



## THE FIRST EDITION – BLANDINSVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025



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

- FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 – TRUNK OR TREAT – Blandinsville Christian Church – 4:00-5:00 p.m. – Free hot dogs, chips, and beverages – plus trunks full of treats**
- FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 – VILLAGE OF BLANDINSVILLE TRICK OR TREAT – 4:00-8:00 p.m.**
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 – DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS – FALL BACK -- Set your clocks back one hour.**
- FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 – DALLAS BRASS: AMERICAN MUSICAL JOURNEY -- Legacy Theater – Carthage – 7:00 p.m.**
- SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 – ALTRUSIA BAZAAR – 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – Macomb High School**
- TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 – VETERANS DAY**
- SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 – THE HIGHWAYMEN: A MUSICAL TRIBUTE -- Legacy Theater – Carthage, 7:00 p.m.**
- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27 – THANKSGIVING DAY**
- SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29 – KIWANIS LIGHTED PARADE – Downtown Burlington, Iowa – 5-6:00 p.m.**

**HONORING OUR PASTORS** – On Sunday, October 19, church members honored our pastors Aaron Baker, Jim Richardson, and Laura Wilhite with cards, gifts, and a meal after church services. There were approximately 48 individuals in attendance. The food was plentiful and delicious, and the fellowship experienced by those present was inspiring to witness.

**NEW BABY AND PARENTS** – Scottie Michael Schmidt was born on September 25, 2025, at the Gibson City Area Hospital at 7:40 p.m. He weighed 8 pounds 5 ounces and was 21 inches long. His parents are Nicholas and Ashley Schmidt of Thomasboro, Illinois. His grandparents are Lee and Mindy Moore of Blandinsville and the late Michael Andrew Schmidt of Knoxville, Illinois, and Gary and Laurie Smith of Blandinsville. His great grandparents are Paula and Ed Endicott of Monmouth and the late Bruce and Mary “Linda” Schmidt of Knoxville, and Carol Kempfer and the late Phil Kempfer of Blandinsville.

**BLANDINSVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH AFTER-SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP NEWS -- LAURA WILHITE, YOUTH PASTOR:** The After-School Program (K-high school) is now back in full swing as kids are back in school and on a routine. The After-School Program meets each Tuesday (when school is in session) 4:00-5:00 p.m. The Youth Group (5<sup>th</sup>-high school) meets each Sunday from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Come join these groups and enjoy snacks, games, crafts, a spiritual journey through the Bible, and great fellowship.

**BLANDINSVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM** – This program meets the third Saturday of every month at the church from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. It is open to young adults who are in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade through high school. The group is led by Jerry and Kris Thrapp.

**BLANDINSVILLE-HIRE LIBRARY:** Recommended Book: THE ALL-GIRL FILLING STATION’S LAST REUNION by Fannie Flagg the author of FRIED GREEN TOMATOES AT THE WHISTLE STOP CAFÉ. This book is a little bit of everything – funny, informative, and heartwarming. Sookie learns that she has been adopted at the age of 59 – only to find out she is actually 60! She finds out that her biological mother was one of four daughters and one brother born to a Polish family. Sookie’s biological mother and two of her sisters flew planes for the Airforce during World War II – Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). This book is especially interesting as it tells of the battles that women went through to even fly among men who felt that women didn’t belong in the Airforce. When the program opened for women, 1,830 qualified out of 25,000 who applied and 1,074 graduated to become members of WASP. Thirty-eight died completing their missions. They flew B17 and B29 bombers but were not directly involved in combat. They served from 1942-1944. I highly recommend this book. Mary Killip

**BLANDINSVILLE-HIRE PARK** – The Blandinsville-Hire Park Board meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the park. In cooler weather, the meetings will move to the Blandinsville Christian Church. We hope to begin grant related projects sometime in April or May of 2026.

**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, church memories, etc. Send items to Mary Killip at P.O. Box 235, Blandinsville, IL 61420. Let’s have fun with this!!

