

The Leighton News
Week of May 22, 2016

On The Calendar This Week:

Sunday, May 22 – Graduation Sunday:

Sunday's Message – Part 6 of the Sermon Series: "*Better Than Happiness!*" Part 6 is titled "*No Turning Back.*" Scripture passage is Philippians 3:1-21

Congratulations, to our Graduates! See the insert in Sunday's bulletin for a list of graduates along with their photos.

Children ages 4-7 are dismissed while the offering is collected to go to Children's Church, which is held down the Children's Wing. Sunday is the last Sunday for Children's Church until fall.

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 May.

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 from 5:45-8:00 p.m. for all 6th-12th Grade Students. Youth Group will be held at the Getter's home.

Monday, May 23:

6:30 p.m. Family Softball Night (Leighton Church Ball Field)

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

Tuesday, May 24:

6:30 p.m. Mission Team Meeting (Rooms 7/8)

Wednesday, May 25:

6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS SUNDAY!

Registration begins Sunday for Vacation Bible School.

Stop by the display table in the Lobby and get your kids registered.

Take a flyer or two to share with family and friends. (Printer friendly version is attached)

Registration is also available [online](#).

www.leightonchurch.org/childrens-ministry

Vacation Bible School is for kids age 2 on up through 6th Grade (entering in the fall).

Spread the word that there's an Ocean Commotion at Leighton Church!

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

MAY G.L.U.E. YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Youth Group is for all 6th-12th grade students. Friends are welcome!

May 22 – Lunch with Graduating High School Seniors, their Parents, and their Prayer Partners (more details to come)

Regular Youth Group at Getter's House 5:45-8:00 p.m.

May 29 – No Youth Group (It's Memorial Day Weekend!)

Contact [Misty Getter](#) for details or directions to their home.

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.

FAMILY SOFTBALL NIGHT

Monday, May 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

Leighton Church Ball Field

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a game of softball (kids and adults!). Bring your bat, ball glove, and lawn chair and enjoy a fun game of softball together. Not a ball player? Come and watch and cheer on your Leighton Church Family.

The Ice Cream Shack will be open serving sundaes, ice cream cones, and floats.
The playground is ready for the little ones to enjoy.
Friends and family members are welcome.

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, May 29th

Everyone is asked to wear a name tag in an effort to get to know one another.
Name tags will be available in the Lobby.

50+ LUNCH

Wednesday, June 1st at 11:30 a.m. In the Family Center

Everyone age 50 on up is invited to come!

Bring a dish to pass and your table service.

Beverages are provided.

After lunch, enjoy the music of *HEART STRINGS*, a group of four friends who thoroughly enjoy making music together and sharing it with others.

Bring a friend along!

Contact [Jean McCaul](#) if you have any questions

UPCOMING MEETING

Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 1st at 6:30 p.m.

In the Lounge

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Parish Nurse, Linda McBride,

will be available in Pastor Dave's office Sunday, June 5th to take blood pressure readings.

Stop in before or after the worship service.

GRADUATION OPEN HOUSE

The Seeley Family extends an open invitation to their Leighton Church Family to celebrate the high school graduation of
Isabelle Seeley
Friday, June 17th from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at their home

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Spring is finally here so it's time to think about gardening! Leighton Church has a garden stand which is stocked with produce/food for those in need in the community. The produce is grown in our church garden (God's Garden located behind the Family Center area of the church) and also members of the church grow extra vegetables in their home gardens to donate to the stand. Here are ways you can help with the garden:

- Donate a 10 lb. bag of Sevin's dust
- Help pull weeds and/or pick vegetables throughout the season
- Put produce from your garden on the stand

Please notify [Clay](#) or [Luann](#) Snyder if you can help in any of these ways. Thank you to Chris Herring for spreading fertilizer and plowing the garden!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- *4 or 5 cans of spray paint (any shade of blue and/or green)*
- *300 brown paper lunch bags*

Barb Moore, Snack Coordinator for VBS, has put together a "shopping list" of items needed. Sign up in the Lobby if you can bring any of the items listed below.

Items are due by Sunday, June 25th.

Place the non-perishable items in the designated basket in the Lobby. Label perishable items and place them in the kitchen refrigerator or freezer.

- 200—6” plates
- 100 plastic spoons
- 500—8.5 oz cups
- 8 gallons green punch
- 1—4.5 quart pail of Rainbow Sherbert
- 12 Boxes Whale Shaped Crackers (not cheese flavored)
- 2 Bags of Ice
- 5—2 Liter bottles of lemon lime soda
- 6—2 Liter bottles of 7-Up
- 4 large bags of white popped corn
- 100 powdered doughnuts (not doughnut holes)
- 9—10.5 oz. bags mini-marshmallows
- 100 Fruit Roll-Ups
- 120 Sugar Ice Cream Cones
- 4—10 oz. boxes of raisins
- 4—19 oz. bags of plain M&M’s (not peanut)
- 100 Sucker or Craft Sticks
- 4—8 oz. boxes pretzel fish shaped crackers.

