



***50 Years of Growing a Faith
That Must Be Shared***

Chapel Chimes

Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church
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A Biblical Blueprint

***“Let love be genuine...love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.
Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.”*** (Romans 12:9-11)

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift is from above....”
“Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.” (James 1:17)

Dear friends,

Miss Karen “let the cat out of the bag” by announcing to almost everyone who passed through the doors of the church last Thursday (the 15th of September) that Dave and I were celebrating our 32nd Wedding Anniversary. I would like to thank all of you who dropped off a card or who took the time to poke your head into my study to wish us a happy anniversary. It was kind of you and greatly appreciated.

I was asked by someone if there is a “secret” to a happy marriage. My answer is that there is no “secret” to sharing in a healthy, mutually satisfying relationship. But there is a Biblical “blueprint” for building a joyful union. What makes for a fulfilling relationship is:

a love that is genuine;
open communication between partners;
considerate generosity;
intentional Sabbath-keeping;
thankful hearts and minds.

The Apostle Paul counsels us to let our love be affectionate, honorable, passionate, and committed—committed to one another and committed to God. He encourages us to listen well, be tolerant of each other’s differences, and speak with tenderness of thought and voice. It is Paul’s prayer that we will build bonds of “mutual affection,” showing respect and honor to our partners and to all those with whom we share our lives.

The late pastor and Biblical scholar Donald Barnhouse pointed to Jesus Christ as the model for such affection and concluded that love is a multi-faceted gift and discipline: *“Love that goes upward is worship; love that goes outward is affection; love that stoops is grace.”*

When each of us gives fully of ourselves to others, loving with affection, tenderness, and grace, we lay a foundation for a joyful union—a foundation that lends itself to building a vibrant “home” in which God is honored, Christ is served, and the Spirit is empowered. This is no less true of our “church home” than it is of our “personal homes.”

What is it “they” say? *The family that prays together stays together?* It may sound hokey, but those of us who are intentional about developing partnerships of faith tend to have longer, more fulfilling, relationships than those of us who put ourselves and our own interests first and foremost in our lives. Christians who welcome this good news will likely also welcome the words of author Ken Carter when he speaks about the discipline of generous love in his book *The Gifted Pastor*:

*“If I open my hands to give, I discover that I am also receiving.
If I close my hands to possess, I realize that I have nothing.”*

May we all strive to *open our hands in giving*—for to do so is to embody the love of Christ in a meaningful way. As I say, there is no “secret” to a successful union, but there is a biblical “blueprint” for a lifetime of joy. God be with you!

Pastor Rhonda

Music News: Keep ringing and singing!

Christian Education Happenings

Christmas Pageant

Mark your calendars now! Chapel Lane will present the Church School Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 11. Parts are available for all children ages 3-6th grade. There are speaking and non-speaking roles. Rehearsals will be during the Sunday School hour on December 4 and 11, and on December 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. This rehearsal will be followed by a pizza lunch. We could use 2 or 3 adults or teens who are willing to help out "backstage". Contact Chrissy Westbury at 839-0198 or education@chapellane.org if you are interested.

Sunday Christian Education Hour

All classes meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Contact Chrissy Westbury, Director of Christian Education, for more information on any of the following classes. All are welcome!

Meeting in the Activity Room



Bible Explorers (Preschool and Kindergarten Sunday School Class)

The R.O.C.K. Rotational Sunday School for grades 1-6

These classes are currently studying Noah's Ark through storytelling, art, cooking and games. The next lesson, beginning in mid-October, will look at the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors.

Meeting in the Youth Room

Confirmation Class for grades 7-8

Meeting in the Library

Youth Forum for grades 9-12. Taught by Harry White and Rev. Dave Myers, this class encourages teens to look at issues that are important to them with a faith perspective.

Meeting in the Parlor

"God in America," taught by Dr. Paul Teed, a history professor at SVSU, is an adult Sunday School class using the PBS series which studies the tumultuous 400 year history of the intersection of religion and public life in America.

Youth Fellowship – grades 6-12

Contact Chrissy Westbury or Harry White with any questions.

October 2

Crop Walk

2:00 p.m. at the MCFTA

Join us for a fun afternoon as we walk together for a great cause!



October 29

Fall Carnival

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

We'll have some fun playing games and hosting a great time for the kids of the community!

Plan on being here from 4:00 – 7:30 for setup and tear down.

