



# The Beacon Newsletter



**SEPTEMBER 2016**

## **OUR STAFF**

Minister:

Reverend Carol McCleary

Director of Music: John Rickert

Organist: Jeremy Reis

Administrative Assistant:

Linda Wieferich

Caretaker, Al Ferrell

Nursery Attendant:

Sarah Egerer

## **OUR CHURCH OFFICERS**

Moderator: Nancy Lewis

Vice-Moderator: Tom Carr

Clerk: Cyndi James

Treasurer: Jody James

Missions Treasurer:

Roger Ellsworth

Financial Secretary: Mary Leary

## **RALLY DAY**

**Sunday,**

**September 11, 2016**

Return to our regular  
schedule and Christian Music  
concert by Jim Hendricks at  
4:00 p.m.



## **CHURCH TEAM LEADERS**

1. Christian Education:  
Theresa King
2. Youth: Cheryl Ellsworth
3. Missions, Outreach/Evangelism:  
Co-Leader: Nikki Anjakos-Seno  
Co-Leader: Vacant  
Historian: J. David Garn  
Assistant: Cheryl Ellsworth
4. Music: David Garn
5. Finance: Jim Garn
6. Facilities/Maintenance:  
Vacant
7. Hospitality: Connie Ellsworth
8. Worship: Jan Wheeler
9. Pastoral Relations: Vacant
10. Visitation: Lois Smith
11. Nominating: Appointed as needed

## **MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**203 S. Michigan Ave - Saginaw, Michigan 48602**

**Church office: (989) 793-8555**

**Email: [MichiganAveBaptist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MichiganAveBaptist@sbcglobal.net)**

**Website: [MABCSaginaw.org](http://MABCSaginaw.org)**

## **OUR CHURCH VISION**

Drawing upon its rich history of service to God in an urban setting, Michigan Avenue Baptist Church serves as a beacon of Christ-centered ministry to the community through witness, worship, and fellowship in a culturally diverse population.





## WELCOME REV. McCLEARY

On Sunday, August 28, the church voted unanimously to call the Rev. Carol McCleary as our new permanent pastor.

The Search Team worked tirelessly for 18 months to identify the candidate they believed was the perfect fit for our congregation. It was with great pleasure that they presented Rev. McCleary to the congregation as that candidate.

Rev. McCleary holds a Masters of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Science degree from Grace College. She was ordained by American Baptist Churches in 2007. Rev. McCleary has served in two previous churches, as pastor at First Baptist Church in Owosso and as Associate Pastor at First Baptist Church in Middletown, Ohio. She is currently living in Midland, Michigan.

Rev. McCleary's first service with us will be Sunday, September 11. In addition to welcoming Rev. McCleary on that day, we will be welcoming Concert Pianist, Jim Hendricks, who will present three musical pieces during our worship service and then present a full concert at 4:00 p.m. This is also potluck day, so you will be able to socialize with Rev. McCleary, Jim Hendricks, and others to make this one of the best Rally Days and fall kick-offs that we've had in quite some time. Please join us for this full day of programming!

Rev. McCleary has agreed to accept our position of pastor under a part-time agreement. That means that she will be available to us on a somewhat limited basis, since she will need to supplement her income with a second job. She will be in the office on Wednesday mornings only. This will give her an opportunity to complete any administrative duties, as well as work with Linda, our Administrative Assistant, on the weekly bulletin, the monthly Beacon, and other tasks that require their collaborative efforts. We ask that you be considerate of Rev. McCleary's limited time in the office. Of course, she is always willing to listen and pray with members when they have a special need.

Please join us on September 11 to welcome Rev. McCleary. On that day we will return to our regular hours, with Sunday School beginning at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 10:45. The potluck will be held immediately after the service, followed by the concert at 4:00. It will be a full day of excitement and renewal. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Sincerely,  
Nancy M. Lewis, Moderator

# Welcome September 2016



As MABC returns to its regular schedule on Sunday, September 11, 2016, you are encouraged to return to church after this beautiful summer with which we have been blessed. There are many opportunities to grow in the Lord and enrich our Christian fellowship. We look forward to sharing with you as we grow in the word of the Lord.

