



Blaine

VISITOR

As governors are trying to figure out how to ease back in to a new normal, please remember:

-  Some people don't agree with the state opening.... that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some people are still planning to stay home.... that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some are still scared of getting the virus and a second wave happening....that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some are sighing with relief to go back to work knowing they may not lose their business or their homes....that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some are thankful they can finally have a surgery they have put off....that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some will be able to attend interviews after weeks without a job....that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some will wear masks for weeks....that's okay. BE KIND.
-  Some people will rush out to get their hair or nails done.... that's okay. BE KIND.
-  The point is, everyone has different viewpoints/feelings and that's okay. BE KIND.

We each have a different story. If you need to stay home, stay home. But be kind. If you need to go out, just respect others when in public and be kind! Don't judge fellow humans because you're not in their story. We all are in different mental states than we were months ago. So remember, BE KIND.

This was shared in an email by Donna Brown while discussing how to move forward in opening our church.

Excerpt from Pastor Bob's email on April 23, 2020

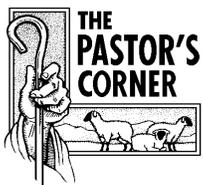
The leadership of the Church, Staff, Elders, Committee Chairs are currently trying to discern how things will look when the stay at home order is lifted. Please pray for wisdom and guidance, and mostly for the presence of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.

Moving Into May

Our Summer Worship Schedule typically begins Memorial Weekend. Right now, we're not sure when we can worship together or if the Stay at Home order will be lifted on May 15th.

What we can do is continue to pray, find alternatives for worship, maintain and provide care to meet the needs of our church, church family, and community.

Be patient, stay safe, stay healthy!



FROM WHERE I SIT MAY 2020

“We had hoped...”

The Lectionary text for Sunday, April 26 is Luke 24:13-35, “On the Road to Emmaus”. Maybe you remember it? Two of Jesus’ Disciples, on the afternoon of the day Jesus Rose from the Dead, were traveling to the nearby town of Emmaus. And Jesus, again after the Resurrection, approached them and started talking. They didn’t recognize Him though. In fact, they had no idea who He was! And yet they shared with Him all that happened lately, including the Crucifixion and Resurrection. They even shared their pain, “we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel.”

I love this encounter with Jesus! There is so much going on in the text! First of all, they were sharing all that Jesus had done, with who they thought was a stranger. That’s evangelism 101, right! And I like the fact that they didn’t recognize Jesus, until they sat down in His presence and together break bread! What a great tie in to Communion! But as I was working on my sermon this year, another phrase jumped out at me as well. It’s in verse 21, where the Disciples said, “we had hoped...”! Can you relate?

We had hoped that the Coronavirus would not actually come to Benzie County. We had hoped that the Economy would survive this hit. We had hoped that we could start Worshiping together sooner than we have, particularly prior to Easter even! We had hoped... We had hoped that our job would still be there when this crisis finally ended. We had hoped that none of our loved ones would be affected. We had hoped...! Can you relate now?

I think one lessons in this text, is that Jesus even comes to those who run away. Or at least those walk away rather quickly. He comes to those who have lost hope as well, and even to those who are hopeless. He comes to those who don’t recognize the truth, to those who don’t have eyes to see. He comes to us! And the “Breaking of the Bread”, His Resurrected Presence is made known! I pray that the Lord will come to you, even now, wherever you currently travel! And I pray, that you will take the time to sit with Him for a while, and thus be Blessed! 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:

Jenny Caylen, 882-9004

Congregational Fellowship:

Maggie Baker, 616-915-2620

Membership & Evangelism:

Chairperson needed

Missions: Terry VanHeyningen,
231-275-1070

Property: Pete Nugent, 383-3702

Worship: Kari MacDonald, 231-871-0079

MONTHLY FINANCE UPDATE 2020

2020 General Fund Budget: \$ 218,724.00

Monthly General Fund Need: 18,227.00

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Over / Short</u>
January	\$ 18,557.00	330.00
February	23,776.00	5,549.00
March	17,785.00	- 442.00
<u>April</u>	<u>13,920.00*</u>	<u>- 4,307.00</u>
	\$ 74,038.00	1,130.00

*Amount received as of April 20, 2020.

