

# St. James United Church of Christ

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

Newsletter  
June 2023  
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## News from Pastor Ken



### Contents

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| News from Pastor Ken  | 1 |
| Pastor Ken News Cont. | 2 |
| Prayers Needed        | 3 |
| Outreach Ministry     | 3 |
| Birthday              | 4 |
| Anniversary           | 4 |
| Spiritual Ministry    | 4 |
| Discretionary Fund    | 4 |
| Earthly Gift Ministry | 4 |
| Father's Day Blessing | 5 |
| Christmas Tote Bags   | 6 |
| Bottle Can Collection | 6 |
| Military Prayer List  | 6 |
| Kid's Page            | 7 |
| Activities            | 8 |
| Scripture Readings    | 9 |

It must be summer. People are talking about weddings, family reunions, and fun on the water. To say nothing about the fact that the gardens are bursting, the birds are chirping, and everyone seems just a little happier. Must be all the vitamin D.

I do so enjoy finally having morning prayers and meditation on the deck. With a couple cups of coffee or tea, of course.

Something about summer that somehow gives us permission to take a deep breath, smell the roses, peonies, or lilacs or... (literally and figuratively) and give our minds, bodies and spirits a moment to simply be. Slow down, plan a day trip, go to the beach, sit lazily under a tree, and read, simply enjoy time with family and friends, or just be still for a moment.

For me anyway, and maybe for you, the key is to not try to rush through relaxation. Just be present and enjoy. You know that extensive list of things you need to get done this summer. I start the summer accepting the fact that the list of things I want to do is longer than the summer is. So, get done what you can but not at the expense of having some time for yourself.

Summer is supposed to be a time of regeneration, discovery, and transformation. The summer is full of exciting opportunities such as graduations, weddings, and road trips. This can also be a challenging time for some. Some of us face issues of health, money, and loss. Life certainly can be full of unexpected twists and turns. Some exciting and wonderful, some more challenging. Knowing that whatever the summer holds for us, we lift each other up and keep each other in our hearts and in our prayers.

## Pastor Ken Newsletter Continued

It always amazes me that even as the church year winds down, some of you are already busy planning and getting ready for the fall season here. So many of you are busy in selfless ministry. Please remember to take time to breathe and enjoy. This includes Music, Sunday School, outings, fun activities, euchre, meals, events, coffee hours, keeping the inside and outside of the property well cared for, bulletins and newsletters published, and on and on and on. Makes me want to rest just thinking about how hard you all work. A BIG thank you to all of you.

I am glad we can all take a well-deserved break and allow things to be just a little more casual. As we venture off for a time of reflection, vacations, and summer fun, remember that wherever you are, God is there also. So, when you have an opportunity, stop in other churches along the road and say "hello." Wherever you are, God is always happy to see you. And when you are back in town, tell us where you have been and what you have experienced, even if just around the corner. We look forward to seeing you.

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 first month of summer. I look forward to sharing the season with you.

Take care and be well, Peace!  
Ken

## Prayer List ....

Prayers for ..... Claudette, Ralph, Wayne, Danielle, Keith, Karen, Ryan, Judy, Sue, Dan, Luran, Kathy, Art, Hazel, Gordie, Holly, Steve, Barb, Gina, Chris, Tom, Michael, Deborah, Cheryl, Lorraine, Trudy, Carolyn, Ken, Sharon, James, Melanie, Scott, Bernice, Gary, Marion, Don, Dorothy, Brenda, Families of St. John & St. James



## Outreach Ministry

### Helping Hands

**Current Needs:** Crackers, cereal, canned fruit and veggies, boxed foods like Hamburger Helper, Rice-A-Roni, Mac and Cheese

Not accepting books and furniture currently.

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

### Kids in Distress

**Current needs** are as follows:

Socks and underwear – all sizes, hygiene items for both boys and girls and adults, shoes and especially boots – new or gently used, boys pants size 6 thru 14/16.

### B-WARM

Continued prayers for the future of the mission. They are currently looking at the possibility of having some new people in place in the spring and re-opening in the fall. Pray that all goes well!!!

