February 28—Mike & Christine Syswerda

March 6—Josh & Robbi Hilton

March 13—Jonathan & Amanda Athearn

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:**

February 28—Sam Farmer & Stephanie Aman

March 6—Gabby Nicholson & Emeline Seeley

March 13—Britney Bredeweg & Sam Farmer

## **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](http://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](http://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 overnighters 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](mailto: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](http://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 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 16<sup>th</sup>.

15<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup>

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](http://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 14<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 7<sup>th</sup>. 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 15<sup>th</sup> and general public sales begin March 14<sup>th</sup>.

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

Master Arts Theater is located at 75 77<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Grand Rapids.

[www.masterarts.org](http://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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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

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