



The Soo Chimes

May 2026
Volume 58, Issue 5

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Pastor's Message

Gratitude is the beginning of faith; faith leads us to the ultimate gratitude.

Gratitude is often the first quiet step of faith. Before answers come, before circumstances change, gratitude teaches the heart to notice God's presence and provision. Scripture reminds us, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, KJV). Giving thanks, even in uncertain moments, opens our eyes to God's faithfulness already at work.

As gratitude grows, it naturally leads us into deeper trust. When we remember what God has done, faith finds solid ground. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1, KJV). Gratitude strengthens that hope by anchoring it in God's past mercies. Each thankful prayer becomes a reminder that the same God who carried us before will carry us again.

Faith, in turn, leads us to ultimate gratitude, not just for blessings received, but for God himself. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV). This gratitude reaches beyond circumstances and rests in Christ, the greatest gift of all. When gratitude begins our journey and faith guides our steps, our hearts learn lasting praise, thankful not only for what God gives, but for who he is.

Pastor Mark

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Genesis 32–35
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- **May 2**
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Psalms 104:1–24
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Genesis 42–43
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- **May 5**
Genesis 44–46
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- **May 6**
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- **May 7**
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Psalms 106:13–31
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- **May 10**
Exodus 11–13
Psalms 106:32–48
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- **May 11**
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- **May 13**
Exodus 21–23
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- **May 14**
Exodus 24–27
Psalms 110:1–7
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- **May 15**
Exodus 28–30
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- **May 16**
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Leviticus 5–7
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- **May 21**
Leviticus 8–10
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- **May 22**
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Psalms 118:19–29
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- **May 25**
Leviticus 19–21
Psalms 119:36–52
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- **May 26**
Leviticus 22–23
Psalms 119:53–70
Proverbs 16:1–3
- **May 27**
Leviticus 24–25
Psalms 119:71–80
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- **May 29**
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Proverbs 16:8–9
- **May 30**
Numbers 3–4
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Proverbs 16:10–11
- **May 31**
Numbers 5–6
Psalms 119:132–155
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| Service/Mission | |
|--|--|
| <p data-bbox="121 199 341 226">Requesting Prayers for...</p> <p data-bbox="323 293 580 472">Charlie and Audrey Zane, Gordon and Carol Rohweder Leitha Vollick Jennie McCain Marge Simpkins Ronan Mbuw Dr. Pat Newhouse Geraldine Carnahan</p> <p data-bbox="261 495 641 539">all missionaries and all members of the U.S. Armed Forces.</p> <p data-bbox="229 562 673 584"><i>Please keep us up to date on your prayer requests.</i></p> | <p data-bbox="815 199 1027 226">Homebound Members...</p> <p data-bbox="890 271 1394 322"><i>Long Term Care</i> Donna Laplaunt, PO Box 1858, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783</p> <p data-bbox="868 349 1417 423"><i>At Home</i> Carolyn Shaw, PO Box 127, Trout Lake, MI 49793 Ellen Meister, 233 West 8th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783</p> <p data-bbox="842 450 1442 524"><i>McKinley Manor</i> 2023 W 4th Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Mary Lee Schmidt Mary Jane Bernier Mary Frances Morden</p> <p data-bbox="944 551 1339 624"><i>Pennington House</i> 665 S Pleasant St., Pickford Michigan, 49774 Ardith Bawks</p> <p data-bbox="940 651 1345 725"><i>Freighter View Assisted Living</i> 605 W Portage Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Audrey Bush</p> <p data-bbox="850 752 1434 804"><i>Out of Town</i> Della Porter, 6600 Constitution Blvd, Room 605, Portage, MI 49024</p> |
| <p data-bbox="121 860 402 887">Deacons in Service this Month...</p> | <p data-bbox="815 860 1038 887">Food Pantry Distribution...</p> |
| <p data-bbox="121 931 520 1032">Greeter: Cheryl Thoresen Pew Maintenance: Jeanne Shibley Transportation: Cathy Akre / Cheryl Thoresen Devotions: Jeanne Shibley</p> | <p data-bbox="815 931 1262 1010"><i>Assisting Doris Boogerd:</i> May 12th: Mary Frances Morden / Cathy Akre May 26th: Mary Frances Morden / Francie Waybrant</p> |

Women's Bible Study Mission

The Women's Bible Study's Monthly Mission Project for the month of May will be to collect gift cards to assist the Presbytery Point Camp this summer. These money cards will be used to purchase various supplies for camp and for activities for the campers. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. Cash and gift cards may be left in the designated, labeled box, in the Narthex on Sundays or in the church office during office hours M-F 9AM-1PM.

