

The Ceresco Messenger
Ceresco Baptist Church
August ~ 2022

Do You Believe God Loves You?

PRAY OVER THIS: “I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.” - John 17:23

PONDER THIS: How much does God love you? God loves you as much as He loves His Son, Jesus Christ. That’s hard for me to take in. When the Apostle John was speaking about this love he said, “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God” (1 John 3:1)! Do you know why John said, “What manner of love”? It seems like he was grasping for an adjective suitable to use. What colossal love, what stupendous love, what ... I just can’t even think of a word. He just finally had to say, “what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God.” God loves you dear friend, and you are secure in God’s sovereign love.

How hard is it for you to believe God loves you as a father loves a child?
What makes this difficult? What helps you believe this?

PRACTICE THIS: Make a list of various passages that describe the love of God for His people, starting with the two verses in this devotion.

Do You Have Hope for the Future?

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.” - Matthew 6:19-20

Ponder This: Let’s suppose you’re down in the Caribbean on a luxurious cruise ship and everything is beautiful. You say, “This is the best vacation of my life.” Then the captain says, “I have an announcement ladies and gentlemen. We’re going to continue the entertainment. The cooks are going to do an even better job than normal with the cuisine. The crew is going to go all out to make you comfortable.” Then he says, “But there has been one change in plans. We’re not going to sail to any one port. Instead, we’re going to go out in the middle of the ocean and sail around in circles until we run out of food, fuel, and water. And when we do, we’re going to empty the ship and sink it.”

At that moment, no matter how much you’re enjoying the cruise, it doesn’t seem to be quite as good, does it? When you realize you’re going around in a meaningless circle, it doesn’t matter how beautiful the weather is. It is a hopeless, joyless matter. In the same way, the joy of this present life will not diminish the fact there is no hope for the future for those outside of Christ. We should seek to meet people’s temporal needs as we are able, but first and foremost, we must point them to Christ. Apart from Him, there is no hope.

How are you tempted to focus on current comforts and pleasures over the future reality of life eternal with God?

Who do you know who needs to hear about the hope of Christ today?

Practice This: Take time to share with the person you identified about the hope of Jesus.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES, JUNE 11, 2022

Rick Frey opened the meeting with prayer.

Devotion – Rick Frey: “Is There A Christian Character in America?” People are crying out for help in America – are we developing a deaf ear to their cries? America is losing its compassion and character. We need to invite as many people as possible to church, and to help them. God came for ALL, not just a few.

Financial Secretary - Dawn Frey

March-May 2021 General Fund \$18,361.16

March-May 2022 General Fund \$20,661.40

Treasurer's Report - Mary Ivey: Reports distributed

Page 1 & 1a go together

Page 2 & 2a go together

Motion by Dawn Frey, second by Joy Sommers regarding the actions taken April 26, 2022 at Southern Michigan Bank by Ceresco Baptist Church Treasurer, Mary Ivey, be approved: close the checking account 304026578, open a new checking account and transfer \$25,000 from the checking account to the savings account. Motion approved.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Mary:

June 19 & 26 – out of town while her mother has surgery

June 19th – Rev. Owens will be pulpit supply

June 26th – Rev. Roxie Perry will be pulpit supply

June 25th – Dick Rivers Memorial – Pastor Schlee will officiate.

Planning Session July 17, after the worship service to discuss.

Worship Ministry Team – Mary Ivey:

June 12 – Graduate Sunday

June 19 – Father's Day, Sharon Hadley has a gift for fathers, Veronica will have special music, Don St John is doing a tribute, and Rev. Owens will be our guest pastor.

June 26th – Fellowships Sunday, Rev. Roxie Perry will be our guest pastor.

June 25th – Memorial for Dick Rivers, Pastor Schlee will be officiating. Service is at 11 am.

July & August, Sharon Hadley will be selecting the hymns.

Pick-a-Hymn returns July 10th through August.

July 3rd we will have a special music service by the Dave Tuckey Trio. We will move communion to the following Sunday. We will take a Love Gift offering.

July 17th – Planning Session & Luncheon after the Worship Service.

Kay Davis took the old hymnals and pew Bibles to the Bibles for Missions Thrift Shop in Battle Creek.

Joanne Henley donated her performance CD's. They are in the choir room for check-out.

