

March 2019



Blaine

VISITOR



Week of
Compassion

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER

"More Than We Can Imagine"

*A Way To Help Families Affected
By Natural Disasters Worldwide*

Saturday, March 16, 2019 - 6 pm

Hosted by Blaine Christian Church
Missions Ministry

7018 Putney Road (corner of Joyfield & Putney Roads)

RSVP for dinner by Tuesday, March 12, 2019

231/352-9148

FREE WILL OFFERING

Entire Amount Will Be Given To

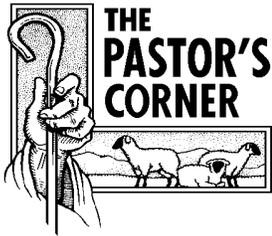
Week Of Compassion Relief Fund

To Provide Humanitarian Aid

And Promote Missions Opportunities

Important Upcoming Events:

- Sundays - Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 am
Choir, 6 pm
- Mondays - Lois Ministries, 1:30 pm
Boy Scout Troop 10, 7 pm
Men's Bible Study, 7 pm
- Wednesdays - Adult Classroom in use,
5 - 7 pm
- Fridays - Art of Parenting, 6 - 8 pm
- March 1 - Art of Parenting begins
- March 2 - WinSome Women Registration
opens on-line
- March 6 - Ash Wednesday
6:30 Soup Supper
7:15 Worship Service
- March 6 - Board Packet Deadline
- March 9 - A Higher Call Men's Conf.
- March 7 - Elders, 6 pm
- March 9 - Evening of Music & Dinner,
6 pm
- March 10 - Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 11 - Men's Prayer & Breakfast,
8:30 am
- March 13 - Congregational Board
Meeting, 7 pm
- March 14 - Lunch with Friends, Noon
- March 14 - DeColores/Emmaus, 7 pm
- March 16 - Week of Compassion Dinner,
6 pm
- March 17 - Worship Meeting, 5 pm
- March 19 - Benzie Academy Meal,
10:30 am
- March 20 - Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary
RSVD, 5-8 pm
- March 24 - Blaine Visitor Deadline
- March 30 - Fellowship Hall RSVD



**FROM WHERE I SIT
MARCH 2019**

In the Hollywood movie *Gringo* you'll find one of the worst pep-talks ever! A corporate mid-level executive finds himself in a life-or-death situation on the Mexican border, fending off a drug cartel and machine gun-wielding mercenaries. He turns to his boss for reassurance, after, in addition to all of this, he hears rumors of a corporate merger. And his boss, in response, shares a puzzling parable about apes and carrots.

"Have I told you about the two gorillas?", the company President asks. "I read it in a book," he says. "Two gorillas, right? And every day they get fed carrots and every day they eat the carrots, no problem. Chomp, chomp, chomp—so delicious! Except one day, the handler, he gives one of the gorillas a banana and the other guy still gets his carrots. He doesn't want to eat carrots now though, because he sees the other guy eating a banana. You know what I'm saying?" Then he turns to the troubled executive and says, "just eat your carrots"!

Again, it is the worst pep-talk ever! I'm not sure what the boss was trying to say. I don't see how this story could possibly help the manager's situation. I don't even know if apes get jealous. Do you? But I know people do. And I know that it is just one of the many "flawed" character traits Scripture warns against, because each one causes division.

Have you ever noticed just how much of the New Testament talks about "Unity in Christ"? Or how many passages address conflict and strife in the Church? There are even several Proverbs on the topic. It must be common. I, for one, like carrots! And come to think of it, I like bananas too! But I wonder if there might be a "take home" here?

Yours in Christ, Pastor Bob



Need a phone number to volunteer, join, or help a working committee?

