

# St. James United Church of Christ

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

Newsletter  
May 2022  
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## News from Pastor Ken

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Is it me or has this has been a strange year for weather. There have been several days of near 70 degree weather. We have had days that included a little winter and summer all in a day of spring. This weather has been teasing us for over a month.

It makes me think that mother nature is struggling to let go of her wintry past and even though she wants spring to happen she struggles with making the commitment to spring. So she gets stuck between the two. Can't quite let go of the things she likes about the past and has anxiety about what the unknown spring can bring. In the meantime, it makes a bit of a mess of what's going on today weatherwise. Interestingly, that reminds me of my life journey sometimes. If I try too hard to hold on to the past even though some of it was unpleasant while at the same time being anxious about committing to the future even though in my heart I am aware of its wonderful possibilities. In so doing, I may not allow myself to experience the full potential of the present moment.

All that being said, I cannot believe how excited I am about the possibility of spring. I cannot wait to spend more time in the yard and in the garden. The gardens seem to be coming alive already. It is like they could not wait any longer. I love watching the gardens come alive.

Taking care of the garden has become a series of great life lessons for me. One of those lessons is that I am still learning to balance the hard work of gardening with remembering to take time to enjoy the garden. I find seeking that balance an interesting metaphor for life. We sometimes get so busy doing life that we forget to enjoy life. However, I am actually thinking about a couple new garden ideas for this year. They are always a work in progress.



<https://www.facebook.com/St-James-United-Church-of-Christ-10150090210425008/>

## Pastor Ken Newsletter Continued

progress. Once again, we will see how the plan unfolds.

I love the sight, sound and smell of spring, full sensory overload. The garden in early spring serves as a wonderful reminder of all the miracles of life. Just like in our own lives, there is a lot of amazing stuff going on, but because it often happens just below the surface, we sometimes forget to notice it. There exists an amazing opportunity for transition, both in our yards and in our lives. Often where and when we least expect it.

So this Easter season I hope you continue to look for the miracles wherever and whenever they may appear, regardless of how big or how small they may be. Remember, this is truly a season of hope and resurrection. As I work in the garden and experience the joy of new life, my hope is that each of us has the opportunity to experience new life spiritually as well.

With all of challenges that life brings, both in the world and in some of our own homes, it is sometimes hard to remember that God is with us always and at work in our lives. I think that is one of the true miracles of Easter and spring. We are reminded with every winter there comes a season of rebirth and new hope. Sometimes it just takes a while for us to notice it.

So look around, take a deep breath or two, and know that God is at work in your life right now. Even if you cannot see or feel it yet, God is preparing you for a personal Easter transformation.

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, Wayne,  
Danielle, Keith, Karen, Sue, Mark,  
Dan, Luran, Eddie, Carolyn, Lynn,  
Don, Lois, Marion, Tom, Brenda,  
Prange Family, Jenney, Tamara, Ken,  
Kathy, Michael, Gina, 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 success on restarting their programs.

#### Helping Hands

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

Not accepting books and furniture currently.

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

#### Kids in Distress

**Current needs** are as follows:

Kid's toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby shampoo and body wash, wipes, summer Pj's and sweaters of all sizes and shoes in all sizes.

## Birthdays in May

5-1 Brenda Maedel  
5-2 Sue Tews  
5-5 Eileen Riley  
5-9 Shelly Kargula  
5-13 Bev Kulman  
5-13 Lisa Mahnke  
5-17 Chad Teltow  
5-18 Nancy Maedel  
5-23 Cindy Klomp  
5-24 Robert Beattie  
5-24 Roberta Fisher  
5-27 Lynn Johnson  
5-29 Julie Erhardt  
5-31 Ian Wendt

### The Discretionary Fund May 1st, 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.

### 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.

## Anniversaries in May

5-1 Bev & Gordie Kulman  
5-2 Betty & Don Robinson  
5-10 Patti & Jerry Maedel  
5-13 Jason Szymanski & Jeremy Geneja  
5-20 Jennifer & Mark Uppleger

## Earthly Gifts

Our monthly goal for contributions for April is \$5,877.25. So far this month with great giving especially on Easter Sunday \$4,102.00 has been received. Even with this start in the middle of the month we must continue to remember there are other unexpected expenses that our giving takes care of when the real spring days arrive like gas for mowing, gravel for the drive and parking lot etc. If you would like to donate with a church envelope so we can keep track of your donations or not, please leave a message on the church phone 586-727-1623 or send an e-mail to [www.ourstjameschurch.org](http://www.ourstjameschurch.org).

### 50/50 Raffle Tickets

Tickets are now available for sale for the second quarter of 2022. The price per ticket is \$5.00 (purchase as many as you want and as often as you like) and the drawing will be on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10am, after service. A total of 200 tickets can be sold for a payout of \$500.00 if all tickets are sold. Please see Roberta Fisher if you wish to purchase or sell tickets.

