

August 2026 Ceresco Messenger

**Following is a letter from Ed Owens, Associate Region Minister
Mission Driven Churches. If this speaks to you, please let Pastor Mary know.**

At Mission Driven Churches (ABC-MI), we believe God is not finished with our churches. We long to see congregations renewed, new churches planted, communities transformed, and more people becoming devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Our desire is to participate in what God is already doing to advance His kingdom throughout Michigan and beyond.

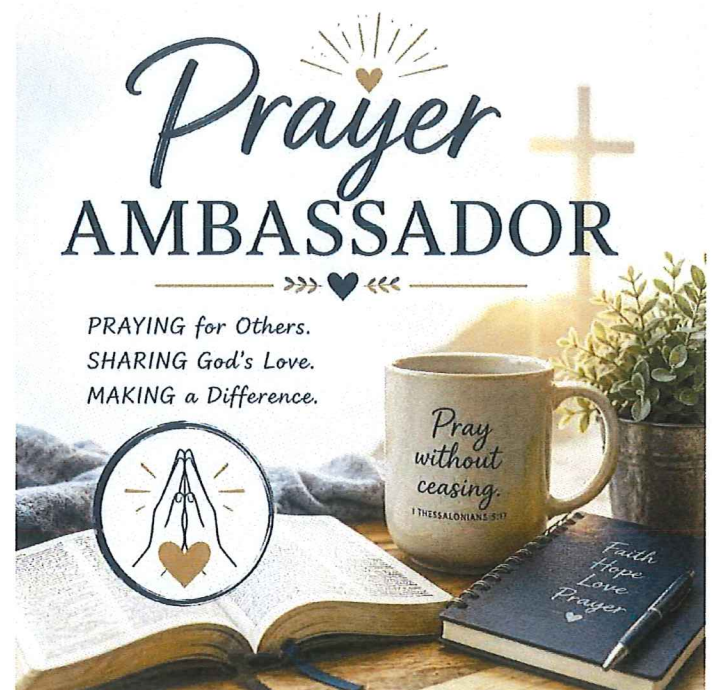
At the same time, we recognize that no strategy, program, or human effort can accomplish what only God can do. Spiritual renewal, church revitalization, and kingdom growth are ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit. If we hope to see God move in powerful ways among us, we must first become a people devoted to prayer.

To that end, Mission Driven Churches has committed itself to cultivating a growing movement of prayer across our Region. On the first Thursday evening of every month, pastors and church leaders gather online to pray for our churches, our communities, and the ministries we share together. In addition, we host an annual Prayer Summit, bringing together believers from across the Region to seek God collectively and align ourselves with His purposes. Our next Prayer Summit will be held at Bethany Baptist Church in Waterford on April 10, 2027. We would love for your church to become part of this growing prayer movement.

Would you consider identifying someone from your congregation who has a passion for prayer and a heart for God's kingdom work to serve as a Region Prayer Ambassador? This individual would help champion prayer within your church, encourage participation in Region-wide prayer initiatives, share prayer needs from your congregation, and help strengthen the spiritual partnership we share as Mission Driven Churches. Our hope is to see every church connected to a network of believers who are intentionally seeking God's guidance, provision, and power for the work He has called us to do together.

If your church is willing to participate, please send us the name and contact information of your Prayer Ambassador. We will provide ongoing communication, prayer updates, and opportunities to engage in this shared ministry.

Thank you for considering how your congregation might join us in building a stronger culture of prayer throughout our Region. We look forward to seeing what God will do as we seek Him together.



Ceresco Baptist Church Mission Statement:

The mission of our Church is:

To praise God and Worship Him through prayer and preaching and teaching of His Word;

To help people to be more Christ-like in their relationships with others;

To reach out to all humankind through fellowship, evangelism, and unconditional love;

To seek God's will according to the Scriptures.

Contact Information:

Ceresco Baptist Church 230 Marshall St, PO Box 35 Ceresco, MI 49033

(269) 964-9669 www.cerescobaptist.org

Pastor Mary Fair-Matthews mary.fairmatthews@yahoo.com (313) 303-3301



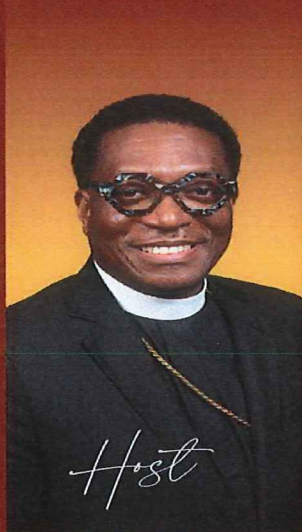
ANNUAL GATHERING

CONFERENCE 2026

Demystifying Evil: A Biblical and Personal Exploration

A weekend of truth, discernment, worship, and mission.

