

The Leighton News
Week of March 20, 2016

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, March 20 – Palm Sunday:

A special offering will be collected Sunday morning to assist the people in Flint. Through your offering, bottled water, water filters, water test kits will be made available to those in the community. Funding will also be used to help with medical treatment for those who have been affected by the lead they have ingested.

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.

G.L.U.E. Youth Group Sunday night at church at 5:45 p.m. for all 6th-12th grade students.

Monday, March 21:

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

7:00 p.m. Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship (Lounge & Sanctuary)

Wednesday, March 22:

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)

Thursday, March 24—Maundy Thursday:

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday, March 25—Good Friday:

6:30 p.m. Good Friday Community Worship Service at Thornapple-Kellogg High School Fine Arts Center, 3885 Bender Road, Middleville

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Next week is Holy Week with special worship services held throughout the week.

Plan to attend as you can and 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.

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.

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.

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.

PIONEER CLUBS CELEBRATION

Pioneer Clubs teachers, helpers, and kids invite the congregation to come to the final night of Pioneer Clubs on Wednesday, March 30th at 6:15 p.m.

The kids have worked hard over the past year memorizing Bible verses and earning badges. Come and celebrate with them as they receive their badges and awards and hear about what they've learned.

Cake and punch served afterward.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, March 30th marks the end of the season for Pioneer Clubs and Family Dinners. Thank you to all those who have been involved in making these ministries happen. Many people enjoyed having dinner all prepared for them and many kids learned about Jesus and His love for them.

March 30th is also the last weekly Prayer Meeting. Starting in April, Prayer Meeting will be held the 2nd Wednesday of each month until Pioneer Clubs starts up again in October.

SPRING BREAK DAY CAMP

Are you making a stay-cation of your upcoming Spring Break? Looking for something fun for the kids to do while they are out of school?

The Puerto Rico Youth Mission Team is hosting a Day Camp on Wednesday, April 6th from 9:00 am-3:00 pm at the church. Drop off your kids for a few hours or the entire day or spend some time with them at Day Camp. There will be games, crafts, and a variety

of fun activities. No set cost for kids to attend the Day Camp, but your donation will support the July youth mission trip to Puerto Rico.

For more information, contact [Misty Getter](#) or [Tina Peck](#).

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

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

2 big boxes of fruit loops cereal

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.

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,

I give praise to God for the abundant love, care, concern, and devotion our church family shares with one another. Sunday night, March 13th, we were amazed and blessed to have 32 youth at Prayer Pal Night. Some of our adult pals have committed to praying for and building relationships with multiple teens. We had 29 adult Pals loving, praying, and just spending time with our wonderful young adults. The love of our Father in heaven and the love the pals and teens shared was unmistakable. God is so good. I want to sincerely thank all of those who are involved, both youth and adults, for the way you are serving God through prayer and friendship.

Again, thank you.

~Connie Blain

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 20—Dan & Judy Terpstra

March 27—Randy & Bonnie Adams

April 3—Open

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

March 20—Sarah Geers & Nancy Geertman

March 27—Misty Getter & Sue Brown

April 3—Elda Jackson & Claudia Thornton

GREETERS:

March 20—Jim & Bonnie Ciluffo

March 27 Sunrise Service—Art & Connie Hooker

March 27 9:30 Service—Don & Jean Bender

April 3—Dan & Judy Terpstra

NURSERY:

March 20—Cindy Herring & Britney Bredeweg

March 27—Jake & Allison Draaisma

April 3—Brad & Sarah Geers

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

March 20—Sam Farmer, Josh & Kate Webb

March 27—Jake & Allison Draaisma

April 3—Sam Farmer, Robbi Hilton

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

March 20—Becca & Sarah Getter

March 27—No Children's Church on Easter Sunday

April 3—Sam Farmer, Britney Bredeweg

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 overnights 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

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](#).

BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES SEEKING HOMES

Bethany Christian Services Refugee Foster Care Program is seeking a home for a 17 year old young man from Central America with significant medical needs. These medical needs require a strict diet as well as medical appointments three afternoons per week which a foster parent would need to attend with him at Helen DeVos Children's

Hospital. He will be provided with health insurance and once he turns 18 in August a foster parent would no longer have to sit with him through the appointments. This young man has adjusted exceptionally well to his current difficult circumstances. He does not exhibit behavioral concerns and does not have any current mental health concerns. He understands English at about a 90% capacity and can speak English at about 80% capacity. He is very bright academically and now needs a stable family environment. If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested in learning more, please contact Ana Jose at (616) 965-8027 or ajose@bethany.org.

JOB OPENING AT PROJECT HOPE: THRIFT STORE DIRECTOR

Project Hope/Annetta Jansen Ministries is seeking a thrift store director. Retail background and excellent computer skills are required and must be a member of a Bible believing church. Please contact Sandy Zuiderma at sandyzprojecthopene@yahoo.com or submit a resume to Project Hope, Attn; S. Zuiderma, P.O. Box 241, Dorr, MI 49323. Applications will be accepted through April 1st.

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