



August



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	Men's Group 9am 3
Communion AA3pm Prayer Group 6pm 4	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm  5	Pinecrest 2pm 6	STELLAR VBS Monday - Friday 9am-Noon		VBS Program Noon  3	Men's Group 9am 10
AA3pm Prayer Group 11	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 12	 13	Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 14	Men's Breakfast 8am Willing Workers 10am 15	 16	Men's Group 9am 17
AA3pm Prayer Group 18	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 19	BOG Mtg 7pm 20	Worship 10am Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 21	 22	 23	Men's Group 9am 24
AA3pm Prayer Group 25	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 26	 27	Bible Jo urnalng 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 28	 29	 30	Men's Group 9am 31

BIRTHDAYS:

August 1	June Toth
August 1	Rick Stone
August 2	Kim Flemming
August 4	Danna Marvin
August 9	Ed Palenkas
August 9	Donna Falor
August 9	Werner Schoenknect
August 10	Jon Cool
August 12	Denny Qualey
August 14	Jennifer O'Brien
August 14	Laura Jackson

August 15	Caitlin Ryan
August 15	Wayne Clemens
August 18	Lynn Bell
August 20	Bev Jones
August 21	Wilhelmina Ranville
August 21	Bernadette Ranville
August 22	Nelson Thompson
August 22	Mike Krueger
August 22	Lou Ann Sellers
August 26	Jerry Smith
August 31	Andrea Sarto

ANNIVERSARIES:

August 3	Terry & Jennifer Davis
August 6	Ed & Sue O'Dwyer
August 8	Mike & Karen Krueger
August 8	Roger & Debbie Moore
August 17	Dick & Jane Spayde
August 22	Hank & Nancy Hinsman
August 23	Mike & Connie Ware
August 25	Werner & Gay Schoenknect
August 28	Cles & Judy Hurlburt

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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

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Mike's Musings

So many times, I sit down to write what God wants me to say. I'm writing this a few days after the attempted assination of former President Donald J. Trump. Tensions are so high in our country, and I think Christians need to take the lead in lowering the heat. Matter of fact, I believe it is biblical. Paul wrote to the Colossians in five verses how all believers should act.

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."

I'm not sure I need any summation on what this means. We need to live this out daily. If you're not, repent today, and be more like Jesus. I love you all and hope you see how simple it can be, God shows us so much mercy and grace we need to do the same.

VBS is coming!!

VBS is August 5th – 9th from 9am – noon with the Friday Parent Program from 12-12:30 pm.

Our theme this year will be **Stellar! Shine Jesus' Light**



Light At Stellar kids discover how they can shine Jesus' love and hope in everyday life! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory

Buddies to remind them of Jesus' light, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Cosmic Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.

VBS is open to age 4 – to those going into 7th grade. ****Pre-registration is encouraged!** Please call the office 231-436-8682.

Instead of asking for specific craft items or specific food items, we've found we can get exactly what is needed and avoid duplicates or missed items if we take donations. Thank you in advance for supporting our community VBS program! If you have any questions, please contact Kim 248.345.6017. Thanks!

The Cheboygan County Humane Society is collecting UPC bar codes from any Our Family products. (The codes are turned into cash to benefit caring for the animals.) Just cut off the bar code label from cans, egg cartons, plastic jugs, boxes, shrink wrap etc. and place them in the red coffee can in the narthex. Sue O'Dwyer will get them to the animal shelter. Thank you for caring for God's creatures.

Carl Strieby's newly released "Judged by Jesus" is a profound and inspiring testimony of a man's spiritual discovery. From Christian Faith Publishing, the book is a compelling narrative of faith, divine encounters, and the transformative power of experiencing heaven and returning with a mission.

Carl has held many titles throughout his lifetime: master carpenter and woodworker, husband, dad, son, brother, uncle, friend, Harley enthusiast, and grandpa to name a few. He has always held a dedicated work ethic and a strong Christian belief. He is a loving husband and grandpa and enjoys spending time with their dog, Ozzie.

Carl shares, "I was an ordinary Christian—trying to do the right thing, usually attending church except when it interfered with his hobbies, praying (much more often during tough times), and going about his daily life. His life changed drastically when an industrial accident resulted in four resuscitations and several trips to heaven. This is his story, the story Jesus sent him back to his earthly life to share, the story of being judged by Jesus.

