



MICHIGAN DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

January/February 2010 - Vol. 16, No. 1

The Michigan District of the Missionary Church

Upcoming Events

- Jan. 12 • District Office
Christian Education Board
- Jan. 13 • District Office
Church Multiplication Team
- Jan. 14 • District Office
Youth Ministry Team
- Jan. 14-15 • Metro Detroit
LEAD Team Meeting
- Jan. 15 • Port Huron
*Strategic Pastoral Mentoring
at Colonial Woods*
- Jan. 20 • District Office
*Task Force on District
Reorganization*
- Jan. 21 • District Office
Healthy Church Team
- Feb. 2 • District Office
District Executive Board
- Feb. 5-6 • Sterling Heights
*Growing a Healthy Church
Seminar at Parkside Church*
- Feb. 19 • Kalamazoo
Strategic Pastoral Mentoring
- Feb. 26-27 • Port Huron
*Michigan Bible Quiz
Invitational at Colonial
Woods*
- March 9 and 11
*Open Forums on District
Reorganization*
- March 19-20 • Lexington
Pastors and Spouses' Retreat
- April 22 • Sandusky
*District Conference at Open
Door Missionary Church*

In Loving Memory

The District extends its deepest sympathy to the families of **Rev. Bruce Pearson** and **Rev. Eddie Jones**.

Rev. Bruce Pearson went home to be with the Lord on November 8 at the age of 90. Pastor Pearson faithfully served the Michigan District both as a pastor and as the District Superintendent. He pastored at Missionary Churches in Flint and Brown City and served 14 years as Superintendent in Michigan. A funeral celebration was held November 13 at Faith Missionary Church, Flint, where Bruce was Pastor Emeritus.

Rev. Eddie Jones had his home going on December 6 at the age of 75. Eddie completed over 50 years of service in the Missionary Church, 21 years of which were as senior pastor at First Missionary Church, Clarkston. His son, Steve, is Superintendent of the Central District of the Missionary Church. A memorial service for Eddie took place December 11.

The District praises God for the legacy of faith and service these men leave to our churches.

Update on District Reorganization

Last year, District Conference adopted a Statement of Vision, Mission, Values and a Five-Year Plan that parallels the new Missionary Church Ministry Vision. The District Executive Board recently took action to recommend that the District begin the transition to a Region with multiple Mission Districts. A Task Force has been appointed to develop a strategy for implementing this transition in 2011.

Two forums for pastors and lay leaders will be held on March 9 and 11 to share details about the strategy. A final proposal will be presented for consideration April 22 at our Annual District Conference.

Annual Pastors and Spouses' Retreat

This year's Annual Pastors and Spouses' Retreat has a new date and a new location. The 24-hour retreat takes place March 19-20 at Lakeview Hills, Lexington, MI. Cost is \$150 per couple and includes one night's lodging and three meals. Churches are urged to cover the cost of the retreat as a gift to their pastors.

Michigan District Vision Statement

*Every Church
mobilizing believers to
intentionally reach and
disciple those
without Christ.
Matthew 28:18-20*

Bethel, Yale, celebrated a mortgage burning ceremony on November 8. The church praises God for a good response from the community during its November food and clothing giveaway.
(Rev. Brent Kriesch)

Calvary, Livonia, recently held a baptismal service for three believers. The church gave away a number of food baskets and grocery gift cards to families in need during the Thanksgiving season.
(Rev. Joe Purdy)

Colonial Woods, Port Huron, ministered to over 5,000 children and parents during its Annual Trunk or Treat Outreach. The church presented the musical, "A Time for Christmas," December 11-13.
(Rev. Phil Whetstone)

Davison reports that over 500 people attended the church's Annual Christmas Program. The church choir had the privilege of singing at Crossroads Village in Flint on December 11.
(Rev. Allen Sudmann)

Faith Christian, Hart, recently welcomed two new members into the fellowship.
(Rev. Glenn Bearss)

Grace, Bad Axe, packed 48 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.
(Rev. Larry Salsburey and Pastor John Rzendzian)

New Hope, Lapeer, recently held a Will and Estate Clinic with Dr. Tom Murphy from the Denominational Office. Dr. Murphy also brought a message on stewardship to the congregation.
(Rev. Gerald Sims)

New Life, Bay City, hosted a dinner on Thanksgiving Day at the church. Over 40 people attended the meal.
(Rev. Jonathan Boyer)

Open Door, Sandusky, praises God for 15 new members who joined the church in November.
(Rev. Jon Sherry)

Primer Iglesia Misionera Hispana, Lansing, thanks the Lord for a recent decision of faith in Christ.
(Rev. Margarito Mondragon)

Trinity, Yale, recently held a baptismal service for two believers.
(Rev. Anthony Ferriell)

Walled Lake recently welcomed a new member into the fellowship.
(Rev. Matt Maloney)

Watertown, Sandusky, gave Interim Pastor Paul Melcher a 100% vote of confidence in November.

Michigan Missionary Loans & Investments

*"Helping Churches
Grow"*

MMLI currently offers 3.5% interest on investments to members of Michigan District churches.

For information, call
810-742-7462

District Priorities

The Michigan District has adopted the following priorities as part of our mission to cultivate healthy churches and districts that reproduce and multiply devoted followers of Jesus Christ:

1. *Call and mobilize the District to continuous intercessory prayer.*
2. *Evangelize the lost and make disciples.*
3. *Strengthen our established churches.*
4. *Plant new churches and districts.*
5. *Recruit and develop dynamic and spiritually passionate leaders.*

Please pray for the District as we work together to develop and implement a strategy to become more effective in fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).