

March 2013



Blaine Christian Church

VISITOR

followers
of the **CROSS**

HOLY WEEK EVENTS



PALM SUNDAY

March 24

Worship Services, 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School, 9:45 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28

Soup Supper, 6:30 pm
Service, 7:15 pm

24 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

March 28, 8:30 pm - March 29, 8:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

March 29, Noon

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

EASTER EGG HUNT

March 30, 11 am - Rain or Shine

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31

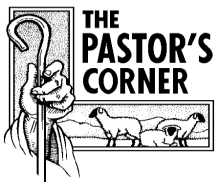
Worship Services, 8:30 & 11 am
Easter Brunch, 9:45 am

Important Upcoming Events:

- **Sundays - Worship at 8:30 & 11 am**
Sunday School, 9:45 am
Praise Team, 5:15 pm
Choir, 6 pm
- **Mondays - Boy Scout Troop 10, 7 pm**
- **Wednesdays - Lois Ministries Prayer Group, 1:30 pm**

- **March 1 - Youth & Family Event in Cadillac**
- **March 3 - Pines Worship Service, 1:30 pm**
- **March 3 - The Bible mini-series begins on the History Channel, 8 pm**
- **March 5 - Dine Out for BACN**
- **March 6 - Elder Meeting, 6:30 pm**
- **March 6 - Board Packet Deadline**
- **March 10 - Daylight Savings Time Begins**
- **March 11 - Men's Prayer & Breakfast, 8:30 am**
- **March 11 - Adult classroom, downstairs RSVD**
- **March 13 - Congregational Board Mtg, 8 pm**
- **March 15 - Special Olympics Fundraiser**
- **March 16 - Mission Dinner-Corned Beef & Cabbage, 6:30 pm**

- **March 24 - April Newsletter Deadline**
- **March 24 - Holy Week Begins**
- **March 24 & 31 - Easter Offering**
- **March 30 - Easter Egg Hunt, 11 am**
- **March 30 - Habitat for Humanity Chili Dinner, 4-7 pm**



FROM WHERE I SIT MARCH 2013

On December 9, 1914, Edison Industries was burned to the ground. The loss was devastating, over \$2 Million Dollars, not to mention all of the priceless work and notes of Thomas Alva Edison! The company was only insured for \$238. The buildings were constructed out of concrete, and it was thought at the time that they were therefore fireproof. At the age of sixty-seven, Edison watched as his entire life's work went up in flames.

By morning the firefighters had finally brought the inferno under control. And as Edison surveyed the scene, with all of his charred dreams and crushed hopes laying there before him, he said, "There is great value in disaster. All of our mistakes are burned up. Thank God we can start anew".

How often do we look at hardships as if they were some type of punishment, rather than as a vehicle to help us grow? You've all heard the analogy of a lump of coal needing extreme heat and pressure in order to become a beautiful diamond. You may have even heard that fire can either purify, and refine. Or, it can utterly destroy! Well Lent is a good time to "turn up the heat".

On the first Sunday of March the Lectionary brings us Jesus' parable of the non-productive fig tree. He tells it in response to some folks asking about a couple of tragic events. In the lesson the caregiver digs around the roots, totally upsetting the tree. And then he pours on the manure! Out of Grace, the fig tree is "disturbed" in order that it might produce fruit. It isn't coddled or babied, it is intentionally shaken! It sort of makes you think, doesn't it? Maybe the boat-rocking in my life is there to make me a better sailor? And maybe that

gale-force wind that is threatening to knock me down is really there to help my kite to soar? What do you think?

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob

QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING MARCH 13th, 8:00 PM Fellowship Hall

Board Packet information is due in the church office by Wednesday, March 6th. Please email or drop off your print ready reports to the church office.

Board Packets will be available to the congregation on Sunday, March 10th.

MONTHLY FINANCE UPDATE

2013 General Fund Budget:	\$201,278.00
Weekly General Fund Need:	3,871.00
Monthly Need:	16,773.00

Weekly GF Offering Received:

Feb 3	\$ 3,562.85
Feb 10	5,808.00
Feb 17	1,860.67
Feb 24	1,386.00
Total	\$12,707.52

As you can see from the numbers above, we fell short of our General Fund need for the month of February by \$4,065.48.

