



Leighton Church

Proclaiming New Life in Jesus Christ

Rev. David W. Meister

Week of July 17, 2022

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: 9:30am
Sunday School: 10:45 am for adults

Board of Elders:

Art Hooker, David Kaechele
Scott Pollmann (Chairman),
Mark Schiefla, Doug Thaler,
Wayne Ingersoll,
Pastor Dave Meister



@LeightonUMChurch



LeightonUMChurch

Monday, July 18	Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship 7:00 pm Men's Basketball 7:00 pm
Tuesday, July 19	Discipleship Team Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 20	Ballfield in Use 5:30-8:00 pm Praise Team Practice 6:30 pm
Saturday, July 23	North Wing Cleaning & Maintenance (done by BCCS) Men's Shooting Event at Hooker's 1:00 pm
Sunday, July 24	Backyard Picnic Fellowship At Hooker's 6:00 pm
Monday, July 25	Men's Basketball 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 26	Church Office Open 9a-Noon
Wednesday, July 27	Church Office Open 9a-Noon Ballfield in Use 5:30-8:00 pm Praise Team Practice 6:30 pm



Children, Teens and Adults Digging Deeper into God's Word. 10:45-11:45 a.m.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND LOCATIONS:

Age 2 thru 4th Grade—Room 3: Luann Snyder & Noreen Ingersoll

5th-12th Grades-Rooms 12/13: Mark & Ronda Kaechele

Adults: God the Creator: Our Beginning, Our Rebellion & Our Way Back—Rooms 7/8:
Bill & Stacey Aman

Adults: God's Plan Always Prevails: God Leads Godly Leaders—Lounge: Doug Thaler

Adults: Deliver Us: God Redeems His People—Rooms 15/16: Drew Corwin



Summer is certainly flying by which means fall is around the corner. Our Fall ministries will be starting very soon. Sunday school classes and Children's Church will start September 11th. Kids Worship will begin Wednesday, October 5th. With these ministries brings many needs for volunteers. In the Lobby are clipboards where you can find a list of the immediate needs thus far. We're looking for adults and teens to **substitute** as needed for **Sunday School**, to lead **Children's Church** on Sunday mornings, to help with **Kids Worship** in areas of crafts, snacks, games, or Bible Lesson, and/or to care of the little ones in the **Nursery** on a rotating schedule on Sunday mornings. Please take a look and consider signing up so we can offer these important ministries to children and families. Thank you. ~The Discipleship Team

This summer, the youth group is using the GROW app for weekly lessons. The icon you see below is what the app looks like.

1. Open the app and select custom code (at the top of the screen). There is a new code each week. Watch the weekly newsletters, Facebook and email for the codes!
2. After you enter the code, go back to choose the volume.
3. Select the month and week you are on (you can even go back and do lessons that you may have missed or wish to do again!)

Material will be loaded by Sunday evening each week. Contact Brian Smith if you have any questions (616) 881-1488 or youth@leightonchurch.org



**This week's theme is "Familia".
Use code NUFC**



WELCOME PASTOR DAVE & DENISE MEISTER!



Welcome, Pastor Dave & Denise Meister!

Help Pastor Dave and Denise get acquainted with the Leighton Church Family. There are a lot of names and faces for Pastor Dave & Denise to put together. Throughout the month of July, everyone is asked to wear a name tag to help them out. Name tags are available in the Lobby.



How do I contact Pastor Dave Meister?

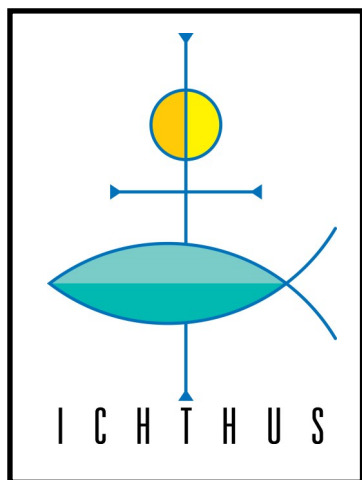
Pastor Dave Meister Cell: (269) 876-7204

Pastor Dave Meister Office: (616) 891-8028

E-mail: pastor@leightonchurch.org

In the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays

The parsonage phone is being disconnected since Pastor Dave will not be living there full-time.



The first letters in the Greek phrase "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior" spell ICHTHUS, or fish. Early Christians used the sign to convey their faith and avoid persecution. In the gospels, fish are part of several miracles. They also represent people who need to be "caught" for Christ. Today, a fish bumper sticker is a popular indicator of Christian faith.

We are all fishers of men. Cast your line, share your story, and see how God uses you to reach others with the life-changing message of the Gospel.



The Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship is seeking a volunteer who has experience coordinating funeral luncheons to assist Ronda Kaechele for the months of July, August & September.

The Funeral Luncheon Committee purchases food items for sandwiches, chips, salads, and beverages and seeks volunteers from within the congregation to prepare cakes and jello salads for any funeral luncheons held at Leighton Church.

Anyone interested in helping to coordinate the meals or has questions can contact Jean Bender (269) 795-3458 or mjbhorseranch@yahoo.com

There are a few Sundays this summer when substitutes are needed to teach children/youth Sunday School classes.

If you would be willing to fill in on occasion, please contact Christine Syswerda or Sarah Geers.

Christine (616) 534-3324 or mncsyswerda@yahoo.com

Sarah (616) 299-6898 or sarahgeersbb@gmail.com



COMMUNITY GARDEN STAND

The Community Garden Stand has been placed by the 142nd Avenue church driveway. If you have extra produce from your garden, place it on the stand for those in need in our community to have access to fresh vegetables.

MEN'S EVENT

Men's Shooting Event Saturday, July 23rd 1:00pm Art & Connie Hooker's Home Sign up deadline is July 17th.

Guys of all ages are invited to gather together for a fun afternoon shooting sporting clays at Art & Connie Hooker's home
4456 Patterson Road, Middleville
Saturday, July 23rd at 1:00 p.m.

Unlimited shooting. Bring your own shotgun shells (7.5-9 shot allowed)
Eye & ear protection required.
Brats provided afterward.
Cost—\$15 per shooter all inclusive

Interested in attending but don't have a gun, shells, or ear/eye protection?
Contact Wayne Ingersoll or Eddy Landon for more information.
Wayne (616) 550-5995 or (269) 795-7414
Eddy (269) 838-9220

Reserve your spot by July 17th! Sign up in the Lobby or online.

JULY BACKYARD PICNIC FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY, JULY 24TH 6:00 P.M.

ART & CONNIE HOOKER'S HOME
4456 PATTERSON ROAD, MIDDLEVILLE

Enjoy an evening of food and fellowship in the beauty of Art & Connie's backyard.
Hot dogs, chips, side dishes and beverages all provided.

Bring your lawn chair along if you'd wish.
Take a wagon ride through the woods.
Sit and visit with friends; old and new!
Invite your friends to come along!

In case of rain this event will be cancelled.



Join us at the
**Backyard
Picnic
Fellowship**

SIGN UPGRADE NEEDED



The church's digital sign at the corner needs to be upgraded in the coming months. The framework for the sign will remain the same, but the digital sign is old (12-13 years old) and parts are no longer available.

The current sign has 24 panels. 18 of the 24 panels have been replaced. These panels are no longer being manufactured. More and more panels continue to go out as the weeks go by. It is easy to see the panels that are no longer working.

The estimated cost for a new digital sign is \$16,000. To-date, **\$4,100 has been given.**

If you wish to contribute toward this need, you may make checks payable to Leighton Church and designate your gift SIGN or give safely and securely online and select the Sign Upgrade Fund. www.leightonchurch.org/give

Questions can be directed to Chris Herring, Board of Trustees Chairman (616) 437-3484 or herring@iserv.net



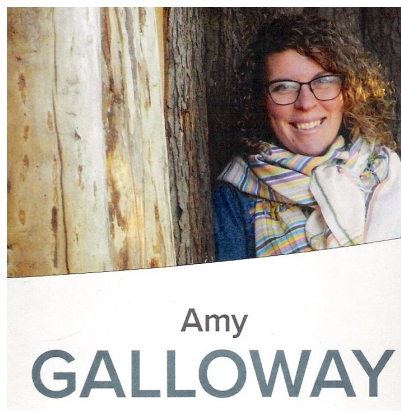
Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship Monday, July 18th

7:00 p.m. All women welcome!

Guest Speaker: Dan Schutte, Inner City Church Planting Mission of Grand Rapids
Hostess: Jean McCaul

All women are welcome to come and hear how the Inner City Church Planting Mission is impacting the Grand Rapids area and regions around the world with the life-changing message of the Gospel. Refreshments served afterward.

Questions can be directed to Jean Bender (269) 795-3458 or mjbhorseranch@yahoo.com



Teacher at Rift Valley Academy Kenya, Africa

Amy Galloway has completed her first year of teaching science courses at Rift Valley Academy, a boarding school for missionary kids. In her recent newsletter, Amy says, “I have the best job in the world.” What makes her say that? Is there a particular course she enjoys teaching more than others? No. It is the students that fill her classes that make her job the best in the world.

