



OUR STAFF

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

**ANNUAL
BUSINESS MEETING**

**7:00 p.m.
Thursday
January 26, 2017**



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.



A Message from Pastor Carol

As we begin a new year, we are reminded of our God who makes all things new. The Eternal One speaks through the prophet Isaiah: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." (Isaiah 43:18-19)
2 Corinthians 5:17 reminds us: "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

Several years ago, I came across this Prayer for the New Year in a Portals of Prayer devotional. I've prayed it every New Year's Day since. May it become your prayer as well.

Dearest Father,

You make all things new through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. You have given us new mercy, new kindnesses, and new life in His name. As a sign of Your goodness toward us, You have given us this new year and its beginnings. Teach me anew that You have made me Your own, not because I have been diligent in my resolve, but because of Your love for me. Forgive my sins and make me new in Christ. Give to me new mercies, and help me to see, each day of this year, that You are with me.... Show me Your ways, and free me to glorify You each day of this new year.

In Jesus' name.
AMEN.

May you experience God's goodness anew each day of 2017. Happy New Year!

Pastor Carol



Thank You!

Dear members and friends:

Thank you so much for your generosity this Christmas season. Your gifts, cards, and sweet treats all helped make my Christmas extra cheery. I feel so blessed to be your Pastor.

With gratitude,
Pastor Carol

Dear Congregation of MABC

I would like to thank you for the Christmas gift and for the love and appreciation you show me. I wish you all many Blessings in the New Year.

In Christian Love
Al Ferrell

Dear MABC & Friends

Thank you ever so much for the Christmas Love Gift. It is greatly appreciated and will be put to good use. I'd like to thank you for sharing with me the Love of Jesus Christ throughout the year. I have seen Him do His mighty work through you. We serve a mighty God. Wishing you and your loved ones, a blessed new year.

Linda Wieferich
Administrative Assistant

"THE WISE MAY BRING THEIR LEARNING"

The wise may bring their learning, the rich may bring their wealth,
And some may bring their greatness, and some bring strength and health;
We, too, would bring our treasures to offer to the King;
We have no wealth or learning; what shall we children bring?

We'll bring him hearts that love him; we'll bring him thankful praise,
And young souls meekly striving to walk in holy ways;
And these shall be the treasures we offer to the King,
And these are gifts that even the poorest child may bring.

We'll bring the little duties we have to do each day;

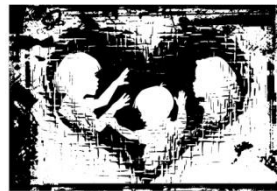
We'll try our best to please him, at home, at school, at play;
And better are these treasures to offer to our King;
Than richest gifts without them - yet these a child may bring.

-Anonymous



Epiphany, January 6, 2017

ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY



MABC Abuse Prevention Policy Training Session

The Church Council has revised and approved an Abuse Prevention Policy for MABC. The previous policy was very out of date and needed revision. Most insurance companies strongly advise that churches have a current policy on file. We are pleased that we have developed a strong policy that will ensure the safety of children, youth, and adults in our church.

A training session will be held on February 12 to ensure that all church volunteers affected by the policy are aware of its contents. Once the training is complete, full implementation of the policy will begin. A copy of the policy will be filed in the office. Additional copies will be placed on the usher's table at the back of the sanctuary for anyone who would like to review. If you have questions about the policy, you may contact Nancy Lewis or Pastor Carol.



**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017**

Annual Reports are due from:

- All Team Chairpersons
- Sub-Team Chairpersons
- Moderator
- Church Clerk
- Church Treasurer
- Financial Secretary
- Mission (Benevolence) Treasurer
- Historian
- Director of Music
- Pastor

Thank you

**ANNUAL
BUSINESS MEETING**

**7:00 p.m.
Thursday,
January 26, 2017**



A new sermon series begins January 8th. We will be looking at how God called people like Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Mary and more, and considering how God calls us today. Join us!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

**9:00 a.m.
Saturday, January 14, 2017**

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

A NEW VIEW

The New Year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

-C. Neil Strait



A NOTE TO ALL

Please let the church office, Nancy Lewis, or Carole Moore know when you are in the hospital. The hospitals don't always let us know in a timely manner that you are there. Thank you for your help. We care about you greatly!

"Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face."

-Victor Hugo

LESSONS FROM A SNOWMAN

- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- Sweating too much can be disastrous!



We have a church member who is looking for a one-bedroom apartment. Please contact Nancy Lewis if you know of one available.

WASHED CLEAN

Your morning shower can do more than cleanse your body. Retired pastor Norman Neaves takes time to remember his baptism daily.

