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A New Year Ahead

Greetings my sisters in Christ. I am honored to serve as your new ABW President and very much look forward to the year ahead. I am grateful for a full slate of officers who are equally committed to serving women and girls in all of our Michigan churches. The MDA (Metro Detroit Association) is strong and gathering regularly and the Central Area has recently elected a President after a number of years with CA women working together without a leader. I would love to connect more with the west and north areas and welcome an invitation to visit your church and get to know the women and girls who are serving your community.

I have served for several years as your Coordinator of Missions for Women and Girls and I will continue to support our newly-elected co-chairs leading that ministry. I have also served previously as Conference Coordinator, both great honors.

Now, I serve as your President following in the footsteps of Brenda Threat who has served faithfully as our President for seven years. She continues to serve on the Board and is assisting me in making connections to American Baptist Women USA, our national organization.

Please reach out to me via e-mail at lynnepunnett@yahoo.com or by calling me at 734-834-3886.

Lynne Punnett
Your President
ABW Michigan



2026 Women's Christian Conference & Retreat!

We had a GREAT weekend!! It was so good to see those we know and our 10+ new faces! We were still under 50, but we continue to work and pray to reach more women. So, think about women you know to invite next year!!!

A Big thank you to our main speakers; Murphy and Rev. Shawnta McDougle; they were inspiring and engaging. We were so pleased that our Pastors Guillermo Ramon Leon Mighty & Adria Maria Nunez Ortiz were able to join us from Cuba! Their work in Cuba is amazing and we were so happy to be able to hear about their mission, support their work with items they requested, and a cash donation of \$1120. Our other workshop leaders -- Rev. Dr. Billie Beverly and Rose Yin Yin Htay — also added greatly to our theme "Building God's Community Together." We were thankful to have Anna back with us to lead us in worship with music, and a thank you to Lori for leading our choir again this year!

I hope you will continue to read your News & Views and encourage others to join us for our events this year. We have a Fellowship Puzzling/Game day, coming soon -Oct 17th! Hosted by the Central Area - but inviting all to come! See the article in this News & Views!

We hope you will mark your calendar for the Metro Detroit event in November - and our Annual DeWitt Conference and Retreat next June 11-13, 2027.

My Sincere thanks to my conference committee! And looking forward to next June!

Carolyn Grapentine
2026 Conference Chair

Pictures from the 2026 Conference:

Rev. Sheree Gidcomb Clark in
'She Went With the Wind' in our Dress in your favorite outfit event:
And then Deb Jeffries in her favorite outfit



Anna Widgeon leads us in song!



Brenda Threatt – our outgoing President



Cuban Pastors Guillermo Mighty and Adria Cortez – they made it!



Rose Yin Yin Htay



Rev Dr Billie Beverly and Renee Langley, 2026 Woman of the Year!



Debora Gutierrez in

'My favorite outfit'



Rev. Shawnta
McDougle



SAVE THE DATE! Next year's Christian Women's Conference is June 11-13. Our theme is Building God's Community Together through Service. We're planning a God-filled, inspired time with great speakers, leisure time, and wonderful friends.

Hope to see you in June!

Kim Michowski
Conference and Event Coordinator



NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SERVED RATHER THAN BE SERVED

KNOW • GROW • GO • SHOW

— ESTABLISHED 1949 —

— WE JOYFULLY ANNOUNCE OUR —

New Pastor!

REVEREND DR.

Denise **HENDERSON**

With hearts full of gratitude and praise, we welcome Reverend Dr. Denise Henderson as the Pastor of New Calvary Baptist Church.

We look forward to all God will do through her leadership, vision, and unwavering faith.



*"This is the day
the Lord has made;
we will rejoice
and be glad in it."*

— Psalm 118:24

Please join us in welcoming Reverend Dr. Denise Henderson as the new pastor of New Calvary Baptist Church!

OUR THEME:

This is **GOD'S DOING.**

"I will praise the LORD,
who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand,
I shall not be shaken."
— Psalm 16:7-8

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
THIS NEW SEASON OF MINISTRY!



