

Lord Jesus Christ Community Baptist Church Newsletter-December 2025

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Welcome Message:

Dear Church Family, I hope this newsletter finds you well. We are grateful for your continued support and participation in our community. Let's continue to grow in faith and love together!

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, Thursday and Friday: Bible Study Services on Series: **Open Hands: Stewarding God's Gifts with Kingdom Vision** at 12 PM and 7 PM
- Sunday: Worship Services in Detroit and Flint at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM.
- December 2025: Bible Class in Bloomfield Hills new office
- January 2026: Contentment in Christ Leadership Conference at Baltimore Convention Center
- January 2026: Homelessness Outreach Summit in San Francisco, CA
- December 12: Paperwork Fundraiser Dinner in Bloomfield Hills office and asking for \$80 donation from individuals

Recent Activities:

The church's current membership is **13,851** in Michigan and some members in Chicago. The church gained **25 new members from Lansing and Denver area: 6 seeking a new church home joining the church as members based on their Christian experience, 19 sought baptism.** The church attendance during services is **12,156+** every week to hear preaching from guest speakers and Bishop. The LGBTQ to Straight Recovery Program had **7 sign-ups** in the program to come to Christ and eliminate their sins. It will be one hundred people scheduled to complete and participate in the commencement for the LGBTQ to Straight Recovery Program next spring.

Prayer Requests:

Prayers from families and individuals living in poverty and homelessness in Pontiac, Southfield and Highland Park because they say they are trying to get out of homeless shelter to permanent housing. Prayers from people to end political violence and evil in our nation among Democratic and Republicans. Prayers from people to end sin, temptation, bondage and enemies in our communities and wherever we go.

Announcements:

The church is gaining more partnership with businesses in Detroit neighborhoods and communities saying they like to do business with the church by providing their services. Bishop Hobson started volunteering at a local soup kitchen in Detroit to go back to helping the homeless like he did in the past in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit, Houston, Chicago and Birmingham. The LGBTQ to Straight Recovery Program has four new sign-ups to get rid of their sins and abomination to God by seeking God in their life. It means there will be a ceremony for the program in April and May 2026. The Bylaws and Rules Committee voted on the compensated packages for employees that passed Vision Keepers. The church has been approved for sales tax exemption and a discount account number from FedEx Office locations in the State of Michigan. The church has been approved for sales tax exemption at Target stores in the State of Michigan with a tax ID number to use for purchases just like received from Walmart for our approved sales tax exemption from Walmart. The Bylaws and Rules Committee members approved amendments to include a personal living clause. **The church's membership statistics according to the Vine Ministry make up 35% Caucasian/white, 31%**

Black/African-Americans, 28% Latino/Hispanic, and 6% Foreigners based on membership and new membership applications. The church will have its new and larger church building in Pontiac, Michigan in spring 2026, so preaching and operations can be taken over in the building. The church is considered purple and independent based on membership. The church membership has **57.3% women and 42.7% men** according to current membership applications and databases in the Vine Ministry. The church used to have more men in membership than women in 2014-2019. The church has started a new transition team for new leadership and leadership shake up. If interested, please contact the church secretary at pabwm1@gmail.com. The church operations are located in Pontiac, Bloomfield Hills and Flint. The church website is being updated during the church transition and transition team.

Prayer of the Month

Heavenly Father,

We come before you and acknowledge that truth and wisdom comes from you.

Guide us to stop leaning on our own understanding and relying on possessions in the world.

I say I love gifts from you and from above, not the world.

Thank you for your gifts and being my provider and source while on earth.

We need your perspective from heaven, not world perspective because we want to stay away from earthly wisdom that make up idolatry and sin from the world.

Let us pray according to your word.

Fill us with heavenly wisdom that is pure,

peaceful, all about the fruit of the spirit

Let our lives be living testimony to your guiding spirit.

In Jesus name, Amen.

Bible Verses/Reflection:

"Who is wise and understanding among you?

Let them show it by their good life, by deeds

done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness."-James 3:13-18

Reflection: James challenges us to look at the fruit of our lives to determine our understanding. We have to understand from the scriptures that bitterness, envy and selfish ambition is all about earthly wisdom. That's why we need to stop living our life by earthly wisdom and start making decisions by heavenly wisdom. When people make decisions by earthly wisdom, we are all about self-promotion and competition. As long as we are living righteous to God and his kingdom, we do not need to be all about self-promotion and repetition. I believe religious leaders do not need to run for elected office to promote any self-promotion and competition for themselves. Religious leaders do good by serving local communities as stewards to God with workmanship and through his grace. The church wants to provide this key advice to people in the world that we do not need to provide self-promotion and ambition to get ahead because we need to stop worrying about what people think of us while they act envious of our good success. Earthly wisdom is demonic and unspiritual that most of it can lead us to sin, bondage, temptation, idolatry, abomination and evil.