







MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Choir Practice 2pm AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 1	Wms Bible Study 2pm 2		Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 4	Men's Brkfst 8am Bingo 11am 5	 6	Men's Group 9am  7
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 8	Wms Bible Study 2pm 9	Pinecrest 2pm 10	Food Pantry 10am Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 11	Spring Blast Planning Soup Lunch 12pm 12	13	Men's Group 9am 14
Choir Practice 2pm AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 15	Wms Bible Study 2pm 16	Easter Flower Orders Due  17	Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 18	Men's Brkfst 8am Helping Hands 10am 19	Party Setup 11am-2pm Cake Decorating 20	Men's Group 9am Kids Spring Blast Party 11am-2pm 21
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 22	Wms Bible Study 2pm 23	BOG 7pm 24	Food Pantry 10am Bell Chior 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Bible Study 6:30pm 25		 27	Men's Group 9am 28
Palm Sunday Choir Practice 2pm AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 29	Wms Bible Study 2pm 30	 31				

BIRTHDAYS:

March 1	Lucas Hunt	March 11	Sherry Paquet	March 27	Kate Walugembe
March 1	Lily Hunt	March 12	Georgia Prillwitz	March 29	Bud Stone
March 1	Addison Boesel	March 14	Peter Ryan	March 30	Steve Toth
March 1	Gaia Kreps	March 14	Brad Reed	ANNIVERSARIES:	
March 2	Jameson Jutson	March 15	Asher Kreps	March 6	Jim & Diane Stevens
March 6	Judy Churchill	March 17	Pat Hubbard	March 25	Richard & Darlene Krueger
March 7	Patricia Soper	March 18	Stephanie Skeels		
March 8	Jean Hunt	March 23	Tim Zabik		
March 9	Jill Westhuis	March 24	Todd Kohs		
March 10	Emilia Grace Laninga	March 24	Jane Spayde		



Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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

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Mike's Musings

In today's world almost everything is disposable. I remember a day when something in our home would break and we would take it to get it fixed, Things used to last longer, but not today. Now we just throw it out when it doesn't work. It's no longer useful so we throw it away. All you have to do is go to a junk yard and see what was once useful like a car or refrigerators piled up ready to be scrapped.

I recently bought a new car, and I paid more for it than I did for my first house. Someday that car will end up on the scrap heap too. I'm so glad God doesn't work like that. He paid a great price for me and you to become His child. 1 John 4:9 (NIV) says, "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him." So, understand that you and I have value. God doesn't throw us away when we have lost our usefulness to others.

Matthew 6:26 (NKJV) says, "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" I write these things, so we remember God is for us. Always know you have value and that God is looking after you.

If you are struggling with the question if you have value, or if you don't know Jesus go to Him. Ask Him to be your God and savior. He will change you into a new creature, like a caterpillar becomes a butterfly. We sometimes think we are all used up and have no value. Jesus gave His life to prove that we are valuable. That was done while we were yet sinners. Trust in God, He doesn't want any of us to perish. Never think you are all used up because God has paid a great price for you and wants the very best for you.



Operation Christmas Child

Ideas for March are socks, underwear, mittens & hats this month.

Food Pantry Mar 11th and 25th at 10am to noon

Help is needed to support healthy nutrition for those in need. We will need donations and help to distribute food on the day of the events. Please plan to help out if you are able. Thanks!



Candy Donations Needed

Unopened, wrapped candy that will fit in the plastic easter eggs is needed for the Spring Blast Party. Please drop them off in the Youth Room. Thanks!

Spring Blast Party Cake Decorating and Setup

Friday March 20th 11am to 2pm. Please help out!



Crafting Bee Saturday March 14th

Crafting will start at 2pm and continue until 6pm (or when people are "crafted out"- whichever comes first). Bring your paints, scrapbook paper, sewing, or whatever you like to do. Daycare provided. Contact Samantha Sprague @ 231-884-4458 with questions.

Easter Choir Practice Mar 1, 15, 29 at 2pm



Sidewalk Prophets: May 31st 2026 7pm at the Cheboygan Opera House!

