



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
Sound Technician
Opportunity to serve

OUR CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator: Nancy Lewis
Vice-Moderator: Cheryl Zinz
Clerk: Cyndi James
Treasurer: J. David Garn
Missions Treasurer:
Rose Johnson
Financial Secretary: Laure Smith



- April 3
National Day of Prayer
- May 6
Communion Sunday
- May 6
Scholarship Applications due
- May 12
Men's Breakfast
- May 13
Mother's Day
Hat Sunday
Baby Dedication
- May 19
Church Cleaning Day
- May 20
Pentecost Sunday,
Teacher Appreciations,
Bible Presentation
- May 28 Memorial Day

CHURCH TEAM LEADERS

Christian Ed & Youth Ministry
Cheryl Ellsworth
Facilities/Maintenance:
Jody James
Historian: J. David Garn
Assistant: Cheryl Ellsworth
Finance: Jim Garn
Missions, Outreach/Evangelism:
Co-Leader: Nikki Anjakos-Seno
Co-Leader: Opportunity to
serve
Hospitality: Connie Ellsworth
Music & Worship: Jan Wheeler
Pastoral Relations: Vacant
Visitation: Lois Smith
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 Members and Friends,

God bless you!

How often do we say those words at the close of a conversation or after somebody sneezes? Sometimes we say those words casually, as a form of courtesy. Other times we say them sincerely, as a way of expressing our desire for God to bring good things into someone's life. Usually, when I think about God's blessing, I think about increased comfort, or the assurance of a trouble free life filled with happiness.

A few years ago I came across the following Franciscan prayer that turned my notion of blessing upside down.

May God bless you with the discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

I believe this blessing captures the heart of Jesus' teaching in the Beatitudes - that God's blessings are not just for the rich, the successful, the comfortable, and the satisfied. Rather, God's blessing is extended to the poor, the meek, and those who mourn. God's blessings sometimes come hidden inside difficult or distressing circumstances - situations that prompt us to rely more fully on God and to serve others in Jesus' name.

In trusting and serving, we are truly blessed.

Faithfully,

Pastor Carol



National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 3, 2018



As the 2018 National Day of Prayer approaches, thousands of individuals, churches, and communities will be working to rally millions of Christians to once again heed this call.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



If you are going to school in the fall and are a member of MABC, you may be eligible for a scholarship from the

church. You may pick up your application and information about the scholarship program at the back of the sanctuary or from the church office. Scholarship applications are due in the church office no later than Sunday, May 6, 2018.

THE GIVER

It is beyond the realm of possibilities that one has the ability to out-give God. Even if I give the whole of my worth to him, he will find a way to give back to me much more than I give.

-Charles Spurgeon

THANK YOU

Dear MABC

On behalf of the Food Pantry @ FPC I would like to thank you for the donation of \$153.32. Each applicant/family receives one-week worth of food when they apply. Volunteers from the area churches staff the pantry and have provided 9561 hours of time in 2017. This allows 100% of the cash donations received to buy food and other personal hygiene products for the 6060 clients seen in 2017. Thank you for your support of a very necessary mission.

-Jessica Straebel, Financial Secretary

RESTART YOUR HEAD

Pain and loss are inescapable on this earth; fortunately, the Great Physician specializes in fixing hearts. Our participation is vital to recover, as Danny Gokey sings in, "Tell Your Heart to Beat Again,"

The song was inspired by a pastor asking to watch a cardiac surgeon - one of his congregants - in action. When the doctor attempted to restart the patient's heart after repairing it, the organ wouldn't cooperate. The surgeon knelt to speak to his patient: "We have fixed your heart. We have repaired it. There is nothing wrong with your heart. If you can hear me, I need you to tell your heart to beat again." And it did - because she did.

"You can get back up again," says Gokey, who faced loss when his first wife died. "You can move forward with your life, and you don't have to walk with a limp." God has fixed our hearts, Gokey says, but we need to recognize that - and begin to hope again.



