



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



SUMMER WORSHIP AT MABC

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

June 3, 2018
9:30 a.m.

Intergenerational Church School
*(Stay tuned for additional
opportunities throughout the
summer months)*

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,

I don't know about you, but I feel extra busy and stressed this time of the year. I talk with kids, parents, and grandparents who are up to their eyeballs with end of the school year activities. Many of us are looking forward to relaxing days this summer, but we're not quite there yet. Work and school and family concerns can at times seem overwhelming. As a high school student I was introduced to the following prayer, written by Rev. David Mains, which is especially helpful during stressful times.

Father, You are God, even in stress-filled times. On my own I could feel overwhelmed, but Scripture tells me that you care about every detail of my life. Right now, the stress I feel most intensely is _____. Show me the steps I can take, Lord, and give me the courage to take them. Calm my spirit, Lord, as I trust you to bring good in this situation.

Father, You are God, even in stress-filled times. This opening line acknowledges God's care – and that God's in charge – right from the start.

On my own I could feel overwhelmed, but Scripture tells me that You care about every detail of my life. I don't know what Rev. Mains was thinking of when he wrote these words, but perhaps he was remembering Jesus' teaching in Matthew 10:30 where Jesus reminds us that *"the very hairs of your head are all numbered."* God cares for us that much!

Right now, the stress I feel most intensely is _____. Go ahead and fill in the blank. Maybe it's stress about final exams at school, worries about your job situation or a medical concern. Whatever is worrying you, whatever is keeping you awake at night, take it to God in prayer.

Show me the steps I can take Lord, and give me the courage to take them. There's no passive sitting around waiting for God to magically make our problems disappear. If there's action that we need to be taking, we pray that God would show us. And we trust God to give us the needed courage and strength to do what he asks.

Calm my spirit, Lord, as I trust you to bring good in this situation. The prayer closes with a final affirmation of God's goodness even in the midst of stressful situations.

AMEN

There's nothing magical about these words, but they do offer a possible starting point as we seek to bring our concerns to God in prayer. Whatever you face this week, may you sense God's presence and know his power as you trust in Him.

Faithfully,
Pastor Carol



Dear Congregation

The human imagination is pretty incredible. World Relief Officer, Lisa Rothenberger-Winter states she met a farmer in Nicaragua last year named Luisa and heard her dreams for her family. Their lives have gotten harder as the rains come less frequently. When they do come, it's often in downpours, not in the gently falling rains that best nourish crops. Their life is hard, yet she pictures the future with imagines of her children grown up, going to college, being professionals, and caring for the Earth.

The human imagination is also limited, bound by our finite human experience. Sometimes the suffering of the world outpaces our ability to imagine new life.

For many, 2017 was an apocalyptic year filled with unbelievable hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, floods and violence. You prayed, stood with, and gave to people and needs from next-door neighbors to global neighbors you may never meet. As I write this letter in early February 2018, you have given over \$2 million to help the hundreds of thousands of people impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and mudslides and fires in California. These generous gifts help people envision recovery and new life, strengthened by the assurance that God is working in, through, and beyond us.

The same Apostle Paul who said that God is able to “accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20) also put the work of building abundance squarely at our feet:”...always seek to do good to one another and to all” (1 Thessalonians 5:15).

You have done good to one another and to all. When dreams abound and even when our imaginations run dry, you continue to do good. Your One Great Hour of Sharing gifts are living testimony to this. I offer thanks for your generous giving to One Great Hour of Sharing. Let us continue to be strengthened in the knowledge that God is able to “accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine.”

Each spring, ABC-MI invites member congregations to consider supporting the Regional Offering. Our vision is to be a constant for affiliated churches navigating the sea of change in their local communities. We come along side to help churches like your seek answers to difficult questions and adapt to new ways for more fruitful ministry. We train leaders and share resources so your church can more effectively love others and grow disciples. We help churches team up for maximum impact, share best practices and pursue ministry inspired by an American Baptist perspective. And in very practical ways, we consult with churches to help with vision casting, pastoral calls and transition plans, crisis management, capital fundraising, church planting and more.

MABC will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering and the Regional Offering during the month of June. Your 2018 Mission Team has set a goal of \$200.00 for One Great Hour of Sharing and \$300.00 for Regional Ministries to be received by the end of June.

Cordially
MABC 2018 Mission Team

MEN'S BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m.
Saturday, June 9, 2018

Tim's Tony's Restaurant
234 Center Road (near Gratiot)
Saginaw, Michigan

A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES



Heavenly Father, we come as your children to praise you for putting us into families. Thank you for the love and nourishment we've received and have been blessed to give. We confess our need for your daily forgiveness and guidance in our families. Please grant harmony in our homes and help us always show respect and love for one another. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Music and Worship Team Meeting

12:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 24, 2018

*All members are asked to attend.
Please meet in the Burrows Room.*

THE DANDELION

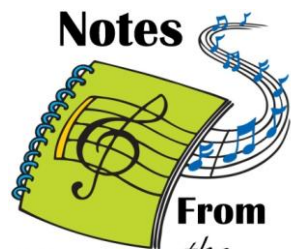
The dandelion's pallid tube astonishes the grass, and winter instantly becomes an infinite alas.

The tube uplifts a signal bud and then a shouting flower, the proclamation of the suns that sepulture is o'er.

