

April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 1	Pinecrest 2pm PPRC 6:30 pm 2	Food Pantry 10am Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm 3	Men's Brkfst 8am 4		Men's Group 9am 5 6
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 7	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 8		Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm 10			Men's Group 9am 11 12 13
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 14	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 15		Food Pantry 10am Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm 17	Men's Brkfst 8am Willing Workers 10am 18		Men's Group 9am 19 20
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 21	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 22	BOG Mtg 7pm 23	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm 24			Men's Group 9am Spring Fling Salad Luncheon 12pm 25 26 27
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 28	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 29					

BIRTHDAYS:

April 1 Katy Stone
 April 4 Rob Strittmatter
 April 4 Sylvia Truman
 April 9 Jeanne Ryan
 April 10 Matthew Wallis
 April 12 Lowell Barnett
 April 13 Ken Laninga
 April 17 Betsy Naumer
 April 22 Roxana Strieby

April 25 Lisa Wallis
 April 26 Joan McGowan-Nash
 April 28 Deb Downing
 April 28 Donna Ptashnik
ANNIVERSARIES:
 April 12 Ron & Laurene Irwin
 April 19 George & Gail Ranville

APRIL



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



P.O. Box 430 * Mackinaw City, MI 49701

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Mike's Musings

I've said it in the past, but it's worth repeating, we all sin. I've been leading a class on Wednesday on the book of Romans, and we are learning a lot about sin. Paul's discussion about how we may sin, how we sinned before we knew God, and many other ways we sin. What is sin? Sin derives from Old English 'synn', translating Hebrew 'hata' and Greek 'hamartia'. Both the Hebrew and Greek mean 'missing the mark' (as in archery) so basically a failure. Have you missed the mark? Of course you have.

My next question is how do we keep from sinning? Romans 6:5-10 gives us the means of how we overcome sin, "For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God." We too need to live for God. God has given us such a wonderful gift; we should want to please Him.

I know full well we all sin, but Paul is speaking of habitual sin in Romans 6:5-6 "For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin." 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Our goal is to remember that we have a new boss. No longer do we have to sin. I use the example of a butterfly often to describe the transformation from the old man to the new creation God has made us. Once dead to sin, it is unthinkable to continue our former practice of sin. Once the caterpillar has been made into a butterfly, the butterfly has no business crawling around on trees and leaves like a caterpillar again. We can choose to live differently. Old habits die hard, so it does take effort to grow and learn. Put God's word in your heart and mind and I'm sure you will see that it is easier to live the way God wants us to live, you have a choice, don't forget that.



Operation Christmas Child

Please continue to shop for shoebox items throughout the year. April is small stuffed animals and dolls.

Lions Pancake Supper: Wed April 17th, 4-6pm

At the Pancake Chef Restaurant
327 E Central Ave, Mackinaw City
\$10 Per person, 4 and under are free!
Get your tickets from a Lions Club member or at the door.



The Food Pantry is open for the 2023-24 season.



April dates: 3rd and 17th from 10-11:00 am. The Pantry will run every other Wednesday during the winter months. Donations can be dropped off at the church M-Th from 9:00am – 2:00pm. Cash donations can be made to the Church of the Straits, c/o food pantry. Helping Hands on Wednesdays are always welcome!! If you have questions, call Rose LaPointe at 231-436-5307.

Last Food Pantry for the season: May 1st

Memorial Day Parade-Books

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The willing workers are reaching out to you today to let you know how our mission work is coming along buying books for the Memorial Day Parade for the children. God has been so good to us. Last year we gave out 1000 books. All the children were excited to receive them, I am sure some learning about Jesus for the very first time. We have been busy searching for books around the area. Books are getting hard to find as there are only so many Dollar Stores.



June Bailey traveling south for her vacation stopped at a Christian Publishers outlet store in Tennessee. Talking with the staff, letting them know we need books, and what our mission project is, they were more than excited to help us out.

June purchased 1000 three- and four-dollar books at a discount price of \$1.08 each and that included shipping. It is so amazing how our God works things out. Half our mission is completed, the other half is paying for the books, plus we still need to buy three hundred more. We want to make sure the older kids also receive the message about Jesus.

If God has laid on your heart to help support our mission either by monetary donations or by buying books, your donation, no matter how large or small will help us reach our goal and be greatly appreciated. To God be the Glory!