SERVING IN MAY

TO BE DETERMINED UPON OPENING OF CHURCH

8:30 a.m. Praise & Worship Service

Worship Leader -

Greeter -

Usher -

Welcome Center -

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

Elders -

Worship Reader -

Diaconate Servers -

Diaconate Preparer -

Greeter -

Usher -

Welcome Center -

SERMON SCHEDULE MAY

May 3: 1st Reading: John 10:1-10
2nd Reading: Acts 2:42-47
Title: "The Job Description"

May 10: 1st Reading: Acts 7:55-60
Mother's 2nd Reading: John 14:1-14
Day Title: "Look Up"

May 17: 1st Reading: Acts 17:22-31
2nd Reading: John 14:15-21
Title: "Dependents, not Descendants"

May 24: 1st Reading: Acts 1:6-14
Memorial 2nd Reading: John 17:1-11
Day Title: "When God Disappears"

May 31: 1st Reading: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-16
2nd Reading: Acts 2:1-21
Title: "Empowered"

MAY

Birthdays



- 1 Michelle Herron
- 3 Mary Lathwell
- 6 Winnie Cook
- 7 A.J. Elliott
- 8 Linda Yeager
- 9 Traci Kelly, Amara Larimer
- 10 Brian Putney, Avery Kelly
- 12 Lynette Williams
- 14 Norma Bogard
- 15 Sandy Magnan
- 18 Tom Masell, Robert Bogard
- 19 Logan Foster
- 20 Bruce Caylen
- 22 Kim Lathwell
- 23 Ashley Nye
- 25 Julie Elliott, Lenny Merrill,
Doug Kirk, Clara Merrill
- 26 Donna Stowell
- 27 Matt Gillison, Larry Lathwell,
- 29 Michelle Smeltzer
- 30 Lorraine Gillison, Dave Siuda
- 31 Linda Byers

Anniversaries

- 3 Tal and Theresa Fuller
- 6 Lyle and Winnie Cook
- 21 Lennie and Shelli Merrill
Mike and Meagan Zych
Carl and Mary Barnum
- 24 Doug and Jacque Erdman
- 28 Rick and Janet Maat



June Blaine Visitor Deadline: May 24, 2020

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



FELLOWSHIP

As we begin opening the church, we will have to consider ways to stay safe.

We enjoy each other, we love each other, we care for each other. If this time causes us to do things differently then we will do our best at what ever needs to be done. A smile from 6 feet away is truly a gift from you and God's gift to you.

There will be no sign-up list for now.

"When I open my home (church), when I connect with others by extending hospitality, I live into the generosity of God's design."



Attention Secret Sisters

Due to the uncertainty of church activities for the next few weeks or months we will not be scheduling our Secret Sister reveal in May. Please continue to pamper your current SS until we are able to get together again! Any questions, feel free to call one of us.

Love and prayers for all!
Dee, Nina and Donna

Dear Pastor Bob and Deb,

Thank you to you and all the bushes you shake so I could have a new washer and dryer. So much better than going to the river and using a rock! I didn't know you were acquainted with the "bushes"! Are they new church members? I understand we have several new ones. What a blessing my Blaine Christian family is: compassionate, loving, caring prayers and cards, flowers, phone calls, cookies! I miss all of you and when warmer weather arrives and "stay at home" stops, I expect to be back to church. Thank you again! All of you are in my heart and in my prayers.

Carol Rider

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A CLOTH FACE MASK?