Other Study Opportunities

Thursday Afternoon Study

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Library, led by Pastor Rhonda Myers. Currently studying the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans. On October 20th, they will move to a study of the Gospel according to Matthew, beginning with the nativity of Jesus. Join; the more the merrier!

JOURNEYS

New Faith-Based Book Club

Meeting the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 at Journey's Coffeehouse in downtown Midland. Open to ALL!

We will meet on October 24. The next book will be The Five Sacred Crossings by Craig Hazen.

Thoughtful Christian Take-Home Study

In the education kiosk, there are copies of a Featured Study from The Thoughtful Christian curriculum for you to work through on your own schedule. The studies offered will change periodically, and will address topics from Bible and Theology, Spirituality, Popular Culture, In the News, and Contemporary Issues. If you would like a copy of this week's lesson, and find that they have all been taken from the kiosk or you are unable to attend service on a given Sunday or Wednesday, call or email Chrissy Westbury for a copy. 631-2081 or cwestbury1@yahoo.com. You can also sign up in the kiosk or by email to have each week's study sent to your home by email.

Income and Expense Through August 2011

Our payments toward pledges are continuing to lag our plan. We have had to use \$22,000 of our available cash reserves since the end of May. Our cash reserves now stand at \$53,865. We need to try to stem the further reduction of these cash reserves. In the past, we have seen income compared to pledges increase in the fall. So please, look at where you are relative to your pledge. We are holding our expenses very close to our plan in spite of the fact that we just paid our quarterly payment for General Missions this past month.

		<u>Income</u>		
		YTD	YTD	% of
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Plan</u>	<u>Plan</u>
	<u>August</u>			
Pledge Income	\$ 20,632	\$ 159,918	\$ 174,023	92%
Loose Offering	\$ 735	\$ 7,451	\$ 10,667	70%
Other Income	\$ 249	\$ 8,015	\$ 5,392	149%
Total Income	\$ 21,616	\$ 175,384	\$ 190,082	92%
		<u>Expense</u>		
Total Expense	\$ 26,592	\$ 198,454	\$ 198,279	100%

Installation of Pastor Rhonda

On Sunday, October 16, at 3:00 p.m., The Rev. Dr. Rhonda Myers will be installed as pastor of Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church. It will be a joyous occasion as the members of Chapel Lane, along with members of the Presbytery of Lake Huron, officially welcome Rhonda to our midst. Please join in this exciting moment in our church's history! A reception will follow the service.

Wednesday Night Service

Our Wednesday Night Service is temporarily on hiatus as our leaders seek to refresh, renew, and retool our mid-week service. A newly formatted service and Bible study will resume in the next few weeks. Watch for an announcement. We hope you will join us then for worship and study.

Chapel Lane Flowers

Do you have someone you would like to honor or an occasion you would like to remember? Why not do it with flowers in the sanctuary on a Sunday morning. The 2012 flower chart can be found in the Worship section of the kiosk in the foyer. The price of the flowers for 2012 will be \$30. Sign up now for any special dates.

All you have to do is:

1. Sign up for your desired date on the flower chart in the kiosk in the foyer.
2. Take an envelope for payment. Make your check for \$30.00 payable to Chapel Lane with "flower fund" written in the memo line.
3. Place the envelope in the offering plate or leave it in the office.
4. Someone will call you to confirm the date, the type of flowers desired and what information should be put in the Sunday bulletin. You should receive this call before Wednesday of the week your flowers will be in church. If you do not receive a call, please contact the church office.
5. The flowers are yours to take home after the last service on Sunday.

If you have any questions, please contact Gwen Down at 832-6286 or e-mail to gene.down@chartermi.net

Gwen Down, Board of Worship

Stewardship Drive – 2011

The time for the annual stewardship drive is fast approaching. It is a time to reflect on who we are as a congregation and the activities by which we reflect God’s Love. This is our opportunity to see how our church activities align with our basic mission:

Growing a Faith That Must be Shared

In the coming weeks each of our Boards will share with us some of their activities that help us grow in faith and share that faith with each other and with those beyond our Church family.

We will begin with:

- Worship – Our services along with multiple music programs are the cornerstone of growing and sharing our faith.
- Deacons – Growth of our collective understanding and support of a wide variety of mission work.
- Christian Education – Growth of our faith through study and discussion and sharing between teacher and student
- Membership and Growth – growing and sharing through fellowship together and with our guests and visitors.
- Stewards/Finance & Board of Personnel and Office Management – These boards are the operational arm of the Church – from maintenance to salaries. They help make it possible for us to share our faith with members, visitors and the wider community.

