

Big Rock Congregational Church Atlanta Michigan

A Community of Grace

CHIPS

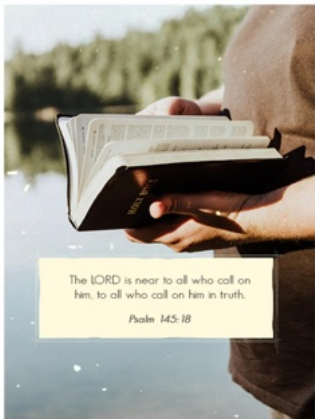
Off the Big Rock



November 2026

The Way We Pray Matters

By Michelle (Shelly) Grant

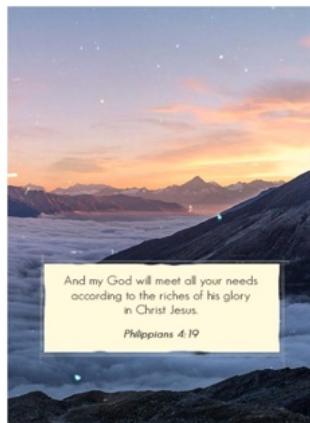


Think about your prayer life. What kind of words do you use while you are praying? I suggest using words like "Know, trust, believe," etc. while you are praying. This is in place of words like "Hope, wish," etc., and notice a difference in how it helps improve your prayer life. I do notice a difference in mine when I say "I know" vs "I hope." It will also help to pray Scripture over yourself as well. An example of this is, "I know all things are possible with you, God, as You say

in Your Word" (Luke 1:37, English Standard Version). There is just something special about praying Scripture over ourselves. I would also recommend praying Scripture over other people as well. Next, thank God before He answers your prayer. This does wonders as well. Remember to have that gratitude for God's faithfulness, always. We can always be thankful that God's timing is always perfect.

No matter how long it takes, His timing is always better than ours. It will also help when we say things like, "I know I can achieve anything with Your help, Lord." I do not know about all of you, but I do not know where I would be if I did not have Jesus.

Thank You, Jesus, for everything You have done in our lives, and for all You will continue to do in our lives.



Pastor of BRCC:

Dr. Keith Jones

Moderator:

Judy Hoffman

Deacons:

David Bradley
Gail Fehr

Trustees:

Michelle Grant
Lynn Scharer

Our Vision:

We exist to worship God, to share His love that all might be saved and to become more like Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Guiding Values:

- Being a house of prayer
- Spirit-led congregational governance
- Loving Fellowship
- Reaching out
- Developing spiritual maturity in all members
- Being faithful stewards of God's blessings

Big Rock Congregational Church 8258 M-32, PO Box 683, Atlanta, MI 49709

989-785-2062, bigrockchurch@gmail.com, <https://>

Psalms of Thanksgiving to God

christianity.com

Psalm 103:1-5 Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul

Of David. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 7:17

I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.

Psalm 100:1-5 - An Exhortation to Thanksgiving

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 50:14

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,

Psalm 69:30

I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Psalm 111

Praise the Lord I will extol the Lord with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic are his deeds and his righteousness endures forever. He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate. He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness. He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever— holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

Psalm 28:7

The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

Dear Church Family,



You are receiving this email because a Field Officer recently made a visit to Maupo Hackson. Should you choose to do so, you can communicate with her by simply replying to this message. The Field Officer assigned will personally carry your message to her. Please be sure to use Maupo Hackson as the subject of your message.

Message from Maupo – Dear Sister in Christ, Gail and Big Rock Church, Greetings in Jesus' name! I am so happy to receive your letter. Thank you so much for writing to me and for your prayers for me and my family. My family and I are doing well by God's grace. Thank you for sharing the beautiful pictures of the church. The church building is so beautiful with the sunset, and I love the flowers around the church — they are very pretty. I also loved seeing the photos of the Singspiration, the county fair booth, and the Children's Day crafts. What you are doing at the church is so wonderful and it inspires me a lot. It makes me happy to see how you are sharing God's love with your community. Thank you for everything you are doing for me by supporting me. Having you in my life has changed everything. Because of your support, I have food and I am encouraged in my faith. I truly thank God for you. Thank you also for praying for me and my family every Wednesday during breakfast and prayer time. Please continue to pray for us. I am also praying for you all. May God bless you and all the work of Big Rock Church. With much love and gratitude, Your Sister in Christ.

Field Officer – Catherine Daudi

How is her health? – She continues to be in good health

What is her spiritual condition? – Her spiritual condition continues to grow as she praises God for her life and family

How many people live in her house and how is she related to them? – 4 people, 2 children, her husband and herself.

Does someone in the family use a cell phone? – no

Do the family members in her house sleep on the floor, on blankets, on a bed, or a mat? – on mats on the floor

Besides going to school, is she doing anything else to improve her life? – She tries to find piece work, or working in other peoples fields for low wages, earning a little extra

Comment from Field Officer about the Sponsored – Maupo and her husband are an inspiring couple because they work together like a team. This is not the norm in Malawi.

