

Ceresco Baptist Church ~ The Ceresco Messenger

May - 2022

This is for the mothers who have sat up all night with sick toddlers in their arms, wiping up barf laced with Oscar Mayer wieners and cherry Kool-Aid saying, "It's okay honey, Mommy's here." Who have sat in rocking chairs for hours on end soothing crying babies who can't be comforted. This is for all the mothers who show up at work with spit-up in their hair and milk stains on their blouses and diapers in their purse. For all the mothers who run carpools and make cookies and sew Halloween costumes. And all the mothers who DON'T. This is for the mothers who gave birth to babies they'll never see. And the mothers who took those babies and gave them homes. This is for the mothers whose priceless art collections are hanging on their refrigerator doors. And for all the mothers who froze their buns on metal bleachers at football or soccer games instead of watching from the warmth of their cars. And that when their kids asked, "Did you see me, Mom?" they could say, "Of course, I wouldn't have missed it for the world," and mean it. This is for all the mothers who yell at their kids in the grocery store and swat them in despair when they stomp their feet and scream for ice cream before dinner. And for all the mothers who count to ten instead but realize how child abuse happens. This is for all the mothers who sat down with their children and explained all about making babies. And for all the mothers who wanted to, but just couldn't find the words. This is for all the mothers who go hungry, so their children can eat. For all the mothers who read "Goodnight, Moon " twice a night for a year. And then read it again, "Just one more time." This is for all the mothers who taught their children to tie their shoelaces before they started school. And for all the mothers who opted for Velcro instead. This is for all the mothers who teach their sons to cook and their daughters to sink a jump shot. This is for every mother whose head turns automatically when a little voice calls "Mom?" in a crowd, even though they know their own offspring are at home -- or even away at college -- or have their own families. This is for all the mothers who sent their kids to school with stomach aches, assuring them they'd be just FINE once they got there, only to get calls from the school nurse an hour later asking them to please pick them up. Right away. This is for the mothers that put teddy bears and pinwheels and their children's graves. This is for mothers whose children have gone astray, who can't find the words to reach them. For all the mothers who bite their lips until they bleed when their 14-year-olds dye their hair green. For all the mothers of the victims of recent school shootings, and the mothers of those who did the shooting. For the mothers of the survivors, and the mothers who sat in front of their TVs in horror, hugging their child who just came home from school, safely. This is for all the mothers who taught their children to be peaceful, and now pray they come home safely from a war. What makes a good mother anyway? Is it patience? Compassion? Broad hips? The ability to nurse a baby, cook dinner, and sew a button on a shirt, all at the same time? Or is it in her heart? Is it the ache she feels when she watches her son or daughter disappear down the street, walking to school alone for the very first time? The jolt that takes her from sleep to dread, from bed to crib at 2 A.M. to put her hand on the back of a sleeping baby? The panic, years later, that comes again at 2 A.M. when she just wants to hear their key in the door and know they are safe again in her home? Or the need to flee from wherever she is and hug her child when she hears news of a fire, a car accident, a child dying? The emotions of motherhood are universal and so our thoughts are for young mothers stumbling through diaper changes and sleep deprivation.... And for mature mothers learning to let go. For working mothers and stay-at-home mothers. Single mothers and married mothers. Mothers with money, mothers without. This is for you all. For all of us... This is for you all. So, hang in there. The world would be a terrible place without the love of mothers everywhere. You make it a more civil, caring, and safe place for the precious children in our world. May God bless you this Mother's Day and everyday!

My Mother

My Mother, my friend so dear
throughout my life you're always
near. A tender smile to guide my
way. You're the sunshine to light
my day.

Author Unknown

And Grandma's too...

While we honor all our mothers
with words of love and praise.
While we tell about their goodness
and their kind and loving ways.
We should also think of Grandma,
she's a mother too, you see....
For she mothered my dear mother
as my mother mothers me.

Author Unknown



Ladies! You're invited to join us for our **Mother/Daughter luncheon**.

It will be held on Saturday May 7th at 11:30 am, and we will be eating at noon. Please bring a dish to pass of a salad or dessert.

The Martha circle will supply sandwiches. Our theme is hats. So plan to wear your Easter hat or a Kentucky durby style hat. Something fun.

