

**The Ceresco Messenger**  
**Ceresco Baptist Church**  
**October ~ 2022**

**Operation Christmas Child Project Continues Again This Year!**

## A New Beginning for Génesis

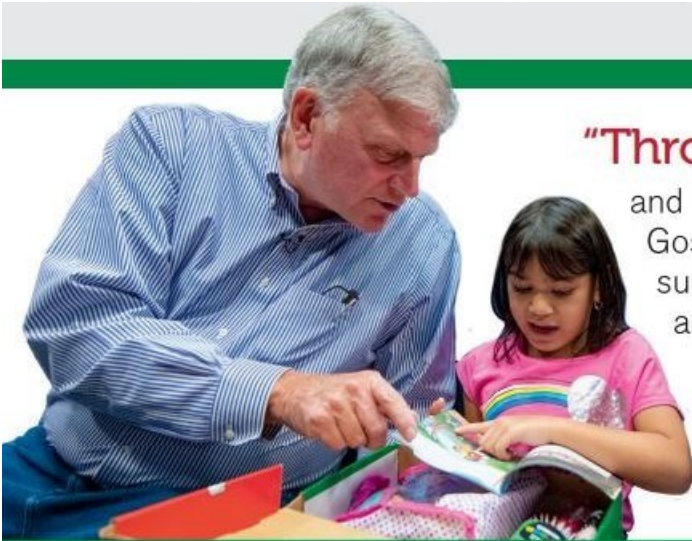


In the mountains of Ecuador, 8-year-old Génesis was invited to an Operation Christmas Child outreach event by her cousin. There she heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ clearly presented and was surprised with her first gift ever—a shoebox filled with a stuffed animal, doll, and her favorite toys. Even “the box itself made me very happy,” said Génesis.

At the event, she also accepted Jesus Christ into her heart! “I have a new friend,” said Génesis. “I am happy for the opportunity I had to come here. I have learned about God and received a shoebox. He is my Savior.”

Génesis went home and told her mother, who was sick with COVID-19, about Jesus. As a result, both of her parents came to faith in Christ! The family was also grateful to God for her mother’s full recovery.

Génesis went on to participate in The Greatest Journey, the follow-up discipleship program designed especially for shoebox recipients, where she learned more about following Christ and sharing Him with others.



### “Through your prayers

and generosity, we’re sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth! Be sure to make your shoebox gift unique and include a letter and photo—those personal touches can mean so much to a child.”

—*Franklin Graham,*  
*President, Samaritan’s Purse*



Oct 1 Kamren Collins  
 Oct 6 Jensen Casey  
 Oct 8 Kevin Collins  
 Oct 9 Terry Ivey  
 Oct 12 Mary Fair-Matthews  
 Oct 15 Dawn Frey  
 Oct 19 Craig Thomas  
 Oct 25 Molly Sommers

Oct 11 Dave & Sharon Hadley  
 Oct 21 Randy & Lisa Cavinder  
 Oct 27 Ken & Malia MacInnis  
 Nov 12 Rick & Marcy Bonney  
 Nov 15 Art & Donna Ruthruff

Nov 2 Barry Vavrina  
 Nov 3 Alex Goodman  
 Nov 5 Lora Finch  
 Nov 6 Devin Phelps  
 Nov 10 Jean King  
 Nov 12 Tyler Thomas  
 Nov 13 Brad Gary  
 Nov 17 Lisa Cavinder  
 Nov 17 Jody Babcock  
 Nov 26 Roger Sommers

**Fellowship Sunday**  
**Refreshments:**  
 October - Ivey/King  
 November - OPEN

DATE	FLOWERS	CHILDREN'S TIME
2-Oct	OPEN	Sommers
9-Oct	OPEN	Sommers
16-Oct	OPEN	OPEN
23-Oct	Sommers	Sommers
30-Oct	OPEN	Sharon Hadley

We would like to have a choir to sing on November 2nd.  
 The song will be "Simple Thank You" - practices will start in October!

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. - Hebrews 13:7

<sup>11</sup> So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.—Ephesians 4:11-12

# October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
Communion Sunday / World Communion Day	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm					
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Worship Service <b>9:30 am</b>  Pastor Mary's Ordination Service @ 2nd Missionary Baptist, 11 am	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		Martha Circle Meeting 6:00 pm		Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser 5-7 pm	
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
Contemporary Sing, 2 pm	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		Family Night Potluck, 6 pm		ABC-MI Annual Gathering 5-9 pm Howell, MI	ABC-MI Annual Gathering 8:30am-4pm Howell, MI
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
Pastor Appreciation Sunday & Potluck, Women's Sunday	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm					Fall Party 5-7 pm
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>11/1</b>	<b>11/2</b>	<b>11/3</b>	<b>11/4</b>	<b>11/5</b>
Fellowship Sunday & Bake Sale	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		Information for November Messenger due by noon			



## Holiday Plants \$15— \$20

A Holiday staple to bring cheer to any room. Locally Grown.



