






# January

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Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian  
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	John Birchfield
Organist	Loretta Martinek
Treasurer	Donna Falor
Financial Secretary	Laura Jackson
Clerk	Laura Jackson
Administrative Asst.	Joshua Kuehn

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**Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409**

E-mail – Pastor – [davidloveslisa87@gmail.com](mailto:davidloveslisa87@gmail.com)

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**Window Replacment**  
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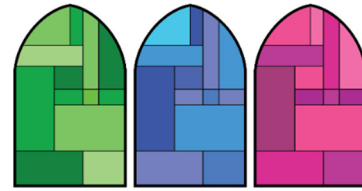
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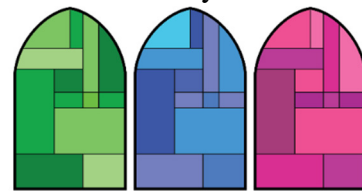
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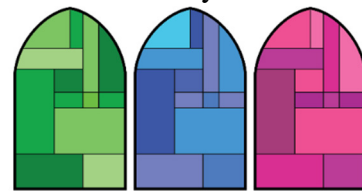
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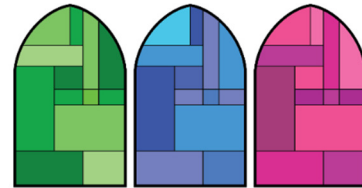
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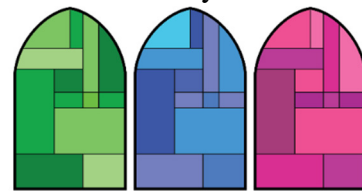
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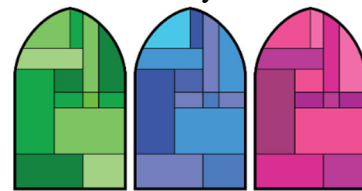
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	John Birchfield
Organist	Loretta Martinek
Treasurer	Donna Falor
Financial Secretary	Laura Jackson
Clerk	Laura Jackson
Administrative Asst.	Joshua Kuehn

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

**Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409**

E-mail – Pastor – [davidloveslisa87@gmail.com](mailto:davidloveslisa87@gmail.com)

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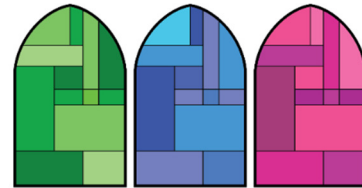
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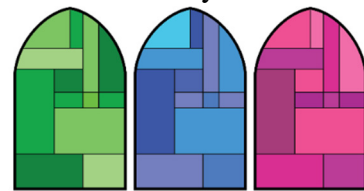
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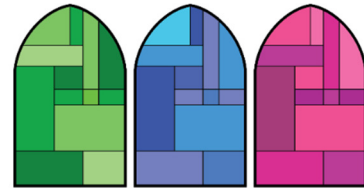
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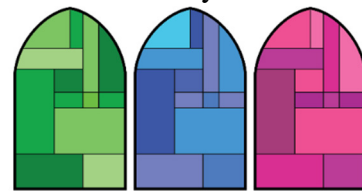
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Treasurer	Donna Falor
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**Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409**

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clue what to say. God knows us so well, and He has given us the Holy Spirit to intercede on our behalf. Romans 8:24-27 says, "For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God."

I can tell you that I also struggle to pray because of the pain I suffer with from my back. My concentration just can't be kept for long. My mind can't focus for long at all and this makes prayer a challenge, but there is hope. I have overcome this by just having a conversation with God. I try to talk with Him throughout my day. You too may suffer with struggles to pray. I write these articles to help the way we think and act. I pray my words will help you in your prayer life.

Here are ten things to do when you find it hard to pray: 1. Pray anyway. Perhaps do what I do and just talk to God. It may be hard but try and say what is on your heart.

2. Choose to listen. Be still and know God wants the best for you and those you love.

3. Just say His name. I know it may sound funny but there is power in the name of Jesus.

4. Ask Him to listen to your heart. Trust He knows you well enough to hear the desires of your heart.

5. Praise Him. You can never go wrong praising God. It should always be a part of our prayer.

6. Pray for someone else. When we don't know what to pray, we always know others that need our prayers.

7. Pray for a heart of prayer. Like I said I struggle to pray, and I often ask God to help me pray more.

8. Have someone pray for you. It is a good practice to ask for prayer. Remember we are not alone in any of this life. We need fellowship with other Christians to help us be stronger.

9. Read different prayers in the bible. God has provided us prayers throughout the bible. Use it to your advantage.

10. Pray a bible verse over your life. God has so many promises stated in the bible; remind yourself that of what he says when you are struggling to pray.

I want to remind you of one of my favorite verses. Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

**Want something mentioned in the newsletter?**

Let the Church Office know! Thanks.



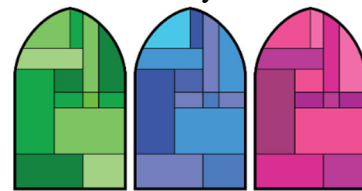
**Operation Christmas Child**  
January ideas – Hats, gloves, scarves. If you are a knitter or crocheter – put those scraps of yarn to good use!



**The Food Pantry is open** for the 2023-24 season. January dates: 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Sanctuary Window Fund

Progress: \$75.9K We have achieved and surpassed our Goal! Thank you for all of the generous donations and support. We look forward to new windows in our sanctuary!



**Window Replacment**  
Capital Campaign

### Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> after the service. Please plan to attend to support our leadership and learn what 2024 has in store for Church of the Straits.



### Coffee Hour Help Needed!

We're always looking for helpers! There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for the coming months. Please don't feel you have to do an "elaborate spread". Cookies and coffee, some juice is all that is needed.

**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.

