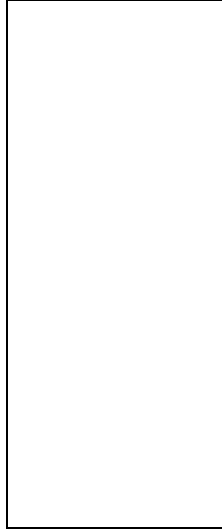


Plymouth Congregational Church  
2001 East Grand River Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48912-3286

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

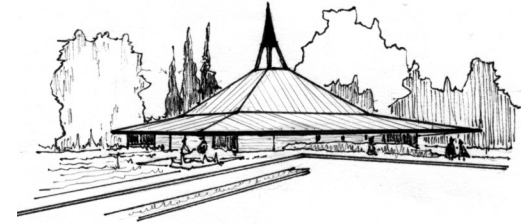
Desired In-Home Delivery  
Date of December 8, 2011

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 739  
LANSING, MI



# PLYMOUTH CHURCH LIFE

December 6, 2011



## PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Lansing, MI 48912-3286

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

[revjoyb@aol.com](mailto:revjoyb@aol.com) [pastor@plymouthlansing.org](mailto:pastor@plymouthlansing.org)  
[music@plymouthlansing.org](mailto:music@plymouthlansing.org) [secretary@plymouthlansing.org](mailto:secretary@plymouthlansing.org)  
[accountant@plymouthlansing.org](mailto:accountant@plymouthlansing.org) [sexton@plymouthlansing.org](mailto:sexton@plymouthlansing.org)

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

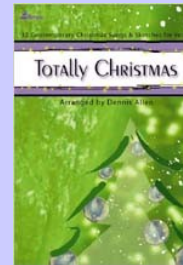
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011**

**10:30 AM**

**CHILDREN'S  
CHRISTMAS MUSICAL**

***Totally Christmas***

Arranged by: Dennis Allen



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2011**

**10:30 AM**

**"I Don't Care"**

**REV. JOY A. BAUMGARTNER**

**SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 64:1-4  
Luke 21:25-28**

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11, 2011

Ten-thirty O'clock

Liturgist.....Shawn Sparks  
Greeters..... Bill and Phyllis Tomlinson  
Altar Guild..... Marcia Cornell

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God by a church member.

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2011

Ten-thirty O'clock

Liturgist.....Charles Gabler  
Greeters.....Rob Hunt and Lisa Bolton-Hunt  
Social Hour Hosts and Hostesses....Plymouth Choir Members  
Altar Guild.....Jackie Stebbins

The flowers at the altar are given in loving memory of daughter, Margaretta, and parents, Godfrey and Mabel Freburg and Margaretta and Lee Arcaro, by Stan and Margaretta Freburg.

## POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Sunday, December 11, 2011 — Following Worship

Please bring a dish to pass.



## 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

Helen Milliken (friend of Ealanor Smith)

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 spouse)

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](mailto:revjoyb@aol.com)

[pastor@plymouthlansing.org](http://pastor@plymouthlansing.org)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

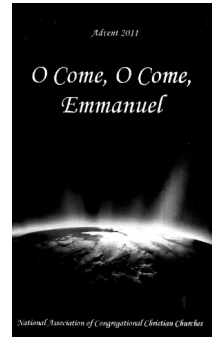
## January 1—15

- 1/1 Nancy Peter
- 1/4 Courtney Sunstrum
- 1/5 Deborah Dalton
- 1/8 Larry Chappell
- 1/9 Phyllis Tomlinson
- 1/10 Clint Dunn
- 1/10 Judy Posey
- 1/11 Charles Long
- 1/11 Ira Purchis
- 1/12 Brian Kushion
- 1/13 Jennifer Smith

## 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

Yes, these weeks of Advent are filled with so much activity and celebration that we hardly know whether we're coming or going. There are invitations to send or accept, shopping to be done, wrapping and distributing of gifts, cookies to bake and decorate, charities to consider, Santa gifts to share and it all seems exhausting.

And then we come to the Church – and yes, there's a lot of activity here as well. We have a mitten tree, wonderful homemade fudge to pick up, Operation Santa to send a gift to a needy child, and so much more. Our children will share their Christmas Play **this Sunday, December 11** always a touching and exciting moment in time. **And we are honored to host Dr. Thomas Richard, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches at our pot-luck/town meeting following worship and the play.** He will

have an opportunity to speak to us about what's happening with the National Association, but also how we can use the resources of our Association to help us not only in our search for a new senior minister, but with every aspect of ministry. Don't miss this!

