

St. James United Church of Christ

News from Pastor Ken

Newsletter
September 2017
Volume 2, Issue 8



Contents

News from Pastor Ken	1
Pastor Ken News Cont.	2
Upcoming Events	2
Discretionary Fund	2
Military Prayer List	2
Prayers Needed	3
Outreach Ministry	3
Birthdays	4
Anniversaries	4
Spiritual Growth	4
Earthly Gift Ministry	4
Worship Ministry	4
Fellowship - Ministry	5
Just for Fun	6
Christmas Shoebox	7
Roof Collection Meter	7
Kid's Page	8
Altar Care	9
Communion Servers	9
Ushers/Greeters	9
Liturgist Readers	9
Scripture Readings	9

I love fall. I would just be willing to wait a couple more months before it gets here. That being said, over the past years September seems to allow us to enjoy the summer for a few extra weeks.

I catch myself ever month lately wondering what happened to the previous month or months. I still remember my folks saying (and I would roll my eyes at them), "The older you get, the faster time goes." Now that I am my folks, it is a little less funny.

Having said all of that, I hope you have all enjoyed your summer to the fullest, whether swimming in the lake, camping, gardening or just sitting in the shade with a good book. The interesting thing about summer is that so much life happens while we are trying to slow down. It is a time filled with both rest and transition.

For many it has been a summer of joy and celebration. There have been graduations, weddings, vacation adventures, times with family and friends, or simply a time of relaxation and reflection. For some, it has been a time of challenge and loss as we struggle with issues of losing loved ones, health, employment, relationships, our own human limitations and just living life on life terms. For some of us the summer has been a blend of both. It is in these times that I am so grateful that God is ever present in our lives, not just when I want God or I find myself desperately searching for God. The good news is that God is always here especially in those moments when it doesn't feel like it.

As we start to prepare for the fall, I anticipate that we will have an exciting season of change and growth at St James. I look forward to the exciting return of church life. As our church family continues to grow, get healthier and stronger in number and Spirit each week. Although I am not ready for summer to end, I am excited about the year ahead.

Pastor Ken Newsletter Continued

Upcoming Events

- ◆ September 3- Communion Sunday and Discretionary Fund Collection
- ◆ September 4 - Labor Day
- ◆ September 11 - Patriot Day
- ◆ September 12 - Council Meeting
- ◆ September 13 - Discussion Group
- ◆ September 16 - Euchre
- ◆ September 17 Communion Sunday & Lake Inn Lunch Trip
- ◆ September 20 - Discussion Group
- ◆ September 22 - First Day of Fall
- ◆ September 27 - Discussion Group
- ◆ September 30 - Pizza & Game Night

I encourage you to share the good news of St James with your friends, family and neighbors as we continue to move forward into an exciting future with new opportunities for growth and Ministry. Continue to be persistent inviters. You never know whose life might be touched in a profound way by experiencing the love of God as expressed through our St James family.

Remember always that wherever you are on life's journey, there is a place for you at St James and you are always welcome here. May you live Spirit-filled, surrounded by grace and the love of God.

Take care and be well, Peace
Pastor Ken

**The Discretionary Fund
September 3rd, 2017**

Did you know this fund is utilized to aid with rent, utilities, medical supplies, food and transportation to doctors, etc.?

This is generated from the loose change collected the first Sunday of each month. Please empty your pockets and change purses that day to meet the needs of our church and community.



Military Prayer List

I will be including a list in the newsletter of our men and women in the military, to acknowledge those who serve and to pray for their safety. Please submit your love one's, family member or friend's name, rank and branch of service to Roberta Fisher in order to be placed on the list.

Prayers for....



Karen Marie
Sue
Scott
Mimi
Dan
Rich
Maraleen
Bill
Dale
Kathy
Irene
Clark Russell
Duane
Joanne
Dale

George
David
Deborah
Lynn
Johnnie
Paul
Peggy
Marion
Elmer
Rev. Perkins
Harmony
Mike
Rachael
Michelle
Tony
Roslynn

Outreach Ministry

Kids in Distress

Current needs are as follows:

Diapers, kid's underwear and socks, girl's shirts sizes 6, 7 and 8, boys pants size 3-10. Bath towels, pots, pans, dishes, silverware, fabric softener sheets, High Efficiency laundry soap

Desperate need of twin sheets and blankets as well as full size, twin size is the priority, can be gently used.