HAT SUNDAY

"In Remembrance, in fun and in celebration of Mother's Days of the past, The Matriarch's (Widow's) Group of the church are wearing hats for the Church Service on Mother's Day, May 13th, 2018. We invite you to join us in this activity in remembering days gone by and just for fun."

MEN'S BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m.
Saturday, May 12, 2018
at
Tim's Tony's Restaurant
234 Center Road (near Gratiot)
Saginaw, Michigan

TRUE VICTORY



In the early Christian church, especially in the East, it became customary to adorn the heads of the newly baptized with flower garlands. The practice was likely borrowed from secular society, in which such

wreaths symbolized victory and joy. Just as the winners in sporting events wore wreaths to celebrate their triumphs, new Christians donned them to represent the "crown of life" promised to those who love God (James 1:12).

In athletics, all participants must work hard and only one wins. But Christ won the victory of salvation and bestows it on us as a free gift. Even our ability to love God is a gift of the Holy Spirit. And there's no limit to how many people can "win"!



Sunday
May 13, 2018



THANKS MON!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting." He said.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

JUST for pun!

- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- If you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Reading while sunbathing make you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- The worker who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a kneed-to-know basis.





What a day it will be!

Sunday, May 20, 2018

**PENTECOST SUNDAY
TEACHER APPRECIATION
BIBLE PRESENTATION
POTLUCK SUNDAY**

Come join in the celebration! We will meet at 9:30 a.m. for church school, followed by our worship service at 10:45 a.m. where we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday, our teachers, present bibles to our second graders, and follow this up with the last potluck for the summer. Oh my! What a joyous day it will be!

REMEMBER TO WEAR RED!

Pentecost petals

The Pantheon, dedicated in 126 A.D. as the home of ancient Roman gods, is now a Catholic basilica. In a tradition dating back to the seventh century, on Pentecost Sunday thousands of rose petals are dropped through the roof's opening onto worshipers below. The red petals symbolize the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples, as well as the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

To accomplish this "rose rain," five firefighters climb to the roof after mass. While the choir sings the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* ("Come Creator Spirit"), firefighters empty seven bags of petals through the building's 17-foot-wide oculus, or eye in the sky.

Only a fortunate few can witness this spectacular event in person each year, but videos are available online.



2018 Camp Lake Louise

It's not too early to begin thinking about attending Camp Lake Louise this summer. Information will soon be ready. They are putting together a wonderful God-filled program for all ages. Church scholarships are available too!

Check out their website at www.camlakelouise.com or see Cheryl Ellsworth for further information.

SURPRISE!



"Each day holds a surprise," wrote Henri Nouwen. "But only if we expect it can we see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us. Let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy."

Wait - sorrow as a surprise? And I'm not to fear it? Aren't surprises supposed to be happy things! What does Nouwen mean?

He continues: "It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity." And I remember, too, the psalmist's words: "The LORD is near to the broken-hearted" (Psalm 34:18). Maybe that's the surprise in our SORROW: that when we ache, as when we celebrate, God is there - in new friends, in shared humanity. Surprise!

-Heidi Mann

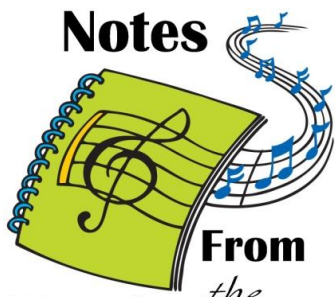
THE POWER OF PENTECOST



Before Pentecost the disciples found it hard to do easy things: after Pentecost they found it easy to do hard things.

-A.J. Gordon

Notes



From
the
Music Director

CHOIRS ARE TAKING A BREAK

The Latham Burrows Choir and the Belle Aire Handbell Choir are taking a break for the summer months. We will be looking for new voices come the fall. During the summer months why not think about joining the Latham Burrows Choir. We'd love to have you join us.

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you goes to the Latham Burrows Choir, Belle Aire Handbell Choir, and those who offered A Gift of Music throughout the year. You've brought much joy and ministry through your gift of music.

