



Leighton Church

Proclaiming New Life in Jesus Christ

Pastor Dennis A. Weeks

Week of August 10, 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, 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

Wed., August 13

Prayer Meeting 6:15p
Men's Group 6:30p
Praise Team Practice 6:30p

Friday, August 15

Getter/Cherry Wedding
Rehearsal 6:30-7:30p

Saturday, August 16

BCCS Workday 8-11:30a
Getter/Cherry Wedding 4p

Sunday, August 17

Outdoor Worship Service &
Baptism 9:30a
Backyard Picnic
Fellowship 6p



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.

my SERMON NOTES

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

There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on August 31st due to the holiday weekend.

Adults:

“Wisdom of Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of Matthew” 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 Luncheon: August 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!



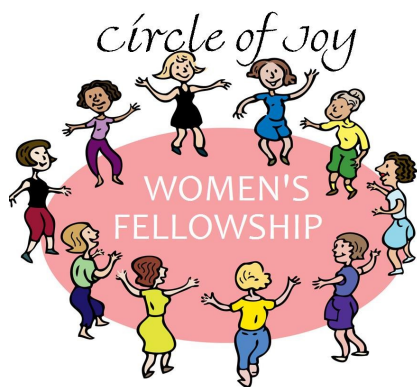
Tuesday afternoon doesn't work for you? Contact Pastor Dennis to set up a time in the evening to meet with him.

Office: (616) 891-8028 ext. 2001
pastor@leightonchurch.org



Youth Group Meeting for Parents, Students, and Volunteers!

TODAY 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.





*Outdoor
& Baptism*

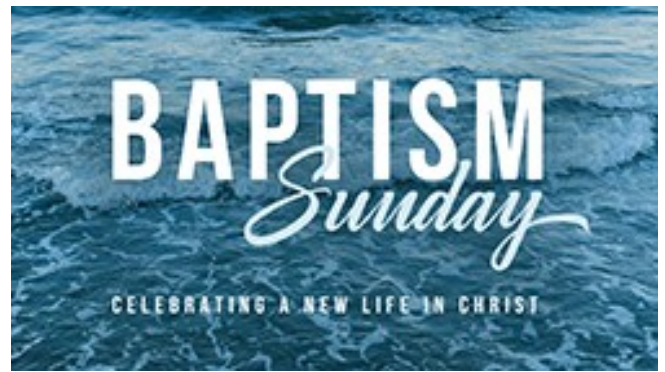
*Worship
Service*

Sunday, August 17th @ 9:30 a.m.
Weather permitting



**The service will be held in
the parking lot between
the carport wall and
handicap parking spots.
Bring your lawn chair.
Some chairs will be available
if you don't have a lawn chair or
can't bring one.**

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.



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

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.

Melissa Ohden's Story.



Melissa's life is marked by her survival of a failed saline abortion. At this powerful event, she will share her story, which speaks to the beauty of God's grace. This is a free event on Saturday, August 30 at 6:15 p.m. at St John Vianney Parish (4101 Clyde Park Avenue SW in Wyoming). You will be able to visit the Pellets of Life display and booths with life-affirming information. A freewill offering will be collected for Ohden's organization. The Abortion Services Network. For more information contact 616-532-2300. info@grrtl.org, or visit grrtl.org/herstory



Can you give a bit of your time?

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

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 this position, please contact Pastor Dennis.

THANK YOU to Rebecca Shanahan who has faithfully filled this role 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 this ministry.

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 about this ministry, see Valerie Lepeak.



Please welcome our new volunteers!

Samantha Farmer will be our new Nursery Coordinator! She will be in charge of the scheduling for the nursery workers.

If you are interested in working in the nursery talk to Samantha today!



Kelli Weeks is our new Children's Church Coordinator! She will create the teacher/helper schedule for each week, and see that the curriculum and materials are available and ready.

If you are interested in teaching or helping out in Children's Church see Kelli today!

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

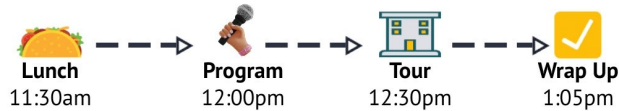
If you have any questions or would like to help contact Patty Hoekstra, Operation Christmas Child shoebox coordinator.

**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.

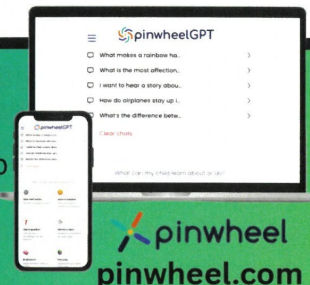
WARNING LIGHTS CASES

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





Bill and Lydia Allshouse The America's Region



Bill and Lydia Allshouse were invited to join World Gospel Missions The America's Region in 2020 where they are involved in a more global outreach including Mexico. Their ministry is to share God's love wherever they are, to make disciples, and to collaborate where needs arise throughout the America's through accounting and ministry projects.

The Allshouse's wondered when God would answer their prayers and finally give them the green light in regards to the ongoing construction of a Christian School in Iraquato, Mexico. For months, they have been waiting for the final permit to begin Phase II. They are thrilled to announce on July 7th, they received the last permit! God clearly said, "Now is the time." Praise His holy name!

