



Leighton Church

Proclaiming New Life in Jesus Christ

Pastor Dennis A. Weeks

Week of April 13, 2025

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: 9:30a

Nursery provided for infants-age 3

Sunday School: 11:00a

Classes for children, youth & adults

Board of Elders:

Scott Pollmann (Chairman),
Todd Galloway, Wayne
Ingersoll, Jerry Slagh, Doug
Thaler, Pastor Dennis Weeks

*Hearing assist system
available from the sound booth
at the back of the Sanctuary.*



@LeightonChurchMI

Worship Services on YouTube

@leightonchurch7311

Sunday, April 13	<i>Palm Sunday</i> No Youth Group
Monday, April 14	Men's Basketball 7p
Tuesday, April 15	Pastor's Café 2-3p Board of Elders Meeting 6:30p
Wednesday, April 16	Final night for Family Dinner and Wednesday Night Kids Family Dinner 5:15p Wed. Night Kids 5:45p Prayer Meeting 6:15p Men's Group 6:30p Praise Team 7p
Thursday, April 17	J.O.Y. Lunch 1p Finance Committee Meeting 6:30p
Friday, April 18	Good Friday Service 7p
Sunday, April 20	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Sunrise Service 7a Breakfast 8a Easter Worship 9:30a No Youth Group



Would you like prayer for healing? Prayer for struggles in your life? Prayer for wisdom and discernment?

The Board of Elders are available for prayer at the end of the worship service each Sunday. Just come forward to the altar or to the front pew.



Hey kids....3rd-8th Grade...

Here's a fun way to tune in to what is being taught during the worship service, get into the music, and learn about Jesus and God's Word.

Pick up a clipboard out of the blue tub in the Lobby, fill out the sermon notes paper and turn it in to Rebecca Shanahan or Valerie Lepeak after the service to get a prize.

There's a spot for you to write the name of the sermon, words you didn't understand, what verses were read from the Bible, and the name of a song that was sung during the service.

After awhile, you'll discover how much you've learned about God and how the Bible is important in developing a relationship with Him.

Immediately following the children's message, kids age 4 thru 2nd Grade are dismissed to go to Children's Church, which meets in Room 3.

In Children's Church, kids have their own time of worship, Bible lesson, craft and more!

PARENTS....after the worship service, please proceed to Room 3 to get your children and take them to their Sunday School class.



