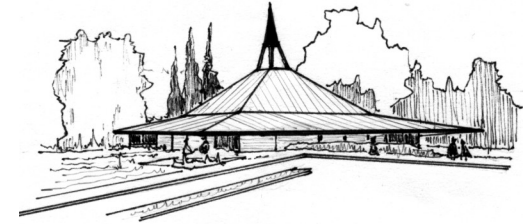


PLYMOUTH CHURCH LIFE

November 22, 2011



PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Lansing, MI 48912-3286

Phone: (517) 484-9495 – Fax: (517) 484-2588

revjoyb@aol.com pastor@plymouthlansing.org
music@plymouthlansing.org secretary@plymouthlansing.org
accountant@plymouthlansing.org sexton@plymouthlansing.org

Web Site: <http://www.plymouthlansing.org>

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2011

10:30 AM

“THE CHRISTMAS INVASION”

As we enter the Advent time, we think of the perfect Christmas.
What a surprise when we face reality!

REV. JOY A. BAUMGARTNER

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-7

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011

10:30 AM

“The Unexpected Savior”

REV. JOY A. BAUMGARTNER

**SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 7:10-17
Luke 1:26-33**

Plymouth Congregational Church
2001 East Grand River Avenue
Lansing, MI 48912-3286

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Desired In-Home Delivery
Date of November 30, 2011**

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Organization
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Permit No. 739
LANSING, MI

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2011

Ten-thirty O'clock

Liturgist.....Catherine Hawkins
Greeters..... Jennifer Hall and Jennifer Joy Yocum
Social Hour Hosts..... David, Nancy and Mary Bandfield
Altar Guild..... Jackie Stebbins

The flowers at the altar are provided by Rose Standish Circle.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

December 4, 2011

Ten-thirty O'clock

Liturgist.....Helen Elliott
Greeters..... David and Margaret Hedlund.
Altar Guild..... Bunny McComb

The flowers at the altar are given in loving memory of Hedy Gleason by her husband Dick Gleason in remembrance of their December 1st wedding anniversary.

All Members and Friends are Invited to:

Special Christmas Brunch

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

10:30 am

\$5 payable at the door

*Program by Judith Evans and
John Dale Smith*

Please Call the Church office at 484-9495



REMEMBER IN PRAYER OUR PLYMOUTH CHURCH FAMILY

NEW LIFE ASSISTED LIVING CENTER, 607 TURNER ST., DEWITT, MI 48820

Doug Melville

HOLT SENIOR CARE & REHAB CENTER, HOLT

Ruth Fransisco

BURCHAM HILLS

Erdine Phillips

Catherine Stow

Tom Tabler

DELTA RETIREMENT CENTER

Dale Granger

TIMBER RIDGE SENIOR ASSISTED LIVING

Charles and Joyce Schroeder

HOME

Mike Bushnell

Kathy Caulder (friend of Brynna Bolley)

Mark Christle (Melynda Christle's cousin)

Suzanne Hunt (Rob Hunt's mother)

Katherine McDowell

Bev Miller

Barbara O'Neal (Lisa Bolton-Hunt's aunt)

Marlene Patterson

Allen Ropp (Clayton Ropp's brother)

Royal Snyder (Clayton Ropp's cousin)

Eleanor Thede (friend of Marilyn Hastings)

Gary Thomas

Joyce Vance (Phil Brown's wife)

Heather Weldon

(granddaughter of Marilyn Hastings)

SERVING IN THE MILITARY IN AFGHANISTAN

Cal Caverly (son-in-law of Ron & Kathy Farnum)

Kenneth Smith, U.S. Air Force (cousin of Bonnie Rose)

OTHER MILITARY SERVICE

John Chain, Jr. (nephew of David Chain) Coast Guard

Adam Hedlund (grandson of David & Margaret Hedlund) U.S. Air Force, Langley, VA

Jeffrey Rose-Fellows, U.S. Navy, Pensacola, FL (grandson of Bonnie Rose)

