



OUR STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Carol McCleary
Director of Music: John Rickert
Organist: Jeremy Reis
Office Manager: Holly McCarthy
Caretaker: Al Ferrell
Nursery Attendant: Sarah Egerer
Sound Technician: Jim Garn

OUR CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator:
Vice-Moderator: Cheryl Zinz
Clerk: Denice Papesh
Treasurer: J. David Garn
Missions Treasurer
Sherrell McCafferty
Financial Secretary: Laure Smith



The Church Office
is currently Closed

In person worship
will resume ASAP

You may join us
for online worship
at our website

MABCSaginaw.org
or on YouTube

Michigan Avenue
Baptist Church

CHURCH TEAM LEADERS

Christian Ed & Youth Ministry
Cheryl Ellsworth
Facilities/Maintenance:
Jody James
Historian: J. David Garn
Assistant: Cheryl Ellsworth
Finance: Cyndi James
Missions, Outreach/Evangelism:
Co-Leader: Nikki Anjakos-Seno
Co-Leader: Opportunity to serve
Hospitality: Connie Ellsworth
Music & Worship: Jan Wheeler
Pastoral Relations: Cheryl Zinz
Visitation: Gloria Hernandez
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

Core Convictions:

- ❖ The gospel of Jesus is good news for everyone!
- ❖ Church is a safe place.
- ❖ There is a place for YOU at the table.





A Message From Pastor Carol

Advent looks different this year. Our community continues to be hard hit by the coronavirus. In-person worship services have once again been suspended. We will hold an online service with communion via Zoom on December 6. Church council will meet on December 10 to make a plan for the remainder of the Advent and Christmas season. Regardless of whether we are meeting in person or online, many of our familiar holiday rituals will need to be modified this year. That thought fills me with sadness.

The Covid-19 crisis could be used by Satan to lead us to despair, to cause us to withdraw from God and our church family, and to stop sharing the gospel. That's one possible outcome. But it is not the only one. It is also possible that God will use this time as a catalyst for our church to reach more people with the good news of Jesus than we would if we were meeting in our building.

God specializes in using crises and apparent setbacks to advance His kingdom. I'm reminded of the words attributed to the Apostle Paul in II Timothy 2. Paul writes: "Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. BUT GOD'S WORD IS NOT CHAINED." Some translations say, "God's word is not bound." Our circumstances may be confining. Our church doors may be closed for a season, BUT GOD'S WORD IS NOT BOUND. God is able to use even these difficult circumstances to advance the spread of the gospel. This echoes what Paul wrote from his jail cell to the church in Philippi.

"Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear."

God used the tragedy of Paul's imprisonment to advance the gospel. Instead of silencing Christians, believers were emboldened to share their faith. I believe that God can use us to be a source of hope and encouragement during these challenging times.

Here's what we all can do. Check in with friends and neighbors. Offer to pray with them. Share encouraging Bible verses. Send them the link to watch our recorded services or participate online. Tell them what the Lord has done for you. Feed the hungry. Help the needy. Care for the widows and the orphans. In this time of uncertainty, point people to Jesus. May God use each of us to share the hope of Jesus this season.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Carol

MISSIONS



The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) originated in the mid-1930s, when American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month to support retired ministers, missionaries, their widowed spouses and elderly clergy within their churches. In 1977, American Baptist Churches USA launched RMMO to continue this appreciation of God's service.

This year, to honor this tradition and acknowledge the current circumstances, we chose Hope for Today, Hope for Tomorrow as our theme.

This theme encompasses the true strength and dedication of ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have devoted 15 years or more to ABCUSA.

The MABC Missions Teams has set a goal of \$500.00. Please give as God lays it upon your heart.



Health Source CHRISTMAS GIFT MISSION OPPORTUNITY

It is time to get ready for the holidays and HealthSource is requesting donations and our help in providing the residents and patients of HealthSource Saginaw an incredible Christmas Season. We, MABC, can help by providing gift suggestions as listed below.

****We are encouraging members to pre wrap your gift and include a card with a message of hope and the magnificent gift of Jesus' love. Please be sure the gift is tagged with the contents of the package including size, color, male or female, etc. As always, Health Source will gladly wrap your gifts. you can include gift bags and tissue paper.**

****Gifts may be dropped off at the church on Saturday December 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Thank you for your support of patients and residents of HealthSource.



