



Leighton Church

Proclaiming New Life in Jesus Christ

Pastor Dennis A. Weeks

Week of August 3, 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

Monday, August 4

Gym in Use 5:30-7p

Men's Basketball 7p

Tuesday, August 5

Pastor's Café 2-3p

Discipleship Team Meeting
6:30p

Wednesday, August 6

Prayer Meeting 6:15p

Men's Group 6:30p

Praise Team Practice 6:30p

Thursday, August 7

JOY (Just Older Youth) Lunch
1p

Mission Team Meeting
6:30p

Sunday, August 10

Youth Group Meeting for
Parents/Student/Volunteers
Noon

Monday, August 11

Men's Basketball 7p

Tuesday, August 12

Pastor's Café 2-3p

Board of Elders Meeting
6:30p



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 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.

Following the prayer time, kids age 4 thru 2nd Grade are dismissed to go to Children's Church, which meets in Room 4.

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 4 to get your children and take them to their Sunday School class.





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

Bible Club

Now—August 24th
For kids up to 5th Grade
In Room 4
Led by Nancy Slagh

Adults:

“Calling, Character, Conviction: Lessons on Leadership in the Historical Books” Doug Thaler—Lounge

“Call to Holiness: Dynamic Life from Spiritual Disciplines”
John VanderMeer— Rooms 15/16

Sermon Recap Pastor Dennis— Rooms 7/8

All Belong Special Needs Adults: Connie Blain & Sally Smith (Room 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.





Hello Everyone,

I know everyone has begun hearing more about restructures and things of that sort related to the church. The biggest focus right now is moving forward to begin the search for an additional full time associate level pastor to assist in the ministry endeavors of the church. For the last month, several elders have begun calling people from within our personal networks to see if there are possible candidates that are both qualified and interested in applying to such a role. Additionally, we are addressing the financial feasibility of the role so we may best understand how this impacts our budget and allow us to communicate better with the prospective candidates that will be brought before the church. At this time, no agreement has been made with Shepherd's Staff to assist in the search though that may be a future possibility.

Please pray for your leaders at every level as we work through this.

Thank you,

Pastor Dennis



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

6:30 p.m. in Rooms 15/16
For men of all ages and phases of life.
The Group is studying the book of Hebrews.

Led by C.J. Yarrington



Praise Team Practice

6:30 p.m.



Backyard Picnic Fellowship

August 17th at 6:00 p.m.

An informal backyard cookout for all ages at
Art & Connie Hooker's.

All food and beverages are provided. Just bring a lawn chair if you want to sit by the fire. There are wagon rides through the field and woods!

This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and family to experience the fellowship of the Body of Christ.

Questions? Contact Connie Hooker or the Church Office

In case of rain, this event will be cancelled.

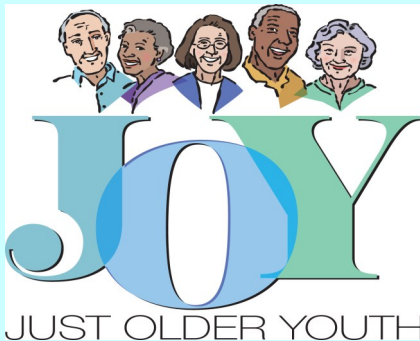


Are you unable to attend services on Sunday because you are ill, unable to get-out or out of town? Now you don't have to miss a worship service!!

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 Luncheons: August 7 & 21 at 1:00p.m.

Meet at Curley Cone
12850 W. M-179 Hwy, Wayland
Questions? Contact Luann Snyder

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
pastor@leightonchurch.org

ATTENDANCE

For the time being we will not be using the Attendance Pads that were placed at the end of the pews. We are trying alternative methods for attendance tracking.



A Baptism Service will be held on Sunday, August 17th during the church service. If you are interested in being baptized on this day please contact Pastor Dennis.

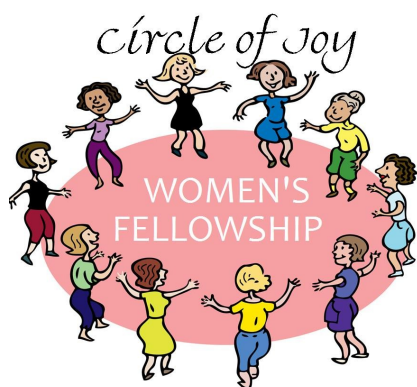


Leighton Church is blessed with great musicians, singers, and tech volunteers and we are in need of additional team members to serve in the sound booth. If you are interested in learning/training on the computer to run slides or would like to learn how the soundboard works, some training sessions will be held in August. The goal is to get the tech team to three sound techs and three or four computer techs. This is a great ministry position across all ages! See Jerry at church or give him a call (616) 891-8028 option 4.