With special worship from 3 of our **Burmese Children's Choirs**



Host

**BISHOP
MICHAEL T. SCOTT**
Galilee Baptist Church



Speaker

DR. INGRID FARO
*Interim President of
Northern Seminary*



Guest

**PASTOR GUILLERMO
LEON MIGHTY**
Spirit and Truth Church

REGISTER NOW



OCT. 2ND & 3RD



\$35/PERSON

*Includes snacks, meal
& session materials*



GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH
*1216 N. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007*



(517) 332-3594

www.MissionDrivenChurches.org/AG2026



Martha Circle Meeting Minutes

Martha Circle Report - July 8, 2026 -**Hostess** Ruth St. John

Present: Dawn Frey, Sarah Collins, Sharon Hadley, Jennie Markos, Ruth St. John, Vi Halder, Pastor Mary, Marcy Bonney, Joy Sommers.

Devotions: Ruth shared a card that she had previously received from Gretchen King stating Proverbs 3:5&6. Trusting in the Lord with all your heart. We love to plan things, but we only see what is in front of us. Give up the steering wheel and trust God with your plans. **Collections:** Love gift: \$17.50. Devotions: \$11.00 Secretary: There was no meeting in June since the annual Martha Circle picnic was scheduled with much success. **Missions:** Jon and Amanda Good recently spent time in a house church in the Tuscany countryside. This community gathers to study scripture and pray together around tables filled with food and conversation after Bible study ends. Treasury: July beginning balance - \$3,856.59 Bake sale for June - \$121.00. **Old Business:** The "Ladies Luncheon" was well attended with approximately 30. The games (by Shannon) were lots of fun with a few teen girls helping.

The "Isaiah Run" was represented by Jennie Markos, Nathan Markos, Rick Reese, and Kathy Wright. T-shirts were given to each runner, and they were also available for purchase. It is also noted that Ceresco Baptist Church is printed at the top on the back of each shirt as being a sponsor for "Isaiah House". Discussed having a prayer retreat at the Kellogg Manor House. Plans for a (1) day retreat to be discussed as a possibility. **New Business:** Discussion was made by Pastor Mary for a volunteer to join in on a zoom prayer group. This would be on the first Thursday of each month.

Discussed the "Treasure Sale" which is to be held on Aug. 15 from 9-3. Once again, no clothes - no shoes! Donation of goods are being accepted now. Place them in the Fellowship Room against the south wall. Discussed giving a donation to Salvation Army to cover several meals for the Thanksgiving dinner they offer to those in need of a good meal that day. MACS: Ready to fill back packs for school kids and ask for donations of school supplies. Dismissed in prayer by Dawn. **August hostess:** Sharon

Annual Treasure Sale

Don't Miss it!! The Annual Treasure Sale will be on Saturday, August 15th from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Be sure to tell all your friends and neighbors to stop by for a fun time of fellowship and treasure hunting!!

All items are priced by donation.

There are flyers located in the foyer to hand out or post where you can (community building, coffee shop, etc.)



Ceresco Chronicles * FYI

Young **Carlton Anthony** has joined the Heart & Soul 4-H Club. This is his first year participating in 4-H. He will be selling chickens at the Calhoun County Fair. He will also have some craft items on display in the 4-H Youth Building. Be sure to check out the Poultry Barn and the 4-H booth between August 16-22 at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds. He is also looking for buyers or 'add-on' buyers for the Small Animal Auction at the fair on Thursday, August 20th at 5:30 pm. If you see Carlton, be sure to ask him about the chickens he's raising & selling!

In addition to Carlton, grandchildren **Allison, Lucas, Emily, Hailey, Kevin, Jack, Molly, Ellie, Stacy, & Louis** will have items on display in the Heart & Soul 4-H Booth. Some will be selling animals at the small animal auction, large animal auction, and the 4-H auction. Several will be showing their cows, goats & horses too! It's a super busy week for the Sommers Grandchildren. Their 'week' starts on Saturday August 15 when they have to get all their projects and animals to the fairgrounds. Several of these kids also work in the FFA Animal Tent throughout the week.

Submitted by "Grandma Joy"

Sandwich Artist * Nathan Markos is now working at Subway on the corner of Beadle Lake Road and B Drive North. He normally works 3pm or 4pm to close so if you are in the area or at the gas station give him a hello.

Crochet for a Cause: Kay Davis and her granddaughter **Bailey** rochet blankets and baby sweaters for Charitable Union. If you have yarn that is not being used, this would be a worthy source to pass it on to.

Volleyball Camp: Hainsley Casey and **Avery Goodman** attended a 3-day volleyball camp at Kellogg Community College. They are energetic players for their schools. **Hainsley** is going into 7th grade and Harper Creek and **Avery** will be an 8th grade student at Olivet.

MACS Backpack Program: MACS will be distributing backpacks to students attending Marshall Schools, Mar Lee School and Marshall Academy. For more information call MACS at: 269-781-2954. Distribution Days will be by appointment only August 10th – August 12th. Be ready when heading back to school!