Bring your Mothers, daughter's, aunts, sisters, cousins. All are welcome!



Last month, Marcy's Sunday School class prepared an Easter tree (left) and finished it with decorations and crosses (below).

The kids also sang a couple of songs for us during Children's Time on March 27th after they picked them out at the Youth / Contemporary Sing on March 20th. They sang "Glorious Day" on Palm Sunday too!



Martha Circle Minutes April 13, 2022

PRESENT: Pastor Mary, Joyce Cary, Sarah Collins, Marcy Bonney, Sharon Hadley, Gretchen King, Dawn Frey, Darlene Anthony, Veronica Anthony, Joy Sommers

DEVOTIONS: Given by Darlene-“ Jesus Calling.” How to have joyous and victorious living through Jesus. Follow up scripture reading: Col.3:23, John 15:5, Psalms 105:4.

SECRETARY REPORT: Highlights of last meeting were given.

TREASURER REPORT: Given by Joy. Current available balance is \$315.50. Money from the last Bake Sale was \$35 but has not been added as of yet. Reimbursement to Joy for plant sent to Linda Chisolm. Check was turned in for “Love Gift” for months of Oct., Nov., and Mar. in the amount of \$68.64.

SUNSHINE: Sarah reports cards were sent out to Kylee Findley, Art and Donna, Dave and Sharon.

MISSIONS: Given by Marcy. Gave interesting updates and information from the monthly International Ministries.: Jon and Amanda Good opened their home to refugees: European Baptist Missions reach across (6) countries: Ukrainian updates on students and missionaries. A report for MACS was also given on their missions: They will be doing “stuff the bus” at Christmas time: August 21st putting together back packs: Given a room in the basement where they meet to store extra food and other supplies. Also, her sorority group was given a tour of the Charitable Union.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussed Mother and Daughter luncheon. Joy will do shopping for the ham and turkey lunch meat, cheese, buns, drinks, and condiments. Guys will do clean up and dishes. Those attending will bring a passing dish or desert. Sarah is researching for history info on hats.

NEW BUSINESS: Gretchen reported that we can expect many more than previously thought at the funeral dinner for Ron Chisolm which will be April 23. Many passing dishes will be needed. She will be calling us. Suggestion from Joy that we give \$25 to each One Great Hour of Sharing and America for Christ in honor of past members.

It was agreed to have the Treasure Sale again this year with Sharon in charge, and the date was set for Saturday, August 20.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Based on Mark 3:31-35 and John 19:25-27. Being so close to Mother’s Day, we were to focus our thoughts toward Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and try to put our feelings where hers might have been with the joys and sorrows of raising and witnessing Jesus’s death.

Pastor Mary closed the meeting with prayer and after refreshments, back packs were filled for children at Safe Place. Fourteen pillows had been collected and items for eleven back packs were prepared and Jennie Marcos delivered them to Safe Place a few days later.

COLLECTIONS: Love Gift \$21.94 - Devotions \$21.50

Next business meeting: May 11 @ 6:00 Hostess: Dawn Frey

Submitted by Sharon Hadley, Secretary

Thank you to all who donated to SAFE Place. We received 16 pillows and filled 11 activity bags for the children.

For the next couple of months, the Martha Circle will be collecting new personal care items for SAFE Place. Feminine Personal Hygiene Items, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash (Full Size) Brushes/Combs, Q-tips and Nail Care Kits are the suggested items. We will have a thirty-one bag to drop your items in.
~ Thank you, Martha Circle

Administrative Council - Minutes from March 12, 2022 Meeting

Devotion - Rick Frey - started with a devotion, reading "A Touch of Jesus" - put out your hand, and someone will grab it - encouraging us to use our God-given sense of touch. Scripture - Mark - deaf mute brought to Jesus for healing, took mother-in-law of Peter by the hand and healed her, touched a leper to cleanse him of his leprosy, brought Jarius daughter to life by taking her by the hand. Many times Jesus took a person by the hand, or touched them with His hand and healed them. Jesus taught us that all help comes from Him. Christ's touch is loving, healing, etc.

Clerk's Report- Joy Sommers: Minutes from the previous meeting were in the Messenger.