STAFF:

Office Manager, Dede Nugent 352-9148

Congregational Fellowship, Missions, Property Bonnie Putney 352-4940

Christian Education, Membership & Evangelism Carolyn Waterson 882-9802

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Christian Education:
Shannon Gillison 231-383-0007

Congregational Fellowship:
Dodie Putney 882-4067

Membership & Evangelism:

Missions: Jan Heverly 231-649-4884

Property: Kim Lathwell 882-1398

Worship: Kari MacDonald, 231-871-0079

MONTHLY FINANCE UPDATE

2019 General Fund Budget: \$217,044.00
Monthly General Fund Need: 18,087.00

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Over / Short</u>
January	\$ 10,962.24	- 7,124.76
February	26,742.00	+ 8,655.00
Total		+ 1,530.24

QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

7:00 pm

Print ready board reports and agenda items are due in the church office March 6th.

Board Packets will be available to pick up in fellowship hall on Sunday, March 10th.

All members are invited to attend. A quorum is needed in order to complete the business of the church.

SERVING IN MARCH

8:30 a.m. Praise & Worship Service

Worship Leader - Steve VanDePerre

Greeter - *Available*

Usher - Jannette Ervin

Welcome Center - Cathy Bodell

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

Elders - Judy Spohn Jenny Caylen

Worship Reader - Judy Spohn

Diaconate Servers - Dale & Rob Janusch, Steve Barth, Terry VanHeyningen

Diaconate Preparer - Maggie Baker

Greeter - Ted Mick

Usher - Jan Mick

Welcome Center - Cathy Bodell

SERMON SCHEDULE MARCH 2019

- March 3** 1st Reading: Exodus 34:29-35
2nd Reading: Luke 9:28-36
Title: "Does It Show"
- March 10** 1st Reading: Romans 10:8b-13
Girl Scout 2nd Reading: Luke 4:1-13
Title: "Choices"
- March 17** 1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
2nd Reading: Luke 13:31-35
Title: "God Really Does Care"
- March 24** 1st Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9
2nd Reading: Luke 13:1-9
Title: "Going Through the Motions"
- March 31** 1st Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
2nd Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Title: "Acceptable"

April Blaine Visitor Deadline:

March 24, 2019

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

MARCH

Birthdays

- 4 Dodie Putney, Ron Gillison,
Hudson Mobley
- 5 Maggie Baker
- 7 Jenny Elliott, Mark Copher,
Cara Jager
- 12 Josie Bowman, Thomas Rumney
- 14 Carl Barnum
- 15 Jennifer Maat
- 16 Parker Masell
- 17 Dianne Gillison, Jannette Ervin
- 19 Leah Bowman, George Evans
- 20 Mark Evans, Ron Heverly,
Paisley Munsell
- 24 Beverly Christensen
- 25 Kenneth Waterson
- 27 Sara Putney Kirk
- 29 Molly Merrill
- 30 Dale Janusch, Angie Russell



Anniversaries

- 2 Tom and Laura Masell
- 5 Adam and Jessi Putney
- 23 Bruce and Jenny Caylen
- 25 Dave and Yvonne Hockett





**MARCH
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP
HOSTS**

9:30 AM

3/3 Available
3/10 Available
3/17 Available
3/24 Available

NOON

Linda Yeager
Available
Available
Waterson's

If you would like to host a coffee hour after the service you attend, please sign up on the Fellowship Hall board. Dodie Putney 231-882-4067, Maggie Baker 616-915-2620 or Bonnie Putney 231-352-4940 are there to help if you have never hosted before, just remember to ask. The paper supplies and the coffee supplies are furnished by the Congregational Fellowship Committee and Women's Ministries.

CHURCH PROPERTY NEWS

The basement remodel should be completed soon. Flooring and ceiling tile will be completed by March 1st. Cabinet and lighting installation will be completed soon. Also, completion of the entry area at the East end of the basement should be finished early in March.

Completion of the project is expected by the middle of March. We are excited about being able to use the basement for classes and community meetings. This project would not be possible without the financial support of our congregation. Thank you to all who have worked to make this project possible.

On another note we had to replace the furnace that heat/cool the office area and classrooms in the administrative area of the church. The installation of the furnace was completed in January.

A big THANK YOU to all those who work to keep the parking lot and walkways cleared of snow during the winter months. Hopefully, the "ground hog" was correct and Spring is just around the corner.