Thanks to the Lord's provision, progress is being made at the worksite. Due to local regulations, construction by local workers is only allowed when U.S. teams are present-making every mission team visit vital. In July, a youth team from Hope Missionary Church in Indiana served at Bella Vista. The youth ministered through the breakfast club, at various churches by hanging out with the church youth, and at the Wesley Institute construction site. They prepared the ground for the preschool/kindergarten playground by removing old soil, leveling, and compacting new packing soil by hand and with a backhoe.

The new construction area will feature a two-story building to complete the preschool/kindergarten classrooms and three elementary classrooms. There is another building with three pre-K classrooms, a space for the teachers, and bathrooms. With the site now ready and permitted, the Allshouse's are moving into a season of exciting growth and construction.

This season of waiting taught the Allshouse's about trusting God's perfect timing. Maybe if you're in a long, dry stretch of your own-be encouraged! God is never late. God reminds us of His faithfulness through verses like:

Isaiah 60:22 *"At the right time, I the Lord, will make it happen."*

Psalms 27:14 *"Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the LORD."*

The Allshouse's are asking for prayer for more people to respond to the call and serve in Mexico. Also, pray as they move forward on the two-story classroom buildings for the elementary/middle school, the administration building, and the auditorium/cafeteria.

Your gifts to the Faith Promise Missions Fund of Leighton Church supports the ministry of Bill & Lydia Allshouse. Thank you for giving!

If you would like to learn more about Bill & Lydia Allshouse visit wgm.org/missionary/allshouse



Let The Games Begin

By Mary Hanna

There were four boys at the grist mill which was just outside of the little town of Blessing. The boys were looking forward to seeing their friends again, playing all the different games, and learning what this get together would bring.

Every summer all the area schools would have a week long competition at the Blessing farm, but this year the boys hiding out at the grist mill had heard that some of the boys at the Scamp Hill School were going to cause trouble or serious harm.

So Dad Blessing asked the four boys to meet him at the grist mill before anyone else arrived, he wanted to stop any problem before it started, he didn't want the kids quarreling and causing a divide.

But the four boys from Shady Mountain School couldn't tell him anything, except that they had heard a rumor that someone was going to cause a problem and Dad Blessing should know SOMETHing!

Each team knew right from the start that they would have to apologize if they caused ANY kind of problem, either planned, or on a quick whim. They knew from last year how fast satan was, to get anyone to sin.

Last year satan tried to spoil every game by telling them to lie or cheat but the kids listened to Dad Blessing because they knew by listening and watching him he loved Jesus deeply, his love was sincere and complete!

Everyone was having an impossible time discovering who was causing any trouble, especially the four boys at the grist mill from Shady Mountain School, the four were so afraid Dad Blessing would decide they were lying and the kids would decide all four of them was a fool.

In the meantime Mom Blessing had been talking to the mothers from the Scamp Hill School. They told her they had some very, very, talented little Scamps this year, the older kids didn't want them at the games at all, but we told them to watch them play. The little scamps were amazing and they finally accepted them with a loud thundering cheer.

Dad Blessing was SO happy to know that the problem had been solved before anyone had even arrived, that when he said the closing prayer he had huge tears in his eyes, in fact everyone was giving big bear hugs with tears, thankful to God for another successful week and looking forward to see what He might, hopefully, plan to teach them next year as they all said their grateful goodbyes!!!

Service in Action

How do I get involved?

GREETER MINISTRY: August 10: Jan Geukes & Devin Marcott August 17: Debi Warren & Diane Porter August 24: Butch & Joan Klooster	Get involved: Diane Porter, Coordinator
Intercessory Prayer: August 10: Jean McCaul August 17: Chris Herring August 24: Alverna Truax	Get involved: Pray during the worship service. Serve every 6-8 weeks. Contact Alverna Truax
Nursery: August 10: Scott & Terri Farmer August 17: Kelli & Celia Weeks August 24: Valerie & Hollie Lepeak	Get Involved: Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done. Coordinator Needed
Coffee Bar: August 10: Bill & Stacey Aman August 17: John R & Sally Smith August 24: Diane Porter & Debi Warren	Get Involved: Sign up at the Coffee Bar. Contact the Church Office if you are interested in serving.
Treats for Coffee Fellowship: August 10: Kelli Weeks & Debi Warren August 17: Diane Norris & Joan Klooster August 24: Robbin Hilton & Patty Hoekstra	Get Involved: Nona Steeby
Acolytes: August 10: Emilee Taylor & Abbi Pollmann August 17: Celia Weeks & Hollie Lepeak August 24: Keagan Shanahan & Olivia Taylor	Get Involved: Luann Snyder
Children's Church: August 10: Britney Bredeweg & Violet Rogers August 17: Rebecca & Keagan Shanahan August 24: Diane & Ian Norris	Get Involved: Must attend Child Protection Class and have a background check done. Coordinator Needed
Mowing Teams: August 14-16: Church Yard—Bill Aman Ball Field—Andy Taylor August 21-23: Church Yard— Don Hilton Jr Ball Field— Scott Farmer	