Youth Group Meeting for Parents, Students, and Volunteers!

On Sunday, August 10 at Noon in Rooms 7/8 you are invited to a short meeting to learn about what's coming up in the youth ministry this year at Leighton Church. We will talk about the winter retreat, and how parents and volunteers will be needed with snacks, games, event planning, or just an extra set of hands to help out. Refreshments and light snacks will be served. If you have any questions contact Pastor Dennis.



The Circle of Joy Women's Fellowship is meeting on Monday, August 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge. All ladies are welcome to attend and hear Daniel Schutte from Inner City Church Planting Missions speak about what they do.

Refreshments are provided.

Questions? Contact Jean Bender

Church Produce Stand

The church produce stand is ready for the 2025 growing season near the north entrance on 142nd Avenue. If you have extra garden produce, please place it on the stand for others that are in need.



Meet our new Fellowship Chairpersons!



Earlier this year, Art & Connie Hooker, long-time chairpersons of the area of Fellowship, stepped down. They faithfully organized fun fellowship events for the church family to connect with one another, and continue to open their backyard up once a month in June, July, & August for the Backyard Picnic Fellowships.

The search has been on for several months for chairpersons for the area of Fellowship, but the search is over!

Mike and Christine Syswerda have graciously volunteered to fill this vacancy and are fit for the role with their gifts of hospitality and care for the church family.

Please encourage them and pray for them as they take on this responsibility along with the future goal of forming a Hospitality Team.



Starting this Sunday

The Pastor's Sermon Notes will be available to pick up at the Information Table next to the weekly Newsletter.



Can you give a bit of your time?

Is God calling you to get more involved in the ministry of the church? There are several opportunities where you can volunteer. Some of these ministries may take 15 minutes a week, others will require more time. Will you pray to see if God's speaking to you to serve Him in a new way?

Nursery Coordinator – while we don't have many children utilizing the nursery in recent weeks, the nursery needs to be staffed and ready for when children do come. This position involves creating a schedule for nursery workers, ensuring the toys and furniture are clean, and stocking the nursery with snacks/diapers, etc (which is reimbursable).

Children's Church Coordinator – Children's Church is for kids age 4 thru 2nd grade. This role involves creating a teacher/helper schedule for each week and seeing that curriculum and materials are available and ready.

Kids Activity Sacks – Sacks filled with coloring pages, small toys, and books are available at the Sanctuary main entrance for kids to take and enjoy during the service. Someone is needed to re-stock the sacks with fresh pages and ensure there are pencils, crayons, toys, books in each one each week.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these three positions, please contact Pastor Dennis.

THANK YOU to Rebecca Shanahan who has faithfully filled all 3 roles above and has done a marvelous job. Rebecca has asked to step down to focus more on her children and her job. If you see Rebecca, please thank her for the time she has given towards these ministries.

Wednesday Night ministries will be starting up in September. It is helpful to offer a meal on Wednesday nights for those bringing their kids or those attending Bible studies or praise team practice. We are looking for 4 or 5 people to plan and prepare meals for about 50 people and clean up afterward. **Meals can be simple.** For more information this ministry, see Valerie Lepeak.

Operation Christmas Child

My Dear Leighton Church Family,

We have an opportunity to purchase soccer balls and a pump for \$5. If anyone is interested please talk to me soon so I can place the order.

In some countries families can not afford these for their kiddos and they resort to what they have. Sometimes it is a coconut with a string tied around it or plastic bags bound together with twine. So wouldn't a child be so surprised and grateful hearing about Jesus and opening a shoebox to find a brand new soccer ball and pump so they can play with their siblings or friends? Photos below show what some have and the soccer ball we can purchase.

I am still collecting single subject notebooks and 24 count boxes of crayons. Target, Meijer, and Walmart all these on sale right now.

Please know that God works so much good through a simple shoebox to only a child but those around them.

