

# St. James United Church of Christ

## News from Pastor Ken

Newsletter  
April 2017  
Volume 2, Issue 4



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No matter how mild the winter seems to be, it always seems so long. Even though the weather reporter said it was pretty much the same as last year, there is a feeling of winter fatigue. Almost a sense of winter hopelessness. And although spring technically arrived at the same time every year there are days it seems far off. Especially this year with Easter coming a little later, half the month of April is still full of Lent. And although Lent is not designed to be a season of suffering but rather a time of reflection in preparation for the Easter season it seems to add to the melancholy.

Do not give up hope. Spring is coming and will not be denied. Soon we will start to notice those oh so subtle hints of spring. In fact, it has already started to happen. The snow turns to rain and the ice to mud and many of us will be so happy to see it we will almost forget to complain about it. The days are getting longer so we hear more birds chirping and the daffs are trying to boldly push themselves up.

This is what the Easter season is all about. During what seems to be the endless cold dark days of winter, we start to experience the new life that rises up from what we once were sure was dead. That is what the Easter season offers us as well, to seek and experience new life, new life in our congregation and new life for ourselves.

We spend time this Lenten season considering our own personal journey through the wilderness into Jerusalem. We pray about what we bring to the cross and more importantly, what resurrection transformation have we come to expect in our own lives this Easter. Over the past weeks, we have been talking about discovering the Christ within us, to be the resurrected, living Jesus we know God has called us to be.

## Pastor Ken Newsletter Continued

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 2 - Discretionary Fund Collection  
Communion Sunday
- ◆ April 11 - Council Meeting
- ◆ April 13 - Maundy Thursday Service
- ◆ April 14 - Good Friday Service
- ◆ April 15 - Holy Saturday Service
- ◆ April 16 Easter Communion Sunday
- ◆ April 22 - Euchre
- ◆ April 30 - Healing Sunday

As we come into spring, expect the miracle of new life... to be transformed. Again, that is what Easter is all about. Some miracles are large and some are small, some require that we look for them. A number of them even require that we work to reveal them. However, if we do look, if we keep expecting them and are willing to do what God asks us to do; those miracles will just keep coming.

I am excited about what this Easter season has in store for us all, personally and as a community in Christ. I encourage you to keep your heart, mind and spirit open. Let us plan together, pray together, and work together. Let us prepare to be transformed.

Take care and be well, Peace  
Pastor Ken

### The Discretionary Fund April 2nd, 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.

## Prayers for....



Karen Marie  
Sue  
Scott  
Mimi  
Dan  
Kathy  
Rich  
Maraleen  
Doug  
Gordy  
Jack Bishop Sr. & Jr.  
Shirley  
Megan & Family  
Roslynn

George  
David  
Deborah  
Lynn  
Johnnie  
Paul  
Peggy  
Marion  
Jerry Bunger  
Rev. Perkins  
Harmony  
Mike  
Rachael  
Gil  
Clark Russell

## Outreach Ministry

### Kids in Distress

Current needs are as follows:

Pants and shirts for boys and girl's sizes 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Underwear for boys 4 and 10-12, girls size 6

Socks for little girls' sizes 4-6 and 6-10

Hygiene items for young children such as body wash and shampoo

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

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

Blue Area Rescue Mission needs cleaning supplies and paper products. 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.

### St. Augustine Richmond Food Pantry

In need of... spaghetti sauce, coffee (regular and decaffeinated), jam/jellies in assorted flavors, boxed potatoes and Manwich

## Happy Birthdays in April

7 - Tammy Czenkus  
9 - Wayne Baumgarten  
9 - Marion Robertson  
12 - Butch Lomerson  
13 - Al Bryant  
29 - Christa Beattie

## Happy Anniversary's in April

4 - John & Marilyn Beattie  
8 - Dave & Becky Pittman  
20 - Mike & Bernice Callahan  
25 - Dan & Ellen Riley

## Spiritual Growth Ministry

In need of adults to volunteer and assist Sue Tews in providing our young folks with Sunday School. Sign-up sheet is provided in the basement.

