

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Men's Group 9am 1 2
Worship COS 9am Worship Park 11am AA3pm 3	LABOR DAY SARM Bridge Walk 7am 4	Pinecrest 2pm PPRC 6:30pm 5	Bible Journaling 2pm 6	7	8	Men's Group 9am 9
Communion Youth Sunday Sch 9:30am Service back to 10:30am AA3pm Prayer Group 6pm 10	Missions 1pm Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 11	12	Evangelism 11am Bible Journaling 2pm 13	14	15	Men's Group 9am 16
AA3pm Prayer Group 6pm 17	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 18	19	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 20	Men's Breakfast 8am Worship 10am 21	22	Men's Group 9am 23
SARM Pizza Party AA3pm Prayer Group 6pm 24	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 25	BOG Mtg 7pm 26	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 27	CPR Class 4:30pm 28	29	Men's Group 9am 30

BIRTHDAYS:

Sept 3 Chad Robertson
 Sept 4 Jim Churchill
 Sept 5 Mary Lou Peters
 Sept 6 Sue O'Dwyer
 Sept 7 Matt Cooley
 Sept 8 Emma Zabik
 Sept 8 Ron Irwin
 Sept 10 Pastor Ed Weiss
 Sept 11 Walt Naumer
 Sept 12 Madison Jutson
 Sept 14 Don Hawver
 Sept 15 Spencer Austin
 Sept 18 Kim Jutson

Sept 21 Karin Thompson
 Sept 21 Brenda Keller
 Sept 22 Roger Moore
 Sept 23 Larry O'Brien
 Sept 27 Gene Kapp
 Sept 27 Lorahdelle Darrow
 Sept 28 Quincy Ranville
 Sept 28 Peter Walugembe
 Sept 29 Meaghan Kuehn
 Sept 30 Greg Brown
 Sept 30 Ross Bell
 Sept 30 Courtney Jaggi

ANNIVERSARIES:

Sept 1 John & Brenda Keller
 Sept 10 Ken & Kristi Laninga
 Sept 10 Matt & Shannon Cooley
 Sept 12 Todd & Sue Kohs
 Sept 14 Ross & Lynn Bell
 Sept 18 Rob & Katie Strittmatter
 Sept 23 Peter & Caitlyn Ryan
 Sept 30 Jim & Judy Churchill



SEPTEMBER 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

I've spoken with many people about what truth is. Some people don't want to know the truth because it goes against what they think or do. I don't always want to hear the truth either, for this same reason. So how do we find truth? Proverbs 3:5-6 says,

"Trust the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." I suppose the question of what is truth goes back to where truth comes from. In Galatians 5:16-17 it says, "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want."

So, if we can't find truth within our self, where do we find it? The Greek word for "truth" is aletheia, which refers to "divine revelation" and is related to a word that literally means "what can't be hidden." It conveys the thought that truth is always there, always open and available for all to see, with nothing being hidden or obscured. The Hebrew word for "truth" is emeth, which means "firmness," "constancy," and "duration." Such a definition implies an everlasting substance and something that can be relied upon. Isaiah 48:17 says, "This is what the Lord says, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go." So, it is good to remember that when we want to find truth, we must first seek out what God says.

You see God cares so much about us that he wants the truth in everything we do. Even if the world disagrees with us, it doesn't stop it from being the truth. Remember, the world is lost, and we are to be the light for them to see. Stand on God's truth and you can know there is absolute truth in this lost world. Look to God for the truth in your life and seek it out daily if you can. Once you have found it share it with others.

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

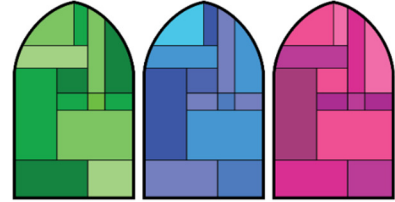
We've been gathering items to fill boxes in November. These are just suggestions – look for items on sale or clearance! *September is games, small puzzles, yo-yos, jacks, Etch-a-Sketch, marbles, jump ropes, etc... anything fun!!!* 😊



Service Time Change
We will be returning to regular 10:30am Worship the Sunday after Labor Day, Sept 10th

CPR Class Sept 28th

We will be hosting a CPR class here at the church. The cost will be \$60. Please sign up by the entryway if you are interested.



