

# St. James United Church of Christ

9008 Meisner Road, Casco, MI 48064 / [www.ourstjameschurch.org/](http://www.ourstjameschurch.org/)

Newsletter  
February 2022  
Volume 8, Issue 2

## News from Pastor Ken

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Even though these continue to be interesting times, I continue to think of February as a month of hope even though it can be a challenging month with too little sun and too much cold. February finds itself strangely located between the festive holidays and not quite spring.

I particularly like the fact that this year Epiphany fills the entire month of February. Epiphany, the season of light, the season filled with ah-ha moments as we are invited back to the manger just like the wise men to experience Christ for the very first time, over and over again.

As I said earlier, I like to think of February as a month of hope. Epiphany keeps revealing itself to me every time I notice some little thing like driving home from a late afternoon appointment and realizing it is staying light outside later and later. Ahhh... Epiphany. Epiphany that moment when things are revealed to us. I love experiencing those ah-ha moments. Those are the moments when something becomes clear to me that was not clear to me before. I have been told and it has been proven to me that if we continue to maintain a working relationship with God, we WILL have spiritual experiences, awakenings if you will. This is not a maybe statement but an absolute statement. We just need to be aware enough to notice them. Is not that what Epiphany is all about. Learning to trust God enough to let God guide us and teach us, despite what we think is a better way. Allowing ourselves to learn how to grow and live more spirit filled lives. And then doing so. When we do that, we allow ourselves to be present to and experience a never-ending number of miracles that occur in us and around us.

## Pastor Ken Newsletter Continued

For those who are anxious about whether you are ready to do what it is that God may call you to do, remember that God does not call the prepared but prepares the called.

During this Epiphany season, it is my hope that you allow God the opportunity to shine more brightly in you and through you. May each of us bring a little more light to the world that so desperately needs it, as we prepare ourselves for Lent.

Remember that whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are held in God's unconditional love, boundless mercy, and unending grace. And there is a place for you here.

Take care and be well, Peace  
Ken

## Prayer List ....

Prayers for .....

Claudette, Shirley, Barb, David, Bev, Ralph, Rosemary, Sue, Frazer, Lee, Arnie, Wayne, Harvey, Lynn, Don, Lois, Marion, Tom, Brenda, Ben, Carolyn, Joy, Bill, Prange Family, Jenney, Wanda, Trisha, Ljupka (Lupeka), Tamara, Ken, Kathy, Michael, Gina, Jim, Faith, Linda, Families of St. John & St. James



## Outreach Ministry

### Blue Water Area Rescue Mission - B-WARM

#### B-WARM NEEDS

**Both Men and Women houses:**

Current needs. No current needs.

They are thankful for the church's support and continued prayers. Continued prayers for Arnie's continued recovery and success on restarting their programs.

#### Helping Hands

**Current Needs:** Canned vegetables and tuna.

Not accepting books and furniture currently.

**No expired or opened boxes of food accepted.**

#### Kids in Distress

**Current needs** are as follows:

Socks, underwear and boots all sizes, boys pants sizes 7-12, 14 & 16.

## **Birthdays in February**

2-5 Chris Brogan  
2-13 Gordie Kulman  
2-14 Chad Robbins  
2-16 Kim Lindke  
2-17 Paula Beattie  
2-19 Christie Bandlow  
2-19 Bernard Teltow  
2-23 Art Wagner  
2-23 Dale Bandlow  
2-25 Chad Czenkus  
2-29 Ronald Fisher

## **Anniversary in February**

2-28 Julie & Hunter Wendt

## **Earthly Gifts**

The temporary Goal for January is \$5,345.00 until our Annual Meeting TODAY! This month donations were \$3,313.00 which includes \$171.25 from Euchre proceeds.

If at all possible please attend the Annual Meeting TODAY after service to discuss important church matters.

## **Spiritual Ministry**

Sunday School is in session. Please feel free to bring your children to church and partake in the weekly Sunday School classes.

Please contact Sue Tews if you are interested in helping with Sunday school.

## **The Discretionary Fund February 6, 2022**

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.

## FEBRUARY'S GRIEF

"I am the shortest month of the year,"  
Said February, and shed a tear.  
"The other months have thirty days  
In which to show their pretty ways.

"It isn't fair and it makes me cry.  
I try to grow, I try, I try!  
I stretch until I am simply limp,  
But I just keep on being a shrimp!"

But February hushed his cries  
When suddenly to his surprise,  
He found himself a day longer!  
It made him feel so much stronger.

He gave a loud delighted shout,  
He danced and capered all about.  
Said he, "I'll show my pretty ways,  
And next year I'll have thirty days!"

But when arrived the following year -  
Alas! His cries were sad to hear!  
For he found himself all short again!  
They had taken his day! He didn't know when.