COME FLY AWAY!

**You are invited to an evening of
Music and European Cuisine
with
Tyler Iverson & Friends
Saturday, March 9, 2019
6 pm at Blaine Christian Church**

This is a fundraiser dinner to support Tyler's goodwill concert tour to Europe with Michigan Ambassadors of Music this summer.

Free will donations accepted.

**REGIONAL BOARD MEETING AT
BLAINE**

May 4, 2019 Blaine will be hosting the MI Region (Disciples of Christ) Regional Assembly. All Disciple churches of the MI Region and the Board will be invited to Blaine to conduct their Regional business.

Blaine will be providing breaks and a meal. It seems a long way off, but we would like a shiny church and gardens and yard as beautiful as ever. Please think of the time you tithe to your church and set some of that time away for cleaning the church. Suggested dates April 22-May 2.

E-PRAYERS



Blaine Christian Church has an e-mail prayer list. When I am contacted by Pastor Bob when an intercessory prayer is requested, I e-mail the prayer request to 76 church members and friends. The e-prayers go out as quickly as I get them. There are several new people at Blaine, and I am asking if anyone else would like to be an e-prayer person. The e-prayer also goes once a week to everyone and includes the prayer request from Sunday.

If you would like to be on the prayer e-mail, please email me at bonnieputney@gmail.com.

YOUTH NEWS

The middle school and high school youth will enjoy a monthly breakfast together prior to Sunday School on Sunday, March 3rd at 9:40 am. Remember, friends are welcomed and encouraged any Sunday. It is a great way to help someone connect with others in the Christian faith.



FUDGE FOR COLLEGE KIDS

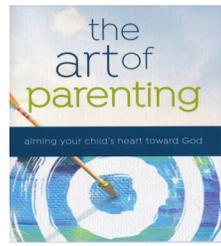
Once again, this Valentine's Day the church sent 14 boxes fudge to our college kids as a reminder that we are thinking of them. Thank you to Mary Smeltzer, Michelle Herron and Lorraine LaGuire for making the fudge for this gift to others. We have heard reports on how good it all was!



THE ART OF PARENTING

The Christian Education Committee is offering this program over the next two months at the church on Fridays from 6-8 pm.

If you are willing to help with meals for the young families or childcare, speak with Nina Margetson. If you would like to participate, speak with Shannon Gillison. The church family is asked to prayer for these families as they meet each Friday.



MARRIAGE DATE NIGHT THANK YOU

Thank you to the education committee and to Sarah Esper, Maggie Baker, and Jannette Ervin for the wonderful date night for married folks in February. A good time was had by all.



Ash Wednesday



On Ash Wednesday, March 6th you are invited to a soup and bread supper at 6:30 pm in fellowship hall and then a short worship service with ashes at 7:15 pm. This is a special way to begin the season of Lent with the church family and remember all Jesus has done for us as believers.

LENT 2019 In the Shadow of the Cross

The season of Lent (the 40 days leading to the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus on Easter) begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6th and continues until Easter, April 21st. This year our theme is "In the Shadow of the Cross" and we will be thinking about what it means to stand 'in the shadow of the cross'.

There are devotional books called "Sermon on the Mount" available at the church to use in your home. This devotional will help you see that the cross itself becomes a sermon for our journey in this sacred season. There are also children's activity calendars available for those with children still at home.



LENT SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY

We are offering a Lent Bible study during the Sunday School time (9:45-10:45) for the adults and youth to participate in together. The study is called "Who Is Jesus?" by Louie Giglio. "Have you or someone you know ever wondered about whether Jesus was truly who he claimed to be in the Bible? Is he truly God or just a good teacher? Is he truly a friend or just a judgmental foe? Is he *the way* to God or just *a way* among many?"

The study begins Sunday, March 10th in the sanctuary with Gary Waterson as leader.

Fellowship Groups: Each month the following fellowship groups meet. Each group is different in character; but includes a devotion/prayer, fellowship and more. Important information for you is that you are invited to any group or groups you would like to attend. Just call the leader for more information. Groups that meet regularly include the following...



