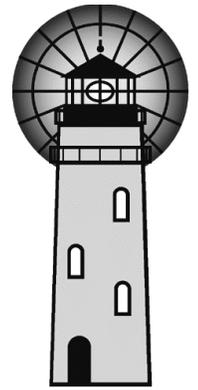


The Beacon

A GUIDING LIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE
BLADEN & BLUE HILL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2018

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Pastor's Page

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." Proverbs 31:25

While flipping through the channels the other night I paused on the Jimmy Kimmel show.

According to Kimmel, a Gallup Polls declared that 2017 was the saddest year since they started keeping track of "negativity". I was

dumbfounded that someone was measuring the state of "sadness", so I got on line to check it out. And yes, there is a "Global Negative

Experience Index" tabulated every year since 2006 by the Gallup organization. According to the article, "The index, which annually tracks people's experiences of stress, anger, sadness,

physical pain and worry, reached a new high of 30."

According to Gallup, "Nearly four in 10 people said they experienced a lot of worry (38%) or stress (37%), and slightly more than three in 10 (31%) experienced physical pain. At least one in five experienced sadness (23%) or anger (20%)."

After recovering from the idea that such a poll existed, I began to reflect on the last few years. They have been a period of uncertainty, discord, acrimony and upheaval. And the news isn't getting any better. Hurricane Florence is bearing down on the east coast threatening massive damage and disruption. The midterm elections are heating up creating more divisiveness and blame. The political climate in Washington is bitter and rancorous. The truth has been shredded by the winds of self-serving agendas. And for Husker fans, there is the opening season loss for head coach Scott Frost.

These are sad times indeed! My hope was that if things didn't get better then at least they wouldn't get worse. Then I read the following obituary:

Dear friends,

It is with the saddest heart that I pass on the following. Please join me in remembering a great icon. The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71. Doughboy was buried in a lightly-greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies and Cap'n Crunch. The grave site was piled high with flours as long-time friend, Aunt Jemima, delivered the eulogy, describing Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded. Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very "smart" cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes. Despite being a little flaky at times, he – even still, as a crusty old man – was considered a roll model for millions. Toward the end, it was thought he would rise again, but alas, he was no tart. Doughboy is survived by his wife, Play Dough; two children, John Dough and Jane Dough; plus, they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart. The funeral was held at 3:50 for about twenty minutes.

OK there are a lot of bad puns in this story, but I thought we kneaded to read it! Despite our troubled times it is important that we seek humor in our lives. When we allow the onslaught of negative news to push us towards sadness we need to remember that all of us share this journey together.

I do not mean to dispute what the Apostle Paul said "...these three remain: faith, hope and love." Still I might suggest that humor is an essential inspiration in our relationship with God and each other. It is important that we share our happiness and acknowledge the human story which binds us together. I often think that God gave us a sense of humor as a spark to reignite our spirits when the world smothers the flame of Hope, Faith and Love. Jesus reminds us, "Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." (Luke 6:21)

I sincerely hope we can all look beyond the headlines and understand that God's human creation can overcome the travesty and conflict of the world. This is accomplished through Christ whom God sent to lead and save us from the wickedness of the world. And a little humor can't hurt.

Science tells us that we need four basic elements to survive: water, air, food and light.

In the Bible, Jesus tells us
I am the Living Water,
I am the Breath of Life,
I am the Bread of Life.
I am the Light of the World.



Science was correct.
We need Jesus to live.



**Bladen UMW
Upcoming Meeting Dates**

Sunday, October 7 @ 2:00 pm
82nd Birthday Tea

October – December
Hat & Mitten or Money Tree

October 14
District Spiritual Growth
Columbus, NE

November 6 @ 5:00 pm
Harvest Soup Supper
Committee: Mardelle & Delores
World Thank Offering

Bladen Church Cleaning Schedule

October	Meyers
November	Tim & Melanie Engelhardt
December	Karen & Susan
Yard Maintenance	Jeff & Shirley

82nd Annual Birthday Tea

Sunday October 7, 2:00 p.m.

Bladen United Methodist Church

Come join the fun and fellowship!

Program: *Willa Cather's My Antonia:
Celebrating 100 Years*

Presented by Ashley Olson Executive Director,
The Willa Cather Foundation

You will want to come early
to view the birthday tables!

