

The Ceresco Messenger

October 2024

Deck of Cards

Song by Tex Ritter

During the North African campaign, A group of soldier boys had been on a long hike. They came to a town called Cassino. The next day, being, Sunday, some of the boys went to church, and after the Chaplin had read the prayer, the text was taken up next.

Those of the boys who had a prayer books took them out, But, this one boy only had a deck of cards, And so he spread them out. The Sargent saw the cards and said "soldier, put away those cards."

After the services were over, the boy was taken prisoner and brought before the Provost Marshall. The Marshall said "Sargent, why have you brought this man here?" "for playing cards in church Sir." "And what have you to say for yourself son?" "much sir", replied the soldier. The Marshall said, "I hope so, because if not, I shall punish you more than any man was ever punished."

The soldier boy said "Sir, I have been on a long March for six days, I have neither Bible nor prayer book, but I hope to satisfy you, Sir, " with the purity of my intentions." And with that the boy begin his story.

"You see Sir, when I look at the ace in my deck of cards, it reminds me that there is but one God, And the deuce, tells me that Bible is divided into two parts, the old and the New Testament. When I see the Three, I think of Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. And when I look at the four, I think of four evangelists who preached the gospel. There were Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. And when I see the five, it reminds me of the five wise virgins, who trimmed their lamp, There were ten of them, Five were wise and were saved, five were foolish and were shut out. When I look at the six, I know that in six days, God made this great heaven and earth. And the seven, tells me that on the seventh day, He rested from his great work, And called it holy. And when I see the eight, I think of the eight righteous people God saved when He destroyed this earth. There was Noah, his wife their three sons and their wives. And when I see the nine, I think of the lepers our Savior cleansed, And nine of the ten, didn't even thank Him. And of course when I see the ten, I always remember the ten commandments, The ten commandments that God handed down to Moses on a tablets of stone. When I see the King Sir, I know there is but one King of heaven. God the Almighty. And when I see the Queen, I think of the blessed virgin Mary, The Queen of heaven, And the jack of knaves is the devil.

When I count the spots in a deck of cards, I find 365, the number of days in a year. There are 52 cards, the number of weeks in a year. There are thirteen tricks, the number of weeks in a quarter. There a four suits, the number of weeks in a month. And twelve picture cards, the number of months in a year. So you see Sir, my deck of cards servers me not only as a Bible or almanac, but also a prayer book .

Songwriters: T. Texas Tyler, CCLI# 1646395

MARTHA CIRCLE MINUTES

September 11, 2024 - Hostess Darlene Anthony

Present: Dawn Frey, Sharon Hadley, Jenny Markos, Sarah Collins, Linda Chisolm, Ruth St. John, Joy Sommers, Pastor Mary, Darlene Anthony, Veronica Anthony, Vi Halder, and Marcy Bonney

Devotions: Given by Darlene: Taken from "My Time With God". Encouraging us to keep a humble mind while getting to know someone. Everybody has a story.

Collections: Love - \$16.50. Devotions \$17.50

Secretary: Given by Sharon: A quick report from last meeting.

Treasurer: Given by Joy: Check sent to Isiah House for donations given at April through August bake sale. \$221.00. Collection for July and August "Love Gift" total \$27.81. Total donations from "Treasure Sale" \$650. Balance at this time: \$2,940.26.

Sunshine: Given by Sarah: (3) cards were sent out last month and (5) to be sent out this month.

Missions: Given by Marcy: International Ministry projects: Rural India: Providing care and training for children suffering from malnutrition and other preventable diseases. Training leaders to minister tribal children. Thailand: Christian Center for the development of people with disabilities. Amanda and Jon Good: Settling in and praying that visa and residency process goes smoothly.

Old Business: Motion made by Sharon to tithe 10% of the "Treasure Sale" income to Deacons Fund (\$65) and 2nd by Dawn. Left over items were delivered by Joy to three different locations: Charitable Union, Salvation Army, and There's Enough. As for clothing next year, we will just take in children's clothing. Spaghetti Supper: Items needed were discussed. This year we will have cakes for desert and those will be made at the October meeting using the church oven. Flyers have been made and are available for distribution. Pastor Mary will contact other churches about the event.

New Business: We will again have the Craft Show next year, May 3, 2025, 9am-3pm, which is the week before Mother's Day. Dawn will send out emails to the previous vendors and let them know.

Women's Sunday: October 20. We will be planning that event and fill in the gaps. Jenny Markos will do the sermon.

World Mission Offering: Ruth made a motion to give \$25 and 2nd by Joy.

Martha Circle Christmas party: We will celebrate at our December 3 meeting and all are encouraged to bring a guest and all bring a "white elephant" gift.

The meeting was adjourned and time for conversation and snacks.

