



September



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Worship COS 9am Concert 10:30am Worship Park 11am AA 3pm 31	LABOR DAY SARM Bridge Walk 1	2	Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 3	4	5	Men's Group 9am 6
Communion Adlt Sunday Sch 9:30am Service back to 10:30am AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 7	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 8	Pinecrest 2pm 9	Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 10	11	 12	Men's Group 9am 13
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 14	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 15	 16	Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 17	Men's Breakfast 8am Helping Hands 10am 18	19	Men's Group 9am 20
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 21	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 22	BOG M tg 7pm 23	Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 24	25	26	Men's Group 9am 27
AA 3pm Prayer Group 6pm 28	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 29	30				

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES**

BIRTHDAYS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Sept 3	Chad Robertson	Sept 21	Brenda Keller	Sept 1	John & Brenda Keller
Sept 4	Jim Churchill	Sept 22	Roger Moore	Sept 10	Ken & Kristi Laninga
Sept 5	Mary Lou Peters	Sept 23	Larry O'Brien	Sept 10	Matt & Shannon Cooley
Sept 6	Sue O'Dwyer	Sept 27	Gene Kapp	Sept 12	Todd & Sue Kohs
Sept 7	Matt Cooley	Sept 27	Lorahdelle Darrow	Sept 14	Ross & Lynn Bell
Sept 8	Emma Zabik	Sept 28	Quincy Ranville	Sept 18	Rob & Katie Strittmatter
Sept 10	Pastor Ed Weiss	Sept 28	Peter Walugembe	Sept 23	Peter & Caitlyn Ryan
Sept 12	Madison Jutson	Sept 29	Meaghan Kuehn	Sept 30	Jim & Judy Churchill
Sept 14	Don Hawver	Sept 30	Greg Brown		
Sept 15	Spencer Austin	Sept 30	Ross Bell		
Sept 18	Kim Jutson	Sept 30	Courtney Jaggi		
Sept 21	Karin Thompson				

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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

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Mike's Musings

When I was younger, I had many people telling me who I was. Some told me positive things, and others told me negative things. My Mom said I was loved and cared for. Some people said I was fat, some said I was lazy, some even said I never

would amount to much at all. As I got older people were still telling me who they thought I was. They said I was rigid, and overbearing as a boss. Others told me I was stupid and had no value because of my beliefs. Unfortunately, after many years of hearing negative things about me I began to believe what they were saying. This caused my soul to ache, and I began to feel I was worthless and didn't want to go on with this pain. Perhaps today you are feeling the same way.

God Doesn't Make Junk: Psalm 139:13-14 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

God's Masterpiece: Eph. 2:10 "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Righteousness of God: 2 Cor. 5:21 "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

We Are Light: Eph. 5:8 "For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light!"

Temple of God: 1Cor. 3:16 "Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?"

Holy Priesthood: 1 Pet. 2:5 "And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests."

You Are Loved: Romans 5:5 "For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love."

More Than Conquerors: Romans 8:37 "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

New Creation: 2 Cor. 5:17 "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Adopted: Eph. 1:4-5 "Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ."

Redeemed: 1 Peter 1:18-19 "For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God."

Friend of God: John 15:15 "I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me."

Light of the World: Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden."

Blessed: Eph. 1:3 "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ."

Royal Priesthood: 1 Peter 2:9 "You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light."

Child of God: 1 John 3:1 "See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!"

Don't let what others say define who you think you are. In Proverbs 12:23 it says, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." We guard our hearts by filling them with the truth. God's truth! Remember that God loved you so much He gave us His Son so we might be free. I will leave you with this Colossians 3:12-17 "Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father."

Service Time Change

We are currently in our summer worship schedule with service at 10am and Adult Bible Study at 9am. We will be returning to regular 10:30am Worship the Sunday after Labor Day.