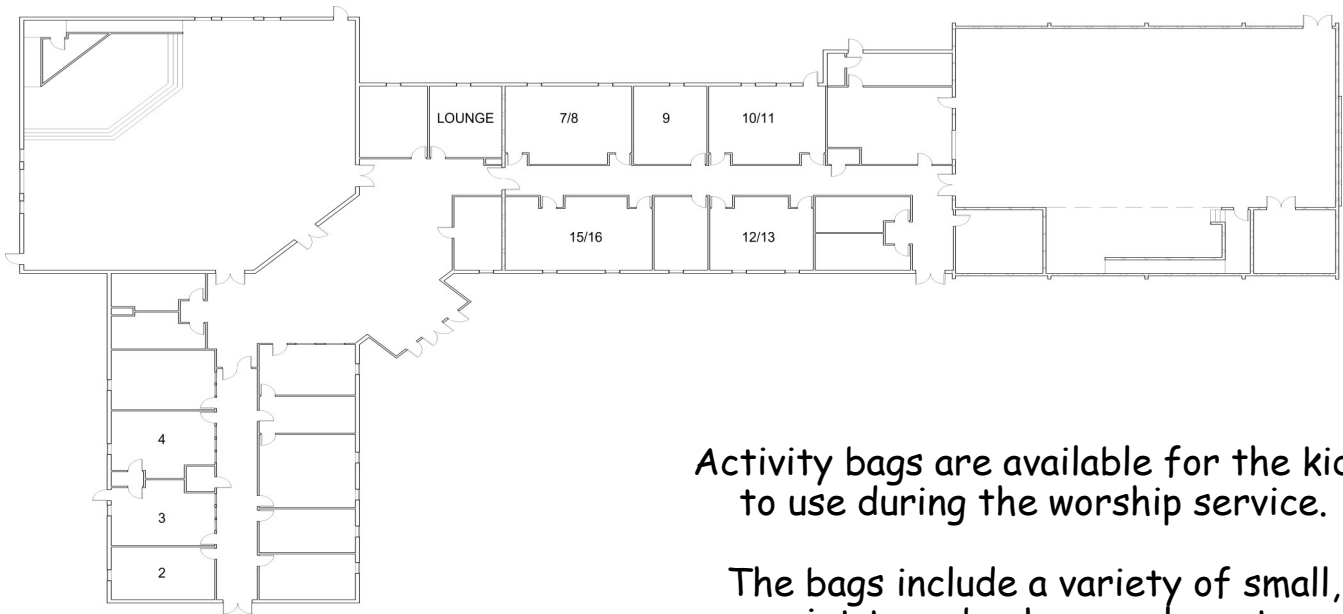


Sunday School Classes For Children, Teens & Adults 11:00-Noon

Toddlers-Preschool: Britney Bredeweg (Room 4)
Young 5's-2nd Grade: Jan Geukes & Terri Farmer (Room 3)
3rd-5th Grade: Nancy Slagh (Room 2)
6th-8th Grade: Cindy Herring (Room 9)
9th-12th Grade: Butch Klooster (Youth Room—Rooms 10/11)

Adults:

“Calling, Character, Conviction: Lessons on Leadership in the Historical Books”
Doug Thaler—Lounge
“The Body of Christ Alive” John VanderMeer—Rooms 15/16
The Book of Galatians Pastor Dennis—Rooms 7/8
All Belong Special Needs Adults: Connie Blain (Rooms 12/13)



Activity bags are available for the kids to use during the worship service.

The bags include a variety of small, quiet toys, books, puzzles, etc.

The bags are on a rack near the main entry to the Sanctuary. There are blue bags for boys and pink bags for girls.



Please place the bags in the white return basket after the worship service. Return all contents with the bags.



Good Friday Service of Communion & Worship
April 18th at 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to come and remember Christ's suffering on the cross to redeem each one of us.
Nursery services are not provided.

Sunrise Service at
7:00 a.m.
Hallelujah! Christ
has defeated death!
All are invited to
come and celebrate
our risen Savior!!



Easter Breakfast
Served at 8:00a.m.
in the
Fellowship Hall
Pancakes, Eggs,
Sausage, Juice,
Coffee & Hot Tea

Sunday, April 20th

Easter Worship Service
9:30 a.m.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!! Join us to worship Him! Join us to celebrate Him! Join us to honor and glorify Him!
All are welcome!

If anyone would like to donate eggs towards Easter Sunrise breakfast, please contact Mike Lepeak (616) 322-3565. It is estimated that 12 dozen eggs are needed.

Come And Make A Joyful Noise On Easter Sunday

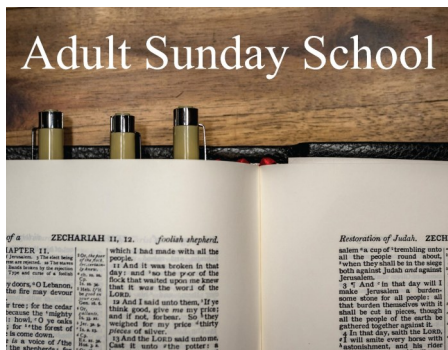


Jerry Slagh is putting together a choir to lead worship on Easter Sunday instead of the usual 4-5 person praise team. The songs will be familiar ones. Learning parts won't be necessary. This is open to ages 12 on up.

In addition to vocalists, Jerry is also seeking band instrumentalists to play along with the congregational songs and perhaps a special number or two.

