

Blaine

# VISITOR



## LOAVES OF LOVE

In lieu of Blaine's Thanksgiving dinner this year, every family will receive a loaf of bread (pumpkin or banana) as an expression of our love and thankfulness that you are a part of the Blaine family.

If you do not wish to receive a loaf or you will not be in town on November 21, please call the office by November 8 and let us know so we have a count of how many loaves are needed.

Volunteers are needed to bake bread and deliver the loaves on November 21. (Assistance can be provided for ingredients, if needed.)

Please call Maggie Baker 616-915-2620 by November 8 to volunteer or for more information.

Blaine's Congregational Fellowship Committee

### Important Upcoming Events:

- **Sundays - Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00 am**  
Sunday School at 9:45 am  
Choir, 6 pm
- **Mondays**  
Lois Ministries, 1:30 pm  
Men's Bible Study, 6 pm
- **Nov 1 - Daylight Savings Time Ends**
- **Nov 7 - Church RSVD for Wedding**
- **Nov 12 - Mission Meeting, 10 am**
- **Nov 14 - Women's Retreat, 8:45 am**
- **Nov 16 - Christian Ed Meeting**
- **Nov 16-22 - Operation Christmas**  
Child Drop-off location, 3-5:30 pm
- **Nov 23 - OCC Drop-off, 9-11:30 am**
- **Nov 24 - Blaine Visitor Deadline**
- **Nov 26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
- **Nov 29 - Advent Begins**

### A VIRTUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 22 at 3:00 pm

Our pastor and choir are participating in this virtual service.

More information to follow.





**NOVEMBER 2020**

I just received my 2021 Stewardship Letter from Bob and Linda Yeager and the Stewardship Committee. What a well-written letter, spoken from the heart, and God's Word! Thank you! Working in the Church, I am aware of how import it is to have an accurate Estimate of Giving when assembling our Budget for the upcoming year. So, thank you to each one of you as well, as you prayerfully consider what the Lord is calling you share.

I was struck this year, or should I say personally convicted, at how easy it is for me to figure a tithe of my income. It's ten percent, right? It's simple math! And yet, how difficult it is for me to consider my tithe of time. Or should I say, justify less than a tithe. There is 168 hours in a week, so am I giving 16.8 hours to God? But then, you have to sleep, right? That leaves 112 hours a week, as if I ever sleep eight hours. So, am I giving 11.2 hours a week to God? Not my Sabbath Day, of course. That should all be given to God. So, six days, at twelve hours a day, is 72 hours a week. Am I giving back to God 7.2 hours each week, out of all the time that God has given me?

You see, it's easy to justify, isn't it? And I don't mean to be "legalistic"! Jesus did chide the Pharisees for "giving a tenth of their spices" even—"mint and dill and cumin". But neglecting "justice, mercy, and faithfulness". "You should have practiced the latter," He said, "without neglecting the former" (Matt. 23:23)!

I guess the best answer for me still comes from Malachi 3:10 and following. "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. TEST ME IN THIS," says the Lord Almighty, "AND SEE IF I WILL NOT THROW OPEN THE FLOODGATES OF HEAVEN AND POUR OUT SO MUCH BLESSING THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ROOM ENOUGH TO STORE IT"!

I guess I have my answer, don't I?

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

	Received	Over / Short
January	\$ 18,557.00	330.00
February	23,776.00	5,549.00
March	17,785.00	- 442.00
April	25,898.00	7,671.00
May	25,116.00	6,889.00
June	18,940.00	713.00
July	19,298.00	1,071.00
August	18,261.00	34.00
September	27,863.00	3,481.00
October	16,792.00	- 1,435.00
	\$ 212,286.00	+ 23,861.00

**MONTHLY SERVING SCHEDULE  
TO BE DETERMINED  
UPON FURTHER OPENING  
OF CHURCH**

**STAY CONNECTED**



We have a YouTube Channel where we post Sunday's sermons.

The YouTube Channel is also accessible through our website, [blainechristianchurch.org](http://blainechristianchurch.org). On our homepage, click on the YouTube icon and it will take you directly to our channel. You can also access the weekly announcements and print versions of Sunday's sermons.

The announcements are found by clicking on the Communications tab and then clicking Weekly Bulletin. For audio and print sermons, click on the Sermons tab.