The Church is Handicapped accessible.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child has been collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts and delivering them to children in need around the world for the past 25 years. Each box is an opportunity for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way and hear the Gospel. Once again, the Bladen church will be collecting the shoe boxes and **will be picked up from the church on November 11th**. Now is the time to start packing those boxes! For more information, contact Cindy Timm.



Through the Bible this Year

Weekly Bible Lessons

October 7 Job 1:1, 2:1-10 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 World Communion Sunday	20th Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 26 or 25 Mark 10:2-16	Green
October 14 Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Hebrews 4:12-16	21st Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 22:1-15 Mark 10:17-31	Green
October 21 Job 38:1-7(34-41) Hebrews 7:23-28	Laity Sunday Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c Mark 10:46-52	Green
October 28 Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Hebrews 7:23-28	23rd Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 34:1-8(19-22) Mark 10:46-52	Green
November 1 Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelations 21:1-6a	All Saints Day Psalm 24 John 11:32-44	Red or White
November 4 Ruth 1:1-18 Hebrews 9:11-14	24th Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 146 Mark 12:28-34	Green
November 11 Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 Hebrews 9:24-28	25th Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 127 or 42 Mark 12:38-44	Green
November 18 1 Samuel 1:4-10 Hebrews 10:11-14(15-18) 19-25	26th Sunday after Pentecost 1 Samuel 2:1-10 or Psalm 113 Mark 13:1-8	Green
November 22 Joel 2:21-27 1 Timothy 2:1-7	Thanksgiving Psalm 126 Matthew 6:25-33	Red or White
November 25 2 Samuel 23:1-7 Revelations 1:4b-8 United Methodist Student Day	Christ the King Psalm 132:1-12 John 13:33-37	White
December 2 Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	1st Sunday of Advent Psalm 25:1-10 Luke 21:25-36	Purple or Blue

Danie's Diary

I was recently complimented, awkwardly said thank you, apologized about how awkward I am about compliments, then proceeded to trip as I walked away. I'm *that* awkward of a person. I'm the kind of person that says, "You, too!" when a waiter tells me to enjoy my meal. I seem to only overly excitedly wave at people that are definitely not the person I thought they were. I literally don't know how to properly accept a gift without seeming like I don't care for it or am way too enthusiastic about it. Awkward is me. Me is awkward. There's nothing like making an already uncomfortable person even more so than asking questions that you really shouldn't. Especially to a woman. Here are a few:

- 1) **Are you tired?** Really, save us both time and just tell me I look like crap. Because even if I'm exhausted, most likely I've put forth some (if not a lot) of effort to not look so. Your question only reminds me that I have failed miserably in looking human that day.
- 2) **When are you going to have (another) baby?** This is one that women hate the MOST. And guess who is the usual culprit...other women! Here's the deal. Unless you are ready to hear the intimate, sometimes gory, details of this type of subject, don't ask. If anything, infertility could very well be lurking behind that lie of an answer she's about to give. Infertility is hard enough without having to shamingly hide behind falsities or give very personal information to someone that you didn't already deem fit to have it. That woman you just asked may have been unsuccessfully trying for years to have a (or another) baby. She may have recently suffered a miscarriage. Possibly a very invasive medical procedure didn't work, and she's currently trying to process what her next step will be. There's also the chance that she has come to terms with the idea that having a child/more children isn't for her. There's a huge stigma behind such a decision. It is an incredibly personal, often self-questioning, decision that she and her partner have come to. Your opinion on such matter is not needed. I promise.
- 3) **What are you going to do with all of your spare time?** Most likely, most women have gotten this question. If not, you probably will at some point. It is asked to stay at home mothers when they make that decision to leave a career behind. Or asked to part-time moms when their child begins school. Possibly even fully employed women when their children leave the nest to head off to college. (Personally, I can check off box one and two of those instances). Here's my answer...clean, exercise, run my errands, meal plan, handle the finances, cook, maybe even attempt to volunteer in a community program. Basically, nothing that entails "free time."

Help end awkwardness. When you see a female friend out and about, say, "Wow! You look great. Hope the family is well. Have a wonderful day!"

We all could use that.