REV. JOY BAUMGARTNER, INTERIM MINISTER

2216 Wood Street, Lansing, MI 48912

Home Phone: (517) 721-1306 -- Cell (in emergency) (517) 899-6784

revjoyb@aol.com

pastor@plymouthlansing.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

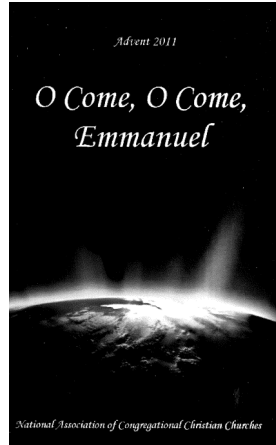
December 12—31

- 12/12 Jennifer Dalton
- 12/16 Ursula Love-Yager
- 12/17 Wendla Kushion
- 12/19 Evan Melville
- 12/20 Tom Cornell
- 12/22 Katie Hoffmaster
- 12/23 Barbara Grant
- 12/23 Bruce Kushion
- 12/24 Emmanuel Ntanyl
- 12/25 Christina Swihart
- 12/25 Lucas Zeigler
- 12/26 Christen Clark
- 12/28 Jack Lampman
- 12/29 Pam Montgomery
- 12/31 Zack Curtis

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

Advent devotionals are on the literature table in the hallway outside the Church office.

A \$2 donation is requested.



REV. JOY BAUMGARTNER

PASTOR'S PASSAGE

This time of year is a true blessing. So many of us take the opportunity at this Thanksgiving Season to appreciate all we have been given, especially the relationships in our lives. This past weekend, Dave Bandfield and I, along with several church leaders, met with those who have expressed a desire to become part of our church family through membership. What a delight to meet them and hear them share their story – not just about family, but their faith journey as well. It is an eye-opening experience to hear the expressions of faith of others. We learn from one another and are inspired.

Now comes Advent – the waiting time. Advent is often misunderstood. It is confusing. After all, we know Jesus was born, lived, taught, died and was resurrected. So what are we waiting for? Why this odd time of year awaiting Christmas? Why can't we just do our shopping and preparations and celebrate the anniversary of Jesus' birth?

As Christians, our Church calendar year actually begins with

the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is actually a time of renewal. Children often have Advent calendars where they open a little door for each day leading to Christmas and read a short scripture or find words of inspiration and encouragement. Many families light an Advent Wreath every evening at the dinner table, a beautiful remind that Jesus came as a light into a dark and sinful world to bring Good News – God loves us! We decorate our homes in preparation for the big day, and yet I wonder as we hang our wreaths and decorate the tree how many of us actually think of the birth of Christ and what Christ meant to the world and to each of us.

Advent is a time to do just that: to think about our spiritual life, to think about what Christ means to us and to wonder at the love of God so rich and fulfilling that we can actually feel his presence in our day to day lives. Advent invites us to prepare our hearts and perhaps, if we truly go to that place deep inside and quiet ourselves for a little while, we may actually feel the presence of Christ in a new way.

So here we are – at the beginning again. Plymouth Congregational Church of Lansing. Our Holy Ground. Christ's Disciples in this place. As we start this new church year, let's truly.....BE THE CHURCH!

Advent Blessings,
Joy

CAMERA AND BABY BLANKET FOUND

A camera and baby blanket was found on Sunday, November 13, following worship in the kitchen.

Please call the church office at 484-9495 if this is yours.

THE CHURCH STAFF

- | | |
|---|---|
| Rev. Joy A. Baumgartner, Interim Minister | John Dale Smith, Dir. of Music/Comm./Events |
| Rev. David Bandfield, Associate Minister | Dr. Penny Draper, Ass't Director of Music |
| Lisa Bolton-Hunt, Assistant Minister | Darlene Greenman Ross, Organist |
| Margaret Wallin, Assistant Minister | Tina M. Thompson, Financial Secretary |
| Betty Briggs, Director of Rel. Ed. | Ronald L. Silky, Sexton |
| Joan Chandler, Administrative Assistant | James J. Triantaflos, Ass't. Sexton |

BIBLE SUNDAY 2011



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2011

The Library Committee will have a display of various Bible versions for you to view in Williams Fellowship Hall.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2011

9:30 AM Living the Questions
9:45 AM Youth Group Discussion
10:30 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Social Hour
11:45 AM Board of Religious Ed
2:00 PM Life Christian Church Worship

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2011

12:30 PM No Day But Today (NA)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2011

12:00 PM DAR Luncheon
4:00 PM Youth Music—Grades K-5
4:45 PM Youth Music—Grades 6-12
5:30 PM Youth Music—Grades K-5
6:30 PM Bell Choir
7:30 PM Plymouth Choir