**\$17 Red Poinsettia**

**\$17 Cream Poinsettia**

**\$20 Chameleon Poinsettia**

**\$20 Star Amaryllis Bulb**

**\$15 Red Christmas Cactus**



### Marshall FFA Holiday Plant Sale

If you would like to purchase any of the above holiday plants to support the Marshall FFA program, please let Joy Sommers know (269-420-0614). The sale ends Oct. 18th. Plants will arrive in early December.

### **A PASTOR'S HEART**

A pastor's heart is **P**rotective and guards her flock from Satan's snares.

A pastor's heart is **A**ttentive and seeks to know her people's cares.

A pastor's heart is **S**acrificial and for her sheep will give its all.

A pastor's heart is **T**ender and listens to the Spirit's call.

A pastor's heart is **O**bedient and heeds the Master's commands.

A pastor's heart is **R**eflective and considers she is but human.

Deanna Malawy  
Okawville, Illinois, USA

Have you ever walked in our Pastor's shoes,  
And gone where her feet have trod? Have  
you ever thought of what she means to us,  
And on your knees, given thanks to God?  
Have you ever told her thank you, For being  
there, when times are tough, For comforting  
words and fervent prayers When trials come  
and the storms of life are rough?  
She answers our calls in the middle of the  
night And tells us not to worry, for she will be  
there. She gives up her comfort of quiet rest  
And comes with prayers of comfort to share.  
Have you ever thought to say thank you Pas-  
tor, For preaching God's word to help us un-  
derstand, For all the times she has asked for  
things That will lend us a helping hand?  
When you pray, put her at the top of the list  
And ask the Lord to surround her with loving  
care, To give her strength and walk with her,  
To help her with the burdens that she must  
bear.  
Have you ever walked in our Pastor's shoes,  
And gone where her feet have trod? Have  
you ever thought of what she means to us,  
And on your knees, given thanks to God?

# PASTORS ORDINATION

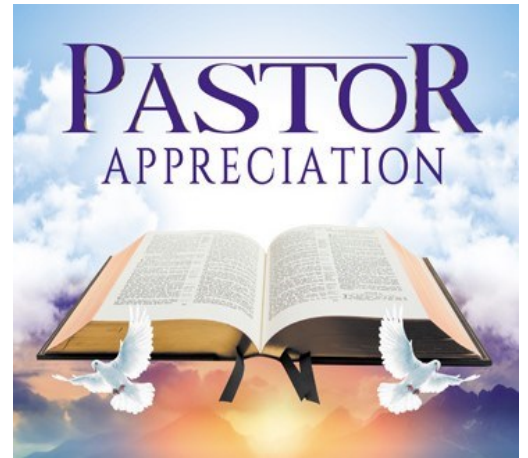
## **Pastor Mary's Ordination Service** **Sunday, October 9, 2022, 11 am**

Second Missionary Baptist Church  
485 Washington Ave N  
Battle Creek, Michigan

Attendees must wear a face mask.

**Join us on Sunday, October 23, 2022**  
**as we celebrate Pastor Mary**  
**for Pastor Appreciation Sunday**

We will have a potluck  
following the worship service!



### **We will be celebrating Women's Sunday on October 23rd.**

If you would like to participate in the service, please let Dawn Frey know. The ladies of the church will be doing all aspects of the service. We would like special music too. Martha Circle will be planning the worship service and giving Pastor Mary the day off since it is also Pastor Appreciation Sunday!

### **Pastor's Prayer**

Dear Lord, bless our Pastor as she delivers and preaches Your Holy Word; Lift her spirit as she embraces Your divine call on her life; Guide her as she ministers to Your flock and walks in Your wisdom; Teach her the inner meanings of Holy Scripture through divine revelation; Reward her works as she daily serves You and fulfills the purpose for which she was created. In Jesus' Name, amen.



**Ceresco Baptist Church - Administrative Council**  
**MINUTES - September 10, 2022**  
**Quarterly & Annual Meetings**

**Present:** Pastor Mary, Gretchen, Linda, Joanne, Sharon, Mary, Roger/Joy, Dawn, Sarah.

**Devotion** – Roger Sommers – “A Prayer for Trusting God in a Broken World”

Prayer by Pastor Mary

**Financial Secretary** - Dawn Frey

General Fund Receipts

June 2021 - August 2021: June 2022 - August 2022:

\$18,809.00

\$ 20,840.50

**Treasurer's Report** - Mary Ivey

Reports distributed.

