



## THE FIRST EDITION NEWSLETTER-BLANDINSVILLE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# APRIL 2024



### CHURCH, COMMUNITY, AND AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30 – EASTER EGG HUNT – 12:30-2:00 P.M.**

**MONDAY, APRIL 1 – TWIN OAKS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB – OPENING DAY**

**MONDAY, APRIL 1 – APRIL FOOLS' DAY**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 7 – TWIN OAKS – PAINT A CERAMIC**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – TWIN OAKS – POOL TOURNAMENT**

**MONDAY, APRIL 8 – TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19 – TWIN OAKS – NATHAN GOSNELL (MUSIC)**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20 – 7:00 P.M. – VEGAS MCGRAW – Legacy Theater, Carthage, IL**

**MONDAY, APRIL 22 – PASSOVER**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 26 – ARBOR DAY**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28 – CHRISTIAN CHURCH DONUT SUNDAY – 9:00 A.M. –Pat Hainline, Hostess**

**EASTER EGGS FILLED AND READY FOR THE HUNT** – On Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. 18 individuals came to the Blandinsville Christian Church to fill Easter eggs for the annual Easter Egg hunt. Over 3,000 eggs were filled. Those helping enjoyed laughter and good fellowship. Those attending were Brad Pursell, Sherry Meriwether, Jean and Lynn Dougherty, Jackie Terrell, Gayla Lewis, Pat Hainline, Ruth Floyd, Katie Icenogle, Jerry and Kris Thrapp, Jayne Mason, Roxanne Mason, Carol Kempher, Lynnetta Null, Tammy Martin, and Mary and Randy Killip. Paula Snowden, Becky Cramer, Alan and Kathy Driskell and daughter Michelle filled eggs at their homes. Thank you to all who helped.

### **BLANDINSVILLE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES & BREAKFAST**

Sunrise Services – 8:00 A.M.

Easter Breakfast – 8:30 A.M. – Breakfast casseroles, coffee cake, coffee, juice, etc. All are invited to join us.

Easter Sunday Regular Services – 9:30 A.M. – Aaron Baker giving the message. Come join us for the services – all are welcome.

**ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT – SATURDAY, MARCH 30– 12:30-2:00 P.M. – HUNT STARTS AT 1:00 P.M. –** The Easter Bunny will be there distributing special treats. Scheduled events include Tracey Debolt with her coffee wagon, face painting, a bouncy house, an obstacle course, games, small animals to pet, free popcorn and water, treat bags, pictures with the Easter bunny, and the Easter Egg Hunt. Come join the fun.

**APRIL 8 – SOLAR ECLIPSE –** "The moon will cover the sun on April 8, 2024, for people in parts of the US, Canada, and Mexico, creating an experience unlike any other. A total solar eclipse is an incredible experience, explains Patricia Reiff at Rice University in Texas. The temperature suddenly drops, it gets dark and you can see stars and planets during the day. There are all sorts of phenomena to watch out for before and after totality, too, like strange shadows and so-called diamond rings – bright flashes of light caused by the sun's rays passing along the uneven surface of the moon."

**THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING** – Paula Snowden for decorating the church for the spring designing beautiful bouquets for the urns in the front of the church and putting the wreathes and floral arrangements in the windows. Carol Kempher makes and donates special treats for the after-school programs that the kids who attend really enjoy. Sherry Meriwether purchased the lovely Easter lilies for the church. Thank you to all who help keep the church in working order, make visits to those who are not able to attend church, serve as greeters, leaders, elders, pianists, audio/visual operators, committee members, and helpers at church events by donating their time, food, and supplies as needed. Thank you to all for all that you do. Our church is truly blessed.

**BLANDINSVILLE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH – 175 YEARS ANNIVERSARY PLANS** – Events for our church's 175-year anniversary are currently in the planning stage. As part of our celebration, we are soliciting memorable moments of church activities and/or pastors from years gone by. Your memories will be included in a Special Edition Newsletter, which will be available sometime this summer or fall. There will be a collection box at the church for handwritten or typed memories, or you may email them to Mary Killip. Her email address is [jeepuv@mtcnw.net](mailto:jeepuv@mtcnw.net) -- please include your name and contact information so you can be contacted if clarification of information is needed. Please let us hear from you.

**BLANDINSVILLE FARMERS' PICNIC – MAY 9-11, 2024** – Mark your calendars. More information will be published when available.