Next meeting: October 9 and we will meet at 5:00 to bake the cakes for the spaghetti super. Hostess: Sharon

In September we honored those who had new grandchildren since last September:

Emeric Lee Farmer, Born February 5, 2024. Parents: Alex & Olivia Farmer, Grandparents: Brian/Barbara Gary, Randy & Marjorie Farmer, **Great Grandmother: Joanne Henley**

Piper Louise Douglas, Born August 21, 2024. Parents: Christopher & Jennifer Douglas, Grandmothers: Robin Johnston & Elicia Douglas, **Great Grandmother: Joanne Henley**

Maeley Rumduol Sophekatra, Born July 10, 2024. Parents: Angela Sommers & Michael Meng, Grandparents: Roger & Joy Sommers, Mary Murphy, Great Grandmother: Jean King

Hudson Thomas Turley Born Aug. 14, 2024. Parents: Emma & Branson Turley, Grandparents: Craig & Tammy Hoppe, **Great Grandmother: Barb Hoppe**



FALL

Word Scramble



LEPAPS

NOCRA

QUSASH

REINOBF

FLAE

UNMTUA

OTOBFLFAL

ESRET

DEIHYAR

STERHAV

KNPIUPM

NOCR

OALWHLNE

RAOHCDR



Retirement from IM on the Horizon August 11, 2024

Dear friends from Ceresco Baptist Church,

As we approach our retirement with International Ministries, 'how time flies' seems an appropriate expression. In fact, we've entered warp speed with September 30th visible on the very near horizon. After that date we will no longer be in need of the financial support (targeted giving for salary) that you have so generously given.

Our appointment as missionaries with International Ministries in March of 1984 began four decades of ministry in Latin America and the Caribbean. We could not be more thankful for International Ministries over all these years, a time, of course, that has witnessed many organizational adaptations, necessitated by the changing times in which we have lived. Any detrimental effects of these changes though have been countered by a sure sense of God's call and one important constant in our lives as cross-cultural witnesses, that being the support of partners who have donated to our needs and held us up in prayer for 40 years now.

These past 15 months have included deputation trips around the country and touching base personally with more than 100 of our supporting churches. What a blessing that has been! At the same time we have continued in ministry: Patti transitioning out of her special education ministry in Tijuana and Tim continuing his teaching throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

The special education program that Patti began in Tijuana twenty years ago will continue under leadership of trained special education teachers from Tijuana. We encourage you to prayerfully consider continuation of your support of the Didaqué School and its outreach to the most needy children of Tijuana. Donations for scholarships, uniforms/books and hot meals will still be available through the IM website under 'Projects'.

And Tim, even in retirement, will still be associated with IM as he continues his teaching through IM and Palmer Seminary's Latino/a Masters in Theological Studies program, a fully accredited Master's degree in Spanish that has begun 26 groups in Latin America and the Caribbean. This summer we celebrate a remarkable achievement — 215 graduates over the last six years! IM provides scholarships to all International Students in the program and for the program to continue, scholarship funds are essential. Donations can be made to 'Latin America — MTS Scholarships' under 'Projects' on the IM website. This is a high priority need and we invite you to donate so that women and men called to leadership in the church throughout the Americas might continue to be equipped through this contextualized course of study.

In grateful appreciation of our partnership together over these years, ~ Patti and Tim Long

If you have not seen our 'thank-you' retirement video, please check it out at the following website: <https://vimeo.com/860262749?share=copy>

Ceresco Baptist Church - Administrative Council
Minutes of Quarterly Meeting - September 14, 2024

Devotion – Roger Sommers – “A Prayer to Be An Authentic Christian in the World Full of Influencers” by Chelsey DeMatteis. Scripture: Matthew 5:8.

Treasurer's Report - Mary Ivey [absent] Reports were handed out.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Mary: Virtual Bible Study - Continuing Virtual Bible Study via Zoom, Topic: Revelation, The Ultimate Hope In Christ. Taking suggestions for 2025 theme; American Baptist 2024 Annual Gathering - October 11 – 12 at Falam Baptist Church, Battle Creek. Cost \$35.00. Theme: It's Time for a “Renewed Church”, Speaker - Rev. Dr. Eliseo Mejia. We send two delegates. Mary Ivey has volunteered, need one more person to attend; Planning Sessions – some of the suggestions: Quarterly Community Night - repurpose Family Nights in 2025, Testimony Time – 5th Sunday, Community Post-cards/Survey – ask if they participate in a nearby church, what are they looking for in a church, what does the Ceresco community need, and invite to Community Night; Bi-Vocational Pastors As Faith Based Entrepreneurs / ABC-Michigan \$150 to participate. Designed for bi-vocational pastors of small churches, 7-9 pm on Tuesdays via zoom. Curriculum: 4 Leadership Courses –Strengths Deployment Inventory, 4 Entrepreneurship Courses – how to connect with the community, 4 Theology Courses, A couple of workshops on financial management. Upcoming: Saturday, October 19: community and urban development. Opportunity to participate in a few Saturday morning workshops; specifically designed survey; April/May Meeting – let Pastor know if you want to attend a Saturday Zoom.