Financial Secretary - Dawn Frey

General Fund Income - January & February 2021 \$ 11,968.00

General Fund Income - January & February 2022 \$ 13,720.00

Treasurer's Report - Mary Ivey: Reports were distributed and explained; It's been several years since we have had an audit. Should we have another? No discussion; Motion by Dawn Frey to move Chair Fund & Carpet Fund into the Renovation Fund, seconded by Roger Sommers. Motion passed.; Stacy Frey Mission Fund - she would like the money to go to a local women's charity; Justin/Heather are interested in purchasing the empty lot behind their property at some point. Motion by Mary Ivey, seconded by Marcy Bonney to have Rick research the value of the parcel and report back to council. Motion passed.

Worship Ministry Team - Mary Ivey: Lent - children to do readings during the Service; No Maundy Thursday Service at Ceresco this year; Good Friday Service at Ceresco - April 15 - 6pm - inviting Marshall 1st Baptist; Easter Son-rise Service - April 17th - 8am; Regular Service - 9:45am; Planning special Sunday for Mothers - May 8; Excess Bibles and Hymnals going to Bibles for Missions and/or Fowlerville

Property Management Ministry Team - Bob Beltz: Need to paint the ceiling and walls in the sanctuary and fix the wainscoting - need to get quotes; Need to fix the handrails going to the A/V level in the sanctuary; Dawn Frey, motion to improve the entryway at the front doorway, seconded by Mary Ivey. Motion passed. Money would come from the Renovation Fund.; Concrete on front porch is going to need to be addressed soon; Handrails on the ramp are too close together; Rear Entrance Door at top of ramp needs some attention.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Mary: Dave Hadley has agreed to serve as a Deacon. Motion by Dawn Frey, second by Marcy Bonney that Dave serve on the Deacon Ministry Team, effective immediately; Deacon Materials: a short deck and a 4-page summary created to ensure alignment and clarity; New Member Materials: created to share with new members as they join the church; Adult Sunday School Class completed the Spiritual Gifts Assessment and review. The assessment & review will be available to all new members after completing a review of the new member materials.

Deacon Ministry Team - Gretchen: Regular meetings with Pastor on Sunday mornings prior to the worship service; Additional Deacon - Dave Hadley; Purchased the Lenten booklets that are in the foyer, as well as some bulletins for the Lenten/Easter season.

Nominating Committee - Roger Sommers: Need to replace Ron Chisholm as Member-At-Large, any volunteers? Will put a note in the bulletin that we need somebody to fill the position.

Educational Ministry Team - Marcy Bonney: Children's Sunday School (Kay Davis has been assisting) - Sharon Hadley will also be covering at different times. Joy has filled in when Marcy wasn't present. Meeting in the Choir room as children and ages increase. Use of easel at present time. Will look into some additional lessons and posters. (Several items found will be given for the next Treasure Sale). Children's Time - being covered, but always would like to share this opportunity. See sign-up sheet on bulletin table. When possible, would like to include the children briefly sharing what they have learned. Junior Church - still on hold; Contemporary Sing is third Sunday of the month, changing to 5 pm start-time. Singing special music on Palm Sunday (Glorious Day); Family Night Potluck, March 16th, Corned Beef Dinner and potluck. Roger will be cooking the corned beef, carrots, potatoes, onions, and cabbage. Bring a passing dish and your own table service. Thinking of some future programs to have at Family Nights; Fellowship Sundays - last Sunday of the month. Sign up sheet on bulletin table; Easter is April 17th - Pastor Mary will do Children's Time; Plans to do a Children's Day, either during the week, or on a Saturday this summer; stories, crafts, music. More to follow!

MACS/CBC - Marcy Bonney: Meeting March 3rd at Family Bible Church. Marshall House is under new management (Medallion) as of Jan. 20th, 269-781-5183; Bowling Bash to benefit the Fountain Clinic was held last night. Christmas 2021 - Dec. 5-9 approx. 180 families/450 individuals given baskets. MACS adopted all approved families. Volunteers assigned shifts to pack food/gifts/sort. Many donations of food. Went well! Christmas Week 2022 is Dec. 11-15; Increase communication via publicity of MACS; Review of help given (utilities, lodging, help from fire, clothing); Several volunteers will clean/update storage area at Trinity Church; Dates to be determined for "Stuff the Bus" (Lions Club), Back-pack Project, Golf outing (donations); Request by Harriet and Sue for anyone interested in shadowing them, please just ask; Next meeting is April 7, 2022. First Thursday of the month, at 7 pm, Family Bible Church.