Amy was recently asked to be the adult chaperone for a group of girls going camping. Students are allowed to camp in the woods just on the other side of the fence, but if it’s a group of all ladies, or a mixed gender group of students, they need an adult chaperone. Since there are strict COVID protocols in place there, sleeping in tents was not an option; so hammocks and open air it was. Amy and 6 girls had an amazing time bonding with one another during this trip. Sitting around the campfire, the girls ask Amy, “What is your story?” After Amy shared her story of the Lord’s kindness and grace in bringing her to Rift Valley Academy, Amy asked the girls to share. Most of the girls’ parents are missionaries in the same part of Mozambique. The girls share about the difficulty of transitioning from Mozambique, back to the U.S., and back to Rift Valley Academy; how hard it is for each relationships to shift right as they are finally feeling like they are part of them and how that has taught her to rely heavily on Jesus.

Amy also shared about two tall, lanky Kenya guys who were in her Chemistry class. These two guys indicated that Amy invites the girls to her house for dinner, but never the guys. So Amy cooked them a lasagna dinner and set-up the usual COVID friendly spot, outside on her front porch overlooking her open yard where the sun sets just over the hedge. Amy prepared a feast anticipating these two young men would bring friends along. No, it was just them and they ate it all! During their small talk, one of the boys asked Amy, “How’d you end up in Kenya?” She shared the long version of her story, at their request, and as she shared, the eyes of one of the young men lit up; not the usual eyelid droop she sees from him during Chemistry class. After Amy finished telling her story, he replied, “Wow! Sometimes I wonder how God just talks to people like that. I want him to talk to me like that.”

This is what it’s about. Creating relationships with other people, learning what their story is, and sharing how God has and is working in your life.

Pray for Amy as she is between school years that she will have a restful and meaningful time with family and friends while she is in the U.S. for a couple of weeks. Pray for her as she prepares for another school year.

Your gift to the Leighton Church Faith Promise Mission Fund supports the ministry of Amy Galloway and 13 other missionaries around the world. Thank you for giving!

Service in Action

How do I get involved?

Greeter Ministry:

July 17: Scott & Terri Farmer
July 24: Randy & Sharon Grinage
July 31: Art & Connie Hooker

Contact Diane Porter, Greeter Ministry Coordinator
(616) 617-0269 or
dianeporter93@gmail.com

Intercessory Prayer:

July 17: Kim Bender
July 24: Mike & Sandy Shanahan
July 31: Michael & Christine Syswerda

Contact Alverna Truax
(616) 891-8219. The Intercessory Prayer team is actively praying during the church service. Serve every 6 to 8 weeks.

Nursery:

July 17: Scott & Terri Farmer
July 24: Cindy Herring & Karyn Blank
July 31: Robbi & Anabelle Hilton

Contact Sarah Geers. Nursery staff must undergo background checks and attend Child Protection Class. (616) 299-6898 or sarahgeersbb@gmail.com

Coffee Bar:

July 17: Debi Warren & Connie Hooker
July 24: Scott & Terri Farmer
July 31: Andy & April Taylor & Family

Contact Connie Hooker if you'd like to serve coffee (616) 891-8742
Or sign up at the Coffee Bar

Provide Treats for Coffee Fellowship:

July 17: Sharon Grinage & Sharon Kaechele
July 24: Rebecca Shanahan & Ora Lou Smith
July 31: April Taylor & _____

Contact Nona Steeby if you'd like to provide refreshments for Coffee Fellowship (616) 891-1567 or iamsteeby@gmail.com

Kingdom Kids Children's Church:

July 17: April Taylor & Valerie Lepeak
July 24: Connie Blain & Jean McCaul
July 31: Connie Blain & Britney Bredeweg

Contact Sarah Geers.
(616) 299-6898 or
sarahgeersbb@gmail.com

Church Yard & Ball field Mowing:

July 21: CHURCH—Mike Punt
BALLFIELD—Drew Corwin
July 28: CHURCH—Andy Taylor
BALLFIELD—Todd Galloway
August 4: CHURCH—Don Hilton Jr
BALLFIELD—Scott Farmer



*Thank You,
Volunteers!*



PRAYER PILLOWS—Let our missionaries know that we are praying for them and supporting them by writing words of prayer, encouragement and support on pillowcases. When they lay down to sleep at night, they can drift off to sleep reading prayers and encouraging words.

Pillowcases for **Gary & Laura Griffin** are out for your signatures, words of encouragement, prayers, or scripture passages. Gary & Laura are serving the Lord in Honduras at El Sembrador, a Christian boarding school, and in the area surrounding the school where Laura is teaching English and art classes to elementary children.



Stop by the display table in the Lobby to sign the pillowcases.