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor Mary

2022 Planning Session

The planning session went well. We have a lot of great ideas. I recommend that we start with:

- Children's Ministry
- Seniors' Ministry
- Continue Outreach Efforts:
  - o Holidays
  - o Spring Out-Reach
  - o Vacation Bible School
  - o Back-to-School

American Baptist's Annual Gathering - October 21 (5-9 pm) & October 22 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm). First in-person event since 2020 so churches have been asked to bring as much of their leadership to the meeting as possible. \$35/person to attend. Friday night session not required but would be good for us to go to the Saturday session.

Location: Chilson Hills Church, 4440 Brighton Road, Howell, MI 48843

Early registration ends: **9/16**; Final registration: 10/2

Lodging: Wingate Hotel, Brighton, MI

Guest Speaker: Ruth Haley Barton

Advertising Church Services - currently in the Battle Creek Shopper, maybe add Men's Breakfast to calendar of events in Shopper/Advisor.

**Worship Ministry Team** – Mary Ivey:

1. Joanne Henley selecting hymns for September and October
2. Sept 11 - Grandparents Day observance.
3. October 2 - World Communion Day
4. October 9 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday
5. Future plans:
  - Adult choir for Thanksgiving Sunday – looking for volunteers to sing!
  - December 18 Christmas musical invite other churches to participate – similar to West Area Palm Sunday event – invite churches from the West Area/ and more.
  - December 25 special Christmas Worship Service
6. Offering plates to remain at the door.
7. Hope for special music or devotional/reading, sharing.
8. Contemporary Sing resumes at 2 pm on Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. Date/time will fluctuate to make sure Kelcie Collins can attend. Would like to have more people participate. Should add to local calendars/ invite FBC Marshall Youth to attend.

### **Property Management Ministry Team - Roger**

Sink/drainage problem in upstairs bathrooms has been resolved.

Replace glass in fellowship hall door.

Put light bulbs back in the fixture by the fellowship hall door.

See if the Scouts will clean up the poison ivy in the overflow lot sign/flower box.

West wall of the church needs to be painted, as paint is peeling.

Need to Power Wash the front of the church.

Church sign needs to be cleaned – Mary has asked a couple of people to help her get it done.

### **Deacon Ministry Team - Gretchen King**

Paying for the advertising in the Battle Creek Shopper, will be ongoing.

Honoring Grandparents tomorrow (providing the flowers to hand out).

Next Deacon Fund Offering will be October 2, 2022.

Meet quarterly with Pastor Mary, as well as each Sunday morning before worship.

If any help is needed, let the Deacons know if they can help.

### **Educational Ministry Team – Dawn Frey**

1. Last meeting was July 8th finalizing VBS day "Jonah and the Whale" which was held on July 19th at 10:30. There was singing, a play, crafts, pizza, ice cream floats, water balloon toss. Everyone had a good time. Thank you to everyone who helped out.
2. Next meeting will be September 23rd at 10:00 with discussion on our Fall Harvest Party, looking at Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>.. We will also be discussing our children's Christmas Bags.
3. Joy will be attending an Operation Christmas Child Workshop this afternoon.

### **MACS/CBC - Joy/Mary**

A web page is being set up-Christmas: Food and Gift Drive (replacing Adopt A Family) Nov. 14 and Nov. 15th. Basket week Dec. 11-Dec.15. Will need volunteers – it really is fun the day they pack the baskets.

### **Boy Scouts: Dawn Frey**

1. Boy Scouts are planning on resuming Monday September 12th. Seth said they have a very small group, about 5 boys and a couple of adults. They will use the back door; they will clean up before they leave.

### **New Business/Open Items:**

1. Need to check the thermostat programming, and make sure lights are turned off when we leave.

Next quarterly meeting is Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

#### **Budget Committee – Mary Ivey**

Proposed Budget for 2023, discussed line items that were increased.

Rev. Johnson asked Pastor Mary to be a delegate to the Biennial Summit of American Baptist Churches, to be held in Puerto Rico in 2023. Estimated cost is \$1,800.00

#### **Nominating Committee**

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2023

#### **Constitution Change**

Proposal to remove the verbiage “shall not serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office” from Article VI, Sections 2.1 and 2.2.

We did not have a quorum of 12 to vote on the items of the annual meeting, so a future date will be determined.

## Martha Circle Minutes, September 14, 2022. Hostess: Gretchen King

PRESENT: Gretchen King, Sharon Hadley, Sarah and Kelcie Collins, Joy Sommers, Joanne Henley, Darlene and Veronica Anthony, Pastor Mary, Dawn Frey, Donna Ruthruff

DEVOTIONS: Given by Gretchen: "Mornings with Jesus". Taken from Luke 14. Jesus comes first in every aspect of our lives. His "will" above all else.