When I visit I am inspired by their dedication and hard work.

What was provided? – Maize flour, salt, sugar, cooking oil, soya and laundry soap. We prayed with her and encouraged her with scripture.

Prayer requests – Pray for good health, protection and God's providence

Thank you for joining our Y-Malawi team in helping to transform the life of the person you sponsor, her family and her whole community. We pray that in the process you are also being transformed.

Blessings.

Y-Malawi Sponsorship Team

Photo - Maupo and Catherine (*field officer*) are chatting



CE&D Update



Adult Sunday School: Join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15.**

Jessica D. is leading us through a DTS video series on **2 Samuel**. This study centers on the Davidic Covenant and highlights themes of the kingship covenant and redemption, showing how David's story points to Jesus as the true Son of David.

Bible Study began in October, led by Dr. Keith Jones. We will meet at 5:30 on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month for a light supper and study. The study will be *Encounters with Jesus*. The evening begins with a light soup supper, followed by the study.

Library: If you could lend a hand to get the books back on the shelf, please see Juli or Gail.

Children's Sunday School: Michelle G. and Juli B. will continue Children's Sunday School at 9:15, using the study *The Story for Little Ones* by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee.

Children's Church: Marilyn and Melanie will lead Children's Church in November and will continue the Old Testament study using curriculum from *Trueway Kids*.

Bible Adventure Kid's Club: Thank you to Marilyn, Shelly, and Gail for leading the four-week club at Atlanta Schools. The children learned about Moses and how he trusted God to lead the Israelites through the Red Sea and the desert, and how they need to put their faith in God to lead them.

Prayer Breakfast will continue to meet at 9:00 in the fellowship hall on Wednesdays. Join us after for prayer. If you could make breakfast on Wednesday, please sign up on the sheet in the kitchen.

Next Meeting of CE&D will be on Thursday, November 19th at 4:30.

Choir News



So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. *1 Corinthians 14:15*

The choir has been working on pieces for the Community Thanksgiving Service on November 22nd and invites you to join us and praise the Lord in song. They have begun work on a Christmas Cantata, *Sing We Now of Christmas*, that will be presented on December 20th during the morning worship service. We welcome all voices for this joyous event, as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Women's Fellowship News



Women's Fellowship met in October and discussed ways they could support Big Rock and outreach to the community. They considered holding a tea and asking people to donate items for the New Life Pregnancy Center in Gaylord. They would also like to continue to visit women of the congregation.

Women's Fellowship will hold an Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party at their next meeting on November 4th at 10:30. They will fill 20 boxes and prepare them for delivery to the drop-off church, Full Gospel, during the week of November 13-24. If you would like to help with the ten-dollar fee that covers the shipping and Gospel materials, please see Marilyn or Gail.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Dixie B. 5th
David B. 15th
Seth H. 16th

Prabhu & Jessica D. 7th
Tony & Dixie B. 23rd

Upcoming Events

Trunk-or-Treat
Time Change
Movie Night & Pizza
Big Rock Shoebox Packing Party
National Collection Week
Operation Christmas Child
Community Thanksgiving (*Full Gospel*)
First Sunday of Advent
Decorating Party
Christmas Cantata and Dinner
Longest Night Service
Carols, Candles & Communion
Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner
Undecorating Party

October 31st in Briley Park 5-7

November 1st fall back

November 1st 4:00

November 3rd 10:30

November 17th – 24th

November 22nd 5:00 Service

November 29th

December 6th 4:00

December 20th

December 21st 7:00

December 24th 7:00

January 1st Noon

January 10th 4:00





SUSAN MOODY & DYLAN LEBAKKEN
COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

The Name2028 Committee had a booth* at the 2026 Annual Gathering with information about the process we are pursuing. One of the main questions that came up, albeit in differing forms, was:

WHAT ARE WE ULTIMATELY TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?

This committee was established because delegates overwhelmingly voted in 2024 and 2025 to pursue this conversation. We are not merely seeking a new name for our organization. We are seeking to maintain faithfulness to Christ and the Word of God even as we work toward a stronger future for our churches, a better connection with future generations, and a clearer witness for the Gospel in this age of informational overload.

This summer the BoD announced updated vision, mission and purpose statements that are faithful to the historical roots of the CCCC, while more clearly reflecting who we are and what we are striving to accomplish for the Kingdom of God. Name2028 is deliberately seeking God's wisdom on a name that accurately reflects our mission and vision.

Another opportunity for participation in this process is fast approaching!

This coming Thursday, October 1, 2026, we will email out a link for the Name2028 survey to all member churches and ministers. We ask that every CCCC church delegate and credentialed individual/member participate by filling out this survey. It will not take long and your input will be invaluable.