Blessings,
Patty Hoekstra

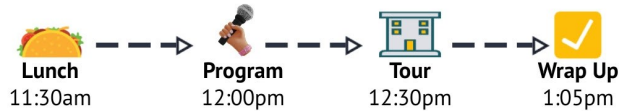
If you have any questions or would like to help contact Patty Hoekstra, Operation Christmas Child shoebox coordinator.

**From Coconuts
or tied up
plastic bags:**



**To Soccer balls
and a pump:**





Everyone is invited to see what happens at Degage Ministries! You will have the opportunity to tour Degage, and learn more about homelessness and the life transformations that happen at their shelter. Join them on August 13th from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at 139 Sheldon Ave Southeast Grand Rapids MI 49503. If you would like to attend RSVP to Stacey 616-454-1661.

"A Life After Breath Experience"

Widow's Retreat 2025

October 17-19

Susan VandePol is a nationally-renowned speaker at this one-of-a-kind, annual widow's retreat. The weekend will feature invaluable resources, special vendors, and even surprise guests, all specifically designed to minister to your unique needs and concerns as a widow, all set alongside beautiful Lake Michigan. Time will be rich with encouragement, comfort, revelation from God's Word, uplifting praise and worship, inspirational speakers, and informative sessions.

This is an opportunity to break away, breathe, be refreshed and meet other widows who are walking a familiar road of grief, as well as learn some Biblical truths about your sacred calling as a widow that you may have never heard before. All age ranges are welcome, with losses as fresh as a week to several decades gone by. You will find hope, renewed purpose, and the abundant healing Jesus readily offers.

And.... you'll laugh too!

The retreat is held at Maranatha Bible & Missionary Conference Ground
4759 Lake Harbor Road Muskegon MI 49441

Registration is NOW OPEN! Register soon-spaces fill up fast!!

For more information about scholarships, registration, and lodging go to
www.mattersoflifeandbreath.com/retreat or call the church office.

This is the ministry of Nick Harp, the gentleman who led Youth Archery at Leighton Church this year.

6th Annual



Benefit Shoot

Hosted By:



23093 Junction Rd Bellevue, MI 49021

Buckle Only Classes (must have 3 people in the class to receive buckle)

\$25 Entry Fee

Young Adult Boys Ages 15-17
Young Adult Girls Ages 15-17
Youth Open Boys Ages 12-14
Youth Open Girls Ages 12-14
Traditional (any age)
Genesis Male Ages 8-17
Genesis Female Ages 8-17

Money and Buckle Classes

\$50 Entry Fee

Open Pro
Known Pro
Men's Known 40
Women's Known 40
Men's Hunter
Women's Hunter

MONEY CLASS SHOOT TIMES

SHOTGUN START FRIDAY 5PM

SHOTGUN START SATURDAY 9AM & 1PM

SHOOTDOWN FOLLOWING 1PM LINE
FOR OPEN PRO, KNOWN PRO, MEN'S &
WOMEN'S K40

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
AUGUST 22 & 23

ARRIVE 30 MIN EARLY TO
REGISTER

COME SHOOT FOR
FUN \$15
FRIDAY: 5PM-8PM
SATURDAY:
9AM-2PM



LONG SHOT CONTEST, MATHEWS BOW
GIVEAWAY, RAFFLE TABLE AND MORE



STAY IN THE KNOW!

Technology is constantly changing. Here are some apps that your kids and/or grandkids may be using. Be informed of what these apps are about.

SUMMER
2025

The **TRAFFICK** Stop



APPS: IT'S AN ONGOING CHAT



SKOUT is a location-based dating app and website. While users under 17 are unable to share private photos, kids can easily create an account using a different age.



INSTAGRAM is a photo/video sharing app. Profiles can be public, allowing anyone to see or comment. Teens can create fake accounts to hide content and use the messaging feature.



KIK allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. KIK gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.



MEETME is a dating app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. As the app's name suggests, users are encouraged to meet each other in person.



AMONG US is a space-themed online multiplayer social game where players can message and chat with each other.



BEST SECRET FOLDER is specifically meant to hide photos and videos. It features password protection, decoy videos, and alarm settings.



CALCULATOR% is only one of several secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files, and browser history.

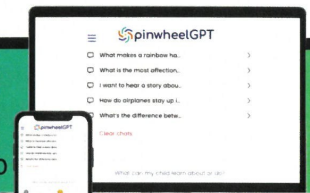
WARNING LIGHTS CASES

ONLINE SOURCES CONTINUE
TO BE THE #1 WEAPON
USED BY PREDATORS.