Especially during this busy time however, take some time for yourself. Come to the church and simply feel the Spirit of Christ, listen to the incredible music of our choirs and instruments, hear the breaking open of God's Word, and sing a song of Christmas. Remember the journey and the birth, remember the life and lessons given, and remember the love of God so richly shared with us through this one who represents the Divine on earth. Take a deep breath, calm yourself and know that God is there in the midst of all this activity.

As you prepare, be grounded in the one whose birth we celebrate. Let the Lord of light and life be your center – and go there often. And then as always, .....**BE THE CHURCH!**

Advent and Christmas Blessings,  
Joy

Once again we appreciate the gift of Christmas Workshop greens from Drs. Metodi and John Pogoncheff. They made easy work for the four members of our congregation by bringing the greens to our trailer to trim and load for our members to make decorations.



## 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         |



**YOU ARE INVITED!  
TO CHRISTMAS  
CAROLING**

**DECEMBER 17, 2011**

**MEET AT 3:00 P.M.  
AT CHURCH**

We will carol around the neighborhood and elsewhere and go out for hot chocolate afterward!

If you have somewhere in mind you would like us to carol, please contact Jen Yocum at (517) 242-0171. We would like to stay fairly close to Church if we can.

**INCLUDE IN YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING**

***Heavenly Plymouth Fudge***

\$10 - 1 Pound Box

\$5 - ½ Pound Box

**PLACE YOUR CHRISTMAS ORDER FOLLOWING WORSHIP  
OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 484-9495**



**PICK UP ORDERS DECEMBER 18TH**

*Offered by Women's Fellowship*

**CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011**

9:30 AM Living the Questions  
9:45 AM Youth Group Discussion  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
11:30 AM Potluck Luncheon/  
Special Guest Dr. Richard  
2:00 PM Life Christian Church Worship

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011**

7:00 PM Board of Trustees  
7:00 PM Lansing Storytellers

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011**

1:00 PM Rose Standish Circle  
7:00 PM Penny Draper's Piano  
Students Recital

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011**

12:30 PM No Day But Today (NA)  
1:00 PM Alzheimer Support Group  
7:00 PM Mary Brewster Circle

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2011**

4:30 PM Youth Music  
6:30 PM Bell Choir  
7:30 PM Plymouth Choir

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2011**

9:30 AM Living the Questions  
9:45 AM Youth Group Discussion  
10:15 AM Pilgrim Fellowship  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
11:30 AM Social Hour  
11:45 AM Board of Deacons  
11:45 AM Board of Benevolences  
11:45 AM Board of Religious Ed  
2:00 PM Life Christian Church

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2011**

7:00 PM Lay Ministers

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011**

12:30 PM Women's Fellowship  
Board  
7:00 PM Church Council

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2011**

12:30 PM No Day But Today (NA)  
6:00 PM Girlfriends

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2011**

4:30 PM Youth Music  
6:30 PM Bell Choir  
7:30 PM Plymouth Choir

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2011**

7:00 PM Musical Prelude  
7:30 PM Festival of the Nativity  
9:00 PM Christmas Eve  
Afterglow



## THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE THANKSGIVING BASKETS

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who assisted with the Thanksgiving Basket effort this year. Whether you donated money, brought in food items, helped pack the boxes or assisted with delivery, each and every one of you is to be congratulated for demonstrating the caring and concern for others that makes Plymouth members so special!

Special thanks to Joan Chandler for her wonderful assistance with the coordination between Plymouth and Christian Services and to Ron Silky for all his many contributions to this event. Without these two individuals, this labor of love just wouldn't be possible. And, as always, thank you to Jim and Joyce Earle who are our honorary chairs for this wonderful outreach.

What a team Plymouth Church is!

