



## **The Ceresco Messenger ~ Ceresco Baptist Church**

### **Pastors Pen - February 2016**

The season of Lent begins in February. Although as Baptists we do not observe Lent, I believe as a Christian we can gain much by reflecting on Jesus Christ during this time.

February 10th is Ash Wednesday, which starts Lent. Ash Wednesday is a day to ponder our relationship with God and with one another. Also to reflect on the cross and empty tomb.

There are five weeks leading up to Holy week which includes Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and then the blessed day of Easter Sunday.

On Sunday February 7th you will receive a devotion booklet titled "Living the Gospel Life." If you're willing, take a few moments each day over the next few weeks leading up to Easter to reflect on your relationship with Jesus Christ our Savior. Following are some extra scriptures to reflect on, if you so desire.

Ash Wednesday : Luke 5 :27 -32. ( Ponder )

Week 1 : Luke 19 : 1-10 . ( Purpose )

Week 2 : John 10 : 14 - 18 ( People )

Week 3 : 1 Peter 2 : 9 - 10 ( Proclaim )

Week 4 : Psalm 34 : 1 - 10 ( Praise )

Week 5 : Luke 15 : 11 - 32 & 23 : 26 - 49 ( Pain )

Palm Sunday : Luke 19 : 28 -30 .

Maundy Thursday : Luke 22 : 14 - 23 & 39 - 46 .

Good Friday : Luke 23.

Easter Sunday : Luke 24 : 1 -12.

I encourage each of us to take some time to read Gods word during this season . To reflect on purpose of the cross and the purpose of our lives in Jesus Christ. may the Holy Spirit speak to us and guide us as individuals and as a Church.

In Christ's service, Pastor Gary.

## Worship Service Flowers!

Did you know that we have a sign up sheet for anyone to provide flowers for a Sunday Service? The months of February & March are wide open!!! If you would like to provide flowers for a worship service, please sign up (sheet is on the bulletin board). If you are not able to do the shopping yourself, contact Joy Sommers (269-420-0614) and she will do the shopping for you.

## Greeters!

As with our flower schedule, our Greeter sign up is also wide open! If you are willing to be a greeter for a Sunday, please sign up (sheet is on the glass case). This is a great way to get familiar with the people attending worship services!

## Annual Reports

If you were the chair of a ministry team or committee in 2015, your annual report was due January 31st. If you did not get it submitted, please do so immediately. Email to CerescoBaptist@gmail.com. Thank you!

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### **I Am a Christian**

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not shouting "I am saved."  
I'm whispering "I get lost" That is why I chose this way.

When I say "I am a Christian" I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble And need someone to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not trying to be strong.  
I'm professing that I am weak And pray for strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed And cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not claiming to be perfect.  
My flaws are too visible But God believes I'm worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian" I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches Which is why I seek HIS name.

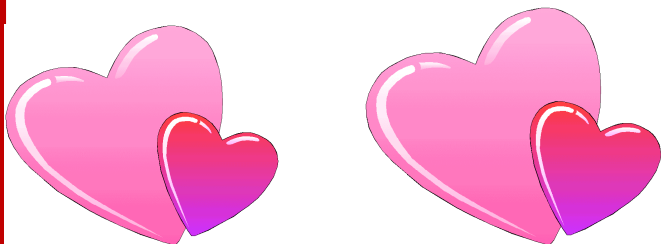
When I say "I am a Christian" I do not wish to judge.  
I have no authority I only know I'm loved.

**By Maya Angelou**

## Love Covers

Daily hassles don't seem important  
When Jesus' love comes in,  
For the holy bible says it covers  
A multitude of sins  
We see it from a new perspective  
When God opens up our eyes  
And tells us there's no need to worry  
With the hassles in our lives  
For it needn't be that way at all,  
If we'd daily kneel to pray  
And keep our minds focused on God  
Throughout the rest of the day  
I know that seems an impossible task  
And so often we may fall –  
When we have so many distractions,  
It's hard to stay focused at all  
But God's love is forever constant  
And is there when we fail –  
He is there to pick us up again,  
For He knows our flesh is frail  
And yet our heart's deepest desire  
Is to grow more like Christ,  
'Cause no matter what's going on each  
day, He is central in our lives.

© By M.S.Lowndes



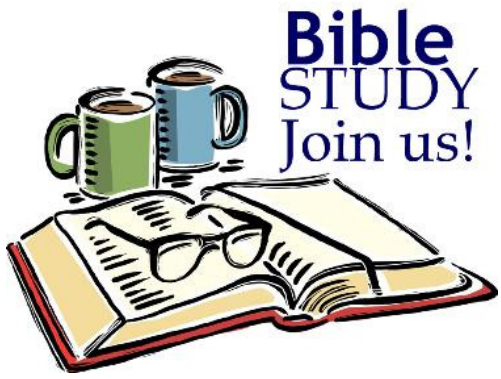
## If...

