
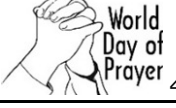


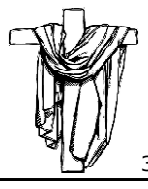
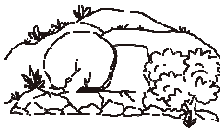



March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p style="text-align: center;">No Bible Journaling For the Month of March</p>						Men's Group 9am 1 2
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 3	Wms Bible Study 2pm  4	Pinecrest 2pm PPRC 6:30pm 5	Pantry 10am Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm 6	Men's Brkfst 8am 7	8	Men's Group 9am  9
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 10	Wms Bible Study 2pm 11	12	Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm 13	Easter Flower Orders due! 14	Cake Donations Due 12-2pm 15	Men's Group 9am Easter Bunny Lunch 11am-2pm 16
 AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 17	Wms Bible Study 2pm 18	19	Pantry 10am Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm 20	Men's Brkfst 8am Willing Workers 10am 21	22	Men's Group 9am 23
Palm Sunday AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm No Sunday School 24	Wms Bible Study 2pm 25	BOG 7pm 26	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm 27	28	Good Friday Service at St Anthony's 1pm 29	 30
Easter Sunday Easter Breakfast 9am No Sunday School 31		BIRTHDAYS: March 10 March 11 March 12 March 14 March 14 March 15 March 17 March 18 March 23 March 24 March 24 March 27	Emilia Grace Laninga Sherry Paquet Georgia Prillwitz Peter Ryan Brad Reed Asher Kreps Pat Hubbard Stephanie Skeels Tim Zabik Todd Kohs Jane Spayde Kate Walugembe	ANNIVERSARIES: March 29 March 29 March 30 March 6 March 25	Bud Stone Karen Spencer Steve Toth Jim & Diane Stevens Richard & Darlene Krueger	



MARCH 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

It's funny when I think about it, I write to you because I want to share what I have learned, and I have done this for many years. Some of it touches you, and other things I write don't speak much at all to you. Those that know me well know I'm passionate about

what I write. What matters most to me is that God puts these things on my heart, and I must say them. I recently posted a little meme on my Facebook page, and it spoke volumes to me. This is what it said, "A boy asked his father, 'Dad what is the size of God?' Then the father looked up at the sky and saw a plane and asked his son, 'What is the size of this plane?' The boy replied, 'it is very small. I can hardly see it.' Then the father took him to the airport and as they approached a plane, he asked, 'Now, my son, how big is this plane?' The boy replied, 'Wow dad, it's huge!' Then the Father told him, 'God's size depends on how close or how far you are from him. The closer you are to him, the greater and greater he will be in your life!'"

In John 15:4-5 Jesus said, "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." When God seems small to you it is just your perspective that needs to change, Jesus abides in us. He is with us every day we know Him. God loves you so much. Please don't forget that fact. When you struggle with how close or how far God is, just look back at all He has brought you through. Remember when we are at our very lowest, He carries us.



Operation Christmas Child

Ideas for March are socks, underwear, mittens & hats month.



The Food Pantry is open for the 2023-24 season. March dates: 6th and 20th 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.

The Valentines Day Bingo was a huge success!

Over 50 people attended, enjoying a lunch consisting of soup, sandwiches, and desserts. After lunch many games of bingo were played. Everyone enjoyed the fun, laughter, and fellowship.



Every person attending went home with a prize. A big thank you to all who volunteered to help for the afternoon and made desserts.

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)



If you wish to order Easter Lilies, Tulips, Daffodils, Azaleas, or Hydrangeas to decorate the sanctuary for Easter please fill out this form and return it to the church office **no later than March 14th.**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:

All flowers are in 6" pots and in a basket.
Lilies, Tulips, and Daffodils = \$25 each
Hydrangeas and Azaleas = \$45 each

Make check payable to: Church of the Straits, with the memo area marked "Easter Flowers".

Mail the form and payment to:
Church of the Straits
PO Box 430
Mackinaw City, MI 49701

Please indicate your choice:

___Lily ___Tulip ___Daffodil
___Hydrangea ___Azalea

Change to Make a Change: Wrapped Candy



We will be collecting donations for wrapped candy for the easter egg hunt at the Easter Bunny Lunch March 16th

Want something mentioned in the newsletter?