A New Shepherd
Guided by God's will



A United Church
Growing together
in faith and love



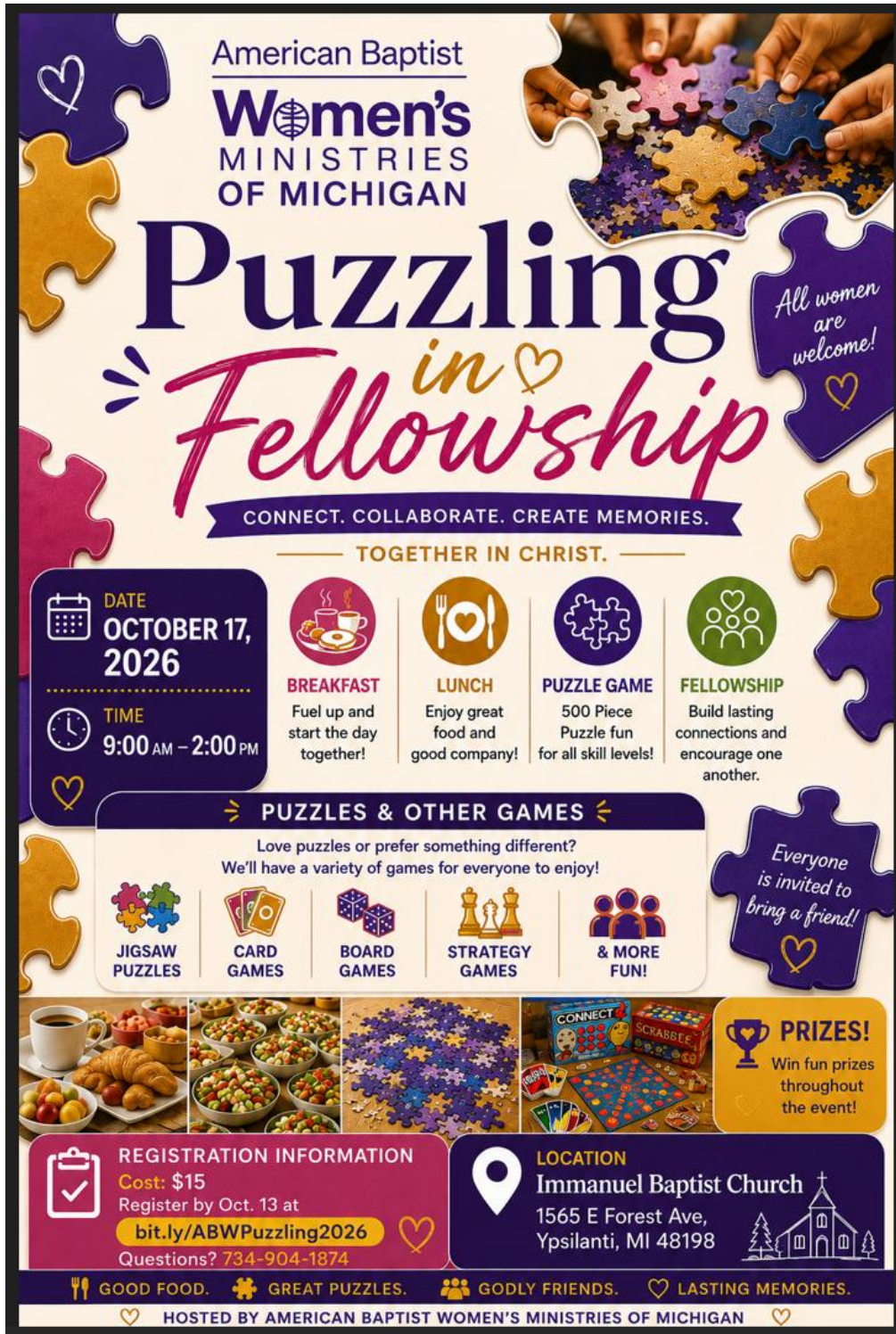
A Greater Purpose
Advancing God's Kingdom
for His Glory



To God Be the Glory!
WELCOME HOME, PASTOR!



Mark your calendar! On October 17, 2026 join us for a relaxing day of fellowship, puzzling, and games. Includes a light breakfast, devotion, and lunch at Immanuel Baptist Church in Ypsilanti. Feel free to bring any women that might be interested, even if they are not members of your church. Questions? Contact Lori at 734-904-1874 or loriz@tsshome.com. Cost \$15. Register by October 13 at bit.ly/ABWPuzzling2026.



A flyer for a 'Puzzling in Fellowship' event. The design features a light beige background with large, colorful puzzle pieces in purple, orange, and pink. At the top left, the text 'American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES OF MICHIGAN' is displayed. The main title 'Puzzling in Fellowship' is in a large, stylized font, with 'in' in a smaller, cursive script. Below the title is a banner that reads 'CONNECT. COLLABORATE. CREATE MEMORIES.' and another banner below that says 'TOGETHER IN CHRIST.' The flyer is divided into several sections: a date and time section on the left, a central section with four icons representing 'BREAKFAST', 'LUNCH', 'PUZZLE GAME', and 'FELLOWSHIP', a section for 'PUZZLES & OTHER GAMES' with five icons, a 'PRIZES!' section with a trophy icon, and a 'REGISTRATION INFORMATION' section at the bottom left. The 'LOCATION' section at the bottom right includes a map icon and the church's address. The bottom of the flyer features a row of icons and text: 'GOOD FOOD.', 'GREAT PUZZLES.', 'GODLY FRIENDS.', and 'LASTING MEMORIES.', followed by 'HOSTED BY AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OF MICHIGAN'. There are also several callouts in puzzle piece shapes: 'All women are welcome!' and 'Everyone is invited to bring a friend!'.