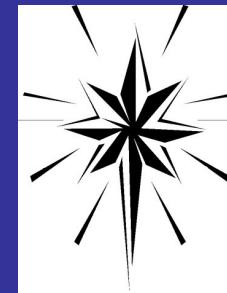
Rick and Pat Carrow



**A special thanks to Rick and Pat Carrow for their leadership with the Thanksgiving Baskets.**

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
Grand River Avenue between Wood and Fairview  
484-9495 [www.PlymouthLansing.org](http://www.PlymouthLansing.org)

## CHRISTMAS EVE



Musical Prelude 7:00 PM  
Candlelight Worship 7:30 PM

Featuring  
Plymouth Choir, Youth Choir, and Plymouth Bells  
Organ, Brass, and Tympani

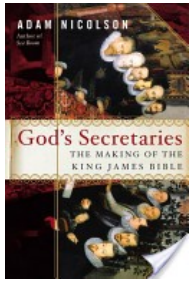
## *Christmas Eve Afterglow*

*Immediately following the 7:30 pm service  
Williams Fellowship Hall*



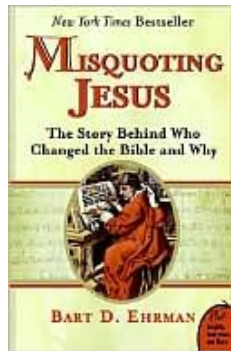
Please bring your favorite "finger" food to share—can be sweets (cookies, brownies, candy) or non-sweet (cheese and crackers, chips, dips, etc.). Coffee and punch provided.

**FROM THE JOYCE GRANGER MEMORIAL LIBRARY...**



**Adam Nicolson's "God's Secretaries – The Making of the King James Bible"** tells of the complexities in the world that created the King James Bible, the greatest work of "English prose ever written." James the Sixth of Scotland and First of England saw this opportunity where this translation of the Bible could be a Bible for *everyone* and he planned on using it to "unify his kingdom." The question asked is how did fifty scholars from England come together with all their frailties to produce such extraordinary prose. Adam Nicolson gives an account of the Stuart king and the scholars who labored some seven years to "create his Bible."

World-class Biblical scholar, **Bart Ehrman**, was startled to discover the mistakes made when studying the texts of the Bible in their original languages. **"Misquoting Jesus" – The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why** tells the story of the "intentional and accidental alterations" made by ancient scribes to the New Testament showing us the great influence it has on the Bible we read today.



**Ehrman** reveals how the scholars translated the original words of the New Testament "as closely as possible".



The December 2011 issue of **National Geographic** is on the Library's shelf. The main article looks at **"The King James Bible – Making a Masterpiece"**. The Bible was first printed in 1611, 400 years ago, The story begins with Rome Wager, a Baptist preacher, once a saddle-bronc pro. He has a colorful yarn to weave, keeping the reader interested up to the last period. The King James Bible, no matter the origins of the reader, brings the "word of God to the people."

# 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 11, 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 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 P.M.**

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

## For Your Information

All the holiday books for our younger readers are located on the second shelf marked "**Seasonal**", near the children's section. We have many, many wonderful books to warm hearts on these chilly days!



*There are openings in January for flowers to be placed at the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one.*

*Please call Marcia Olds at 336-0439 or the church office at 484-9495.*



ARTS CHORALE OF GREATER LANSING

## Holiday Concert

Tuesday, December 13, 2011  
8:00 PM

University Lutheran Church  
1020 South Harrison Road, East Lansing

Delicious goodies following the concert

Both concert and goodies are free

(with baskets on table for optional free will offering)

## STEINER CHORALE

### "This Christmastide"

*"An eclectic mix of carols, classics and new holiday favorites"*

**December 9, 2011 - 7:30 PM**

Immaculate Heart of Mary

**December 11, 2011 - 7:30 PM**

All Saints Episcopal Church

\$10 Adults, \$8 Seniors/Students, \$5 Children  
(from Chorale Members)

\$12 Adults, \$10 Seniors/Students (at the door)

See Bill McHarris or Chuck Gabler for tickets

## FROM THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCES— OPPORTUNITY AND NEEDS

### **OPERATION: SANTA**

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



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.



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 11<sup>th</sup>.

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 weekdays 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.

FYI: Want to check out the integrity of a charity? Go to [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org).

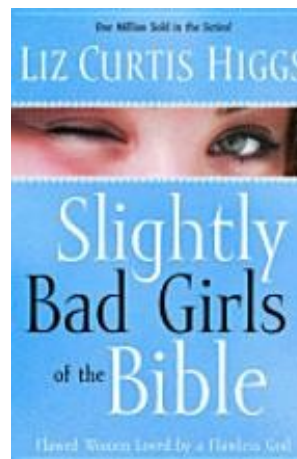
## NEW MEMBERS

RECEIVED NOVEMBER 27, 2011

Gene and Linda Cleaveland  
922 Green Street  
Lansing, MI 48906  
484-2612



## 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.**