St. Augustine Richmond Food Pantry

In need of... pancake mix/syrup, canned beef stew, boxed potatoes, snacks for children's lunches, snack pack pudding cups, Manwich, juice boxes

Blue Water Area Rescue Mission - B-WARM

In Need of Cleaning Supplies

Blue Area Rescue Mission needs cleaning supplies and paper products, men's clothing (T-shirts and shorts). Hygiene items such as shavers, shaving cream and shampoo. Collection bin (B-WARM) is in the church basement.

B-WARM provides emergency shelter and mission program 7 days a week, 365 days a year for the homeless of St. Clair County as well as a discipleship program.

Happy Birthdays in September

2- Patti Maedel
10 – Cheryl Wagner
13 – Lynnette Osterland
13 – Denise Szymanski
15 – Mark Tews
17 – Mike Callahan
23 – Stella Czenkus
23 – Audrey Teltow
30 – Matthew Kargula
30 – Elmer Uppleger
30 – Kris Dombrowski

Happy Anniversary's in September

6 – Jerry & Kim Lindke
12 – Ralph & Barb Ski
26 – Jessie & Chad Teltow

Spiritual Growth Ministry

Sunday School will resume on
September 10, 2017 and will end May
20, 2018.

We need volunteers to assist with
Sunday School, please let Sue Tews
know if you are able to help.

Pastor Ken will resume the discussion
group meetings for four weeks starting
on September 13. This 4-week course
will be based on the Lord's Prayer.
Discussion will be for 1 hour from

Earthly Gifts Ministry

Financial Goal Report

August Financial Goal Report

The August goal for donations was
\$5,750.00. Total donations received was
\$2,084.00 as of 8/20/2017.

Please review your offerings to keep St.
James in good standing by meeting our
financial obligations.

Worship Ministry

Volunteers Needed Please sign-up

Usher/Greeter, Liturgists and Altar
Care are all ministries we invite ALL
to participate in. Sign-up sheets are
provided in the basement for each
ministry. If you have any questions
what these ministries entail please
contact Devon Klomp. Many have
found that serving in these roles
enriches their worship experience.

Fellowship Ministry

ROOF BENEFIT

PIZZA!



St. James will be hosting a game / pizza party on September 30 for all to enjoy. Bring your favorite game and/or join in on a game someone else brought to share. Card games and board games are acceptable in all age groups. Children are more than welcome to join in on the fun. Please bring games your kids like to play and share.

We will have pizza and pop available for sale. A free will donation would be appreciated. Keep in mind ALL the funds collected will go towards replenishing the funds used to replace the church roof.

CHILI COOK-OFF
October 22, 2017 at 4:00pm.
Perch Point
7930 Meisner Road
Casco, MI 48064



The annual Chili Cook-off will be held on October 22nd. Please look at your recipes and sign-up for entering your best type of chili.

Sign-up sheets will also be available for signing up to enter chili contest, set-up, 50/50 raffle, bake sale, donations for raffle board and Chinese raffle. We will need to have people available for clean-up also.

The goal is to sell **200** tickets before the event!!

Lunch at Lake Inn
at 3711 Hunt Road in Lapeer, MI
48446
September 17, 2017

All are invited to enjoy an afternoon of food and fellowship by the water at this beautiful restaurant on Lake Nepessing. We will be leaving right after service on Sunday, September 17th and driving right there. Let's try and get seats by the window or outside if it's warm enough. We are unable to reserve seats, so it's first come, first serve. Sign-up sheet in church basement.

Just for Fun

THE GOLDEN PHONES

Author Unknown - Sent to Us by David Waldrop

It seems a man in Topeka, Kansas, decided to write a book about churches around the country. He started by flying to San Francisco, and started working east from there. He went to a very large church and began taking photographs, etc.

