



November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Food Pantry 10 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Journaling 2 pm 1	Men's Brkfst 8 am 2		Men's Group 9 am 3 4
Communion SARM Sunday AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 5	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm 6	Pinecrest 2pm BOG Meeting 7 pm 7	No Bell Choir Bible Journaling 2 pm Pantry Food Drive 12-4pm 8			Men's Group 9 am VETERANS DAY 11
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 12	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm 13		Food Pantry 10 am No Bell Choir Bible Journaling 2 pm 15	Men's Brkfst 8 am Willing Workers 10am 16	Shoe Boxes Due!! 17	Men's Group 9 am 18
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 19	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm 20	Bell Choir 12:30 pm Community Thanksgiving Service 7 pm 21	Bell Choir on Tues No Bible Journaling 22	Community Meal 12pm  23		Men's Group 9 am 25
Hanging of the Greens AA 3pm Prayer Group 6 pm 26	Wm's Bible Study 2 pm 27	BOG Meeting 7 pm 28	Food Pantry 10 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Journaling 2 pm 39			

BIRTHDAYS:

Nov 2	Ryleigh Crabtree	Nov 11	Dave Hubbard
Nov 4	Cathy Brey	Nov 13	Kathy Heilman
Nov 5	Julie Armitage	Nov 13	Jennifer O'Brien
Nov 7	Gail Ranville	Nov 13	David Skeels
Nov 8	Liz Limberg	Nov 14	Todd Williams
Nov 9	Arial Durant	Nov 15	Nancy Hinsman
Nov 9	Ayden Crabtree	Nov 15	Elise Powers
Nov 9	Lucas Powers	Nov 23	Loretta Martinek
Nov 10	Weston Martin	Nov 28	Katie Strittmatter
Nov 11	Sue Kohs	Nov 28	Nan Keck



ANNIVERSARIES:

Nov 10	Don & Jan Hawer
Nov 28	Dave & Patricia Hubbard

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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

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Mike's Musings

The scriptures say that Jesus is coming back for his bride the church. I have had the opportunity to learn more about prophecy since I was in Florida and it has got me quite excited. I would like to ask you an important question. Are you ready for his return? God's word tells us how to be ready and I want to share that with you.

- 1.) Do you know Jesus? Matthew 7:21-23 says, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

All those who claim to know Jesus don't. I heard it said once that you can stand in a garage, but it doesn't make you a car. You can come to church, but it doesn't make you a Christ follower. If you are not sure if you are saved, please stop and ask Him to forgive you now.

- 2.) To be ready, we should be pursuing personal holiness and Godliness. We can't be perfect, but we should be making progress toward perfection. In 2 Peter 3:10-14 it says, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;"

We all commit sin, but we are told if we confess our sin God will forgive us. It isn't hard to live for Christ if we remember he wants us to get things right with him. He has made us holy by His blood trust he can keep us holy.

- 3.) Encourage others in the community of believers. Hebrews 10:24-25 say, "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Encourage each other to come to church and to do God's work. God wants us fully committed to doing his work and helping others to do the same.

- 4.) Persevere with confidence. 1 Corinthians 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the

Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

I think sometime we see the way the world is and we think, what is the use of trying? We need to continue to do the work of the lord no matter how it may seem, we are making progress. Ask yourself am I persevering?

- 5.) Stand out by your hope. In 1 Peter 3:15 it says, "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,"

Our hope is that we will someday be in heaven with Jesus. Do you stand out by your hope? Are you telling others about your hope? I saw a sign once that read if you were arrested for being a Christian would they find any evidence? We need to be working hard for Jesus until he returns. Life isn't cut and dried and we have challenges so let's make sure we are ready when the Lord returns.



Operation Christmas Child

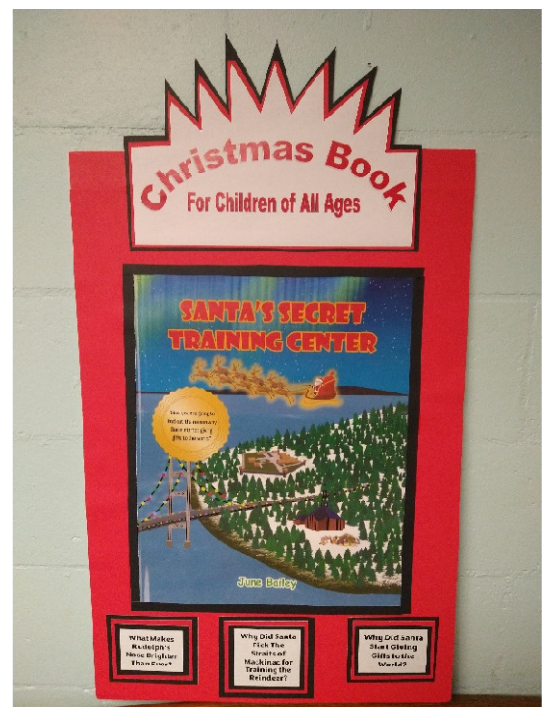
We're gathering items to fill boxes in November. These are just suggestions! Older kid suggestions: tape measure, craft hammer, sewing kit, mixing spoons, spatulas,

plastic utensil sets, calculator, flashlight & batteries....

Boxes you can fill yourself are now available in Fellowship Hall. Please do not tape shut; rubber bands are acceptable. Each box requires a \$10.00 payment for shipping. REMEMBER – NO candy, toothpaste, gum, chocolate, food, seeds, fruit rolls, drink mixes, liquids, lotions, aerosol cans, vitamins, medications, nothing glass or breakable, no toy guns, knives, or military figures.

Book by June Baily Available For Purchase

"Santa's Secret Training Center" Paperback: \$14.95 Hardcover: \$21.95 All proceeds will go to children's ministries. Books will be available in the fellowship hall or you can contact June Baily 989-385-5050 Can also be purchased on Amazon.com or wherever books are sold.



COMMUNITY WORSHIP THANKSGIVING SERVICE

- COS together with St.

Anthony's Catholic Church will hold the Annual Community Thanksgiving Worship Service on Tuesday, November 21st at 7 pm. The service will be held at COS. Please join us for this special holiday tradition.



The Food Pantry will open for the 2023-24 season on Wednesday, November 1st from 10-11:00 am. The Pantry will run every other Wednesday for 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.

Join us for



Thanksgiving
Dinner

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

We will be hosting a dinner on Thanksgiving Day (Nov 23rd) at Noon. Please bring a dish to pass. Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy and Stuffing will be provided. Please sign up.

Food Pantry Can Drive Nov 8th

The Church will be collecting nonperishables for the Food Pantry. Items can be dropped off here or at St Anthony's from Noon to 4pm. Thanks for all of your support as we serve those who are in need.

Want something mentioned in the newsletter?

Let the Church Office know! Thanks.

SARM happenings

Recent Events



SARM Cheers on Mackinaw City Volleyball Team



Baby Shower Coffee Hour – Collected Items and Donations for AA Crisis Pregnancy Center

Upcoming Events

Nov 1st: Giving Thanks Journaling – See Shannon for Info and Supplies

Nov 12th: SARM Sunday – Pizza Party

Ongoing: Change to make a change: SARM is accepting donations for Coats for Kids 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

November 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 10:30 a.m.
 Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Youth Sunday School 9:30 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.churchofthestraits.com



I'm writing this to you about a month ahead of time for no other reason than this next month is a very busy month and my wife and I will be on vacation for a portion of it (Lord willing!). With that in mind, I wondered if what I wrote today would have any bearing on the readers a month from now.

What if a major event happened in our world and I was writing something about the changing colors of fall or the tourist season coming to a close. Those subjects would have little interest in light of something big transpiring. I wouldn't be writing about the things you would want to hear about.

It brings to mind the text in Scripture from James 5:13ff, "Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' "

I think what this text is intended to do is to put things in perspective. We can't control what happens next. We can contribute to something in hopes that it turns out in a favorable way, but we can't govern all the variables that will make something happen. God, on the other hand, is all knowing (omniscient) and his purposes will be accomplished. With or without us he will ultimately have his way.

That is comforting to me! I do make plans and I think it is important to plan ahead, but to do so with God's will in mind. Things happen that alter our plans. I want to be able to see God's hand in all that is before me. I don't want to try and manipulate God's plan, instead I want to follow God's plan. There is a difference and I think that's what James was trying to tell us.

Next month could be filled with great news or difficult news. There could be great adventures or taxing ones. But through every day God is with us. "He will never leave us or forsake us" (Deut. 31:6 and elsewhere).

So, I think what I have to share today will apply to anything that happens next month. God's Got It! Now live each day with God's will in mind and you will conquer anything that comes your way.

Love you always,

Pastor Dave

