

The Ceresco Messenger ~ Ceresco Baptist Church

Pastor's Pen ~ December 2016

I will be spending my fourth Christmas with my family here at Ceresco Baptist Church. As I reflect back to Christmas 2013, I have grown much spiritually. I am thankful for all your hearts and much needed prayers. My hope and prayer is that each of you have also grown in your spiritual lives. My prayers and hope have been focused on each of you individual and collectively.

We have been blessed by God's hand over the last few years. I sense in my very inner spiritual ear that God wants to continue to see us grow closer to His Son Jesus.

In order for us to grow closer to Jesus, we need to have a made up mind to serve each other. To pray for each other, to lay hands on one another when the Holy Spirit prompts us.

We need first to come together in the Spirit. When we achieve this, then we will be strong in the Spirit. This will give us the courage to go out and share the message of our Savior Jesus.

The first Sunday of Advent was November 27, 2016. I will ask each of you if you're willing, to reflect back on the first Sunday of Advent. Then after that please reflect on the following scriptures below. Please spend some time reflecting and praying for God to move in our worship times together. I am excited to see what God has in store for us if we come to worship prepared.

11/27/16 First Sunday of Advent: Hope in the House of Our Savior. Psalm 122:1

12/4/16 Second Sunday of Advent: Peace in the House of Our Savior. Matthew 3:2

12/11/16 Third Sunday of Advent: Joy in the House of Our Savior. Isaiah 35:1-10

12/18/16 Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love in the House of Our Savior. Matthew 1:20

12/25/16 Christmas Day: A Savior in the House of Ceresco Baptist Church. Psalm 98.

God bless and have a very merry Christmas.

Pastor Gary & Phyllis Schooler

ISAIAH 9:6



INFORMATION FROM THE EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY TEAM

Changes coming in January! We are creating additional Sunday School classes, so there will be additional teachers starting in January! The classes/teachers will be:

3 & 4 year olds w/ Marcy Bonney, **K-1-2 grades** w/ Jeri Wood, **3-4-5 grades** w/ Sharon Hadley, **6-7-8 grades** w/Jacob Lewis, **9-12 grades** w/ Joy Sommers, and **Adults** w/ Gretchen King.

Sunday School meets after the morning worship service, and will get done at 12:15 pm for all youth classes (Adult class may go longer).

Kay Davis & Linda Cole will start doing **Junior Church** on the second Sunday of each month. Volunteers are needed for additional Sundays. If you're willing to take a Sunday, let Sharon Hadley know. Thanks!

Phyllis Schooler will continue to have Toddler Worship on the second Sunday of the month during the regular worship service. Kathy Straub will continue to have Youth Choir on the second Sunday during the regular worship service.

We had a Youth Night on Nov. 19th - The delivery of approximately 25 blankets was made by the youth to the Haven of Rest. Each youth had their arms full, and then they sang a few Christmas carols. They sang loud and they sang good! We then went back to the church where Roger Sommers had pizza waiting. We all had such a good time, and we thank the people of the church for the blanket donations.

The next **Youth Day will be Saturday, Dec. 17th** for our annual Happy Birthday, Jesus! Party. Plans are underway, and we look forward to having all the youth participate, 3 years-15 years. Older kids can participate/help too. We will be making Christmas cards to take to nursing homes, **so if you have any used or extra Christmas cards, please donate them for this Youth event.** There will be a box under the coat rack for them. Thank you!

The members of the Educational Ministry Team for 2017 are:

Sharon Hadley (Chair), Jeri Wood, Kay Davis, Linda Cole, Pam Kirkland, Joy Sommers, Phyllis Schooler, Gretchen King, Jacob Lewis, Marcy Bonney. (All SS teachers are on the EMT for their input!).

Fairfax Community Baptist Church

Invites you to their annual

Christmas Celebration

on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 4:00 pm.



Advent

The time to
settle down,
take a deep breath
and concentrate on
what's important.

Please join us for our
Annual Christmas Eve Service!

Christmas Eve at 6:30 pm

Celebrate Jesus' Birthday

by attending church on Christmas Sunday!

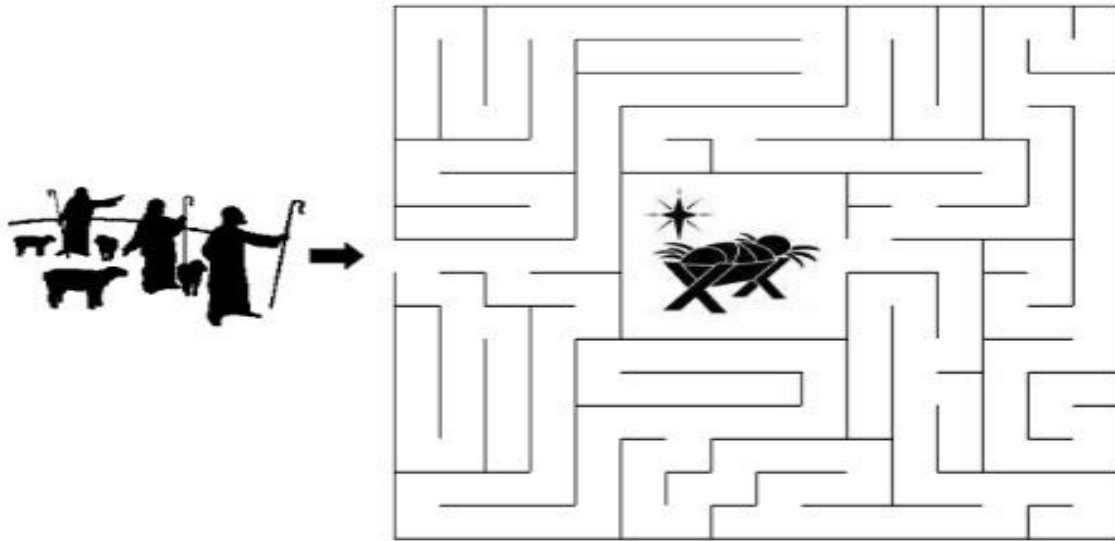
Regular worship service at 9:45 am.