He spots a golden telephone on a wall and is intrigued with a sign which reads "\$10,000 a minute."

Seeking out the pastor he asks about the phone and the sign. The pastor answers that this golden phone is, in fact, a direct line to Heaven and if he pays the price he can talk directly to God.

He thanks the pastor and continues on his way. As he continues to visit churches in Seattle, Boise, Minneapolis, Chicago, Milwaukee, New York, Atlanta, and on around the United States, he finds more phones, with the same sign, and the same answer from each pastor.

Finally, he arrives in Texas. Upon entering a church in Dallas, lo and behold, he sees the usual golden telephone. But THIS time, the sign reads "Calls: 25 cents."

Fascinated, he requests to talk to the pastor.

"Reverend, I have been in cities all across the country and in each church I found this golden telephone, and have been told it is a direct line to Heaven and that I could talk to God, but, in the other churches the cost was \$10,000 a minute. Your sign reads 25 cents a call. Why?"

The pastor, smiling benignly, replies, "Oh, my son, that's very easy to explain. You see, you're now in Texas and, of course, it's a local call from here."



Outreach Ministry

September 2017 collection is for notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, crayons, general school supplies. **No need for dental floss or toys for the 2-4 age group, have more than enough.** Items accepted anytime: toys, hygiene items such as soap, washcloth, combs, headbands, barrettes, bows, socks, hats, gloves or mittens.

For 2017, we can no longer provide toothpaste (all that is collected will go to Kids in Distress and local shelters), toy guns or army men, paint sets and glue bottles.

If you are not a shopper, you can still donate to this worthy cause by providing a cash donation or monies to cover the \$7.00 mailing costs.

Roof Collection



The goal to replace funds of \$25,000.00 from investment funds that covered the cost of the new roof now stands at \$2,657.00 thanks to a generous donation from a family who had Memorial Money transferred to the roof fund. If there is anyone desiring to do the same please contact Ralph. Please keep this fund in mind even if it is a dollar or two. Just mark your regular envelope with the amount you wish to be allocated to the roof fund or use the small pew envelope marking it with your name or envelope number so your donation may be recorded to your contribution record. Please contact me or leave a message and I will return your call.
Thanks again Ralph [586-727-7347](tel:586-727-7347).

KIDS PAGE

(with adult supervision)

EASY APPLE CHIPS

Ingredients:

2 Red Delicious apples
Cinnamon
Sugar

Directions:

Preheat oven to 250 degrees F.

Thinly slice the apples and lay them out on prepared baking sheets. Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar.

Bake for 1 hour. Remove from oven and allow to cool briefly. Place on cooling rack to allow air to crisp them up.



Altar Care

September - Roberta Fisher

Communion Servers

September 2017

Preparer: Mark Tews

Communion Servers: Mark Tews & Roberta Fisher

Ushers & Greeters

September 2017

September 3 - Open
September 10 - Open
September 17 - Open
September 24 - Open

Liturgists

September 2017

September 3 - Open
September 10 - Open
September 17 - Open
September 24 - Open

Scripture Readings for June

Sunday, September 3
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 3: 1-15
Ps 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45b or
Jer 15: 15-21
Ps 26: 1-8
Rom 12: 9-21
Matt 16: 21-28
Spirit-Led Living

Sunday, September 17
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 14: 19-31
Ps 114: or Ex 15: 1b-11, 20-21 or
Gen 50: 15-21
Ps 103: (1-7), 8-13
Rom 14: 1-12
Matt 18: 21-35
Road to Freedom

Sunday, September 10
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 12: 1-14
Ps 149 or Ezek 33: 7-11
Ps 119: 33-40
Rom 13: 8-14
Matt 18: 15-20
Remember, Restore, Renew

Sunday, September 24
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 16: 2-15
Ps 105: 1-6, 37-45 or
Jon 3: 10-4:11
Ps 145: 1-8
Phil: 21-30
Matt 20: 1-16
Tensions in the Wilderness



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SEPTEMBER
NEWSLETTER