Presbytery Point Camp Needs

Presbytery Point needs your help! It takes a village to make it a successful season; our church is part of that village. We do have a wish list on Amazon, but if you would like to help in a more local way, gift cards are the best way! Cards from GFS, Walmart, Meijer, or Visa / Mastercard are the best way to go. These gift cards will then help to purchase what we really need and reduce the stress on our volunteers to get items to camp. Some of the things that these cards would help us purchase are items for our camp store, arts and crafts, bait for fishing, and many other items and activities. Gift cards may be dropped off at the church office, addressed to Brenda Ransom, or sent directly to the camp. Thank you so much for supporting the camp in so many ways! It is never too early to get your campers registered and volunteers are always welcome! Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God!"

I try to watch the words I say,
 And keep them soft and sweet;
 For I don't know from day to day,
 Which ones I'll have to eat.



Church Life

Birthdays

Date Names

—
 2 Mary Deuman, Jaimee Gerrie
 6 Elizabeth Martin, Olivia Martin
 13 Jim Waybrant
 16 Kristeen Mason
 17 Mary Stanaway
 20 Renee VanderWeg
 21 Glenn Trumble
 25 Piper Quinn, Charlie Zane
 26 David Bernier
 29 Darla Krueger
 30 Ronald Cross

Anniversaries

Date Names / (Years)

5.23.1981 Fred & Sue Michels (45)
 5.24.2000 John & Jeanne Shibley (26)

Thank You!

A note of our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to our church family for all of the care and support given to us during Tom's illness and in the days following his passing. It's too much to list here, but please know whatever you did for us was truly appreciated. May God bless all of you for the wonderful friends you are! Cheryl Thoresen, Julie and Steve and families.

Plans are being made for the "Welcome Summer" luncheon that will be at noon, June 16th, in the Social Hall. There will be speakers from Community Action and we have a fun craft planned.

Our annual rummage sale will be held on August 1st and plans are underway.

Vacation Bible School is being held at our church this summer and we will be serving lunch for the attendees and volunteers on their last day.

We have received a donation of a brass candelabra from the Deuman family. It is available should anyone like to borrow it for an event. Contact Jess or Alegra if you would like to use it.

Kids' Page

Puzzle!

A Father's Love

Directions: Match the biblical children to their father, using the clues by the father's name. Then write the corresponding letter on the lines to complete the Bible verse below.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Shem, Ham & Japheth = M | John the Baptist = N |
| Solomon = O | Jacob & Esau = A |
| Jonathan = I | Cain, Abel & Seth = O |
| Jesus = C | Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, |
| Rachel & Leah = S | Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Gad, |
| Isaac & Ishmael = P | Naphtali, Asher & Dinah = S |

- God: "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." _____
- Adam: God gave him another son because the older killed the younger. _____
- Noah: His sons were blessed and told to multiply and replenish the earth. _____
- Abraham: God promised he would be a father of many nations. The Jews and Arabs descend from these two sons. _____
- Isaac: His older son sold his birthright, and his younger son tricked Isaac and received the blessings for the firstborn. _____
- Laban: He had two daughters; the older was tender-eyed and the younger was very beautiful. Both married Jacob. _____
- Jacob: Two wives and two handmaids gave him 12 sons and a daughter. _____
- Saul: His son was David's best friend. _____
- David: He had many children, but one was known for his wisdom, for having many wives and for building God's temple. _____
- Zechariah: His son, a cousin of Jesus, was born to be a messenger of repentance. _____

As a father has _____
 on his children, so the LORD has
 _____ on those who
 fear him. *Psalm 103:13, NIV*



Answer: compassion

Make a POSTCARD PUZZLE

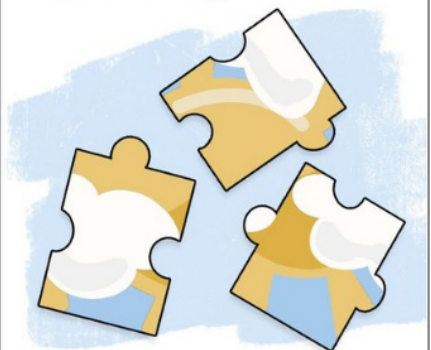
Summer is full of little moments that remind us that God is guiding each step. Like a puzzle, he brings every piece together in his time.

What you need:

- A postcard or printed picture
- Scissors
- Pencil (optional, for guiding your cuts)
- Envelope or small bag (for storing pieces)

What you do:

1. Flip your postcard over and lightly draw puzzle shapes or cut freely.
2. Cut the postcard into a mix of big and small pieces.
3. Mix up the pieces and try to put the picture back together.
4. Store the pieces in an envelope so you can use it again later.



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