

# Ceresco Baptist Church

## The Ceresco Messenger

### July 2021

#### History of the Outdoor Sign at Ceresco Baptist Church

In 2019 a suggestion was made that it would be nice if the church obtained a new outdoor double-sided sign. The original sign was one-sided with manually changeable letters. The sign faced the street making it difficult for passing traffic to read the message. Mary Ivey was given permission to research companies making outdoor signs.

The Covid-19 pandemic halted research in early 2020. By mid to late 2020 Signs Plus in Sarasota, Florida was discovered. They manufacture outdoor signs which are double-sided with manually changeable lettering. Information regarding requirements for replacing the current sign and an application for a permit were obtained from the Marshall Township office.

At the January 2021 Council meeting, two sign style options were presented to members present. The members voted to purchase the Classic style sign. The Council approved funding for the new sign from the Vision Fund that was set up in 2007 to fund programs or plans to further the mission of the church. Turned out, the new sign fit that need. Additional funds were taken from the Souder Fund which was started during Pastor Gary Schooler's time at Ceresco Baptist for donations to the church by a friend of the Pastor.

The sign was ordered and Rick Fry submitted the application for the permit to the Township office.

The sign company sent information regarding specifications for the sign base. Bob Beltz, Dave Hadley and Rick Fry immediately went to work removing the existing sign, pouring a concrete foundation and preparing for delivery of the sign. Bob took the old sign home to be repainted. To retain a part of church history, the old sign was placed at the south end of the west sidewalk. It can be used to inform the public of special events, etc. The initial message on the sign read, "God help us!"

Arrangements were made for delivery of the new sign on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. The transportation company required someone on site to unload the 400 plus pound sign. Fortunately, Bob had a forklift which he brought to do the job. Bob, Rick and Dave were on hand when the delivery truck arrived. They expertly unloaded the sign, removed the crating and set the sign on the foundation. Rick's grandson, Jensen Casey helped grandpa by adding the bolts to the foundation in preparation for setting the sign.

Bob spent considerable time tracking the electrical line from the original sign, laying new line and connecting it to the new sign. Making the sign visible after dark.

"New Sign Broken, Message Inside," was the first message on the new sign. Messages are changed each week listing the sermon title and scripture reference. Special events are also communicated through the sign message.

**A brief dedication service for the sign will be held at the conclusion of the Worship Service on Sunday, July 18, 2021.**

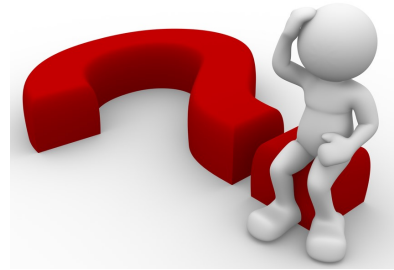
**JUNE QUIZ QUESTION:**

What is the Great Commandment?

ANSWER: Read Mark 12:29-31; John 13:34-35

**JULY QUIZ QUESTION:**

How can you have victory over temptation?



Left: Old church sign, now located at back corner of church.



Right: Rick Fry contemplating unloading the new sign



Bob Beltz unloading the new sign from the delivery truck



Dave Hadley, delivery truck driver and Rick Fry guiding Bob Beltz moving the new sign



Left: Jensen Casey placing bolt nuts on the sign foundation bolts



Right: Bob Beltz, Dave Hadley and Rick Fry finishing installation of the new sign

## Independence Day

This year again... on July fourth our celebrations will begin.  
America commemorates it's birthday once again.

There will be the usual fireworks... American flags will be displayed.  
The song "Star Spangled Banner" across our Nation will be played.

When we hear our National Anthem, If you're able ... you should Stand.  
By this action you will honor all who died to save our land.

The Valiant Men and Women who gave their "lives" in freedoms fight...  
Had families just like you and I... But they can't be with them tonight.

The freedoms that we all enjoy won by those who paid the price...  
To "stand" to honor our fallen, we shouldn't have to be asked twice.

Don't take America for granted. Don't take lightly... freedoms won.  
Those serving "now" thus demonstrate defending freedom isn't done.

If you have opportunity to see an Independence Day Parade...  
Remember... it "commemorates" sacrifices they have made.

When you see our "Stars and Stripes" waving proudly in the air...  
Thank your GOD in heaven you're able to be standing there.

Stand up straight ... take off your hat... place your hand upon your heart.  
Be thankful you live in America where freedom had its start.