Thank you for faithfully supporting the Vacation Bible School ministry.

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS) COMING THIS FALL!

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS)

A new ministry coming to Thursdays, starting, October 6th for mothers of preschoolers (infants thru Kindergarten).

This is not only a ministry for Leighton Church moms, but also an outreach to moms in our community.

MOPS is a world-wide Christian organization that encourages women raising young children to be the mom God designed them to be.

There are many ways you can be involved even if you no longer have preschool age children. Women are needed for:

Mentor Moms, Moppets Leader and Workers

See the display table in the Lobby to find out how to get involved.

Contact [Sarah Geers](#) or [Amanda Athearn](#) for info.

www.mops.org

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

FOOD PANTRY SHOPPING LIST FOR MAY

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 May, the following items will be collected to stock the pantry:

Cereal, Oatmeal
Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Fruit
Boxed Potatoes
Rice (bags and boxed rice mixes)
Shampoo & Toothpaste

Items will be collected by the children each Sunday during the offering time. Questions can be directed to [Stacey Aman](#).

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 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.

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.

FAMILY CENTER FLOORING PROJECT UPDATE

The Family Center is the most widely used part of our church building. It is used for church potlucks, athletic activities; youth group meetings, family reunions, baby/bridal showers, Pioneer Clubs, and much more. The current floor is nearly 20 years old. The floor is buckling causing a safety concern. Twenty years of dirt, grime, and food has created unsanitary conditions. The tiles are breaking causing them to move out of place.

Funds are being raised to replace the current flooring with new flooring—Taraflex Sport M Plus. It's easy to maintain, has welded seams which won't allow food and dirt through, and takes the wear and tear needed for our many activities in the Family Center. (A sample of the proposed new flooring is in the Lobby for your viewing.) The amount needed to purchase the flooring have it installed is \$43,300.

Previous Balance	\$ 23,308.05
Received May 15th	\$ 890.00
Current Balance	\$ 24,198.05
Needed to Reach the Goal	\$ 19,101.95

Together we can reach the goal!

Use the special offering envelopes in the Lobby or in the pew holder to contribute to the Family Center Flooring Project.
You can also donate online at www.leightonchurch.org/give and select the

Special Offering Family Center Flooring.

Watch the progress on the Family Center Flooring Display in the Lobby.

COFFEE SERVERS:

May 22—Wayne & Noreen Ingersoll

May 29—Barb Moore

June 5—Open

PROVIDING TREATS FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

May 22—Crystal Mulero & Barb Moore

May 29—Linda Horton & Colin Mead

June 5— To be Announced

GREETERS:

May 22—Don & Jan Geukes

May 29—Clay & Luann Snyder

June 5—Chuck & Jane Hannan

NURSERY:

May 22—Cindy Herring & Stephanie Aman

May 29—Brad & Sarah Geers

June 5—Jonathan & Amanda Athearn

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS:

May 22—Matt & Stephanie Haan

May 29—Sam Farmer & Robbi Hilton

June 5—Mike & Christine Syswerda

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPERS:

May 22—Amanda & Ana Seeley

Children's Church is on break for the summer starting May 29th. Children's Church will resume in October.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CLEANING CREW

Men, women, couples, families needed to join the custodial crew. Leighton Church is cleaned by several faithful volunteers. A few members of our cleaning crew are stepping down. Cleaning generally takes place Thursdays, Fridays or Saturdays. Opening spot for volunteers to vacuum, empty trash, and clean tables down the

Children's Wing. If interested contact [Jackie Corwin](#)

VEHICLE NEEDED FOR MISSIONARIES

Noah & Liz Kamper are in need of a vehicle large enough for 6 passengers to use while they are in the United States from June 20th—July 11th.

If you have a vehicle or know of someone that has a vehicle that they could use during this time, please contact them via e-mail at nlkamper@gmail.com.

Noah & Liz serve on the mission field in Costa Rica. They are coming home for a family event.

SHOPPING AT MEIJER 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 \$105 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.

ALLEGAN COUNTY CEREAL DRIVE

Allegan County is attempting to collect 40,000 boxes of kid-friendly cereal during the month of May. This will allow one box of cereal each week for each child whose family receives food from an Allegan County food pantry. Drop off donations at various locations throughout Allegan County including Hardings Friendly Markets in Wayland, Plainwell, and Otsego Dick's Market in Door

LADIES' DAYS

Gull Lake Ministries presents it's annual LADIES' DAYS 2016.

Come any of the four days or one evening to enjoy dynamic speaking and uplifting worship music.

Choose from either June 7, 8, 9, or 10 (the program is the same each day).

Morning coffee and pastries are served beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Program and lunch is from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

The cost for the days tickets are \$25.00 each. Groups of 10 or more are at a reduced price of \$20 each with a free ticket for every 10 purchased.