Look for these Board reports, starting Sunday Oct. 9

In addition we are blessed with a new called Pastor – The Rev. Dr. Rhonda Myers. We have already felt her enthusiasm and energy level in her complete ministry throughout the life of Chapel Lane. Our excellent staff not only helped guide us through our transition, but now are building new activities and programs.

There are growing opportunities for us to grow and share our faith, including an exciting time in the life of Chrissy Westbury as she begins her journey toward the ministry. Chapel Lane will create an Inquirers fund to help support that journey.

While many exciting things are happening, we are concerned that our pledging level has remained level at about \$265,000 for the past three years. To continue the growth of who we are and what we do (and with inflation eating away at costs) we are targeting a collective increase this year of 5%.

Dedication Sunday will be November 13th and results will be announced at our November 20th Thanksgiving Dinner. In addition to the board reviews, look for a letter in mid-October with additional details, followed with a letter, pledge card and electronic funds transfer (EFT) form in early November.

As you listen and read about all that is being done at Chapel Lane please prayerfully consider what God is saying to you about your gift to support our activities so we continue,

Growing a Faith That Must be Shared

Leon Crossman, Kate Mass, Paul Teed, Session



Quotes to Note:

CHANGE

“Cradle to grave
How shall my life flow?
Always the same,
Never daring to grow? Since
GOD is the same, always faithful and near,
I’m free to move forward in spite of my fear. So...
Naming the Lord as my Power through strife, I
Go forth braving newness-in faith and in life!”
Heidi Mann

Summary of September Stated Session Meeting

The Session met on September 13, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. in the Chapel Lane parlor. In addition to receiving the regular monthly reports from the clerk, finance and other boards, the session highlights are as follows:

- *Reported* that the Wednesday Night Service and Bible Study are on hiatus in order that the service can be “retooled and refreshed.”
- *Reported* that the Rev. Dr. Rhonda Myers will be installed as pastor of Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church on October 16.
- *Reported* that a New Member’s Class will be held Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. on September 21 and 28, and October 5. The Class will meet with the Session for examination and welcome at the October 11 stated session meeting and, *if the way be clear*, will be received into membership by reaffirmation of faith. The new members will be presented to the congregation during the 10:45 a.m. worship service on October 23.
- *Approved* a proposal from the Gifts and Memorials Committee that: (a) the proposal from Stanley Alarm Systems of Bay City, Michigan be selected; and (b) 1 outdoor and 5 indoor cameras be installed. The funding will come through the Gifts and Memorials Committee.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be October 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor.

Suz Miller, Clerk of Session

Membership and Growth Committee of Session

Membership and Growth (M&G) is responsible for the fellowship that leads us in our mission to serve God! M&G looks after the welfare of the membership in body and spirit. Our outreach includes sending cards to people who visit our church and ask if they are looking for a church home. The most visible functions of M&G are the meals that we prepare and serve: Thanksgiving, Welcome back Sunday, Church Picnic, and special occasions as directed by the Session. In addition, M&G is responsible for the Annual Membership Talent Show, we assist in the Share Fair, and we serve any program the Session assigns to us.

Please Note

<p>8:30 Service Worship Leaders:</p> <p>Oct. 2: Ron Hynds Oct 9: Carol Jacobs Oct. 16: Bob McGee Oct. 23: Howard Lewis Oct. 30: Carol Brown</p>	<p>10:45 Service Usher Schedule for October:</p> <p>Oct. 2: Bill and Erlene Carmody and Sandy and Suz Miller Oct. 9: Francis and Betty Martin and Dave and Jeanine Noveroske Oct.16: Bill and Erlene Carmody, Carolyn Cole and Bonnie Stark Oct. 23: Francis and Betty Martin, Barry Moyer and Ingrid Schwartz Oct. 30: Carolyn Cole, Barry Moyer and David and Susan Skiendziel</p>
<p>10:45 Service Worship Leaders:</p> <p>Oct. 2: Winona Willing Oct. 9: Gary Breneman Oct.16: Doug Frame Oct. 23: Ernie Caldwell Oct.30: Leon Crossman</p>	<p>Worship Opportunities in October</p> <p>Oct. 2: World Communion Sunday, two services, at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., communion at both services, Peacemaking Offering received</p> <p>Oct. 9: Two services</p> <p>Oct.16: <u>Three</u> services (8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and installation of Pastor Rhonda at 3:00 p.m.)</p> <p>Oct. 23: Two services</p> <p>Oct. 30: Reformation Sunday, two services</p>



Deacons' Doings

Highlights of the August Meeting of the Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons met on Tuesday, August 23, 2011, in the church library. The following statements reflect the highlights of this meeting.