**Birthdays in June**

6/2 - Larry Bandlow  
6/5 - Doris Doss  
6/7 – Wayne Ingles  
6/10 – Mike Lindke  
6/10 – Betty Robertson  
6/11 – Ian Riley  
6/21 - Elise Lyszczyk  
6/24 - Joan Teltow  
6/30 – Erin Riley

**Anniversaries in June**

6/7 - Sue & Mark Tews  
6/9 - Amy & Trevor Friedeberg  
6/12 - Lynn & Dave Robertson  
6/25 - Teri & Bob Wagner  
6/28 - Cheryl & Art Wagner

**Earthly Gifts**

**The Discretionary Fund  
June 4th, 2023**

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.

For the three weeks of May contributions totaled \$2,937.00. In addition, Euchre donation was \$283.75. The total donations needed for June is \$5,879.00. If you need to contact the church the phone is 586-727-1623 or send an e-mail to [www.ourstjameschurch.org](http://www.ourstjameschurch.org). Thank you for your contributions.

**Spiritual Ministry**

Please feel free to bring your children to church and partake in the bi-weekly Sunday School classes (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday). Please contact Sue Tews if you are interested in helping with Sunday school.

## Father's Day Blessings!!!

### What Makes a Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece  
was complete,  
And so, He called it ... Dad

## Christmas Tote Bags for Local Community Charities

### Christmas Tote Bags

A new updated list is available downstairs in the church of what is needed for this year. The tote bags are for both boys and girls between the ages of 2 and 14. The items accepted anytime: hygiene items such as: toothbrush holders, toothbrushes, toothpaste, washcloths, dental floss, comb/brushes, hair accessories such as head bands, ponytails, clips, bows, and barrettes and school supplies such as: notebooks, crayons, colored pencils, colored markers, pencil sharpeners, scissors (for youngsters and older children) , rulers, large erasers. Pens, pencils and socks, hats, scarves and gloves/mittens and toys.

**Please donate travel size items**, we only have so much space to store the items in for the year and we need to get all items to fit in the bags.

### **Bottle / Can Collection**

We are continuing to collect all bottle and cans at church. They can be placed in the back-room downstairs at church.

All donations should be empty and clean bottles and cans. The money is used to support our Christian Education Program.

If you need someone to pick them up please contact Don or Betty Robertson at [robertson3265@comcast.net](mailto:robertson3265@comcast.net).



### **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



### **June Activities**

Sunday, June 4 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am

Tuesday, June 13 – Council Meeting – 7pm.

Saturday, June 17 – Euchre at St. James – 6:30pm.

Sunday, June 18 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am.  
Father's Day Potluck Breakfast after service

### **July Activities**

Sunday, July 2 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am

Tuesday, July 11 – Council Meeting – 7pm.

Saturday, July 15 – Euchre at St. James – 6:30pm.

Sunday, July 16 – Sunday Service with Holy Communion – 9am

Sunday, July 30 – Sunday Service with Healing – 9am



**Scripture Readings for June**

**Sunday, June 4**

**Trinity Sunday**

Gen 1: 1-2: 4a

Ps 8

2 Cor 13: 11-13

Matt 28: 16-20

**This is Good**

**Sunday, June 18**

**Third Sunday After Pentecost**

Gen 18: 1-15, (21: 1-7) and Ps 116- 1-2,  
12-19 or Ex 19: 2-8a and PS 100

Rom 5: 1-8

Matt 9: 35-10; 8 (9-23)

**Sarah Laughed**

**Sunday, June 11**

**Second Sunday Aft Pentecost**

Gen 12: 1-9 and Ps 33: 1-12 or

Hos 5: 15-6: 6 and Ps 50: 7-15

Rom 4: 13-26

Matt 9: 9-13, 18-26

**The Call of Abram**

**Sunday, June 25**

**Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

19 Gen 21: 8-21 and Ps 86: 1-10,  
16-17 or Jer 20: 7-13 and PS 69:

7-10, (11-15), 16-18

Rom 6: 1b-11

Matt 10: 24-39

**Daring Discipleship**



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## JUNE NEWSLETTER