The Evangelism Committee is excited to announce we are sponsoring an acoustic evening with Sidewalk Prophets, a contemporary Christian band from Nashville. This is a great opportunity for you to invite friends and family (especially teens). Sidewalk Prophets won the GMA's Dove Award for the "New Artist of the Year" in 2010. Some of their charted singles include "The Words I Would Say," "You Love Me Anyway," and "Live Like That."

Discounted tickets may be purchased through the church office at \$21 each. If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Cooley.



Winter Bingo March 5th 11am

Helping Hands will be hosting a free Winter Bingo event with prizes. Doors open at 11am and lunch at 11:30am.

Kids Spring Blast Party Planning March 12th

Meet at noon. Will go over the games and get ready for the party. Soup Lunch provided.



If you wish to order Easter Lilies, Tulips, Azaleas, or Hydrangeas to decorate the sanctuary for Easter please fill out this form and return it to the church office **no later than March 17th**.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:

All flowers are in 6" pots and in a basket.
Lilies and Tulips = \$30 each
Hydrangeas \$55 and Azaleas \$50 each

Make check payable to: Church of the Straits, with the memo area marked "Easter Flowers".

Mail the form and payment to:
Church of the Straits
PO Box 430
Mackinaw City, MI 49701

Please indicate your choice:

____Lily ____Tulip

____Hydrangea ____Azalea

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 "Shoebboxes" 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!



Valentines Gifts



Cheer for the Home Team!

Upcoming Events

Kid's Spring Blast Party! March 21st 11am to 2pm

Kids Games, Prizes, Lunch, Easter Egg Hunt, Cake Walk and a visit from the Easter Bunny!

Sunday School Spring Break Starts March 29th with classes resuming April 12th.

Shannon Cooley at Church of the Straits. Wed-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

March 2026



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.

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.churchofthestrains.com

There is a big push in the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) to help us as Americans to eat healthy. I must admit, this is welcomed by me because I need help with eating more healthily. For those of us who have followed this recently they have now almost flipped the food pyramid we used to use. I hope and pray this will assist us in making us more healthy people.

If I was to write down all that I eat over a month's timeframe I don't think I would be happy with what I wrote down. Yes, there was some healthy stuff, but what about all that junk food? It will take effort and perseverance for me to change that. Time will tell if I get on track.



There is a spiritual application to my struggle as well. We take in a whole lot of information as people in our information saturated generation. Some of it is good and some of it is bad. Some of it is true and some of it is lies. I guess my question is, "what are we feeding our soul?" Are we spiritually healthy or not? What is the spiritual food pyramid that we are building?

Hebrews 6:17-20 says, "Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf."

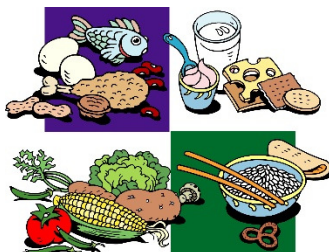
This sets the stage for our spiritual food pyramid! It starts with God's Word. We can't know God without knowing His Word. In His Word we discover our spiritual health is entirely dependent on what Jesus did for us when He died and rose again (taking us from death to life). The Word is supplemented by prayer and Christian community. We need to hold each other accountable. It's fostered by living for Christ with our minds, hands and feet. It can be bolstered by reading Christian authors, etc...

What happens sometimes is that we don't start with God's Word as anchor. It is then that the pyramid can fall apart. We hear wrong teachings about Christ and Christianity. We learn from authors that may not be anchored in Scripture and so we stray. We even start listening to voices that are contrary to the Word.

I hazard to say, that this is the problem in some our churches where the pyramid does not start with the Bible. It becomes unhealthy and confusing. I want spiritual health, so it takes discipline. I need to transfer that same principle to my food health as well. It's not easy but it's healthy.

Love you all,

Pastor Dave



For God did not give us a spirit of timidity,
 but a spirit of **power,**
 of **love**
 and of **self-discipline.**
 2 Timothy 1:7