1. The Board requested that Tom Kennedy and Dan Veresh, our two Elder-Deacons, take a request to Session for the installation of automatic door openers for the two main bathrooms so that these bathrooms are handicap-accessible.
2. The Mobile Food Pantry served 258 families, representing 806 persons, on August 4 at Blessed Sacrament Church. A significant number of seniors and single men were served.
3. The last two Mobile Food Pantries are scheduled for September 14 at West Midland Family Center (WMFC) and October 12 also at WMFC.
4. Gail McGee's last medical mission trip to Haiti in 2011 is scheduled in December. The Board voted to allocate \$700 (from the Member-in-Mission budget account) at this time towards her personal trip expense. Any balance remaining in this account at the end of November 2011 will be allocated to Gail for other expenses which can include the purchase of medical supplies needed for the trip. (The cost of the fall mailing of the Quilts of Valor will be covered by this budget account.)
5. The following disbursements were paid between June 24, 2011, and August 19, 2011: \$600 to sponsor the Mobile Food Pantry on June 125 at North Midland Family Center; \$104.55 from the June 2-Coins-A-Meal paid to Presbytery of Lake Huron; \$455.95 (60%) from the Pentecost Offering paid to Presbytery; \$297.30 (40%) from the Pentecost Offering paid to North Midland Family Center; \$1,092.40 from the Pastor's Emergency Fund (PEF) – Budget account; \$577.93 from the PEF – Equity account; \$100 from the PEF for gas cards, from specific anonymous gift; \$1,200 from the Congregational Care – Budget account; \$250 to Midland Area Homes; \$375 to the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network; \$700 from Haiti Projects account for July 2011 Haiti mission trip (Gail McGee) and rent for Max's family; \$700 from Member-in-Mission – Budget account paid to Gail McGee for her second medical mission trip to Haiti in 2011; and \$106.13 paid from Member-in-Mission – Budget account for mailing of 17 Quilts of Valor by the Quilting Bees.
6. Prayer Shawl Ministry account has a balance of \$30. If more crocheters do not participate, this ministry will be phased out.
7. Carolyn Cole reported that over 600 health kits were distributed during the Health Fair in July in Imlay city, Reese, and Flint. Carolyn participated as a nurse during the Fair.
8. Tom and Linda Kennedy hosted the Deacons and their guests for a cookout and pontoon rides on Tuesday, July 12. At this time, the Deacons voted to donate the 25% portion (that is retained by the local congregation) of the upcoming Peacemaking Special Offering to Shelterhouse in Midland.
9. The format and the distribution of the prayer list were re-discussed. Several revisions were made and the prayer list will be included in the worship guide as an insert beginning August 28, 2011.
10. The 3Q Emergency Relief money from the budget will be sent to a Presbyterian church in North Dakota that is struggling to keep its food pantry stocked to meet the needs of the Native American families in the area.

The next meeting of the Board of Deacons will be on September 27, 2011.

Seventh Mobile Food Pantry in 2011



The seventh and last Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) of this year will be on **Wednesday, October 12, 2011**, at the West Midland Family Center on Isabella Road (M-20) in Midland. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and food distribution begins about 11:00 a.m. The distribution provides provisions for 300 families.

Check It Out

NEW BOOK:

The Difference Heaven Makes: Rehearing the Gospel as News by Christopher Morse

The way we look at heaven influences our whole outlook on the “good news” of the Bible. God is not limited to a place we will go when we die. He is with us now and forever. Heaven is a way of life. That’s the good news!

Last year the Presbyterian Women (PW) Bible Study was “Journeys Through Revelation” by Barbara Rossing. On page 73 Rossing concludes, “Contrary to ideas about the *rapture of God’s people from earth*, there is no rapture in Revelation. Instead what we find is a picture of our loving god raptured to earth to live with us... God comes to us.” (Revelation 21:1-3)

Author Christopher Morse encourages us to see that in God’s *new creation* God is coming to us. He is working even now to redeem and save the world.