## Earthly Gifts Ministry

### Financial Goal Report

#### March Financial Goal Report

The March Goal is \$5,760.00. So far, this month with only one more collection remaining this month \$3,112.00 has been contributed. Please continue to remember the needs of St. James to continue our mission of faith and dedication.

## Fellowship Ministry

**Ladies Tea in May** - Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4pm. Donation \$5.00, lunch, fun and fellowship. Sign-up sheet in church basement.

**Baseball Game** - Summer at Utica's new Jimmy John stadium to watch our local teams play on a Saturday night at 7:05pm. More information to follow.

## Worship Ministry

### Easter Schedule

April 13<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday Service - 7pm  
April 14<sup>th</sup> Good Friday Service - 12:30 - 1:15pm  
April 14<sup>th</sup> Stations of the Cross - 1:15 - 2pm  
April 15<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday Service - 7pm  
April 16<sup>th</sup> - Easter Breakfast 7am  
April 16<sup>th</sup> - Easter Service 9am

### Volunteers Needed

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. Many have found that serving in these roles enriches their worship experience.

## Christmas Shoebox Items Needed for April 2017

April 2017 collection is for toys for teens (craft kits, puzzles, etc.), socks, combs, soap, washcloths. No need for dental floss or toys for the 2-4 age group, have more than enough. Items accepted anytime: toys, school supplies, notebooks, coloring books, crayons, pencils, pens, erasers, pencil sharpeners, toothpaste, soap, washcloth, combs, socks, hats, gloves or mittens and always \$7.00 for mailing costs.

If you are not a shopper, you can still donate to this worthy cause by providing a cash donation.

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## Roof Collection



THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all those who contributed to meet the goal for reimbursing the Memorial Fund for money used from this fund to accomplish the installation of the new roof. As we know the balance of the money \$25,000.00 was drawn from the investment account Waddell and Reed which we should start reimbursing so St. James has a secure financial foothold in case of another major need arises. Thank you once again to everyone that contributed.

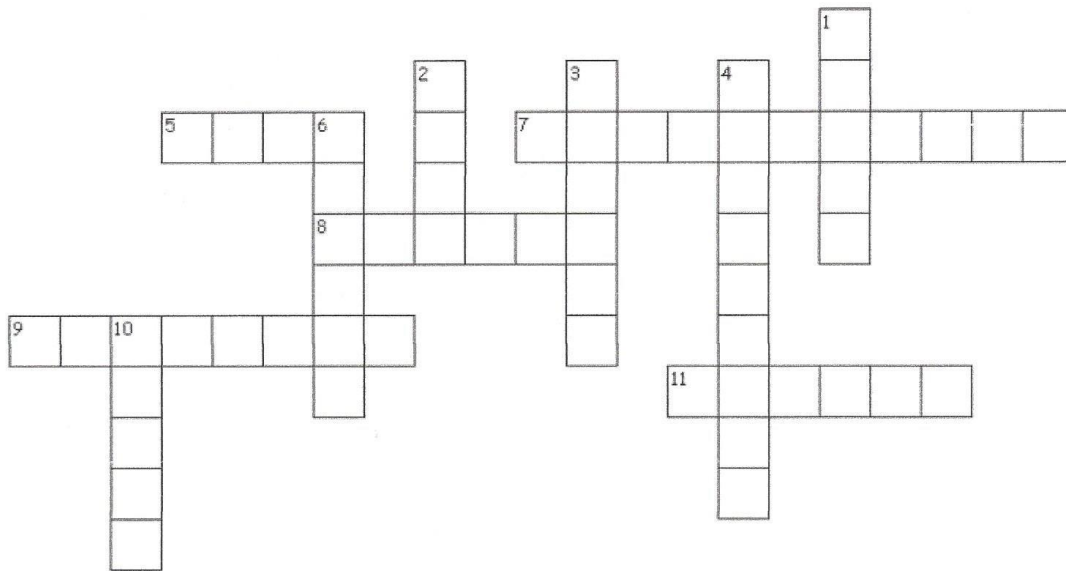
Donations can be made either in a pew envelope marking it "Roof" with your name or envelope number or regular envelope marking how much is being donated for the roof.