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011

7:00 PM Lay Ministers

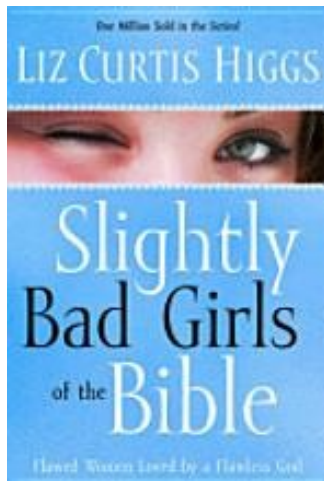
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011

9:30 AM AMMatinee Musicale Chorus

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2011

7:00 AM Shop With A Cop
9:30 AM Play Rehearsal

BOOK REVIEW AND DISCUSSION



Beginning January 11, 2012, and continuing on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM, the Board of Religious Education will be offering a book review and discussion of **Liz Curtis Higgs' "Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible"**. Let's see what our ancient counterparts, such as Sarah, Hagar, Rebekah, Leah, and Rachel have in common with today's woman.

Books are available from the Church office for \$11.



THANK YOU TO THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES LANSING AERIE 1039

During worship on Sunday, November 20, 2011, David Chain presented the Board of Benevolences a check in the amount of \$500.00 from the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Lansing Aerie 1039 to help with the cost of the Thanksgiving Baskets program.

THANK YOU

Women's Fellowship wishes to thank everyone who purchased a coupon booklet for Younker's Community Days sale. Forty-three booklets out of 50 were sold for a total of \$215! This amount will be divided between the Maplewood Women's Center and Shared Pregnancy. *"yea happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."* Psalms 144:15.

Don't forget your loose change for the offering plate on Sundays. This loose change is for the Sunday School Missions outreach.



We extend our sympathy to Melynda Christle and family on the death of her aunt, Maritza Christle.

We are saddened by the death of our friend and member, Lenora M. Benedict on November 5, 2011. We extend our sympathy to her friends and family.

We extend our sympathy to Phil Brown and family on the death of his brother.

We extend our sympathy to Win Stebbins on the death of his cousin, Robert B. Stebbins, on November 16, 2011.



For ALL AGES
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
Following Worship



Baked Potato Luncheon

(Sign-up sheets to provide potato toppings will be available at Coffee Hour)

Following Lunch:
Crafts for Children and Adults
(see display in hallway)
Wreath or Garland Making

Cookie Decorating



Carol Singing

Plan now to bring your whole family and friends for a day of guaranteed Christmas spirit!

LOVE LETTERS

During Children's Moment on Sunday, November 3, the children were asked to write a love letter to God giving thanks. This was to go along with the pledges from adults for our Stewardship Campaign. The children placed these letters on the altar on Sunday, November 20. Following are some of the letters.

Thank you for everything you have given me. I'm sorry for taking it for granted. Tiesha Bunkley

I'm very thankful for my church family. Betty Briggs

Dear God,

I love you so much. Thank you for keeping my family alive. You are the best in every way. We love you and worship you, too. Morgan Glasscoe

I thank you, God, for all of the challenges I have faced and have gotten through.

I am thankful for my family. Gabriel Freiburg

I want to see God when I die because I love him the most. It would make my heart stay in my tummy (i.e., fill me with love). God made lots of healthy food. I love the seasons God makes.

*Love,
Layla Yahya (I am 4)*

I love you, God

God loves everyone. Arianna Farnum

Poinsettias



I would like to order _____ Poinsettia(s) for The Centrum at \$10 per plant (6" pots)

Proceeds benefit the Pilgrim Fellowship.
Orders must be placed by December 7, 2011

Payment \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash

- I plan to take my poinsettia with me after the service on Christmas.
- The Board of Deacons may take my poinsettia to a shut-in or hospital patient.
- I will deliver a poinsettia to a shut-in or hospital patient.