American Baptist Women's MINISTRIES OF MICHIGAN

Puzzling in Fellowship

CONNECT. COLLABORATE. CREATE MEMORIES.

TOGETHER IN CHRIST.

DATE
OCTOBER 17, 2026

TIME
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

BREAKFAST
Fuel up and start the day together!

LUNCH
Enjoy great food and good company!

PUZZLE GAME
500 Piece Puzzle fun for all skill levels!

FELLOWSHIP
Build lasting connections and encourage one another.

PUZZLES & OTHER GAMES

Love puzzles or prefer something different?
We'll have a variety of games for everyone to enjoy!

JIGSAW PUZZLES
CARD GAMES
BOARD GAMES
STRATEGY GAMES
& MORE FUN!

PRIZES!
Win fun prizes throughout the event!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Cost: \$15
Register by Oct. 13 at
bit.ly/ABWPuzzling2026
Questions? 734-904-1874

LOCATION
Immanuel Baptist Church
1565 E Forest Ave,
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

GOOD FOOD. GREAT PUZZLES. GODLY FRIENDS. LASTING MEMORIES.

HOSTED BY AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OF MICHIGAN



Donation Form

Date: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Area (if known) _____

Church contact (if appl.) _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Amount Encl.

- ABWM MI Region support (for day-to-day support of our organization) _____
- Scholarship Fund (college scholarships) _____
- Special Mission Project (this year: Truth & Spirit Cuban ministry) _____
- Special Interest Missionaries (through International Ministries)* _____
- ABWM National, which will be apportioned when being sent as
25% to Women & Girls Fund and 75% to general support _____

Total: _____

* The missionaries we will support are Bill & Ann Clemmer • Jon & Amanda Good • Rick & Anita Gutierrez • Carmella Jones • Wayne & Katherine Niles

If you personally or your church are able to offer any support, please send your check** made out to AB Women's Ministries, c/o Lori Zupan, 581 Canterbury Dr, Saline, MI 48176. Or you can make a payment through Venmo -- @lori4abw -- or Zelle pay -- abwmsec@gmail.com. If you choose to do either of those, please email Lori with the information about how much you are allocating to the various offerings. You can email her at the email listed above or her personal email: loriz@tsshome.com.

** If you are a member of the Central Area, CA dues of \$15 are appreciated in addition to the above offerings. (Lori is now the Treasurer of the Central Area as well, so you may include it with your other offerings; please indicate that you are doing so.)

Note: If you wish to support any other organizations or missionaries, please send your donation directly to them. We appreciate all your support.

ABWM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM



ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS:

This scholarship is a gift from the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Michigan, which is awarded to help women prepare for ministry (service). Any woman who is a member of an American Baptist Church in Michigan, who gives evidence of a call to follow the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, whether in a secular position or in ministry, is eligible.

Applicants must provide the following:

1. Completed and signed application.
2. Letter of recommendation from an American Baptist pastor, minister, evangelist, or missionary.
3. Statement of Christian experience or call to ministry.
4. Brief statement of your ministry/vocational expectations and goals.

(Current scholarship recipients can skip 2-4 above.)

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

(PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME - NO NICKNAMES)

HOME ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ CELL PHONE _____

PARENT'S NAME (If under 18) _____ CELL PHONE _____

HOME CHURCH _____ PASTOR _____

CHURCH ADDRESS _____

HIGH SCHOOL (If enrolled) _____ EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE _____

INSTITUTE WHERE YOU WILL BE ENROLLED _____

DEGREE YOU ARE PURSUING _____

MAJOR _____ EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE _____

STATE ANY SOURCES OF INCOME AVAILABLE, SUCH AS SAVINGS, OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS, ETC., *(This will not preclude you from receiving this scholarship.)* _____

GIVE NAMES OF TWO (2) PEOPLE OTHER THAN FAMILY AS REFERENCES:

NAME: _____ NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please note that this application will be shared with ABWM. Also, if you are awarded the scholarship, pertinent information about you may be posted on our website or published in a newsletter. With that in mind, **please return a completed and signed application, along with the attachments and a photo to D. Irene Key @ d.irene@healingwordartists.com on or before April 1, 2027.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

The information contained in this application is true, and it has been completed to the best of my knowledge. If I receive a scholarship, I will sincerely and eagerly follow God's will. Also, if God calls me to serve in a Christian vocation, I will consider American Baptist Churches, USA.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

Local Church News

If you'd like us to highlight your church send an email to annedawslazar@gmail.com

We'd love to hear what's going on at your church!