CHECK THIS OUT

PinwheelGPT
Kid-Safe ChatGPT App

Free, kid-friendly Ai
chatbot, powered by
chatGPT technology



pinwheel
pinwheel.com





Meet Our New Missionaries:

Josh & Alissa Crooks



Josh and Alissa Crooks have partnered with Teach Beyond to serve in Thailand with The Free Burma Rangers. The Free Burma Rangers is a movement of people, driven by compassion, who provide help, hope, and love to people of all faiths and ethnicities in conflict areas, to shine a light on the actions of oppressed and support leaders and organizations committed to liberty, justice, and service, all in the name of Jesus. They train teams of “rangers” to provide humanitarian relief in the form of medical care, shelter, clothing, human rights documentation, and outreach programs including songs, games, crafts, and testimonies of the love and hope found in Jesus.

Josh will be assisting and overseeing efforts to disseminate information to the global community about the suffering of millions of internally displaced individuals (IDP's) fleeing from the violence and brutality of the oppressive regime that grips Burma. Josh will do this through videos, podcasts, social media, and publications that tell the story of how the Gospel Light shines into the darkness. Publicizing these materials is secondary to Josh's main purpose: To not just tell the stories, but to actually bring the Gospel of Jesus to the oppressed with faith that He transforms hearts that have been shattered, reconcile enemies, and redeem entire communities. Josh will come alongside his colleagues as representatives of the hands and feet of Jesus through evangelistic and humanitarian activities. He will host outreach events, provide Bibles, supply medical aid, empower education, and distribute food and water. The family will be based in Thailand, and Josh will work at the Free Burma Ranger Head Quarters in Chiang Mai. As he is trained and equipped, there will be opportunities to cross into Burma and carry supplies and resources listed above.

Alissa's primary focus will be transitioning the family into their new home, new town, and new country. She will be present in their children's school, volunteering in their classroom and with sporting teams. Alissa dreams of finishing her coaching certification, joining the Free Burma Rangers in children and family outreach ministry, sharing the gospel and participating in humanitarian efforts, becoming a chaplain, and many more dreams. Lastly, she will be enrolling in a language school once they arrive in Chiang Mai.

The past year the Crooks family was located in Wheaton, IL as they debriefed, reflected, re-equipped, and re-launched into ministry now. They connected this past year with current partners as well as invited additional partners to strengthen their foundation of prayer and funding.

Please pray for the Crooks family as they move to Thailand and start their ministry with The Free Burma Rangers.

Your gifts to the Faith Promise Missions Fund of Leighton Church supports the ministry of Josh and Alissa Crooks. Thank you for giving!

If you would like to learn more about Josh and Alissa Crooks visit <https://teachbeyond.org>

Service in Action

How do I get involved?

| | |
|---|--|
| GREETER MINISTRY: August 3: Mike & Linda Horton August 10: Jan Geukes & Devin Marcott August 17: Debi Warren & Diane Porter | Get involved: Diane Porter, Coordinator |
| Intercessory Prayer: August 3: Debi Warren August 10: Jean McCaul August 17: Chris Herring | Get involved: Pray during the worship service. Serve every 6-8 weeks. Contact Alverna Truax |
| Nursery: August 3: Robbin Hilton & Sally Smith August 10: Scott & Terri Farmer August 17: Kelli & Celia Weeks | Get Involved: Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done. Coordinator Needed |
| Coffee Bar: August 3: Jean McCaul & Debi Warren August 10: Servers Needed August 17: Servers Needed | Get Involved: Sign up at the Coffee Bar. Contact the Church Office if you are interested in serving. |
| Treats for Coffee Fellowship: August 3: Mark & Lucia Schiefla & Joy Rogers August 10: Kelli Weeks & Debi Warren August 17: Diane Norris & Joan Klooster | Get Involved: Nona Steeby |
| Acolytes: August 3: Helena Weeks & Isabella Brandt August 10: Emilee Taylor & Abbi Pollmann August 17: Celia Weeks & Hollie Lepeak | Get Involved: Luann Snyder |
| Children's Church: August 3: Diane & Rylee Norris August 10: Britney Bredeweg & Violet Rogers August 17: Rebecca & Keagan Shanahan | Get Involved: Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done. Coordinator Needed |
| Mowing Teams: August 7-9: Church Yard—Todd Galloway Ball Field—Doug Thaler August 14-16: Church Yard— Bill Aman Ball Field— Andy Taylor | |