The following information is needed for publication in the order of service on Sunday, December 18, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Given in MEMORY of _____

_____ and/or

Given in HONOR of _____

Donor's Name: _____

Donor's Phone _____

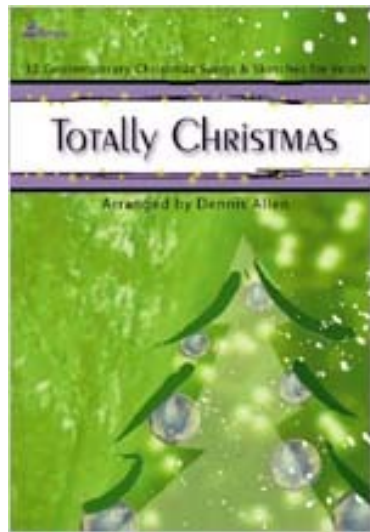
GIRLFRIENDS



Why not take some time out from all the holiday preparations and meet some friends for supper? **All women of the Church are invited!**

Come join us at the FLAP JACK ON WAVERLY AND LANSING ROADS. **We meet on Wednesday, December 21st at 6 P.M.**

Don't miss it. Good food and conversation. **RESPITE CARE** for busy women. Join us.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Sunday, December 11
During Worship

Totally Christmas
Arranged by: Dennis Allen

ROAST BEEF DINNER AND TALENT SHOW SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2012

A delicious Roast Beef dinner was served by the Women's Fellowship. Those participating in the Talent Show were:

*Arianna Farnum
Sarah Love-Yager
Glen Anderson*

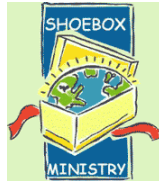
Marcia Anderson and the Woodwind Quintet



FROM THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE

Our Benevolences year is starting anew with projects to aid the world around us.

- ◆ Thank you to everyone who participated in the Shoebox Ministry.



OPERATION: SANTA

Operation: SANTA makes it possible for children's Christmas wishes to come true. Child Protective Services gathers specific wishes from the abused or neglected children on their case logs. You are asked to choose a child's WISH CARD and purchase any item on the list. The Operation Santa cards will be available for pick up before and after Church on Sunday, November 27 and Sunday, December 4.



Wrapped and labeled with content information or unwrapped gifts should be brought to the church before Sunday, December 11th.

- ◆ Samaritan's Purse is a constant and quiet presence wherever Christ is needed in our conflicted world. Their presence is felt in Haiti, Japan, Africa, North Korea, and here in the U.S., with special emphasis in Alaska. They go wherever God calls. They are asking us to pray. We can do that.



Many thanks for the crew that helped decorate the Church for Christmas.

Rose Standish Circle for the tree in the parlor

Bill and Sue Baldwin

Mary and Nancy Bandfield

Betty Briggs

Pat Carrow

Tom and Marcia Cornell and Layla Yahya

Marie DeVries

Stan and Margaretta Freburg

Larry Koster

Daun Ketcheson

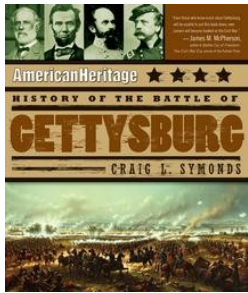
And above all, Ron Silky for all his effort for gathering all the items and placing them in their proper location.

David J. DeVries



FROM YOUR LIBRARY...

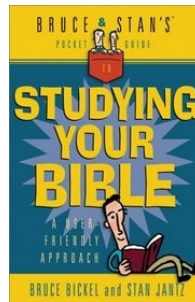
“American Heritage – History of the Battle of Gettysburg” by **Craig L. Symonds** tells in great detail of this epic battle – “the bloodiest and longest in the Civil War”.



This battle, only three days in July of 1863, took the lives of over 50,000 soldiers “becoming the largest military engagement in the history of the Western Hemisphere.” There are over 300 photographs, along with illustrations, letters, diaries, and memoirs accompanying the

text. This detailed account will take you to the front lines of that day and time, telling of the soldiers who fought for their lives and their country. The book was a **Gift from Kathryn Jackson**.

We all read the Bible, but do we understand it? Want to know what it really means? **Bruce and Stan’s “Guide to the Bible – A User-Friendly Approach”** may just answer some of your questions and open that “treasure that’s waiting to be discovered”.



Bruce and Stan say “If you are sincerely interested in finding out what the Bible has to offer, get ready for an adventure. The Bible is a book like no other.” This book was given **In Loving Memory of William Elliott by Rose Standish Circle**.