Danie's Recipe of the Month

With the colder months upon us, nothing is better than a traditional homestyle meal. The only thing actually difficult about this recipe is having to smell it all day in the crock pot while waiting patiently to dive in. This is one of my husband's favorite meals! *Credit to Tess on AllRecipes.com.*

Slow Cooker Salisbury Steak

Ingredients

2 pounds lean ground beef
1 (1 ounce) envelope dry onion soup mix
1/2 cup Italian seasoned bread crumbs
1/4 cup milk
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 (10.75 ounce) cans condensed cream of chicken soup
1 (1 ounce) packet dry au jus mix
3/4 cup water

Directions

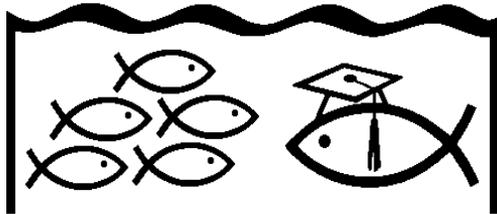
In a large bowl, mix together the ground beef, onion soup mix, bread crumbs, and milk using your hands. Shape into 8 patties.

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Dredge the patties in flour just to coat, and quickly brown on both sides in the hot skillet.

Place browned patties into the slow cooker stacking alternately like a pyramid. In a medium bowl, mix together the cream of chicken soup, au jus mix, and water. Pour over the meat. Cook on the Low setting for 4 or 5 hours, until ground beef is well done.

Best served with mashed potatoes!

Bible Studies and Sunday Schools



Blue Hill

YOUTH AND ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday at 10:00 am.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

This interdenominational Bible Study meets in the church conference room at 1:30 p.m. each Thursday.

FOURTH DAY COVENANT SHARING

Each week, we welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ to share a time of prayer, devotion, sharing and accountability with each other. Through this weekly covenant, we gather to share our commitment to Christ and witness to our work of faith in our lives and community. **We meet every Saturday at 8 a.m at the Blue Hill UMC.**

This covenant sharing is open to all people of faith.
people of faith.

CHRISTIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST

The third Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. Meetings alternate between the Bladen and Blue Hill churches.

Bladen

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Meets Sunday mornings @ 9:15. We will be covering *Life Beyond Amazing* by David Jeremiah.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Bladen Youth Sunday School started back up from summer break on Sunday, Sept. 9th. Eighteen kids and teachers came back to freshly painted and decorated rooms. This fall the Jr.-Sr. High class will be studying the book of Revelation and started the first day by having to “Escape to Heaven” with their own escape room. The 1st thru 5th grade classes will be studying “Where is God?” They will be making a treasure map and their very own treasure box by the end of the lessons. The Preschool-Kindergarten class will be talking about stories from the Bible. Also, follow us on our Facebook page “Bladen United Methodist Youth Sunday School”. We will try to put pictures of things we are doing throughout the year.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

