



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: Cheryl Zinz
Clerk: Cyndi James
Treasurer: Jody James
Missions Treasurer:
Roger Ellsworth
Financial Secretary: Mary Leary



RALLY DAY
Sunday,
September 10, 2017
*Return to our regular
schedule*

9:15 a.m., meet in sanctuary
9:30 a.m., Church School
10:45 a.m., Worship Service,
Teacher Consecration and
sharing of Haiti mission trip
experiences
12:00 p.m., Potluck Sunday

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



Dear Members and Friends,

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:44

What would the world look like if people consistently tried to live according to Jesus’ teaching? That was the question Baptist pastor and farmer Clarence Jordan was trying to answer when he founded Koinonia Farms in 1942. (Koinonia is the Greek word meaning fellowship). Located in Americus, Georgia, Koinonia Farms became a place where blacks and whites could live together, work together, and eat at table together.

For the first decade or so, members of the community lived and worked the farm in relative obscurity. But in the 50’s and 60’s, Koinonia Farms (with its then radical vision of racial equality) became the target of cross burnings, shootings, bombs, and an economic boycott by the KKK. Throughout this difficult time, Jordan and the other members of the community continued to follow Jesus’ teaching: loving their enemies and forgiving those who wronged them.

Knowing Jordan’s lifelong practice of loving enemies, I was captivated by a statement he made in his commentary on the Sermon on the Mount. Jordan writes: Hate is a denial of our status as a child of God, because the Father, not having it in his own nature, never transmits it to his children.” As followers of Jesus, we are God’s beloved children. As such, we are called to act like our heavenly Father - to love as God loves.

So often we try to put limits around our love. We confine our love to those who love us back. Often this means we love only those who look like us, act like us, think like us, and agree with us....at least most of the time. How unlike our heavenly Father we are in this regard.

God loves indiscriminately. In the words of St. Matthew, God sends rain on the just and the unjust - which is just another way of saying that God loves everyone. Period. No exceptions. Since no one is exempt from God’s love, no one should be exempt from our love either. As followers of Jesus we don’t get to pick and choose whom we love.

I once saw a t-shirt that expressed this sentiment well. Printed on the back of the shirt were these words:

Love Thy Neighbor
Thy Homeless Neighbor
Thy Muslim Neighbor
Thy Black Neighbor
Thy Gay Neighbor
Thy White Neighbor
Thy Jewish Neighbor
Thy Christian Neighbor
Thy Atheist Neighbor
Thy Racist Neighbor
Thy Addicted Neighbor

As beloved children of God, may we grow in our ability to love as God loves.

Faithfully,
Pastor Carol

RALLY DAY

'Overflowing with God's Love'

Sunday, September 10, 2017

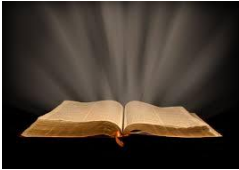
Return to our regular schedule



9:15 a.m., meet in sanctuary
9:30 a.m., Church School for All
10:45 a.m., Worship Service,
Teacher Consecration,
Sharing of Haiti Mission trip experiences
12:00 p.m., Potluck Sunday



FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



As we begin our fall schedule on Rally Day, September 10, there will be opportunities to study God's Word for children, youth, and adults. Below you will find a list of these opportunities. We hope everyone will choose one of these options and join us at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday so that we might learn together of the amazing messages of the scripture.

NURSERY (birth through age 5): Staffed by Sarah Egerer, our long-time caregiver, Sarah provides a safe and loving environment for our children during their formative years. Church volunteers assist Sarah to ensure proper care and nurturing.

JESUS HUNTERS (1st through 5th grade): Led by Becky Geidans (Mrs. G.), this class uses the "Kids Sunday School Place" curriculum and the *Action Bible*, a pictorial account of the Bible written especially for children in this age group. Interactive games that bring the Bible to life are frequently interspersed into the lessons.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL (grades 6-12): Co-taught by Cheryl Zinz, Nikki Anjakos-Seno and Jim Garn, this class delves into scripture in an interactive, hands-on style, including faith-based crafts that keep teenagers engaged and excited about coming every Sunday.

FRIENDSHIP CLASS: Led by Al Ferrell, this class is designed for special needs adults, presenting the scripture in uniquely meaningful ways to meet the needs of this special population. Al's caring and calm presence draws students toward learning more about God's Word.

WORKING CLASS (adults): Led by Nancy Lewis, this class comprised of both men and women, will delve into the *lectio divino* style of study this year, using the book *Meeting God in Scripture* by Jan Johnson. Participants will focus on a single passage of scripture each week, studying it in-depth, using a combination of reading, meditation, and discussion.

