

## Prayer for All Mothers

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, We thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of every precious human life from its very beginning in the womb.

You have given to woman the capacity of participating with You in the creation of new life. Grant that every woman may come to understand the full meaning of that blessing, which gives her an unlimited capacity for selfless love for every child she may be privileged to bear, and for all Your children.

Watch over every mother who is with child, strengthen her faith in Your fatherly care and love for her and for her unborn baby. Give her courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and doubt, and hope in times of trouble. Grant her joy in the birth of her child.

To mothers You have given the great privilege and responsibility of being a child's first teacher and spiritual guide. Grant that all mothers may worthily foster the faith of their children, following the example of Mary, Elizabeth, and other holy women who follow Christ. Help mothers to grow daily in knowledge and understanding of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant them the wisdom to impart this knowledge faithfully to their children, and to all who depend upon them.

Assist all "spiritual mothers", those who, though they may have no children of their own, nevertheless selflessly care for the children of others -- of every age and state in life. Grant that they may know the joy of fulfilling this motherly calling of women, whether in teaching, nursing, religious life, or in other work which recognizes and fosters the true dignity of every human being created in Your image and likeness.

We beseech You to send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to all mothers who sorrow for children that have died, are ill or estranged from their families, or who are in trouble or danger of any kind. Help grieving mothers to rely on Your tender mercy and fatherly love for all your children.

We ask your blessing on all those to whom You have entrusted motherhood. May Your Holy Spirit constantly inspire and strengthen them. May they ever follow the example of Mary, mother of Our Lord, and imitate her fidelity, her humility, and her self-giving love. May all mothers receive Your Grace abundantly in this earthly life, and may they look forward to eternal joy in Your presence in the life to come.

We ask this through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **AMEN.**



## **BEFORE I WAS A MOM . . .**

Before I was a Mom, I never tripped over toys or forgot words to a lullaby. I didn't worry whether or not my plants were poisonous. I never thought about immunizations.

Before I was a Mom, I had never been puked on. Pooped on. Chewed on. Peed on. I had complete control of my mind and my thoughts. I slept all night.

Before I was a Mom, I never held down a screaming child so doctors could do tests or give shots. I never looked into teary eyes and cried. I never got gloriously happy over a simple grin. I never sat up late hours at night watching a baby sleep.

Before I was a Mom, I never held a sleeping baby just because I didn't want to put her down. I never felt my heart break into a million pieces when I couldn't stop the hurt. I never knew that something so small could affect my life so much. I never knew that I could love someone so much. I never knew I would love being a Mom.

Before I was a Mom, I didn't know the feeling of having my heart outside my body. I didn't know how special it could feel to feed a hungry baby. I didn't know that bond between a mother and her child. I didn't know that something so small could make me feel so important and happy.

Before I was a Mom, I had never gotten up in the middle of the night every 10 minutes to make sure all was okay. I had never known the warmth, the joy, the love, the heartache, the wonderment, or the satisfaction of being a Mom.

I didn't know I was capable of feeling so much, before I was a Mom

## **A Mother's Love**

There are times when only  
a mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappoints  
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only  
a mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed  
about quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only  
a mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and  
a mother's faith  
And a mother's steadfast love  
Were fashioned by the angels  
And sent from God above.

Author Unknown

## **God's Masterpiece Is Mother**

God took the fragrance of a flower...  
The majesty of a tree...  
The gentleness of morning dew...  
The calm of a quiet sea...  
The beauty of the twilight hour...  
The soul of a starry night...  
The laughter of a rippling brook...  
The grace of a bird in flight...  
Then God fashioned from these things  
A creation like no other,  
And when his masterpiece was through  
He called it simply - Mother.

**- Herbert Farnham**

**Coming in May!**  
**LIFETOUCH PHOTOGRAPHY**  
will be here at Ceresco Baptist Church

They will be creating a photo directory along with our telephone/address directory.

Each person/family to be included in the directory will get a free 8x10 just for having your picture taken for the directory!

If you want to order additional pictures you can place your order at your picture sitting.

**Sitting Information:**

Plan on an hour for your professional photography session. Come prepared for your session and show the real you! Lifetouch often photographs families and individuals with meaningful items: special keepsakes, sports equipment, musical instruments, etc. Many families wear coordinating colors for a unified look. We suggest solid colored shirts with long sleeves.

Photography sessions will run from 1-8 pm on both Tuesday, May 22 and Wednesday, May 23 so everyone should be able to find a time that works for them! If you are not able to come either of those days, you can submit a picture for the directory.

**What Being a Mother Means to Me**

When I was a young mother with many responsibilities, I didn't fully understand when other mothers (with grown children) would tell me "how quickly they grow up, and to enjoy them while you can." But, they were SO right!

God blessed me with 4 wonderful children. I took them to church every week.

Being a mother wasn't always an easy job but, so rewarding when taught to mind, be respectful, honest, and correct them when they did wrong, and praise them when they did good.

