



#### 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

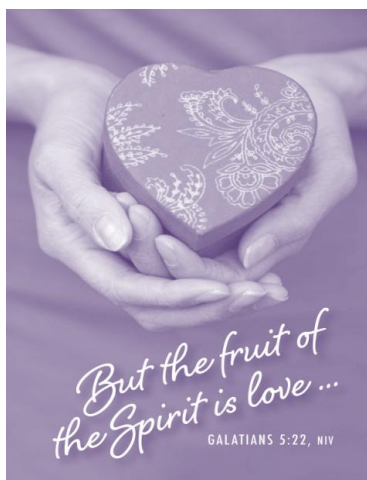
Clerk: Cyndi James

Treasurer: Jody James

Missions Treasurer:

Roger Ellsworth

Financial Secretary: Mary Leary



#### 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.




## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CAROL



Dear Members and Friends,

Do you remember conversation hearts? They're those small, heart-shaped candies with messages stamped on them in red. They were first introduced by the candy company Necco in the 1860's. These pastel-colored candies are ubiquitous around Valentine's Day. According to the Necco website, they make about 100,000 pounds of candy hearts per day, which amounts to billions of tiny candies being produced each year. Necco also changes the messages on the hearts regularly. Classic messages include Be Mine, Hug Me, and Sweet Heart. More updated messages include sayings like Text Me, You Rock, and #Love. Some of the sayings require some careful thought to decipher: URAQT, for example. (Hint: try saying each letter out loud).

A few years ago I started to wonder: What if God created conversation hearts? What messages would God put on them?

I imagine a yellow candy that says, I  You, for we read God's message in Jeremiah 31:3 *"I have loved you with an everlasting love."*

Perhaps a purple heart would say, U R Mine, a reminder of Isaiah 43:1: *"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."*

Maybe there would be a green heart bearing the message I 4give U. We read God's wonderful promise in I John 1:9. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

Another candy might bear the message, I care 4 U, recalling to mind the words of I Peter 5:7. *"Cast all your anxiety on him, for he cares for you."*

I can just picture a white candy with Jesus' parting words stamped in red: *"I am with you always"* (Matthew 28:20).

Well, Necco will probably never print hearts bearing those sayings, but that's okay. We have an entire Bible filled with God's promises. May your heart be strengthened and encouraged by God's unending love for you.

Faithfully,

Pastor Carol

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**June 2-4, 2017**

# **Annual ABW Conference**

St. Francis Retreat Center, Dewitt, MI

---

Be sure to invite your friends to join you for a great time of fellowship, learning, sharing, singing and praying. Come prepared to be blessed with the love of Jesus through a wonderful group of ABW women.

**THIS YEAR YOU CAN GO TO THE WORKSHOPS!!**

**Workshop Leaders include:**

**Rev. Linda Covington**

Love Center Interdenominational Church, Cleveland, Ohio

For His Glory - Isaiah 60:1

Linda is a stimulating teacher and will guide us to grow further in His word.

**Mrs. Brittany Golden**

Cross Pointe Meadows Church, Novi, Michigan

Exercise by Sitting Down

The Lord has instilled in Brittany that not only we should be spiritually healthy but also we should be in good physical shape - no matter our age. Nutrition facts included

**Mrs. Camille Bryant**

One Community Church, Novi, Michigan

Salt and Light - What Do You See

Camille will enlighten, strengthen and encourage us as we continue to learn and walk with our Lord.

**OTHER INVITED GUESTS INCLUDE:**

**Rev. John Good**, of Covenant Baptist Church, West Bloomfield, Michigan, is a new missionary to Hungary. Rev. Good and his family will be living there and he will be speaking to us about his new and upcoming adventure - bringing others to Christ.

Returning to us for an evening of inspiration is **Shari Minke**. The last time she was with us we laughed so hard our faces hurt from laughter. Her gift of teaching and her special touches to her presentation are indeed a gift from God.

The **Clarklake Community Church Praise Band** will invite you to join in as they bring uplifting, upbeat music that worships the only One deserving of our praise!

**Additional information about the conference will follow sometime in May 2017!**  
Please see Jackie Anjakos if you have any questions.

## THANK YOU

Dear MABC

Thank you so much for the Christmas love gift. I truly appreciate it. I wish you all a blessed new year.

Sarah Egerer  
Nursery Attendant

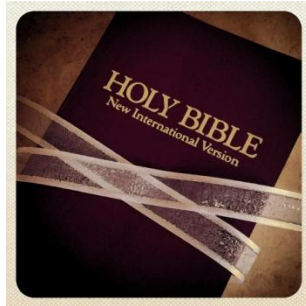
To My MABC Family,

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas love gift, it was greatly appreciated and put to good use. I'm looking forward to spending another year with all of you, doing everything I can to provide good music for 2017!

John Rickert  
Director of Music

## UNWRAP THE GIFT

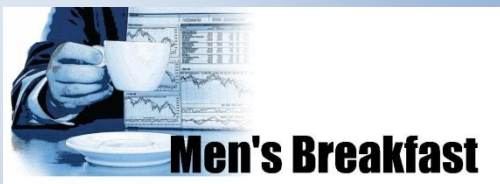
At church one Sunday, I noticed a woman carrying a Bible neatly wrapped in colorful ribbon, like a package. My first thought was that she must be giving it to someone as a present.