OR if days don't work for you, there is an evening gala on Thursday, June 9th beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a meet and greet with the guest speaker and musician with program and dinner buffet beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The evening gala tickets are also \$25.

Guest Speaker, Annie F. Downs, is an author, blogger, and speaker. She has written three books – *Let's All Be Brave*, *Perfectly Unique*, and *Speak Love*.

Musician Lindsay Huggins is a multi-talented artist who expresses her musical ideas in a matchless style.

Tickets can be purchased online at gulllake.org/conferences/ladies-days or mail check payable to Gull Lake Ministries to 1800 Burlington Drive., Hickory Corners, MI 49060, which is the same address where the event is held.

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. This year the walk is only being held at Catholic Central High School located on Sheldon Street in Grand Rapids. There is also a 5k run that same day happening at Cornerstone University on the East Beltline in Grand Rapids

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 prcforld.org/how-you-can-help/events.

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 in several areas:

- Person(s) to keep up Annetta's Garden and landscape around the building
 - Baggers needed in emergency food pantry
 - Pantry Greeter. Records information and prays with clients.
 - Cashiers

Call Barb Fles, Compassionate Care Director, at (616) 681-HOPE ext. 13.

PART TIME POSITION AVAILABLE AT PROJECT HOPE

Looking for a person to handle donations in receiving department. Must have customer service skills with a friendly smile and be able to lift 40-50 pounds. Come in during open hours (10 am-5 pm) to fill out an application. This is a paid position.

WOMEN'S FALL RETREATS

Grace Adventures, a non-profit Christian Training Center located near Silver Lake, is hosting women's retreats 4 different weekends this fall.

September 23-25 features guest speaker, Lina Abujamra, author of *Thrive: The Single Life as God Intended*, and *Stripped: When God's Call Turns from Yes to Why Me?* In 2012 she started a ministry called Living with Power. Lina is single and was born in Lebanon, but now calls Chicago home.

September 30-October 2 features guest speaker Karen Ehman, who is a Proverbs 31 Ministries speaker and New York Times Best-selling author. Karen writes for Encouragement for Today online devotions. She has been a guest on national television radio programs including The 700 Club, At Home Live, FamilyLife, and more.

October 7-9 features guest speaker Cindy Bultema. Cindy has been in ministry over 15 years and has trained leaders and created programs within a variety of settings. Cindy is now a popular women's speaker, author, blogger, and Bible teacher. She is a member of Carol Kent's national speaking team and Proverbs 31 Speaker Coach.

October 14-16 features guest speaker Jennifer Shaw, a Telly Award winning speaker, author, singer, songwriter, and five-time Top 40 Billboard artist. Her ministry has been featured on Focus on the Family, Insight for Living, FamilyLife Today, and many more. Her new book *Life Not Typical: How Special Needs Parenting Changed My Faith* has brought national attention to the issue of Sensory Processing Disorder.

Cost for the retreats is \$89 (if commuting-no lodging needed), \$149 if staying at a local hotel, or \$124 if staying on-site at Grace Adventures Retreat Center.

There are a variety of activities to do.

Register online at graceadventures.org/adult-retreats/womens-retreat

AWAKENING FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 10-12

If you're a high school student going into grades 10-12 and would like to grow in your skills and passion about worship and the arts, this is the week for you.

Are you a musician, an actor, an artist, a dancer, a sound technician or a philosopher?

Take this opportunity to develop your gifts-and perhaps discover gifts you never realized.

Join us on the beautiful campus of Hope College in Holland, Michigan to work with nationally known pastors, ministry leaders, professors, church musicians, artists, dancers, and technical arts specialists.

June 12-17, 2016

Hope.edu/awakening

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT FOR RIGHT TO LIFE

Join the fun at the 4th annual Benefit for Life Pickleball Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, August 6th & 7th at Belknap Park (30 Coldbrook Street NE, Grand Rapids).

Players will be matched by skill level and may register as men's, women's, or mixed doubles. The registration fee is \$40 (early bird) or \$45 (after June 16). To participate in this event, sponsored by Grand Rapids Right to Life, register, pay, and sign a waiver online at PickleballTournaments.com. For more information, contact Grand Rapids Right to Life at (616) 532-2300, info@grrtl.org or visit grrtl.org/pickleball. Registrations are due by August 1.

FOCUS ON LIFE BENEFIT DINNER

The 29th annual Focus on Life Benefit Dinner at the DeVos Place ballrooms in downtown Grand Rapids will take place on Monday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. Judge Andrew P. Napolitano, senior judicial analyst for FOX News Channel, will be the keynote speaker. Napolitano is an outspoken analyst of the legal system, a fervent critic of government intervention into personal lives, and a passionate defender of the Constitution, including the right to life. Tickets are \$100 per seat or \$1,000 per table of 10. For more information, contact Grand Rapids Right to Life at (616) 532-2300, info@grrtl.org or visit grrtl.org/dinner.

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