If you would like to be a part of the choir or play with the band, see Jerry today after the service or contact him during the week. Practice for instrumentalists and vocalists will be on Wednesday, April 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Jerry Slagh: 616-891-8028 ext 2003 or jdsmusic@aol.com



New Sunday School Topic

The Spirit of the Law:

Life Lessons from Desert Wandering

Starting April 20th, the adult class led by John VanderMeer will begin a new topic about Guidance. We all have a free will and like to exercise that freedom-it's how God created us. This study of Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy represents a portrait of how God guides people. Learn how we should be guided personally by Him, and according to His will. If you aren't part of a class already, you're welcome to join this class in Rooms 15/16 at 11am.

Questions? Contact John VanderMeer 616-292-2683 or malibuskipro@gmail.com



Jr & Sr High Youth Group Sunday Nights 4:45-7:15p

GAMES...SNACKS...RELEVANT BIBLE TEACHING

No Youth Group on April 13th or 20th.
Youth Group Resumes April 27th
Year End Party is May 4th
Invite your friends to come along!

Kids can access the lesson for the week of April 13th
by using the
GROW CODE RGK7

Questions? Contact Brian Smith
(616) 881-1488 or Youth@leightonchurch.org

Snacks Needed for April 27 Youth Group



SNACKS NEEDED

There is one Sunday remaining in the normal youth group season....April 27th.

If you'd like to connect with the youth group and provide snacks for this evening, please contact Terri Farmer or sign up in the Lobby.

Please bring enough snacks for 20 people. You may drop off the snacks in the church kitchen on Sunday morning. Please label them YOUTH GROUP.

Thank you to everyone who donated snacks throughout this youth group season. The teens (and adults) have appreciated them very much!!

Questions?
Contact Terri Farmer
(616) 780-8444

Terri Farmer (616) 780-8444 or

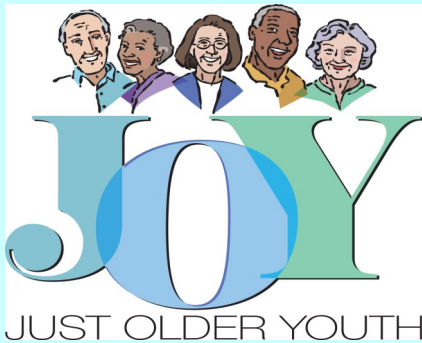


Are you unable to attend services on Sunday because you are ill, unable to get-out or out of town? Now you don't have to miss a worship service!!

Sunday morning worship services are recorded and posted on the church YouTube channel on Mondays.

Subscribe to the church's YouTube channel and get notifications when the sermons are uploaded OR visit the church website to be directed to YouTube to watch services.

Questions? Contact Jerry Slagh
worship@leightonchurch.org



JOY Lunch (Just Older Youth)

1st & 3rd Thursday of each month
Everyone age 50 on up is welcome!
Invite a friend or two.
Next Luncheon: April 17th at 1:00p.m.

Meet at Curley Cone
12850 W. M-179 Hwy, Wayland
Questions? Contact Luann Snyder (616) 891-8348

Would you like to get more acquainted with Pastor Dennis? Perhaps you have a theological question or would like to talk more about his sermon from the previous Sunday or you'd just like to sit and talk.

You can do just that on Tuesdays from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Pastor Dennis' office is open to anyone who would like to come in and talk. No appointment needed!



Tuesday afternoon doesn't work for you? Contact Pastor Dennis to set up a time in the evening to meet with him.

Office: (616) 891-8028 ext. 2001
Cell: (517) 242-5581

Next Steps & Membership Classes



Perhaps you've been attending Leighton Church for a few weeks, a few months, or a few years and you'd like to learn more about the church; how it's organized, the bylaws, and how to connect. The **NEXT STEPS CLASS** is for YOU!

The Next Steps Class is held in two sessions during which the church bylaws and organizational structure will be reviewed, and more. You'll also have the opportunity to take a Spiritual Gifts evaluation to help you get connected within the church in alignment with the gifts God has given you.

For those age 18 on up who have been regularly attending Leighton Church and would like to learn more about church membership, what it is and what it is not, plan to attend an upcoming **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS**. The class is held on a Saturday morning for 90 minutes. Refreshments provided!