**Submitted by LeeAnn Killip Hartley:** OUT OF THE INKWELL by Daniel R. Baxter – “I was the victim of a shameful experience last week and I feel I must proclaim my innocence. As you will recall, the Blandinsville Grade School had its annual Penny Carnival. I attended and almost immediately got in trouble. I was waiting in line to go through the haunted house (which only cost 5 cents) – when I felt something tugging on my hand. Looking down, I was accosted by two young fellows (Blaine Killip and Robbie Brewster) who said I had to go to jail. Oh! The shame of it all! Going to jail! I protested immediately! ‘I have to go to jail?’ Their smug answer was ‘Cause you’re under arrest.’ When I asked the reason ‘under arrest’ they glibly replied that someone paid to have me put in jail. Oh! The shame of it all!

**CHURCH SHEDULE – NOVEMBER 2025**

DATE	ELDERS	SPEAKERS	MUSIC	OVERHEAD
November 2	Randy Killip	Aaron Baker	Jean Dougherty	Dave Hunt
November 9	Dave Hunt	Jim Richardson	Jody Little	Monte Mason
November 16	Greg James	Aaron Baker	Jody Little	Taylor Thompson
November 23	Alan Driskell	Aaron Baker	Anna James	Monte Mason
November 30	Taylor Thompson	Aaron Baker		Glade Mason
DATE	WORSHIP LEADER	GREETERS	NURSERY	DEACONESS
November 2	Mary Killip	Beth Gebhardt	Tresa Hunt	
November 9	Dave Hunt	Ron & Donna	Tresa Hunt	
November 16	Anna James	Dave & Tresa	Roxanne Mason	
November 23	Pat Hainline	Amy & Steve	Paula Snowden	
November 30	Taylor Thompson	Randy & Mary	Kaila Mason	

**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.

**ELDERS AND BOARD MEETING:** Monday, November 10- Elders – 6:30 p.m. – Board – 7:00 p.m.

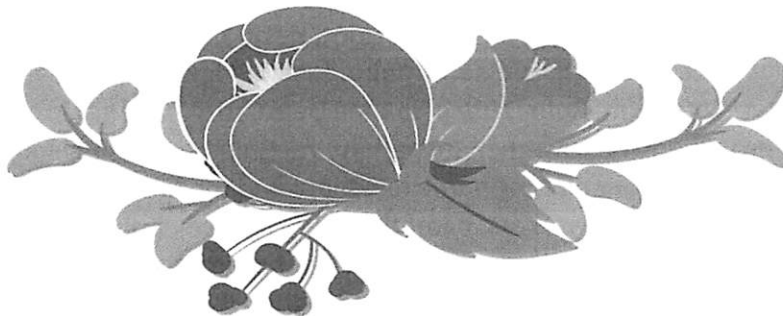
**WORSHIP/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – Monday, November 3-- 7:00 p.m.** Come join the group and help plan church events.

Please contact Mary Killip at 309-337-8032 or by mail at P.O. Box 235, Blandinsville, IL 61420, if you have newsletter items or know of someone who would like to receive a newsletter.

## *November Verses*



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|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 0 Luke 2:1-7            | 0 Proverbs 16:5-9  |
| 0 Luke 2:8-14           | 0 I Peter 5:6-11   |
| 0 Luke 2:15-20          | 0 James 1:226-27   |
| 0 Psalm 18:1-4          | 0 Hebrews 13:20-21 |
| 0 Psalm 18:26-31        | 0 Proverbs 21:1-6  |
| 0 Psalm 18:32-37        | 0 John 10:1-6      |
| 0 Daniel 9:4-6          | 0 John 10:7-10     |
| 0 Daniel 9:7-11         | 0 John 10:11-13    |
| 0 Daniel 9:12-14        | 0 John 10:14-18    |
| 0 Daniel 9:15-16        | 0 Hebrews 3:7-11   |
| 0 Daniel 9:17-19        | 0 Hebrews 3:12-15  |
| 0 Nehemiah 1:5-7        | 0 Psalm 116:1-5    |
| 0 Nehemiah 1:8-11       | 0 Psalm 116:6-10   |
| 0 Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 | 0 Psalm 116:11-15  |
| 0 Proverbs 16:1-4       | 0 Psalm 116:16-19  |