Educational Ministry Team – Veronica Anthony: CBC 170th Anniversary Celebration went well, VBS w/ Second Missionary Baptist Church was Aug. 5-9, Starting to plan the Fall and Christmas activities.

Worship Ministry Team – Joy Sommers: Hymn selection for Sept/Oct is Joy, Testimony Time – 5th Sunday of the Month in 2025, Oct. 6 – World Communion Day, Oct. 13 – Rev Owens pulpit supply, Oct 20 – Pastor Appreciation Sunday/Women's Sunday, Oct 27 – Mary Ivey will be gone. During the month of November – asking people to write down a few words about what they are thankful for, and put them in box. Pastor will draw from box, and do a Sunday Sermon based on it. Box will be available the last two Sundays of October through November. Planning to have an afternoon Christmas Music Celebration again this year. Planning meeting will be Oct. 24th at 5:30 pm

Property Management Ministry Team - Bob Beltz: Dave Hadley built nice steps from the sanctuary to the back hall way. Changed light bulbs, Greased threshold hinges to Fellowship Hall, Put new Threshold in Fellowship Hall, Replaced door stops in fellowship hall, Yard work, painted foundation blocks, Ceiling work in pastor's office – Bob & Dave, Carpeting was cleaned, Pew cushions were cleaned by Deb, Front of church power-washed & pillars painted, Reginald had the meter replaced at the church, Rick updated the parsonage, and we have people moving in soon. Deb will paint around parsonage foundation. **Deacon Ministry Team** – Roger Sommers: Everything is going well.

MACS/CBC - Joy Sommers: Monthly meetings have resumed, Handed out 135 backpacks, Food Pantry – low on jelly, ramen noodles, and ‘helper’ meals. Will be collecting Christmas items Nov. 11th & 12th; Distribution week is Dec. 8th-12th; Letters will be going out to churches; Applications will be sent out/available the first week of October.

New Business/Open Items: Parsonage is almost ready to rent. New occupants are looking at a year, as he's going to school to be a commercial pilot, so it will depend on where he gets a job. Trees in front of church – move to farther back on the property.

Annual Meeting: 2025 Proposed Budget/2025 Proposed Slate of Officers - Will do at a later date – not ready today.

Next quarterly meeting is Saturday, December 14th at 9 am.

Meeting closed in prayer at 9:46 am with prayer by Roger.



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 20 Casimir A Farmer
Oct 24 Sophia Gary
Oct 25 Molly Sommers

Nov 2 Barry Vavrina
Nov 3 Alex Goodman
Nov 5 Lora Finch
Nov 6 Devin Phelps
Nov 10 Jean King
Nov 10 Lourenco Johnston
Nov 12 Tyler Thomas
Nov 13 Brad Gary
Nov 17 Lisa Cavinder
Nov 17 Jody Babcock
Nov 26 Roger Sommers
Nov 28 Andrew Douglas

Oct 11 Dave & Sharon Hadley
Oct 21 Randy & Lisa Cavinder
Nov 12 Rick & Marcy Bonney

Children's Time Sign-Up

10/6/24 - Sommers
10/13/24 - OPEN
10/20/24 - Hadley
10/27/24 - OPEN

Flower Sign-Up

10/6/24 - OPEN
10/13/24 - OPEN
10/20/24 - OPEN
10/27/24 - OPEN



COMMUNITY COMMUNION SERVICE

SECOND MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



This collaborative Community Communion Worship Service will include participation from 12 area Battle Creek churches as part of the 175th Anniversary Celebration for Second Missionary Baptist Church, 485 N. Washington Ave.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024 | 6 PM

October 2024

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Saturday
<div>Oct 6th, 6 pm, Second Missionary Baptist Church 175th Anniversary Community Communion Service</div>		1	2 Bible Study 10 am	3 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	4	5 Men's Break- fast 8 am EMT 4:30 pm
6 Communion Sunday & Deacon Fund Offering	7	8	9 Bible Study 10 am Martha Circle Meeting 6 pm	10 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	11 Spaghetti Dinner Fund- raiser for OCC 5-7 pm ABC-MI Annual Gathering	12
13 Rev. Owens, Pulpit Supply	14	15	16 Bible Study 10 am Family Night Potluck 6 pm	17 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	18	19
20 Pastor Appreciation Sunday & Women's Sunday	21	22	23 Bible Study 10 am	24 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	25	26
27 Fellowship Sunday, Bake Sale & Plan- ning Session	28	29 Information for November Messenger due at Noon	30 Bible Study 10 am	31 Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm	11/1	11/2 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am

Ceresco Baptist Church

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www.cerescobaptist.org

Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews

mary.fairmatthews@yahoo.com

(313) 303-3301



Join us for a Spaghetti Dinner

Friday, October 11th from 5pm-7pm

Ceresco Baptist Church

230 Marshall Street, Ceresco

Price is \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 5-10,

kids ages 4 years & under eat free.

Meal includes spaghetti, breadstick, salad, beverage, and cake!

Dine In or Take-Out!

Proceeds help with expenses for

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project.

