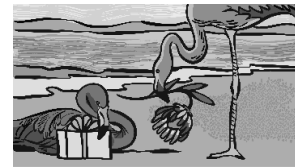


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 1	Pinecrest 2pm PPRC 6:30pm 2	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 3	Men's Brkfst 9am  4		Men's Group 9am 6
Communion AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 7	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 8		Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 10			Men's Group 9am SARM Softball Game 10am 13
Mother's Day AA 3pm Prayer Group 14	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 15		Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 17	Men's Brkfst 9am Willing Workers 10am 18		Men's Group 9am 20
Sunday School Graduation AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 21	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 22	BOG Mtg 7pm 23	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Baccalaurate 7pm 24			Men's Group 9am Parade 11am 27
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 28						



MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS:

May 2	Brenda Bell
May 3	Andrew Laninga
May 5	Judy Hurburt
May 5	Joshua Kuehn
May 6	Linda Gwilt
May 7	Sharolyn Metternich
May 10	Michelle Williams
May 12	Sarah Hartman

May 15	Alvina Williams
May 16	Linda Moore
May 24	Phyllis Stemkoski
May 27	Chuck Brew
May 27	Aubrie Reed
May 29	Denise Thompson
May 29	Laurene Irwin

ANNIVERSARIES:

May 3	Larry & Jennifer O'Brien
May 13	Dick & Jean Hunt
May 14	Todd & Laura Janeczek
May 15	Bob & Lyn Benefiel
May 28	Meaghan & Joshua Kuehn

United Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
The Church of the Straits



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Mike's Musings

Donna and I have been reading a new book called "Holy Moments" by Matthew Kelly. The book is small but powerful. I thought I'd share some of what I have learned. As you read this article, I want you to think about your day. I want you to consider that there are 1,440 minutes in a day, and respectfully 86,400 seconds also. Coming in with the knowledge of what Christ has done for us in saving us from death and eternal punishment. How many moments do you give back as Holy Moments?

If you're like me, not a lot, why aren't there many? We can probably tell ourselves many reasons, but what is a Holy Moment? I've learned through my reading that a Holy Moment can be a kind gesture such as being kind to the clerk in the grocery checkout line, or welcoming someone that is new to your church, perhaps praying for someone you don't know, maybe paying for the car behind you in the fast food line or paying for someone's gas at the gas station. How about when you see someone hurting you encourage them. All these are Holy Moments. Don't we owe it to Jesus to be his hands and feet?

Matthew 25:34-40 says, "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

Maybe we have more Holy moments than we think. If so good, and if not, start making more Holy Moments in your life. I guarantee it will be the best moments of your life. I want to leave you with this thought, "The end of all learning is to know God, and out of that knowledge to love and imitate Him." John Milton. Make a Holy Moment today it's not like there isn't time!

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

Please continue to shop for shoebox items throughout the year. **May is: small stuffed animals, dolls and hygiene products.**



Memorial Day Parade Float Help Needed!!

We will be handing out books for kids at the Memorial Day Parade to help share info on our childrens programs. A plan is in place but we will need help on the day of the parade. The Parade is on May 27th meeting up at 11am. To make it easier for YOU to volunteer, we will schedule shifts to take turns walking and riding in the trucks. Don't miss out on the fun!



Memorial Day Remembrance

We will have a recognition video on the Sunday before memorial day to remember all those who have served. If you would like a loved one remembered please submit a picture to the Church Office.

Dear Friends in Christ

The messages of sympathy that were express during the loss of my dear sister Carol, were greatly appreciated. My husband Dick and I thank you for your prayers and thoughts as I've mourned the loss of someone so dear to us. She was a woman of faith and is in heaven and at peace.

God's blessings to all,
Jane Spayde



COS & St. Anthony's will host Baccalaureate for the 2023 Mackinaw City Graduates on Wednesday, May 24th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to bring a plate of finger food or cookies, a reception will follow the service. For more information, contact Deb Moore.



On Friday April 28th Rose, Jean, and June attended the 94th assembly of Christian United Women of Michigan held this year at the Best Western Docksider in Mackinaw City. We had a wonderful afternoon visiting with all the Christian ladies and sharing our faith. The afternoon consisted of listening to a beautiful singer, and a wonderful sermon.

Rose shared information about our church and what our mission is. June told everyone about her book God had laid on her heart to write. Jean spoke on the memorial parade and the Willing workers mission to give out Christian books to the children helping to spread the word and Love of Jesus. The session ended with all the ladies presenting us with more books for the parade. Gods is good



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

SARM spring/summer 2023 schedule is out 😊 you can pick up a copy at COS or go online to SARM Facebook page for events updates. Some of SARM upcoming activities in May: we will be attending a softball and baseball MC game where we cheer on the home team. May 14 we will be celebrating mothers and having a special coffee hour. We will also have a trip for all Sunday school graduates to the Mackinaw City bakery.

Even with the winter weather that hit with a nasty April snowstorm, the Easter Bunny luncheon had a wonderful turn out. God is good! Thank you to all the volunteers that helped bring this wonderful event together. Games, prizes, lunch, Easter egg hunt, visit from the Easter bunny and the very popular cakewalk. I'm happy to announce that every child that attended the Easter Bunny luncheon was able to win a cake. Thank you to all the people that donated cakes for this event. I am so thankful for this church family and this wonderful community for coming together to share the love of God.

On going a change to make a change April through June is a purse with a purpose. All donations will go to the northern Michigan's women's shelter for women in need. Most women leave their homes with nothing. Please fill a purse with travel size hand sanitizer, Kleenex, sanitary products, hand, lotions, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, and conditioner just to name a few. Also, we will be taking donations of these items for SARM youth to pack purses.

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



*SARM Straits Area Resort Ministry *COS The 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

May 2023



The Mission of The 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 10:30 a.m.
 Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Youth Sunday School 10:30 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



I want to address a statement that I have framed in my office! This is the statement: “Faith does not make things easy, it makes them possible.” Now I have no idea who authored this statement but it comes directly from the scripture in Luke 1:37 which says, “For nothing is impossible with God.” This quote is from the angel who told Mary she was going to have a child. I want to coin a phrase, “easy faith.” Easy faith is the kind of faith that almost knows the outcome before it is even activated (faith, that is). An example would be having faith our girls’ basketball team were going to win the conference this year. It was obvious that the other teams in our conference were not going to field a very competitive team this year (but the future could look much different) and it took minimal faith to believe we would be undefeated in conference this year. Games were stress free, having immense confidence we would win. Now that faith would be tested once we faced stronger competition in the playoffs.

Easy faith is never tested and never grows. It doesn't need divine intervention and stands on its own two feet (actually, it relies only on me). In life, real faith is challenged. Real faith requires a trust in the Almighty God. Real faith experiences defeat as well as victory. Real faith doesn't know the immediate outcome of the situation but needs to trust that the object of that faith will bring us through the other side of things.

If we want to face life with strength and confidence, then we need to trust that all things are possible with God. We need to embrace the truth of 1 Peter 1:6b-7 which says, “...though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

So, when tough times come, embrace them as faith strengtheners! We will come through them stronger and better able to take on the next faith test. God makes us ready for anything as we have faith that he will deliver through the storms of life.

Love you,

Pastor Dave