Let the Church Office know! Thanks.
(231) 436-8682 or cotsoffice@yahoo.com

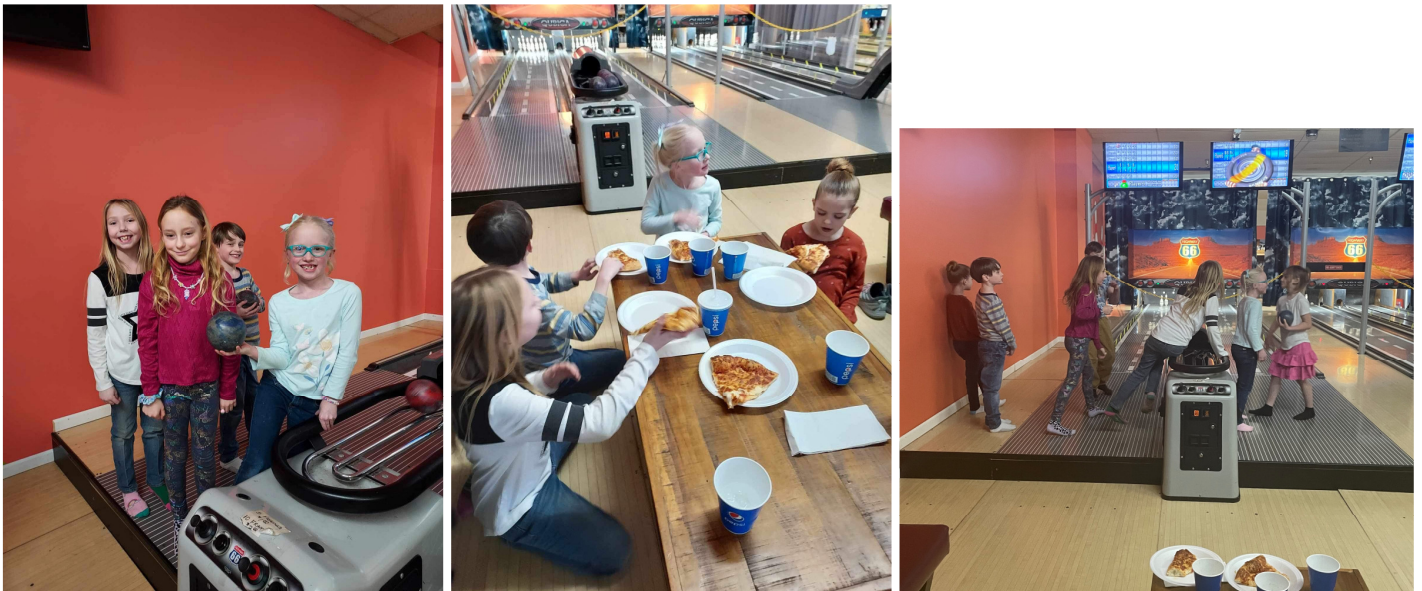
Midweek Bible Study

Lead by Michael Canales. Wednesdays at 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 Starting March 24th.
Classes will resume April 14th.

SARM happenings

Recent Events



Bowling and Pizza at Spare Time Lanes

Upcoming Events



March 16th: Easter Bunny Lunch and Cake Donations 11 am to 2pm

Volunteers will be needed at 10am that day to help setup and after to clean up. There is a sign up for cake donations or you can donate money to purchase cakes. Cake orders need to be in by March 3rd and cost \$15. Please sign up in the fellowship hall.

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

March 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.

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Youth Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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.churchofthestrains.com



I had been noticing lately that my iPhone was not charging very well in my truck. Finally, one day I tried to charge it and no matter what I tried, it wouldn't. I tried to diagnose what was going on, so I tried another cord but to no avail. It still wouldn't charge. I thought that perhaps my phone was at fault but when I plugged it in at home it worked. I then thought the port in the truck didn't work so I tried the other one too and it didn't work. At this point I was thinking the truck was the problem, but I didn't want to take it in to the dealer because of the cost. I tried one last thing! Buy a new cord for the truck. It worked.

Is there a spiritual lesson here. I think there is. Sometimes we are feeling disconnected to God, and we don't know why. Is it that God doesn't want to hear from us? No! Is it that God is not capable of answering our request? No! Eph. 3:20-21 says, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine...be glory." Elsewhere in Luke 1:37 it says, "nothing is impossible with God."

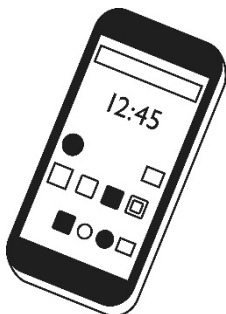
Is it because we can't connect with him because we aren't worthy? We aren't worthy but he considers us worthy. He forgave us and made us new creatures in Christ. Matthew 11:28 says, "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." He says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgives us sin and cleanse us of all unrighteousness." (1John 1:9).

The problem is sin! The cord was defective in my truck! I had to replace it. Sin separates us from God. Redeemed people have a new cord. They have experienced forgiveness because they accepted what was already offered. We are connected to God through Jesus Christ. He is the cord that connects us to God. Trust him and we stay connected. Trust ourselves and lose that dynamic connection with God.

Let God charge you up in Christ. Make sure you are plugged in. You will die spiritually without Him. He is your source of strength. The difference between the truck/phone/cord analogy and the one I just introduced is that the cord (Jesus) is never defective and is always plugged into God. Make sure He is your cord and make sure you are plugged in.

Love ya'll,

Pastor Dave



—STAYING—
 CONNECTED