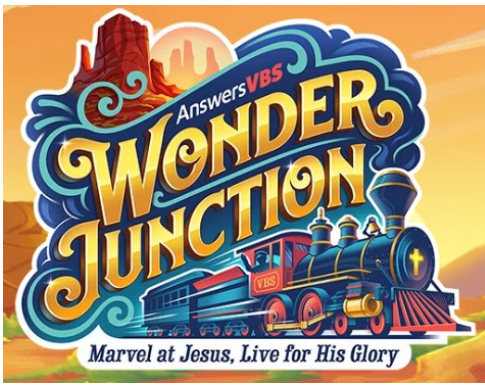
See the table below for the class schedules for 2025 and attend the classes on the dates that work best for you.

You may sign up in the Lobby for the upcoming April 27/May 4th Next Steps Class and/or the May 3rd church membership class or sign up online at www.leightonchurch.org/get-connected

Questions can be directed to Pastor Dennis

(616) 891-8028 ext 2001 or (517) 242-5581 or pastor@leightonchurch.org

Next Steps Class (2-week course)	Membership Class (1 session)
Room: 7/8	Room:7/8
Dates: April 27 & May 4 August 17 & 24 December 7 & 14	Dates: May 3, August 2, December 6
Time: 11am-12pm(ish)	Time: 10am-11:30am



WANTED: Men, Women, & Teens to Volunteer and Help with Vacation Bible School!

Sign up today to help with Vacation Bible School!

Sunday, June 22-Thursday, June 26

6:30-8:30 p.m. for Preschool-6th Grade

There are still open positions that need to be filled.

See the list below and the sign up in the Lobby TODAY at the VBS display!

Questions? Contact Cindy Herring (616) 299-0083 or bigcowdoc@yahoo.com

Carpenter Joe's Craft Assistant (1)

Toddler 4Y-Young 5's Assis-
tant (1)

4-6 gr Teacher Assistant (1)

K-1 gr Group Guide (1)

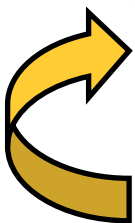
Group Floater (3)

Water Helper

~~Substitute (3)~~

Drama (3) 1 Adult 2 Teens or
College Age

A couple to be the Sheriff &
Deputy for kids to recite
Memory Verses to.



VBS ALL VOLUNTEER MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 20TH



ALL VBS VOLUNTEERS.....put Tuesday, May 20th on your calendar to attend a meeting to prepare for Vacation Bible School. You'll learn about the theme for the week, the nightly schedule, and have an opportunity to connect with the rest of your team for the week and answer any questions.

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and will be in the Sanctuary. Your attendance is VERY IMPORTANT for Vacation Bible School to run smoothly.

If you cannot attend, please notify Cindy Herring, VBS Coordinator (616) 299-0083 or bigcowdoc@yahoo.com



The Last Wednesday Night Supper and Wednesday Night Kids Program will be April 16th!



5:15-6:00 p.m. in the gym

All are welcome!

April 16th Menu:

Beef Tips & Noodles

Chicken & Noodles

Baby Carrots, Rolls, Salad & Jello with Fluff

Donations appreciated to help off-set expenses.



For kids age 4 on up
5:45-7:00 p.m.

This week's topic is:

"What We Believe"

Communion: What is it? Why is it important? What does it mean for me?



6:30 p.m. in Rooms 15/16

For men of all ages and phases of life.

The group is studying the book of Philippians.

Led by C.J. Yarrington
616-366-3387



Prayer
Ministry

All are welcome to come to pray over the needs in the church, community and around the world.

6:15-7:00 p.m.

In the Prayer Room
Led by Pastor Dennis & Kelli Weeks

CPR/First Aid Class



The CPR/AED/First Aid training class scheduled for Saturday, April 26th is being postponed until fall due to scheduling conflicts. Watch future newsletters for a new date for training. ~Thank you!
~Leighton Church Health & Safety Team

Items Needed to Fill Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

Thank you all so much for all the t-shirts! Over a thousand or better have been donated. Several ladies and I are busy cutting the shirts and braiding them into jump ropes. If you would like to help with braiding, please contact me.