Gift Suggestions for Men

Socks
After & Pre-Shave/Body Spray
Combs and Hair Picks
Sweatshirts L-3X (pullover/zip up)
Sweatpants L-3X
Slippers
(with rubber soles and backs)
Sugar free gum/candy
Stick deodorant
T-shirts L-3X
Denture cleaner and adhesive
Button up sweaters
Radio/CD players

Large face watches
Flannel shirts L-3X
Polo type shirts
Wallet/change purse
Electric shavers
CD's of music

\$2.00 or \$3.00 in money envelopes

Magazines
Hair gel/hair and scalp condition
Playing cards (large print)
Shampoo and body wash



Gift Suggestions for Women

Magazines
Body spray/cologne
Deodorant
Body wash/lotions
Slippers
(with rubber soles and backs)
Sweatpants M-3X
Sweatshirts M-3X (pullover/zip up)
Dusters and nightgowns M-3X
Jewelry/clip-on earrings
Sugar free candy/gum
Button up sweaters
Undershirts M-2X

CD's of music
Simple craft projects
Nail polish and polish remover
Radio/CD players
Large face watches
Lipstick/chap stick
Coin purses

Shampoo
Hair and scalp conditioner
Brushes/large tooth combs/picks
\$2.00 or \$3.00 in money envelopes
Hair spray/hair gel
Mirrors



Many people are feeling lonely and isolated this holiday season. Let's spread some Christmas cheer and the hope of Jesus in a safe, responsible way. Here's how. Create a sign (or two or three) with Scripture verses and encouraging Christmas sayings. Go visit someone who hasn't been able to get out much (if at all). Give them a phone call to summon them to a window. Hold up your signs, smile, wave. Think of this as silent Christmas caroling. And if someone does venture out of their house to talk, be sure to wear your mask and social distance.

Here are some slogans you might wish to put on your posters.

Jesus Loves You and We Do Too

Unto you is born a Savior

Joy to the world, the Lord is come

God is with you

May God's peace be with you

Merry Christmas

Get creative. Add pictures, or cut your poster board into the shape of a tree, heart, or bell. Your poster may need to be seen from a distance so make sure you use large letters.

If you would like to participate in this ministry of bringing hope and lifting spirits, please contact Pastor Carol so we can coordinate who we're visiting and when.



Helping the
Hurting

Help Available

The pandemic has created a financial hardship for many people. MABC maintains a small food pantry as well as a benevolence fund. If you or someone you know is in dire need of assistance this holiday season, please contact Pastor Carol or leave a message with the church office.

Women's Bible Study

“Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament”.

Gain a fresh perspective on Israel's history---and a deeper understanding of Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture. Guiding you through a 10-session, Christ-centered study of Joshua through Esther Guthrie compares Jesus to Joshua, who led his people into the Promised Land; Boaz, who redeemed Ruth; and David, who ruled Israel with righteousness. This will be the third excellent study by Nancy Guthrie for our women's Bible study that includes both seekers and long time believers. She beautifully connects and contrasts the heroes of the Old Testament with Jesus - she always points to Jesus. We have together gained new insight and understanding into the Old Testament; and hope women from our church congregation and their friends will want to join us.

Contact Becky Geidans, 989-326-2966 to order a book. We meet at 6:15 p.m. Monday evenings via Zoom through the winter months.

The meeting ID is 865 1562 2792 and the Pass code is 872490. The phone number to call in is +1 929 205 6099.

December Sermon Series: Things Angels Say



Don't be afraid!
Nothing is
impossible with God!
Get up and go!
This same Jesus will
come again!
Unto you is born this
day a savior!



Church Christmas Party

Pastor Carol is hosting a virtual Christmas Open House.
Saturday, December 19
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Call or Log in to Zoom for part or all of the time for some Christmas fun.

We will use the same link we use for Sunday Morning Worship.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86850991141?pwd=VEtPaGVINGtjRkRHZmJ2V1owR2srdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 5099 1141

Passcode: 185761

Or you can dial 1 929-205-6099 and enter the meeting ID and Passcode when prompted.

If you have a Christmas sweater (ugly or not) feel free to wear it. Also, if you have a Christmas ornament that means a lot to you, please have it handy. Your church family would love to see it and hear the story behind it. Pastor has never hosted a party on Zoom before, but she's already thinking of fun activities we can do. Sadly, you'll need to provide your own food and beverage. Perhaps you can drink your hot cocoa or tea from your favorite holiday mug. This will be a mostly social occasion, but around 8:00 Pastor will read a touching Christmas story with a Christian message and offer a prayer.

Feel free to share the meeting information with family and friends, but please don't post it publically to social media sites.

Merry Christmas Everyone!



Wishing you Love, Peace & Joy

Pastor Carol McCleary
Sarah Egerer
Al Ferrell
Holly McCarthy
John Rickert
Jeremy Reis

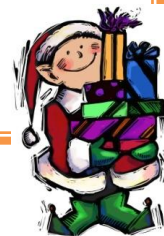


Tithes and Offerings may be mailed to
Michigan Avenue Baptist Church
203 S. Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, Mi 48602

If you would like to give a Christmas Love Gift to our staff members, please fill out this form and return it with the amount indicated to Cyndi James no later than Sunday, December 13, 2020. If giving by check, please make your check out to Cyndi James.