What other country would you choose if you were given choice?  
Where else could you enjoy the freedoms in which you now rejoice?

Even with it's problems, AMERICA will "always" be the best!!  
You'll not find another like it ... wherever be your quest.

Americans should all agree... we're "here" because of our GOD'S HAND!  
We should do whatever it takes to defend this worthy land!

GOD BLESS AMERICA! Three Cheers for the Red White and Blue!  
If you can't say this and "mean it"... take a hike... and that means "you"!

America has stood the test by offering freedoms to it's "own".  
To those who dearly love it and by their actions they have shown.

You must show appreciation for our land if you're to stay.  
Demonstrate your love of country... it's the American Way.

This country's birth was bathed in blood... Our freedoms were at stake.  
To those who think we'll just "stand down"... You're making a mistake.

To those who would usurp our ways and our way of life upend...  
Be advised we'll bring it all... our freedoms we'll defend.

C.C. ©June 18, 2006

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

# Congratulations to our College Graduates!



## **Sarah Beltz**

Graduated from  
George Washington University  
School of Business  
Master's of Science in  
Project Management  
Grade: 3.56 Cum Laude  
Daughter of Robert & Deb Beltz

## **Landen Berry**

Graduated from  
Kellogg Community College  
General Studies

Parents: Christin & Steve Berry  
Grandparents: Pam & Ed Kirkland



**Mark your calendar!**

**Plans are underway for Pastor Mary's Installation Service!  
Sunday, September 19, 2021 during our Sunday Worship Service  
More details to come!**

## **America, the Beautiful**

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountains majesties, above the fruited plain!

America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!

America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw.

Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!

America! America! May God thy gold refine

Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!

America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for men of faith who founded this great land;  
Proclaimed for us, "In God we trust," and held to God's strong hand.

America! America! God shed His grace on thee  
Till lives confess His righteousness from sea to shining sea.

### **MARTHA CIRCLE FAMILY INDOOR PICNIC**

Members of the Martha Circle along with their spouses and kids met on June 9th for their annual family picnic. With the heat outside, we decided to meet inside! We had a fabulous meal and a wonderful time of fellowship with each other. As usual there was more food than we could all eat, as we have many great chefs in our church family!

Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, July 14th at 6 pm at the church. Martha Circle is open to all the ladies of the church, young and not as young!



- Jul 5 Kevin Sommers
- Jul 10 Joyce Cary
- Jul 15 Andrew Sommers
- Jul 15 Malia MacInnis
- Jul 21 Ryder Goodman
- Jul 21 Bradley Thomas
- Jul 22 Elijah Ivey
- Jul 26 Rick Frey
- Jul 30 Ida Mae Fair (80)

- Aug 1 Sharon Hadley
- Aug 5 Christy Phelps
- Aug 10 Kaleb Collins
- Aug 12 Veronica Anthony
- Aug 13 Allison Biljum
- Aug 16 Joy Sommers
- Aug 19 Reginald Matthews Sr
- Aug 21 Russ Skinner
- Aug 22 Jack Biljum
- Aug 25 Rick Bonney
- Aug 25 David Hadley
- Aug 26 Whitney Ivey
- Aug 28 Kristen Sommers
- Aug 29 Brynlee Collette Rogers
- Aug 30 Scott Boysen

Pastor Mary's mother is going to be 80 on July 30th!  
 If you would like to send her a birthday card, here's her name and address:  
**Ida Mae Fair**, 35175 Highway 12 East,  
 McCool, MS 39108.





- Jul 19 Glen & Joyce Cary
- Jul 20 Terry & Trish Ivey
- Jul 23 Ted & Lora Finch
- Jul 28 Joshua & Candi Ivey
- Jul 26 Ron & Linda Chisholm

- Aug 11 James & Darlene Anthony
- Aug 19 Reginald & Mary Matthews
- Aug 24 Bud & Vi Halder



# July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>John &amp; Kate Denner &amp; Family</b> Independence Day!	Independence Day Observed	Bible Study 10 am			25th Relay for Life of Calhoun County at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds 10 am-11pm	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>Communion Sunday</b> 		Bible Study 10 am	Martha Circle Meeting 6 pm			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Dedication of New Church Sign at end of the Worship Service		Bible Study 10 am				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Bible Study 10 am	Information for August Messenger due by noon			

Ceresco Baptist Church

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[www.cerescobaptist.org](http://www.cerescobaptist.org)

Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews

(313) 303-3301



Happy  
Independence  
Day!