Thanksgiving will be here in a matter of “days” and with that, a book for the younger set, **“Thanksgiving Fun – Great Things to Make and Do”** has some really fun ideas. How about making a collage or “frame your family”! There are several ideas for making holiday greeting cards or placemats for your Thanksgiving table. So much to do, so little

time! Check this book out and enjoy it over your Thanksgiving vacation!!

NCES—OPPORTUNITY AND NEEDS



The Mitten Tree is in the Narthex. We welcome your generous donations of hand-knit or store-bought mittens for needy families. Please bring your mittens by December 11th.

- ◆ There are several part time security positions open at the Maplewood Shelter for Women and Children. Candidates must be detail oriented and able to sit or stand for long periods of time. The job entails surveillance of the security cameras, making periodic rounds of the building, and ensuring the safety of those whom the mission serves. Overnight shifts are available on week days and day shifts are available on weekends. If you desire to assist in the ministry of rescue, submit your application on the “contact us” page of the website: BeARescuer.com or call 517.485.0145 for more info.

We are continuing our Winter Coat Drive! Clean out those closets and bring any coats you no longer want to church through the month of November. Let’s extend the warm feelings of the upcoming holidays with the added warmth of a coat to one in need. We are looking for all sizes, adult through children.



FYI: Want to check out the integrity of a charity? Go to www.charitynavigator.org.

DECEMBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 2001 E. GRAND RIVER AVENUE, , LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912-3286 Phone: (517) 484-9495 Fax: (517) 484-2588				1 12:00 DAR Luncheon 4:00 Youth Music Gr. K-5 4:45 Youth Music Gr. 6-12 5:30 Youth Music Gr. K-5 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Plymouth Choir	2 Church Office Closed	3 7:00 Shop With a Cop 10:00 Play Rehearsal
4 9:30 Living the Questions 9:30 Youth Group 10:15 Pilgrim Fellowship 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Social Hour 11:45 Board of Music 12:00 Christmas Workshop 2:00 Life Christian Church	5 8:00 Health Department 9:30 Matinee Musicale Board 12:30 No Day But Today	6 8:00 Health Dept. 9:30 Matinee Musicale Chorus 10:00 Women's Fellowship Brunch 7:30 MSU Chamber & Collegiate Chorus Concert	7 8:00 Men's Morning Manna 11:00 Matinee Musicale Recital & Luncheon 12:30 No Day But Today 7:00 Polio Survivors	8 2:00 Bylaws Committee 4:00 Youth Music Gr. K-5 4:45 Youth Music Gr. 6-12 5:30 Youth Music Gr. K-5 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Plymouth Choir	9 Church Office Closed	10 9:30 Play Rehearsal
11 GLORY SERVICE 9:30 Living the Question 9:30 Youth Group 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:45 Potluck Luncheon 2:00 Life Christian Church	12 7:00 Board of Trustees 7:00 Lansing Storytellers	13 9:30 Matinee Musicale Chorus 1:00 Rose Standish Circle 7:00 Penny Draper's Piano Students Recital	14 12:30 No Day But Today 1:00 Alzheimer Support Group 7:00 Mary Brewster Circle	15 4:00 Youth Music Gr. K-5 4:45 Youth Music Gr. 6-12 5:30 Youth Music Gr. K-5 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Plymouth Choir	16	17
18 9:30 Living the Question 9:30 Youth Group 10:15 Pilgrim Fellowship 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:45 Social Hour 11:45 Board of Deacons 11:45 Bd of Religious Ed 11:45 Bd. of Benevolences 2:00 Life Christian Church	19 7:00 Lay Ministers	20 9:30 Matinee Musicale Chorus 12:30 Women's Fellowship Board 7:00 Church Council	21 10:00 Alzheimer Male Caregivers Support Gr 12:30 No Day But Today 6:00 Girlfriends	22 4:00 Youth Music Gr. K-5 4:45 Youth Music Gr. 6-12 5:30 Youth Music Gr. K-5 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Plymouth Choir	23	24 7:00 Musical Prelude 7:30 Festival of the Nativity 9:00 Christmas Eve Afterglow
25 CHRISTMAS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Social Hour	26 Church Office Closed	27 Church Office Closed	28 Church Office Closed	29 Church Office Closed	30 Church Office Closed	31 Church Office Closed