St. James United Church of Christ

9008 Meisner Road, Casco, MI 48064 / www.ourstjameschurch.org/

News<mark>letter</mark> July 2018 Volume 3, Issue 7

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News from Pastor Ken



Greetings to all. I hope you are enjoying the summer. So far it has been just wonderful.

The gardens have exploded with all kinds of wonderful color and fragrances. I am thrilled that summer is here, and the long winter has past. It is a glorious summer.

As we reach the half way point in the year and July starts the back half, I am reminded to embrace each new day with all the opportunities, challenges and times of profound spiritual enlightenment that a new day brings. As one journey ends a new and exciting one begins. July is for me a rich time of reflection, gratitude and honoring times of major transformation in my life.

I am hoping that for you, this summer is a time of reflecting and relaxing. For some of you it will be a time of weddings, vacations, geta-ways and trips to the beach. I offer traveling mercies to you all, wherever this summer's adventures take you.

Remember, where ever you go, to stop in a local church and say hello and share with them about your home church and how God has touched your life. One of my fond memories as kids was my mother always had us stop by churches where ever and whenever we were visiting places to go in just say a little prayer and look around. She would say that it was important, so when the day came to meet God face to face he would recognize us and remember we had stopped by to say hello.



Upcoming Events

- July 1 Communion Sunday Discretionary Fund
- July 15 -Communion Sunday
- July 28 Yard Sale
- July 29 Healing Sunday

Pastor Ken Newsletter Continued

That funny little story still has me stopping by churches whenever I am on the road.

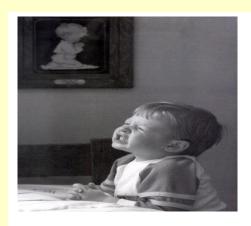
Unfortunately, for some of us this has been a difficult and challenging summer. Perhaps even to the point of trying our faith. Please know that you are not on this journey alone. God is always with us and makes God's presence known by surrounding us with friends, family (as I like to say, some I'm related too) and the occasional encounter with a stranger that God sends along to deliver a message. I truly believe that God is with me the most when times are hardest, and I feel it the least. My history is proof. I believe it to be true for you as well.

Others of us are just laying low enjoying those laid-back days of summer. Remember that list of everything we were going to do this summer...relax a little. The list is always bigger than the time and energy to do it. Do what you can, but remember to enjoy.

As we spend the summer relaxing and having fun, we have so much to look forward to with a new season of worship and spiritual growth. May your summer be a restful, revitalizing time, Spirit-filled and surrounded by the grace and love of God. And remember that regardless of where the summer takes you, you are held in God's unconditional love, boundless mercy, and unending grace and there is a place for you here. Have a great summer. See you Sunday!

Take care and be well, Peace Ken





Karen Marie
Sue
Scott
Mimi
Dan
Rich
Maraleen
Dale
Irene
Clark Russell
Tony
Baby Charlie

Johnnie
Peggy
Marion
Roslynn
Joanne
Baby Kennedy
Claudette
Judy

George

Deborah

David

Lynn

Outreach Ministry

Sherrie

Kids in Distress

Current needs are as follows:

High chair, crib, twin sheets and spring and summer clothes for both boys and girls in all sizes.

St. Augustine Richmond Food Pantry

In need of... assorted jams and jellies, boxed potatoes, Hunts Manwich, pancake mix/syrup, instant oatmeal, Hamburger Helper and granola bars.

Blue Water Area Rescue Mission - B-WARM

B-WARM NEEDS

Cleaning supplies: Toilet bowl cleaner, bleach, laundry soap, dish washing detergent, bathroom cleansers.

Men's clothing: sweatshirts, coats, and iackets.

Paper supplies: paper towels, napkins, toilet tissue, kleenex.

Miscellaneous: deodorants, shaving cream, shampoo, disposable razors.

The Discretionary Fund July 1, 2018

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.

Happy Birthdays in July

- 2 Barb Ski
- 7 Judy Tringali
- 7 Katelyn Strunk
- 16 Lynn Robertson
- 17 Jerry Lindke
- 18 Alexia Teltow
- 23 Ralph Ski
- 25 Dave Robertson
- 26 Bernice Callahan
- 29 Randy Smith

Roof Collection

We are still looking for donations to repay the investment fund for the funds used to reroof the church. Still needed is \$16,589.00 to reimburse the investment fund. The investment fund is the fund we would rely on in case something happens that is not covered fully by our insurance and we would not have to borrow money and pay an interest rate. Any donation amount will help. Mark your regular envelope what amount goes for the roof or use the small pew envelope with your name or envelope number, so it can be added to your church giving record for tax purposes.

Worship Ministry

Volunteers Needed Please sign-up

Please consider signing up for the ministries of Usher/Greeter, Liturgists and Altar Care. Sign-up sheets for each are provided in the basement.

Anniversaries in July

- 4-Julie & Chad Robbins
- 7 Sue & Mark Tews
- 12 Julie & Frederick Erhardt
- 19 Brenda & James Maedel
- 25 Mark & Paula Beattie
- 26 Mary & Randy Smith

Earthly Gifts

Our financial goal for June was \$5,750.00 donations received were \$3003.00. Please remember St. James when you are out of town on vacations or whatever events you may have planned since our financial obligations still continue.