It is required that people should wear a cloth mask whenever they go out in public (grocery shopping, etc.), and this will last long after the Stay Home order is lifted. In fact, as more people are out & about, the need to wear a mask will be greater. If you need a mask, we will get one to you. Carolyn Bell is coordinating this. You can call or text her at 248-252-1312, e-mail cbell442@yahoo.com to let her know of your need.

If you are able to help sew masks, please contact Carolyn Bell. She has patterns and supplies to replace the elastic ear pieces, if you need them.

Please don't hesitate to let your need be known; that is what we as a Church family are called to do.

MOTHER'S DAY MAY 10, 2020

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue." Proverbs 31:25-26



Please be creative and do an extra special surprise for Mom, Grandmas, and daughter. You might even have a second mom who will love to hear from you.

2020 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



If you have a 2020 high school graduate, we would like their name and plans for next year to include in our June newsletter. Please mail Carolyn Waterson at [watersoncg@gmail.com](mailto:watsonsoncg@gmail.com) with this information. We will be recognizing these young people on Sunday, June 7th. More details to come regarding this day in the next newsletter.

PRAYER REQUEST UPDATES

Sonja Reitan: My niece, Tina Howard is back home. She's in pain but recouping from the accident. (It was the drunk drivers third offense!) She is very fortunate that she wasn't injured more severely or worse. My grandson Justin Bailey is also home after almost a month in the hospital. He has a long recovery ahead but is glad to be home. Thanks for the prayers

Bonnie Williams: My brother in law Ron Schram is being moved from the hospital to hospice. There he will be able to spend time with Karalynne, his wife, my sis. Also with other family. We are praying for a miracle healing this side of heaven. If that does not happen, hospice is the only way he can see Karalynne or his daughter or step sons, or me. Please pray for Ron and all of us as we walk through this. I have been to Las Vegas twice to help and will be going again as needed or as soon as we can visit Ron.

Hans Wulfert (from Sweden): I do for once have a thing that makes me want to celebrate a little extra. Dawn and I got married on the 25th of May 2019, in Stockholm, Sweden. That means a year ago. Dawn sad yes, to my suggestion to spend the rest of our lives together (although apart right now). I'm so proud/happy for this and it helps me in these troubling times. Another thing that helps me (A LOT) is reading everything I get from you all. Lots of love and prayers for a bright/healthy future.

Jan Heverly: A big "thank you" to all the people who sent cards to my Aunt Jennie. She really appreciated them. And I appreciate my Church Family.

**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**
MAY 7, 2020



The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

God is sovereign and nothing comes as a surprise to Him. Whether we face fluctuating economics, threats from abroad, unrest at home, or other troubling circumstances, our Heavenly Father is not caught unaware. Through prayer, we are able to tap into His wisdom, strength, protection, and peace. He stands ready to respond to our needs when we humbly ask for divine intervention in the affairs of men.

As we Pray for America whose pledge of allegiance recounts that we are "one nation under God," and whose currency states that it is "in God we trust," we want Americans to encounter the God who rules over their country. "He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the LORD God Almighty is His name." Amos 4:13 NIV

He is the One who gave us this promise in 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." As we humbly and diligently seek Him, we'll be changed, and we'll see transformation in America through prayer!

For more information and to read this year's special prayer, visit the website
<https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/national-prayer>



Fellowship Groups: Each month these fellowship groups meet. Each group is different in character; but includes devotion, fellowship, and prayer.

When Blaine is open again and we know when it's time to meet, you are invited to any group or groups you would like to attend, or you might like to start a new one.

GROUP FELLOWSHIP

Lois Ministries - Mondays, 1:30 pm

Lois Ministries is a prayer ministry for mothers and grandmothers praying together. They pray for our Blaine Church Family. Please call Shirley Felt 231-864-4420 for more information. We'll meet May 4, 11, 18, and 25th in our own homes at 1:30PM. We will be praying for our church family, our children, and our grandchildren.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9 NIV

Men's Prayer & Breakfast - Second Tuesday of the month

Men meet for prayer, fellowship, and breakfast. Please pay for your own meal. For more information, call Skip Noble 352-7035.