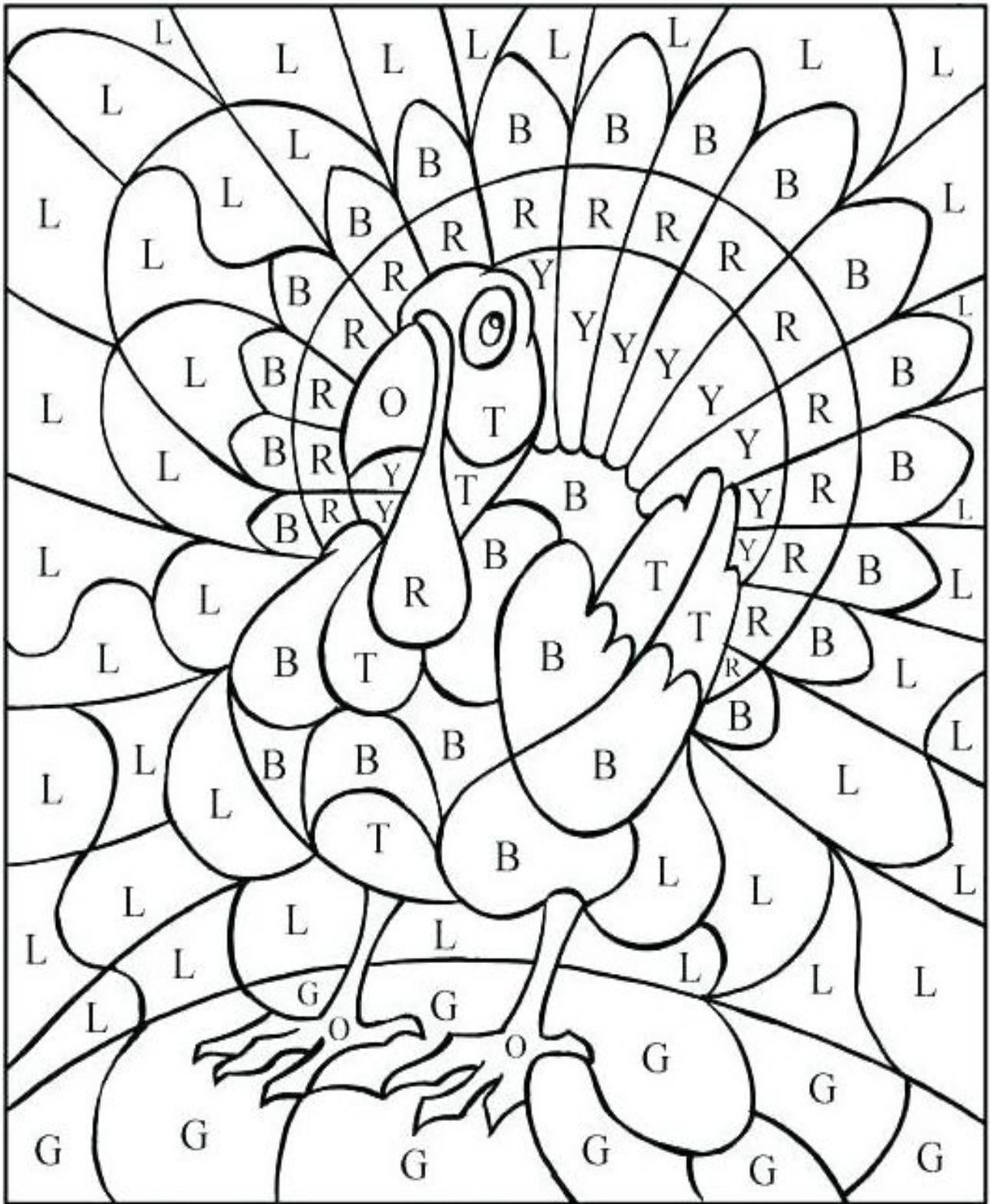
Mondays @ 9 a.m at the Bladen UMC. Everyone welcome! We will be covering *The Tour of the Prophecy*.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

In September, we began to “Life Lesson from Matthew” by Max Lucado.

UMC WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

A Bible Study on the Book of Genesis began on June 27th at the Bladen UMC. Bible studies will be every Wednesday night at 6:30 PM.



B = Brown T = Tan R = Red
 G = Green Y = Yellow W = White
 O = Orange L = Light Blue

October Birthdays

Bladen		Blue Hill	
Rob Wilson	10/2	Tim Gilbert	10/4
Cheryl Engelhardt	10/4	Kobe Menke	10/9
Corissa Parr	10/8	Leah Anderjanska	10/13
Ed Skrdlant	10/8	Sue Johnson	10/22
Tracey Karr	10/10	Will Wells	10/26
Patty Church	10/12	Mara Gilbert	10/28
Mardelle Grandstaff	10/15	Myra Zimmerman	10/28
Karen Koelder	10/16	Robert Albin	10/29
Carla Jameson	10/18	Debbie Albers	10/30
Kevin Karr	10/21	Pat Cook	10/30
Cindy Pavelka	10/22		
Darryl Koelder	10/23		
Angela Karr	10/24		
Pat Hohenfield	10/29		
Callie Coleman	10/30		

November Birthdays

Bladen		Blue Hill	
Gretchen Mastrodonato	11/3	Sophyra Hamilton	11/2
Pat Kaufman	11/5	Ray Cook	11/3
Sharon Berns	11/8	Sydney Strasburg	11/15
Gerald Grandstaff	11/9	Donna Kerr	11/22
Delma Carr	11/13	Mark Barton	11/23
Keenan Danehey	11/14	Darrel Buschkoetter	11/26
Jessica Lovejoy	11/25	Ken Zimmerman	11/27
Ashton Crowe	11/19		