## Memorial Day Tribute



### **FREEDOMS' MEMORIAL**

**This day is set aside to honor those  
who took the chance to die.  
But they have died in vain if we ever  
forget the reason why.  
Freedom can be like time  
slipping away before we even know.  
But we all have the choice  
more, a duty to battle freedoms' foe.  
Let us give thanks this day  
to all those brave  
who paid the highest cost.  
Not take it for granted  
and realize it easily could be lost.**

**by Del "Abe" Jones**

## 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.

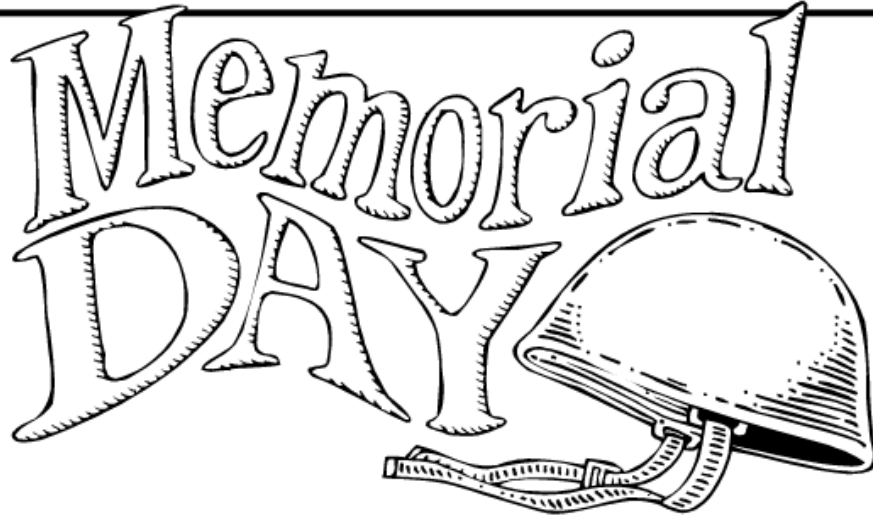


### Military Prayer List

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



KKTXGLDLUSCSDRWCBLBQMRP  
JBSMENVSYDREOAPSELZXACA  
NOVOPBEEFZSIEWVBIUCWOTR  
SHDXVWZAVEBACNGECJLDDSA  
FRYFJTCRRKLNWARNTIBJDMD  
SIAJAHWTHAJOLEVGVVEIIXBE  
WPUWMSSYRVYRQRVITFRFPGS  
SEAQDTLHCCPPEOCEOIAZOE  
LPBNOLBCEAHGPKLJKEVXNWT  
KQLRIURDYDCHKHMCRWSPSSH  
EXMDCSLOSGALFZLTRDLQQEE  
JAEMRJHLWYSSOLDIERSIRWI  
XACWHFZAPPZUBRQOMXBOSRO  
GEKHTWHAMNAQUVHPEBEBUTY  
QAVBIUDOXECIZYHDMSQZVAV  
CJSWYEKTUORXMTIBNCPNA  
BRDITKNEUDKIRDOXREVHLQQ  
QLQPYGLWHUFSCPVSASOJAHJ  
FSQHYELPBCKVFAJQNFBDMJA  
FKGNNMLFZQLVQSNNCWWGPPXC  
RAWMANTEIVUMWNNWEGUIYCN  
TVBCZPLXUVFMPYPKAXGEGUI  
ZGVHZSCUWBLZWUGQAREAWQN

*Civil War*  
*Desert Storm*  
*Flags*

*Heroes*  
*Korean War*  
*Parades*

*Remembrance*  
*Soldiers*  
*Spanish American War*

*Veterans*  
*Vietnam War*  
*World Wars*



### **May Activities**

Sunday, May 1 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am.  
Discretionary Fund Collection

Tuesday, May 10 – Council Meeting – 7pm

Friday, May 20 – Rummage and Bake Sale at St. John's – 9 - 5pm.

Saturday May 21 – St. John's Rummage and Bake Sale – 9 - 3pm.  
Euchre at 6:30pm at St. James

Sunday, May 22 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am

Sunday, May 29 – Sunday Service with Healing - 9am.

Monday, May 30 – Memorial Day

### **June Activities**

Sunday, June 5 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am.  
Discretionary Fund Collection

Thursday, June 9 – Fundraising Dinner at Fox Fire Fixin's - 4- 8pm

Tuesday, June 14 – Council Meeting – 7pm

Saturday June 18 – Euchre at 6:30pm at St. James

Sunday, June 19 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am

### **Fundraising Dinner – Fox Fire Fixin's**

Take yourself, family or friends to dinner and help out St. James at the same time. St. James will be hosting a fundraiser dinner at Fox Fire Fixin's from 4:00pm – to 8:00pm on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. The restaurant is located at 7200 River Rd, Marine City, MI 48039. They have a large variety of dinner selections along with alcohol available if you would like a beverage with your dinner. Just let them know you are with St. James U.C.C. and St. James will receive 20% of the total proceeds from the dinners and alcohol served between 4-8pm.





## Scripture Readings for May

### **Sunday, May 1**

#### **Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9: 1-6, , (7-20)

Ps 30

Rev 5: 11-14

Jn 21: 1-19

#### **The Way Forward**

### **Sunday, May 15**

#### **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 11: 1-18

Ps 148

Rev 21: 1-6

Jn 13: 31-35

#### **Image**

### **Sunday, May 8**

#### **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9: 36-43

Ps 23

Rev 7: 9-17

Jn 10: 22-30

#### **Life-giving Acts**

### **Sunday, May 22**

#### **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 16: 9-15

Ps 67

Rev 21: 10, 22-22:5

Jn 14: 23-29 or Jn 5: 1-9

#### **Disciples Together**

### **Sunday, May 29**

#### **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Acts 16: 16-34

Ps 97

Rev 22: 23=14. 16-17, 20-21

Jn 17: 20-26

#### **Breaking Chains**

**\*\*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@ourstjameschurch.org](mailto:kgadd@ourstjameschurch.org)

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