Window Replacment
Capital Campaign

Our sanctuary windows have exceeded their 20-year warranty and are showing their age. This situation is bad and will only get worse. The windows must be replaced.

The proposed replacement windows come with a 30-year warranty, and each will be anchored independently of the others. They will be double-paned, and gas filled.

At a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, 6 August 2023 the membership of the Church of the Straits approved a CFC to raise the funds required to replace the 36 sanctuary windows. They also approved committing \$13,000 of existing church funds for window replacement to lower the goal of the CFC to \$60,000. As of the printing of this newsletter we are over halfway to our funding goal.

I hope that you will prayerfully consider supporting this effort to maintain our place of worship and contribute to the CFC as the Spirit leads you to do so. God bless you all,



Dutch
TD Miller
Chair, COTS Finance Committee

Adult Sunday School

Continues at 9:30am on Sundays before service. We are currently studying the book of Revelation. All are welcome!

Thank You!

We would like to say thank-you to all of the congregation, Pastor Dave, and others that have sent prayers, cards, meals, visited, and helped during my surgery and recovery. You have made these last weeks much easier and happier than they could have been. God's blessings to all!



-Laura and Les Jackson

Youth Sunday School starts after Labor Day at 9:30am. All children that wish to attend will need to sign up.



Childrens Church will also begin after Labor Day on Sundays without communion (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th) We will have activities downstairs after Children's Time during the service.

Coffee Hour and Liturgist Sign Ups
Please see the various sign-up sheets by the entrance to the church. We always need help with Coffee Hour and for readers on Sunday.



Want something mentioned in the newsletter?
Let the Church Office know! Thanks.

SARM happenings

Recent Events



ROAR VBS! Thanks to all Volunteers and Participants!



The Sound Concert and SARM Ice Cream Social

Upcoming Events

Labor Day Bridge Walk: Sept 3rd 7am
Pizza Party, Arcade, and Ice Cream at Nonna Lisa's: Sept 24th

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

September 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

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

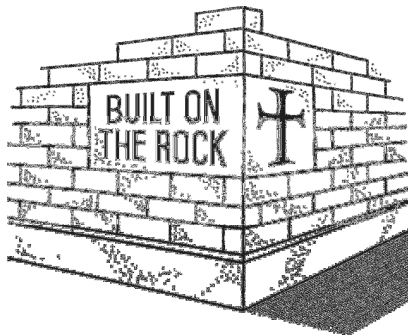
Church website – www.churchofthestraits.com

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday School 10:00 a.m.



I have been insulating my detached garage at our home and a question that is often asked is, “are you going to heat your garage”? The answer is that I might a few years down the road but if I don't, have I wasted money on insulating the garage?

I googled this question for myself and got an answer that satisfied me. Those who understand building materials know that extreme temperature changes and moisture levels can cause deterioration of many of those materials, like wood. Insulation moderates those temperature and humidity issues in buildings whether they are heated or not. The longevity of the

building is therefore increased by insulating!

Why in the world am I sharing this with you? I believe there is a spiritual analogy that can be drawn out of this. Read the following text from Ecclesiastes 7:10-18

10 Do not say, "Why were the old days better than these?" For it is not wise to ask such questions. 11 Wisdom, like an inheritance, is a good thing and benefits those who see the sun. 12 Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: that wisdom preserves the life of its possessor. 13 Consider what God has done: Who can straighten what he has made crooked? 14 When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other. Therefore, a man cannot discover anything about his future. 15 In this meaningless life of mine I have seen both of these: a righteous man perishing in his righteousness, and a wicked man living long in his wickedness. 16 Do not be overrighteous, neither be overwise — why destroy yourself? 17 Do not be overwicked, and do not be a fool — why die before your time? 18 It is good to grasp the one and not let go of the other. The man who fears God will avoid all [extremes].

The author of the text, perhaps Solomon, is letting us know that life and its extremes are meaningless, unless we place ourselves under the authority and loving kindness of God. When we do, we will avoid extremes. It's like the Holy Spirit of God is our insulator in our lives. The HS helps us navigate the extremes in our lives and moderates everything so its manageable, as long as we are in Christ.

Give your life to Jesus because he gave his life for you. Don't try to deal with all the ups and downs of life by yourself. Let the Holy Spirit of God be your insulator, to protect you and guide you through all of life.

Love ya,

Pastor Dave