There will not be Sunday School on Christmas.

The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-14

Help the shepherds find the way to Jesus.



This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:12

Christmas Word Jumble

Unscramble these words that you might expect to find in the Christmas story.
If you need help, the words are listed below the puzzle -- but not in order!

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. NNI _____ | 8. RTAS _____ |
| 2. ESEHDPSPR _____ | 9. NYOKDE _____ |
| 3. HWORISP _____ | 10. YABB _____ |
| 4. JHOPSE _____ | 11. RMGENA _____ |
| 5. TEHMHELBE _____ | 12. SSJEU _____ |
| 6. YMRA _____ | 13. IGFST _____ |
| 7. LATESB _____ | 14. AGLSEN _____ |

Mary
Joseph
manger
star

stable
donkey
worship
shepherds

inn
Jesus
Bethlehem
baby

angels
gifts

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

We are asking for donations of 6 hams for Christmas Family baskets. Ham is due December 18, 2016. If can donate please let Roger Sommers know. There is a sign up sheet for presents for each family with their names and gift ideas for each. PLEASE DO NOT SPEND MORE THAN \$20.00 PER PERSON. THIS IS THE RECOMMENDATION FROM SANTA'S HELPER. ANY QUESTION SEE A DEACON. Presents are due December 11, 2016. This will give the Deacon's enough time to finish any shopping that needs to be done. We will wrap presents on Family Night December 14, 2016. THANK YOU!

As A Baby, Jesus Came

As a baby, Jesus came from His home above
He left His throne, and who He was, to teach us how to love
As a baby, Jesus came, wrapped in swaddling cloth;
Willingly took on humanity, though He was one with God
As a baby, Jesus came to one day grow to be
The Savior of the human race, people like you and me
As a baby, Jesus came as God's eternal light
That will never be extinguished, but forever shine out bright
As a baby, Jesus came, the hope of eternal life,
Reconciling us back to God, giving meaning to our lives
As a man, Jesus died, His blood poured out for all,
Cleansing and forgiving us, for to this, He was called
We thank Him that He came a babe and grew to be a man
And for His sacrificial love, His nailed scarred feet and hands
Through it all we can live on with Jesus Christ our Lord
The babe that came that first Christmas is what we thank Him for.

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**Jesus is the reason
for the season**



December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> Church is in use Dec. 10th, 18th and 25th. </div>						Church Breakfast 8 am, Adm. Council Meeting 9 am
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Communion Sunday 2nd Sunday of Advent	Boy Scouts 7 pm	Bible Study 10 am	Martha Circle Meeting 6:30 pm			Church in use
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3rd Sunday of Advent	Boy Scouts 7 pm	Bible Study 10 am	Family Night Potluck 6:30 pm			Happy Birth- day, Jesus! Party 10-2
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4th Sunday of Advent Church in use	Boy Scouts 7 pm	Bible Study 10 am				Christmas Eve Service 6:30 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day! Service 9:45 am	Boy Scouts 7 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am	Information for January Messenger due by noon			New Year's Eve

Happy Birthday




Dec 2 Michael Wood
 Dec 5 Cindy Combs
 Dec 7 Mike Lutz
 Dec 11 Paige Holtz
 Dec 13 Glennie Swann
 Dec 14 Pat Yost
 Dec 17 Shirley Young
 Dec 19 Scott Wood
 Dec 21 Rayna Sommers
 Dec 24 Carl Clem
 Dec 26 David Smith
 Dec 27 Candace Ivey
 Dec 27 John Paschen
 Dec 28 Marilyn Mead
 Dec 28 Donna Ruthruff
 Dec 30 Viviana Anthony

Jan 2 Alexandria Hamaker
 Jan 3 Margaret Pray
 Jan 4 Avery Goodman
 Jan 4 Elise Kidder
 Jan 7 Olivia Gary
 Jan 11 Richard Schlee
 Jan 13 Bob Beltz
 Jan 13 Amelia Schooler
 Jan 18 Sam Henley
 Jan 18 Christin Berry
 Jan 18 Brian Gary
 Jan 19 Jean Clark
 Jan 20 Gary Schooler
 Jan 23 Paul Mead
 Jan 24 Chelsea Kilbourn
 Jan 25 Emily Ivey
 Jan 25 Bryan Davis
 Jan 28 Harlynn Casey
 Jan 28 Brad Kidder
 Jan 28 Diane Burrows
 Jan 29 Ava Marni Bene
 Jan 31 Bailey Davis

Happy Anniversary

Dec. 23 Ken & Kay Davis
 Jan 2 John & Ruth Paschen



Ceresco Baptist Church

PO Box 35

Ceresco, MI 49033-0035

(269) 964-9669

Pastor Gary Schooler

(517) 990-5883

Church Schedule

Sunday Worship

9:45 am

Sunday School

11:15 am

Bible Study Tuesdays

10 am