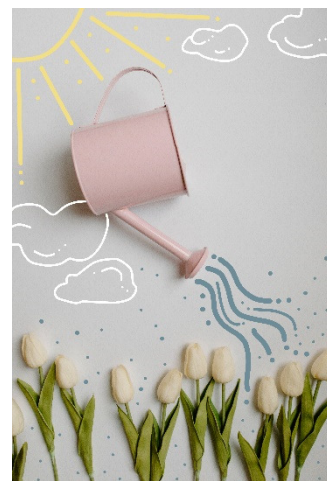
-Rosalie LaPointe (Chair)

God is the Master Gardener

Spring Fling Salad Luncheon

April 27th 12:00 Noon at Church of the Straits

Tickets \$8.00 Per Person



Pinecrest Fellowship is the first Tuesday of each month from 2-3 pm. There will be a short devotional, prayer and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come and visit with the residents.



Want something mentioned in the newsletter?
Let the Church Office know! Thanks.
(231) 436-8682 or cotsoffice@yahoo.com

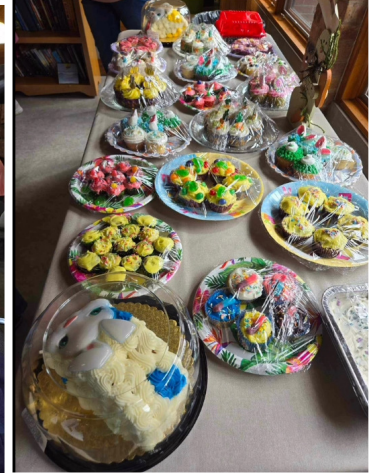
Midweek Bible Study

Lead by Michael Canales. Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 8pm. We will be studying the book of Romans. The class will be geared to those of all faith levels.

Sunday School Spring Break
Classes will resume April 14th

SARM happenings

Recent Events



Easter Bunny Luncheon

Thank You! To all who volunteered for the event. This was a great community outreach.

Big Thanks to all the cake donations and help with setup and cleanup!

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events to be Announced.

Shannon Cooley at Church of the Straits. Wednesday through Friday 11 AM to 2 PM (231)436-8682

*SARM Straits Area Resort Ministry *COS Church of the Straits

*YMS Youth Ministry Sunday *MC Mackinaw City.

All changes to SARM schedule will be posted on SARM Youth Facebook page or you can always contact youth director Shannon Cooley at COS (231) 436-8682 for updates.

Straits Talk Newsletter

April 2024



The Mission of Church of the Straits:
 To worship God faithfully
 To grow together spiritually
 To serve Jesus Christ and
 our neighbor joyfully
 ...in the power of God's Spirit.

Minister	Pastor David Wallis
Youth Director	Shannon Cooley
Head Ushers	Todd Kohs, Carl Strieby
Organist	Loretta Martinek
Treasurer	Donna Falor
Financial Secretary	Laura Jackson
Clerk	Laura Jackson
Administrative Asst.	Joshua Kuehn

Office Phone: 231 436-8682
 Office Hours – M-Th 9am-2pm

Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409

E-mail – Pastor – davidloveslisa87@gmail.com

Church office – cotsoffice@yahoo.com

Church website – www.churchofthestraits.com

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Youth Sunday School 9:30 a.m.



I don't know how many of you have seen a video on Facebook that I have seen several times that shows a lion being chased by about 20 hyenas that surround and begin to make their kill. There was no way the lion would survive against those numbers. All of the sudden we see in the video a pride of lions come and attack the hyenas and the lion escapes. What an amazing story of a miraculous escape from the jaws of death.

This video reminds me of life at times. We find ourselves in situations sometimes that seem very difficult or nearly impossible to overcome. We may even be in "give up" mode, but God has never left us alone and by our prayer and the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ, here comes the rescuer (actually it's not a pride of lions but the "Lion of Judah" and his angel army) that scatters the enemy.

You know the devil freaks out when the Divine intervenes. He has no power over the angel armies of God and God himself. The war that is being fought is not at the physical level but at the spiritual level, "...against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." (Eph. 6:12)

I'm reminded of a story in Acts 12:5ff, "So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. 'Quick, get up!' he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists." The rest of the story ends with Peter leaving unnoticed from the prison, gates opened, and they were free, eventually going to the house that was praying for them.

That story is like the lion and hyenas' story! What a rescue. Now getting back to "life." Our stories don't have that dramatic ending always attached to them, but victory does eventually come. The prayers of God's people are "powerful and effective" (James 5:16). The rescuer will come. He is not only your deliverer, he is your Father, your Daddy. When we are in trouble the wait sometimes seems very long, but He'll come.

I want to encourage you all to keep on keeping on. Don't give up. Include the brothers and sisters in your concerns so we can pray and encourage you, for your rescue is coming. Hallelujah!!!!

Love you all,

Pastor Dave