- Our **Prayer Team** meets every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. to offer prayer in all aspects of life. You are encouraged to join us in prayer either at the church or at home.
- The **Men's Breakfast** will meet Saturday, September 10 at 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All men are encouraged to attend. They meet at 9:00 a.m. for Christian Fellowship and delicious food.
- **RALLY DAY!** Sunday, September 11 is the day we return to our regular schedule. Our church School teachers have exciting plans for the year! Today is also the return of Potluck Sundays. Remember to invite a friend to church.



9:15 a.m. Rally Day Kick Off in the sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. Church School for everyone  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service with Jim Hendricks  
12:00 p.m. Potluck Sunday and Remembrance of George Most  
(*You will be invited to share your memories of George*)

4:00 p.m. Jim Hendricks Christian Concert at MABC  
A free-will offering will be received.



- **Women's Bible Study** will begin a new book, First Corinthians, on Monday, September 12 at 6:15 p.m. Please contact Becky Geidans if you have any questions.
- **Music Rehearsals** begin Wednesday, September 14
  - 6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbell Choir Rehearsal
  - 7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir Rehearsal

# INTERNATIONAL PIANIST, JIM HENDRICKS

performing in concert at  
Michigan Avenue Baptist Church  
203 S. Michigan Avenue, Saginaw, MI  
4:00PM on Sunday September 11th.



There will be a free-will offering, plus refreshments served following Jim's concert. Jim will also be a part of the morning 10:45am worship service

**Pianist Jim** Hendricks grabbed the attention of musicians and family members as a young child with the uncanny ability to play anything he heard on records and memorize any printed music that came across the piano. While still in grammar school, Jim was able to transcribe by ear complex harmonies and melodies - without the use of a piano. He continued intensive musical studies and was considered a professional as a teenager.

After high school, Jim performed with such legends as Dave Brubeck (piano duets), Della Reese, Rita Moreno, Tito Puente, Maynard Ferguson, Jack Jones, Louie Bellson, Clark Terry, Arturo Sandoval, John Davidson, Jon Faddis, and many others. He also competed in numerous international piano competitions, was a featured orchestral soloist performing the piano music of Rachmaninoff, and was granted a music professorship by the age of twenty-five.

While he was on tour with the Glenn Miller Orchestra (the band still continues its concert tours since Miller's death in the War), Jim felt a very strong call from the Lord to use his musical gifts for the glory of God. Already being a dedicated Christian for many years, he knew it was time to follow his calling into Christian ministry.

Since then, Jim has performed more than 1,300 Christian piano concerts in churches all across the land, including several appearances at the former Crystal Cathedral. He has made fourteen piano recordings, performed on ABC, CBS, TBN and PAX, authored the book Contemporary Arrangements for Today's Church Pianist, and been featured in Clavier piano journal. The Lord has greatly blessed his decision to bring glory to Christ through music.





## Sunday, September 11, 2016

*Return to our regular schedule*

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|------------|--|
| 9:15 a.m.  | Meet in sanctuary for Opening of Rally Day   |
| 9:30 a.m.  | Church School for all  |
| 10:45 a.m. | Worship Service (with Jim Hendricks)   |
| 12:00 p.m. | Potluck Sunday and Remembrance of George Most<br><i>(You will be invited to share your memories of George)</i> |
| 4:00 p.m.  | Jim Hendricks Christian Piano Concert at MABC  |
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On Sunday, September 11, MABC will return to its regular schedule. We will meet in the church sanctuary for a Rally Day Opening, and then go to our classrooms.

Rally Day is the day we return to our Potluck Sundays. You are invited to bring your favorite dish to pass and join your fellow Christians for this time of delicious food and Christian Fellowship. You will also have the opportunity to express your memories of George Most who passed away recently.

At 4:00 p.m., Jim Hendricks, a most outstanding pianist, will perform at MABC. He communicates with originality and depth, bringing the Christian message to life in extraordinary ways. Bring your family and friends.