For the next several weeks, small items such as card games, small stuffed animals, Hot Wheels or Matchbox cars, dominoes and such are being collected to put into the shoeboxes. Dollar Tree has many of these items that are of good quality for the price. See the picture for examples of items that have been purchased from Dollar Tree.

I am looking for volunteers to help cut plastic canvas that will be used to make tic tac toe games. Contact me if you'd like to help and I'd get the supplies to you.

Thank you for your donations and your support of Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child; sending gifts and the Gospel to children around the world.

www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-Christmas-child

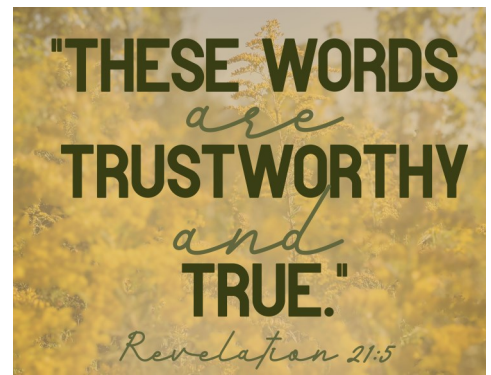
Patty Hoekstra, Operation Christmas Child shoebox coordinator
(269) 804-7887 or pcookies68@gmail.com



"Let me be weighed on honest scales, that God may know my integrity."

~Job 31:6

Scales measure true value. When an object is placed on one side of a scale, an equal amount of weight must be put on the other to strike a precise balance between the two. We want the scales we use to be fair, balanced, and accurate.



In Genesis 23, Abraham meted out 400 shekels of silver to purchase a burial cave for his wife, Sarah. A shekel was not a coin; it was a unit of measure. Abraham piled silver on one side of the scale, and the owner placed 400 shekels-weight-on the other side. Only when the two sides came into balance was the deal struck. A balanced scale ensured every person was treated fairly and given equal consideration.

When perfect balance was achieved, the individual doing the weighing would say, "All things created equal, this scale is balanced." As long as all aspects of the exchange remained exactly the same and nothing unexpected happened, the deal was equitable for all involved.

In a world that changes from minute to minute, we still long to know justice and the value that we carry. While the world weighs and find us wanting, we trust in the accurate and honest measure in the hands of our loving Creator.

THE BLESSING

Jesus weighed you on His righteous scales and found you so valuable that He died to give you life. When the world rejects you, His arms are open wide. May that truth come alive in you today!



You are invited to celebrate

National Day of Prayer

Join us as we come together for a National Day of Prayer Gathering. Churches, schools and members of our community will experience a powerful time of worship and unite to cover the Mission in prayer.

Thursday, May 1 at 10 AM
225 Commerce Ave. SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

National Day of Prayer Event

Thursday, May 1st

10:00 a.m. at

Mel Trotter Ministries



***Bob & Lisa Margaron
Love Them All (LTA)
Resource Center
Stockton, California***

Bob & Lisa Margaron have been ministering to the broken children, teens, and families in the Stockton, California area for over 30 years. Many of those years, they served at The Center, a ministry of World Gospel Mission.

Two years ago, World Gospel Mission determined that the focus of the ministry in Stockton needed to change. Bob & Lisa felt God calling them to continue their work with the children, teens and families, so Bob retired from World Gospel Mission and Lisa resigned. They started their own non-profit; Love Them All (LTA) Resource Center.

At the start of their journey to start this non-profit, they connected with an attorney who told them that it would cost over \$8,000 and take 2 years to get their non-profit started. Through the advice of a trusted colleague, Bob reached out to another legal organization who helped them get started in less than a year and for about \$1,000! God also provided them space to rent in a building that had offices and a large community room that was so affordable, they paid the rent in full for a year! This building also houses an arcade which is available for their ministry to use.