If the world were full of Christians  
who studied their Bible daily,  
who really did believe  
God's commands applied to them,  
who put what they learned  
in God's Holy Word into practice,  
their actions reflecting that Word,  
then earth would be close to heaven.  
If the world were full of Christians  
who knew that being a Christian  
is more than going to church,  
who lived their lives according to  
God's will,  
service to Him their main purpose,  
who practiced Jesus' teachings  
every day, with everyone they met,  
loving and helping their neighbors,  
then the earth would be a place  
of heavenly harmony and peace.

*By Joanna Fuchs*

God's  
Love  
Never  
Fails

A large, stylized wooden cross.



Bible Study resumes for March-April and September-October. We will again meet at 6 pm on Tuesdays.

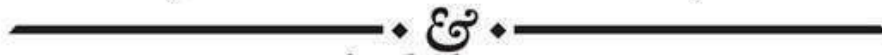
Another option is Sundays during Sunday School. Please let Pastor Gary know what works best for you!

**New Pew Bibles!** The Worship Ministry Team is planning to replace the pew Bibles with new large print NIV hard cover Bibles. If anyone would like to make a donation for a Bible, it would be greatly appreciated by the Worship Ministry Team!

The new Bibles will be about \$12 each,  
and 32 Bibles are needed.

**Love the Lord your God**

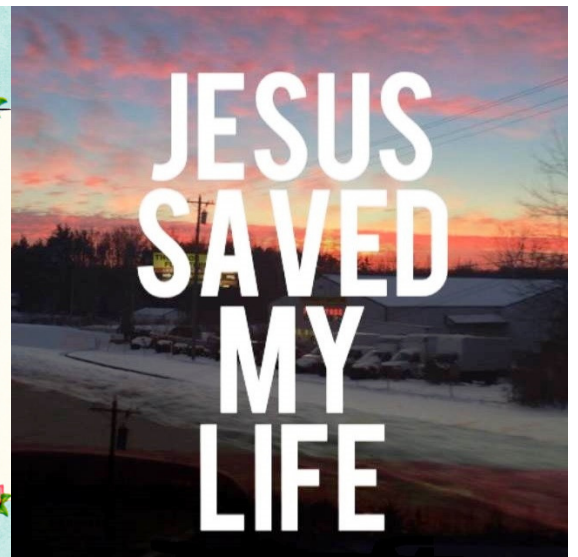
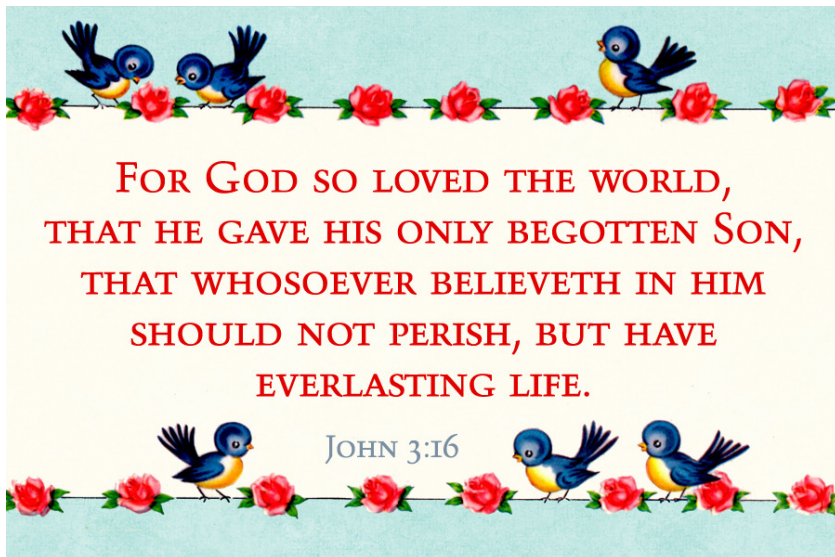
*with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your mind and with all your strength,*



**Love your neighbour as yourself.**

*there is no commandment greater than these.*

- Mark 12:30-31



# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm			World Cancer Day		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Communion Sunday	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		Ash Wednesday  Martha Circle 6:30 pm			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Valentine's Day 	Presidents' Day  Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		Family Night Potluck 6:30 pm			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm					
28	29	1	2	3	4	5
Fellowship Sunday	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm					