# Fun Page

3/14/2017

DLTK's Template Printing

## Easter Crossword

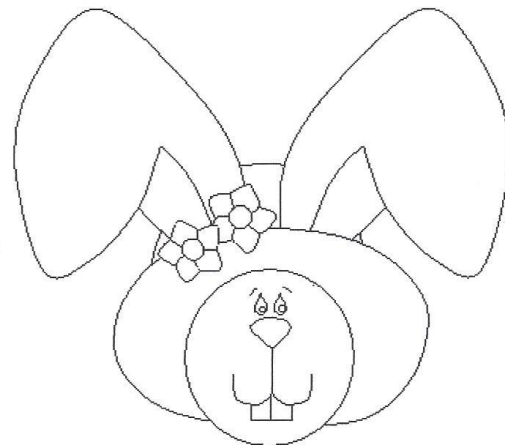


### Across

- 5. Which came first? The chickens or the \_\_\_\_\_?
- 7. ooey, gooey goodness
- 8. Animal that brings treats and eats carrots.
- 9. baby duck
- 11. Container for collecting eggs at Easter.

### Down

- 1. If you drop an Easter egg, it will \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. baby sheep
- 3. Pale, light colors.
- 4. Tasty, decadent treat.
- 6. Easter's season
- 10. baby chicken



### Member and Friends Directory

(return form to Roberta Fisher @rfisher@gaddbiz.com or by mail to 28017 Cotton Creek Ct, Chesterfield, MI 48047)

Full Name:

_____	D/O/B _____
_____	D/O/B _____
_____	D/O/B _____
_____	D/O/B _____

(for all members in household)

Date of Wedding Anniversary:

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code:

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone(s):

Phone # and Name (1)

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # and Name (3)

Phone # and Name (4)

(for all members in household)

Email Address(s): Name (1)

(for all members in household)

Name (2)

Name (3)

Name (4)

I wish to maintain my membership at St. James UCC (check box)

**Communion Servers**

Preparer: Devon Klomp  
Communion Servers: Teri Wagner

**Altar Care**

April - Betty Robertson

**Liturgists**

April 2 - Teri Wagner  
April 9 - Mark Tews  
April 13 - Mark Tews  
April 14 - Audrey Defer  
April 15 - Roberta Fisher  
April 16 - Open  
April 23 - Sherrie Ingles  
April 30 - Mark Tews

**Ushers & Greeters**

April 2 - Ralph Ski  
April 9 - Roberta Fisher  
April 16 - Doris Doss  
April 23 - Teri Wagner  
April 30 - Mark Tews

**Scripture Readings for April**

**Sunday, April 2**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
Ezek 37: 1-14  
Ps 130  
Rom 8: 6-11  
John 11: 1-45  
**Breath of Hope**

**Sunday, April 16**  
**Easter**  
Acts 10: 34-43 or Jer 31: 1-6  
Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24  
Col 3: 1-4 or Acts 10: 34-43  
John 20: 1-18 or Matt 28: 1-10

**Sunday, April 9**  
**Sixth Sunday in Lent**  
Matt 21: 1-11  
PS 118: 1-2, 19-29  
Liturgy of the Passion  
Isa 50: 4-9a  
PS 31: 9-16  
Phil 2: 5-11  
Matt 26: 14-27:66 or  
Matt 27 11-54  
**Palm Sunday**

**Sunday, April 23**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**  
Acts 2: 14a, 22-32  
Ps 16  
1 Pet 1: 3-9  
John 20: 19-31  
**Body Language**

**Sunday, April 30**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 2: 14a, 36-41  
PS 116: 1-4, 12-19  
1 Pet 1: 17-23  
**Luke 24: 13-35**  
**Breaking Bread**





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We're on the Web!  
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**NEWSLETTER**