**SERMON SCHEDULE  
NOVEMBER 2020**

- Nov 1: 1st Reading: Joshua 3:7-17  
2nd Reading: Matthew 23:1-12  
Title: "The Saints"  
All Saints Day
- Nov 8: David Spalding
- Nov 15: 1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
2nd Reading: Matthew 25:14-30  
Title: "What Do I Have?"
- Nov 22: 1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16,  
20-24  
2nd Reading: Matthew 25:31-46  
Title: "Sheep and Goats"
- Nov 29: 1st Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9  
Advent 2nd Reading: Mark 13:24-37  
Title: "The Day of the Lord"

**NOVEMBER**

**Birthdays**



- 1 Kate Jenkins
- 2 Loy Putney
- 4 Dick Spalding
- 5 Lauren Nordbeck
- 6 Ryan Maat
- 7 Patty Gibson
- 9 Ian VanDePerre
- 10 Frederick Putney, Jessica Hawkins
- 11 Russ Tiller, Michelle Foster
- 13 Adam Putney
- 18 Caryn Gehrke, Ray Tanner
- 20 Jim Gillison, Judy Ingleston,  
Sonja Reitan, Shirley Mortenson
- 22 Archer Munsell
- 23 Sharon Trense, Avagaiyl Collins
- 24 Tom Bradford
- 25 Dick Pfander
- 26 Tom Brown
- 28 Gary Lathwell, Jessi Putney  
Audreanna Collins
- 29 Peter Nugent
- 30 Carolyn Roper, Cheryl Kemperman

**Anniversaries**

- 10 Ted and Jan Mick
- 13 John and Linda Byers
- 20 Russ and Sara Tiller
- 26 Charles and Sharon Trense
- 30 Ralph and Kate Jenkins



**Holiday Issue of the Blaine Visitor**

**(combined December/January)**

**Deadline:**

**November 24, 2020**



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

## COFFEE HOURS ARE STILL POSTPONED



As much as we would love to serve you coffee hours, masks and social distancing are required, which make it difficult to have a cup of coffee or for the kids to have a treat. The church needs to follow guidelines to stay safe from COVID-19. The most important goal is having us back in worship and fellowship together safely.

Maggie and Bonnie,  
CF Committee Chair and Staff

## THANK YOU

I want to thank you all for all the cards, and gifts and well-wishes! They mean more to me than words can express! Even more precious is the love behind them, and all the prayers of support! Deb and I are truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful Church! Thank you!

Love,  
Bob and Deb

## UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY



An updated, printed Church Directory is available in fellowship hall. If you are not able to stop by and pick one up, please contact the church office to have one mailed or emailed to you.

### NEW PHONE NUMBER TO ADD:

Don & Ellice Franklin  
(231) 383-4009

## COLLEGE KIDS

The church works hard to keep in touch with our away college kids throughout the year and let them know we are thinking of them and praying for them. If you have a young adult away at college, please send their email address and their mailing address to the church office. We would like to send them an Advent Devotional later this month.

## Lois Ministries - Mondays, 1:30 pm

We are praying in or own homes. We will be praying for our church, our pastor, our children and grandchildren. We will pray at 1:30 pm on November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

*“Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*

Matthew 11: 28-30

## BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCE HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS BAG PROGRAM 2020

Blaine Church will help Benzie Senior Resource to fill Christmas Gift Bags with 2021 Calendars, Unscented Hand Lotion, Facial Tissue, and Protein Bars.



**The last day to donate:  
Sunday, December 6th.**

Look for the gray/white basket in Fellowship Hall.

**We will continue wearing face masks and practice social distancing while inside the church.**

**Fellowship Hall is now open** for the season without seating for those who do not want to leave the building between classes and worship. If you need a mask break, please step outside.

**For Meetings and Studies:** Cleaning of high touch surface areas in the room(s) and restrooms used needs to happen when you are finished. Disinfectant & cloths are provided.

**“A God Who  
Leans Low”  
Saturday  
November 14th**



We welcome Shannon Popkin for a morning of inspiration for women. She will lead us through the morning as we look at the reminder ‘God has the whole world in His hands-but what about my little world? He cares about this too!’ The theme scripture for the morning is Psalm 34:18, “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit”.

Shannon comes from the Grandville area and her bio says “Do you want to live like God’s Word is true? This is Shannon’s passion, and she loves sharing this journey with other women.”

The morning begins at 8:45am and ends at 12:30. The cost is \$10 and includes a box lunch as you leave. Please call the church at 231.352.9148 to register (or sign up in the fellowship hall). Indicate your lunch choice of a turkey, ham or veggie bagel sandwich. There will also be a book table with items for sale. Plan to come for this morning of inspiration and ask a friend to come with you.

Masks and social distancing practiced. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, November 12th.



The season of Advent begins this year on Sunday, November 29 with the theme of “A Time of Peace”. Advent devotionals will be available at the church later this month for use in your home during the season. Plan to pick one up and use it as you pray for peace for our country and world and prepare to celebrate God’s great gift of love, His son Jesus, being born into our world. There will be children’s devotionals for families with young children. More information on special services and ministries for the season will be in the December newsletter and our weekly worship announcements.

