








April



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Jo urning 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm	Easter Flowers Due Men's Brkfst 8am		Men's Group 9am
			1	2		5
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm	Pinecrest 2pm	Food Pantry 10am Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Jo urning 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm			Men's Group 9am Easter Bunny Lunch 11am to 2pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Palm Sunday "King of Kings" 2pm AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm		Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Jo urning 2pm	Men's Brkfst 8am Helping Hands 10am	Good Friday @St Anthony's 1pm Church open 12-5pm	Men's Group 9am
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Easter Sunday Breakfast 9am AA 3pm	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm	BOG M tg 7pm	Food Pantry 10am Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Jo urning 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm			Men's Group 9am
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm	Wmn's Bible Study 2pm		Hand Bells 12:30pm Bible Jo urning 2pm Bible Study 6:30 pm			
27	28	29	30			

BIRTHDAYS:

April 1 Katy Stone
April 4 Rob Strittmatter
April 4 Sylvia Truman
April 9 Jeanne Ryan
April 10 Matthew Wallis
April 13 Ken Laninga
April 17 Betsy Naumer

April 22 Roxana Strieby
April 25 Lisa Wallis
April 26 Joan McGowan-Nash
April 28 Deb Downing
April 28 Donna Ptashnik
ANNIVERSARIES:
April 19 George & Gail Ranville



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 used to think that I was alone in my troubles and suffering, but worse than that I thought most people must not be suffering with anything. I know I'm not alone in my suffering, but in my mind I sometimes feel alone. So, I tell everyone I'm fine, because I don't want to burden people. Then I don't even ask God for help, and things get worse. We hide our frailties and go on like there is nothing wrong. That isn't how God wants us to do it. In 1 Peter 5:6-7 it says, "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

When I think I can handle my own problems I do trust in myself not God. That was hard for me to learn. More than that God showed me he doesn't always take my problems away, but that He is there with me through my problems. So, I'm not alone!

As I've grown in Christ, I found out we need to also share our burdens with others; not hide it because I don't want to burden anyone. Paul tells the Galatians as people powered by the Spirit of Christ. He wants Christians to share their burdens. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." So, what fulfills the law of Christ? To love our neighbors. If I'm unwilling to share your burden, am I really showing love? So, if I don't let others know about my burden can they show me love? The answer is NO. The saying around our house is don't be like Mike. Don't think you can handle your own problems, and don't think no one wants to help bear your burdens. We are in this together. Know that God loves you and cares about you, and so does Mike.

**Remember God is good all the time,
and all the time God is good.**

Temple Builders: Male and Females!

Monday evenings at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall, we are hosting a stretching, strength, and spiritual time. It is 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!



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.



Operation Christmas Child

Please continue to shop for shoebox items throughout the year. April is small stuffed animals and dolls.

Food Pantry April 9th and 23rd

The Food Pantry is open for the season. Time 10-12:00 pm. 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.



April 23rd will be the last Pantry for the season.



Change to Make a Change: Wrapped Candy

We will be collecting donations of wrapped candy for the easter egg hunt at the Easter Bunny Lunch April 12th

Respect Life of Cheboygan

Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10am in the Cheboygan Library. (the meeting room is in the basement). We welcome additional people to join us. Please call with any questions. Nancy Prindle 269-270-7123



Ryker Donald Newman – Born 2-28-25

7 lbs 5oz, 20.5 inches long.

Parents Ryan & Amber Newman

Grandparents: Rocky & Colleen Newman, Pastor Dave & Lisa.



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 James. The study will be geared for all levels of knowledge. Plan for some good discussions and lots of learning. Please read the book of James 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!



Upcoming Events

Showing of “King of Kings”
At Mackinaw Courtyard Cinema
Palm Sunday April 13th at 2pm
One adult and all children tickets free
Sponsored by S.A.R.M.



Easter Bunny Lunch April 12th 11am to 2pm

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

April 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	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

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Youth Sunday School 9:30 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



Have you ever wondered why in recent years all these ailments that were nearly non-existent many years ago are exploding on the scene today? I have recently been diagnosed with sleep apnea (milder case) and I'm not sure if the CPAP machine is really helping, but what has really caught my attention is how prevalent sleep apnea and the accompanying machines are! Why is it so prevalent today?

I'm no doctor but I wonder if, in addition to obesity (my issue) what are the other reasons why we have these issues. Diabetes is rampant! Cancer seems to be diagnosed more often. Depression and anxiety and all forms of

mental illness have increased.

Some of these can be traced to things like our environment or what we eat. Ultra processed foods, genetically modified foods, sugar, chemicals, dyes, preservatives, insecticides, weed control, and whatever other junk they put in our food really doesn't help. Drugs that are supposed to help with one thing create another problem. Some of it is the result of a sin-stained world where Satan seeks to kill and destroy.

I'm not writing to address the answer to all that but instead to address something more important than all of the above, and that is our spiritual health. We can be so concerned about the former that we neglect the latter. I addressed this very thing in one of my recent weekly devotions on Facebook and wanted to address it again here.

Scripture says, "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David." (Isaiah 55:1-3)

That covenant was fulfilled in Jesus Christ. He was and is and always will be our spiritual health. "In him we have life..." Acts 17:28

We may never figure out all the reasons we have these physical and emotional ailments while on this earth, but we can know for sure our spiritual health is guaranteed in Jesus Christ our Lord. That spiritual health does indeed have an impact on our physical and emotional health, and it has a permanence that is eternal. Make your spiritual health your priority. Matthew 6:33 alludes to this when Jesus states, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well."

Be well in Christ! You are loved!

Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave