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 to be placed on the list.

A Prayer for America

Father in Heaven, We, the people, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, desperately need You.

Oh that we would leave our ways of seeking to be blessed and instead seek to bless others. We beg for Your guidance and wisdom for our leaders.

We ask You to protect our land from enemies, both within and without. And we praise you for the freedom we have through the blood of Your Son. May Your plan be the desire of our nation. rachelwojo.com

Amen

Christmas Shoeboxes

We collect the below items for boys and girls from the age of 2 to 14 years old. Our goal is to fill 100 boxes by November 2018 without running out of items. July 2018 collection is Socks (All Men, Women and Children - All sizes (No children small size). Items accepted anytime are: hat, gloves, socks, toys, school supplies (pens, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, small note books, glue, crayons), hygiene items (soap, washcloths, combs, toothbrushes, floss), headbands, barrettes and bows.

We have made 100 tote bags to be included in each shoebox this year. Thank you to all who contributed their time, material/cord or lunch items.

We can no longer provide toothpaste, 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 \$9.00 mailing costs.

St. James Yard Sale

Clean out your ATTICS, GARAGES and BASEMENTS and make some money for yourself and help raise funds for St. James Roof Fund at the same time. St.



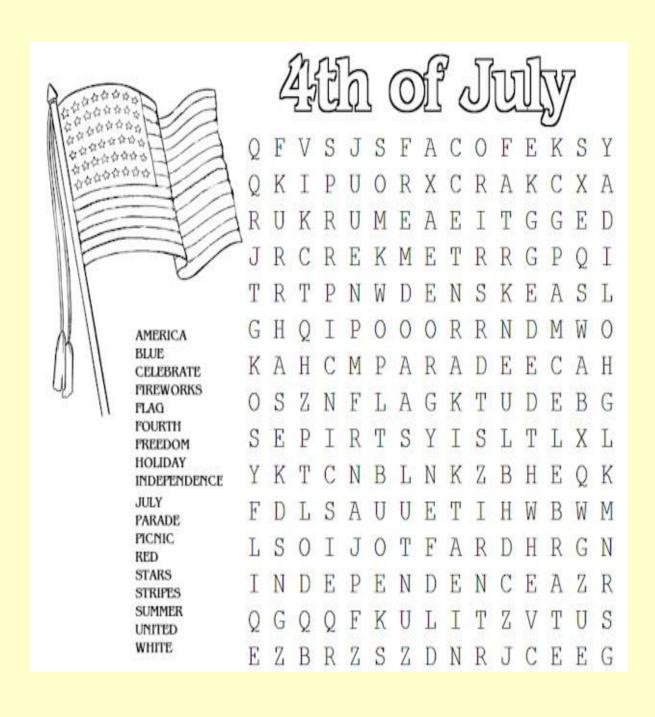
James will be hosting a Yard Sale on Saturday, July 28th from 9am to 3pm. You can purchase a table for your items at the low cost of \$10.00. You keep the profits from your table. You will be responsible for pricing, setting up, manning your table and taking away/donating any items not sold at end of day. We will be one of three Yard Sales in the area being advertised (Casco Twp. Hall and St. Paul's). We will also be

selling hotdogs, lemonade and water for hungry and thirsty shoppers. The last hour of the yard sale it will be fill a bag for \$2.00.

Bottle / Can Collection

We are collecting empty and clean bottles and cans with a deposit on them to support our Christian Education Program. Please bring them to church, there is a box in the basement, back room, by the door for them.

Kid's Page Find the hidden words



Altar Care

July - Cindy & Dan Klomp

Communion Servers

Preparer: Teri Wagner

Communion Servers: Teri Wagner &

Sherrie Ingles

Ushers & Greeters

July 1 - Open July 8 - Open July 15- Open July 22 - Open July 29 - Open

Liturgists

July 1 - Open July 8- Open July 15 - Open July 22- Open July 29 - Open

Scripture Readings for July

Sunday, July 1

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Sam 1: 1, 17-27

Ps 130 or Wis of Sol 1: 13-15, 2: 23-24 or

Lam 3: 22-33

Ps 30

2 Cor 8: 7-15 Mk 5: 21-43 Healing Powers

Sunday, June 15

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Sam 6: 1-5, 12b-19

Ps 24 or Amos 7: 7-15 Ps 85: 8-13 Eph 1: 3-147 MK 6: 14-29

God Inspired Joy

Sunday, July 8

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Sam 5: 1-5, 9-10

Ps 48 or Ezek 2: 1-5 Ps 123 2 Cor 12: 2-10

Mk 6: 1-13

Sent with Power

Sunday, June 22

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Sam 7: 1-14a Ps 89: 20-37 or Jer 23: 1-6

Ps 23

Eph 2: 11-22 Mk 6: 30-34, 53-56 Wherever You Are

Sunday, July 29

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Sam 11: 1-15

Ps 14 or

2 Kings 4: 42-44 Ps 145: 10-18 Eph 3: 14-21 Jn 6: 1-21

God's Abundant Presence



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JULY NEWSLETTER