**Special  
MUSIC**

In the month of October, we were blessed by those who shared their gift of music with the church family to help lead us in worship. We give thanks to Kari MacDonald and Deb Kessler for their gifts of song.

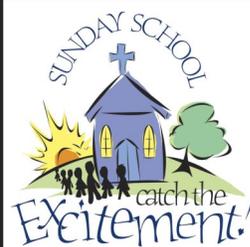
**FALL STUDIES**

The fall studies of “Daniel” and “Take Courage” wrapped at the end of October. The Monday night Men’s study continues at 6:00 pm each week. Watch the December newsletter for announcements about coming winter studies beginning in January.



November is National Prayer month for Kids Hope USA. Our church participates in this program in partnership with Betsie Valley Elementary School. At this point in time this ministry is on hold until second semester.

In a normal year, each week mentors meet with their child for one hour of work and friendship. Each mentor and child are supported by a prayer partner. During the month of November, the whole church is encouraged to be in prayer for our schools and this ministry as they navigate this current virus situation. We are hopeful to be able to meet again in person when all is safe.



Sunday School classes are meeting in person. It is good to be together again and see people excited about learning about their faith from God’s word. If you are not participating in a class, why not plan to come at 9:45 and try a class for the month of November and bring someone with you. Masks are being worn and safe distancing practiced so all may participate in classes. Sunday School is a great way to learn and build friendships. There are classes for ages 2years-adult.



**Habitat for Humanity**<sup>®</sup>  
of Benzie County



# FESTIVAL *of* TREES



at the **BENZIE AREA  
HISTORICAL MUSEUM  
OUTDOOR PAVILION**

6941 Traverse Ave. • Benzonia

A **Virtual** Silent Auction of Decorated Trees,  
Wreaths & Table Decorations

**Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This year the Festival will be **online bidding only**. Our location is behind the museum outdoors in the pavilion. You may view in person using the appropriate distancing measures with mask. Or, you may wish to view items online. Visit [benziehabitat.org](http://benziehabitat.org) and on Facebook at Benzie Habitat for more information about this event and how to bid!

[www.benziehabitat.org](http://www.benziehabitat.org)

 Benzie Habitat



### BACN FALL FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to all who volunteered and our generous community for chipping in to feed their Neighbors! For those not wishing to shop in person, the virtual food drive is open through the end of October at [www.benziebacn.org](http://www.benziebacn.org)!

### SERVICE HOURS

Please call to make an appointment for either food or clothing between 10am & 1:30pm, Monday through Thursday. For financial assistance, please call after 2pm, also Monday through Thursday, (231) 882-9544. Weather Closings: If either Benzie County Central or Frankfort/Elberta Area Schools are closed, BACN will also close for the entire day.



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

**National Collection Week  
November 16 - 23**

Blaine Christian Church is a Regional Curbside Drop-off Location

**What does that mean?** We are making adjustments to simplify the process to focus on four objectives:

- ◆ Collect
- ◆ Count
- ◆ Cartonize
- ◆ Deliver Shoebox Gifts

Drop-off Prep Day will have Virtual Training in mid-October.

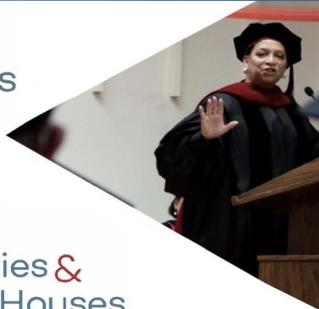
To volunteer, please email Bonnie Putney at [bonnieputney@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieputney@gmail.com)  
Thank you!



**Higher Education & Leadership Ministries**  
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

**Colleges & Universities**

**Seminaries & Divinity Houses**



### THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Received in many congregations on November 15 and 22, 2020.

No printed materials will be mailed to congregations this year.

#### GIVE ONLINE:

<https://disciplesmissionfund.org/give/>

#### OR

Write your check to Blaine Christian Church and designate DMF Thanksgiving Offering in memo or on envelope.



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



**PO Box 53, Frankfort, MI  
231-399-0300  
[info@benziehabitat.org](mailto:info@benziehabitat.org)  
[www.benziehabitat.org](http://www.benziehabitat.org)**



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

# November 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](http://www.blainechristianchurch.org)**  
**email: [blainechurch@gmail.com](mailto:blainechurch@gmail.com)**

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

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



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

LET OUR  
LIVES BE FULL  
OF BOTH  
thanks  
&  
giving