

The Leighton News
Week of March 13, 2016

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, March 13 – Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Pastor Dave continues his sermon series, ***“Challenging the World.”*** This Sunday’s sermon title is *“You Better Think Twice About That!”* Philippians 1:3-11

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 inside 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.

G.L.U.E. Youth Group Game Night for teens and their adult prayer partners. Come at 5:45 p.m., have dinner together, and fun playing board games.

Monday, March 14:

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

Tuesday, March 15:

7:00 p.m. VBS Leaders Meeting (Rooms 15/16)

Wednesday, March 16:

5:30 p.m. Family Dinner (Family Center)
6:15 p.m. Pioneer Clubs for kids age 4 thru 6th Grade
6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting (Lounge)
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Library)
6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary)
6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting (Rooms 7/8)

Thursday, March 17:

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

Saturday, March 19:

5:00 p.m. Parents with Young Children Sunday School Party (Family Center)

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS ACCEPTED THRU MARCH 13

Orders for Easter flowers are being taken and are due this Sunday, March 13th. 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.

GAME NIGHT FOR TEENS & ADULT PRAYER PARTNERS

Adults with a teen prayer partner are invited to youth group this Sunday, March 13th at 5:45 p.m. It will be a night of friendship, fun, and food. Dinner will be served and a variety of board games will be available to choose from. Plan to come and enjoy time with your teen prayer partner.

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.

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 17th.

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](#)

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND SPECIAL OFFERING

On Sunday, March 20th, a special offering will be collected for the Leighton Church Good Samaritan Fund. Funds given will be sent through the United Methodist Church Michigan Conference to assist the people of Flint, MI during this water crisis.

United Methodist Churches are working together to help provide bottled water, filters and water test kits for Flint residents. This crisis is also opening doors for UM Churches in Flint to connect with people in their communities. Water is being delivered door-to-door for those who do not have transportation. People may also come and get water directly from the churches. Please prayerfully consider how you can help with this relief effort.

CIRCLE OF JOY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

A special Circle of Joy for both men and women.

Monday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Renee, Isabelle, and Ana Seeley will be sharing about their mission trip to Guatemala.

Come and learn about their experience.

Refreshments served afterward.

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.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Holy Week is approaching.

Below is the list of services happening throughout the week.

Extend an invitation to friends and family members.

PALM SUNDAY—MARCH 20TH

9:30 a.m. Worship Service*

11:00 a.m. Sunday School (age 2 through adult)

MAUNDAY THURSDAY -MARCH 24TH

7:00 p.m. Communion Service

GOOD FRIDAY—MARCH 25TH

6:30 p.m. Community-wide Worship Service At Thornapple-Kellogg High School

Fine Arts Center 3885 Bender Road, Middleville, MI (use Green Lake Road entrance)

EASTER—MARCH 27TH

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with Breakfast Immediately Afterward

9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship Service*

11:00 a.m. Sunday School (age 2 through adult)

*Nursery provided for children infant through age 4.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Vacation Bible School 2016 is coming!

Sunday, June 26-Thursdays, 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 2 (NOTE CORRECTION) on up through 6th grade will learn to stand for God, obey God, trust God, thank God, and fear God.

All positions for Vacation Bible School have been filled. Thank you to everyone who is willing to give of their time that week to make this important ministry to children happen.

Please be praying over the VBS team and the children that will be attending.

TEAM LEADERS— There is a VBS Leaders meeting on
Tuesday, March 15th at 7:00 p.m. in Rooms 15/16.
Those who need to attend this meeting will receive a reminder.

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)
75 small white flameless LED tea light "candles"
50 fishing swivels (Do Internet search to find an example)
30 empty cube size Kleenex boxes
12 glue sticks
2 big boxes of fruit loops cereal
2 boxes of small shell pasta
4 or 5 cans of spray paint (any shade of blue and/or green)

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

PUERTO RICO YOUTH MISSION TRIP UPDATE

In July, a team of 18 teens and adults will be heading to Puerto Rico through an organization called Praying Pelican. The trip is scheduled for July 23-30. In Puerto Rico, the team will be running a VBS style softball camp, doing small construction type projects, visiting mercy ministries, and encourage the full-time missionaries that serve there.

The team consists of: Scott, Misty, Rachael & Rebecca Getter, Tina Peck & Gabby Nicholson, Bethany Tanis, Jerry & Crystal Mulero, Michaela Blain, Steven & Matthew Vannette, Corrine Galloway, Ana & Amanda Seeley, Nathan & Kaylie Taylor, and Josh Aman. Please be in prayer over this group and for their upcoming trip. The cost of the trip is about \$1,600 per person. Through various work and fundraising projects, nearly \$7,000 has been raised.

How can you help? Many of you have helped support this team already. There are several opportunities going on now where others can also help the team prepare for their trip.