KITCHEN CLASS (adults): Led by Jackie Anjakos and Dave Garn, this class (obviously meeting in the kitchen), addresses topical issues through a video series. Participants (men and women) view a segment of the video series each week, followed by discussion on the week's topic.

BURROWS ROOM CLASS (adults): Led by Lois Smith, this class meets in a cozy room that looks more like our living rooms than a classroom (the Burrows Room), and reminds participants (men and women) of the rich history of our church. This intimate setting will provide the perfect "get-away" for this year's study on prayer.



THANK YOU

Dear MABC,

Thank you for choosing me for the scholarship. It means a lot to me that you are willing to help me further my education. The scholarship has helped me out by helping me pay for all the books that I have needed. It has also helped with buying some small school supplies that the professors tell us we are going to need for the course.

-Devin Ballien

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you very much for this scholarship, it will be put to great use. This money will be put to good use by paying for things such as my school books or classes. Thank you for your continued support, God bless you.

-Sincerely, Jeffrey Todd LaPan

Dear Scholarship Committee:

Thank you so much for contributing to my education and for funding the MABC Scholarship that I received this year. I am very grateful to have received this assistance and want you to know how much your generosity means to me. God willing, I want to graduate seminary debt free and that alone is one of the challenges He has put on my heart. Since Cornerstone is \$1,600 a class, you can see how every bit of money counts! It will take 25 classes, which is 4 consecutive years, for me to complete this degree.

This is my first year at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, and I am pursuing a Masters of Divinity. I plan on becoming a chaplain once I am done with my education. Furthering my education is very important to me, and I'm glad that it's important to you too, because I would not have been able to attend Cornerstone University or GRTS without your help. Thank you again for all you do!

-Sincerely, Sarah Ferrell

Dear MABC

HealthSource Saginaw would like to thank you for your very generous donation this past holiday season. These donations went towards lifting the spirits of many residents this past Christmas season.

-Teresa Emerson, Activity Director



"I teach Sunday school. What's your superpower?"

-Unknown

PRAYER TEAM

Every Thursday, from 2:00-4:00p.m., the Prayer Team gathers to offer prayer both 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.



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

WHAT'S YOUR CALLING?

When you have a sense of calling - whether it's to be a musician, soloist, artist, in one of the technical fields or a plumber - there is something deep and enriching when you realize it isn't just a casual choice; it's a divine calling. That's not limited to vocational Christian service, by any means.

-Charles R. Swindoll



"Charlotte is always willing to substitute on very short notice."

Welcome September 2017

As MABC returns to its regular schedule on Sunday, September 10, 2017, 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 our Lord.

- Our PRAYER TEAM meets every Thursday, from 2:00-4:00 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. For further information, please contact Lois Smith or Becky Geidans.
- The MEN'S BREAKFAST will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 9 for a delicious breakfast and Christian Fellowship
- YOUR HELP is greatly needed in helping to clean the kitchen. We will gather at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 9.
- RALLY DAY! Sunday, September 10 is the day we return to our regular church school. Our church school teachers have exciting plans for the new year! Today is also the return of Potluck Sundays. Remember to invite a friend to church.

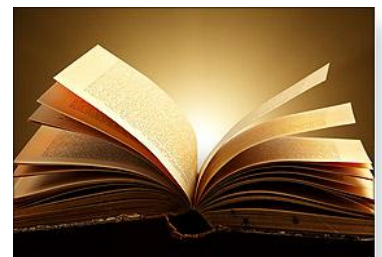
9:15 a.m. Rally Day Kick Off in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Church School for All

10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Teacher Consecration, and stories from Haiti Mission trip. Destiny Helpap and Jeff LaPan will be sharing pictures and stories from their mission trip to Haiti today. Join us as we celebrate God's work here at home and around the globe.

12:00 p.m. Potluck Sunday. Bring your favorite dish to pass and join in the feast and Christian fellowship.

- CHOIR REHEARSALS begin: The Latham Burrows Choir will meet on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:30 p.m. to rehearse for Rally Day. On Wednesday, September 13 the choirs will meet: 6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbell Choir, 7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir. If you are interested in joining the choir, please see John Rickert, Director of Music.
- WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will begin a new study on 2nd Corinthians, Monday, September 11. They meet at 6:15 p.m. on Mondays. Should you have questions, please contact Becky Geidans.
- FALL SERMON SERIES begins Sunday, September 17 and will continue through November. Philippians: Joy for the Journey. We will be learning from the Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Philippi - the first church on European soil. Even though Paul wrote this letter from prison, one of its prominent themes is joy. Join us as we discover how to live joyfully as followers of Jesus.
- CHURCH SCHOOL SERIES begins, Sunday, September 17. The theme for this year is, "Overflowing with God's Love". There are classes for every person.