**BLANDINSVILLE-HIRE LIBRARY** – Visit the library and see all the items it offers -- books (for adults, youth adults, and children), magazines, videos, newspapers, audio books, Saturday story hour and crafts for kids, etc. I (Mary) just read a couple of books by JoJo Moyes that I found interesting and funny – Someone Else's Shoes and Me Before You. There are several books by this author in the library. Visit and support the library – books open the world to everyone!

**REMEMBER WHEN** – Do you have a past memory you would like to share regarding a blast from the past, such as family traditions/happenings, historical events, etc. Send items to Mary Killip at P.O. Box 235, Blandinsville, IL 61420. Let's have fun with this!!

Roger Thompson submitted a list of past businesses in Blandinsville for this section. Since there is limited space, each month additional past to present businesses will be added with input from other individuals and their memories about these businesses. **Thank you, Roger.** I have taken additional information from past Farmers' Picnic Souvenir Books, plus research I did in 2012 receiving information from current and past owners, relatives, and residents of Blandinsville (current or past). Anyone who has additional information or corrections about any of these businesses is encouraged to contribute by contacting me (Mary).

Gas Stations – **Pete Dorothy – Standard Station** – The building was built in 1955 by Bob Pershing and called Standard Oil. Pete Dorothy ran it around 1955-1958. Jim McPeak purchased the business in 1975 named it Jim's Kerr-McGee and later switched to Jim's Conoco. The gas pumps were taken out around 2000 and since then Jim has concentrated on repairs and auto services. **Beaner Waggoner – Mobile Station** -- corner of North Main and Route 9. **Grates Service** – Perle and

Alene Grate owners – located on South Main – originally known as Grates Tire and Battery Service then shorted to Grates Service. Perle opened his business on September 7, 1936. His son Roger started working at the business in 1971 and took over when Perle retired in 1986 after 50 years in business. Grate's Service closed in 1995. **Tommy Hughes – Phillips 66** --where car wash is now. **Ralph Killip – Texaco Station and auto body shop** – located on Route 9 on south side of highway (was Northups and now the city owns the building). **Killip's Skelly Service Station** – Leonard Killip – a full line of Skelly products. **Kenny's Service Station** – Standard Oil Products. **Nortrup oil company** – Nortrup Petroleum, Inc. started in 1975 in Stronghurst, Illinois, and merged with Nortrup Oil in 1990 moving its office to Blandinsville. The building in Blandinsville burned to the ground sometime in the mid to late 90's and was replaced with a new building. The business closed in November of 2000. The Village of Blandinsville then purchased the building. **Farris Skelly Gas** – Lloyd Farris, owner – bulk oil and gas sales. **Minneman, Leroy** – Standard Oil Station – Corner Main and Route 9. **Phillips 66 Service Station** -- Carl Howard -- gas, oil and service. **The Robinson Service Station** – Wendell Robinson – gas, oil, tires, batteries, -- “We repair all kinds of radios and appliances.” **Shaver's Farm Bureau Service Station** – tires, batteries. **Shugart's Conoco Service** – Corner Main and Route 9 – Donald Shugart – gas, oil, tires. Batteries. **Standard Oil Products** – William T. Williams. **Thompson's Skelly Service Station** -- Lloyd Thompson – East of Hi-Way Café (no longer there). **Waggoner Brothers Service/Waggoner-Lefler Service** -- gas, tires, batteries. **Wisslead Garage**. **Wolfe Skelly Service** – Dick Kemp.

**HISTORY OF BLANDINSVILLE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (1849-2024)** – Submitted by Jean Dougherty, church historian. The following is an excerpt from the October 7, 1928, Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes. “A good representation of the three departments of the church board were present also many other members of the church. Much interest was manifested. The meeting was called to order by Pres. F. M. Herzog, prayer was offered by **Bro. Leonard**. The Sunday School report was given by the secretary Bro. Maharry and was quite interesting. Report showed four persons **united with the church** from Sunday School and largest attendance 179, smallest attendance 63 during year. The Christian Endeavor report was given by Bro. Leonard. Three delegates sent to Young People's Conference. Three gospel team meetings were held during the summer, one each at Colchester, Fandon and Old Bedford. The Cradle Roll report was given by Sister Maharry and showed a present enrollment of 21. The Financial Secretary's report given by Sister Erma Farris was so clear, concise, and complete that it brought forth a hearty unanimous vote of thanks from the members present. The Treasurer's report given by Bro. White was well received showing the financial condition of the church to be good. Signed F. M. Herzog, Pres. And W.P. Knapp, Clerk Pro-Tem.”