Thank you.

Cheryl Zinz, Vice Moderator



Merry Christmas

Rev. Carol McCleary _____

John Rickert, Director of Music _____

Jeremy Reis, Organist _____

Holly McCarthy, Office Manager _____

Al Ferrell, Caretaker _____

Sarah Egerer, Nursery Attendant _____

TOTAL

\$ _____

Poinsettia



In Honor of

Chris, Tricia, & Logan Lewis

Given By
Nancy Lewis

Roger & Connie Ellsworth

Jeannette James

Destiny & Mason Helpap

Given By
Jody & Cyndi James

In Memory of

Russell James

Given By
Jody & Cyndi James

Robert McCafferty

Given By
Sherrell Mcafferty

Virla Jean Lynk

Given By
Sherrell Mcafferty

John & Bessie Clark

Given By
Nancy Lewis

Clarence and Jean Lewis

Given By
Nancy Lewis





We will be gathering virtually for worship via Zoom on December 6. Log in information is available below. As we gather for worship, consider lighting a candle as a reminder of Christ's presence with us.

Topic: Sunday Morning Worship
Time: Sundays, November 29th and December 6th

Here's the link to join the Zoom meeting on Sunday morning. The service will begin at 10:45.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86850991141?pwd=VEtPaGVINGtjRkRHZmJ2V1owR2srdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 5099 1141

Passcode: 185761

Or you can dial 1 929-205-6099 and enter the meeting ID and Passcode when prompted.

Meeting ID: 868 5099 1141

Passcode: 185761

**** Please note that this will be our permanent zoom meeting code and password in the event that we are not able to worship in person**



Happy Birthday



- 09 Carol Ellsworth
- 09 Janet Leaman
- 15 Aileen Kushon
- 16 Rose Johnson
- 21 Sally Egerer
- 22 J. David Garn
- 27 Tom Carr
- 23 Renee McGregor
- 28 Logan Smith
- 30 Roger Ellsworth
- 31 Arlene Leary

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.

MICHIGAN AVENUE BAPTIST ON-SITE WORSHIP WHAT TO EXPECT

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- ❖ Doors will open at 10:15. A greeter will open the door for you.
- ❖ Please put on your mask before entering the building. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided.
- ❖ Please enter only through the Adams Street entrance (by the chairlift).
- ❖ Please use only touchless greetings.
- ❖ Your temperature will be checked with a touchless thermometer.
- ❖ We will be social distancing so try to stay 6' apart and keep hallways clear.
- ❖ The unisex bathrooms on the sanctuary level are available. They will be cleaned after each use.

DURING THE SERVICE

- ❖ The service will be held in the sanctuary. Please sit in seats marked with a yellow cross.
- ❖ During the summer, families will worship together.
- ❖ Services will be shorter and planned with all ages in mind.
- ❖ Because it's difficult to sing while wearing masks, we're going to avoid congregational singing and focus on instrumental and solo pieces.
- ❖ We will share the peace of Christ from our seats using a touchless greeting.
- ❖ The viewing gallery will be open for one family per week on a first-come, first-served basis. The changing table in the nursery will also be available.

GIVING

- ❖ An offering plate will be available to place your offering in as you enter the sanctuary.
- ❖ You may mail your offering to 203 S. Michigan Ave. Saginaw, MI 48602

DURING COMMUNION

- ❖ On the first Sunday of the month, communion is available in pre-packaged cups. You will be given one as you arrive.
- ❖ Drop your used communion cup in the waste basket by the door as you exit.

AFTER SERVICE

- ❖ You will be dismissed by rows.
- ❖ Feel free to linger in the parking lot and visit while observing social distancing.



Feeling Sick?

Stay home when you are sick!

We want to keep everyone in our church family healthy. If you feel unwell or have the following symptoms, please stay home and contact your healthcare provider.

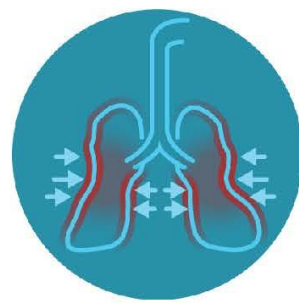
DO NOT ENTER if you have:



FEVER
(Over 100.4)



COUGH



**SHORTNESS OF
BREATH**



CS 316129-A March 22, 2020 5:14 PM

cdc.gov/CORONAVIRUS

Additional symptoms may include fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat, congestion or runny nose.