SUMMER MUSIC

Your church needs your help this summer. If you are interested in offering your musical talent, now is the time. Beginning in June, we will have many summer Sundays to fill with special music during the worship service. Whether you sing, play an instrument or both, your talent will be greatly appreciated.

There will be a sign up sheet on the board in the music room. Just put your name in any Sunday that is available and/or see me, John Rickert.

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with me after church, send an email to rickertmusic@gmail.com, or give me a call at 989-598-4132. Thank you.

John Rickert
Music Director



MEMORIAL DAY



Thank you for your service

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

While in Jerusalem for Pentecost, people from many faraway lands miraculously heard the disciples preaching in their own native languages. Which of the following modern-day places was/were represented?

- A. Egypt
- B. Libya
- C. Crete
- D. Rome
- E. All of the above
- F. A, B and D



Answer: E (See Acts 2:9-11.)

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWER SIGN-UP

May 6, Communion Sunday
May 13, Sandy Ellsworth
May 20, Sharon Schultz
May 27, Karen Hatch



2018 SAVE THE DATES

Regional Ministries and One great Hour of Sharing Offerings received.

June 3, Communion Sunday
June 9, Men's Breakfast
June 17, Father's Day
June 21, Church Council

Please note: MABC will not be returning to a summer worship schedule this year.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for a way you might help around the church without making a major commitment such as serving on a team or becoming an officer? Here are some possibilities that would greatly help.

1. **Coffee Service:** Set up the coffee service for the social hour. This service is set up by 9:00 a.m. so that those attending Sunday School may use it, as well as those wishing a cup of coffee between Sunday School and church time. It just requires setting up the coffee urn and plugging it in, putting out cream, sugar, cups, spoons, napkins, etc. Someone else will take care of clean-up after church.
2. **Door monitor:** This requires sitting near the Adams Street entrance (top of stairs) to monitor individuals coming in after the start of service. This person should be comfortable approaching unknown individuals to determine whether they are coming in for the service or some other reason.
3. **Worship in the Park:** This person would help coordinate the summer Worship in the Park service as well as the picnic following.
4. **Church Sign:** This person(s) would regularly change the messages on the sign in front of our building. Pastor Carol and/or church leaders would assist with appropriate messages. Ideally, this would be two people (such as a couple) to make the job easier.
5. **Prayer Chain:** This person would be the primary contact for all prayer chain requests, ensuring that the request is passed on to the first person on both the day and night chains. This person would also update the list with new names and phone numbers, as needed, and distribute the list to participants.

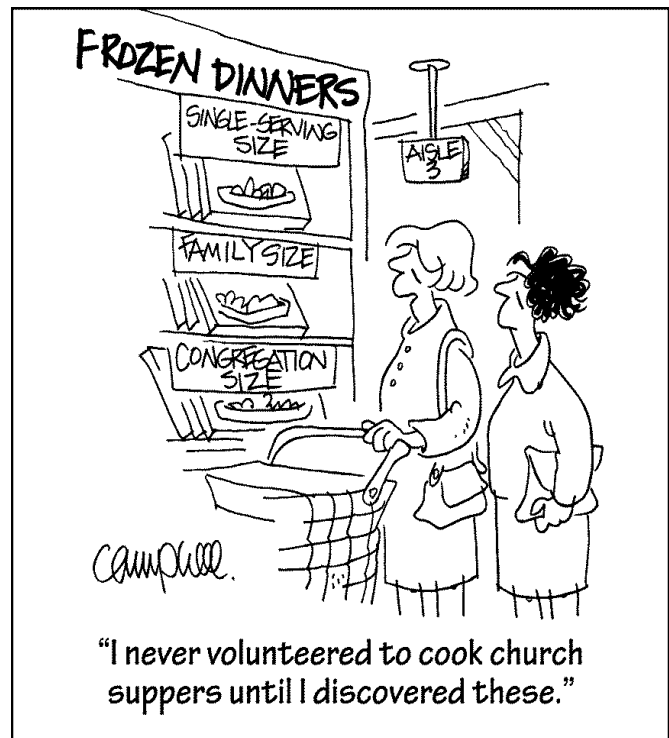
If you believe you could help with any of these tasks, please see Nancy Lewis—and look for more opportunities in future Beacons!