#### IN MEMORY

Douglas “Doug” E. Nelson, 68, of Milan passed away on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at his home. Doug was born on May 22, 1955, in Monmouth, IL, a son of Vail and Louise (Rask) Nelson. He married Kristen Fausett on December 20, 1975. Doug attended Yorkwood High School, Monmouth College, and Western Illinois University, where he received his master's degree. While at Monmouth, Doug played on the football team and was a member of Alpha Tau Omega. Doug worked as a science, health, and PE teacher for many years within the Northwestern School District in Sciota, IL, and Dallas City School District in Dallas City, IL. Doug retired as an administrator from the Mercer County School District in Aledo, IL. Throughout the years, Doug also helped in coaching many school sports such as basketball, track, and baseball. Doug's hobbies included gardening, yardwork, fishing, watching birds, trips to Colorado, and watching the Chicago Cubs and Bears. He thoroughly enjoyed spending time with family, especially his seven grandchildren. Doug is survived by his wife, Kris, of Milan; children Dr. Matt (Faith) Nelson, Geneseo; Nicci (Dr. Nader) Ailabouni, Bettendorf; and Joni Nelson, Bettendorf; grandchildren Hayley, Drew, Sydney, Olivia, Isaac, Xavier and Vail; siblings Sandy (Jim) Johnson, Kirkwood; Judith Ross, Kirkwood; and Ron (Sue) Nelson, Monmouth; in laws Jerry and Joan Fausett, Aledo; brother-in-law Monte Fauset, Keller, Texas; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS AND UPDATES

Please be in prayer for Laurie Locke, James Humphrey, Parker Bolten, Reagan Pflaster, Maggie Pendergast, Brooklyn Nelson, Alan Moore, Jim Wetzell, Emily Blout, Tom Ralston, Hudson Brand, Duane Chipman, Antonia Aguirre, Mary Evans, Kieran Woods, Lindsey Bryant, Jeramiah Byers, Ashley Buchen, Sarah Traser, Parker Bolton, Otto Pinto, Kelvey Hamm, Steve Britton, Rob Myers, Lisa and Stephen Molzhon, Kim Walters, Gisele Hamm, Caylea Shinall (granddaughter of Dennis & Katie Icenogle), Makenzie Hawkins, Jennie Terrell Brush and family, Cindy Soule, Ed and

Millie Hunt, Kevin Kleinkopf, Jeremy Hamm, Laura Twaddle, Erin Thilyaw, Lori (Baker) Sperry, Jim Olson, Jim Meriwether, Wayne Luton, Marilyn Moore, Fred Kitch, Dennis Morton, Linda Metcalf, Kathy and Alan Driskell, Kathleen Barry, Brayden McGinity (831th Engineer Unit) and others who may be deployed in the future. Be in prayer for our nursing home residents and the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones. Remember the health care workers, caretakers, fire fighters, police officers, and our armed forces members and their families. Pray for our community, state, country, and the world. Pray for peace, acceptance of all, and love for one another.

#### CHURCH SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2024

DATE	ELDERS	SPEAKERS	MUSIC	OVERHEAD
April 7	Monte Mason	Aaron Baker	Jody Little	Gary Smith
April 14	Dave Hunt	Jim Richardson	Jody Little	Taylor Thompson
April 21	Alan Driskell	Aaron Baker	Jean Dougherty	Glade Mason
April 28	Randy Killip	Aaron Baker	Anna James	Monte Mason

DATE	WORSHIP LEADER	GREETERS	NURSERY	DEACONS
April 7	Monte Mason	Randy & Mary Killip	Laurie Smith	
April 14	Dave Hunt	Bud & Patsy B.	Tresa Hunt	
April 21	Pat Hainline	Russell Oliver	Jan Thompson	
April 28	Mary Killip	R. Thompson/D. Purdy	Paula Snowden	

**PLEASE HELP:** Let Mary know when you are not available to serve in one of the above areas so she will not schedule you for that date. If you cannot serve, please find a substitute. Thank you.

**CHURCH SERVICES** - Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school follows services.

**PULPIT COMMITTEE MEETING: ELDERS & BOARD MEETING:** Monday, April 14 – Elders – 6:30 p.m. – Church Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. **WORSHIP/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING** – Thursday, April 4 – 10:00 a.m. – Come join the group and help plan church events.