Lunch with Friends - Second Thursday of the month

Each month we meet at Skip and Mary Lou Noble's, 1044 Watervale Road, Arcadia. Join us for lunch, fellowship, devotion and our special greeting card ministry.

Game Night

Game Nite is an informal fellowship evening. Cards, Dominoes, Fun, Fellowship, Snack and Praise will be provided. Host is Bob Bell 248-252-1389

Potluckers - Fourth Wednesday of the month

This group meets monthly for a potluck meal, fellowship and devotion. Meeting locations change each month.

Teapot Ministry - most Fridays

Teapot Ministry is a visit (preferably 2 visitors) with our shut-ins. We have a short visit, some tea and end with devotion. This is an extension of our Care Ministry.

My wish for Blaine and everyone is that we have become a kinder people,
caring for each other in extraordinary ways.

When this is over will we remember, will we continue.

God gives us HIS love, our hope.

Are you ready?

Bonnie Putney



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our last Sunday of Sunday School for the spring would have been Sunday, May 17th. Sunday school will then begin again in September. We want to thank and celebrate our Sunday School teachers for the past year. These dedicated folks have sent much time preparing lessons, leading lessons, praying for their classes and modeling Jesus. We give God thanks for each of them:

Jenny Caylen and Julie Zych (Nursery class), Shannon Gillison(Beginners), Kim Shadwick and Barb Sobkoviak (Primary), Carolyn Waterson and Brenda Jordan (Middlers) Gary Waterson (Youth & Adults), Sarah Esper, Cynthia Briske, Shelli Merrill, and Dodie Putney (AV help).

Many lives have been touched by your dedication, love and willingness to serve in our church this past year. Thank you!

Summer plans for summer children’s ministry are not in place at this time because of the covid situation and recommendations that continue to come out from health officials. Watch your email for updates on plans and also for the weekly lessons being sent out to our families.



MISSION TRIP REPORT & POTLUCK

Our Key West Mission Trip group had planned to give a report and picture show at a potluck hosted by the Potluckers in April. This was cancelled due to stay at home order. This evening will be held in the future when it is cleared for us to gather in this way again.



Our Kids Hope mentors were faithful in meeting with their students each week until school closed in March. Since then they have contacted their students by mail to let them know they have been thinking of them. Thank you to the following folks who served as mentors this year at Betsie Valley School: Ted and Jan Mick, Bruce and Jenny Caylen, Rhonda Nye, Yvonne Hockett, Deb Kessler, Gary and Carolyn Waterson.

If you are interested in knowing about serving as a mentor for the next school year, ask one of these folks about what it means to be a mentor to a student. It changes their life and yours.

PRAYER CHAIN & E-PRAYER

When you have a need for an intercessory prayer or other prayer requests, please contact Pastor Bob 651-9472 or Bonnie Putney at 499-6788. We will start the prayer chain (s) you request. We have backup if the prayer chain cannot be started by Bonnie.

We are doing e-prayers when anyone has a request. There will not be a Sunday list of prayers unless there’s a need.

Contact Bonnie Putney at 231-499-6788 or bonnieputey@gmail.com for e-prayer requests or to receive the e-prayer requests. God answers prayer. Thank you.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020

August 3rd-6th
6:00 - 8:10 pm
children 3 years-6th grade completed



Rocky Railway: Jesus’ Power Pulls us Through

Mark your calendars now for this fun and faith growing week. Watch future newsletters for ways to be involved. Grandparents, invite your grandchildren to come for a week with you and let them enjoy evenings at VBS. It is a way to minister to them and to have fun with them.