Administrative Council Minutes, 3/12/2022 concluded

New Business/Open Items: Joy Sommers - request use of Fellowship Hall on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays through July. Dates would be April 12/26, May 10/24, June 14/28, July 12/26. Relay for Life is July 15-16th. July 26th meeting would be a wrap-up meeting. 6 pm. Motion by Gretchen King, seconded by Dawn Frey to approve. Motion passed; Annual Report for 2021 - Motion by Dawn Frey to accept Annual Reports as corrected, seconded by Gretchen King. Motion passed; Mother/Child Potluck being planned by Martha Circle for Saturday, May 7, 2022; Martha Circle will be collecting items for SAFE Place in April; Bake Sales resume this month! Church received a flyer from the Battle Creek Battle Jacks (baseball team), if anyone is interested.

Next Quarterly Council Meeting will be June 11, 2022 at 9 am.15 am.

Present: Rick & Dawn Frey, Pastor Mary, Gretchen King, Linda Chisholm, Bob & Deb Beltz, Dave & Sharon Hadley, Mary Ivey, Marcy Bonney, Roger & Joy Sommers.

Special Council/Congregation Meeting, April 3, 2022 - Minutes

Rick Frey called a special meeting after the worship service to discuss repairing the corner in the sanctuary, which means repainting entire sanctuary, walls and ceiling. If we have to remove the pews, then we will refinish the hardwood floor. We will remove the pews ourselves, and then reinstall them when done. We received two quotes, one for approximately \$7,200 which included 2 coats of paint; other is \$500 less, but only one coat of paint. Motion by Joy Sommers, second by Gretchen King to accept the higher quote. Motion passed.

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

**One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING**

And now these three remain:
faith, hope and **Love.**
But the greatest of these is
Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

One Great Hour of Sharing is administered by the World Relief Committee of the Board of General Ministries of American Baptist Churches USA. The committee facilitates American Baptist emergency relief disaster rehabilitation, refugee work and development assistance.

We collect the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** during the months of May & June. We ask that if you want to honor or remember a family member or friend in the Mother's Day Bulletin or the Father's Day Bulletin, that you please donate to this special offering! There are special envelopes at the church, as well as the list / sign-up of names to be put in the bulletin.



May 3 Valerie Kibby
 May 3 Stephen Phelps
 May 5 Jayme Biljum
 May 5 Alex Finch
 May 6 Jared Babcock
 May 15 Marcy Bonney
 May 19 Heather Casey
 May 24 Patricia Ivey
 May 25 Diane Biljum
 May 25 Melissa Boysen
 May 26 Shawn Skinner

May 2 *Scott & Melissa Boysen*
 May 6 *Craig & Nicole Thomas*
 May 21 *Jason & Emily Ivey*
 Jun 22 *Ed & Pam Kirkland*
 Jun 26 *Justin & Heather Casey*

Jun 3 Reginald Matthews Jr
 Jun 4 Linda Chisholm
 Jul 9 Ed Kirkland
 Jun 10 Bud Halder
 Jun 12 Joshua Ivey
 Jun 17 Sally Beltz
 Jun 17 Barbara Gary
 Jun 18 Sally Slayton
 Jun 21 Angela Sommers
 Jun 26 James Anthony
 Jun 28 Hailey Shepherd

SAVE THE DATE
ANNUAL CHURCH TREASURE SALE:
 Saturday, August 20th
 Time for spring cleaning!!!!!!
 Save your unwanted items!!!

Children's Time Sign-Up

5/1 - Sommers
 5/8 - Hadley
 5/15 - Sommers
 5/22 - Children
 5/29 - Sommers

Flower Sign-Up

5/1 - Cary
 5/8 - OPEN
 5/15 - OPEN
 5/22 - OPEN
 5/29 - Sommers

Ceresco Baptist Church

230 C Drive North, PO Box 35

Ceresco, MI 49033

(269) 964-9669

www.cerescobaptist.org

Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews

(313) 303-3301