"As the water is pouring down on me, I reach up and get water all over my hand. Then I close my eyes and make the sign of the cross on my forehead. "I have been baptized in Christ," I say to myself quietly. 'This day belongs to him. I am called to be Jesus' representative whatever I am doing and wherever I might go. Give me the grace, Lord to represent you well and with integrity.'"

FREE REFILLS

God's kingdom is like free refills at a restaurant. Wait - *what?!*

Jesus used common, everyday items to explain the kingdom of God; we can too! The kingdom is like free refills. Still thirsty after one soda or *coffee*? Get another - no charge. In fact, the kingdom of God *is better* than free refills because you don't even have to pay for the first glass.

It's like having a parent buy you a favorite meal when you're young. You sit back and savor it without the price crossing your mind. That's okay, because the generous giver loves you and wants to be with you.

Sure, that's simplistic, but so are Jesus' parables. Overanalyze them and they may fall apart. But ponder the single point each makes, maybe get a chuckle and an *a-ha'* out of it, and that parable has done its job. So grab another free refill - of your beverage and of God's love!

-Heidi Mann

BAPTISM CLASS

Pastor Carol will be offering a baptism class for youth in grades 6-8 this winter. If you or a young person you know is interested in exploring what it means to profess your faith in Christ and be baptized, please see Pastor Carol.

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.

BIBLE QUIZ

In Matthew 13, to what does Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

- A. A farmer sowing seed
- B. A mustard seed
- C. Yeast
- D. Hidden treasure
- E. A merchant who finds a pearl
- F. A fishing net
- G. All of the above



The answer may be found on the calendar page.

FOOD PANTRY AT MABC

While we do not have a regular give-away food program at MABC, we do have a good pantry that is used to meet the needs of anyone who finds themselves without enough food for their families. We especially like to help those who might not be served by other organizations or are friends and/or family of our members. Please feel free to refer anyone you know to Connie Ellsworth if there is a need.

The Pantry can always use the brief list below. Thank you in advance for your support of this important ministry to the hungry!

Laundry soap, shampoo, bath soap
Paper products: toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, napkins, Kleenex tissues.
Tuna, peanut butter, jams/jellies.
Soup, canned fruits, canned vegetables, crackers.
Baby products: diapers, baby wipes, baby wash soap.



Communion Table Flower Sign-Up

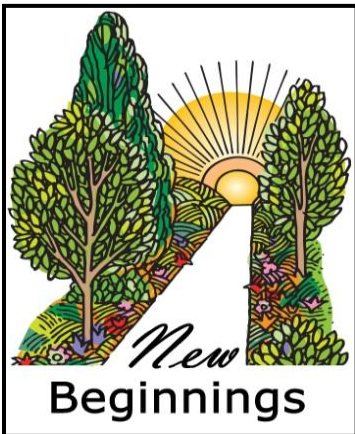
January, 2017

01	Cheryl Zinz
08	Communion Sunday
15	Daytona King
22	Brenda Baroody
29	

2017

SAVE THE DATES

- January 1, Annual Reports Due
- January 8, Potluck Sunday
"Taking Down the Greens"
- January 14, Men's Breakfast
- January 26: 7:00 p.m.
Annual Business Meeting



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**ANNUAL
 BUSINESS MEETING**
 7:00 p.m.
 Thursday,
 January 26, 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day	2 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	3	4 Rehearsals	5 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	6	7
8 COMMUNION SUNDAY Potluck Sunday "Taking Down the Greens"	9 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	10	11 Rehearsals	12 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	13	14 900 a.m. Men's Breakfast
15	16 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	17	18 Rehearsals	19 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	20	21
22	23 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	24 February Newsletter articles are due	25 Rehearsals	26 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team 7:00 p.m. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING	27	28
29	30 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	31				



Answer to Bible Quiz
 Answer: G (see Matthew 13:24-51)

SUNDAYS AT MABC
 9:30 a.m. Church School for All
 10:45 a.m., Worship Service

Wednesday Rehearsals at MABC
 6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbell choir
 7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir

Happy Birthday



January Birthdays

03 Jennifer Morris
07 James Smith
07 Bayleigh Larkin
08 Devin Ballien
10 Shirley Yancer
15 Shannon Ferrell
18 Daytona King
20 Lila Larkin
21 Cody Tuck
21 Connor Tuck
21 Linda Wieferich
22 Hunter Parks
27 Sharon Mason
20 Sarah Ferrell
30 Jim Lewis
30 Vivian Settle
30 David Hamilton
31 Chloe Tuck

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.