It is true -all JUNE camps are closed.
Tim Murtaugh and the Crystal Commission are hoping some of the later camps will be open. For the most current information please contact Pastor Murtaugh at: timdmurtaugh@gmail.com or 502.352.8882



BACN Builds

BACN's Quarterly Communique is written by Gerri VanAntwerp, Executive Director of Benzie Area Christian Neighbors. In the Late Spring 2020 Quarterly Communique Gerri tells about the value of being Flexible. When people cannot go to the food pantry. When volunteers need to stay away from BACN. Flexible when people say, "How can we help?". Flexible when we need to change the ways in which we communicate.

We are blessed by a strong network of community leaders who have responded with their own flexibility.---Geri

BACN Donations Collected

We will collect canned goods and paper products for Benzie Area Christian Neighbors. Wait and see what they may need and when they will be open for donations.

FAMILY FARE RECEIPTS

We are collecting Family Fare grocery receipts in the bright green box in fellowship hall. 'Direct Your Dollars' is a receipt-based program, meaning that we can help raise money simply by depositing Family Fare receipts in the bright box. Blaine's receipts will be directed to Paul Oliver Hospital. They will be taken to the hospital the end of the month.



Please relay our gratitude to your congregation for Blaine Christian Church's support. This year Benzie Habitat will provide another modest, energy efficient, affordable home – just as we have faithfully done since 2008.

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



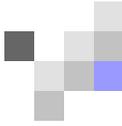
Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (BACN)
2804 Benzie Hwy
Benzonia, MI, 231-882-9544
Open: Mon-Thur, 10am - 2pm
1st & 3rd Wed, 4pm - 6pm



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



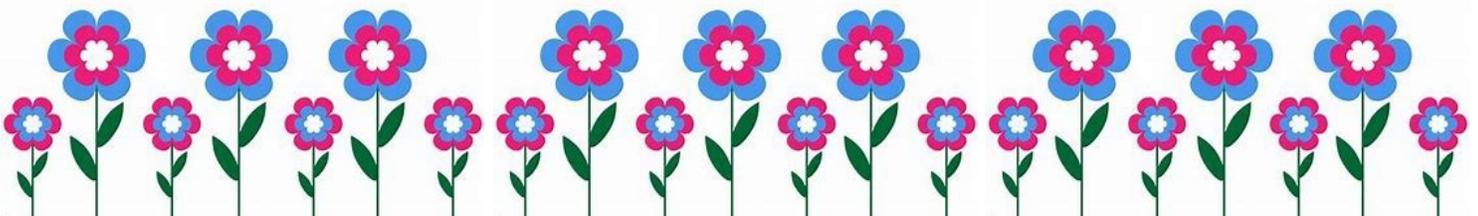
Echo His Love Store
1505 Benzie Hwy,
Benzonia, MI, 231-3834088
Open:
Mon-Fri, 10am - 6pm; Sat,
10am - 4pm



Mother's Day Word Search

H D V G R A N D M A Z A H Z E
 M O T H E R U R E N N I D G E
 R S N M E M O R I E S H S L T
 R S D O J S D R A C H U R P U
 P Q C A R I N G A U N T E B B
 Q R R O S E S D G D C N T O I
 S Y C W K F E S A C K E H U R
 C P L F N T L Y J G I R G Q T
 X H T I O M D O A U E A U U K
 I L I V M N A J W T E P A E I
 S G E L E A G Y H E C M D T S
 T D V I D N F G C A R N O Q S
 F V R S I R U U N M X S E H E
 I F N V O A E D U C Q P K X S
 G O I W L V Y N R M Q G H A V
 S G N I V O L D B B W C I I B

- BRUNCH
- BOUQUET
- CANDY
- CARDS
- CARING
- CHILDREN
- DAUGHTERS
- DEVOTED
- DINNER
- FAMILY
- FLOWERS
- FRIEND
- GIFTS
- GIVING
- GRANDMA
- HOME
- HONOR
- HUGS
- KISSES
- LAUGHTER
- LOVING
- MAY
- MEMORIES
- MOTHER
- PARENT
- ROSES
- SUNDAY
- SONS
- TRIBUTE



May 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

Memorial Day



**Don't Forget
To Remember**