GROUP FELLOWSHIP IN MARCH



Lois Ministries - Mondays, 1:30 pm, Small Sanctuary

Lois Ministries is a prayer ministry for mothers and grandmothers to come together and intercede for family, especially for grandchildren. They also pray for our Blaine Church Family. Meetings are in the small sanctuary every Monday afternoon. Please call Shirley Felt 231-864-4420 for more information. We'll meet March 4, 11, 17, 24.

“Make a list of “good” things you can do this week for others. Ask Jesus to produce His goodness through you, wherever you go.”

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

Men meet at the A & W in Frankfort for prayer, fellowship, and breakfast. Please pay for your own meal. For more information, call Skip Noble 352-7035.

Lunch with Friends - Second Thursday, March 14, Noon

Mary Lou and Skip Noble host this monthly potluck luncheon at their home. Their address is 1044 Watervale Rd, Arcadia, MI. Men and women are welcomed. Drinks and your table setting are provided. Please come with a dish to share, for lunch, fellowship, and our special card ministry. Special friends: those shut in, hospitalized, far away, or need a “special thinking of you” receive a card from “Lunch with Friends”. If you have questions, please call Mary Lou at 231-352-7035.

Potluckers - March 27th, 6:30 pm

The Potluckers group will host the Ash Wednesday Soup Supper for the church family. The regular March meeting will be Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30. Place to be announced in the bulletin.

Teapot Ministry - most Fridays

Teapot Ministry is a visit (preferably 2 visitors) with our shut ins. We take a treat, a tea, and a devotion to share when we visit. If you are interested and you have not been contacted please call Bonnie 231-499-6788.



Prayer Shawl Ministry of Blaine Christian Church

For several years our church has had a prayer shawl ministry. It is ongoing and we always need knitters. We encourage knitters to use LION BRAND-HOMESPUN YARN. The texture, feel, and color of this yarn is wonderful and it is washable. We like these shawls to be 5' long by 2 1/2 to 3' wide. We have funds for this ministry to purchase the yarn and a very simple pattern taking 3 skeins of the Lion Brand yarn. If you are interested, please contact me for a pattern. I will be very happy to stop at Michaels to pick up the yarn for you. Stonna Spalding (231-378-4864).



BACN SUNDAY Sunday, March 17

Items that BACN needs are canned goods, dry goods (pancake mixes, puddings), cereal, paper towels, and toilet paper.

Please thank the Blaine Church members for helping with the Winter Food Drive. Without the assistance of groups like yours we would find it hard to fill all our spots. We were able to collect over 11,000 pounds of food. Last year 8,000 pounds of food were collected. We certainly thank the community for being so generous. Again, please let your members know how much we appreciate their assistance.

Sally Bobek, Volunteer Coordinator



DINE OUT FOR BACN Tuesday, March 5th

- ~ Bradley's Pub & Grille, Interlochen
- ~ Luck Dog Grill, Beulah

A percentage of your dinner bill at these locations is donated to Benzie Area Christian Neighbors.

Collections for Benzie Academy students are the first Sunday of the month: March 3, April 7, and May 5. We collect hygiene items as well as single - serve food products.

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

January 28th
through
May 20th



They meet most Mondays at the First Congregational Church, 901 Barber ST, Benzonia. Dinner is served at 5:30. Classes on Wise Parenting, Finances, Spiritual Growth and Life-Skills begin at 6:00. Meal and classes are FREE.

FLC links individuals and families in need with long-term mentoring, goal setting, skill training, emotional and spiritual support.

- Meals * parenting * life skills
- * on-site childcare * earned resources

FLC provides a safe, Christ-Centered gathering with helping those struggling within the bounds of poverty who strive to see growth and change for the future.

Blaine Christian Church helps with the meals that are served every Monday. If you would like to offer a dish to pass or help with a meal, please call Bonnie Putney, 231-352-4940. Meals will be served March 11, 18, 25. Please see the fellowship bulletin board for signing up if you can help with serving or providing a potluck item. Other churches in our count also serve meals.