While in a coma, Carl saw, heard, and remembered everything said and done around him, including the angel Jesus sent to comfort and pray with his wife. He also saw his heavenly friends and relatives who preceded him in death. They shared wisdom and warnings of future events and messages for loved ones. Carl learned not to fret about earthly things; ultimately, they don't matter. In heaven, everything is provided for you.

The book can be purchased at traditional brick & mortar bookstores, or online at Amazon.com, Apple iTunes store, or Barnes and Noble.

Operation Christmas Child

We've been gathering items to fill boxes in November. These are just suggestions – look for items on sale or clearance! **August is school supplies month! Colored and regular pencils, sharpeners, crayons, note pads, rulers, scissors, glue sticks...the list is endless! And now is when school supplies are on sale 😊**



Swiss Steak Dinner @ New Hope Methodist

August 8, 2024 – 4 to 7pm \$15
1 Mile South of Levering on US 31
Church Phone 231-537-2000



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.



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.



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

Midweek Bible Study

Led by Michael Canales. Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 8pm. We will be studying the book of Romans. The class will be geared to those of all faith levels.

SARM happenings

At Church of the Straits, We Love Kids!



Children’s Time



Sunday Sundae @ Sully’s Sweet Shop

Upcoming Events

VBS August 5-9th

August 11th Sunday Sundae @ Dairy Queen Mackinaw City

September 2nd Bridge Walk and Breakfast at Audie’s

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

August 2024



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
	Erin Masters
Organist	Loretta Martinek
Treasurer	Donna Falor
Financial Secretary	Laura Jackson
Clerk	Laura Jackson
Administrative Asst.	Joshua Kuehn

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Youth Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

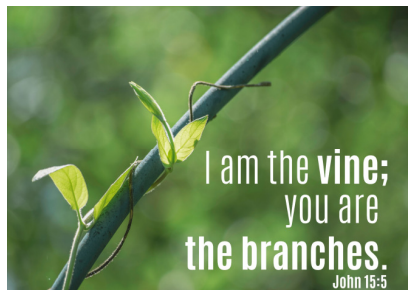
Office Phone: 231 436-8682
Office Hours – M-Th 9am-2pm

Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409

E-mail – Pastor – davidloveslisa87@gmail.com

Church office – cotsoffice@yahoo.com

Church website – www.churchofthestraits.com



Just this past week I heard a beeping sound in the church fellowship hall, and it took me a few minutes to figure out where it was coming from. I finally realized it was our AED device for shocking people if their heart stopped. The battery was low and giving us a signal to replace it. If we were on a regular schedule for replacement, this wouldn't have happened. Oops! What good is an AED device if the battery is dead?

Do you ever feel your battery is getting low and you need a recharge? What happens if you have so neglected your spiritual battery that the beep has started and you are in crisis and you desperately need a spiritual charge

only to realize you are so weakly connected to the source of your spiritual health, it doesn't seem to work.

I don't ever want to neglect my spiritual health to that degree. Oh, I admit I don't give it as much attention as I should at times, but I'm grateful that is usually a brief time. Spiritual disciplines are what keep the spiritual battery charged. Prayer, bible study, Christian fellowship and accountability, confession of sin, servanthood, and many other disciplines of the faith make sure that we always have a healthy and strong connection to our source of life – God! It all begins with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The secret is abiding in Jesus! That is where our strength comes from. We can't just put him on a shelf and use him as needed. It is all about relationship. Listen to these words that encourage us to abide. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Not only is our battery not charged when we don't abide but it is dead apart from Jesus. Where people of faith go wrong is when they see it as a religion. My tee shirt says it, "It's not a religion, it's a relationship." If it's a relationship then it demands communication, love, and a two-way street.

When I experience the wonder of such a beautiful relationship with Jesus, it actually becomes difficult to not abide. I don't know how to live without his abiding presence and his help and counsel in my life. Yes, I default to my old ways at times but realize without his abiding presence and my abiding in him I am in trouble. I have a low battery and am not equipped to handle the stuff without him

Thank you, God, for saving us and abiding with us. Help us make it a lifestyle of abiding constantly in you!

Love you,

Pastor Dave