PILLOW DRIVE

Mel Trotter Ministries in Grand Rapids has an **URGENT NEED** for standard size pillows. These pillows not only help provide a restful night of sleep but also help show the guests the love and compassion of Christ.

You may place **NEW** STANDARD SIZE PILLOWS in the large collection box in the church Lobby or you can order them online and have them sent directly to Mel Trotter at 225 Commerce Avenue SW, Grand Rapids MI 49503. Their hours of operation are 10a-3p Monday thru Friday.

The collection will be held now through August 7th.



Buy coffee and support missionaries! Ethnos360 has teamed up with Twin Valley Coffee to help missionaries all over the world and to provide great coffee at the same time.

Available for purchase are 12 oz bags, 5 lb bags and single serve cups.

Buy coffee from this website, designate the missionary you wish to benefit (Shad & Sarah Deal, Chris & Angie Walker, and Terry & Melinda Ganka are all on the list!!), and they will receive the profit. If you purchase a 12 oz bag, the missionary you designate receives \$2.06. Visit **coffeeforthrivingchurches.com** Free shipping on orders over \$40.



Leighton Family,

We would like to thank all of our friends and family for the cards, thoughts and prayers over the years. It has been a long journey, but now Clayton is in his heavenly home. No more suffering and pain. Clayton wants us all to move on. Be not burdened with times of sorrow.

I wish you all the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full. I've savored much; good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Thank you for the planter. We also thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated.

~Elda Jackson, Amanda & Justin Brandt

VBS Staff of Leighton Church,
Thank you SO much for all your hard work to put on such an amazing VBS! Our girls had an awesome time and couldn't wait to return the following night. They thoroughly enjoyed all the crafts, activities and songs.
Thanks again!
The DeMann Family

Food for Thought from Pastor Dave Mesiter

Every now and then, I come across a really good article that I would like to pass on to each of you. Scott Reeve from “Today’s Insights” has shared such an article. Enjoy!

How We Can B.L.E.S.S. Others

For the historic Christian faith, Jesus’ resurrection is crucial to what we believe and how we live. Because what we believe influences how we live, I would like to share some practical thoughts about how we can live and, hopefully, make a difference in our corner of the world.

I would like to talk about how we B.L.E.S.S. others. The first letter, “**B**”, means “**Be in Prayer.**” Being our days asking God to use us as he sees fit. Be open to His leading. Ask God for those “God appointments” in which we have the opportunity to be a blessing to others. Colossians 4:2-6 tells us how Paul prayed for openings to share the Good News about Jesus to others.

The letter “**L**” means “**Listen**”. We need to have discerning ears. Some people mask things. We have to be able to discern what people might be saying. There are also those casual conversations God brings our way every day. We need to show people they matter, that what they have to say does count. Listening is a powerful tool God uses. James 1:19 tells us to be “quick to hear, slow to speak...” Listening has the idea of more than just hearing words. It is trying to understand what someone is saying, asking questions, getting input. Listening requires a willingness to care and get the information right. Be involved in the lives of others. Show that you care.

The third letter, “**E**”, means “**Engage**”. To live out God’s mission in the world, we must be around people. I need to be around people so when opportunities do arise, when God allows it to happen, I can share the salvation message with others. It also entails being genuine and friendly to people, whether I get the chance to talk about Jesus or not. Not every opportunity allows that to happen, but I can still engage with them, being gracious and kind.

The fourth letter, the first “**S**” tells us of our need to **Serve**. Jesus said in Mark 10:45 that he had not come to Earth to be served, but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for all. Matthew 9:35-38 is a reminder of Jesus’ mindset that I must have also when it comes to serving. In this passage, he is proclaiming the Good News of salvation and doing ministry. Verse 36 tells us as he looked at the crowds, he was moved with compassion. The Lord saw the need of the people. But more than seeing them, he also did what he could to help. Compassion is tied to action. When it comes to knowing who we can serve, here is a thought that can guide us: Who are we interacting with? Who is in front of us, if we could put it that way? Serving can happen right where we are. There are opportunities to serve in our neighborhoods...in our communities and in our churches. At times our serving is personal. We get to know people, their pain, joys, etc. This is not always the case, but there are those serving “moments” when we get to know a little more about those we are reaching out to.

Our final letter, another “**S**” is tied to being prepared to **share our Story**. As a follower of Christ, I want to be able to tell others in 2 to 3 minutes what God has done in my life. We never know when those times may happen; when someone asks us a question about our belief in God and in Jesus Christ our Lord. We may also be asked by some to share our story. It is good to be prepared, to have it ready to go when those God “moments” come along.

B.L.E.S.S. others. That should be the forefront of all who claim Christ as their Lord and Savior.