I really didn't think I had any enemies who would actually pay to have me in jail, but my two captors would pay no attention to me. They just grabbed me and started hauling me off to jail. I shouted 'POLICE BRUTALITY!' But they just twisted my arms all the harder. Well, they tossed me in the clinker and someone pronounced sentence of 5 minutes. Through the bars I could read a sign 'Jail your friends --- Only 10 cents.' Ha! *Some* friends. Being in jail wasn't too bad though, the very next person to share my cell was Rev. Wilson.

### IN MEMORY

**PORTIA CHARLENE (HODGES) DOWNEY**, 95, of Macomb, passed away on September 23, 2025. She was born to Charles and Portia (Campbell) Hodges on October 21, 1929. Charlene was one of nine children and the last surviving member of her immediate family. In 1947, she married William A. Downey. She was preceded in death by husband William A. Downey; daughters Dianna C. Beck and Deborah J Sallee; son-in-law Roger V. Sallee; and two great grandchildren. She is survived by Gary Beck; Randy and Pam (Gilkerson) Downey; Denise and Tom Vogel; Aaron and Mary (Bland) Downey; 13 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and 8 great-great grandchildren; and lifelong friends Dwight and Kay Morrow. At the age of 50, Charlene earned her beautician's license. She considered her family as being her greatest and most meaningful job.

**GLADYS EILEEN HUSTON**, 90, of LaHarpe, passed away on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at Wesley Village in Macomb. She was born on June 27, 1935, in LaHarpe to Loyal and Hazel (Alexander) Bennett. Gladys was a 1953 graduate of LaHarpe High School. She married Alfred Huston in LaHarpe on December 19, 1954. She worked for Hasten's News Stand in LaHarpe, LaHarpe Christian Church, Poulter's Flower Shop, Fred Gibb Chevrolet, LaHarpe-Davier Health Care Center and Town & Country Services. She was a member of the LaHarpe Christian Church and the Burnside Christian Church. She served with the Go Ye Mission Group, taught Sunday School, helped with Vacation Bible School and church dinners, and played the piano. She is survived by her husband of 70 years, Alfred; one daughter Debbie (Brad) Hunt of Macomb; one son Rex (Teresa) Huston of LaHarpe; nine grandchildren Colby (Shea) Hunt, Colleen (Joey) Woodruff, Bobi (Grant) James, AJ (Jamie ) Huston, Ty (Rachel) Huston, Clay (Christian) Huston, Boni (Dillon) Garner, Tucker (Shelby) Huston, and Trace (Becca) Huston; 24 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter on the way. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother and sister-in-law Kenneth and Shirley Bennett, and one sister in infancy Gail.

### PRAYER REQUESTS AND UPDATES

Please be in prayer for Laurie Locke, Duane Chipman, Antonia Aguirre, Mary Evans, Kieran Woods, Jeramiah Byers, Otto Pinto, Kelvey Hamm, Lisa and Stephen Molzhon, Kim Walters, Gisele Hamm, Makenzie Hawkins, Jennie Terrell Brush and family, Cindy Soule, Donnie Little, Ed Hunt, Brad Hunt, Kevin Kleinkopf, Jeremy Hamm, Erin Thilyaw, Jim Olson, Alan Driskell and family, Mike Rawleigh, Hudson Thrapp, Jason Siegworth, Michelle Bixler, Jerri Stevens, Tim Hamm, Mike Baker, John Fowler, Kara Hunt, Ruth Dildine, Joanne Dela Cruz, Marlana Goodlaxson's parents, Karlene Kurtz, Alfred Huston, Gayle Harn, Sherry Merriwether and family, Val Shipman, Tiffany McHale, Steven Fogel, Laura Fisher, Larry Summers. 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 individuals who have lost their homes, family, and friends in fires, floods, and other disasters. Pray for our community, state, country, and the world. Pray for peace, acceptance of all, and for one another.