

St. James United Church of Christ

News from Pastor Ken

Newsletter
May 2017
Volume 2, Issue 5



Contents

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| News from Pastor Ken | 1 |
| Pastor Ken News Cont. | 2 |
| Upcoming Events | 2 |
| Discretionary Fund | 2 |
| Military Prayer List | 2 |
| Prayers Needed | 3 |
| Outreach Ministry | 3 |
| Birthdays | 4 |
| Anniversaries | 4 |
| Spiritual Growth | 4 |
| Earthly Gift Ministry | 4 |
| Worship Ministry | 4 |
| Fellowship - Ministry | 4 |
| Christmas Shoebox | 5 |
| Roof Collection Meter | 5 |
| Kid's Page | 6 |
| Directory Form | 7 |
| Altar Care | 8 |
| Communion Servers | 8 |
| Ushers/Greeters | 8 |
| Liturgist Readers | 8 |
| Scripture Readings | 8 |

Newsletter May 2017

Is it me or has this has been a strange year for weather. There have been several days of near 80 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. In spite of it all, 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 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, that being said, I am actually thinking about a couple new garden ideas for this year. They are always a work in 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.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ May 6 - Grounds clean-up
- ◆ May 7 - Discretionary Fund Collection Communion Sunday
- ◆ May 9 - Council Meeting
- ◆ May 13 - Ladies Tea
- ◆ May 14 - Mother's Day
- ◆ May 20 - Euchre
- ◆ May 21 - Communion Sunday
- ◆ May 25 - Ascension of the Lord
- ◆ May 29 - Memorial Day

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 in at St James.

Take care and be well, Peace

Ken

The Discretionary Fund May 7th, 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.



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 the safety. Please provide your love one's or friend's name, rank and branch of service to Roberta Fisher.

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 7 -8

Underwear for boys 2T-3T, 4, 6-8 and 14-16

Socks for little girls' sizes 4-6 and 6-10, underwear sizes 2T-3T and 6-14

Hygiene items for young children such as body wash and shampoo

Desperate need of 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

In Need of Cleaning Supplies

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 May

5 - Ellen Riley
13 - Bev Kulman
13 - Lisa Mahnke
18 - Nancy Maedel
23 - Cindy Klomp
24 - Robert Beattie
24 - Roberta Fisher
27 - Lynn Johnson

Happy Anniversary's in May

1 - Bev & Gordie Kulman
2 - Don & Betty Robertson
2 - Bill & Lynnette Osterland
20 - Mark & Jennifer Uppleger

Earthly Gifts Ministry

Financial Goal Report April Financial Goal Report

The April goal was \$5,760.00 with the great turn out for the euchre Saturday the goal has been met and exceeded by \$185.75. Many thanks to our members who contributed their time and effort to make this possible.

Fellowship Ministry

Ladies Tea in May - Saturday, May 13th from 1 to 4pm. Donation \$5.00, lunch, fun and fellowship.

Bring a tea cup with saucer and a dish to pass (soup, salad, sandwich or dessert) to pass. Sign-up sheet in church basement.

Baseball Game - July 8th, 2017 - All Star Game at Jimmy John stadium to watch our local teams play on Saturday night at 7:05pm. Cost of \$17.50 includes hotdog and soft drink. Please purchase your own tickets and meet us all there. Purchase tickets on line, (section information) Infield Section, Level 1,

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.

Worship Ministry

Volunteers Needed Please sign-up

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.



"Mom — you deserve a raise for raising me."

Happy Mother's Day!!!

Outreach Ministry

Christmas Shoebox Items Needed for May 2017

May 2017 collection is for hygiene items such as soap, washcloths, combs, headbands, barrettes, bows and socks. **No need for toothpaste, 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.

