








July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Communion AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 2	3	 4	5	VBS Meeting 10am 6	7	Men's Group 9am 1
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 9	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 10	11	Bible Journaling 2pm 12	 13	14	Men's Group 9am 15
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 16	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 17	18	Bible Journaling 2pm 19	Men's Brkfst 8am Willing Workers 10am 20	21	Men's Group 9am 22
Church Picnic 11:30am AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 23	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 24	BOG Mtg 7pm 25	Bible Journaling 2pm 26	27	 28	Men's Group 9am 29
VBS Sunday AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 30	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 31	 JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES	 ANNIVERSARIES:			

BIRTHDAYS:

- | | | | |
|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| July 1 | Carter Jaggi | July 17 | Brenda Beyer |
| July 6 | Knox Wilson | July 20 | Steve Powers |
| July 8 | Mary Stanley | July 21 | Lyn Benefiel |
| July 9 | Kylie Reed | July 23 | Dick Spayde |
| July 10 | Cobe Robertson | July 25 | Carl Strieby |
| July 10 | John Keller | July 26 | Mackenzie Jutso |
| July 11 | Cynthia Thompson | July 26 | June Heilman |
| July 13 | Rian Esper | July 26 | Gussie Williams |
| July 14 | Jerry Archer | July 29 | Gay Schoenknecht |
| July 16 | Levi Walugembe | July 31 | Deb Miller |
| July 16 | Myran Thompson | | |

ANNIVERSARIES:

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| July 1 | Caleb & Courtney Jaggi |
| July 1 | David & Stephanie Skeels |
| July 3 | Ron & Mary Cooper |
| July 10 | Brad & Samantha Reed |
| July 14 | Mike & Donna Canales |
| July 14 | Steve & Alicia Powers |
| July 23 | David & Sherry Paquet |
| July 24 | Jerry & Estella Smith |
| July 25 | Nick & Dee Nickerson |
| July 28 | Dutch & Deb Miller |

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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

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Mike's Musings

This past month was hard for me because I lost a dear cousin and Aunt. I began to think about the fact we don't always appreciate what we have until we don't have it any longer, in short GRATITUDE. I found a short story on Facebook shortly after

the deaths of my family. "When I woke up this morning, I asked myself, what is life about? I found the answer in my room... The fan said, "Be cool." The roof said, "Aim high." The window said, "See the world!" The clock said, "Every minute is precious." The mirror said, "Reflect before you act." The calendar said, "Be up to date." The door said, "Push hard for your goals." The floor said, "Kneel down and pray and be thankful for what we have."

God has given me so much. I want to remind us what God says about having gratitude. 1Thessalonians 5:17-18 says, "Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." It may be hard to be thankful when we lose people in our lives, but I must trust God knows best. He has our days numbered and we only get so much of life. We need to appreciate the time we have with our loved ones. So even though I will miss my family that has gone on to heaven before me, I know I will see them again.

"Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." Hebrews 13:5 God has shown me many times that this scripture is truthful. God always provides a way. "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength." Philippians 3:14 This scripture says a lot. I don't have much confidence in myself, but I don't have to, God will provide a way and I am grateful.

I think the one thing that makes me most grateful is that Jesus paid the price for me and I'm not going to hell. When I think about how I was and still how much I need to change it amazes me God still loves me. I want you to think about what you're grateful for. Thank God for all He has given you!

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.



Operation Christmas Child

We've gathering items to fill boxes in November. These are just suggestions – look for items on sale or clearance!

July is clothes month! Socks, underwear, shirts, shoes,

sandals, sun dresses, etc.. Also, we can always use: activity pads, note pads, coloring books and items for older boys



Service Time Change

During the summer we will change to our summer schedule with service starting at 10am and Adult Bible Study at 9am. We will continue until after Labor Day



SAVE THE DATE! "The Sound"

(a Dove-award winning Southern Gospel trio) is coming to Mackinaw City's "Music in Mackinaw" series on Saturday, Aug. 26 at Conklin Park at 8 p.m. COTS is the sponsor. Please plan to attend and bring your friends, neighbors and lost/found tourist visitors. Any questions, please call Sue O'Dwyer at 404-384-9940



VBS is coming!!

VBS is August 8th – 12th from 9am – noon with the Friday Parent Program from 12-12:30 pm.

Our theme this year will be **ROAR! Life is Wild,**

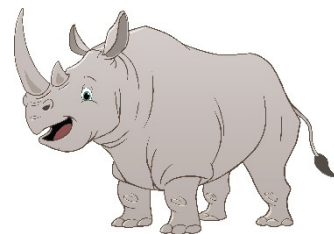
God is Good! At Roar, kids discover that God is good even when life gets wild! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour



yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Wild Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love! Each day concludes with the Safari Celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time.

VBS is open to age 4 – to those going into 7th grade. ****Pre-registration is encouraged!** Please call the office 231-436-8682.

VBS Sunday will be July 30th. Instead of asking for specific craft items or specific food items, we've found we can get exactly what is needed and avoid duplicates or missed items if we take donations. Thank you in advance for supporting our community VBS program! If you have any questions, please contact Kim 248.345.6017. Thanks!



Church Picnic Sunday July 23rd

Immediately after service here at the Church. Burgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad and Chips will be provided. Sign-up sheet for desserts will be by the entryway.



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.



SARM happenings

Recent Events



Outdoor Scavenger Hunt and Sunday Sundae at DQ!



Big Ticket Festival in Gaylord, MI

Upcoming Events

July 9th *YMS Sunday Sundae at Kilwins *MC pickup at *COS

August 7-11th ROAR Vacation Bible School 9am to Noon

August 26th "The Sound" 8pm at Heritage Conklin Park in Mackinaw City
Southern Gospel Trio

Ongoing: Change to make a change: SARM is accepting donations for the AA Crisis Pregnancy Center contact Shannon for more info.

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

July 2023



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

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Youth Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

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.thechurchofthestraits.com



How many times do we have to be told there are consequences for our sin. It happens way too many times, even to those who aren't really looking to do wrong. Why do we not learn very well? For one, the enemy (The Devil) does an absolutely great job of pushing our buttons and he knows how to distract us and tempt us.

We also assume that we can get away with sin or not be damaged by its consequences. Or we justify our behavior as being okay, not sinful. Here is an example from a recent trip my family took on our UTV's to Drummond Island. It was a fun time. Because we went with the younger dudes, you

could be sure we wouldn't take the easy route. When a big water hole presents itself, you go through it not around it. Well, we went through one too many water holes and my son in law buried his UTV and I avoided that hole, but the damage apparently had already been done and my UTV quit and wouldn't start. It was towed for about 30 minutes till we got to the beach. The end of the story was it finally started, and we enjoyed the rest of the day and by the way my son-in-law's UTV was winched out of the hole.

If I had avoided the previous water hole, I wouldn't have had the issue with needing a tow, but I yielded to temptation and paid a consequence (I must admit it was fun until my machine quit). The spiritual lesson here comes from Romans 7:15-17, 24-25a. "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate to do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me." What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord."

We could have avoided the water hole incident if we had heeded a sign that indicated the water hole was a deep one, but we took the plunge anyway. Isn't that just like sin? God warns us, the Holy Spirit warns us, The Bible warns us, but we jump anyway.

Let's learn from the warning signs in Scripture and let Jesus rescue us from ourselves. And when we don't heed his instructions, let's learn from our mistakes and do better the next time.

Love ya'll,

Pastor Dave