## PRAYER WARRIORS



After tragedies, natural disasters and terrorism, people now commonly turn to social media to request prayers.

Although it can feel “jarring” to see “so many references to the divine in spaces normally reserved for vacation photos,” writes journalist Eleanor Barkhorn, it’s a modern-day version on the New Testament’s reminders to pray constantly and in all circumstances.

Over the years, churches have encouraged members to pray through letters, phone chains, prayer breakfasts and prayer groups. “With that context in mind,” Barkhorn writes, “Facebook shouldn’t cheapen prayer any more than the Postal Service or the telephone does.”

Russell Moore of the Southern Baptist Convention says, “Asking for prayer via Twitter or Facebook is no different than calling someone and saying, ‘We should really pray for this.’” ...Social media can be a tremendous force for good in altering people to things they can be praying about right away.”



## Men's Breakfast

9:00 a.m.  
Saturday, September 10, 2016

All men of MABC are invited to a time of Christian Fellowship and delicious food. Hope to see you at the breakfast!



MABC is in need of a Facilities Team leader. If you feel this is your “calling” and you’d like to volunteer to serve in this position, please contact Nancy Lewis, Jody James, or Jim Garn.

## THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

The seed was sown long months ago,  
And through the winter’s cold and snow,  
We trusted that God’s care would bring  
The green and tender blade of spring,  
Which cherished by the sun and rain  
Of summer, now has yielded grain  
In autumn, when the reaper leaves  
His cot to cut and bind the sheaves ...

So God’s great mercies thus abound;  
His love still brings the seasons round;  
His blessings fill our happy fields,  
And all our land its increase yields:  
So if we serve him as we should,  
Our Lord will give us all things good;  
And he who doth the ravens feed  
Much more will give us all we need!

-Author unknown



To whom it may concern,

Thank you to the congregation and scholarship committee for giving students the opportunity to receive scholarship money. As I begin my journey as a college student it will be helpful to have this money to use for extra necessities and tuition. Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely, Jeff Lapan



## *Rehearsals Begin!*

**Wednesday, September 14, 2016**

6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbell Choir  
7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir

### *Join the Choirs!*

It's almost that time of year where we will begin our regular schedule at MABC. One of the many opportunities to grow spiritually at MABC is the Latham Burrows Choir. Why not give it some thought and join the choir this year. Everybody can learn to sing and John Rickert, our Music Director, is an excellent teacher. Perhaps this is the year for you? Hope to see both new and familiar faces at rehearsal!



***Come, join one of the choirs!  
We have loads of fun praising Him!***

## HEAVENLY VISION

Known as the “queen of gospel song writers,” Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) wrote more than 9,000 Christian hymns, including “Blessed Assurance” and “Safe in the Arms of Jesus.” Blind from a young age, she developed a love for poetry and Scripture, memorizing about five chapters of the Bible each week. Crosby was the first woman to speak in the U.S. Senate, lobbying to support education for the blind. She also was an abolitionist who made friends with several presidents.

A well-meaning pastor once told Crosby, “It is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when he showered so many other gifts upon you.”

She responded that her blindness was a blessing she would not wish away. “When I get to heaven,” Crosby said, “the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior.”



## PRAYER TEAM

The MABC Prayer Team meets every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. to pray individually and corporately for the needs of our nation, our community, our church, our families, our friends, and any other needs the LORD lays upon our hearts. This time is opened to everyone. You can pray during this time at home or at the church.



*Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*-1 Thessalonians 5:16-17*

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, September 15, 2016



### OUR REAL WORK

It may be that when we no longer know what to do we have come to our real work, and that when we no longer know which way to go we have come to our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings.

-Wendell Berry, Standing by Words

Which of the following sports does Paul use metaphorically to describe the Christian life?

- A. Fishing
- B. Running a race
- C. Boxing
- D. Both B and C
- E. All of the above

The answer may be found on the calendar page.

# Puzzle!

Search for words found in Romans 8.

N	O	I	T	A	N	M	E	D	N	O	C	X	V	Q
J	J	U	S	T	I	F	I	E	S	D	G	C	E	U
I	T	C	H	S	E	L	F	N	E	G	J	V	G	E
Q	I	K	S	P	R	N	O	I	T	P	O	D	A	S
G	R	F	A	U	D	O	F	T	A	L	D	C	D	K
G	I	X	N	R	F	I	R	S	T	B	O	R	N	U
U	P	Z	G	P	R	T	E	E	F	F	B	E	O	I
H	S	X	E	O	E	P	Y	D	U	A	T	A	B	L
J	R	J	L	S	E	M	A	E	D	Q	M	T	U	P
O	E	G	S	E	D	E	C	R	E	T	N	I	G	S
R	W	S	G	O	O	D	E	P	L	C	L	O	L	V
C	O	Y	U	H	M	E	D	C	L	E	W	N	C	Y
D	P	I	H	S	D	R	A	H	A	L	B	D	B	P
F	R	U	I	T	S	I	R	H	C	E	P	T	W	K
H	E	A	R	T	F	R	U	L	O	R	P	Z	D	R

Abba	elect	Jesus	adoption
family	justifies	angels	firstborn
Lord	bondage	flesh	love
called	freedom	peace	Christ
fruits	powers	condemnation	glorified
predestined	conquerors	good	purpose
creation	hardship	redemption	decay
died	intercedes	Spirit	heart



### Communion Table Flower Sign-Up

September 11, Sharon Mason  
September 18, Brenda Ferrell  
September 25, Sharon Mason



- October: World Mission Offering and Crop Walk Offering
- Tentative Trunk or Treat Party October 22
- ABC 2016 Annual Meeting in Novi
- Quarterly Business Meeting October 27 at 7:00 p.m
- December 11. John & Kate Music Duo






SEPTEMBER 2016

MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH  
 The Reverend Nikey Keels, Transitional Pastor  
 03 S. Michigan Ave  
 Saginaw, Michigan 48602  
 Church Office: (989) 793-8555  
 Email: [MichiganAveBaptist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MichiganAveBaptist@sbcglobal.net)  
 Website: [www.MABCSaginaw.org](http://www.MABCSaginaw.org)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	2	3
4  Communion Sunday	5   <b>LABOR DAY</b>	6	7	8  4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	9	10  9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
11 <b>RALLY DAY</b> Potluck Sunday And Remembrance of George Most  4:00 p.m. Jim Hendricks Christian Piano Concert	12  6:15 p.m. Bible Study First Corinthians	13	14  Rehearsals Begin	15  4:30 p.m. Prayer Team  7:00 p.m. Church Council	16	17
18	19  6:15 p.m. Bible Study	20 Newsletter articles are due	21  Rehearsals	22  4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	23	24
25	26  6:15 p.m. Bible Study	27	28  Rehearsals	29  4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	30	

**September 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**SUMMER WORSHIP AT MABC**

9:00 a.m. Church School  
 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Return to Regular Schedule – RALLY DAY**

**September 11<sup>th</sup>**

9:15 p.m. Meet in sanctuary for Rally Day Opening  
 9:30 a.m. Church School for All  
 10:45 a.m., Worship Service  
 12:00 p.m. Potluck and Remembrance of George Most  
 (you are invited to share your memories of George)  
 4:00 p.m. Jim Hendricks,

**WEDNESDAY REHEARSALS**

6:30-7:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbell Choir  
 7:30-9:00 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir

*Come and join the choirs!*  
*We have loads of fun praising HIM.*

**Bible Quiz Answer:**  
**D (See 1 Corinthians 9:24-27)**

*Happy Birthday to You!*



# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

08 Nikki Anjakos-Seno  
12 James Kushon  
16 Jeffrey Zinz  
19 Carrie Carrigan  
25 Katie Graham  
25 Rhonda Casey  
26 Harold Ellsworth  
26 John Rickert  
30 John Maciag  
30 Noah Tuzas

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If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the church office at (989) 7893-8555 with your birth date. We'd like to wish everybody a Happy Birthday during their birthday month. Please contact the church office should you have a change of address. We want to keep our records current. Thank you.