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:36

SERVING IN MARCH

8:30 a.m. Praise & Worship Service

Worship Leader - Bruce Caylen, Wendell Temple

Greeter - Wendell Temple

Usher -

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

Elders - Judy Cridler, Russ Tiller

Worship Reader - Selena Cruz

Diaconate Servers - Linda Byers, John Byers,
Mary Lou Noble, Skip Noble

Greeter - Jimmy Cruz

Usher -

Diaconate Preparer - Shirley Felt

SERMON SCHEDULE MARCH 2013

March 3 1st Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9
2nd Reading: Luke 13:1-9
Title: "Going Through the Motions"

March 10 Guest Speaker

March 17 1st Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21
2nd Reading: John 12:1-8
Title: "Prophetic Extravagance"

March 24 1st Reading: Philippians 2:5-11
Palm 2nd Reading: Luke 19:28-40
Sunday Title: "Palms, Passion, Power, & Politics"

March 31 1st Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Easter 2nd Reading: John 20:1-18
Sunday Title: "Why Are You Crying?"

MARCH

Birthdays



4 Dodie Putney,
Ron Gillison,
Hudson Mobley
7 Jenny Elliott, Mark Copher
11 Tabetha Gionet
12 John Mortenson
13 Liberty Daugherty
15 Jennifer Maat
16 Parker Masell
17 Dianne Gillison, Grace Walrad
20 Mark Evans, Ron Heverly
21 Jaeden Blamer
23 Kayla Peabody, Roxy Nye
24 Beverly Christensen
25 Kenneth Waterson
27 Sara Putney Kirk
31 Don Leitz

Anniversaries

2 Tom and Laura Masell
5 Adam and Jessi Putney
16 Don and Lila Kidder
23 Bruce and Jenny Caylen



April Newsletter Deadline March 24, 2012

Information can be e-mailed or
dropped off at the church office.



Move Your Clocks Ahead!
Daylight Savings Time
Begins March 10th

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP
HOSTS for MARCH

3/3	Rita L./Cheryl K.	Alfredo Cruz
3/10	?	Kathryn Mathieu
3/17	?	Waterson's
3/24	?	?
3/31	Easter Brunch	Hazel Evans

Please signup when you can serve as hosts/hostess for fellowship following each worship service. Thank you.



We welcomed Jim and Lynne Bekkering into membership at Blaine Christian Church on Sunday, February 3, 2013. Take a moment and welcome both Jim and Lynne to our church family.

ADDRESS UPDATE

Doris Rider is now at The Maples. Her new address is:

Benzie Co Medical Care Facility
 210 Maple Ave
 Frankfort, MI 49635



Notes and cards would be appreciated!

FUDGE FOR COLLEGE KIDS

Thank you to Hazel Evans, Mary Smeltzer, Lorraine LaGuire and Michelle Herron for making fudge for our college kids this year. Fifteen boxes of fudge were sent out and reports of it all being delicious have been heard!

It is with a grateful heart to have a loving church as your home. Your support, prayers and your love kept me and the team in Cuba safe.

Please know your presence was with us. Thank you is such a small word, but great is your reward for your stewardship!

Your brother in Christ,
 Wayne Margetson



Everyone should have a new Secret Friend to send cards and small treats to. If you have a question, please call Dede in the office. Remember everyone would like a pretty Shamrock, leprechaun, or pot of gold on this month's card and a scripture or special prayer for them. Remember that gifts can be for special occasions and are not necessary every month.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE
STUDY

Begins April 19th, 11 am
1st & 3rd Fridays
Fellowship Hall



Women of the church are invited to participate in a Women's Ministry Bible study under the leadership of Judy Cridler. The study is on Exodus and Deuteronomy titled, "An Abiding Hope-The Presence of God". Bring your own brown bag lunch and stay for fellowship.

GUITAR LESSONS



Mike Brief offers guitar lessons each week at the church. Contact Mike for more information, 231-325-4084.

YOUNG MOMS NEWS

Thank you to Shannon Gillison for leading our Young Mom's for the past several years. Moms and families are growing....the Young Moms group will take a break. There is a young children's story hour at the Benzie Shores District Library in Frankfort. Please check their website for a schedule of activities.

Benzie County Special Olympics Area 2 Friday, March 15

Special Olympics is having a fundraiser event- a floor hockey game with participants from the Benzie County Sheriff Department playing our athletes (with some other local celebrities). Dallas Drake will be there too. It will be a fun event for the whole family. Come support our local team.

CRYSTAL CONFERENCE CENTER SUMMER CAMP on CRYSTAL LAKE

Soon your information will be coming in the mail – if you were a camper last year. If you weren't a camper last year, check with Dede early in April. Deadline for camp applications and scholarships is May 19! Camps are for all ages!! Pick up a brochure and discuss as a family which camps your family may attend.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUGUST 5th - 8th Ages 3 years to 6th grades

This year's program - **Kingdom Rock:
Where kids stand strong for God!**

Mark your calendars now and plan to participate in this fun, faith filled week. There will be many ways to volunteer! Watch future newsletters for more information or talk with Becky Aemmer or Carolyn Waterson.