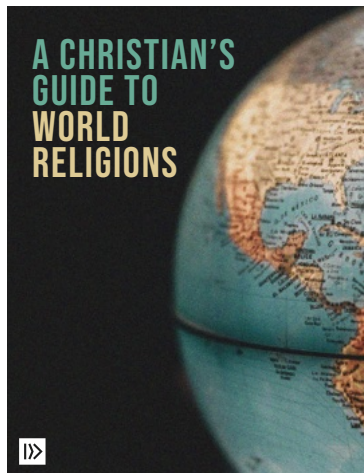
We also ask everyone to participate in the process by praying with us regularly that God will give the Name2028 Committee wisdom and discernment as we lead this process. Our prayer is for God to be honored and glorified in both the process and the result.

*If you did not attend the AG, you can view the Name2028 materials [HERE](#).

NEW HOME OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS

Please update your records! The Home Office has a NEW mailing address. Email and phone numbers remain the same, but all mail should be directed to: **PO Box 28967 – St Paul, MN 55128**

Free eBook: A Christian's Guide to World Religions



North America is home to more belief systems than ever, and that means you have more opportunities than ever to share the hope of Christ. This easy-to-navigate guide compares biblical, evangelical Christianity side by side with 18 major belief systems, including Humanism, Islam, Mormonism, the New Age Movement, and more, on core issues like the Supreme Being, Jesus, and salvation. A Christian's Guide to World Religions will equip you to engage neighbors, coworkers, and friends with grace, confidence, and insight. Because every believer has a part to play in reaching North America with the gospel.

If you would like a copy of this book, just click the link below to download it.

<https://www.namb.net/book/world-religions-guide/>



An easy way to build a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child is to do it online. These boxes go to the hardest-to-reach places. Online boxes are carefully prepared and comply with strict customs regulations. If you would like to build a box online, just click on the link below.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/?status=deleted>

Prayers, Praises & Blessings - November 2026

Daily:

Pastor Keith, Marilyn, and family
Big Rock Leaders as they begin work on the
2026-27 fiscal year
Big Rock Congregation
The Ministries of Big Rock
VBS, Sunday School, Children's Church, Adult
Bible Study, Bible Adventures Kid's Club
Missions of Big Rock
New Life Pregnancy Center, Lydia's Gate, OCC,
Sermitarian Purse,
Maupo H. & World Relief Y-Malawi Women,
Compassion Child & Sari
Our School District, staff & students
Local, State, Country & World Leaders
CCCC Conference (*National & Local*)
Persecuted Church
First Responders in the community
Strength to finish the year well

Military:

Curtis B.
Michael C.
Cabria C.
Rachael L.
Beto V.
Megan R.
Andrew H.
Uriah P.
Ian R.

Missionaries:

Jeremy, Joy & family
Robert, Terry & family
Kurt, Lisa & family
Harriet S.
Susan S.
Caleb & Sandy C. and family
Dan & Angie H.
Anna Marie

Homebound:

Bruce A.

Prayers for Healing:

Allen P.	Sonya
Jerry K.	Peggie O.
Sarah R.	Bill K.
Cindy	Andy V.
David G.	Joshua K.
Marilee G.	Jamie S.
Dave B.	Pat & Joanna S.
Jan F.	Dick & Naomi R.
Michelle G.	Rajini
Jim G.	Asher
Paul K.	Stephanie
Ava K.	Kay L.
Tanya	Terry H.
Linda S.	
Hayley	Don B.
Michael K.	Emma
Kyle H.	Pat
Melissa	Gabe
Michelle	Debbie S.
Jameson S.	Chad B.

Prayers in General:

Jessica & Prabhu D. & Family
The Family of Betty
Jim Z. (*Jail Ministry*)
Bill H. (*Jail Ministry and health*)
Amy C. & family
Becky H. & family
Shelly G.
Dixie, Tony, and Cecilia
Dorcy C.
Kim W.
Tanya & Juan
Drena's family
Alaina & Aren H.
Janessa & Sam B.
Jason
Mark & Paula

Praises & Blessings:

Rikki - home and doing well
God's Love
Opportunities to Serve
Family and Friends as we gather

NOVEMBER 2026

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Time Change</i> Praise Team 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 Communion Sunday Movie Night & Pizza 4:00	2	3	4 Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Fellowship Operation Christmas Child Packing Party 10:30	5 Board Meeting 4:00 Choir 5:30	6	7
8 Praise Team 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30	9	10	11 Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Missions Meeting 10:30 Bible Study 5:30	12 Choir 5:30	13	14
15 Praise Team 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 NO POTLUCK	16	17	18 Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Shepherd's Meeting 10:30	19 CE&D Meeting 4:30 Choir 5:30	20	21
22 Praise Team 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 Community Thanksgiving service & potluck 5:00	23	24	25 Prayer Breakfast 9:00	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 Praise Team 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 First Sunday of Advent	30	1	2 Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Fellowship 10:30	3 Board Meeting 4:00 Choir 5:30	4	5