*Happy
Birthday!*

Anniversaries

Bladen		Blue Hill	
Ed & Verna Kaufman	10/17	Dean & Darlene Buschow	10/6
Charles & Linda Lovejoy	11/3	Travis & Katie James	10/16
Zachary & Caitlin Crowe	11/8	John & Sarah Weddingfeld	11/3
Vern & Peggy Timm	11/19	Michael & Jessica Stokes	11/25
Jerrad & Angela Karr	11/24		

When You Don't "Get" Him

by Terry Wong from *Focus on the Family*

Terry Wong

I stared at Jeff as he stalked away from the television, tense and upset. We had been married seven days. And the University of Colorado had, after playing a lackluster game, suddenly beaten Jeff's beloved Michigan Wolverines.

For Jeff (although I didn't realize it at the time), this was a tragic end to his dream that his alma mater might win the national championship. For me ... it was a football game. *Why couldn't he just snap out of it? Surely if he loved me ...*

Can two really become one?

Jesus said, "The two will become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one" (Mark 10:8). The process reminds me of the two-part reactive adhesives used by homebuilders. Mixed together, two very different elements undergo a chemical reaction that permanently bonds their molecules to form an entirely new product. Yet *permanently bonded* doesn't mean "indestructible." God's exhortations on how to treat one's spouse are designed to prevent imperfect men and women from destroying the union that God created. When a couple's differences threaten marital harmony, it is easy to wonder: *How on earth can that man and I really become one?* Rather than losing heart, discover a new perspective through the following life-changing truths.

The way he is wired is legitimate.

When you're upset with your husband, it is easy to assume his way is wrong. That's sure what I was thinking on that alarming honeymoon evening! Although your husband must learn to manage his responses well, you will enjoy him more when you learn to respect his feelings. It's essential that wives trust God's design for their men and believe the best, rather than think the worst.

Meeting his needs is good for both of you.

By building up your other half, you help to nurture a more loving, selfless marriage. You may also find that your affirmation helps him become the man *you* need him to be.

It's likely that nothing is more vital for your husband than to feel that you respect, trust and admire him. While saying "I love you" may come naturally for wives, demonstrating that love may not.

Consider the following ways to show your love through respect: **Trust him.** A critical, "What was he thinking?" implies "He wasn't thinking." Just because his judgment is different than yours doesn't mean it is wrong. **Accept him.** He may not always do the chores or help with the kids in the same way that you would, but accepting him and responding to his mistakes with grace will free him to want to help you again. **Affirm him.** Focusing on what is worthy of praise (Philippians 4:8) will brighten your day — and light him up!

Greeters & Servers

Blue Hill

October 7

Mark & Dee Strasburg

October 14

Jan Zimmerman

October 21

Chuck & Mary VanBoening

October 28

Evert & Shirley Barton

November 4

Rod & Shari Olson

November 11

Sam & Lana James

November 18

Darrel & Kathy Buschkoetter

November 25

Ray & Pat Cook

Bladen

October 7

Trevor & Jennifer

October 14

Zach Caitlin

October 21

Jarrold & Angie

October 28

TJ & Tara

November 4

Brant & Tracy

November 11

Meredith & Cheryl

November 18

Jeff & Shirley

November 25

Keith & Susan

Our Offerings to God



Bladen UMC Income & Expenses

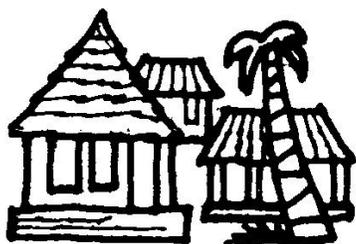
July – August

Month	Income	Expenses
July	\$3,354.00	\$4,038.90
August	\$3,762.00	\$3,893.46
Totals for Year	\$27,450.00	\$36,042.90

Blue Hill UMC Income & Expenses

July – August

Month	Income	Expenses
July	\$3,033.50	\$4,748.70
August	\$4,507.75	\$3,510.69
Totals for Year	\$52,750.88	\$50,949.78