Donations accepted on an ongoing basis at these community organizations.
Volunteers are always welcome! Applications available at the church.



Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (BACN)
2804 Benzie Hwy
Benzonia, MI, 231-882-9544
Open: Mon-Thur, 10am - 2pm
1st & 3rd Wed, 4pm - 6pm



Habitat for Humanity Restore
13998 Honor Hwy
Honor, MI 231-325-7750
Open:
Wed-Sat, 10am - 5:30pm



The LoveINC Store
1505 Benzie Hwy,
Benzonia, MI, 231-882-9640
Open:
Mon-Fri, 10am - 6pm; Sat,
10am - 4pm



We continue to hear from the Betsie Valley 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 the mentors and prayer partners.



WEEK OF COMPASSION Special Offering

More than we can imagine.

March 10 & 17

Join us for dinner on March 16th, 6 pm for corned beef and cabbage, video presentation, and make a free will donation.

WINTER BIBLE STUDIES



Men's Bible Study

Monday night at the church at 7pm

Men's Winter Study

10 men participated in the winter men's Bible study, "Overcomer" by David Jeremiah.

Women's Winter Study

22 women participated in the winter Bible Study, "What Love Is" by Kelly Minter.

Both winter studies concluded on February 26th with a potluck.

Echo His Love offers the Safe Harbor Program

November to April 1, 2019. Safe Harbor is shelter for the homeless housed in partner churches in Manistee County.

If you would like more information about Safe Harbor or to help out with this program please speak to Bonnie Putney.



FAMILY FARE RECEIPTS

The receipts we have been collecting in the bright green box in fellowship hall will be picked up March 18 and taken to Paul Oliver Hospital. Family Fare will give a small share of all receipts to the hospitals. We will continue to collect the receipts for the hospital.

EASTER CANDY NEEDED

There is a need for "wrapped" small candies to fill the eggs for Blaine's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20th. If you would like to donate candy, please bring it to the church and place it in the workroom Sunday, April 7th. We also need volunteers to hide eggs, greeters, and someone to make cookies.



2020 MISSION TRIP



A sign up sheet is posted in fellowship hall for those interested in doing a mission trip in 2020. This particular sign up sheet serves two purposes:

- 1) How many people would like to go
- 2) Where would you prefer to go

There are two different locations with specific time frames for you to indicate your preference. One trip is to Inez, KY April 18-25 working with Appalachian Reach Out. The other is with Habitat for Humanity of Key West and the Lower Keys in Florida, February 1-8.

The sign up sheets will be posted through March 10th, so sign up soon. A decision of which trip to go on will be made after March 10 based on the level of interest shown on the sign up sheets.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

AUGUST 5 - 8th

6:00 - 8:10 pm

**Mark your calendars
now for this fun,
faith filled week!**

CRYSTAL
CONFERENCE
CENTER
2019

SUMMER CAMPS



JUNE 16-21

Elementary Camp

JUNE 21-23

Women's Retreat

JULY 7-12

Independence Camp

JULY 8-11

VBS Camp

JULY 12-14

Young Families Retreat

JULY 14-20

Family Camp

JULY 21-27

Chi Rho Camp (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

JULY 21-27

CYF Camp (HIGH SCHOOL)

SEPTEMBER 13-15

Men's Retreat

www.campcrystal.org | crystal@michigandisciples.org

Questions? Contact the Region at (517) 372-3220

A ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region



Facebook: Camp Crystal



Twitter: @CampCrystalMI

The 100 year tradition continues at *Crystal Conference Center* where all children, youth, families and adults from all traditions are welcome to be part of one of our summer camp programs. Camp Crystal camps are part of the summer ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Michigan. We assure you that all who participate will be welcome as we focus on asking the **BIG** questions about God's goodness and greatness.

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

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

Coffee & Fellowship following services.



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



The Lord opened
the understanding of
my unbelieving heart,
so that I should
recall my sins.

 *Saint Patrick* 