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!!!. ☺**

Vacation Bible School took place the week of August 4-8. This year's theme was SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God! We had a total of 49 students registered--38 in grades Pre-K through 6th; and 11 teen helpers, ages 7th grade and up. Throughout the week, participants had an opportunity to make creative, underwater crafts; eat some sweet, sea-themed treats; play exciting, outdoor games; sing energizing songs about our savior; and to hear amazing stories from the bible! Each child also received a keepsake necklace with five bible points and verses from the book of John that he/she learned throughout the week. With the help of our congregation, this year's VBS participants successfully raised \$2,140 for those impacted by the Texas flood. These funds were mailed directly to the Kerrville Global Methodist Church and will be used to purchase school supplies for students in Kerrville County. A huge thank you to all the wonderful volunteers, and to our incredible congregation for your love, support, and prayers. Praise God for another fantastic year of VBS!

Pinecrest Fellowship is the second 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.



Wednesday Night Bible Study @ 6:30pm
Led by Michael Canales. Studying the book of Philippians. The study will be geared to all levels of knowledge. Plan for some good discussions and lots of learning. Please read the book of Philippians ahead of time. Hope to see you there!

Want something mentioned in the newsletter?
Let the Church Office know! Thanks.
(231) 436-8682 or cotsoffice@yahoo.com

Change to Make a Change
Kids helping Kids. We will be collecting your spare change as well as other donations to help support several causes this year including:

Coats for Kids
Operation Christmas Child “Shoeboxes”
Purses with a Purpose

We will have collection boxes for any items that are donated. Thanks for your support helping us to make a “Change” in our community.



SARM happenings

At Church of the Straits, We Love Kids!



SCUBA! VBS



VBS

Sunday Sundae

Upcoming Events

Labor Day Bridge Walk and Breakfast at Audie’s: Sept 1st

Shannon Cooley at Church of the Straits. Tues, Thurs, 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 2025



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.

Minister	Pastor David Wallis
Youth Director	Shannon Cooley
Head Ushers	Todd Kohs
	Erin Masters
Organist	Loretta Martinek
Treasurer	Donna Falor
Financial Secretary	Laura Jackson
Clerk	Laura Jackson
Administrative Asst.	Joshua Kuehn

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Church website – www.churchofthestraits.com



I like to watch wildlife videos on Facebook when they creep up on my phone! Perhaps it's just because I'm intrigued by God's creation and there is something about nature that just mesmerizes me. There is one video that comes up every so often that shows a lioness that is surrounded and being attacked relentlessly by a bunch of hyaenas (15-20 of them). Without help this lioness is doomed for death. She seems injured already in the video, but then all of a sudden, some male lions show up and the hyaenas just scatter and are attacked by the lions. The lioness is saved, and all is good in the animal kingdom.

If there is one creepy animal in the videos I watch it is those hyaenas. They walk funny, they seem to always have a smile on their face, and they look utterly ugly and evil. This video is an example of the war between good and evil. We are attacked from every angle sometimes and find ourselves in the teeth of defeat but as we cry out to God, The Lion of Judah comes to the rescue and saves us from doom.

Evil comes in many forms and sometimes it is violent and ugly and sometimes it's clothed in something seemingly innocent and slowly destroys us. John 10:10 says that "the thief (Satan) comes only to steal and destroy. I (Jesus) came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Luke 10:19 says, "Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you." Note that God comes to the rescue through us, not of our own doing.

Jesus once again encourages his disciples knowing full well that they will be attacked time and time again when he says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." I hope these verses give you and I encouragement that although the enemy seems strong and we may feel outnumbered or outmaneuvered, help is coming.

God's presence lives within us, and we are protected by the Lion of Judah (as Jesus is so called in Revelation 5:5). Sometimes our fight against the enemy is obvious – sin, addictions, pride and greed – and sometimes it is more subtle. But one thing is for certain, the enemy seeks to kill and destroy so don't surrender to it, instead fight with the armor of God.

"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes . For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Eph. 6:11-12

Love all of you,


Pastor Dave