Proverbs 13:24 says "Spare the rod and spoil the child, he who loves his child disciplines him diligently."

Bessie Ivey once quoted a verse to me when my children were young, which is: Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in a way he should go, even when he is old, he will not depart from it."

These two verses have been with me all these years. I am so blessed to be a mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, and now reap the rewards of what I thought was sometimes a hard job. It has all been worth it!

Roles have now changed. Where I once cared for my children, they now care for me. **Thank you, Jesus!** - Joanne Henley

# May 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
		Bible Study 10:00 am		National Day of Prayer 6:30pm Marshall Fountain		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Scouts 6 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am	Martha Circle 6:30 pm	Bible Study 6:00 pm		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>Mother's Day</b>	Scouts 6 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am	<b>Family Night Potluck 6:30 pm</b>	Bible Study 6:00 pm		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	<b>Agenda Items due for Adm. Council!</b>  Scouts 6 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am  <b>CBC Pictures 1-8 pm</b>	<b>CBC Pictures 1-8 pm</b>	Bible Study 6:00 pm		<b>Memorial Service for Jeri Wood 1:00 pm</b>
27	28	29	30	31		
<b>John &amp; Kate Music during worship service!</b>  Fellowship Sunday & Bake Sale	Memorial Day	<b>Information due for June Messenger by noon</b>			<b>Next Administrative Council Meeting is June 9, 2018</b>	



May 3 Valerie (Halder) Kibby  
 May 3 Brian Halverson  
 May 5 Alexander Finch  
 May 5 Jayme Biljum  
 May 6 Jared Babcock  
 May 9 Darla Thorpe  
 May 15 Bill Frey  
 May 15 Marcy Bonney  
 May 17 Kendra Davis  
 May 17 Kalab Gary  
 May 19 Heather Casey  
 May 19 Alice Gombas  
 May 24 Carol Schooler  
 May 24 Trish Ivey  
 May 25 Diane Biljum  
 May 25 Ronnie Hildebrant  
 May 26 Trey Casey  
 May 26 Shawn Skinner  
 May 26 Brad Halverson  
 May 30 Mikey Wood

June 1 Pam Lutz  
 June 2 Austin Frey  
 Jun 3 Laurann Frey  
 Jun 4 Linda Chisholm  
 Jun 5 Shelly Wood  
 Jun 7 Garrett Gary  
 Jun 9 Ed Kirkland  
 Jun 10 Bud Halder  
 Jun 11 Randy Reed  
 Jun 12 Josh Ivey  
 Jun 12 Nickie Boice  
 Jun 16 Garrett St. John  
 Jun 17 Sally Beltz  
 Jun 17 Isaac Entsminger  
 Jun 17 Barb Gary  
 Jun 17 Kyle Gary  
 Jun 18 Sally Slayton  
 Jun 19 Chad Hart  
 Jun 19 Livia Grace Haefele  
 Jun 21 Angela Sommers  
 Jun 26 James Anthony  
 Jun 26 Wayne Paul  
 Jun 28 Hailey Shepherd  
 Jun 29 Brianna Markos



May 6 Craig & Nichole Thomas 1995  
 May 7 Brad & Charity Gary  
 May 9 Chad & Cassidy Hart  
 May 21 Trey & Lindsey Casey  
 May 26 Jimmy & Alexandria Hamaker

6/1 Rob & Diana Kidder  
 6/8 Kevin & Sarah Collins  
 6/10 Mike & Betty Halverson  
 6/14 Albert & Karen Anthony  
 6/19 Glen & Joyce Cary  
 6/22 Ed & Pam Kirkland  
 6/26 Justin & Heather Casey



**Ceresco Baptist Church**  
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**Ceresco, MI 49033**  
**269.964.9669**  
**Pastor Gary Schooler**  
**517-990-5883**

**JOHN & KATE MUSIC**

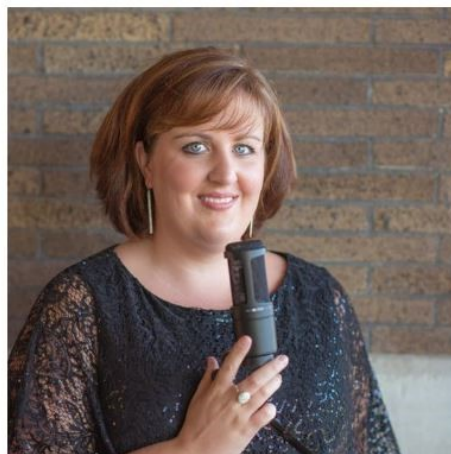
**They will be with us on Sunday, May 27th!**

**PIANO**



John's 25 years of piano playing will be sure to tickle your music bone and make you joyful at heart!

**VOCALS**



John & Kate's singing is straight from the heart and straight to your ears. We want to make you smile!

**LOVE**



Not only do the Denners love each other, but also you - your congregation, your audience, your hearts and souls!