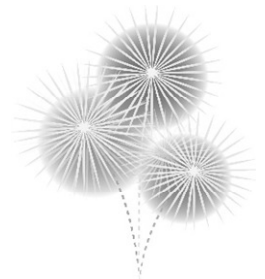








# July



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 1	Pinecrest 2pm PPRC 6:30pm 2	No Journaling 3	 4	5	Men's Group 9am 6
Communion AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 7	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 8	9	Bible Journaling 2pm 10	11	12	Men's Group 9am 13
Church Picnic 11:30am AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 14	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 15	 16	Bible Journaling 2pm 17	Men's Brkfst 8am Willing Workers 10am VBS Meeting 10am 18	19	Men's Group 9am 20
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 21	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 22	BOG Mtg 7pm 23	Bible Journaling 2pm 24	25	 26	Men's Group 9am 27
VBS Sunday AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 28	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm 29	30	31	 <b>JULY BIRTHDAYS &amp; ANNIVERSARIES</b>		

**BIRTHDAYS:**

July 1 Carter Jaggi  
 July 6 Knox Wilson  
 July 8 Mary Stanley  
 July 9 Kylie Reed  
 July 10 Cobe Robertson  
 July 10 John Keller  
 July 11 Cynthia Thompson  
 July 13 Rian Esper  
 July 14 Jerry Archer  
 July 16 Levi Walugembe  
 July 16 Myran Thompson

July 17 Brenda Beyer  
 July 20 Steve Powers  
 July 21 Lyn Benefiel  
 July 23 Dick Spayde  
 July 25 Carl Strieby  
 July 26 Mackenzie Jutso  
 July 26 June Heilman  
 July 26 Gussie Williams  
 July 29 Gay Schoenknecht  
 July 31 Deb Miller

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

July 1 Caleb & Courtney Jaggi  
 July 1 David & Stephanie Skeels  
 July 10 Brad & Samantha Reed  
 July 14 Mike & Donna Canales  
 July 14 Steve & Alicia Powers  
 July 19 Dave & June Bailey  
 July 23 David & Sherry Paquet  
 July 24 Jerry & Estella Smith  
 July 25 Nick & Dee Nickerson  
 July 28 Dutch & Deb Miller

Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian  
**Church of the Straits**



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Mike's Musings

We have been studying the book of Romans on Wednesdays and I thought I'd share a little of what we have been learning. We spent about four weeks going over this chapter, but this section gave me the hardest time.

Romans 12:14-21 "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

"Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse." This is impossible. I have to realize I can't do this in the flesh. I need Jesus to help. Then Paul tells us, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another." Paul tells us we all need to fellowship with likeminded believers and to share in their joys and sorrows.

Paul goes on to tell us we need to be humble and not think too much of ourselves. "Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion." This too is challenging. We are not being teachable if we think we know it all. God wants the best for us and helps us with His words of instructions like this: "Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

It'll end with this thought, if we love our enemy, they will no longer be an enemy they will be our friend. None of this is possible to do without God, if you don't know Him, seek Him out. I know He has changed me. Let God make you new.

### Music in Mackinaw - Walker Gospel Trio

Friday July 26th at 8pm Church of the Straits is helping sponsor this Music in Mackinaw Event at Conkling Park.



The Walkers are a family music group from Petoskey Michigan. Their style is Southern Gospel, Country, and Contemporary Christian music. They are graduates of Stamps Baxter School Of Music and The Godsong music academy of performance, from Nashville Tennessee. The group consists of Jana Walker, Tami Walker and Tom Walker.

## Samaritan's Purse Christmas In July

Please help Church of the Straits and Samaritan's Purse teach needy children around the world the true meaning of Christmas and give them a Christmas they will remember for a lifetime:

1. Take a box, pick an age for a boy or girl.
2. Fill the box with toys/items you think he or she would like. Please, no batteries, liquid or perishable items.



3. Bring the box to Church of the Straits We will still have our regular collection in November. **Suggestions: July is clothes month! Socks, underwear, shirts, shoes, sandals, sun dresses, etc..**

### VBS is coming!!

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

Our theme this year will be **Stellar! Shine Jesus' 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 7<sup>th</sup> grade. **\*\*Pre-registration is encouraged!** Please call the office 231-436-8682.

VBS Sunday will be July 28<sup>th</sup>. 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!



For those interested in helping with the 2024 VBS, there will be a planning meeting on Thursday, **July 18th** at 10:00 a.m. This year, we have a space theme titled Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light! Should be lots of fun. Hope to see you there!

**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.



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

**Church Picnic July 14<sup>th</sup> After Service**  
Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided. There will be a sign up for deserts.

# SARM happenings

## At Church of the Straits, We Love Kids!



“God Rocks” Mackinac Island



Memorial Day Parade

Cake at Mackinaw Schools



### Upcoming Events

July 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday Sundae @ Sully Sweet Shop

VBS August 5-9<sup>th</sup>

August 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday Sundae @ Dairy Queen Mackinaw City

September 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## July 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

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

**Pastor's cell: 906 282-7409**

E-mail – Pastor – [davidloveslisa87@gmail.com](mailto:davidloveslisa87@gmail.com)

Church office – [cotsoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:cotsoffice@yahoo.com)

Church website – [www.churchofthestrains.com](http://www.churchofthestrains.com)

### OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

July 4th is Independence Day, and many people celebrate the day with no regard for its purpose. It's a day off work, a time to enjoy family, and a beautiful sky display at night with the fireworks. That's all good but I fear indifference has been a problem in our country for a long time and I pray that this year will be different.



I enjoy my freedom as an American because of what happened leading up to Independence Day. Many gave their life so we could enjoy a land of freedom where we could worship God with no government interference and respect each other's freedom of expression. Many early leaders gave up a lot

so others could have. Many thanks to them.

We are on a precipice as a Country. Is it possible that we could slip into a moral and cultural abyss that we can't crawl out of? Could we become bankrupt as a country, both financially and morally? Have we perhaps lost the moral high ground in government and in our communities to the point where God's blessing on the USA is gone?

I'm not a pessimist, but I see what is happening! I also sense from a deep spiritual perspective that God is also doing something that to some seems impossible. Don't forget Luke 1:37 that states, "for nothing is impossible with God!" If God can allow an old lady to become pregnant beyond childbearing years, then he can wake up a country to return to its roots and worship God again.

Lord God Almighty, I pray that you would root out the corruption in our government. Remove the greedy and prideful, the self-serving and immoral, the liars and cheaters! Help us to seek those who are for the people and for the freedom of religion and speech. Help us to seek those who serve your moral purposes and aren't puppets of the devil. Help us to not look at the political bent but what they stand for.

I don't apologize for this tirade today. I am deeply concerned about our world. I want a world that is good for my kids and grandchildren as I am appointed only so many years of life and then I will be in eternity. I want pastors who will speak truth and the bible from the pulpit. I want congregations that love their community and care for each other in tangible ways. I want revival and renewal in America.

If that doesn't happen soon it may be too late. Whatever the case, I want you to be secure in knowing that God is in control and if the end is near so is the beginning of eternity with him. Come Lord Jesus come! Either to take us home or stir such a massive revival that many more come into your kingdom on this earth. It's a win either way!

Love you all,

Pastor Dave