**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 9, 2017**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST
9:00 a.m.**

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

**KITCHEN CLEANING
10:00 a.m.**

Please join us as we clean the kitchen. We have had a rodent problem this past week and the kitchen needs to be spotlessly cleaned. Your help is greatly appreciated.

WHY GOD WATCHES

An English bishop recalled a childhood visit to an elderly woman, who showed him a framed text that read "Thou God seest me."

The woman told him, "When you're older, people will tell you that God is always watching you to see when you do wrong, in order to punish you. I don't want you to think of it that way. Instead, take the text home and remember all your life that God loves you so much he can't take his eyes off you."



**Wednesday, September 6
6:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir**

**Wednesday, September 13
6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbell Choir
7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows choir**

If you would like to join the choir, please see John Rickert, Director of Music. Come and sing for the Lord!

BE YOURSELF FOR GOD

Rabbi Joseph Liebermann describes a dream where he dies and goes to stand before god's judgment seat. As he waits, the rabbi fears that the Lord will ask him, "Why weren't you a Moses ... or a David ... or a Solomon?" Instead, God surprises him by simply asking, "Why weren't you Rabbi Liebermann?"

When our lives are over, God won't ask us why we weren't a Mother Teresa or another saintly soul. He simply wants us to be who he created us to be.

"We are his workmanship," St. Paul writes in Ephesians 2:10. In Greek, workmanship means "a piece of art." You are God's masterpiece. Life isn't a game of comparison. It's a journey of discovery of how God has uniquely created you to perform specific tasks in this life.

Your life is God's canvas. Don't hinder the painting process!

-Mike Paulison

BIBLE QUIZ

In memorable language in Revelation, God tells the church in Laodicea, "I am about to spit you out of my mouth," because it is metaphorically _____ *fill in the blank).

- A. Too hot
- B. Too cold
- C. Tasteless
- D. lukewarm



The answer may be found on the calendar page.



READ THESE PSALMS WHEN YOU...

- Feel Anxious Psalm 27, 56
- Feel troubled Psalm 20, 23, 28, 40, 62, 86
- Feel persecuted Psalm 59, 69, 70, 102, 140 -143

- Feel discouraged Psalm 42
- Feel abandoned by God Psalm 22, 77
- Feel envious of people Psalm 37, 73

- Feel forsaken by your friends. Psalm 41, 55
- Need to reconcile with someone Psalm 133
- Have sinned Psalm 32, 51, 103, 130

- Need help Psalm 38, 91, 121
- Are facing important decisions Psalm 25
- Need encouragement as a senior citizen Psalm 71

- Want to praise God. Psalm 92, 96, 97, 98, 100, 117, 136, 138, 139, 145-150



Adapted from Turning Point Ministries.
Copyright permission granted.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 p.m.
Thursday, September 21, 2017

A SIGN OF WHAT'S TO COME

When God is about to do something great, he starts with a difficulty.

When he is about to do something truly magnificent, he starts with an impossibility.

-Armin Gesswein



**COMMUNION TABLE
FLOWER SIGN-UP**

- September 3 Communion Sunday
- September 10 Teddy Pelkey
- September 17 Pam Leaman
- September 24 Sharon Mason

LOOKING AHEAD

- October 8 Potluck Sunday
CROP WALK
- October 14 Men's Breakfast
- October 26 Quarterly Business Meeting
- October 28 Trunk or Treat
ABC-MI Annual Gathering



MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
 The Reverend Carol McCleary
 203 S. Michigan Ave
 Saginaw, Michigan 48602
 Church Office: (989) 793-8555
 Email: MichiganAveBaptist@sbcglobal.net
 Website: www.MABCSaginaw.org



EXODUS 15:1 SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Special Worship Service: Service of Psalms and Songs. COMMUNION SUNDAY	4 	5 Church Office closed	6 6:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir Rehearsal	7 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	8	9 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Kitchen Cleaning Day
10 Haiti Mission Team Presentation  RALLY DAY and POTLUCK SUNDAY	11 6:15 p.m. Women's Bible Study Studying 2 nd Corinthians	12	13 Rehearsals 6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbells 7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir	14 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	15	16
17 FALL SERMON SERIES BEGINS: Philippians: Joy for the Journey	18 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	19	20 Rehearsals 6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbells 7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir	21 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time 7:00 p.m. Church Council	22	23
24	25 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	26	27 Rehearsals 6:30 p.m. Belle Aire Handbells 7:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir	28 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	29	30



WORSHIP AT MABC - SEPTEMBER 3

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

RALLY DAY - SEPTEMBER 10

9:30 a.m., Church School for All
 10:45 a.m., Worship Service
 12:00 p.m., Potluck Sunday

Bible Quiz Answer: D (See Revelation 3:16)

Happy Birthday



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

04 Olivia Tuzas
08 Nikki Anjakos-Seno
12 Jim 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



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.