Joanne Henley has stepped down from the WMT.

Mary paid the \$7,200 for the sanctuary painting came from the Souder Fund, motion by Roger Sommers, seconded by Joanne Henley to approve payment coming from the Souder Fund. Motion carried.

Next meeting is Wednesday, Aug. 10th at 5 pm.

Property Management Ministry Team - Bob Beltz:

March: hardware for front of Church, (wreaths)

18: met with painter #1

22: met with painter #2

22: sprayed insulation in hole around exhaust pipes

April

5 installed threshold at front door

14 installed door knob in basement bathroom, need to do some work on the door yet.

18 installed new lights in basement, thanks Dave

May

30 painters painting, removed pews

June – floors are being sanded. Will take a week to put the pews back in place, and reinforce them. Dave Hadley is going to bring his table saw so they can make shims, etc to reinstall them.

Basement leaks when it rains, got an estimate of \$18,000 – too high, so not proceeding at this point. May need to do something with the eaves troughing.

Possible future project – blacktop the parking lot up to the cement, estimate of \$49,000 Lakeland Asphalt. Waiting on a quote from Damron Bros. Need to figure out how to raise the funds that would be needed. Maybe contact Enbridge to see if they would help cover the costs.

Parking sign/flower box is covered in poison ivy. Needs to be addressed.

Deacon Ministry Team –Roger:

Regular meetings with Pastor on Sunday mornings prior to the worship service.

July Communion Sunday will be on the 10th.

Food for Dick Rivers' Memorial – Gretchen will be contacting people. Joanne said the Memorial has been cancelled.

Deacons will put something in the BC Shopper and Marshall Advisor regarding our worship services in the Church Listing. Getting pricing right now.

Communion bread – any preferences?

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES, 6/11/22 CONTINUED

Educational Ministry Team - Marcy Bonney:

Children's Sunday School – Marcy lead teacher, also coverage by Sharon, Kay and Joy.

Sarah Collins is joining the EMT.

Tomorrow is Graduate Sunday. We will play a special music tribute to the graduates and have gifts for them.

Children's SS is meeting back in their classroom now that a larger table and chairs have been put there.

Learning the books of the Bible.

Children's Time – continuing with volunteers signing up.

Junior Church is still on hold – hoping to restart soon.

Contemporary Sing is usually the third Sunday of the month. This month it will be the 4th Sunday since the 3rd Sunday is Father's Day. May have an earlier time.

Fellowship Sundays are the last Sunday of the month: June 26, July 31, Aug. 28.

Children's Day has been planned for July 19th 10 am – 1:30 pm, with an "Under the Sea/Jonah & the Whale Theme" Sarah will make a flyer and invite the village children. Chrissy Wilkens will be helping.

Family Night is June 15th and we take the summer off, so then resume in September. June Family Night Potluck – desserts will be provided, as we will have an Ice Cream Social.

Looking forward to having youth activities in the future, outside of church time

Sunday School Material for the youth – going to get a sample from Judson Press.

Next meeting is July 8th at 10 am.

Marshall Area Church/Community Services (MACS)/CBC

Next meeting is September 1, 2022 with the same officers as last year. Always the 1st Thursday of the month at 7 pm at Family Bible Church.

May 13th Post Office Food Drive for MACS was a success, 375 bags collected.

Weekend of July 2, Old Car Show at Fairgrounds, collecting canned goods & donations for MACS.

July 29, HACKS for MACS Golf Outing at the Medalist sponsored by Marshall Teachers.

Aug. 1 at Highpoint Bank, annual Backpacks & School Supplies Program. Volunteers need for shifts. Contact Harriet (269.781.4506) or Sue (269.781.2954).

New Business/Open Items:

Annual Treasure Sale is Saturday, August 20th..

Joanne has loaned her keyboard for us to use for our Worship Services while we are meeting in the Fellowship hall...

Hoyt McMillan's daughter passed away June 5th, brother Gary & Dawn McMillan's daughter passed away unexpectedly too. Family needs prayer. .

Roger Sommers – talked about Church Outreach – make a flyer/pamphlet to leave at area campgrounds or other businesses to invite people to our church. Joy volunteered to make something.

Joy is going to put a 'welcome children' type writing on the back of the bulletin for a few weeks.