-Emily Dickinson



Notes



From the Music Director

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, and going into July and August, 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



CAST AWAY

God has cast our confessed sins into the depths of the sea, and he's even put a "No Fishing" sign over the spot.

-D.L. Moody

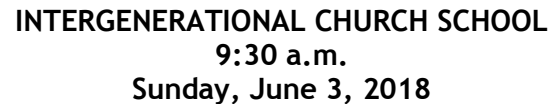


Forgiven!

Commencement speeches and greeting cards are full of advice for graduates, yet good intentions and careful plans can't guarantee a perfect life - whatever that might mean.

As Christians, we can do more than that: We can trust in God. Yes, he may speak to us through a “Gut” feeling, and our eternal “destiny” is assured. And we know that life, not death, will win out. But recent grads - and all of us - need not just sit and wait to see how the dots of our lives will someday connect. God has shown us through Scripture, the church and, above all, Jesus that the dots connect this way: from God’s heart, to Jesus’ sacrifice for us, to our entry into relationship with God, to our heart and finally to our own loving outreach to others.

-Heidi Mann



Putri Nuri

Find the missing letter in each alphabet below.
Then read the words from top to bottom to discover
Israel's promise from Joshua 24:24, NIV.

[illegible]

Answer: We will serve the Lord ... and obey him
Joshua 24:24, NIV

BILLBOARDS FOR JESUS

An online search for “advertising fails” reveals some hilarious and cringe-worthy signs. Often the “fail” is due to an ad’s placement. For example, a billboard about childhood obesity appears next to one for a fast-food restaurant, and a promotion for The Walking Dead is posted near a mortuary.



As Christ’s ambassadors on earth (see 2 Corinthians 5:20), we serve as walking, talking billboards for Jesus and our faith. Despite our sinfulness - and often “cringe-worthiness” - Jesus lives in us, whom he created to do good works (see Ephesians 2:10).

Even though we will never be perfect billboards for Jesus, let’s not cover up our message. Instead, let’s embrace the privilege of being salt and light (see Matthew 5:13-16), proclaiming the gospel in a dark world.

POTLUCK SUNDAY

Please note, Potluck Sunday will not be held during the months of June, July and August. We will resume on Rally Day in September.

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

Serpent - A serpent coiled around a fruit-bearing tree symbolizes humanity’s first sin, when Adam and Eve, at the serpent’s tempting, disobeyed God by eating fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. The Genesis 3 account is often referred to as “The Fall,” and, though it doesn’t say so, the serpent is commonly understood as Satan.



Sunday, June 17, 2018

THE BEST FATHER

Unlike the earthly prince, God didn’t take a high-and-mighty title, notes 17th-century British preacher Thomas Watson. Instead, God calls himself Father to encourage us to pray to him.

But God isn’t just any father. Watson offers these reasons why God is “the Best Father”:

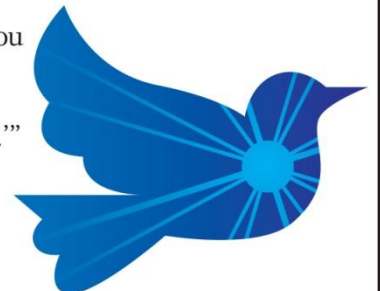
- He is the most ancient (Daniel 7:9)
- He is perfect (Matthew 5:48)
- He is the wisest (Romans 16:27)
- He is the most loving (Zephaniah 3:17, 1 John 4:16)
- He has unsearchable riches (Ephesians 3:8)
- He can reform his children (Acts 9:11)
- He never dies (1 Timothy 6:16; Revelation 1:8).

?? Bible Quiz ? ?

What word can be placed in all four blanks to complete this Bible passage?

“But just as he who called you is _____, so be _____ in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be _____, because I am _____.’”

- A. righteous
- B. holy
- C. loving
- D. merciful



Answer: B (See 1 Peter 1:15-16, NIV.)

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. **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!



A huge thank you goes to Al Ferrell for volunteering to change the message on the sign in front of the church building as needed.

Thank you Al!

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWER SIGN-UP



June 3	Communion Sunday
June 10	Becky Geidans
June 17	Carole Moore
June 24	Jan and Honey Wheeler

2018 SAVE THE DATES

July 1	Communion Sunday
July 8	Worship in the Park and Church Picnic
July 26	Quarterly Business Meeting
August 16-19	Church Camping @ Evart, MI
	<i>Fun Day at camp.</i>
	<i>(Date unknown)</i>

Please note: MABC will NOT be switching to a summer worship schedule this year. Worship will begin at 10:45 a.m. throughout the summer





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Happy Father's Day!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Communion Sunday 9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Church School	4 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	5	6	7 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	8	9 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Tim's Tony's Restaurant
10	11 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	12	13	14 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	15	16
17 Father's Day	18 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	19	20	21 <i>First day of Summer</i> 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time 7:00 p.m. Church Council	22	23
24 12:00 p.m. Music/Worship Team Meeting	25 6:15 p.m. Bible Study	26	27	28 2:00-4:00 p.m. Prayer Time	29	30

WORSHIP AT MABC
 Sundays
 10:45 a.m. Worship Service

June 3 at 9:30 a.m.
Intergenerational Church School

Happy Birthday



*01 Kathryn Little
09 Sarah Egerer
16 Mary Jo Leary
19 Cheryl Ellsworth
20 Frank Anjakos
21 Evelyn Hall
25 Carol McCleary
30 Jeannie Trudell*

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.