Ceresco Baptist Church - Administrative Council
Minutes – June 13, 2026

Present: Pastor Mary, Mary Ivey, Veronica Anthony, Roger & Joy Sommers

Devotion – Joy Sommers. A Prayer for Obedience, Scripture: Deuteronomy 5:33

Treasurer's Report - Mary Ivey

1. Reports were distributed.
2. Would like to setup auto pay for Consumers, Comcast, AT&T payments, we advised Mary to proceed.

Worship Ministry Team – Mary Ivey:

1. Hymn selection for Jul/Aug is Veronica
2. Father's Day Tribute will be done by Marcy Bonney & Kathy Wright. Joy ordered the pens.
3. July 4th – do patriotic songs on both June 28th & July 5th. Will do the pledges on 7/5/26.
4. July 19th – The Helmsmen! Same service layout as last time.

Pastor's Report

1. Pastor will be gone 8/9 & 8/16
2. Annual Gathering in October
3. Will be serving another 2 year term, President of ABC-MI.

Property Management Ministry Team -

1. Bob & Deb have been doing things around the church as needed
2. Roger will try to get some crushed asphalt to fix the parking lot where there are washouts
3. Need to have A/C put in the window in the library.
- 4.

Deacon Ministry Team – Roger

1. When people ask for assistance, we will give them \$50 gift card and recommend they contact MACS for additional assistance.
2. Jennie Markos will help create a list of who/where to go for other types of assistance.

MACS/CBC - Joy Sommers

1. Backpacks and school supplies event will take place at Highpoint Bank in Marshall, as in past years. August 10-14, 2026 will be distribution days for the families who apply for assistance.
2. The next MACS Board Meeting will be Thursday, September 3, 2026.

New Business/Open Items:

1. Roger still needs to get info on the lot behind Casey's regarding selling price.

Next quarterly meeting is Saturday, Sept. 12 at 9 am. Joy & Roger will not be in attendance, niece's wedding in Saginaw.

Pastor Mary closed in prayer at 9:28 am.



Studying the lives of the 12 disciples can be very interesting and it's amazing how their character coincides with our lives today. We are called to be disciples! All that Jesus asks of us is to follow HIM with a willing heart.

Question: Which 2 disciples were called "Sons of Thunder"?

Thomas James Peter John

Question: Which disciple was the tax collector?

Simon Judas Matthew Philip

Save the Date!



SATURDAY,

OCTOBER 17, 2026

Ceresco Baptist Church

will be hosting a

Women's Prayer Retreat

at Kellogg Manor on Gull Lake.

Email for more information:

hello@cbcwomensprayerretreat.com

Invite your friends
and neighbors for a
day filled with

fun, fellowship
and prayer!



More details coming soon!



August Birthdays:

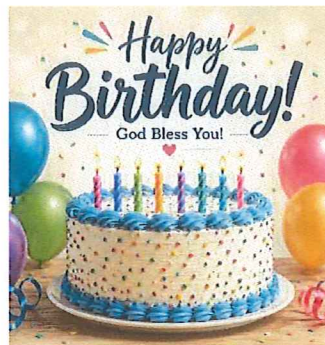
1	Sharon Hadley
2	C.L. Miller/Wilkens
5	Christy Phelps
10	Kaleb Collins
10	Zachary M Hamilton
10	Katherine Skinner
11	Louis Jesda Sophekatra
12	Veronica Anthony
13	Allison Biljum
16	Joy Sommers
17	Mortimer Hamaker
17	Gideon Hamaker
19	Reginald Matthews Sr
21	Russ Skinner
22	Jack Biljum
25	Rick Bonney
25	David Hadley
26	Whitney Ivey
28	Kristen Sommers
29	Brynlee Collette Rogers
30	Scott Boysen

August Anniversaries:

19	Reginald & Mary Matthews
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September Birthdays:

2	Ted Finch
4	Rick Reeves
8	Matthew Ivey
10	Sierra Phelps
14	Mary Ivey
17	Nathan Markos
20	Jason Ivey
20	Robin Johnston
20	Michele Babcock
22	Justin Casey
25	Kay Davis
30	Ellie Daevy Sophekatra

**September Anniversaries:**

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

**“For you created my inmost being; you
knit me together in my mother’s womb” Psalm 139:13**

August 2026

CBC Movers will resume in September! Stay tuned for more information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Men's Breakfast 8 AM
2	3	4	5 Bible Study 10 AM WMT 5:30 PM The Chosen S2E8 6 PM	6 Zoom Bible Study 6 PM	7	8
9	10	11	12 Bible Study 10 AM The Chosen S3 E1 5PM Martha Circle 6 PM	13 Zoom Bible Study 6 PM	14	15 Treasure Sale 9 AM - 3 PM
16	17	18	19 Bible Study 10 AM The Chosen S3 E2 6 PM	20 Zoom Bible Study 6 PM	21	22
23 Deacon's Quarterly Meeting	24	25	26 Bible Study 10 AM The Chosen S3 E3 6 PM	27 Zoom Bible Study 6 PM	28	29
30 Fellowship Sunday and Bake Sale	31					