Sarah Collins has filled our Member at Large opening on the Administrative Council.

Pastor Mary closed the meeting in prayer at 10:30 am.

Next meeting is Saturday, September 10th at 9 am.

WE NEED YOUR TREASURES!



We are accepting good, clean, usable items for our Annual Treasure Sale.

Here are the dates for accepting donations in August:

August Dates:

6 - Saturday 9-12

7 - Sunday, after Sunday School

10 - Wednesday 5:00 before Martha Circle

13 - Saturday 9-12

14 - Sunday after Sunday School



- 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

- Sep 2 Ted Finch
- Sep 5 Ken MacInnis
- Sep 8 Matthew Ivey
- Sep 10 Sierra Phelps
- Sep 12 Art Ruthruff
- Sep 14 Mary Ivey
- Sep 20 Jason Ivey
- Sep 20 Robin Johnston
- Sep 20 Michele Babcock
- Sep 22 Justin Casey
- Sep 25 Kay Davis
- Sep 30 Ellie Daevy (Sommers)

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

- Sep 3 Michele & Jody Babcock
- Sep 9 Stephen & Christy Phelps
- Sep 10 Andrew & Kristen Sommers
- Sep 14 Danny & Rayna Sommers
- Sep 18 Bob & Deb Beltz
- Sep 19 Alex & Stacey Goodman
- Sep 27 Don & Ruth St. John
- Sep 30 Jayme & Diane Biljum

August	Flowers	Children's Time
7	OPEN	OPEN
14	Sommers	Sommers
21	OPEN	Sommers
28	OPEN	OPEN



Fellowship Sunday Refreshments:

August - Sommers
 September - OPEN

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Treasure Sale Donations being accepted after Sunday School	1	2 Family Life Radio will be at True North Ice Cream in Marshall 6-8 pm	3 Bible Study 10 am	4	5	6 Treasure Sale Donations being accepted 9am-12noon
7 COMMUNION SUNDAY, Treasure Sale Donations being accepted after Sunday School	8	9	10 Bible Study 10 am, Treasure Sale Donations & Worship Ministry Team Meeting 5 pm, Martha Circle Meeting 6 pm	11	12	13 Treasure Sale Donations being accepted 9am-12noon, Calhoun County Fair Setup
14 Treasure Sale Donations being accepted after Sunday School, Calhoun County Fair Week	15	16	17 Bible Study 10 am	18	19	20 Annual Church Treasure Sale! 9 am - 3 pm
21 Shop the After Treasure Sale & Help Box Up after Sunday School	22 Back to School Week	23	24 Bible Study 10 am	25	26	27 Agenda Items for Sept 10th Admin Council Meeting due now!
28	29	30	31 Bible Study 10 am, Information for September Messenger Due at Noon	1 Sept.	2 Sept.	3 Sept. Labor Day Holiday Weekend

Martha Circle Minutes, July 13, 2022

PRESENT: Pastor Mary, Darlene and Veronica Anthony, Sarah Collins, Vi Halder, Joanne Henley, Joyce Cary, Donna Ruthruff, Gretchen King, Sharon Hadley, Marcy Bonney, Ruth St. John

DEVOTIONS: Given by Joanne: "A Woman A Witness" - Matthew 5:14-16. As a woman we must let our "light" shine as Jesus has put the light of His love in our hearts.

SECRETARY: Given by Sharon: Last month was the Martha Circle picnic and the highlight of the picnic was the birthday cake for Bud Halder. There was no meeting.

TREASURER: No report was given since Joy was absent.

SUNSHINE: Given by Sarah: Gave us the names of the ones she had sent a card to. Need to send a "thinking of you" card to Art Ruthruff, Pastor Schlee and Christy Phelps. Marcy shared that Rick is having a C-Scan on his brain and that his vertigo is subsiding. Sarah has made a request for an assortment of cards.

MISSIONS: Given by Marcy: Wayne and Kathy Niles: May: After (3) years of waiting for a shipment, medical supplies finally arrived along with refrigerators, baby blankets, solar vaccine freezers, etc. and these were divided between 13 hospitals. June: A request was made for Mission Aviation Fellowship to make a stop in the Congo for needed medicines and volunteers. Dr. Anita and Rick Gutierrez: Currently working with the Baptist Mission of South Africa for the needs of residents for health, mind and spirit. Also, a missionary (Sarah McCloy) writes of a Dr. Gordon who for 16 years prays at 9:37 the words of Matthew 9:37-38.

