



December



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Communion AA 3pm Cantata Practice 3:30p.m Prayer Group 5pm 1	Wms's Bible Study 2pm 2	Pinecrest 2pm 3	Pantry 10am Bell Choir 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 18:20 Meetup 6:30pm 4	Men's Brkfst 8am 5	 6	Men's Group 9am Gift Wrapping 11am 7
Christmas Cantata 2pm AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 8	Wms's Bible Study 2pm Poinsettia Orders Due! 9	 10	Bell Choir 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm 18:20 Meetup 6:30pm 11	 12	 13	Men's Group 9am 14
Annual Potluck AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 15	Wms's Bible Study 2pm 16	BOG 7pm 17	Pantry 10am Bell Choir 12:30pm Bible Journaling 2pm Blue Christmas 7pm 18	Men's Brkfst 8am Helping Hands 10am 19	 20	Men's Group 9am 21
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 22	Wms's Bible Study 2pm 23	Christmas Eve 7pm 24	 25	 26	 27	Men's Group 9am 28
AA 3pm Prayer Group 5pm 29	 30	 31				

BIRTHDAYS:

Dec 1	Teri Bell
Dec 2	Julie Burnett
Dec 3	Roy Cole
Dec 7	Todd Janeczek
Dec 7	Hank Hinsman
Dec 7	Barbara Stone
Dec 9	Sue Austin
Dec 12	Bill Doest
Dec 13	Ron McClue

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dec 1	Nelson & Denise Thompson
Dec 5	Chuck & Ginny Brew
Dec 16	Nelson & Rose LaPointe
Dec 18	Bill & Danna Marvin
Dec 18	Spencer & Sue Austin
Dec 29	Walt & Betsy Naumer
Dec 31	Danny & Quincy Ranville



Global Methodist and ECO Presbyterian
Church of the Straits



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

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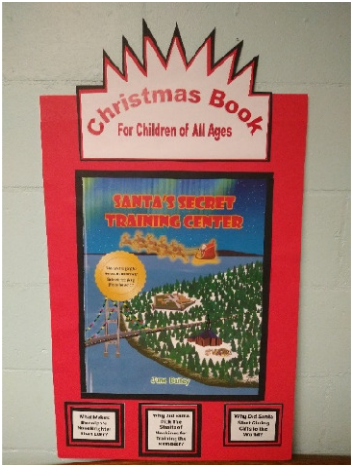
Mike's Musings

The birth of Jesus is celebrated in the month of December, so I wanted to talk about why He came down to earth. John 1:1-5 says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.” God had this planed from the begging of time to bring light into the world of darkness.

The world doesn't understand or even care why Jesus came. Isaiah 7:14 says, “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel.” Immanuel in Hebrew means “God with us”. So, God needed to be like us (human) so we knew he understood what life is like. He also came to be a sacrifice for our sin. 1 John 4:10 says, “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”

Why did we need a sacrifice? Many think that the sacrifice for sin in the Old Testament didn't work so God needed something different. That wasn't it at all. God wanted us to have faith and follow Him, but we wanted to do it through works instead. As I studied Romans, I learned that we didn't listen to God we tried to do it our own way. God has perfect timing and saw that man just kept going the wrong way. For those that know God we understand why Jesus came. We understand that we have a sin nature because Adam sinned. We can't fallow the Law on our own, we need Jesus. His sacrifice paid for my sins and yours. His blood, His death, His stripes healed us from the wages of our sin. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this month, remember why He came. He came to die for every single person. May you walk in the knowledge of why He came and what He did.

For Sale: Santa's Secret Training Center Book



A fun way to teach children why Santa (St Nicholas) “started” giving gifts to the world. Families can start a new Godly Christmas tradition by reading this story every Christmas. The story takes place in the Straits of Mackinaw and ends at our very own nativity scene. 100% of the profits will be going to Children’s Ministries.

Books will be back in Church mid Nov. Any questions please call June Bailey 989-385-5050 or the Church office. Out of towners can buy on Amazon.com



Christmas Cantata will be returning Dec 8th at 2pm. Thanks to Sharolyn Metternich for leading and all those who are participating.

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.

Food Pantry Dec 4, 18, and Jan 1st

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!



Operation Christmas Child

We collected 253 Boxes! Thanks to everyone who participated and donated. We are still accepting donations to help cover the shipping cost.



**Christmas Eve Service
7pm on Tuesday Dec 24th**



If you would like a plant to decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas season, please fill out the following form. After Christmas Eve, you may take your plant home, or give it away as a gift.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:

Each 6” potted poinsettia is \$15.75.
Your order must be in no later than Monday, December 8th at the church office.
Please make check payable to:
Church of the Straits
P.O. Box 430
Mackinaw City, MI 49701

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.



Gussie Williams New Address
Beacon Hill #445
2400 South Finley Road
Lombard, IL 60148



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

Christmas "Wrap Session" Dec 7th 11am-3pm
Get those gifts wrapped before they are discovered! Enjoy a yuletide atmosphere. Nibble on cookies, savor a little coffee. Enjoy shortening your holiday to-do list. Wrapping paper is supplied.

Matthew 18:20 Meetup Class
Meeting on Wednesdays at 6:30pm to fellowship and discuss various topics. Please plan to attend!

SARM happenings

At Church of the Straits, We Love Kids!



Cheer for the home team!



Packing Shoeboxes

Trunk or Treat

Coats for Kids

Help S.A.R.M (Straits Area Resort Ministry) and the Salvation Army keep kids warm this winter! S.A.R.M is accepting donations of new coats and monetary donations for our youth group to go shopping for coats. Dec 14th. Drop off location at Church of the Straits. Monday-Friday 10am to 2pm.

Upcoming Events

December 7th Help Decorate a Christmas Tree at the Rec Center
December 14th Shopping for Coats for Kids at Cheboygan Walmart

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

December 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
	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



Dear COS Family,

Another Advent is upon us. Our family is anxiously waiting for a new little grandson to be born in March. We wonder what he will look like and what his little personality will be. We look forward to seeing him reach new milestones as he grows.

I wonder what Mary was thinking. Watching this little baby turn into a toddler, child, teenager and then a man. As parents you know the awe, wonder as you look into the face of your baby and the love you immediately feel. A love that makes you want to sacrifice, love, and protect them. I can't even fathom the love that God has for us. A love so great that he sent his only son, born of a virgin, to live among us and then to die for our sins. There is no greater love!!!

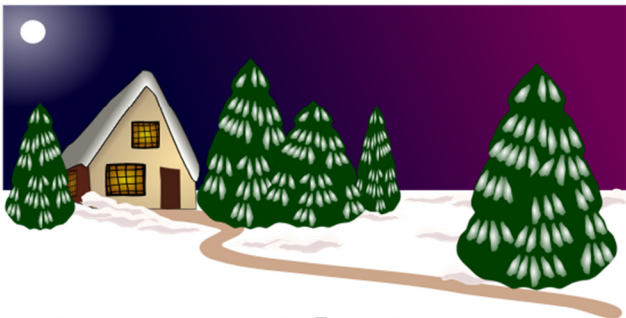
This Christmas season as we enjoy our family, friends, decorations, baking, gathering and all the wonderful things this time of year, remember the greatest gift.

Never forget the reason for the season - JESUS!!!



We love ya'll and we pray that you feel the present of his love.
Hugs and love,

Pastor Dave and Lisa



Merry Christmas