Throughout the next few weeks, however, I realized it was the woman's own well-used Bible. Whenever a worship service or Bible study ended, she carefully rewrapped the Scriptures with that shimmery strand.

What a great reminder that God's word is a precious, practical gift meant to be opened and reopened regularly.

-Stephanie Martin



9:00 a.m.  
Saturday, February 11, 2017

All men are invited  
to this time of Christian fellowship  
and delicious food.



## BAPTISM CLASS

Pastor Carol will be holding a baptism class during the months of February and March for youth in 6-8 grades. The class will be held on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30 and will meet in Pastor Carol's office. We will explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus and how baptism expresses that commitment.

If you or someone you know is interested in the class, please see Pastor Carol.

*Adults who are interested in baptism or church membership should speak to Pastor Carol.*

## THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL

On Valentine's Day, we remember that God is the source of all love in the world. His perfect love for us has made all human love possible.

For God so loVed the world  
thAt He gave His  
onLy  
begottEn  
SoN,  
thaT whoever  
belIEves  
iN Him should not perish  
but havE everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)

- "Christians are not men and women who are hoping for salvation, but those who have experienced it."

-Martin Lloyd-Jones

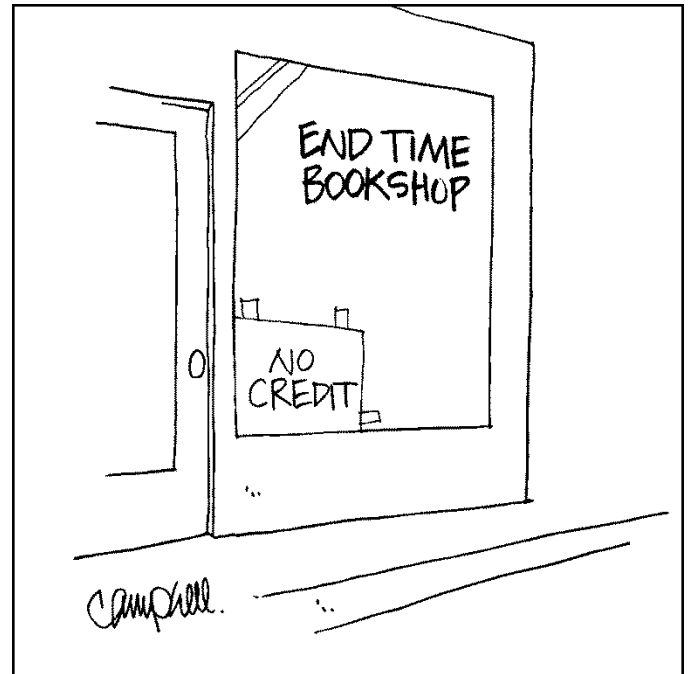
**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
7:00 p.m., Thursday  
February 16, 2017

### **FREEZER SPACE**

Dear Congregation

Due to limited space, if you use the church freezer, please mark and/or designate the items because we don't know what to do with many items left in the freezer. For example, are they for a specific purpose like potluck or a church event. Unfortunately they will be thrown out on a monthly basis if we don't know who or what the items are for.

Thank you,  
Jim Garn



### **BIBLE QUIZ**

What unique characteristic of the judge Ehud enabled him to outsmart King Eglon of Moab, who had been oppressing ancient Israel?

- A. He was left-handed.
- B. He was blind.
- C. He was very fat.
- D. He was exceedingly strong.

*The answer may be found on the calendar page.*



### **LOVE ALL YOU DO**

Blogger Rachel Macy Stafford gained a following by admitting she'd acquired the "disease of distraction." Her children and family paid the price for her dependence on technology and a super-packed schedule.

In *Hands Free Mama* (Zondervan), Stafford describes how she made room to live, breathe and appreciate each day. One step involved changing the slogan on the front of her planner from "Do It All" to "Love All I Do."

Now Stafford encourages others to take a Hands Free Pledge, "letting go of distraction, disconnection and perfection to live a life that simply, so very simply, consists of what really matters."



### **Communion Table Flower Sign-Up**

February, 2017

05 Communion Sunday  
12 Dianne Ellsworth  
19 Dianna Garcia  
26 Cyndi James



MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH  
 The Reverend Carol McCleary  
 203 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 Rehearsals	2 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	3	4
5 Communion Sunday	6	7	8 Rehearsals	9 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	10	11 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
12 -Potluck Sunday -Abuse Prevention Policy Training Session	13	14	15 Rehearsals	16 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team  7:00 p.m. Church Council Mtg	17	18
19	20	21 March newsletter articles are due	22 Rehearsals	23 4:30 p.m. Prayer Team	24	25
26	27	28			Answer to Bible Quiz: A: See Judges 3:12-26	



For we are God's fellow workers.  
 You are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV

**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



06 Connie Ellsworth  
11 Brenda Ferrell  
13 Dianne Ellsworth  
15 Jody James  
17 Kyle Casey  
22 Julie Bell  
24 Gregg Schultz  
24 Charles Bell, Jr.  
26 Lois Smith  
28 Hiram Ellsworth III

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

---

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.