We continue to hear from Betsie Valley Elementary School about the difference the Kids Hope USA program is making in young lives at their school. The church family is encouraged to pray for this program and the ministry it is in the community each day. What our church does with this program makes a difference in the lives of children and a whole school community. Thank you to all who serve as mentors and prayer partners.

YOUTH NEWS

All the youth were busy in February with some swimming and a service project for our more shut in folks. Thank you taking time to show others you care.

Blainers (3rd-5th gr)

Lock-In: Fri, March 15th-Sat, March 16th

There will not be any activities later in March due to Holy Week and Spring Break.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30th, 11:00 am



Children through 12 years of age are invited to participate! Candy filled eggs will be hidden about the grounds for the children to hunt. Following the hunt, there will be refreshments and story time. This is a great event for your children to invite friends to. Invite those friends and their family to worship with you Easter morning.

NEEDED for the Egg Hunt... individually wrapped candy that will fit in plastic eggs. If you are willing to donate candy, talk to Carolyn Waterson. Please have your donations to the church by Sunday, March 17th. Also needed are helpers to hide eggs and help with the hunt on the 30th. Talk to Carolyn if you are available.



GROUP MEETINGS IN MARCH



Lois Ministries - Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.

This prayer ministry group meets in the small sanctuary. Grandmothers come together and pray for family members especially for children and grand-children. If you have a prayer concern and would like the group to pray for a child or grandchild please call Shirley Felt, leader 231-864-4420.

Care Givers Support Group

This group is now meeting on an individual basis as needed. To learn more, please call Linda Byers at 882-9176.

Men's Prayer & Breakfast - Monday, March 11th, 8:30 am

The men will gather for breakfast at the Lighthouse Café in Elberta. Come for prayer, fellowship, and breakfast. Order from the menu and pay for your meal. For more information, call Skip Noble 352-7035.

Lunch with Friends - Thursday, March 14th, Noon

We will meet at Mary Lou Nobles at noon for a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to pass. Mary Lou will provide table service. We continue our card ministry and have a devotional. All are welcome, please call Mary Lou to RSVP at 352- 7035.

Stone Soup

We will take a break from our regularly scheduled potluck at Bonnie and Frank's to indulge in the Mission Committee's Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on March 16 at 6:30 pm. Please see the related Mission's article.

Potluckers - To Be Announced

Information for the last week of March will be announced in the bulletin.

SAVE the DATE

APRIL 27th, 5:30 pm

Progressive Dinner, Take 3

Mark your calendars now and watch for further details in April.
A sign-up sheet will be posted later in March.



**BENZIE AREA
CHRISTIAN
NEIGHBORS
(BACN)**

**CHASE THE CHILL
WINTER FOOD DRIVE**

Thank you to all who participated in "Chase the Chill" Food Drive! Some provided bags of groceries to our BACN cart, including the Benzie County Farm Bureau group; some purchased groceries at the store site which was taken directly to the BACN pantry; yet others gave to the Virtual Food Drive by donating on-line. Thank you to those that donated, worked at the grocery store, and delivered the groceries to the pantry.

**DINE OUT FOR BACN
March 5th**

Dinghy's	Road House
Frankfort	Benzonia

Visit these local restaurants and enjoy a great dinner out! Part of the proceeds is donated to BACN to help buy food for our neighbors who need a helping hand.

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:19



**Habitat for Humanity
of Benzie County**

Fun Volunteer Opportunity! Work at the ReStore: volunteers are needed to greet and assist customers and help with merchandise. Contact Terri Jones at 231.883.1470 or email: terrij216@gmail.com

**Week of Compassion Continues
with a Mission Dinner**

St. Patrick's Day
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
March 16, 6:30 PM

The Mission Committee will serve you, your family, and friends a delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage meal in fellowship hall. The cooks and the servers are the best.

Your free-will offering will go to Week of Compassion.

In the sharing of our resources, we put our faith into action. We transform lives. We offer courageous compassion.

Wayne Wargetson will give a recap of his Cuba trip. Please use the RSVP sheet posted in fellowship hall.



**Chili
Dinner**

**Saturday
March 30th
4:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Thompsonville
First
Congregational
Church**

Menu:
Chili, Veggies & Dip,
Bread, Pie, Milk,
Coffee

**Lincoln at First St.
Thompsonville**

Donations from the Dinner and Silent Auction will benefit the work of Habitat for Humanity of Benzie County with support from the Northwest Michigan Chapter of Thrivent Financial.