1. Wall of Envelopes—On the bulletin board outside the youth room (down the hall toward the gym), there are many envelopes with different dollar amounts written on them. Take an envelope with the dollar amount of your choice and place your donation in the offering envelope. *(Checks may be made payable to Leighton Church.)*

2. Purchase a homemade cheesecake for your Easter dinner! Orders are being taken now for cheesecakes made by Eric Peck. (If you attended the Dinner Theater and had cheesecake that night, you enjoyed a cheesecake made by Eric Peck.) Cheesecakes are \$13.00 each and will be available the week before Easter. An order form is in the Lobby or see any of the trip team members listed above.

Thank you for your faithful support both in prayer and financially.

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](#).

THANK YOU!

Dear Church Family,

You folks are so thoughtful and kind. I had a wonderful birthday. Your many cards, tasty treats, and friendly words were most appreciated. A “thank you” hardly seems enough to express my gratitude. As always it is my distinct pleasure and privilege to serve with you.

Sincerely,

Pastor Dave

Dear Leighton UMC,

Thank you so much for allowing me to come and share about our ministry in Japan. It is always a pleasure to be with you. Your questions during Sunday School were very insightful. Thank you also for the generous gift and support.

Blessings,

Zach & Esther Motts

Dear Leighton Church Family,

We're so grateful that we had the opportunity to fellowship with you in person last summer. And we're thankful for your faithful prayers and support as we serve far from our own families up here in Alaska. Your love and care in a Christmas gift blessed us too.

Happy to be Following the Lord with You,

Mark & Heather Overbeek & Family

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.

SERVICE IN ACTION

COFFEE SERVERS:

March 13—Wayne & Noreen Ingersoll

March 20—Dan & Judy Terpstra

March 27—Randy & Bonnie Adams

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

March 13—Alverna Truax & Stephanie Haan

March 20—Sarah Geers & Nancy Geertman

March 27—Misty Getter & Sue Brown

GREETERS:

March 13—Randy & Bonnie Adams

March 20—Jim & Bonnie Ciluffo

March 27 Sunrise Service—Art & Connie Hooker

March 27 9:30 Service—Don & Jean Bender

NURSERY:

March 13—Renee & Amanda Seeley

March 20—Cindy Herring & Britney Bredeweg

March 27—Jake & Allison Draaisma

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

March 13—Josh & Robbi Hilton

March 20—Sam Farmer, Josh & Kate Webb

March 27—Jake & Allison Draaisma

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

March 13—Britney Bredeweg & Sam Farmer

March 20—Becca & Sarah Getter

March 27—No Children's Church on Easter Sunday

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 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 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 or 269-792-0481. Individuals are welcome to take classes even if not seeking Lay Servant or Lay Speaking certification. Participants must register.

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. There are various walk locations throughout our area.

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.

“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

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 (thru 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 16th 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

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

FUN FAMILY OPPORTUNITY FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Help Grand Rapids Right to Life create a strong prolife presence during the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Grand Rapids! Bring your friends and family for a fabulously fun time at this annual event. All prolife people are welcome to walk with our group or ride on the float that proclaims the message: "*Life: A Precious Gift.*" Get in the spirit and dress in green! Gather at the float on Lyon Street (between Monroe and Ottawa Avenues) at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 12th. The parade begins at 11:00 a.m. For more information, visit grrtl.org/parade or contact Kelley at (616) 532-2300 or info@grrtl.org

FREE SCREENING OF DOCUMENTARY FILM "THE DROP BOX"

Grand Rapids Right to Life and Cornerstone Students for Life are partnering to host a FREE screening of the award-winning documentary film "*The Drop Box.*" Pastor Lee built a box that has received over 600 unwanted babies who otherwise would have been abandoned on the streets of Seoul, South Korea. Don't miss this inspiring community event on Thursday, March 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Corum at Cornerstone University (1001 E. Beltline Ave. NE, Grand Rapids). For more information contact Erin at 616-532-2300 or at info@grrtl.org.

GAITHER VOCAL BAND IN CONCERT

An Evening with the Gaither Vocal Band featuring
Bill Gaither, Wes Hampton, David Phelps, Adam Crabb & Todd Suttles
With special guests, Charlotte Ritchie, Gene McDonald, Kevin Williams
Friday, April 8th 7:00 p.m. at Sunshine Community Church located at 3300 East Beltline,
Grand Rapids.

Tickets Prices (additional fees may apply):
Artist Circle - \$35.00, General Admission - \$25.00
Senior (60+)/Child (2-12) - \$22.00
Groups of 10+ - \$20.00 (groups of 10+ receive 1 free ticket)
Charge by phone including group tickets: 1-855-484-1991
Internet Sales: premierproductions.com
More Information: 616-364-4242

"LIVING AUTHENTICALLY" – MEN'S CONFERENCE

Friday, April 8-Saturday, April 9 at the Christ Chapel on the campus of Cornerstone University located on the East Beltline just north of I-96.

Cost is \$30.00/adult or \$20/person for groups of 10+.

Keynote speaker is Bryan Loritts, the pastor for Preaching & Mission at Trinity Grace Church in New York City.

The weekend will feature sessions on living an authentic life and embracing courage. A hearty Saturday morning breakfast, actionable teachings, and time to connect with other men all included. For more information, click [here](#). To register click [here](#).

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