And there he was a shrimp once more!  
Oh, what a face his poor mouth wore!  
He moped and sighed and big tears came,  
And never again did he feel the same.

What really happened I'm sure you know.  
It wasn't because he tried to grow.  
It was Leap Year and always the extra day  
Is given to February - and then taken away.

by Lenore Hetrick



## Christmas Tote Bags for Local Community Charities

The items accepted anytime: hygiene items such as: school supplies (colored pencils, colored markers, erasers, pencil sharpeners, crayons, scissors, rulers) toothpaste, washcloths, headbands, barrettes and bows, and socks (small sizes – boys & girls), washcloths, floss, and toothpaste and toys. We collect the below items for boys and girls from the age of 2 to 14 years old. We filled 116 tote bags this year for the below organizations. Thank you all for the giving of items, your time, material and for delivering the bags.

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### Ministry Needing Helpers!!!!

Members are needed to take the items received for donation to B-Warm, Kids-In-Distress and Helping Hands in Marine City, MI. As you see the boxes/tubs getting full please feel free to help in this ministry by taking the items to the designated places. **Call first**, to make sure they are open for deliveries.

#### B-Warm

1920 24th St  
Port Huron, MI 48060  
(810) 956-0768

#### Kids-In-Distress

Bev & Gordie Kulman  
1114 S 7th St  
St. Clair, MI 48079  
(810) 326-4505

#### Helping Hands

310 s. Parker St.  
Marine City, MI 48039  
(810) 765-3848

### Bottle / Can Collection

Due to the circumstances right now, we will no longer be taking in actual bottle and cans. We are collecting cash donations from empty and clean bottles and cans you return to the store yourself that have a deposit on them to support our Christian Education Program.

Please bring the cash or a check to church. You may give Roberta Fisher or Ralph Ski the funds to give Betty Robertson. If you are unable to take them back, we will still take them at church for donation. Place them downstairs in the storeroom.



### 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.

# Kid's Page



## Happy Leap Day!



Y M Y Q J L R I L P R R J I O  
R Z A E A A P E W R U D L P Z  
A E O R S D A U R B O D H R X  
U F C E R P R A C T F I J O J  
R X A E L Y D W X W R G D P K  
B C I I E N S E N E G I S O S  
E T N S E R X K L N T U U S D  
F G Y L Y T G A P T H B I E O  
S A A U R T N B O Y R Q L Y X  
D C B A N D X S W N E V U T Q  
S R A E Y L H I G I E R J Q V  
A U G U S T U S S N S G A W R  
J U L I A N S C W T Q T M E V  
A Y D P B E S K H F D W X Y  
D E R D N U H Y M Y P T Q A F

EXTRA  
DAY  
FOUR  
YEARS  
FEBRUARY  
TWENTY-NINTH  
THREE  
HUNDRED  
SIXTY-SIX  
YEAR  
AUGUSTUS  
CAESAR  
BOCCHUS

JULIAN  
JULIUS  
CALENDAR  
UNLUCKY  
MARRY  
CREECH  
IRELAND  
PROPOSE  
LEAPLINGS



## **February Activities**

Sunday, February 6 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am.  
Discretionary Fund Collection

Tuesday, February 8 – Council Meeting – 7pm.

Saturday, February 19 – Euchre – 6:30pm.

Sunday, February 20 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am.

## Scripture Readings for February

**Sunday, February 6**  
**Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**  
Isa 6: 1-8, (9-13)  
Ps 138  
1 Cor 15: 1-11  
Luke 5: 1-11  
**A Surprising Catch**

**Sunday, February 20**  
**Seventh Sunday After Epiphany**  
Gen 45: 3-11, 15  
37: 1-11, 39-40  
1 Cor 15: 35-38, 42-50  
Luke 6: 27-38  
**Love Your Enemies**

**Sunday, February 13**  
**Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**  
Jer 17: 5-10  
Ps 1  
1 Cor 15: 12-20  
Luke 6: 17-26  
**Surprising Teaching**

**Sunday, February 27**  
**Transfiguration**  
Ex 34: 29-35  
Ps 99  
2 Cor 3: 12- 4.2  
Luke 9: 28-36, (37-43a)  
**Astounding Glory**

**\*\*Live streaming of Sunday Services will continue at 9:00am on the St. James Facebook page and at 11:00am on St. Johns Facebook page. Both will be available by video once live streaming is completed.\*\***

### Facebook

Please follow St. James on Facebook. New postings, events and Sunday Services are posted on a daily or weekly basis.

### Weekly Emails of Encouragement and Enlightenment

Please sign-up for our weekly emails provided by Pastor Ken. Provide your email address to Pastor Ken at [kgadd@oursstjameschurch.org](mailto:kgadd@oursstjameschurch.org)



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## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER