



OUR STAFF

Transitional Pastor:
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



5:30-7:00 p.m.
Saturday
October 29, 2016

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
Website: 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.





Dear Friends,

As I drove around town last week, I noticed the first leaves beginning to change. Gorgeous fall colors are starting to peek through. Hot summer weather is giving way to comfortable days and crisp, cool nights. Farmers are harvesting crops, and pumpkins are appearing at roadside stands. The seasons are changing and fall will soon be here.

Our lives are filled with changes. Some changes bring joy and hope, other changes bring apprehension or sorrow. Isn't it wonderful to know that as the seasons change, God's love for us endures? Whatever season of life we find ourselves in, we can rest in and rely on God's unfailing love. The hymn writer expressed this idea well when he penned:

"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be."

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!"

As we enter into a new season in the life of Michigan Avenue Baptist Church, I am excited about the good things God has in store for us as we seek to serve God together. Whatever the future brings, we can be confident that God's faithfulness and goodness will see us through all the changes and transitions of life.

Faithfully,
Pastor Carol

P.S. I'm especially excited about our new sermon series on the book of James that begins Sunday, September 25. James is filled with practical advice for living as Christians every day. James touches on important issues like how to endure trials, how to control our tongues, and how to treat others - especially when significant differences exist. Although Jesus' half-brother James wrote the book before 50 AD, the issues it addresses are just as relevant to Christians today. I hope you will join us in worship each Sunday at 10:45.

Please contact Pastor Carol should you have a pastoral need and/or are in the hospital.
The hospitals aren't able to notify pastors or churches in a timely manner of your admittance.

REQUESTED BYLAWS CHANGES

Due to dwindling membership and some potential important upcoming votes, the church is requesting some constitution and bylaws changes. Specifically, the requested changes eliminate the minimum number of votes cast and tighten the requirements for active membership. Below are the requested changes:

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE X. Amendments 2B

Current language: An amendment, to be adopted, requires three-quarters (3/4) vote of members present and voting, providing at least twenty-five (25) votes are cast.

Requested new language: An amendment, to be adopted, requires three-quarters (3/4) vote of **active** members present and voting. **(Eliminate the 25 votes requirement; add the word "active")**

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. Admission/Classification of Members 2A1)

Current language: 1) Active List. This list shall be made up of members who fulfill at least one of the following criteria: (unless prevented by personal circumstances subject to the review and approval of the Worship Team.)

- a) attend services
- b) share in various duties of the church
- c) assume some portion of the financial obligation of the church

Requested new language: 1) Active List. This list shall be made up of members who fulfill at least one of the following criteria: (unless prevented by personal circumstances subject to the review and approval of the Worship Team.

- a) attend **a minimum of six services per year**
- b) assist with the responsibilities of church activities

ARTICLE II. PASTORATE B. The Call

Current language: 4) A vote of three-fourths of the members present and qualified to vote shall be necessary to extend a call (providing there be twenty-five (25) members present and voting--see Article IX, Section 2).

Requested new language: A vote of three-fourths of the **active** members present and qualified to vote shall be necessary to extend a call. **(Eliminate the 25 votes requirement; add the word "active")**

ARTICLE II. PASTORATE B3. Termination of the Pastorate

Current language: 2) Valid termination of said office may be made by a vote of three-fourths of the members present and qualified to vote, provided there be twenty-five (25) qualified members present to vote and voting (see Article VIII, Section 2).

Requested new language: Valid termination of said office may be made by a vote of three-fourths of the **active** members present and qualified to vote. **(Eliminate the 25 votes requirement; add the word "active")**

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS/VOTING PROCEDURES 2. Qualification of Voters

Current language: All matters pertaining to the purchase, sale or mortgaging of Church property shall be by paper ballot and be voted by a 2/3 majority, provided at least 25 votes yea or nay are cast. A minimum of 25 active members in good standing, who are of legal age, shall be the quorum required to vote on these matters.

Requested new language: All matters pertaining to the purchase, sale or mortgaging of Church property shall be by paper ballot and must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the **active** members present and voting who are of legal age. **(Eliminate the 25 votes requirement; add the word "active")**

These changes will be voted on at the next Quarterly Business Meeting, scheduled for October 27, 2016.

Nancy M. Lewis, Ph.D.
Moderator, Michigan Avenue Baptist Church



Dear Congregation,

During the month of October, MABC will be receiving the World Mission Offering and CROP Hunger Walk Offering. A goal of \$200 each has been set by your Mission Team. Please consider giving to these two missions. MABC will participate in the Crop Walk. Please contact Cheryl Ellsworth for further information on the Crop Walk.

Cordially,

Your 2016 Mission Team

WORLD MSISION OFFERING

For decades, schools in this central European country were controlled by the government under repressive Communist rule. But today, Hungarian churches now have the opportunity to run many schools - teaching the Bible, nurturing students in their faith and coaching in conversational English.

Your support through the World Mission Offering will enable International Ministries to provide much-needed support to partner organizations like Hungarian Baptist Aid, which is now managing 49 schools in Hungary.

The work is urgent. "We're living in a period of grace," says one HBAid official. "We don't know how long we'll be able to do this, and we want to touch as many lives as possible."

Similar urgency exists in all of International Ministries life-changing work in more than 70 countries around the world. Join us in the vital task of raising up, placing and supporting many more global workers and volunteers to share the gospel and to meet pressing human needs, and teach, heal, serve and encourage others in the name of Jesus.

Give generously to the World Mission Offering as, together, we help people come to Christ, grow in relationship with God and change the world through the power of the Holy Spirit.

CROP HUNGER WALK OFFERING

CROP Hunger Walks and sponsors in some 2,000 communities across the U.S. some two million people participate in locally-organized CROP Hunger Walks to raise awareness and funds to help end hunger and poverty globally and locally. CROP WALK support enables Church World Service to provide emergency relief, nurture self-help development, and assist refugees worldwide. By participating in CROP Hunger Walks, people of faith share God's love by expressing their kinship with neighbors near and far.

Did you know this is the 39th year Crop Walk has been existence? 1.4 million has been raised. - 25% stays local and benefits four agencies; the East Side Soup Kitchen, Neighborhood House, the City Rescue Mission & Hidden Harvest.

HUNGER IS NOT AN ISSUE OF CHARITY. IT IS AN ISSUE OF JUSTICE





**Men's
Breakfast**

9:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 8, 2016

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

ALWAYS VALUED

When Paul talks about treasure in clay jars (2 Corinthians 4:6-9), he's referring to the gospel message. The apostle compares the human carriers of the treasure, including himself, to breakable vessels that aren't impervious to outside influences and can fail. But that causes the carriers to rely on God's strength when facing afflictions.

Part of the usefulness of the image - and Paul knows this - is that broken clay jars were used as blank "pages" for writing letters, business receipts, invitations to meals and weddings, and so on. He emphasizes that even when we're broken, we're useful in God's kingdom. When we feel defeated by failure, Jesus still considers us valuable.



**"Autumn ... the year's last, loveliest smile."
-William Cullen Bryant**

I SHALL NOT NEED


Despite the traditional wording ("The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want"), Psalm 23 declares that God provides everything we *need* - not everything we desire.

"He makes me lie down" ... Sometimes our busyness is useful; other times it is how we feel in control or superior to others. God knows we need to rest and sometimes must *make* us do so!

"He leads me beside still waters" ... Although we often prefer noisy distractions, God knows we need quiet to hear him and have our souls restored.

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies." Rather than a boast ("Ha! See how God spreads a banquet in my honor while others look on!"), this is a reminder that God wants us to dine with our enemies. We might not be able to stand those people, but God pursues reconciliation.

In the process, **"goodness and mercy ... follow me all ... my life."** That's what we need the most.



POTLUCK SUNDAY
October 9, 2016

We will gather in the fellowship halls following the worship service on Sunday, October 9 for our monthly Potluck Sunday and Christian Fellowship.

You are invited to bring your favorite dish to pass and to remember to fill the green bowls to help defray added costs of paper products.

See you at the Potluck!

HE'S EVERYWHERE

A mother asked her little boy to please get the broom from the back porch. "But it's dark out there!" he protested.

"Don't be scared," Mom said. "Jesus is out there. He'll take care of you." When the child looked skeptical, his mother continued, "Jesus is everywhere. You'll be safe."

After a moment, the boy went to the back door and cracked it open. Peering into the dark, he called, "Jesus, if you're out there, will you please hand me the broom?"



FACILITIES TEAM LEADER NEEDED

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.

SEEDS OF VICTORY

Months before the U.S. won the World War II Battle of Midway, code analysts planted the seeds of victory far from the battle site. Using primitive predecessors to today's computers, they cracked a Japanese code, enabling America to avoid an ambush.

I wonder if those analysts got frustrated before the solution became clear. Did they ever believe hope was lost or wonder if all their work was worthwhile?

Christians, likewise, can feel discouraged. We wonder if our attempts to teach kids about Jesus will ever bear fruit, if our small outreach efforts really make a difference and if sin and brokenness can ever be defeated.

We won't see all the results of our labors, but we can trust they're not in vain. The same Spirit who helps us plant the seeds will bring them to harvest. And Jesus has already won the "battle" raging around us - the enemy forces just don't know it yet!

-Heidi Mann

RUMMAGE



Friday, October 14, 2016
Saturday, October 15, 2016

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The Women's Society will be holding a rummage sale. Please bring your items to church and place them on the stage in the large fellowship hall.

Thank you.
Cyndi James

DAILY TASKS

When I awoke this morning, I asked, "How shall I live this day?" The answers were all around me:

The fan said, "Keep your cool."

The ceiling said, "Aim high."

The window said, "Look outside yourself."

The clock said, "Every minute is precious."

The calendar said, "Stay up to date."

The door said, "Take advantage of opportunity."

The floor said, "Kneel down and pray."

-Unknown (adapted)



An invitation is extended
to gather in the fellowship halls on

Sunday, October 23, 2016
following the worship service for a

RECEPTION

In honor of 20 years of service as
MABC Administrative Assistant, for

LINDA WIEFERICH

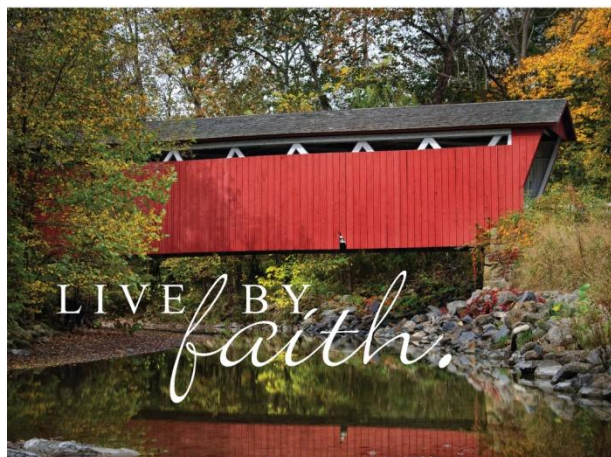


LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

WITHOUT A TRACE

The abundant grace we have received is not just a medicine sufficient to heal the wound of sin but also health and beauty and honor and glory and dignity far transcending our natural state. Each of these in itself would have been enough to do away with death, but when they are all put together in one, there is not a trace of death left, nor any shadow of it be seen, so entirely has it done away with.

-St. John Chrysostom



I'M CLEAN

Church reformer Martin Luther once had a nightmare about being judged by the devil. From a scroll, Satan was reading all the sins Luther had ever committed.

"What hope of heaven do you have as a miserable sinner?" the devil accused.

Feeling despondent, Luther remembered the cross.

"There's one entry which thou hast not made, Satan," he said.

When the devil inquired about it, Luther responded confidently: "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7, KJV).

Praise God that he sent Jesus to be our Deliverer (Psalm 18:2) so we are no longer held hostage by Satan's accusation!

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

"The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials."
-Origin uncertain

Trunk or Treat



Saturday, October 29, 2016

Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Ages 12 and under

We are looking for volunteers to decorate their car, SUV, truck, etc. in a festive theme, and to fill the back end of the vehicle with candy treats and perhaps a game to play at the Trunk or Treat festivities. Remember to dress in appropriate costumes (please, no ghosts, witches, scary monster, or blood and guts costumes. Think Christian themes, football/college themes, super hero themes, etc).

Hot dogs, chips and a beverage will be offered.

It will be a fun evening in the church parking lot!

(Think tail gaiting).

Ideas for this fun alternative way of doing the traditional Halloween.

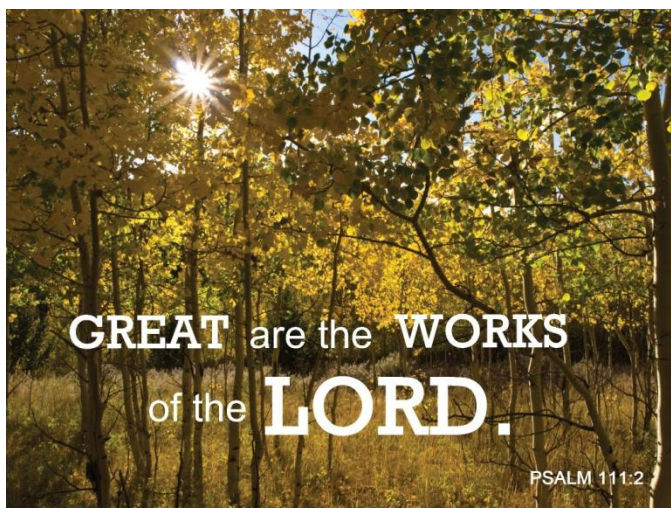
Ideas may be found on Google (type in Trunk or Treat).

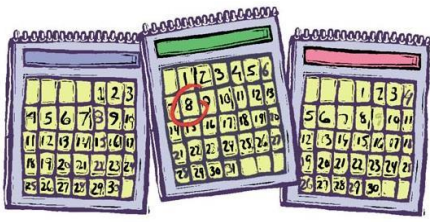
If you are willing to participate in this event by filling your trunk with treats, please contact Connie Ellsworth as soon as possible.



ANNUAL GATHERING

The American Baptist Churches 2016 Annual Meeting will take place at Cross Pointe Meadows Church in Novi, Michigan on Saturday, October 22. Our delegates this year are, Connie Ellsworth, Theresa King, Jim Garn, and Nancy Lewis.





Quarterly Business Meeting

7:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 27, 2016

BIBLE QUIZ

It's intriguing to think of people in Bible times experiencing the same cycle of seasons we do. Which of these books doesn't mention autumn?

- A. Matthew
- B. Jeremiah
- C. Proverbs
- D. Jude



The answer may be found on the calendar page.



**"When I type in your name and 'sin,' sir,
there are over 20 million results."**

LOOK UP

Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind. ... As long as you are proud, you cannot know God. A proud person is always looking down on things and people. And, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you.

-C.S. Lewis



Communion Table Flower Sign-Up

October 9	Jody & Cyndi James
October 16	Sharon Schultz
October 23	Shirley Yancer
October 30	Cheryl Zinz



- Sunday, November 6, 3:00 p.m.
Installation of Rev. Carol McCleary
- November 13
Potluck Sunday "feast of gratitude"
(more information to come)
- November 20
Hanging of the Greens
- November 27
First Sunday of Advent
- December 3, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Christmas Breakfast
- December 11
John & Kate Music Duo
- December 11
Christmas Cookie Orders Due
- December 14-15
Christmas Cookie Baking/Decorating
- December 15, 7:00 p.m.
Church Council
- Sunday, December 18, 10:45 a.m.
Cantata

October
2016

MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Reverend Carol McCleary

203 S. Michigan Ave

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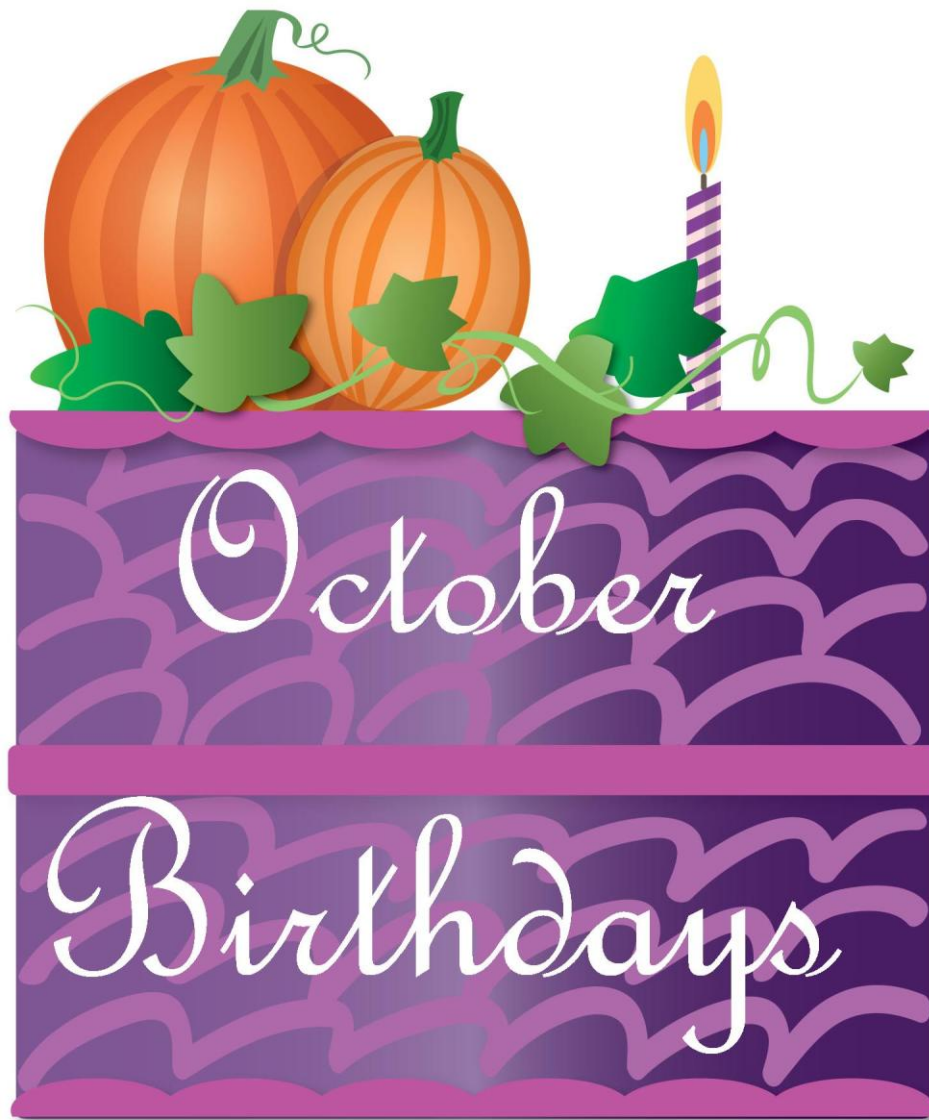
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 World Communion Sunday	3 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	4	5 6:30 p.m. L.Burrows Choir Rehearsal	6 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	7	8 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
9 Potluck Sunday CROP WALK	10 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	11	12 6:30 p.m. L.Burrows Choir Rehearsal	13 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	14 RUMMAGE SALE 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	15
16	17 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	18 November newsletter articles are due	19 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. L.Burrows Choir Rehearsal	20 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	21	22 ABC -MI 2016 Annual Meeting in Novi, MI
23 20 years of service as Administrative Assistant at MABC reception for Linda Wieferich	24 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	25	26 6:30 p.m. Hand Bells Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. L.Burrows Choir Rehearsal	27 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team 7:00 p.m. Quarterly Business Mtg	28	29 5:30-7:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat Party
30	31 6:15 p.m. Bible Study			Bible Quiz Answer: A (See Proverbs 20:4, ESV; Jeremiah 5:24; Jude 1:12).		

SUNDAYS AT MABC

9:30 a.m. Church School for All

10:45 a.m., Worship Service

Happy Birthday



07 Mindy Tuck

08 Pam Graham

08 Courtney Leaman

11 Pam Leaman

22 Al Ferrell

23 Peggy Landeryou

23 Jeff Lapan

30 John Sauvie

31 Cheryl Zinz

31 Joshua Ellsworth

If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the church office at (989) 793-8555 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.