LEADERSHIP

"Why do you do what you do?" I think it is important for our ministers and congregational leaders to give some thought to this question. . .

The Lord has called me. It is a much more difficult response because it places God in the picture. There is spirituality about it. God calls and I follow. Why do I follow? Because it is God who calls.

I do what I do to fulfill the call of God for my life [Matthew 5:13-20]. I believe that where God calls is the place that is right for me to be. And when God calls, I go not knowing what the future holds, but knowing that it is God's will for my life."

Excerpt from Ron Degges, President
Disciples Home Mission in Indianapolis

CHURCH PROPERTY

Please be aware that several church groups and community groups, including weddings and funerals are scheduled through the church office. Please make sure you schedule your event the same way. Call, email, or stop in at the office and check for availability on dates and times. Follow procedure manuals for heat, lights and cleaning up after your event. Thank you for being respectful of others.

In the same thought, Easter with worship visitors will be here soon! If you see an area of our church that needs a little tender care, take care of it and someone will be thankful you did.



**Remember...Move your
clocks ahead one hour
Saturday night, March 9th!**

STEPPING UP

Thank you to Chris Walrad and John Blight for their leadership at the Stepping Up conference in February. Twenty men spent the day together looking at what it means to follow the Biblical call to manhood. A possible follow up study is being researched and information will be coming for this.

"HIGHER CALL" Men's Conference March 16th in Gaylord

This conference will feature speakers Jeff Struecker, Chad Williams, and Ryan Sharpe speaking on: "Bulletproof". See the bulletin board at church for more information. Tickets for the event are \$35. To order tickets go to www.ahighercall.com or call 888.930.2060.

Gathering Place

10579 Main Street
Honor, MI 49640-9761
(231) 325-3720

- Senior Lunches (age 60 maybe younger)
- Learn of other county senior services
- Including Meals on Wheels

Moomers Homemade Ice Cream

~ Presents the 8th Annual ~

A Taste of Summer

Benefiting Munson Hospice

Gourmet Sundae Bar
Saturday, March 9th
Noon - 9:00 pm



Small \$5.00 Large \$7.50

Located at: 7263 N. Long Lake Rd, TC

MAUNDY THURSDAY



March 28th
Soup Supper, 6:30 pm
Service, 7:15 pm

The church family is invited to gather for a simple soup and bread supper followed by a worship service. This service will include foot washing and communion we remember the Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples before His death.

HISTORY®
PRESENTS ONE OF THE GREATEST
COLLECTIONS OF STORIES
OF ALL TIME IN...

THE BIBLE

PREMIERING MARCH 3, 2013

The Bible is an epic five-week, 10 hour television mini-series on the History Channel from Emmy Award winning husband and wife team, Mark Burnett and Roma Downey. The final episode of the series will air on Easter Sunday and will feature the death and resurrection of Jesus.

From Genesis to Revelation, HISTORY will illuminate the Bible, re-telling the stories as they unfold and revealing new insights into these iconic characters in context of the Bible. The series will feature some of the most famous stories ever written from Noah's Ark and the Exodus to Daniel in the Lion's Den to the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

Visit these websites for more information, resources, and study/devotion materials:

www.bibleseries.tv

www.outreach.com/the-bible/books-studies

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

1 John 1:7



**24 HOUR
PRAYER VIGIL**
March 28 , 8:30 pm
thru
March 29, 8:30 pm

Our 24 hour prayer vigil will be held in the small sanctuary, which will be warm and lighted. Devotionals will be available for your time in prayer. Please use the sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. This is a special time of praying for our church, community and world .



Easter Offering
Received in most
congregations
on
March 24 and 31

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

John 10:10b

Watch for Rev. Dr. Sharon E. Watkins, General Minister and President's letter as the Easter insert, "The special Easter offering supports the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – our Church in the world!"...

"Thank you for your prayerful discernment."

March Blaine Visitor

Our Mission

Our purpose at the Blaine Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is to live and share the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Together, we seek to learn, teach, hear, minister, support, grow and worship as a community of faith. As Christ's disciples, we accept the call to reach out with God's love to those outside the church. Thus, as part of the Church Universal, we intend to serve both the physical and spiritual needs of our immediate community and the world. To this end we commit ourselves to witness and serve in the fellowship and traditions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Rev. Robert D. Larimer, Pastor
(231) 352-9148

www.blainechristianchurch.org
email: blainechurch@gmail.com

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Praise & Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

Coffee & Fellowship following services.



**Blaine Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
7018 Putney Road
Arcadia, MI 49613**

