

The Ceresco Messenger

August 2024

CERESCO BAPTIST CHURCH BRIEF HISTORY & ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Ceresco Baptist Church was organized in 1854, the first religious society in the community. Evert's History of Calhoun County (1877) says that twenty-two members of the first Baptist Church of Marshall, who lived in Ceresco, asked for letters so they could establish a Church in their own community. (II 309). I 71). Five miles was a long way to get to church when one had to walk, or go on horseback or by carriage.

Gardner's history (II) says that the Ceresco members asked for letters in May 1854, but the Ceresco history by Mrs. F. S. Alexander reads: "In August 1854 a small company met in the woods just south of the Kalamazoo River to organize the Baptist Church of Ceresco.

The 75th Anniversary was in the nature of a homecoming, Marshall and Battle Creek sending the largest number of visitors. After the church service, a cooperative dinner was served in Ceresco Community Hall. (Rev. Mr. Lobig was the prime mover in organizing the Community Club.) For the program Mrs. F. J. Lester read the Church History; greetings were read; much music rendered and the day was a blessing.

The Church Centennial was observed on Sunday, September 19, 1954, it also marked the dedication of a new \$5,000 addition. Again a cooperative dinner was a featured event. It was followed by an outdoor pageant portraying the history of the Church. A cast of 100 persons acted under the direction of the pastor, Rev. Eugene Ballard.

The 130th Anniversary Celebration was held June 10, 1984. There was colonial worship at 9:45 am, and at 12:30 pm was a banquet and program.

After 18 months of planning by the Anniversary Committee, the 150th Anniversary Celebration was held August 8 2004. The worship service was held in the grass on the east side of the church. There was a picnic at noon, with food that was similar to what would have been served in 1854: cold fried chicken, corn on the cob and fruit pies. Kids enjoyed games like bobbing for apples, hopping through a sack race, and running a three-legged race. Several of the people in attendance dressed up in 1854-style clothing. Pastor Richard Schlee's attire included a fancy shirt, black bow-tie, long coat, and a tall hat.

The 160th Anniversary Celebration was held August 17, 2014. Following the morning worship was a wonderful meal: Roger Sommers roasted a hog, and Martha Circle provided most of the other food. We had special music by the Buttery Group from Detroit, and plenty of fun and games for the kids.

Now it's 2024, and we are celebrating our 170th Anniversary! Please join us on Saturday, Aug. 3rd for a potluck picnic as well as fun and games for everyone. Then on Sunday we will start our worship service at 9:30 am. Rev. Brian D. Johnson, Regional Executive Minister, American Baptist Churches of Michigan will provide a special sermon. There will be special music. First Baptist Church of Marshall will be joining in our celebration instead of having their regular Sunday service. We will have an Ice Cream Potluck following the worship service.

PLEASE JOIN MACS IN COLLECTING BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR OUR LOCAL MARSHALL AREA STUDENTS



**WE ARE COLLECTING NEW
BACKPACKS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES
FOR GRADES K THRU 12**

**- COLLECTION PERIOD -
Through August 7, 2024**

**- DROP-OFF LOCATION -
Highpoint Community Bank
124 W. Michigan Ave. Marshall, MI**



**BE SURE TO SEE OUR WISH
LIST ON AMAZON**



**Questions?
Call (269) 781-2954**

If you prefer, a monetary donation can also be mailed to MACS, Inc., PO Box 611, Marshall, MI 49068

Help us get all the students in the **Marshall School District, Mar Lee School, and Marshall Academy** off to a great start this school year by donating new backpacks and other needed school supplies:

Elementary School

2-pocket folders, plastic // colored pencils
dry erase markers // crayons-24 count
composition notebooks, wide ruled
Erasers // glue sticks // highlighters // tissues
notebook paper, wide lined // pencil boxes
spiral notebooks, wide ruled // markers
Pencils // pens // scissors // water bottles
disinfecting wipes // hand sanitizers
Clorox wipes // headphones, over-ear

Middle School and High School Students

2-pocket folders, plastic // colored pencils
3-ring binders // 5-tab binder dividers
index cards, 3"x5" // notebook paper, college ruled
composition notebooks // dry erase markers
Markers // pencil pouch // pencils
spiral notebooks // tab dividers
Scissors // disinfecting wipes // highlighters
Erasers // pens // rulers
hand sanitizers // headphones

Ceresco Baptist Church - Administrative Council
MINUTES - June 8, 2024 Quarterly Meeting

Devotion – Roger Sommers – opened with prayer, and read “Pruning for Growth”

Clerk’s Report – Joy Sommers - 2023 Annual Reports – revised last page is available for those that took copies at March meeting.

Treasurer’s Report - Mary Ivey - Reports were distributed and discussed.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Mary - Zoom Bible Study – going good. Anyone can watch the videos on our website: cerescobaptist.org – go over to Zoom Bible Study, and scrolling to the lesson you want to watch.

Educational Ministry Team – Veronica Anthony - Graduation Sunday is June 9th, CBC 170th Anniversary Celebration is Aug 3-4th: Will be on Saturday 11:30 am to 2:30 pm (with a meal) and continue with Sunday service; Purchasing some meat from St Samuel’s, others bring a passing dish for Saturday meal; Ice Cream Social after the Sunday worship service; Sunday service will have a guest pastor from ABC-MI; Showcase past events: have poster boards/pictures; Booklet: previous pastors, current pastor, additional history since last book, memory of; Games for small kids and big kids; Sing-a-long

Worship Ministry Team – Mary Ivey: Hymn selection for June is Veronica; June 9 – Graduation Sunday – EMT will do gifts and tribute; June 16 – Father’s Day – Tribute: Joy will get a tribute, Gifts: Veronica & Joy.. Church Website – decided we will take down audio of worship service after one month, and starting with April, only upload video of sermon (like FB/YT), and will take down all previous videos. Will be doing Pick-a-Hymn in July & August. Next meeting June 12, 2024, 5:30 pm.

Property Management Ministry Team - Bob Beltz: Pastor’s office – going to redo the ceiling; Parsonage fix-up still in progress; Threshold into fellowship hall is broken – needs to be fixed. Poison ivy returned to over-flow parking lot sign. Need to order pulpit mike and get it installed (Roger). Church projector – change bulb/recenter. Replace bulbs in track lighting. Motion by Mary Ivey, seconded by Joy, that we have Bob Belt purchase a 16’ step ladder (funds from Souder Fund) so that lighting, etc in the sanctuary can be fixed when needed. Motion passed.

Deacon Ministry Team – Roger Sommers: Doing well, happy to have so many deacons! Outreach/communication in the community is good. Deacons can help with financial assistance if needed.

MACS/CBC - Joy Sommers: May 11th was Stamp Out Hunger food drive – very successful. July 26th – Hacks for MACS Golf Outing at the Medalist. Annual Marshall Teacher's Association fundraiser for MACS. Backpacks & School Supplies – week of Aug. 5th at Highpoint Community Bank – will need help. Meetings resume on September 5th.

New Business/Open Items:

Thank you to Deb Beltz for all her work with the flowers and decorations around the church.

Open item – sale of the lot that goes to the river – are we sure we want to do this? Need to think about what our plan for our property is for the future.

We will have a planning meeting for a family night potluck or a Fellowship Sunday of what our church goals are, date to be determined.

Next quarterly meeting is Saturday, September 14th at 9 am. Motion by Mary Ivey, seconded by Joanne Henley to adjourn the meeting, 10:11 am.

UPDATE - Planning Meetings for our Church Goals and Future Plans are on Fellowship Sundays, starting June 30, 2024. Meet for an hour to discuss. No Sunday School on Fellowship Sundays for now.

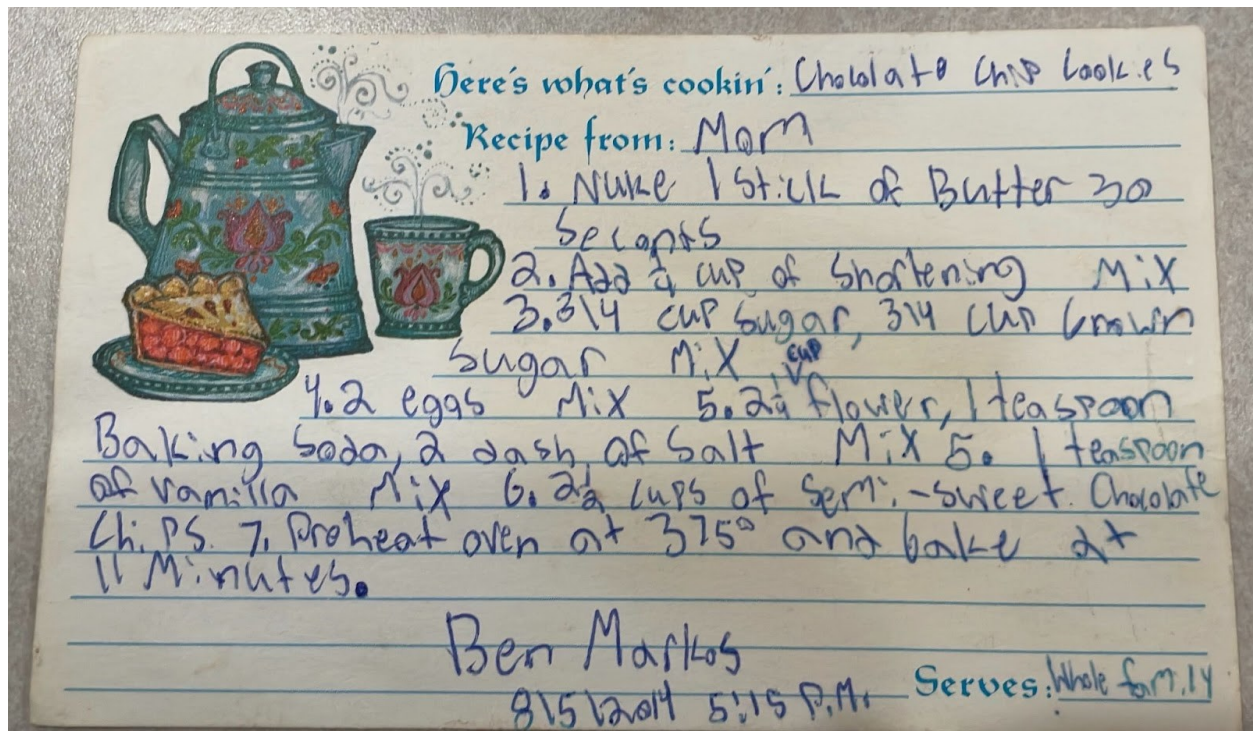
If you are searching for that perfect recipe for a happy life, here it is:

Recipe for Life, Life Everlasting

1. 1 Dunk in the water of life = baptism
2. 1 Repent and turn to a life of salvation (this can be repeated)
3. 1 Heart of a disciple
4. 1 Dose of bountiful praying (keep pouring)
5. 1 pinch (size of a mustard seed) of faith

Mix this together - just until mixed. No need to overmix except for number 4. Yes, this is ALL it takes. We are saved by grace and grace alone. You may ask what else you can add to this recipe? Surround yourself with Christian friends, ATTEND church and READ your Bible.

Here is a recipe from Ben Markos, 10 years ago (age 10)



Important Dates for August

170th Church Anniversary Celebration Saturday Aug 3 with a picnic luncheon, & Sunday Aug 4 (service starts at 9:30 am!) with a special worship service, followed by an Ice Cream Social.

We are joining with Second Missionary Baptist Church for **Vacation Bible School**, Aug. 5-9, 4-7 pm each night - open to ALL ages!

Annual Church Treasure Sale is Saturday, Aug. 17th, 9 am to 3 pm.

John & Kate Music will join us in music & fellowship on August 25th.



MARTHA CIRCLE MINUTES

July 10, 2024 - Hostess: Ruth. Eight members were present

Devotions: Taken from a book by Joni Erickson. Begin your prayers by fixing your heart on praising God.

Collections: Devotions: \$17.00. Love: \$14.00

Secretary: Picnic in June with 15 in attendance

Treasurer/Sunshine/Missions: No reports

Old Business: Mother and Daughter luncheon to be addressed as "Ladies Luncheon" to encourage more to participate.

New Business: It would be appreciated to have donations for the Treasure Sale by August 14. Items purchased will be by donation. Dawn will be the money collector. Sarah and Joy have volunteered to haul away the left over items.

Next meeting: August 14, 2024 - Veronica Anthony hostess

Aug 1 Sharon Hadley
 Aug 2 C.L. Miller/Wilkins
 Aug 5 Christy Phelps
 Aug 10 Kaleb Collins
 Aug 10 Zachary M Hamilton
 Aug 10 Katherine Skinner
 Aug 11 Louis Jesda Sophekatra #2
 Aug 12 Veronica Anthony
 Aug 13 Allison Biljum
 Aug 16 Joy Sommers
 Aug 17 Mortimer Hamaker
 Aug 17 Gideon Hamaker
 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



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sep 2 Ted Finch
 Sep 5 Ken MacInnis
 Sep 8 Matthew Ivey
 Sep 10 Sierra Phelps
 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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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
 Sep 30 Steve & Becky Wilkins

Children's Time Sign-Up

8/4/2024 - Sommers
 8/11/2024 - OPEN
 8/18/2024 - Sommers
 8/25/2024 - OPEN

Flower Sign-Up

8/4/2024 - Matthews
 8/11/2024 - Sommers
 8/18/2024 - OPEN
 8/25/2024 - OPEN

August 2024

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Saturday
				1	2	3 Men's Break- fast 8 am ?
"Holy Week" Camping at Quality Campgrounds, 5775 US Highway 27 South						Church Anniversary Potluck 11:30 am
4 CommunionSunday	5	6	7 Bible Study 10 am	8 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	9	10
9:30 AM Wor- ship for 170th Anniversary Celebration! Ice Cream Social after.	Vacation Bible School - Second Missionary Baptist Church					
11	12	13	14 Martha Circle Meeting 6 pm	15 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	16	17 CHURCH TREASURE SALE 9a-3p
Calhoun County Fair Week						
18 Back to School week!	19	20	21	22 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	23	24
25 John & Kate Denner Music Fellowship Sunday & Bake Sale	26	27	28 Information for September Messenger due at Noon	29 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	30	31

Ceresco Baptist Church

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Ceresco, MI 49033

(269) 964-9669

www.cerescobaptist.org

Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews

mary.fairmatthews@yahoo.com

(313) 303-3301



ANNUAL TREASURE SALE: Saturday, August 17, 9-3

The annual treasure sale, hosted by the Martha Circle, is this month! It has always been supported by the church family and friends with an abundance of “unwanted” items for some and “wanted” items for others. With the proceeds from the sales, we are able to provide an outreach of missions within the church and beyond.

With the 170th Anniversary Celebration on August 3rd & 4th, small donations can be put in the storage room.

Please save large donations until after that Sunday. **We would like to have all item donations by August 14th** so we can get the sale setup. Thank you!

Questions? Call Sharon Hadley or Dawn Frey