Afternoon Ladies’ Circle



The Afternoon Ladies’ Circle will have its second study of the 2011-2012 season on **Tuesday**, October 11, in the church library. We will meet from **1:00pm** to 2:30pm. Each lesson is a study of one beatitude in a parallel comparison of Matthew’s and Luke’s wordings. Anyone is welcome to join us in our lively discussions! Study books are available on the Presbyterian Women’s table in the foyer. Questions? Please call Sally Ann Sutton at 835-2428.

Monday Evening Circle

The Monday Evening Circle will meet on October 3, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Nancy Graves, 5303 Westridge Drive. We will begin our study with Lesson One of the Horizons Bible Study, "Confessing the Beatitudes," continuing into Lesson Two. All women of Chapel Lane are invited to join us for this time of fellowship and study. For more information or to arrange for a ride, please contact Winona Willing, 631-2858.

Thank You

To the Congregation at Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church,
On behalf of my entire family, I’d like to say thank you so much for all the support you have given during my mother’s illness, and now with her passing. From meals and special equipment, to phone calls, to help with the funeral and more. Your kindness means the world to us, and has helped my parents, Roger and Gail, tremendously. With gratitude, Pam (Chaffee) Suggs and the Chaffee Family

Large Print “Chapel Chimes”

If you are interested in receiving a large print copy of the “Chapel Chimes,” we will mail one to you the week following the publication of the newsletter.

We also have large print copies of the daily devotional "These Days" available. This devotional is published quarterly. If you would like a copy, they are placed on the table in the back of the sanctuary or can be mailed to you.

Let us know if you would like to receive either one or both of these items. Contact the church office at 631-2081 or Alice Wiltse at 631-7271 or wiltsealice@att.net.



Birthdays

- 1 Mike Starch
- 2 Carol Breneman
- 5 Stephen Dietz
- 5 Tommy Roenicke
- 6 Kathleen Barnes
- 6 Bev Kraus
- 9 Jason Brandle
- 9 Scott Buckingham
- 10 Bill Carmody
- 11 Joan Frame
- 12 Sarah Papesh
- 12 Beverley Aeschliman
- 12 Catherine Wildfong
- 13 Fawn Burger
- 14 Kristina Jacobs
- 15 Nancy Stanley
- 17 Jennifer Hahn
- 18 Kathleen Dahl
- 20 Cyril Burger
- 21 Holly Clark
- 22 David Skiendziel
- 23 Dick Evans
- 26 Barb Boyer
- 27 Bill Ewing
- 28 Tracy Noveroske
- 29 Carol Jacobs
- 29 Linda Kennedy
- 30 Geoffrey Witherspoon

Prayer List

Changes in the prayer concerns underlined below.

Prayer Concerns for the month:

For All Our Military and Law Enforcement Personnel, especially:

All Chaplains; Parker Buell, left for Afghanistan on June 5; Cory King, Fort Knox; Timothy, MaryLouise & Larry Adams' grandson; Marc Hildebrandt, Virginia; Isaac Jensen, injuries while on duty in Iraq; Jenny, Brenda Novak's friend; Sarah Stube Mowery, returned home to Indiana from Qatar; Ray and Chris Nelson, Ida Nelson's son and grandson; Stephen Papesh, Afghanistan; Dustin Risk, Fort Campbell, KY, Susan Hillman's nephew; Chief Martin Thompson, USN, Vickie Irving's son; Ben Weymouth, Vander Woudes' grandson in Coast Guard; Timm Dopp, Afghanistan, nephew of Johanna & Wayne Stover; Johnny Pel, Wounder Warrior Unit, Fort Richardson, AK.

For All Missionaries, especially:

Martin family in Alaska; Alice Winters in Colombia; Rev. Sigita and family in Lithuania; Stephanie Starch, Peace Corps, the Gambia; Gail McGee, director of Medical mission in Haiti.

PUZZLE

How to give

We can give in a variety of ways, including our money, possessions and time. But God says there's only one attitude to have when we give.

Finish the puzzles by matching the pieces and writing out the letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your ...

... not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a ...

Answers: heart to give, cheerful giver

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October
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Monthly newsletter deadline — **Third Wednesday** of the month

Newsletter e-mail address — newsletter@chapellane.org