SECRETARY: Given by Sharon: Highlights of last month's meeting were given and approved.

TREASURER: Given by Joy. New checks were ordered through Huntington @\$58.87. Will try to find a cheaper place to order next time. Advertisement cost for Treasure Sale: Battle Creek Shopper \$11.80. Marshall Adviser \$20.60. August bake sale brought in \$18.56. Check for \$10 sent to Safe Place which was a donation from Marjorie Cole. Deposit for Treasure Sale was \$1488.40 bringing available balance to \$1696.01.

MISSIONS: Given by Sharon in Marcy's absence. No new communication for Jon and Amanda Good and Dr. Anita and Rick Gutierrez. Wayne and Katherine Niles in Democratic Republic of the Congo working to train Congolese doctors and nurses to handle health care clinics. Samaritan's Purse continuing to provide disaster relief to Kentucky from tornadoes and flooding.

SUNSHINE: Given by Sarah: Cards sent to Joyce Carey, Sally Slayton, Gretchen King, Christy Phelps, Bob and Deb Beltz, and Rick Reeves for furnishing lunch for the girls at the Treasure Sale.

OLD BUSINESS: Joy attended the workshop for Samaritan's Purse/**Operation Christmas Child** at Calvary Baptist and received 30 boxes free for attending and also 30 wooden cars free for the boxes for the younger ones. Boxes are to be delivered to Calvary Baptist by November 14. A list of acceptable items will be available to avoid repetition of items. Most popular item seems to be soccer ball (deflated) with mini air pump. Each box must have \$10 enclosed to cover shipping. Martha Circle will cover cost of the designated 30.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussed ideas for the use of the Treasure Sale money. The first 10% of the \$1488 to be given to the Deacon fund. (\$148.84) Circle will pay for window replacement for back door in Fellowship room. A motion was made by Joanne and seconded by Darlene. Sarah presented the idea of having a spaghetti supper of which she offered to chair. Date: Friday, October 14. Time: 5:00 to 7:00. Cost: adult \$7 - Kids \$5 (4 years to 12years). Three years and under are free. Meal: spaghetti w/meatballs, salad, garlic toast, and drinks. Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser is to help purchase items for the **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**.

Discussion was made to send military boys a care package of treats and needs.

Martha Circle will cover cost for anyone that would like to attend the West Area gathering in Howell, MI. Cost: \$35 - Date: October 21 and 22. Friday 5-9 and Saturday 8:30 to 4:00.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Given by Dawn: Based on Luke 10: 38-42 "Listening". Jesus visits the home of Mary and Martha. One wants to listen to Jesus and the other wants to get the work done.

COLLECTIONS: Love gift \$25.26. Devotions \$20.75  
Closed in prayer by Dawn and then headed to the refreshments.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 12. Hostess: Sharon Hadley



**"Country Church" by Joanne Henley**

God has blessed our little country church,  
With many who are willing to  
do the work.  
And yet, it's really a labor of love  
Giving Him the glory  
( Who comes from above)  
I love my little country church,  
It's nothing fancy, but preaches His word.  
We're all just one big family,  
And there's no other church  
where I'd rather be.

**Congratulations,  
Reginald Matthews, Jr!**



**Reginald Matthews**

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I am extremely excited and thankful for being recognized as a 2022 Power 100 Honoree - Lawyers Elevated to Success by NBA Young Lawyers Division! I am also honored to be amongst a list of individuals who are also held in high regard within the legal community!



**Annual Fall Party!**

**Saturday, Oct. 29th, 5-7 pm**

Hot dog roast, chili,

Apple cider, punch, coffee,

Cookies, brownies, & doughnuts

Games! Pinata!

**This is always FUN TIME!!!**

We are asking for donations of cookies, brownies, doughnuts, candy (for pinata), and punch. If donating items, please have them to the church by Sun., Oct. 23rd.

~ Educational Ministry Team

**Ceresco Baptist Church**

**Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews**

**PO Box 35**

**Ceresco, Michigan 49033-0035**

**Pastor: 313-301-3301**

**Church: 269-964-9669**



**Ceresco Baptist Church**  
230 C Drive North  
Ceresco MI 49033  
Use Rear Entrance

## **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser!**

Martha Circle of Ceresco Baptist Church  
is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on  
**Friday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 pm.**

Proceeds go to packing shoeboxes for the  
Annual **Operation Christmas Child** project.

Meal: Spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, salad,  
garlic bread, water, coffee, punch.

Pricing: Adults (13+) \$7.00

Youth (4-12) \$5.00

Children 3 years and under eat for free.