Upon leaving World Gospel Mission, Bob had to take a second job to make ends meet. He worked for an in-house recovery center for individuals with mental illness and addictions. While he enjoyed ministering to these broken and hurting people, it was a difficult schedule balancing two jobs and trying to get their non-profit off the ground. In December of 2024, God provided an increase in his wages so he could quit his second job and focus on LTA Resource Center. Bob does continue to be the resource officer in the local schools, many of which are located blocks from the LTA Resource Center offices!

LTA Resource Center has recently started a collaboration with Parents By Choice, an organization dedicated to supporting at-risk youth and families. Together, these two ministries are expanding resources and services to ensure that children, teens, and parents receive the guidance and care they need. This joint effort aligns perfectly with the LTA Resource Center's mission to provide hope, healing, and practical support to those in need.

Through mentorship, pastoral counseling, and educational initiatives, LTA Resource Center is impacting lives every day. Whether it's helping a teen navigate life's challenges or offering critical emotional and spiritual support to struggling families, LTA remains committed to being a beacon of light in Stockton, a city which has a higher crime rate than the national average. Stockton's crime rate is 4,259 crimes per 100,000 people, which is 65% higher than the state average and 82% higher than the national average. Pray for Bob & Lisa and their ministry!

Your gifts to the Faith Promise Missions Fund of Leighton Church supports the ministry of the Bob & Lisa Margaron. You can find more information at their website www.ltaresourcecenter.org. Thank you for giving! Check out the literature rack in the Lobby for newsletters from missionaries and mission organizations.

Service in Action

How do I get involved?

GREETER MINISTRY: April 13: Jan Geukes & Kim Bender April 18 Good Friday Service: Larry & Diane Porter April 20 Sunrise Service: Larry & Diane Porter April 20 Worship Service: The Syswerda Family	Get involved: Diane Porter, Coordinator (616) 888-0071, dianepor93@gmail.com
Intercessory Prayer: April 13: Alverna Truax April 20: Drew & Jackie Corwin April 27: Mike & Christine Syswerda	Get involved: Alverna Truax, (616) 275-0061, truax616@gmail.com Pray during the worship service. Serve every 6-8 weeks.
Nursery: April 13: Scott & Terri Farmer April 20: Robbin Hilton & Lauren Risner April 27: Justin & Amanda Brandt	Get Involved: Rebecca Shanahan (616) 312-3070, rebeccashanahan84@gmail.com Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done.
Coffee Bar: April 13: Debi Warren & Jean McCaul April 20: Servers Needed April 27: Debi Warren & John VanderMeer	Get Involved: Contact Connie Hooker (616) 891-8742 or sign up at the Coffee Bar
Treats for Coffee Fellowship: April 13: Lauren Risner & Sharon Grinage April 20: Noreen Ingersoll & Robbin Hilton April 27: Katie Kuklewski & Carol Hammond	Get Involved: Contact Nona Steeby, (616) 890-4387
Acolytes: April 13: Celia Weeks & Hollie Lepeak April 20: Keagan Shanahan & Olivia Taylor April 27: Abbi Pollmann & Bella Brandt	Get Involved: Luann Snyder (616) 891-8348, luannlewis@yahoo.com
Children's Church: April 13: Diane & Rylee Norris April 20: Valerie & Hollie Lepeak April 27: Christine & Ava Syswerda	Get Involved: Rebecca Shanahan (616) 312-3070, rebeccashanahan84@gmail.com Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done.
Sermon Notes Hand Out Teams April 13: Elijah Weeks & Scott Farmer April 20: Jack & Ava Syswerda April 27: Devin, Gwen & Xander Triick	Get Involved: Jr & Sr High Students interested in helping, contact Brian Smith (616) 891-8028 ext. 2004 or youth@leightonchurch.org
Mowing Teams: April 17-19: Church Yard—Bill Aman April 24-26: Church Yard—Don Hilton, Jr Ball Field—Paul Edwards	