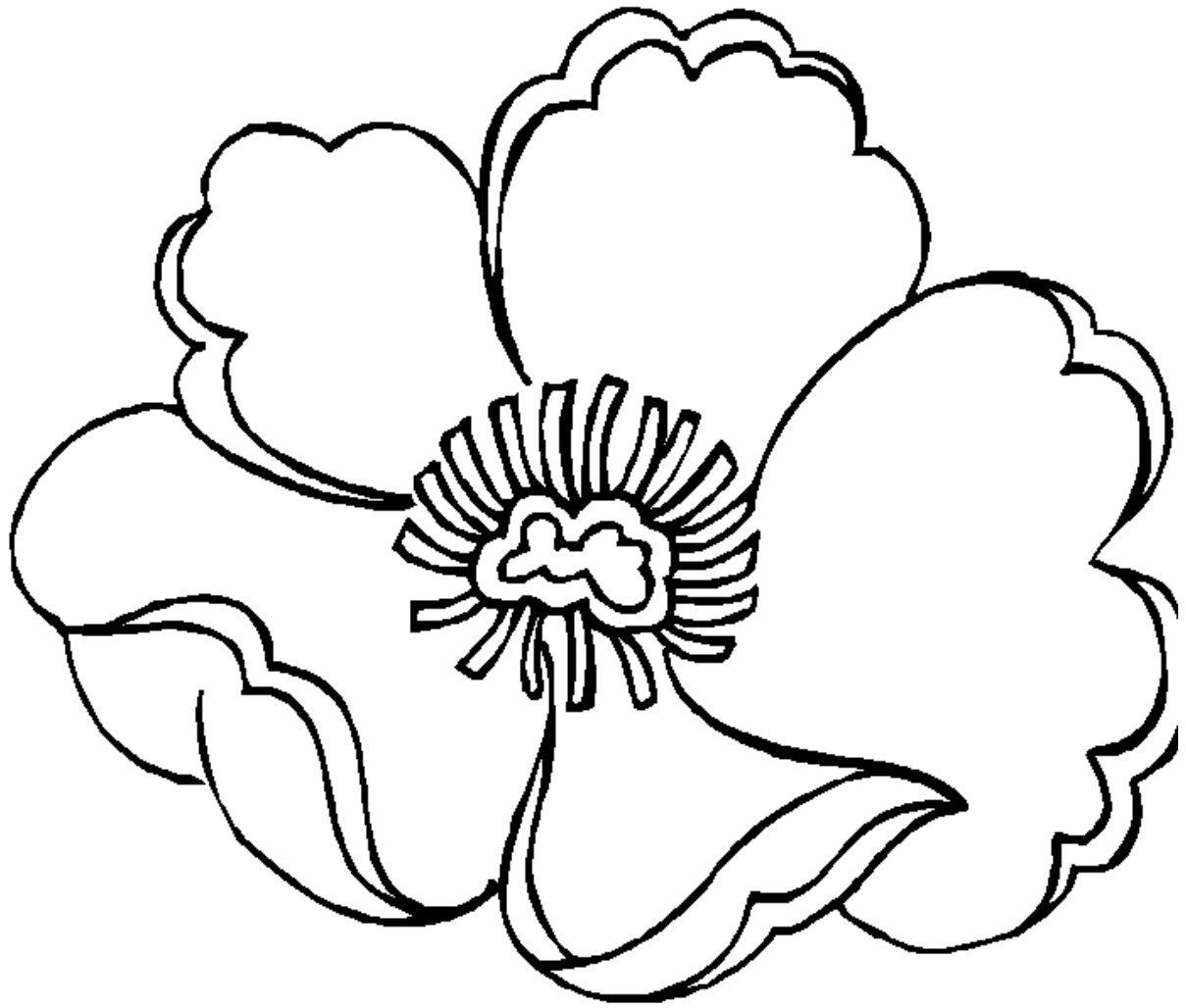
If you are not a shopper, you can still donate to this worthy cause by providing a cash donation.

Roof Collection



The goal to replace funds of \$25,00.00 from the investment fund that paid for the new roof is being received very slowly but we are heading in the direction. So far \$610.00 has been received. As a reminder, your contribution can be deducted from your next tax filing. To make a donation just mark your regular church Sunday envelope how much or use the envelope in the pew and put your name on it so we can issue a statement at the end of the year. If you have an idea to raise funds let Pastor Ken know or one of the council members.

Fun Page to Color



Lest We

Forget

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: Roberta Fisher
Communion Servers: Ralph Ski

Altar Care

May - Cindy Klomp

Liturgists

May 7 - Teri Wagner
May 14 - Bev Kulman
May 21 - Audrey DeFer
May 28 - Sherrie Ingles

Ushers & Greeters

May 7 - Devon Klomp
May 14 - Audrey DeFer
May 21 - Lynn Johnsons
May 28 - Sherrie Ingles

Scripture Readings for May

Sunday, May 7
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 2: 42-47
Ps 23
1 Pet 2: 19-25
John 10: 1-10
Powerful Witness

Sunday, May 21
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 17: 22 -31
Ps 66: 8 -20
1 Pet 3: 13 - 22
John 14: 15 - 21
Witness of Love

Sunday, May 14
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 7: 55-60
PS 31: 1-5, 15 - 16
1 Pet 2: 2-10
John 14: 1 -14
Enduring Witness

Sunday, May 28
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1: 6 14
Ps 68: 1- 10, 32 - 35
1 Pet 4: 12 -14, 5: 6 -11
John 17: 1 - 11
Spirit of Witness



St. James United Church of Christ
9008 Meisner Road
Casco, MI 48064

Phone:
(586) 727--1623

Fax:
(586) 27-0833

E-mail:
kgadd@ourstjameschurch.org

We're on the Web!
Ourstjameschurch.org



MAY NEWSLETTER