








February



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Men's Group 9am 1
Communion AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 2	Wmns Bible Study 2pm Temple Builders 7:30pm 3	 4	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 5	Men's Brkfst 8am 6	7	Men's Group 9am 8
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 9	Wmns Bible Study 2pm Temple Builders 7:30pm 10	Pinecrest 2pm SARM Cheer for the Home Team 4pm 11	Food Pantry 10am Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 12	13	 14	Men's Group 9am 15
SARM Bowling 1pm AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 16	Wmns Bible Study 2pm Temple Builders 7:30pm  17	18	Food Pantry 10am Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 19	Men's Brkfst 8am Helping Hands 10am 20	21	Men's Group 9am 22
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 23	Wmns Bible Study 2pm Temple Builders 7:30pm 24	BOG 7pm 25	Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 26	 27	28	

ANNIVERSARIES:

Feb 2	Scott & Cheryl Newman
Feb 11	Ryan & Amber Newman
Feb 15	Bud & Katy Stone
Feb 23	Ron & Ann McClue
Feb 29	Charlie & Kathy Heilman



BIRTHDAYS:

Feb 1	Amanda Bosel	Feb 16	Megan Wallis
Feb 2	Royce Ryan	Feb 17	Wendy Orsini
Feb 5	Eliana Walugemb	Feb 24	Julia Short
Feb 5	Donna Canales	Feb 24	Samantha Reed
Feb 6	Noah Batdorf	Feb 24	Bill Marvin
Feb 8	Connie Ware	Feb 26	Ken McGuire
Feb 10	Mary Marquis	Feb 27	Burkleigh Wallis
Feb 13	Marilyn Imeson	Feb 28	Diane Stevens

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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Mike's Musings

Life is hard! There is no question about how hard it can be. I'm sure you can agree. Most of the time it's hard because we make it hard but take heart God has given us the answers to help us navigate the troubles of this life. God desires to fully saturate

every part of us to help. God starts with our minds, flowing into our hearts, shaping our words, and ultimately transforming our actions. We first must get on board with God's plan for any of this to happen.

First, God begins with our minds. Romans 12:2 says: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." We find renewal of our minds in reading God's word, but don't just read it, memorize it, repeat it aloud, write it down, and then ponder it to see what God is saying to you.

Second, God works on our heart. Psalm 51:10 says: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Having a clean heart (or repentant heart) puts us back where God wants us to be, full in the Spirit. Sin affects our relationship with God. We want to always ask God to examine our heart to be sure we are being faithful and obedient to Him.

Third, God wants our words to be about Him. Matthew 12:34b says: "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." You can see that if we are in God's word our mind is right, and if our minds are right our hearts will follow, then our words should reflect God.

Fourth, God helps guide our actions. Matthew 5:16 says: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven." Isn't this how we show others by being the light?

God has a great plan if we want to have a better life. We need to learn that the same boiling water that softens the potato hardens the egg. It's about what you're made of, not the circumstance. So, when life gets hard remember God is helping renew your mind, make your heart right, guides your words, and helps you reflect Him in your actions. You have to take part in this, but you're not alone. God has a plan follow it.

Temple Builders: Male and Females!

Monday evenings at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall, we will be hosting a stretching, strength, and spiritual time. It will be a fun get together class with movement, stretching, and strength.

We suggest clothes that you can move in and if you have one (or extras to share) bring a mat. The class will have levels for all to feel comfortable- varying so some may be on their floor mat and others will be able to sit in chairs.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? Let's build up those temples!



Operation Christmas Child

February ideas are accessories – sunglasses, hair ties, hats, bracelets, necklaces, small purses/tote bags, bandanas, watches, rings.



Food Pantry Feb 12th and 26th

The Food Pantry is open for the season. Time 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. Help on Wednesdays is always welcome! If you have questions, call Rose LaPointe at 231-436-5307.

Food Pantry During Christmas:

The food pantry had a very busy christmas season. We served 36 families with food and 11 families with children's christmas gifts. We were blessed with a donation to cover all expenses. Families were amazed what God had provided for them. They were provided everything for a Christmas Dinner and more. We thank all those who donated to make this Christmas Special for those in need!

A Message from the Food Pantry

The Church of the Straits Community Food Pantry has been very busy providing essential food to those experiencing food insecurity within our community.

Through dedicated volunteer efforts and community donations, the Pantry continues to fulfill its mission of offering nutritional food assistance to those in need. We are averaging around feeding 27 to 36 families every two weeks. Christmas was our biggest pantry feeding 100 people, plus all those who have children received toys to put under their Christmas tree, so no child got up Christmas morning without a gift.

We are concentrating on praying with each family and because of this some of our attendees are now attending Church and one family will be joining. God has surely blessed us. All praise and glory to our Lord.

Helping Hands for Jesus in 2024

We started off the year by changing the name of our group from the Willing Workers to "Helping Hands for Jesus". Our ladies have been very busy this year with funerals, helping Shannon with many of the activities she planned for the children. Halloween was a rainy day, but it didn't stop the trick or treaters. We gave out candy and Christian bracelets to 250 kids. We made soup for the Lions Club Soup Supper. Donated money to the hurricane relief fund in Florida. Helped with the Christmas potluck. Bought new ornaments to sell as a fund raiser for our group. The photo on this year's ornament was a picture of the nativity scene we display at Christmas. We made cakes for the Easter Bunny Luncheon. Gave Christian books out to children and adults at the Memorial Day Parade. Had a Salad Luncheon for the ladies in our community, 100 ladies attended.



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.



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!



Shopping for Coats for Kids and Lunch at Pizza Hut

Christmas Eve Service

Upcoming Events

Cheer for the Home Team Feb 11th 4pm at Mackinaw Schools
Bowling and Pizza Party Feb 23rd at Sparetime Lanes in Cheboygan 1pm
Easter Bunny Lunch April 12th

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

February 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.

Minister
Youth Director
Head Ushers

Organist
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Clerk
Administrative Asst.

Pastor David Wallis
Shannon Cooley
Todd Kohs
Erin Masters
Loretta Martinek
Donna Falor
Laura Jackson
Laura Jackson
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 10:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Youth Sunday School 9:30 a.m.



I was looking at some pictures the other day in preparation for a presentation at the Library concerning Church of the Straits. It was really interesting seeing some pictures from way back before many of us were even born. Some of the pictures were from around the time the new church here was built. I didn't recognize anyone because my history here goes back only a bit less than 19 years ago.

A thought came mind as I looked at the photos, and it was this: "Who in this crowd of people breaking ground on a new building influenced some of the current church members here now?" Some of you would have stories I'm sure, but that touched my heart. I wonder how our lives will affect and influence the next generation of the Church!

Psalm 78:4 says, "We will not hide them from their children (God's teachings); we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done." Are we doing that? Are we doing that well? Even though people may forget we ever existed, we hope the message of God's love and salvation in Jesus Christ will be proclaimed throughout all generations.

Later in Psalm 145:4-6 it states, "One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds." There is a present responsibility for you and me to tell the world about Jesus, to tell the world about God and his great love for us, so that they too can be witnesses to the next generation.

So, getting back to the pictures I told you about earlier, some of those folks may never again be remembered on this earth but they may very well have been the catalyst to some of us gaining an eternal home through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. My prayer is not that anyone remembers me but that they remember that One I speak of!

That is a legacy I hope we all embrace. That legacy lasts not for a generation or two, but an eternity. Carry the torch and hand it over to the next generation!

Love y'all

Pastor Dave