Missions

2018 Mission Shares Paid

Church	Our Mission Shares	Mission Shares Paid	Percentage
Bladen	\$7,715	\$5,856.28	75%
Blue Hill	\$5,872	\$4404.06	75%

*And do not forget to do good and to share with others,
for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

-- Hebrews 13:16

Your Church Leadership

2018 Blue Hill Administrative Board

Darrel Buschkoetter , Chairperson	756-7070
Kathy Murphy Buschkoetter , Lay Leader	756-7070
Marlene Albin , Treasurer	756-4105
Lana James , Finance Chair	756-3370
Shari Olson , Financial Secretary	756-2584
Dee Strasburg , Recording Secretary	756-6433
Dee Strasburg , Trustees Chair	756-6433
Mary VanBoening , Membership Secretary	756-3842
Margaret Zimmerman , Supt. of Church School	756-3562
Darrel Buschkoetter , Missions & Social Concerns	756-7070
Margaret Zimmerman , Missions & Social Concerns	756-2727
Jenny Andersen , Camping Coordinator	(402) 461-6104
Wayne Strasburg , Ushers	756-3388
Kathy Murphy Buschkoetter , District Cluster/Network Member	756-7070

2018 Bladen Administrative Board

Keith Crowe , Chairperson	756-1172
Bonna Vance Vice-Chairperson	756-3631
Gerald Grandstaff , Lay Leader	756-5588
Shirley Ewing , Treasurer	756-1285
Mardelle Grandstaff , Finance Chair	756-5588
Karen Koelder Financial Secretary	756-1352
Delores Meyer , Secretary, Worship Chair	756-6452
Karen Koelder , Trustee Chair	756-1352
Melanie Engelhardt , Membership Secretary	756-1620
Cindy Timm , Education Chair	756-1662

Contact Information

Melanie Engelhardt , Youth Council	756-1620
Mardelle Grandstaff , Missions & Social Concerns	756-5588
Sharon Berns , Memorial Chair	756-1018
Toni Turner , Prayer Chain	756-1642
Meredith Engelhardt , Ushers	756-1282
Jeff Ewing , President Christian Men	756-1285
Delores Meyer , President, UM Women	756-6452
Pastor Dan Albers	756-2091

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Marjorie Lockhart , Chair	756-1167
Verna Kaufman	756-1142
Jennifer Karr	756-1126
Will Wells	(402) 705-0795

Church Office

Phone: 756-2091 Email: bhbladenumc@gtmc.net

Address: 302 S Webster / Blue Hill, NE 68930

Website: bluehillbladenumc.org

Secretary, Danie Mohlman: (308) 380-7108

Please feel free to contact Pastor Dan at any time.

Parsonage	(402) 756-2092	Pastordan122553@yahoo.com
Cell	(402) 746-0185	Church bhbladenumc@gtmc.net
Church	(402) 756-2091	

Mission Statement for the Bladen United Methodist Church

Our mission is to take the church to the people and to establish new Christian believers. As aspiring Christians, we need to share the joy that our faith brings and to share the good news in our daily lives and in our community.

Mission Statement for the Blue Hill United Methodist Church

We are called by God to be His disciples, to live according to His teachings and to share His love with others so they might come to know Him as their Lord and Savior.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/1 – Fire Meeting in Bladen @ 8:00 pm
- 10/7 – 82nd Birthday Tea in Bladen @ 2:00 pm
- 10/14 – Folk Mountain Gospel in Blue Hill @ 7:00 pm
- 10/14 – UMW District Spiritual Growth in Columbus, NE
- 10/16 – Charge Conference in Superior @ 7:00 pm
- 10/20 – Christian Men’s Breakfast in Blue Hill @ 8:00 am
- 10/21 – BHCC Worship @ 2:30 pm
- 11/4 – Daylight Savings Ends
- 11/5 – Fire Meeting in Bladen @ 8:00 pm
- 11/6 – UMW Harvest Soup Supper in Bladen @ 5-7 pm
- 11/17 – Christian Men’s Breakfast in Bladen @ 8:00 am
- 11/18 – BHCC Worship @ 2:30 pm
- 11/19 – Newsletter Info Due to Danie
- 11/21 – Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Paul Lutheran @ 7:00 pm
- 11/22 – Thanksgiving Day