

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Who asked you? That's the problem. Too often our policymakers in Lansing are not asking Michigan citizens how we feel about critical issues like diversifying Michigan's economy, education, and taxing and spending priorities. Not anymore! Phil Power's **Center for Michigan** is asking us to have our say and influence the course of Michigan's future.

Next year is a watershed election. In the midst of a declining economy, all of the state's top posts including the governor, 30 out of 38 state senators and more than 70 percent of the Michigan House of Representatives will be replaced because of term limits. 2010 is "Michigan's Defining Moment". With the massive turnover, it is imperative that we make our vision for Michigan clear to Lansing decision makers.

Michigan's Defining Moment is a 3-year effort by the Center for Michigan to engage 10,000 Michigan residents in creating a citizens' agenda. AAUW members, friends and family are invited to participate in a Community Conversation on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Facilitators from the Center for Michigan will lead us in the identification of a common ground agenda through the use of polling devices, followed by a discussion of Michigan's challenges and opportunities. Our input will be used to help guide the decisions of state leaders.

**October 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

**Church of Our Saviour, 6655 Middlebelt, W. Bloomfield (just south of Maple)**

**All AAUW members, friends and family are invited**

**RSVP: Karen Linnell (klinnell@sbcglobal.net or 248/594-9871) by October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**There is no charge, but reservations are important.**

For additional information, go to The Center for Michigan's website, **[www.thecenterformichigan.net](http://www.thecenterformichigan.net)** and click on Michigan's Defining Moment.

Please join us for other public policy events:

Sept. 10, 7 pm, John Freeman (MI Director of Health Care for America Now [HCAN] and former legislator) will discuss health care reforms at the state and national level

Nov. 12, 7 pm, Henry Woloson, Clarkston attorney and major voice to promote a Constitutional Convention will discuss Con Con to be voted upon statewide in 2010

Both meetings will be held at 1025 Fairfax, Birmingham, 48009. 248/594-9871

Public Policy Committee