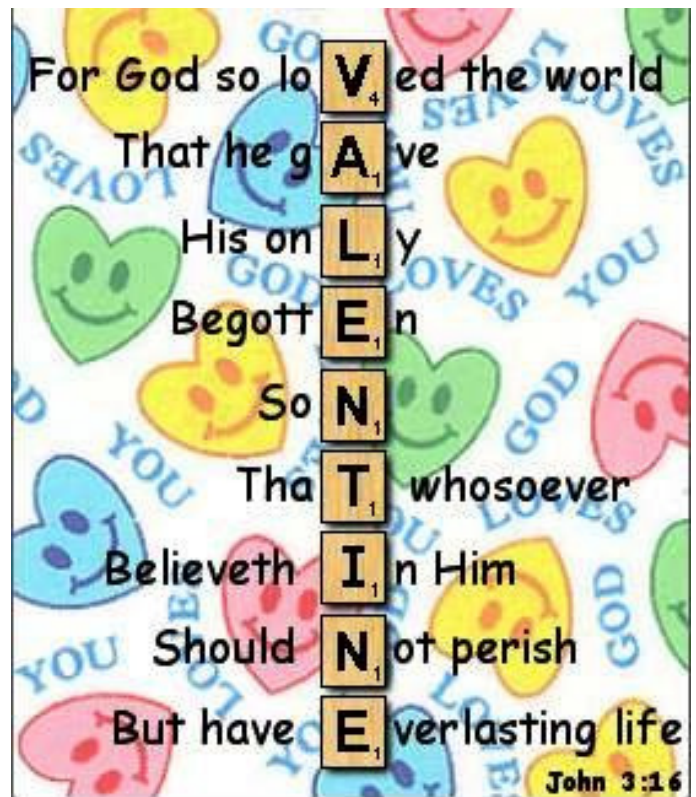
Feb 4 Nicole Thomas  
 Feb 5 Nadine Coats  
 Feb 9 Chris Sorell  
 Feb 18 Glen Cary  
 Feb 23 Mike Hatton  
 Feb 24 Rocho Kidder  
 Feb 25 Kelcie Collins  
 Feb 26 Gretchen King



Mar 1 Tommy Burke  
 Mar 3 Derek Holtz  
 Mar 4 Chris (Chip) MacCrossen  
 Mar 4 Garrett Skinner  
 Mar 9 Brian Markos  
 Mar 9 Ron Chisholm  
 Mar 9 Monica Entsminger  
 Mar 10 Barb Griffin  
 Mar 11 Ruth St. John  
 Mar 12 Denise Green  
 Mar 13 Martin Coats  
 Mar 13 Lucas Finch  
 Mar 13 Bill Westphal  
 Mar 14 Jada Haroff  
 Mar 15 Joanne Henley  
 Mar 15 Vi Halder  
 Mar 18 Brayden Entsminger  
 Mar 18 Pam Kirkland  
 Mar 20 Deborah Beltz  
 Mar 21 Mike Halverson  
 Mar 22 Cassidy Perkins  
 Mar 22 Danny Sommers  
 Mar 27 Sarah (Frey) Collins  
 Mar 29 McKenzie Babcock  
 Mar 30 Jody Davis

## *Happy Anniversary*

Mar 8 Albert & Margie Cole  
 Mar 24 Bill & Laurann Frey



God's love is a perfect love,  
 for it has been proven . . .  
 since the beginning of time  
 it has been actively movin.  
 It is the purest form of love,  
 it has no ulterior motive  
 it is a most powerful love  
 it's never toxic or corrosive.  
 God's love is a patient love,  
 it is oh, so slow to anger  
 it is a protective love  
 it'll keep you out of danger.  
 It is a providing love,  
 it meets our every need  
 it is a guiding love  
 it directs and it leads.  
 God's love is a perfect love,  
 it's proven to be everlasting  
 in Jesus, it's a complete love  
 and it's ours for the asking!

By Deborah Ann Belka

## 1 Corinthians 13

T V I D B I E L O R T D C Y S  
J W N E M R F V U R H D V R E  
E E A B L R U Z O T X N E T V  
P R C S L I A X R L E S T C E  
S R H A H T W T M U E B T Q I  
X L O J Z A J Z K N G N L J L  
Q O U P K B J C T D E Y M Q E  
T A X Z H L O F N I B X W N B  
B N M R S E U R T S E P O H T  
Y O A L Z L C A N V V C S Y R  
V I A G P X P I D Z E S D K U  
G A J S O E G D E L W O N K T  
F Z S Y T R T U J S Y D I P H  
L T Y A X G R T O M E H K N H  
E N D U R E S A A K N O T S A

ARROGANT BEARS BELIEVES BOAST ENDURES  
ENVY HOPES IRRITABLE KIND KNOWLEDGE  
LOVE PATIENT PROPHECIES RESENTFUL TRUTH

## **Ceresco Baptist Church**

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(269) 964-9669

## **Pastor Gary Schooler**

(517) 990-5883

[pastorgary1@ymail.com](mailto:pastorgary1@ymail.com)

### **Church Schedule**

**Sunday Worship**

**9:45 am**

**Sunday School**

**11:15 am**

**Bible Study Tuesdays**

**10 am**