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



Fleur-de-lis

Because the fleur-de-lis resembles a lily, a symbol of purity, it is sometimes used to represent the Virgin Mary. Due to its three-petal form, the fleur-de-lis also symbolizes the Holy Trinity.



MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH Event Cancellation Policy

In the event that the cancellation of the worship service or any other *public* church activity may be warranted, the following procedure will be followed:

The Church Moderator shall consult with the Pastor(s), the Worship Team Leader, and any other persons who might provide pertinent information for making the decision, such as the Facilities Team Leader, church maintenance staff, Christian Education Team Leader, Music Director, etc.

Should the Moderator determine that cancellation is warranted, he/she shall notify WNEM-TV (Channel 5), for public announcement.

Reasons for the cancellation of worship or other church activities include (but are not limited to) power outage, boiler malfunction, inclement weather or other natural disaster, declared emergency by local officials, and medical emergencies.

*Note: This policy does **not** apply to internal meetings, such as Church Council, team and committee meetings, music rehearsals, and youth group meetings.*

Rev. April 2018



CHURCH CLEANING DAY

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Saturday,
May 19, 2018**

Looking for something fun and rewarding to do for your church? Come out May 19 to your church and help clean a specified area of the church. Many hands makes for light work. Hope to see you there!



FINDING MEANING IN SURRENDER

Swedish diplomat Dag Hammarskjöld, the second secretary-general of the United Nations, was known for his Christian faith and his efforts as a peacemaker. He received the Nobel Peace Prize posthumously after dying in a plane crash in Africa en route to negotiate a cease-fire.

In *Markings*, his published diary, Hammarskjöld wrote not of his illustrious career but of his conversations with God. He expressed concern about finding meaning in life and living a life filled with meaning. On Pentecost in 1961 (just months before he died), Hammarskjöld wrote; "But at some moment I did answer Yes to Someone – or Something – and from that hour I was certain that existence is meaningful and that, therefore, my self-surrender, had a goal."





May
2018

MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Reverend Carol McCleary

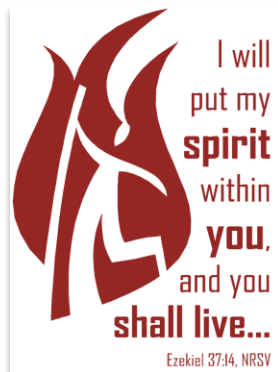
203 S. Michigan Ave

Saginaw, Michigan 48602

Church Office: (989) 793-8555

Email: MichiganAveBaptist@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.MABCSaginaw.org



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
WORSHIP AT MABC 9:30 a.m. Church School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service 12:00 p.m. Fellowship			1	2	3	4
			6:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir Rehearsal	National Day of Prayer 2:00-4:00 P.M. Prayer Time		5
6 Communion	7 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	8	9 6:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir Rehearsal	10 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	11	12 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ Tim's Tony's on Center and Gratiot
13 Mother's Day Hat Sunday Baby Dedication	14 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	15	16 6:30 p.m. Latham Burrows Choir Rehearsal	17 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time 7:00 p.m. Church Council	18	19 10:00-12:00 Church Cleaning Day
20 (REMEMBER TO WEAR RED) Pentecost Sunday ~Teacher Appreciation ~Bibles Awarded ~Potluck Sunday	21 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	22	23	24 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day	29	30	31 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time		



Happy Birthday



May
BIRTHDAYS

02 Dorothy Croucher
06 Diana Lemmer
06 James Garn
11 Dakota Casey
14 Sandra Ellsworth
20 Sharlene Hamilton
22 Jessica Bell
26 Jackie Anjakos
30 Jan Wheeler
30 Bill Larkin

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.