June: Becky and Larry Stanton in Ukraine: Reports that at their last outside church service the people wanted to hear more. Even though there is much turmoil, they are still getting out God's word.

Samaritan's Purse: Missions they are pursuing: They are making weekly flights "God's Mercy Flight" to Ukraine with emergency supplies. On the nose of the DC-8 displays this motto: "Helping in Jesus' Name". They are rebuilding homes for Kentucky tornado survivors. July: They headed up "Operation Heal Our Patriots". A Biblical ministry to strengthen marriages of veterans. To Ukraine they have provided 6,000 metric tons of food, 25,600 hygiene kits, 11,000 blankets, 17,100 solar lamps, etc.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussed minor details for the "Treasure Sale": After VBS day, items can be put in Fellowship room against south wall. Joy- Advertise in Advisor and Shopper one week before, Sharon will do signs, Gretchen in charge of money box

Times for accepting collection of treasures: July 30, Saturday 9-12; July 31, Sunday - after Sunday School; August: 6 - Saturday 9-12, 7 - Sunday, after Sunday School, 10 - Wednesday 5:00 before Martha Circle, 13 - Saturday 9-12, 14 - Sunday after Sunday School, 17 - Arrange tables for sale after Bible Study. 18 - Thursday - Organize from 10:00 to 12:00, 19 - Friday set up 10:00 to ????

SCRIPTURE STUDY: GENESIS 17:15-22: Read with thoughts of the faith of Sarah and Abe. Not much faith in the beginning but much laughter. We often place more importance on Abraham as the Father of many nations but need to realize God made the covenant between them both. She became impatient with God's plan and tried to get her own plan going. Before her name was changed - "Sarai" means princess and "Sarah" means Mother of many nations. Much was learned in the discussion.

COLLECTIONS: Love Gift: \$22.42. Devotional: \$25.09

After prayer given by Gretchen, we were excused for drinks and snacks and prepared a fleece blanket for Kylee Findlay. A fleece blanket has been prepared previously for Christy Phelps.

Next Meeting: August 10, Hostess: Veronica Anthony

Submitted by Sharon Hadley, Secretary

***God created you to experience
healthy, deep and strong
relationships with others.***

Back-To-School Prayer

Loving God,
Watch over our children as
they begin their new school
year. Bless them with joy at
seeing friends, excitement at
new experiences, and a love
of learning.

Guide and protect all who
learn, replacing fear with joy,
anxiety with peace, and
tiredness with energy.
Give wisdom, patience, and joy
to teachers as they serve
their students.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Since God is love, won't He take all of us to Heaven?

It's true that God is love, but He is not only love. He is also holy, righteous, and just. He cannot allow sin into His presence and He must punish sin. Every person has sinned against God, and sin separates us from God. No one is good enough to work his way to Heaven.

The good news is that God has provided the cure for our sins. That cure is His Son, Jesus Christ, who came to Earth to save sinners. He did that by living a sinless life, dying for our sins on the cross, and then rising again.

Now, any person can receive the free gift of salvation by believing in Jesus and recognizing Him as both Savior and Lord. God wants everyone saved: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).

Salvation is by grace through faith. There's no one so good he need not be saved and no one so bad he cannot be saved. Trust the Lord Jesus, not your good deeds, which cannot make you righteous. Only Jesus, by His cleansing blood, can do that.

Any person who receives salvation will go to Heaven and be with Jesus forever.

LIGHTHOUSE LESSONS



STAND TALL

WEATHER LIFE'S STORMS
SET A SHINING EXAMPLE
BE A BEACON OF HOPE

STAY ALERT

Look on the bright side

OVERCOME DARKNESS

GUIDE OTHERS TO SAFETY

It's OK to be a little flashy!

cast ALL YOUR
anxiety on Him
because He
cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7

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Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews
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Ceresco, Michigan 49033-0035
Pastor: 313-301-3301
Church: 269-964-9669

Annual Treasure Sale: Aug. 20th 9am-3pm

All pricing is by your donation!
You decide how much you want
to pay for your treasures!

